

out this week

album of the week

excepter : debt debt the brooklyn band's 4th album is released on paw tracks, the label run by members of animal collective. they have delivered an extraordinary album of dance music you can't dance to - dark noises with glistening silver outlines, murky bass lines, bleeping sub-disco, rolling loops, clicking drum machines, droning synths, insistent zombie-like vocal callings & all round mesmeric weirdness. wonky, disorientating music that is by no means kind to the listener but which is intensely rewarding for those prepared to join the jerky ride. magic! *"sounds like 2 bands attempting to play each other's set lists & then falling out before making up & hugging it on out"* – vice, *"smoothly hypnotic, gorgeously eerie, insistently tense...a testament to the value of ambition over perfection"* 7.8/10 – pitchfork. [paw tracks](#)

rock / indie / post rock / americana

camille : music hole this, her 3rd album & 1st in english, showcases the magnitude the voice has to offer as it is mostly the only thing used - flitting between operatic, soaring vocals & clipped, beat orientated snatches with a strong sense of melody to carry the songs through the looping & programming. poppy at times but always inventive, this album can reach crescendos of beauty but also convinces in the stakes to get you on the dancefloor. *"i tried to mix the story-telling, "chansons" feel from musicals with something more tribal: body percussions, minimalist trance, sub bass & throat singing"* says camille. *"a fierce intelligence & rare musical imagination"* – observer. [angel](#)

brian jonestown massacre : my bloody underground it's been some time since we last heard from anton newcombe's weird & wonderful collective, 4 years to be precise, but now they return with their 13th full length album, recorded in liverpool & reykjavik. much like previous bjm albums, this is a sprawling 60's psychedelic affair, stirring visions of sunny californian communes to new york city bars on the lower east side. a labour of love for newcombe, this album demonstrates much more than his famed arrogance with beautifully crafted musical pieces giving a glimpse into both the darkness & light in his head. ['a' records](#)

the long blondes : couples 2nd album from sheffield's the long blondes. this time they've hooked up with dj of the moment erol alkan to produce an album indebted to 70's disco & 80's new wave. full of futuristic yet retrospective genius, the 10 tracks bounce you from one end of the dancefloor to the other with absolutely no regard for conforming to any stereotypes. tub thumping modernist indie disco at its absolute finest, their first record was a belter & 'couples' has beaten it hands down, moving the long blondes on a north country mile. *"kids, this is phenomenal"* – nme, *"their trademark sound is still as strong (& smart) as ever"* – uncut. [rough trade](#)

tapes'n'tapes : walk it off having enlisted the help of producer dave fridmann (mercury rev, mogwai), the band set to work on their new album & the result is as invigorating & unique as it's predecessor but with a force & intensity of a young band that came, conquered, grew up & grew some serious balls. while tracks like 'hang them all' swirls with the organ & foot stomping indie cred of old & 'george michael' shimmers with jangly bass lines & looped drum crescendos, the likes of 'the dirty dirty' rock & pulsate with birthday party-esque seductive dirge & 'blunt' practically implodes with thrashing drums, metal guitar riffs & dense, impassioned vocals. *"indie rock hasn't sounded so dizzily good in ages"* – the sunday times. [xl](#)

breeders : mountain battles (limited edition with a free poster) goofy, groovy, melancholy, strung-out, catchy, atmospheric, most notably impossibly lovely at times & steve albini produced. kim deal is a songwriter & a musician of rare intuition, her songs move from offhand charm to emotional truth with casual grace, balancing scuffed-up noise against fraught silence; timeless structures against strange new shapes. & throughout, of course, there's kim's unique voice – languid, urgent, bruised & beautiful. its simplicity speaks volumes, refreshingly uncomplicated & very intimate. *"this album has established an emotional range that encompasses both the plaintive & the triumphant (& sometimes both at the same time)"* – guardian. [4ad](#)

ladyhawk : shots ladyhawk took up residence in an abandoned farm house in the band's childhood hometown of kelowna, british columbia, armed only with recording gear, sangria & a piss pot. 2 weeks later, their 2nd album 'shots' was born. less psych than label mates black mountain but equally as ranting & rolling, this is music best enjoyed loud. feverish drum thumping & distorted guitars define their songwriting craft, harking back to neil young & 70's stones. *"head-nodding, play-loud-&-prosper enjoyment"* – uncut. [jagjaguwar](#)

steve reich : daniel variations a memorial & a remembrance of wall street journal reporter daniel pearl, kidnapped & murdered by islamic fundamentalists in 2002. moving & unsettling & for the most part dark in tone using words from pearl's life, which include lyrical passages written for a string section, evoking the spirit of daniel, who was also a violinist. fleets of pianos & percussion tap out telegraphic patterns accompanied by a beautiful choir. 'variations for vibes, pianos, & strings' was written for the akram khan dance company, abstract in theme, its concerns & its pleasures of a purely musical & physical nature. *"3 string quartets spar with 4 vibraphones, clashing & aligning in turn. underneath the subtly changing textures the dark ruminations of 2 pianos provide a moody balance to some of reich's most buoyant harmonies."* – times. [nonesuch](#)

