

# o u t t h i s w e e k . . . . .

## album of the week

**brightblack morning light : motion to rejoin** (import) the band's 3<sup>rd</sup> album is haunting, beautiful & weird in equal doses. it's deeper & heftier than their previous output, recalling musicians as diverse as lee perry, bob dylan, my bloody valentine, neil young & otis redding, with sounds ranging from folk to gospel to experimental electronics. naybob shineywater pens mystic lyrics about rainbows, hologram buffaloes & living in a little tent down by the river. together with his partner, rachael hughes, he typically crafts psych-rock blues albums but here, they expand their sound with touches of muscle shoals-era soul. gorgeously hypnotic & highly recommended! "ethereal, lovely...a narcotic, blues-infused sound that recalls mazy star & morcheeba" - rolling stone, "the farther they wander, the more magnetic they become" 8.3/10 - pitchfork. [matador](#)

## rock / indie / post rock / americana

**mercury rev : snowflake midnight** (cd / lp) the veteran space-pop-rockers release their 7<sup>th</sup> studio album - the dreamy wonder & aural kaleidoscopia of jonathan donahue, grasshopper & jeff mercel is back! their rare essence is very much intact, but it's somehow tilted on its axis - their sprawling avant-psych dada-rock is given an injection of ambitious electronics, a krautrock pulse & some unpredictable textures to freshen it all up which at times, oddly, takes them into early chemical brothers terrain. they retain their nuanced & heavily-produced sound, continuing to develop a poppier outlook. "gorgeous...mercury rev have re-connected with the exploratory impulses that drove their earliest works" 5/5 - independent, "another masterpiece...incredible. turn up the speakers & drop that jaw" 5/5 - guardian. [v2](#)

**vivian girls : s/t** the brooklyn noise-pop band have become the newest breakout sirens of the new york loft-pop brigade. within seconds of hearing their seductive three-part vocal harmonies lushly interwoven with chest-pounding waves of beautiful feedback, it's obvious that their songs are hard to resist, especially if you find yourself keen on the mid-80s noise pop of the jesus & mary chain, the vaselines & the shop assistants. this self-titled debut appeared recently as a vinyl-only edition of 500 which sold out before the band had completed their recent 3 week us tour. it's now re-released in both vinyl & cd format. swirling noise topped with sweetly angelic vocals - practically a can't-miss concoction. "a collection of mostly sub-two minute, noisy/sweet pop songs that's about as infectious as anything i've heard all year" - gorilla vs bear. [in the red](#)

**the aliens : luna** their 2<sup>nd</sup> album sees the group that have risen from the ashes of the beta band continuing to explore the outer limits of sunshine pop, psychedelic rock & acid dipped electronics. recorded in a small scottish village, the band have embraced their freedom from the major record label machine & delivered an album that manages to shine as bright as their acclaimed debut, even if it is missing the presence of anything as insanely catchy as 'robot man' & 'happy song'. they once again merge their disparate influences of the beatles, t.rex, glenn campbell, the beach boys, the silver apples, pink floyd & so much more, into an absorbing record that moves through the 60s, 70s & 80s with ease to create a thoroughly modern & occasionally bonkers offering. "a psychedelic delight" 4/5 - guardian. [pet rock](#)

**lovers : think ep** (upfront cd + free badge while they last) lovers are a strange mix of music's forgotten / blank generation, re-calling the spirit of darby crash's' germs, the weirdness of flipper, wipers style pop & the careless attitude of the replacements. their debut release comes in the form of a 7 song, 13 minute blast of a ride which gives you the perfect amount of time you need to piss off your boss, quit your job & throw out those shitty records you keep getting told to buy. sounds appealing yeah? bracing, powerful & direct, their unique brand of gritty, noisy, nasty punk will appeal to fans of no age, jay reatard, mika miko, fucked up & the black lips, "waves of muscular riffs are bolstered & steered by gargantuan basslines & juggernaut drums...let this scrappy, beautiful, brilliant record consume you" 9/10 - drowned in sound. [wichita](#)

**woodpigeon : songbook** (limited, with bonus 6 track cd) this is a collection of eps & bits 'n' pieces from the calgary group whose whistling, tambourine, handclapping, fey longing & corduroy blazers conspire to create music that is both glittery & piquantly morose. mark andrew hamilton's episodic orchestral chamber-folk concoctions are driven by banjo, glockenspiel, a sprawling choir & quivering male vocals & are sure to please fans of sufjan stevens or broken social scene. though the music works well in watercolour shades, when the loose-knit ensemble puts some muscle into rocking out, they make a strong case for why they might be the next great canadian breakout band. "both the ballads & the uppity numbers are lovely & if melancholia turns your crank, [the] lead track may just murder you" 8/10 - montreal mirror. [end of the road records](#)

**kiss the anus of a black cat : the nebulous dreams** on this, the 3<sup>rd</sup> full length from belgium's devilish dark-psych-folksters, the band explore their horror-filled doom theme further. the minimalist instrumentation & hypnotic, dramatic vocals (reminiscent of current 93's david tibet & a silver mt.zion's efrim menuck) are wrapped in doom ridden dischord with the percussion stripped down to a hazy swirl. the resultant superbly muted buzz shares apocalyptic interests with such visionaries as current 93, woven hand, richard youngs, comus & others. led by singer/keyboardist stef irritant, this ensemble has conjured up such an amazing album of uplifting pagan psych-folk with highly catchy repetitious choruses that will appeal to all of the aforementioned. [conspiracy](#)

**underground railroad : sticks & stones** their 2<sup>nd</sup> album embodies the power & dynamism of the band's notable live performance, typifying the energy, heady fury & blistering musicianship of a band who seem to struggle with attention deficit disorder (but in a good way). formed 5 years ago in paris, they embrace their love of post-punk & new york's no wave scene - their angular, noisy leanings are inspired by the velvet underground, the pixies, jesus & mary chain or sebadoh. psychedelic swirls, hypnotic guitars, overdrive led buzz, madchester loops of psychedelic haze, grunge, folktronica, death cab-style melodies make up their enthralling sound. "[they] take the concept of difficult 2<sup>nd</sup> album syndrome, chew it up, spit it out & grind it into the floor before most bands would even have tuned up their guitars" - music ohm. [one little indian](#)

**ra ra riot : the rhumb line** (cd & lp) the highly anticipated debut from these new yorkers nearly didn't happen as their drummer & lyric writer, john pike, tragically drowned in 2007. however, this talented musical collective pulled themselves back together & began work in the studio with producer ryan hadlock (gossip, blonde redhead, islands). this album sees the young band truly deliver on their potential, successfully melding elements of new wave & classic indie with sweeping orchestral chamber pop, the strings bringing both elegance & grace, as well as a sense of drama, to these catchy melodies. an inventive & ambitious record that combine arcade fire's orchestral reveries with vampire weekend's pop sensibility for an album that's both effervescent & heartbreaking. [v2](#)

**holly golightly & the brokeoffs : dirt don't hurt** the 2<sup>nd</sup> album from holly golightly & lawyer dave (a 1 man drum & guitar extravaganza) is arguably even better than their 1<sup>st</sup>. on show here is a country inspired, banjo-a-strumming, washboard-a-rattling, thigh slapping, slide guitar sauntering jaunt. it's charming ('i wanna hug you, kiss you, squeeze you (till my arms fall off)' & 'my 45') & rattles along like johnny & june cash driving along a southern hill top in a clapped out, dusty truck. made during their tour whilst in spain, at an analogue studio, with vintage gear, in 5 days, dave says : "we were a bit weary & dirty. if you listen close, you'll hear the mud on our shoes on more than a few tracks". [damaged goods](#)

**polysics : we ate the machine** tokyo's favourite technicolor pogo punk band named after a type of synthesizer are back with their 8<sup>th</sup> full length effort. the japanese new wave/synth pop/punk/rock band create high energy music, fusing conventional guitar music with synthesized & computer generated sound to create a unique mixture of punk & electro-pop. their song lyrics often consist of japanese, broken english, or just plain gibberish. their biggest influence is clearly devo - from the start, polysics have tried to make music in, as hiroyuki describes it, "the spirit of devo." however, other bands & artists have influenced their music including talking heads, omd, sparks, the b-52's, xtc, king crimson, kraftwerk, p-model, neu!, brian eno, nirvana & david bowie. "the most fun you can have with an orange boiler suit & goggles on" - subbacultcha. [gan shin](#)

**ben folds : way to normal** his 3<sup>rd</sup> solo studio album is loaded with irresistible hooks & piano-pounding pandemonium. the piano-rocking, shatner-collaborating singer/songwriter delivers a rocking, fairly un-orchestral album. 'way to normal' is an exuberant, raucous & sometimes profane mix of sure-fire crowd-pleasers ('hiroshima', 'bitch went nuts' & the frenetically fuzzed-out 'dr. yang'), cheerful snark-fests ('the frown song', 'brainwascht') & thoughtful, moving ballads ('cologne', 'kylie from connecticut') that folds wrote following the finalization of a 2 year divorce. notable tracks include a quirky duet with regina spektor ('you don't know me') & glitchy sonic experiment 'free coffee'. [epic](#)

**ani difranco : red letter year** the mesmerising new album from the legendary ani difranco & it's her 1<sup>st</sup> collection of new material in 3 years. "i've got myself a new mantra", ani shares on her new studio album. "it says 'don't forget to have a good time'". this mantra has clearly influenced the dozen tunes here, which celebrate existence, profess love & tackle thorny political issues with an infectious sense of glee. it's one of ani's most joyous records to date. if a few of these songs are familiar to fans, it's because they've been thoroughly road-tested & approved & all of them have benefited from a couple years of tender loving care - this is focused, layered, panoramic music. "breathhtakingly talented, iconic..." - rolling stone, "one of the defining artistic voices of our time"- acoustic guitar. [righteous babe](#)

**lymbic systm : love your abuser remixed** the band have made many new friends whilst touring their mush records debut, 'love your abuser'. they've asked some of those friends (the album leaf, the one am radio, daedelus, this will destroy you, bibio, reference, eliot lipp, back ted n-ted) to remix some of the material from their album. each artist adds their unique touches to the epic source material, working simultaneously as a companion piece to the band's debut & as a compelling album on its own. hailing from tempe, arizona, siblings jared & michael bell make a kind of rewired post-rock from vintage keyboards, infectious melodies, analog effects, dynamic drumming & intricate laptop programming. for fans of mice parade, etterklang, tortoise, explosions in the sky & four tet. [mush](#)

**sportsday megaphone : so many colours, so little time** hugh frost aka sportsday megaphone makes blip pop, utilising the same kind of arcade machine beeps, nintendo noise & jabbing synths that crystal castles put to such great use but somehow he doesn't pull it off with the same level of mastery, so at times this falls kid carpet territory. however, when he gets it right, the mike skinner lyrics step to the forefront & sit proudly atop the mylo-styled electro beats. "gloriously melds casio-spun beeps with sonic youth. slipshod karaoke at its bloodthirsty best" - dazed & confused, "this dinky, lovely bedroom pop, is indie at its very best" - guardian, "a bedsit morrissey who discovered garageband en route to the local poetry meet" - nme, "indie laptop-pop at its very best. we're hearing this one-man-band loud & clear" - mixmag. [sunday best](#)

**constantines : kensington** formerly signed to subpop, & now, for their 4<sup>th</sup> album, arts & crafts, their growing maturity has resulted in an album of raw, moody, arty, punk with traditional rock energy & pop angles. emotional peaks & jagged edges are conveyed in yearning growls by singer bry webb, inspiring songs that fit somewhere between rockers & ballads. "a feverishly partisan dedication to the wild delirium of rock 'n roll... air punchingly anthemic." – nme, "the constantines are the children of fugazi, stepbrothers to make-up & trail of dead, the grand-kids of springsteen & strummer. they call what they do soul music, not because of what it sounds like, but where it hits you." - eye weekly. [arts & crafts](#)

**iglu & hartly : and then boom** these rap-synth, bare-chested electro-funksters aren't ones to hide their intentions. they sound like a band who like to party, open a keg & jump into the pool fully clothed (& piss in the chocolate fountain, if the rumours are true). crazy eh? on their debut, the los angeles based 5 piece mix killer pop hooks with their signature synths & raps. riotous fun or a bit naff? it's your call. "when the choruses are this massive it's hard not to become slightly obsessed" - popjustice. [mercury](#)

**dungen : 4** the swedish band's 4<sup>th</sup> studio album extends the outfit's sound past psychedelia into something more expansive. '4' finds gustav ejstes' focus on the extremes of dungen's sound separating into 2 entities - blazing, raw guitar workouts have their own time & place but now, so do stirringly orchestrated, jazz-cooled compositions with cinematic undertones. sounding less like a free-for-all genre workout, these 10 tracks comprise dungen's most concentrated effort to date, constructed within tighter frameworks. the beats surge forth, the melodies reign & the atmosphere changes throughout as their sound continues to evolve. "comfortably the best band in the world" – nme, "masters of modern psych" – uncut. [subliminal sounds](#)

**fripp & eno : no pussyfooting** (2cd) in 1972, king crimson guitarist fripp was producing some material for robert wyatt. eno (then of roxy music), came to the studio to add synth. fripp & eno found common cause. the 21 minute piece of music that resulted, 'the heavenly music corporation' became one of the most influential pieces of electronic music ever recorded. the other track on the album 'swastika girls' was not recorded until a year later in 1973. both appear on this record, along with some additional interpretations. the sounds on this record are repeated over & over, creating a mysterious hypnotic drone that goes on into infinity. this was recorded with only 2 tracks, a gibson les paul guitar with the fripp pedalboard & frizzbox. eno built up a tape loop effect that sounds like 50 guitars. awesome! a must have purchase. [panegyric](#)