speck mountain : summer above ethereal, magical & enthralling; dreamy, psychedelic pop-rock built on organ drones, shimmering layers of guitars & bass, sax, keyboards & singer marie-claire balabanian's soft, sedated, honey-dripped vocals. everything here echoes & glows - it's pace is contemplative, maybe due to studio time being spent from the hours of 12 to 6 in the morning. the chicago dwelling 3-piece have drawn comparisons to the velvet underground & mazy star & take their name after the 1st & last words in brett easton ellis's glamorama. "as comforting as a warm bath of prozac." - independent. "it's languid, delicate stuff, filled with deceptively simple melodies & striking vocals, reminiscent of hope sandoval" - narc. [peacefrog](#)

james : hey ma the legendary band's 1st album in 7 years recaptures the spirit of 'laid'. james may have always written "uplifting songs about insecurity, disaffection & mental illness" but this is something else entirely: world-wary, rather than world-weary, intimate yet intimidating, foreign yet somehow fleetingly familiar. the album was produced by lee "muddy" baker (chungking, mo solid gold, james's fim booth) & recorded at warsy chateau in northern france, where baker allowed the band to jam & improvise at will. the result is a set of coruscating pop-rock featuring booth's trademark erudite lyrics. a great comeback album. [mercury](#)

the death set : worldwide blasting electro punk debut straight out of baltimore's (via australia) burgeoning & increasingly wild music scene, taking notes from bands like lightning bolt, the death set rejected stages in favour of playing on the floor, in people's faces, throwing punk rock abandon onto warehouse dancefloors. a micro-blast of catchy choruses, screamed lyrics, chaos, violence & humour. for reference, think along the lines of gay against you meets le tigre. [counter](#)

son of dave : 03 the critically acclaimed festival favourite returns with a 2nd album of inspired 21st century blues. the son of dave sound has expanded adding guitar, piano, organ, a plucked cello & even backing vocals to the staple looping harmonica, beat-box & foot stomp. [kartel](#)

triffids : the black swan (2cd) this new edition is the double cd sprawling messy masterpiece as envisaged by david mcombc, featuring a bonus disc containing demo versions of 14 songs from the main album & 3 exclusive demos. it's a testimony to the variety of music which influenced the music of the triffids. it was meant to be their 'white album' - he was stretching out like there was no tomorrow & be it hip hop, greek music, tango, country rock or even his own early songs, no style of music was safe from plunder. the double album dave had hoped to unleash was pared back to a more commercially sensible single album by island records, though it was still wonderfully diverse, especially by the standards of the times. [domino](#)

triffids : treeless plain wonderfully updated & remastered & remixed from the original tapes by the original engineer. in 2007, engineer nick mainsbridge was able to have a 2nd chance at the mix with the benefit of 25 extra years of experience & technological development & copies of the original production notes. for this we are very fortunate indeed, as 'treeless plain' can now be heard as the same batch of superb songs sounding sweeter, stronger & more detailed than ever before. includes an extensive 16 page booklet featuring dave mcombc's production notes & quotes from graham lee & nick mainsbridge. [domino](#)

colin meloy : sings live! the debut album from the decemberists singer & songwriter. it is comprised of songs spanning the decemberists career, alternative versions that morph in to covers (the smiths 'ask' & fleetwood mac 'rumours' as well as snippets from rem & pink floyd!), a tarkio track (colin's band before the decemberists), unreleased tracks & rarities, as well as the in-between song banter that colin is famed for throughout his live shows. [rough trade](#)

v/a : moshi moshi singles club established in october 2006 the moshi moshi singles club has already established itself as a launch pad for an impressively diverse range of bands & musicians. from the punk of danananayckroyd to the pop of lykke li, the folksy charm of slow club to the electro-pop of friendly fires, the anglo-hip-hop of dels to the jonathan richman-esque songwriting of the wave pictures, this compilation has just about everything. the one consistent being the sheer quality. hearing all the releases together feels a little akin to listening to a mix-tape handed down by a cooler older brother. [moshi moshi singles club](#)

nine inch nails : ghosts i-iv a brand new 36 track instrumental collection. almost 2 hours of new music composed & recorded over an intense 10 week period, sprawling the band across a variety of new terrain. trent reznor explains, "i've been considering & wanting to make this kind of record for years, but by its very nature it wouldn't have made sense until this point. this collection of music is the result of working from a very visual perspective - dressing imagined locations & scenarios with sound & texture; a soundtrack for daydreams. i'm very pleased with the result. i hope you enjoy the first 4 volumes of ghosts". [null corporation](#)