**nelson : revolving door** the french quartet met whilst studying sound engineering at a parisian college, & soon found they shared a love of new order, talking heads & tv on the radio. they have been making waves over here & have met with many comparisons, such as interpol crossed with the rapture or joy division. perhaps it's because their new wave & punk influences cut holes in their sonic paper with dirty dingy disco, garage rock scissors. arty & crafty, military-esque & epic, they manage to incorporate tight guitars with delicate synths creating a sinister yet vulnerable environment. "the premier french art-popsters" – nme. [ctrl alt del](#)

**benoit pioulard : temper** the 2<sup>nd</sup> album by thomas meluch under his benoit pioulard nom de guerre. pioulard creates crystalline folk-pop teeming with fragile vocals, acoustic guitars, electronics & percussion in a hazy shoegaze style that's more than a little easy to fall in love with. with a broad palette of instruments that lately includes harmonium & cello, he constructs diverse arrangements that skirt the borders of pop with beautiful, detailed atmospheres. the scope & sonic narratives of songs like 'a woolgathering exodus' & 'golden grin' exhibit new degrees of musicality, while the weightlessness of 'brown bess' or 'sweep generator', reflect the unrestrained context in which the record was produced. really lovely. [kranky](#)

**john hill : six moons of jupiter** (cd/lp) finders keepers' uber legend proves his calibre once more as the label rescues this previously unreleased masterpiece from the proverbial tin. renowned & revered by beardy record collectors the world over, john's cv reads like a veritable who's who of us am radio friendly fuzz merchants, including penning the acid-filled floor-filler 'love, love, love, love, love' for wool & pacific gas & electric, as well as producing finders keepers' very own susan christie. pulling together a veritable smorgasbord of us legends, john has enlisted the help of none other than susan christie, moog pioneer walter sear, jazz legend gerry mulligan & jimmy valerio to produce this progressive break-heavy monster, once doomed never to see the light of day. [finders keepers](#)

**hot puppies : blue hands** according to the cardiff outfit, this is their 1<sup>st</sup> proper album as the 2006 release 'under the crooked moon' was more of a 'story-so-far' round up & 'over my dead body' was a collection of rarities & unreleased tracks. the hot puppies deal in cool & slightly quirky boy / girl punk pop cum noir art-pop. front-person becki newman is a chanteuse of charisma & verve & the puppies are like the 'off-the-rails' sister band to long blondes. "scoring high on this cool-o-meter, the hot puppies are as fantastic as waking up in a sea of oreo cookies with no option but to eat your way to safety" – nme. [thp records](#)

**i'm not jim : you are all my people** meeting at a silos gig in new orleans, the acclaimed novelist jonathan lethem (you don't love me yet & fortress of solitude) & the genre-bending cuban-american bandleader walter salas-humara (of silos, the critically-acclaimed progenitors of the roots rock & americana movements), adventurously set out to pen some songs together. within 2 days, they had crafted an entire album's worth of material. they then doubled their collective from 2 members to 4, by enlisting the musicianship & production prowess of the elegant too, who took the rudiments of each song & enveloped them within a completely new musical & sonic context. "fascinating. sounds like an unlikely cross between steve earle, neutral milk hotel & the skewed pop at which salas-humara excels in his day job" - toronto star. [bloodshot](#)

**grantura : in dreams & other stories** sounding like the more rueful musings of teenage fanclub & inspired by neil young & the byrds, they deliver their own brand of 60s inspired sunshine pop & vocal harmony driven country pop. they like mandolins, south east london, singing & dandelion & burdock. "this comes as close to the sound of the californian cosmic cowboys as any group has the right to get. there are echoes of the byrds, the dillards, the clarks & the burritos, but the best thing of all is that the whole thing manages to smell as much of real ale & cider as it does of whisky sours" - independent, "solid foundation of acoustic guitars, mandolin, monstrous tunes & delirious harmonies" - music week. [ruffa lane](#)

**travis : ode to j smith** the scottish band's 6<sup>th</sup> album is their loudest, edgiest & most arresting record since their debut. sing-along choruses, riffy guitars, a banjo-flecked country ditty, fran's colourful vocals carrying you through – all in all a successful record that re-establishes the band's relevance. "an eclectic, experimental mix...this album is a rush. a return to form" – bbc, "this back-to-basics effort turns up the guitars as high as their 1996 debut" - guardian. [red telephone box](#)

**todd rundgren : arena** rundgren, a wizard, a true star, with his long awaited new studio album . "arena" is a definite return to riff-oriented guitar rock", says rundgren. "it's supposed to make you reflexively pump your fist & wave a lighter in the air". just as he'd hoped, the album showcases his unique songwriting style & sonically captures the essence and energy of "arena" rock with bombastic, guitar-driven tunes like 'mountaintop', 'strike' & 'mad', while the anthemic song 'mercenary', transports you to a stadium with its epic chorus, 'how do you like me now?', resounding to every seat in the house. [cooking vinyl](#)

**james morrison : songs for you, truths for me** the husky voiced, soul inspired & rousing james morrison is back & has crafted a wonderfully poppy affair. brass stabs, piano led motown inspired songs & a duet with nelly furtado to boot! for fans of recent jamie lidell output, winehouse, duffy, bryn christopher et al. "you probably won't feel the need to turn off the radio for any of these. nice one" – time out. [polydor](#)

**karl blau : nature's got away** the washington state musician travelled to japan & performed with some of his biggest musical influences : namely tori kudo (maher shalal hash baz), reiko kudo, nikaido kazumi, the mooools, tennis coats & arrington dedionysio (of k records, old time relijun). written on the road & recorded at the beloved dub narcotic studio by blau (accompanied by a huge array of friends), blau has made a modest, charming record. his dry baritone, prickly tautness & lo-fi arrangements should appeal to fans of smog, lambchop or beck. great stuff. "a slow-building masterpiece of tension & release" – indie folk forever. [k records](#)

**v/a : teatism** a compilation featuring a diverse range of artists, who each created a unique song based around the theme of music inspired by the art & culture of tea. an idea conceived & curated by stefan panczak (aka inch-time), teatism binds together 15 disparate tracks by a hand-picked selection of artists. from the opening gambit of max de wardener's 'kettle song', which chimes and charms, through to cibelle's sashaying 'mr & ms grey', the pivotal theme evokes a sense of reverie - a kaleidoscopic gamut of ideas brewed to concoct a heady mix of electronica, jazz, musique concrete-style cut-ups, cinematic tones & avant-garde composition. put the kettle on & make us a brew – this is rich tea-tastic! [static caravan](#)

**popular workshop : we're alive & we're not alone** the debut from the london 3-piece was recorded by steve albini at the chicago based electrical audio studios. the band came together through a love of abrasive guitars & collapsing drums when pseudo-brothers jake & luke found gypsy & forced him to 'sing whilst playing the guitar'. on record they create their own world of art-disco & discordant chaos inspired by and compared to a spazzed-out danced up sonic youth, bloc party, shellac & elastica. [this is fake diy](#)

**heavy load : shut it** heavy load's 2<sup>nd</sup> album builds on the anarcho punk of their debut 'the queen mother's dead' with the addition of some psychedelic garage touches. this brighton based band have recently returned from a trip to new york to launch the feature documentary telling the story of their unlikely existence & their attempts to take their music from the disability arts scene to mainstream/mixed audiences. they make no excuses for their sound & invite you to 'get in or get out'. [heavy load](#)

**the long weekend : 20 minutes, 13 stops** debut from the medway 6 piece. 12 new songs that channel taut, twitching rock'n'roll energy & the big crowd dynamic of sing-along pop, all mixed to anthemic glory by paul tipler. lean, wiry, hook-laden pop nuggets. "great band" – the sunday times. [mother tongue](#)

**delia derbyshire : electrosonic** (limited) a full album of previously unreleased material from delia & her radiophonic associates & this is as top quality as you could possibly imagine. she might be best known for her work with the workshop but when she wasn't working on bbc series, assisted by brian hodgson & australian mood music composer don harper, she put together a library record for the esteemed kpm label. recorded under pseudonyms, this material has rested untouched in some archive gathering dust for years but now it sees the light of day. the music doesn't go the route of small skits & re-used themes as much as most library records do, rather this goes from the more upbeat cuts to epic, long-format swirling numbers you would associate with doctor who or other bbc sci fi shows of the era. the very best of eccentric british electronic blipper. [glospot](#)

**soft cell : non stop erotic cabaret - deluxe edition** (2cd) the band's classic album from 1981 has been digitally remastered & expanded to include the newly remastered version of the 'non stop ecstatic dancing' album & the 2 bonus tracks of the 7" versions of 'torch' & 'a man could get lost'. disc 2 features 11 of the most essential extended mixes including the groundbreaking extended version of 'memorabilia' (produced by daniel miller), 'tainted love / where did our love go' & the long lost b-sides 'fun city' & 'facility girls'. [mercury](#)

**chrome : alien soundtracks** one of the original forefathers in the industrial boom of the 1980s, chrome's amalgam of distorted guitars & vocals, samples from tv & a raw punk aesthetic (inspired by the stooges) became much more popular in the early 90s than it ever was while the band was around in the 70s & 80s. although active for only 6 years, the san francisco band left behind a huge discography, including 9 full lps (several of which were released posthumously) & numerous eps & singles. the 3<sup>rd</sup> & final reissue instalment of chrome's back-cat sees this 1977 benchmark finally available again! coming over like a crazier pere ubu meets (arty) destroy all monsters, this is essential stuff. [noiseville](#)

**chrome : half machine lip moves** on this release, damon edge's warped-iggy vocals & demented drums sit atop helios creed's pitched-up/detuned psychedelic guitar assault. it's also the first proper reissue of this essential album in years! [noiseville](#)

**front 242 : moments** front242 comes from a different time, when working with electronic music was difficult, the machines were hostile & humans needed to interact strongly with synthesizers to master their art. after years of digital "uber alles", analogue synthesis & technology has made a comeback. front242 decided to re-load their old analogue sequences into this new generation of synthesizers & carefully redesigned all the sounds to match the spirit of their time. the result was proposed on a worldwide "vintage tour" that is still running today. to satisfy their fans, but also the curiosity of numbers of listeners interested in the early electronic music atmosphere, they invite you to discover this exceptional "live" recording encompassing the very best of front242's compositions. enjoy 'moments' - a snapshot of 242's live sound. [alpha matrix](#)

**casiotone for the painfully alone : the first two albums by...** the first 2 casiotone.. albums digitally remastered & handily compiled onto one cd. warm, wry & most often melancholy songs in the vein of stephen merritt or early mountain goats that continue owen ashworth's exploration into the world of lo-fi synth pop for the emotionally bruised soul. essential. [tomlab](#)

**cold war kids : loyalty to loyalty (deluxe edition)** (cd/dvd hardback book version with 20 page booklet) their highly anticipated 2<sup>nd</sup> album is an impressive & lushly textured follow-up to their critically acclaimed 'robbers & cowards'. it marks a huge musical progression for the long beach, california 4-piece & in the process, they have created an album which is being hailed in some circles as something of a masterpiece. it's a 13 track album brimming with the poignant, intimate narratives & brooding atmospherics they're famed for. nathan willet's bluesy howl lines still dominate proceedings & the band remain bleak, sparse & dark (both musically & lyrically), perhaps more so than before, resulting in an album that sounds like the raconteurs on downers. deluxe version includes a 35 minute dvd documentary, studio footage & cwk video diary. [mercury](#)

**midge ure : 10** this album contains midge's own interpretations of his favourite songs written by others. "i believe we are all affected by music in our surroundings & that it helps to shape our lives & mould us into the people we become. these songs i have chosen to cover have left a profound mark on me throughout my youth & my intention in recording them was as a mark of respect to the writers" - midge ure. [hypertension](#)

**ultravox : vienna / rage in eden** (2cd) 'vienna' was the first album released by ultravox after midge ure joined. they followed up vienna with the album 'rage in eden', although not the band's most popular album it is considered to be their masterpiece amongst fans. both these remasters are band approved & this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time that 'rage in eden' has been in it's original cover. cd2 on both releases contains bonus content - 'vienna' has 2 previously unreleased tracks & 'rage in eden' has 8 previously unreleased tracks & this is the first time all relevant b-sides & rarities have been compiled with their relevant parent albums. [emi](#)

**new order : lowlife / technique / power corruption & lies / brotherhood (deluxe editions)** (2cd) these reissues come with bonus discs featuring extended versions, b-sides & remixes, extensive sleevenotes & interviews with all 4 band members. rising from the ashes of legendary british post-punks joy division, new order triumphed over tragedy to emerge as one of the most acclaimed bands of the 1980s. embracing the electronic textures & disco rhythms of the underground club culture years in advance of their contemporaries, their pioneering fusion of new wave aesthetics & dance music successfully bridged the gap between the 2 worlds, creating a distinctively thoughtful brand of synth pop. the albums have been remastered from the original master tapes & the packaging design & booklet was overseen by peter saville, with the intention of providing a presentation true to his original factory records aesthetic. [rhino](#)

**u2 : under a blood red sky** (standard cd / deluxe cd & dvd version) the remastered album was originally released in november 1983 & consists of live recordings from 3 shows on the band's 'war' tour through europe & america. the deluxe version features the original album & the 'live at red rocks' dvd. "under a blood red sky draws equally from the band's first 3 albums & these live versions, while less textured, are considerably tougher than their studio counterparts & illustrate quite effectively why u2 were considered one of the best, most exhilarating live bands of the 80s" - all music guide. [mercury](#)

**the undertones : an anthology** (2cd) derry's finest debuted in 1978 with 'teenage kicks', 2 minutes 23 seconds of immaculate guitar noise that has been covered (but never bettered) by everyone from supergrass to k t tunstall, green day to busted. john peel's "favourite record of all time" was followed by a dozen perfect pop singles including 'jimmy jimmy', 'here comes the summer', 'my perfect cousin' & 'wednesday week'. 4 cracking albums showed a band prepared to take risks as punk morphed into new wave & on into electro pop & new romanticism. this anthology showcases the very best of the band & includes 27 previously unreleased demos, alternate takes, session & live tracks. [salvo](#)