the courteeners : st jude the debut album from the mancanian 4-piece. there's no shortage of hooks, tunes, guitar noise & rasping energetic vocals here. "when fray's gruff manc-irish rasp knits together with walls of thunderous guitars, the courteeners sound like a british version of kings of leon. just as he did on babyshambles' 'shotters nation', producer stephen street has taken a band who are proudly raw & scruffy live & made their tunes sound 10 feet tall" - nme. [polydor](#)

man man : rabbit habits hailing from philadelphia, this astonishingly original quintet have found the perfect berth for their gypsy-swamp-rock-carny-soul-viking-vaudeville-punk. their incomparable vision of 'pop music' & the fierce energy of their non-stop live shows is captured here on their 3rd album. they utilize a variety of more traditional musical instruments like the accordion, the moog keyboard & the xylophone, as well as incorporating often overlooked noisemakers like soup pots, shoes, a fire extinguisher & squeaky toys. sounds like tom waits has gone to the circus with vampire weekend - recommended. [anti](#)

v/a : achoo! an asthmatic kitty sampler vol 2 27 tracks for the price of a cd single! featuring songs from every artist on the label & spanning the entire breadth of the catalogue, this gives a concise & exciting introduction to one of the most interesting independent labels in operation today. includes tracks from sufjan stevens, my brightest diamond, shapes & sizes, rafter, castanets, chris schlarb & more..... [asthmatic kitty](#)

the rolling stones : shine a light (2cd) a 22 track live double album produced by the glimmer twins & mixed by bob clearmountain. the album is from the martin scorsese-directed concert film - no stranger to rock concert films, scorsese filmed the stones over a 2 day period at the beacon theatre in new york city. "on paper, it's unthinkable that new life could be found in, say, (i can't get no) satisfaction, but somehow they manage it, jagger singing with an almost frighteningly desperation. paint it black, too, is fierce, sinister, mesmerizing. by the exquisite finale of shine a light, there is not a shadow of doubt that the stones are still going strong" - the telegraph. [polydor](#)

south san gabriel/centromatic : dual hawks (2cd) south san gabriel includes the 4 core members of centro-matic, plus additional members. whilst centro-matic's material tends to be more rockin', south san gabriel is its mellow, literary counterpart. what is distinctive about this release is that we get the chance to hear side-by-side the various ways in which the 2 bands complement & play off of each other. for fans of iron & wine. "you get the slow stuff, the pretty stuff & the loud stuff but this is essentially the album where johnson finds his true voice - which is all of them" 4/5 - sunday times, "snugly straddling the lushly countrified divide between late-90's lambchop & prime smog" 8/10 - rock sound, "a languid, meditative joy ... a peculiar, riveting odyssey" 4/5 - uncut. [cooking vinyl](#)

my federation : don't wanna die describing themselves as 'psychedelic electro rock with balls & bells', the brighton-based band release their debut album. "i find my federation irresistible, the combination of a groove for any dance-floor & a tune your tone deaf dad could hum, is a rare & wonderful thing" eddy temple-morris, "like the who at the peak of their mock-operatic pomp, all bluster & bombast & pretensions towards the cinematic & grand" - the guardian online. [eye industries](#)

bilge pump : rupert the sky imagine a boiling-over bastard concoction of all the best bits of the jesus lizard, led zeppelin, the fall, blue cheer, funkadelic & king crimson. a thick broth of art-punk fractured progressive noise, condensed into atonal pop songs free of power chords. nitro-fuelled avant-jazz rhythms create enough structural form amongst the twisted guitar & off-the-cuff witticisms to provide an uncanny ability to incite dancing. it doesn't matter how wired or weird bilge pump get; behind the progressive noise there are clear, distinctive, memorable songs - a rare & winning combination! brace yourselves because bilge pump is comin' atcha with a hardcore ear-assaulting noisy punk rock free-for-all. fierce! [gringo](#)

jesse malin : on your sleeve recorded over 7 days, this collection features interpretations of classic singer-songwriters tom waits & neil young, contemporary greats such as the hold steady & the kills, punk icons the ramones & the clash, lou reed & even a sam cooke standard. jesse tips his hat to a small collection of writers that inform his unique musical identity & appeal. as a performing songwriter, jesse appreciated the challenge of covering unique melodies not of his own design. or, as jesse puts it : "seven days of crazy fun, trying on other peoples' clothes in my own apartment". [one little indian](#)

eight legs : searching for the simple life the debut for the now london based band is the culmination of a rollercoaster world-wide ride. having released 4 very limited singles with weekender (those tracks are all collected here), they unleash a gritty but poetic take on life & its short comings & heart-racing highs. "eight legs. four heads. thousands of fans? just around the corner. mark our words" - nme. "we are something unique," says lead singer sam. "our songs are about real & relevant things. i think that that will give us the legs to keep going when other bands are sliding unnoticed down the plug hole". [weekender](#)