# dance/electonica

**heartbreak : lies** the british synth-pop duo release their debut amongst a whirlwind of ecstatic acclaim. they infuse italo-disco with dark metal energy & in doing so, create a whole new genre which has been coined "metallo"! they're are like an evil twin to labelmates neon neon, fashioning memorable synth hooks but adding an element of darkness to their pop constructions - albeit a very tongue in cheek kind of darkness. "like the human league fronted by a squeaky voiced rob halford, heartbreak mix exuberant electro-pop with an over-enthusiastic delivery that occasionally brings to mind a camp tenacious d...recommended" - boomkat, "the future of dance music" - i-d magazine, "what's not to love?" - guardian, "one of the most intoxicating synth-pop albums of the last 10 years. they totally rule" 10/10 - vice, "a triumph of high-drama" - fact. [lex](#)

**headhunter : nomad** debut from one of dubstep's most revered producer/djs & the 1st time his music can be found on cd & it's a real treat. 'nomad' is a heavily techno influenced bass-driven album, further breaking open the dubstep genre & giving the album wider appeal to fans of dubstep, techno & electronic music generally. headhunter has long occupied his own particular niche of the dubstep scene, sitting comfortably between the ultra heavy bass styles of skream, bengal & his tempa stablemates & the deeper berlin influenced bristol side of the dubstep coin. the styles are perfectly coalesced on 'nomad' & as such, this is quite simply one of the best dubstep albums to date. dark dubstep fiends take note! [tempa](#)

**seba : return to forever** the swedish producer sebastian ahrenberg has been making top quality drum & bass for a number of years, with a string of releases on high profile labels like good looking records, metalheadz & his own secret operations label. the stockholm studio wizard delivers one of the freshest drum'n'bass albums for a long time with warm, propulsive & catchy beats but this album also shows that he can switch in styles & still keep his own sound. he also incorporates contributions from vocalists robert manos & krister linder to impressive effect. this album may well be firmly aimed at the dance floor but it makes for equally good headphone music. [combination](#)

**koushik : out my window** koushik specializes in making hazy, hip-hop-based downbeat tunes that you could easily compare to contemporaries such as four tet (who released koushik's first single on his text label), caribou, rjd2 & prefuse 73. what sets koushik apart from the others is a beautiful 60's psych-pop element that pervades throughout. it shows itself in the spacious panned strings, acoustic guitars & harpsichords that fall in & out of each other & the beats have a harder, regimented classic true school hip-hop sound. koushik's voice is soft & mixed way down in the centre of the track which gives the whole affair a wonderful warmth. if you're a fan of any of the aforementioned artists, you need this record. "the skewed breakbeat sensibility of j dilla & the sunny pop good vibes of the beach boys, free design & the zombies" - pitchfork. [stones throw](#)

**london elektricity : syncopated city** the 4th album from hospital's founding fathers tony colman & chris goss, is an intense metropolis of songs & soundscapes, underpinned by concrete beats & basslines. combining heartfelt soul, with a level of musical literacy & emotion unparalleled in drum & bass, this album features the incredible haunting vocals of longtime collaborator (& award winning jazz legend) liane carroll & swedish vocalist elsa hedberg, while the man himself, tony colman, adds his own vocals & adlibs throughout. with the winning combination of their classic funk to keep the dancefloor rocking & deeper moodier moments, this record can't fail to please. "the stuff of d+b legend" - mixmag, "magical" - notion. [hospital records](#)

**morgan geist : double night time** geist's 1st solo artist album in over a decade. after turning the dance music world on its head with his metro area project (alongside collaborator darshan jesrani) & mining rare disco gems with the seminal obscure disco dj mix unclassics (2004), he decided it was time to turn his attention to a solo album that would indulge his own early influences & guilty pleasures : techno-pop, prog rock & pure electronic music. here, he collaborates with friend & fellow new wave traveller jeremy greenspan (junior boys) whose vocals suit the sound perfectly & combined with the classic synthetic sound design & arrangements, geist has made an album that sounds like the beloved for the noughties. "a welcome treat to the ears" - pop matters. [environ](#)

**lightning head : 13 faces of lightning head** lightning head is the handiwork of veteran electronic dub producer glyn 'bigga' bush, known for his previous work with rockers hi-fi during the 1990's & more recently for his solo albums for sonar kollektiv & stereo deluxe. this new album is an immaculately produced exploration of west african styles, including high life, nigeria funk & afrobeat, with a funk fusion approach similar to recent releases by tony allen or france's comet recordings. throw in some dub basslines & occasional psych sensibilities & you have a banger that those partial to quantic, mr scruff, & gilles peterson are gonna love. 'nice afro-dub infused grooves, always fresh!' - richard dorfmeister [lion head recordings](#)

**burnt friedman & jaki liebezeit : secret rhythms 3** secret rhythms seems like an apt title for friedman & liebezeit's music, focussing on the road less travelled when it comes to clamping down on those off-beat percussive narratives. liebezeit's drumming seems to drift further away from western conventions, aligning more closely with the instrumentation & patterns indigenous to eastern & middle eastern cultures. friedman's slick dub-influenced production fits in well with this cross-cultural aesthetic & there's something truly unclassifiable about the end product. "endlessly inventive & smooth as silk" - the wire, "sounds like the modern jazz quartet of the 24th century" - uncut. [nonplace](#)

**v/a : bnr vol.1** (2cd) alex ridha looks back over the past 3 years or so of releases on his boys noize imprint, compiling a selection of highlights across 2 discs. as with fellow labels such as kitsune & ed banger, the agenda is far from narrow, not only encompassing various strands of dance music but delving into the realms of electronic indie pop too, as the remixes of the faint & einzeller will attest. all in all a great overview of an essential electro-disco label of our time. fans of the aforementioned labels & acts such as justice, daft punk & simian mobile disco should get stuck in! [boysnoize](#)

**sugarush beat company : s/t** once you get past the somewhat suspect choice of band name, what you have here is an album of super eccentric soul with a glossy pop tarnish. concocted by jobbing soul singers rahsaan patterson & ida corr & australian producer jaz rogers, this has undeniable shades of outkast, gnarls barkley & prince. a unique & refreshingly different take on the urban soul sound. *'the most exciting soul-rock alchemists since sly & the family stone'* – sunday times, *'it boasts the same melodic pizzazz that makes similarly wonky, thrown-together r&b projects such as nerd & gnarls barkley work'* – the guardian [rca](#)

**cornelius : sensuous + sensuround** (now packaged with both cd & dvd versions of the album, with videos for every track) re-issue of the japanese experimentalist's 2007 album. this album was written shortly after keigo oyamada had become a parent & there's certainly an air of the childlike about many of the compositions here : the chiming rhodes & gentle synth stabs of 'breezin' conjure a lulling simplicity that has little in common with the remarkably detailed production work that's gone into this record. flitting from ambient pieces worthy of tape through to biting garage-rock, 'sensuous' finds cornelius making beautiful sound for its own sake. fans of errors, pivot, tape or mountains should check this out if you missed it 1<sup>st</sup> time. *"wholly captivating electronic pop music"* – pop matters, *"highly recommended"* – boomkat. [cherry red](#)

**808 state : ninety / ex:el / gorgeous / don solaris** (2cd) deluxe editions of these early classic dance albums from one of the true pioneers of the acid house scene, re-mastered by 808 state mainstay graham massey. each album is expanded with a 2nd cd featuring remixes & previously unreleased versions. [ztt](#)

## hip hop

**people under the stairs : fun dmc** celebrating a decade in the game, the los angeles' rapper/producers the one & double k, return with their 6<sup>th</sup> album. as the title implies, the boys had a simple goal this time around - basically having fun & not caring about anything. after 18 months of touring, the pair hit the studio to capture the spontaneous vibe of their live shows on wax. to accurately put the party back front & centre, the duo went to the streets of south central to record the sounds of weekend barbecues & parties, capturing an atmosphere impossible to recreate in the studio. *"we wanted to get the ambience of the dudes playing dominoes, the meat sizzling on the grill, the planes flying by...we just said, 'let's try to get what our saturday is like onto a record'"*, explains the one. the album is still sample-based but they have used live musicians to augment their sound & to implement more of a song structure. top notch! [gold dust](#)

**yo! majesty : futuristically speaking...never be afraid** (cd / lp) debut from the tampa, florida based shunda k & jwl. b. the girls have been much mooted in numerous circles because of their shocking lyrics, lesbianism & devout christianity. the album is a whirlwind journey through their queendom - it's a mix of tempos, moods, styles & tensions with the music provided by half a dozen hip producers, including basement jaxx, who back the girls with crunk, miami bass, dancehall & house. imagine if salt 'n' pepa were still making music now or if le tigre went hip hop & you're pretty much there. *"brilliant, powerful hip hop...it's a challenging listen which will more than reward those brave enough to try it"* – bbc, *"fans of everyone from bonde do role to black kids to diplo need to pay this some attention quick styles. hotness!"* – boomkat. [domino](#)

**madlib the beat konducta : wlib am - king of the wigflip** (cd & lp) fitting comfortably into a series whose previous contributors include the late jay dee, dj jazzy jeff & pete rock, madlib delivers one of his most straight forward neck snapping hip-hop outings to date. it plays like the days when am radio ruled the airwaves, transmitting a crackling, low-fi mélange of endless sample fodder, vocal snippets, & sonic intuition - starting with the ominous, tribal overtones of 'the new resident', its spiritual spank followed by the customarily aggressive guilty simpson on the brassy, stabbing 'blow the horns on `em', this collection finds madlib venturing away from the deconstruction of world rhythms on recent projects & returning to his western hemisphere roots in hip-hop & r&b. this final edition of the beat generation series includes guest appearances from talib kweli, murs, oh no, defari, georgia anne muldrow & many others. [rapster k7](#)

**restiform bodies : tv loves you back**. more skewed hip-hop goodness from the ever reliable anticon label. this experimental collective incorporate strains of ghetotech, crunk & hyphy twirp & twirl with eno-like atmospherics & buoyant bass swells into their sound, while rapper/songbird passage warps his vocals over blistering synth. the subject matter here is the ol' cathode-ray tube & the sinister power it wields over its wide-eyed worshippers. reminiscent of acts such as subtle, why? & other anticon stalwarts, this is certainly worth a listen for those that like their hip hop left-of-centre. [anticon](#)

**cappadonna : the cappatilize project** cappadonna is back at his best to bring you the 'cappatilize project'. straight from shaolin, following work on the recent wu-tang clan album, this staten native delivers a soulful, neck-snapping album, dropping science like it was 1988. with appearances by q-dini, born divine, lounge lo, & more, no one can resist this raw, uncut sound. it's time to cappatilize. [traffic](#)

**kano : 140 grime st** a massive & much needed switch in style for longtime grime fixture kano. recent years have seen him release a stream of below par r&g shooting for the mainstream market, but the man has finally got his game back & pulled in guest appearances from wiley, skepta & ghetto. his hard hitting intelligent lyrics combined with rock solid beats from ace producer mikey j combine to make this an essential purchase for the grime faithful. kano has found his hunger again & it's a pleasure to witness. *'the sound of an artist back on the right path'* – the guardian [bigger picture](#)

**v/a : rmxology deluxe** (cd & 3lp) the west coast hip hop institution delicious vinyl celebrates 20 years saluting the iconic, vinyl-munching logo with the launch of rmxology. the label that brought you the pharcyde, young mc & mr vegas has called upon peaches, hot chip, diplo, aaron lacrate & debonair samir & brother reade's bobby evans to remix & refix the banging back catalogue for this album. as rick ross puts it, "peaches is my co-curator on rmxology. we reached out to people who know how to have fun exploring their influences & adding their own magic to something they love. that's the creative core of what the rmxology project is about : start with these dope raw materials & reassemble them into something new & fun, revitalizing the music for a new generation of fans!" [traffic](#)

**everlast : love, war & the ghost of whitey ford** the former house of pain member drops his 5th album under his everlast moniker. 'love, war & the ghost of whitey ford' is the logical sequel to his breakthrough, 'whitey ford sings the blues', an eclectic mix of rock, blues, country, pop & hip-hop. this time around politics, & of course love & war, are at the forefront, leading to a deeper, more cerebral album. [pias](#)

**jazz t : all city kings** dj jazz t is a stalwart of the uk scene, winning the iff 'turntablist title' in the late 90s. he's a regular dj host at uk hip hop events all over the south of england & a member of diversion tactics & boot productions. he has supported & dj'd for percee p, rodney p, kashmere, mcm, hug, al shid, freestyle, shabazz the disciple, souls of mischief, j zone, yeshua da poed. the idea behind this project was to bring together all the artists that jazz has dj'd for over the years, amalgamating some of the dopest mcs in history, on one killer album. co-production has been handled by zygothe, miracle & j-zone. [boombox](#)

**maga bo's : archipelagoes** dj/rupture's soot imprint returns with another globe trekking album from maga bo, fresh from another musical mooch through the sonic territories of grime, cumbia, reggaeton & of course, hiphop, picking up collaborators & companions along the way. electro grime riddims, k-libre's fiery delivery, lush orchestral sweeps, laptop honed bass riddims - there's so much to take in here that it'll take a fair few listens to peel back the layers of multi disciplined instrumental styles & twisted tongues encrusted into it's seething mass of beats - you'll just have to dive in & get lost in his global sound conundrum. dense. [soot records](#)

**blak twang : speaking from xperience** having negotiated classic albums lost to corporate slapstick & an apathetic uk scene that for a long time couldn't get its arse in gear, blak twang releases his 5th album. undoubtedly a cornerstone of uk hip-hop, the boy rotton is as british as bangers & mash, holding down south london via birmingham & manchester with a gong-heavy mantelpiece & a collection of air miles best described as 'mega', such is his international acclaim. ever the artisan of british rap, he is still happy hammering out sampled hip hop beats in the time-honoured fashion. [abstract urban](#)