ambrose tompkins : are you well? ambrose tompkins describes themselves as "a trio of mostly mild mannered folk who play beautifully arranged songs on a whole range of instruments. the banjo, autoharp, mandolin & even a 100 year old very dusty zither..... & we can rock it too,don't y'know " a description accurate in some ways, but also understated, as, above all, they are a totally unique, vibrant & innovative band. their songs are fuelled by darkness, but the ride is magic. this long awaited debut album is a blissful place to disappear into & a place where you will want to remain. [forthesakeofftheson](#)

sharron kraus : the fox's wedding 2nd album from this wonderful singer who conjures up visions of karen dalton, shirley collins, sandy denny & even early joni. kraus is a singer/musician/ songwriter who creates music rooted in the folk traditions of england & appalachia. her work is characterised by soil-rich vocals, haunting banjo, fine acoustic guitar & visionary wordcraft & her songs are populated by an array of fatally charismatic characters, telling tales of enslavement, perversion, incest, obsession, love & death. [durtra jnana](#)

the mountain movers : we've walked in hell & there is life after death welcome to the world of new haven connecticut's the mountain movers. one day, not so recently, they emerged with 24 love songs with broken images of the devil, death, & the afterworld. for their debut, they whittled it down to 12 tracks of narcotic rock, there are moments of hope & celebration, but ultimately the devil, who here stands for everything from distraction to excess, always wins. the songs are written & sung by daniel greene of the critically acclaimed band the butterflies of love. dan sings with soul & gusto & the songs are classic in structure & moving in spirit. for fans of the zombies, daniel johnston, the silver jews. [fortuna pop](#)

65daysofstatic : the distant & mechanised glow of eastern european dance

parties ep during their brief winter hiatus, the band went into the studio to record this ep to accompany their 2008 tour dates. comprising 2 very different takes on the lp track of the same name, plus 2 completely new songs, this collection answers the question "what happens if we put these instruments down for a couple of seconds & create a 16 strong choir from our own under rehearsed voices?". [monotreme](#)

miasma & the carousel of headless : manfauna (very limited & beautifully packaged) miasma features members of guapo, elsa drake, chrome hoof & cathedral. manfauna is the latest in the highly respected & eminently collectible latitudes series & is the follow-up to miasma's 2005 perils lp. miasma have wowed many an audience over the last year with their virtuoso performances. with much inspiration from the occult, they craft incredibly complex instrumental works full of many twists & turns with the collision of victoriana, prog, an abundance of intelligence & respect for musicianship. [latitudes](#)

jackdaw 4 : bipolar diversions brand new album from willie dowling (honeycrack). jackdaw 4 combine the perfect hooks & minor chords of jellyfish & xtc & combine them with equal parts rundgren, mccartney & queen to produce startling melodies that are enough to make 10cc blush. a tasty pop affair that is both confident & addictive - an eclectic, wide-screen future-proof record. [369 music](#)

tuner : 9 loaves, 5 fishes chris salmon, the guitar-wielding mastermind of stump (out there avant-garders) has pulled together an altogether different kettle of fish & come up with a new gang called tuner. alongside peter stephens & michael levison of 80s 'punk' act spit like paint, salmon has put together a band that has created forward-looking retro. ably supported by multi-instrumentalist steve wilson & glyn owen (drummer with the mike flowers pops), they have recorded a collection of tunes played on proper vintage instruments, recorded on magnetic tape in wide, 60s-style stereo. [sartorial](#)

v/a : thank you friends - the ardent records story (2cd) 1 of the most well respected studios in the world & as a label, responsible for the likes of pop cult heroes big star. this comp is divided neatly into 2 eras, the 1st focussing on 60's, from rare garage to unissued psychedelia. disc 2 deals with bands such as cargoe & the hot dogs as well as over a dozen rarely heard or released big star tracks. always perveyors in the field of sound quality these track sound second to none. [ardent](#)

colour revolt : plunder, beg & curse hailing from mississippi, there is more than a touch of southern drawl from vocalist isaac brook. a mix of the pixies, modest mouse, beck & radiohead. "exploring broken social scene-tinged dream pop, post rock meltdowns & dirty, post-grunge dynamics. you're left with a buzz-worthy debut from a group of hungry young southerners" – [stereogum](#). [fat possum](#)

chris difford : the last temptation of christ follow up to chris' widely admired 2002 solo debut 'i didn't get where i am'. the lyrical genius behind such squeeze classics as 'cool for cats' & 'up the junction' delivers 13 brand new delightfully intimate collaborations with another master craftsman, boo hewerdine. produced by boo & beautifully recorded & engineered by john wood. [stiff](#)

religious knives : resin since their first release for no fun productions, the band have grown into a stunningly assured & powerful rock n' roll band of sorts, one liberally & noticeably immersed in the smoke-addled haze of the psychedelic underground. the interplay between organ & percussion creates a solid backbone & the album marches ahead with a vigorous potency that accurately shares its bloodline with the best psychedelic acts of the past. this is brooklyn's true psychedelic rock. fantastic! [no fun productions](#)