**slakah the beachchild : soul movement vol 1** soft focus hiphop soul - over 20 tracks there's various shades of shimmering rhodes, velvet cushioned basslines & pillow talking vocals. there are bossa nova touches but this is largely a long playing soul set for lights down loungin' & impressing that honey you just caught at the club. unbelievably smoooooth. featuring collaborations from the cream of canada's burgeoning talent (drake, tona, divine brown, shad, melanie durrant, ray robinson, ebrahim & so many others). this is feel-good new soul with enough of a world-inflected influence to keep it fresh. [bbe](#)

## soul/funk

**v/a : masterpiece created by jazzie b** (3cd) the 2nd in the masterpiece compilation series sees jazzie b take to the mix - a true british soul pioneer & mastermind behind the legendary soul ii soul. he presents some authentic vibes from his past & present as a luminary of british dance music, whose history goes back to the soundsystems, through to the 80s warehouse parties & on to the club scene we know today. cd1 covers the days before he took soul ii soul to its legendary africa centre locale. disc 2 charts the rare groove tunes played there. disc 3 is about the clubbier dance sounds he turned out as the 80s became the 90s. listen closely people, he's an obe now, you know. [ministry of sound](#)

**bobby 'blue' bland : the best of** bobby bland earned his enduring blues superstar status the hard way: without a guitar, harmonica, or any other instrument to fall back upon. all bland had to offer was his magnificent voice, a tremendously powerful instrument in his early heyday, injected with charisma & mellisma to spare. this 27 track compilation is the perfect introduction to the man & the first half spotlights the songs that mick hucknall sings on his tribute album, which are taken from various stages of bobby's long career. [universal](#)

**george clinton : and his gangsters of love** clinton has never been your average entertainer, always with a whimsical aside to the accepted norm. what makes this new album completely different, even for him, is a newly revealed romantic persona (though typically quirky - naturally). aided & abetted by disparate henchmen such as sly stone, the red hot chili peppers, carlos santana & others, it features covers of marvin gaye, barry white, johnny ace, curtis mayfield, rat pack & plenty more. [shangachie](#)

**the grits : s/t** hailing from brighton, the grits emerge with their own take on raw, rare & grimy instrumental funk. this seriously slick funk 4-piece deliver their self titled debut which includes a superb cover of the soul drifters 'funky soul brother', as well as 'boom boom', the sold out 45 released on freestyle & its b side 'jan jan' - an instant raw funk classic championed by radio 2's mark lamarr & radio 6 funkster craig charles. with their roots firmly steeped in classic funk, the grits add their own slant with trashy guitars, crunchy drums & deep bass. add to this super-modulated moog, a bag of percussion & their trademark guttural vocal grunts & you have a funk frenzy. modular analogue synths, piano, harmonica & even a huge metal cabinet played with a stick! [freestyle](#)

## jazz

**dave holland : pass it on** brand new studio recording from one of the most acclaimed bands in jazz. this new sextet album includes longtime sidemen robin eubanks, eric harland & mulgrew miller & the trademark driving & rhythmic polyphonic compositions are to the fore once more. "fans of dave holland will appreciate the arc of his music, from electric miles to free jazz, his brooklyn connection, and finally to this very tightly orchestrated 21st century traditional jazz" - all about jazz. [emarcy](#)

**trygve seim / frode haltli : yeraz** saxophonist trygve seim & accordionist frode haltli, key figures in the new norwegian music, make their 1<sup>st</sup> duo album together. this is a characteristically intimate journey of discovery - one to & from folk roots, but related to jazz & contemporary composition - ranging from improvisations to bob marley, gurdjieff, aremlian traditional music & a tom waits tribute. "mesmerizingly beautiful" - jazzwise. [ecm](#)

## blues

**seasick steve : i started out with nothing & i still got most of it left** (standard cd or limited 2cd with bonus tracks, spoken word audio & snazzy pull out die-cut sleeve) since recording his 2<sup>nd</sup> album 'dog house music' in his kitchen, the former-bum steve "seasick" wold, has been on a crazy journey rising from the streets to winning 'best breakthrough act' at this year's mojo awards. having played in lightnin' hopkins' & john lee hooker's bands & modest mouse's touring line-up, he's no chancer - he's the real deal! the guests he's attracted on the album are testament to the esteem that this bluesman is held in : nick cave/ grinderman (on 'just like a king', a bracing revamp of the blues standard, 'king bee'), ruby turner, kt tunstall & more. his raw 3-string blues are still very much in tact despite the move to a major label & although the production has been stepped up, it's not smooth or soulless. quite simply, it's all good! [warner](#)

**bb king : one kind favour** the new studio album from the blues legend, produced by grammy award winner t-bone burnett. it is a mixture of old blues covers from king's early influences & is arranged to sound similar to his 1950's recordings. king is backed by pianist dr. john, drummer jim keltner & bassist nathan east. the track list includes such blues chestnuts as big bill broonzy's 'backwater blues', lonnie johnson's 'tomorrow night', blind lemon jefferson's 'see that my grave is kept clean' & t-bone walker's 'i get so weary'. [polydor](#)

## country

**cherryholmes : cherryholmes iii: don't believe** the 2-time-grammy nominees & 2005 international bluegrass music association's "entertainers of the year", return to exhibit the band's musical progression. they've lost none of their aggressive instrumental style & family harmonic blend for which they are known & their fearless approach to composition is evident. traditional bluegrass elements remain but at the same time, advanced melodies & chord progressions are explored. [skaggs family records](#)

## folk

**fotheringay : fotheringay 2** fotheringay remain one of the great might-have-beens of british music. they lasted less than a year & released just 1 album, but their disappearance robbed the early 70s scene of a group of musicians capable of taking folkrock to new heights of subtlety & musicianship. now, the 9 songs on that debut, assumed for almost 4 decades to be their sole testament, are joined by the 11 that would have constituted a follow-up. incredibly all the tapes survived in various record company archives. after a 38 year wait, the follow-up to the acknowledged classic is at last available. the original tapes have been mixed by the surviving band members to create the authentic 'fotheringay' sound. featuring sandy denny, pat donaldson, trevor lucas, gerry conway & jerry donahue, this is proper 'lost classic' material. [fledgling](#)

**megson : take yourself a wife** with 2 albums already under their belts they are fast making waves amongst the british folk/roots scene with captivating songs, beautiful harmonies, northern humour & impeccable musicianship. the praise is endless : "fresh, melodic & bushy-tailed" - *mojo*, "this hits all the targets" 4/5 - *rock 'n' reel*, "a compelling collection of songs...stunning vignettes of life" 5/5 - *maverick*, "first rate - if you don't like this music you have a problem!" - *fruits*, "absolutely beautiful" - bob harris. [edj](#)

**dave pegg & friends : 60th birthday bash - birmingham town hall 3rd november**

**2007** (2cd) "my favourite venue, friends both on stage & in the audience that i'd known for most of my life & a terrific way to celebrate my 60th birthday" was how peggy described the event, captured here on a 2cd set featuring a stellar cast of performers for a once in a lifetime experience, this is a must have collection for all pegg's & fairport convention's fans worldwide. [matty grooves](#)