goldenboy : underneath the radio shon sullivan & bryan bos's band name came from their friend & fan the late elliot smith who sung on their album 'blue swan orchestra'. lovingly crafted & intensely melodic belle & sebastian-esque melancholy, fey indie pop. guest appearances from neil finn, matt sharp (weezer, rentals) & lisa germano. "merges elliot's fragile falsetto & the college rock breeziness of the eels" – [nme](#). [split](#)

was (not was) : boo! they're back...the darlings of the avant-disco set & avatars of the absurd have emerged from the abyss of the recording industry with a new album. it's been almost 20 years since their last salvos of surrealistic soul & jurassic dance mixes delighted & terrified nightclub crawlers & pop maniacs with the hits 'walk the dinosaur' & 'spy in the house of love'. once again these shamelessly funky court jesters (featuring the original line up, plus some very special guests) are mixing it up & working without a net, performing a high-wire act that stretches from the ridiculous to the sublime. are you scared yet? [ryko/ada](#)

beatundercontrol : cosmic repackaged since bursting into the world in the late 70s as a punk-driven bass evangelist, sweden's ulf "rockis" ivarsson has since been on a voyage of musical discovery. here, he has created a colossal aural menagerie of space-jazz brass themes & solo flights, subterranean pulses & dark-hued strings which dart between european avant textures to late 60s hypno-drone alchemists 'the third ear band'. it's a heady brew, ranging from the nocturnal back alley jazz of 'neighbourterror blues' to the intense freeform scattershots & atmospherics of 'departure'. from punk rock to the outer limits, ivarsson's remarkable musical journey has resulted in this intoxicatingly uncompromising aural statement. [malicious damage](#)

lemonheads : it's a shame about ray (collectors edition) (cd+dvd) re-mastered & expanded for a special edition that includes evan dando's unreleased home demos, plus the dvd debut of '2 weeks in australia', featuring videos & live performances. this album is an unforgettable gem. powered by infectious melodic hooks & a mix of sweet & subversive lyrics, it helped put the band on the map in 1992. [rhino](#)

thurston moore : sensitive/lethal orbiting the noisier end of things, expect a deeply experimental sound as moore investigates the acoustic guitar as a noise instrument. drone meditation evolves as layers of noise build up to create a thick & full on cacophony from seemingly innocent origins. [no fun productions](#)

stump : fierce pancake & beyond: the complete anthology (3cd) the 1st official compilation from one of the uk's best post punk bands. it contains 4 previously unavailable tracks. sleeve notes & mastering by bassist kev hopper. [castle](#)

elvis costello & the attractions : this year's model (deluxe edition) (2cd) voted 1 of the 100 best albums of all time by nme & mojo, this classic finally gets a new deluxe edition treatment. disc 1 includes 10 bonus tracks: b-sides, demos, live tracks, alternate takes. disc 2 is a live concert from 1978. though many of the songs were written at the same time as those from 'my aim is true', costello & the attractions performed them with perfect reckless abandon, a distinct & complimentary departure from the timid by comparison 'aim' backing band, clover. "he never rocked this hard, or this vengefully, ever again" – [amg](#). [umc](#)

thomas leer : contradictions this is leer's masterpiece 'contradictions' bolstered by the inclusion of his 1st single 'private plane / international', 1 track from a compilation, the 4 tracks from the '4 movements ep' (probably his best ever work) & a 12" version of 'all about you'. together with robert rental, he pioneered diy recording & pressing, building a healthy cult following along the way. this is groundbreaking a mixture of soul, funk, electronics, industrial & new wave. [cherry red](#)

v/a : twistin' rumble volume 1 & twistin' rumble volume 2 volume 1 is a collection of the infamous twistin' rumble volume 1 & 2 lps, whereas volume 2 absorbs all that is great & good of volumes 3 & 4. 29 tracks on each - soul stomp, twist-party lunacy, garage, r&b & craziness from 1960-68. get it! [twistin' rumble](#)

[dance/electonica](#)

v/a : computer incarnations for world peace 2 jazzanova & gerd janson (of running back records & groove & spex magazines fame) team up once again for a 2nd episode, showing the recent evolution of disco music. the album features 13 gems which have injected some new blood into the veins of a genre that deserted the dancefloors in the 90s, such as 'mahogany' by lexx, 'to & fro' by idjut boys' buddy & noid records cohort ray mang & 'shulme' by smith & mudd. the compilation also features a handful of unreleased tracks & some impossible to find gems. another fine & unique collection – top stuff. [sonar kollektiv](#)

roni size / repraent : new forms 2 the 1997 album 'new forms' was a benchmark for not just the drum 'n' bass genre that it leapt from, but for all types of electronic music & as such, it won the mercury music prize that year. to mark the anniversary of this groundbreaking album, roni size has returned to re-edit his masterpiece with the addition of 4 brand new tracks, including the single 'don't hold back' which manages to not only sound like a perfect bedfellow for the original 13 tracks but is also thoroughly contemporary. the classic tracks 'brown paper bag', 'share the fall' & 'heroes' still sound remarkably fresh today. the perfect opportunity for the old school to reminisce & for the new generation to discover this timeless classic. [mercury](#)