**chris while & julie matthews : together alone** while & matthews make up 1 of the uk's leading folk duos, while both being highly successful singer songwriters in their own right. in a career which has already seen the release of 8 acclaimed albums, multiple nominations at the bbc radio 2 folk awards & headline performances at festivals throughout the world, the pair now release their 6th studio album - one which captures the trademark energy of their live performance, while complimenting it with the lush, fresh sound of a full studio production. [fat cat records](#)

**peatbog faeries : faerie stories** the traditional music of scotland is blended with hard-edged funk, deep dub reggae and modern jazz influences by the peatbog faeries. the band is comprised of peter morrison (bagpipes, whistle), ben ivitsky (fiddle), ali pentland (guitar, keyboards), innes hutton (bass, bodhran) & iain copeland (drums). this is a re-release of their 2<sup>nd</sup> album. "like our first album 'mellowosity' this album has remained on the greentrax all time best sellers list. this was our 2<sup>nd</sup> recording & includes the popular tunes 'folk police' & 'caberdronne'." [peatbog records](#)

## world

**sambistas : s/t** a ground-breaking album that brings together 2 of brazil's best-loved & most exceptional vocalists of the past 50 years, with 2 of the country's brightest rising stars. together with 40 of brazil's finest musicians, they reinterpret the greatest forgotten classics in the history of samba. a selection of new compositions (including a song by seu jorge) make this a truly remarkable record. [sambistas](#)

**chiwoniso : rebel woman** zimbabwe's chiwoniso performs entrancing & uplifting songs with ancient soul & modern spirit. backed by the mesmerizing interlocking melodies of the mbira & the deep grooves of an all-star lineup featuring some of zimbabwe & south africa's top musicians, her voice resounds with defiant strength & profound tenderness. featured musicians include guitarist louis mhlanga, zimbabwean drummer sam mataure & saxophonist/flautist steve dyer. with a sound that recalls the fire of angelique kidjo, the inspiration of oliver mtukudzi, the rebellion of thomas mapfumo & the soul of india.aire, she's one of the most exciting talents in african music today. "a tough, engaging & melodically rich delight" - independent. [cumbancha](#)

**max pashm : never mind the balkans here's max pashm** a hefty dose of klezmer-balkan-greek-gypsy-punk with electro beats, no doubt influenced by his own jewish roots & many years spent in greece, extensive touring of eastern europe, the balkans & beyond. as well as all the traditional influences, the album contains flavours of dub, ska, hip-hop, rock & punk, blending many genres & styles to create a unique sound & energy with lyrics in greek, bulgarian, yiddish & english. "blistering balkan beats & general nu-world trippiness from the highly danceable grooves of max pashm" - time out. [elektrikos/organikos records](#)

**hector zazou & swara : in the house of mirrors** 25 years after laying the foundations for afro-electronic fusion & after many other groundbreaking albums, the ever-innovative zazou offers a fresh take on classical asian music, in which the musicians inspired performances are enhanced by their interaction with subtle electronic treatments. the album was recorded in mumbai with a core group of four musicians : toir kuziyev (tambur & oud), milind raykar (violin), ronu majumdar (flute) & manish pingle (indian slide guitar). guest players on the album include spanish flute player carlos nuñez, nils petter molvaer on trumpet, flamenco pianist diego amador & hungarian violinist zoltan lantos. [cramworld](#)

## reggae

**v/a : rocksteady fever** rocksteady fever hit jamaica around 1966 when the jerky ska rhythms slowed down to a more leisurely pace, some say due to the extreme heat that hit the island that year. whatever the reasons were, this 2 year period that ran until 1968 would see some of the power escape from the three big producers : clement 'coxson' dodd, prince buster & duke reid. they had to finally make room for the new wave of up & coming producers who had something to say. such names as joel gibson (joe gibbs), sonia pottinger, derrick harriot & the most prolific of them all, mr bunny lee, would unleash some fine music in this fascinating if short lived period in reggae's history. this compilation gathers some of the biggest hits from the rocksteady era alongside some lesser known cuts that deserve to be re-evaluated. [kingston sounds](#)

**symarip : skinhead moonstomp (deluxe edition)** (2cd) the original classic 1969 album now features a host of unreleased & rare tracks from the era. whether recording as the pyramids, seven letters or the bees, symarip serve up an tracks which to make reggae & skinhead fans jump up around the world. "brace-snapping, big boot-stomping, sing & shout-along songs, with the occasional nod back to the rocksteady era to allow the boys a time out to chat up the birds, all played with aplomb & nicely balanced between stompers & slower numbers...the ultimate party album" 4.5/5 - all music guide. [sanctuary](#)

## vinyl

**giant sand : provisions** [yep roc](#)

**o'death : broken hymns, limbs & skin** lp (see cd info) [city slang](#)

**ladyhawke : s/t** lp (see cd info) [island](#)

**kings of leon : only by the night** lp (see cd info) [roa](#)

**the faint : fascinatiion** lp (see cd info) [blankway](#)

## singles

(further info on singles is included on the sleeves in store)

### single of the week

**the big pink : too young to love / crystal visions** 7". house anxiety

**oasis : the shock of the lightning** cd/7". big brother

**tindersticks : boobay come back to me** very limited 7". lucky dog

**crystal castles : crimewave** 12". different

**saint etienne : burnt out car** 7". umc

**the datsuns : human error** limited 7". cooking vinyl

**dawn landes : straight lines** limited 7". cooking vinyl

**toddla t : manabadman** ltd 7" picture disc. sony

**hot club de paris : my little haunting** 7". moshi moshi

**born ruffians : little garcon** limited 2x7". warp

**duncan lloyd : suzee** limited 7". warp

**max tundra : will get fooled again** limited 7". domino

**pete molinari : one stolen moment e.p.** 7" damaged goods

**you me at six : jealous minds think alike** limited 7". slam dunk

**it hugs back : work day** limited 7". 4ad

**cheval sombre : i sleep** limited 7". trensmat

**cave : butthash** limited edition 7". trensmat

**carbon silicon : the news** limited 7". carbon/silicon

**tremors : world won't stop** limited 7". anjuna beats

**the undertones : teenage kicks** 7". salvo

**the guillotines : stronger / burning nests** limited 7". buck music

**attack! attack! : this is a test** 7". rock ridge

**the rascals : i'll give you sympathy** limited 7". deltasonic

## pre-orders

we are very happy to take pre-orders for any titles that you would like to have reserved when they are released. we can usually do this for you from a few weeks prior to release onwards.

this can be especially useful for limited edition albums or 7" singles which tend to disappear quickly or cd singles which we don't always stock in great quantity. it also means that you will be able to have any freebies that come with the album / single (posters, stickers, badges etc) reserved for you too.

## ordering service

although we do try to cover as many new releases as possible, it will never be possible for us to take everything that is released, so if there is anything that we do not stock, we are more than happy to order it in for you.

also, we don't carry a huge range of albums on vinyl but again, anything available on vinyl can easily be ordered in for you at no extra cost.

sign up to the mailing list @ [www.resident-music.com](http://www.resident-music.com) or pop your name on the list at the counter