diskjokke : staying in joakim dyrdahl, is part of the new norwegian disco axis that also counts the likes of lindstrøm & prins thomas & bjørn torske among its number. he is the 3rd artist of the innovative oslo scene to release a full-length album - a tripped out mastodon of a debut. this is the sound of norwegian disco taken to its farthest, futuristic limits. it's epic, groovy, cinematic, poppy & melodic but at the same time, it is melancholic. "bright, playful, spacey & colourful, music for the night time that retains the warmth of an afternoon on the beach" – [pitchfork](#), "emotion-rich electronic disco epic" - [idj magazine](#). [smalltown supersound](#)

enduser : left enduser is one of the cornerstones of modern eclectic electronic music & this is his debut on ohm resistance. having moved to san francisco, a new lease on his creative power is demonstrated adroitly over the entire album, showcasing a spectacular array of skills across the board. from radio friendly ('black light') with aussie vocalist sol thomas, to collaborations with & remixes by influential electronic acts scorn & counterstrike, to no boundaries d'n'b, this is full of powerful compositions. [ohm resistance](#)

millimetrik : northwest passage's new era pascal asselin is a founder member of french canadian dreampop outfit 'below the sea' & half of anglo-canadian duo 'glider'. with his background as a drummer, his earlier albums featured intricately programmed beats but the atmospheres have slowly thawed & melody has come increasingly to the fore. here, the intricately programmed beats are still present, but the emphasis is firmly on melody & structure & the sound is rooted in hip hop rather than ambient music. features guest appearances by ulrich schnauss & port-royal. an enjoyable, engaging & varied listen. [make mine music](#)

headman : catch me 3rd album from the berlin-based discorock pioneer robi insinna aka headman. robi was one of the first producers/djs influenced by the leffield disco sound of late 70s/ early 80s. he has recently provided remixes for the gossip, chromeo, franz ferdinand & others & has recorded with erol alkan, the rapture & soulwax. on this album, he's fused his trademark funky wave punky style with more song structures & loads of analog synths sounds. 12 original tracks with a post-punk, electro & dance flavour. [gamma](#)

aphex twin : selected ambient works 85-92 digitally remastered & available for the 1st time in 10 years on cd, this is a landmark collection of works that defined the whole idm/electonica movement. since making these early recordings in 1993, richard james, has become synonymous with the finest in modern electronic music. this cannot be rated highly enough - quite simply every home should have one. [r&s records](#)

v/a : rinse 03 - supa d documents the beginnings of house + funky - the london based sister scene to bassline house, an offshoot of uk garage. supa d is the dj credited with starting the genre. the album contains every uk produced anthem to date including dj ng's 'tell me', geeneus' remix of benga & coki's 'night' & 'emotions' by geeneus + zinc feat. nikki. 5 years ago grime rose out uk garage's ashes. now, london is turning full circle as a new, warm, danceable sound emerges from somewhere between house & broken beat. [rinse](#)

william orbit : strange cargo 2 previously only available as part of the "strange cargo i-iii" set. this series represents a milestone in instrumental electronica & still manages to sound as fresh & relevant today as it did when it was released in the early 1990s - which for electronic music is no mean feat! [emi](#)

hip hop

guilty simpson : ode to the ghetto features production from j dilla, madlib, mr. porter (busta rhymes, eminem, dr dre etc), oh no & black milk. not bad for a debut. ever since his appearance on the jaylib album in 2003, this detroit native has been building towards this. guilty is one of the few able to combine hardcore rap with true lyricism (see wu-tang, kool g rap, mobb deep etc) & as a result has been in demand with everyone from dr dre to fourtet & dabrye. "a brilliant debut" - the voice. [stones throw](#)

soul/funk

baby charles : s/t according to mojo, baby charles are the most likely candidates to lead the uprising of the deep funk scene. on their debut, dionne charles delivers a stunning vocal performance, while the other 8 lay down the heavy funk grooves. there's the latin bass groove in 'treading water', the meter's style funk of 'invisible', the james brown influence on 'hard man' & 'no controlling me' & there's even some egyptian jazz thrown in the mix on the instrumental track 'the sphinx'. includes a funk & afrobeat cover of the artie monkeys 'i bet you look good on the dancefloor' plus a version of dj shadows 'this time'. tight but loose, heavy but soulful & dirty yet beautiful. for fans of sharon jones, alice russell, quantic soul orchestra etc. [record kicks](#)

v/a : new orleans funk vol 2 a who's who of windy city's most famous & most funky. following on from volume 1 & maintaining the quality with both classics & rarities. featuring everyone from the meters to eddie bo, lee dorsey to betty harris, mixing funk, soul, latin & jazz drawing on the unique culture of the city - mardi gras indians, saturday night fish fries, the second line strut. the album comes with extensive sleevenotes, exclusive photography & more. this is an essential guide to the musical landscape of new orleans. [soul jazz](#)

war : why can't we be friends?/platinum jazz/youngblood (ost) more reissues of the classic 70s back catalogue from the california west coast progressive soul outfit. they presented their fusion of funk, r&b, rock & latin styles throughout the 70s & notched up several us chart hits & 2 top 20 uk hits. [rhino](#)

jazz/contemporary/avant garde

neil cowley trio : loud...louder...stop the winners of the bbc jazz award for album of the year 2007, return with their much anticipated 2nd release. 'post-jazz', 'punk-jazz', 'call-it-what-you-like-jazz', this trio channels the energy of rock & the surging dynamics of dance music to create a new sound. features cowley's long-time collaborators richard sadler on bass & evan jenkins on drums. as the title suggests it is marked with energy, adrenalin & wit - an album of massive dynamic range & contrasts. neil expresses a wide gamut of emotions through his music, so there is often a sensitivity & romanticism to his compositions. [cake music](#)

pieranunzi/johnson/baron : as never before italian piano maestro pieranunzi with his regular trio cohorts, rhythm team supreme johnson & baron are back in the studio alongside kenny wheeler, performing an hour's worth of pieranunzi compositions. "kenny & i met for the first time in 1997 on a concert stage - a dream come true! now, a dream within a dream becomes reality : an entire track list of my songs performed by wheeler himself". [camjazz](#)

brad mehldau trio : live (2cd) recorded at the village vanguard over 4 evenings in 2006. the album opens with a cover of 'wonderwall' from oasis & concludes with a rendition of john coltrane's 'countdown'. in between, mehldau & his cohorts radically & elegantly reinterpret bossa nova (chico buarque's 'o que será'), seattle grunge (soundgarden's 'black hole sun') & tin pan alley (the 1929 classic 'more than you', featured in funny lady). "if proof were needed of the vitality & relevance of jazz, then mehldau is it" - guardian. [nonesuch](#)

alboran trio : near gale the italian trio's 1st album 'meltemi' was a surprise commercial & critical success in the uk, at least to those who hadn't heard the band. cinematic in scope, dramatic, passionate & dynamic in turn, this is a piano trio spiced with the flavours of the mediterranean. [act](#)

blues

v/a : the history of rhythm & blues boxset (4cd boxset - 97 songs) investigates the accidental synthesis of jazz, gospel, blues, ragtime, country & pop into a definable form of black music, which influenced pretty well all popular music from the 50s to the present. over these 4 thematically arranged cds, this stunning set illustrates how the dramatic social & economic upheavals in america were reflected in the congruence of different musical styles. comes with 32 page booklet & features such luminaries as bessie smith, cab calloway, robert johnson, jimmie rodgers, big bill broonzy, t-bone walker, arthur crudup & more. essential. [rhythm & blues](#)

folk

sandy denny : the best of the bbc recordings one of the finest singers england has ever produced, denny was a linchpin of the original fairport convention. delivering a radical mixture of dylan covers & renaissance music, she helped make fairport leaders of britain's 60s folk explosion. this cd features the best of her bbc recordings, regarded by many to contain her finest works & is compiled from the critically acclaimed 'live at the bbc' 4 disc box set. a wonderful introduction to sandy's bbc recordings, considered by many to contain some of her finest recordings. "terrific" 5/5 – *mojo*, "a must have reissue" – *the times*. [island](#)

kurt weisman : spiritual sci-fi a multi-instrumentalist in the acclaimed folk outfit feathers as well as a member of j mascis' witch. kurt's stunning musicality & absolute compositional prowess makes this a compelling & wonderful, musically experimental pop-folk recording. the songs already sound like they're floating above something else when you hear them with just voice & 12-string. there's a lot of weird meter stuff, little skips & jumps or little things that get stretched, inspired by his own computer micro-editing techniques. [important](#)

v/a : that's proper folk!! an amazing value sampler which includes pre-release tracks & exclusives from eliza carthy, martin simpson, lau, bellowhead, cara dillon, drever mccusker, woomble, karine polwart, athena, luka bloom, mary gauthier, sharon shannon & mundy, the waifs & kathryn williams & neil maccoll. [pmd](#)

jason mcniiff : in my time an anthology of mcniiff's greatest tracks from his 3 barely available albums, along with a smattering of new recordings & his rendition of 'hard times' recorded at last years karen dalton tribute night. "one of the uk's best kept secrets" – *mojo*. [snowstorm](#)

country

the wood brothers : loaded oliver & chris wood grew up in boulder, colorado & chris is a former member of medeski martin & wood. this is the follow-up to the duo's 2006 blue note debut 'ways not to lose'. their music has a rootsy feel that blends blues, folk & rock music in a guitar/bass duo. [blue note](#)

world

puerto plata : mujer de cabaret debut release of singer, guitarist & master sonero, 84-year old josé manuel cobles aka puerto plata. a veteran of the guitar tradition of the dominican republic, adept in all of its many forms - bolero, merengue, ranchera, manguina, bachata & above all, son. accompanied on the requinto by 2 of the dominican republic's finest virtuosos, edilio paredes & frank mendez. "puerto plata sings in a husky tenor, capable of tenderness & bravado. but the real stars here may be his 2, spectacular guitarists, whose relentless flow of tasty riffs drive this dance-happy, acoustic session" – *afropop worldwide*. [billboard](#)

v/a : the very best of congolese rumba - the kinshasa-abidjan sessions (2cd) the congolese rumba is to africa what the son is to cuba & the bossa nova to brazil. discreet elegance, flushing emotion, haunting, melancholy melodies & a refined sound mix, all contribute to the universal character of this music. in the 50's, thanks to its pioneers wendo kolosoy & antoine moundanda, the rumba blossomed in the capital cities of the democratic republic of congo & congo, separated by the river of the same name. this is the ultimate testimonial to the golden age & quintessence of classic congolese rumba. [marabi](#)

reggae

the mighty diamonds : inna de yard after nearly 4 decades together the mighty diamonds are the last true survivors of the great era of roots vocal trios. from their channel 1 hey-day in the 70's, to the present day, they have defined the rockers sound. this album contains 10 classics from the group's repertoire all done inna yard-style accompanied by only acoustic guitars, percussion & their vocal talent. [makasound](#)

v/a : judge sympathy – the birth of trojan (11 x 7" boxset) a celebration of the humble beginnings of the trojan label, comprising the first 7" singles to be released on the imprint in 1967. born in order to make available the wonderful productions of arthur 'duke' reid in the uk, & named in honour of the slogan 'duke reid – the trojan king of sounds', daubed on the side of the leyland truck which ferried reid's sound system around jamaica. over 40 years later, trojan records is still going strong & is widely regarded as the world's finest purveyor of jamaican music, the logo & the name synonymous with reggae music. [trojan](#)

soundtracks

v/a : 21 ost robert luketic directed film starring kevin spacey, kate bosworth, jim sturgess & laurence fishbourne. the soundtrack features tracks from mgmt, peter bjorn & john, unkle, lcd soundsystem & more. [sony](#)

dvd

pansonic : kuvaputki (cathode ray tube) by edward quist a redux digital film based around a new york performance on their adventurous 1999 world tour. whilst the documentary core remains, a hyper-real abstract reflection of the duo is twisted & shaped by quist into a new form in conjunction with their improvised set. "probably the most perfect electronic music film yet" – *sxsw music festival*. [blastfirstpetite](#)

mags

artrocker : issue 77 feat the long blondes, futureheads, los campesinos, black lips...

word : issue 62 feat elvis costello, rolling stones, guillemots...

uncut : may 2008 feat led zeppelin, alex turner, portishead, spiritualized, sex pistols...

singles

(further info on singles is included on the sleeves instore)

single of the week

black kids : i'm not gonna teach your boyfriend how to dance with you white 12", limited pink 7" & cd mercury

blood red shoes : say something, say anything cd & 2x7" mercury

holy fuck : lovely allen 7" & 12" young turks

metronomy : my heart rate rapid 12" because

radiohead : nude cd/7" xl

no age : eraser 7" sub pop

iforward, russia! : breaking standing 2x7", cds cooking vinyl

jose gonzalez : killing for love 7" peacefrog

epideme : 000-0/threatenings very limited 7" jonson family

future of the left : manchasm/suddenly it's a folk song 7" too pure

m.i.a : paper planes – homeland security remixes limited 12" xl

miracle fortress : maybe lately limited 7" rough trade

whsyp : sun without end (family ep) 7" great pop supplement

pete molinari : sweet louise e.p. limited 7" damaged goods

ass/blood music : split ep 7" static caravan

fox cubs : beasts of england limited 7" kuko

teenagersintokyo : s/t limited 10" backyard

leon jean-marie : bed of nails 7" island

guessmen : black balloons limited 7" co - lab

woodpigeon : that was good but you can do better limited 7" end of the road

muscles : ice cream limited 7" modular

the dirty backbeats : to the dogs/carol melts 7" sorted

my federation : don't wanna die limited yellow 7" eye industries

ionjo feather : i suppose 7" dead young

found : some fracas of a sissy ep limited 7" aufgeladen und beriet

subway sect/port sulphur : split limited 7" aufgeladen und beriet

wake the president/the kingfishers : split limited 7" aufgeladen und beriet

ettin : let us be v. limited 7" summerisle township

the see see : up the hill/citadel shuffle 7" great pop supplement

blah blah blah : death to the indie disco 7" kids

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