

o u t t h i s w e e k

album of the week

sun araw : heavy deeds with tweaked tubbyisms via the ash ra temple, this is some sheer blessed out shimmer. sun araw initially launched solely as a recording project for magic lantern guitarist cameron stallones but quickly transformed into a stunning live act as well. drawing equally upon 70s kraut-psych rock, spacemen 3-style drug blues & woozy tropical world music, sun araw's universe is a rapidly expanding one. the record begins with some wonky diy tropical swamp blues & then carries on in a distorted, sludgy, droney manner with some fantastic trippy sounds leading us along a meandering path into a free-rock dream world. acid-soaked wah-wah guitars, a knackered sounding organ, murky stoner vocals, synapse-frazzling sound effects, clunking semi-tribal rhythms & gospel drone.....what more could you need this summer? staggeringly good! for fans of loop, wooden shjips, magic lantern, ducktails, pocahaunted & wet hair. **not not fun**

moritz von oswald trio : vertical ascent (cd & lp) the fastidious density of sound, the massive bass & detailed upper registers (ricardo villalobos has called the record "a frequency massage"), the stripped, stepping repetitiousness - all present & correct - these are the signatures of moritz's work with mark ernstus as basic channel, maurizio & rhythm & sound. anyone who has followed techno, dub or electronic music over the last 15 years will be familiar with his name & he's also responsible for a recent shop favourite - his collaboration with carl craig, recomposing works by ravel & mussorgsky. the trio includes sound designers vladislav delay & max loderbauer. at the heart of their epic excursions here, is a dream crossing of classic berlin techno, 'on the corner' miles davis, larry heard & can. the trio have recently performed a series of live shows & this is essentially the best parts of these live improv sessions, edited, tweaked & mixed to perfection by moritz. each listen reveals additional layers of detail so you'll keep coming back for more. highly recommended. **honest jons**

kurt vile : constant hitmaker philadelphian one-man band kurt vile (also of shop favourites, war on drugs) kicks off this excellent record with a lo-fi pop anthem : 'freeway' is a simple enough guitar & drum machine affair but there's a raw, energetic romanticism that instantly taps into the tropes of great americana songwriters & the fact that this is all strung together in a punky, diy setting only serves to make the record more effective & heartstring-tugging. it's by no means all-out pop though - you'll find weird sketchy pieces that sound like the emissions of some far out supermarket synth drones, like some freakish combination of ariel pink & atlas sound. completely lo-fi & unfocussed but not without considerable pop melody & structure. essentially it's like a listening to war on drugs, pre-production, on a dodgy cassette player. awesome! **gulcher**

rock / indie / modern classical

florence & the machine : lungs (cd / v.limited 2 cd / lp) the debut album from the brightest star of 2009. the magnetic florence welch, better known alongside her band as florence & the machine, has built up a formidable following of fans & critics alike. it's clear that welch is as much a pop writer as she is a left-field artist, despite the early influence of punk & grunge on her life & these influences are tempered by an admiration for soul & contemporary indie. this enchanting hook-laden record has a dark heart which prevents it from becoming sickly sweet, sitting somewhere between the poppy output of kate nash & the majestic, quirkiness of bat for lashes. *"there's a real joy about this debut. it's the sound of someone who has found their voice & is keen to use it - as loudly & freely as possible"* 4/5 - omm, *"summer has arrived & with it a major new star"* - clash, *"as charismatic in her own, utterly distinctive way, welch looks & sounds like a star"* - sunday times, *"florence & the machine's mad art-pop will be 2009's most beautiful noise"* - guardian. **island**

slow club : yeah so the longed-awaited debut album from the much loved sheffield duo is finally here. from the outset there is something immediately familiar & yet vitally inventive about slow club. from the riotous rallying calls of 'because we're dead' & 'dance 'til the morning light', to the anti-folk charm of 'giving up on love' & 'our most brilliant friends' through to songs built on skiffing cricket-like rhythms & the lost art of a good middle eight, this is a thoroughly enjoyable & charming record that sounds like the soundtrack to the next quirky american indie movie. the twin voices of charles watson & rebecca taylor conspire with an unmistakably youthful vigour, delivering sweet harmonious hooks, rockabilly beats & exuberant yelps & yips, that spill out across the album. for fans of kimya dawson, noah & the whale, mumford & sons & johnny flynn. *"it's a rare & privileged thing to be able to say but there are really no clangers on the album at all- it's pretty faultles . there's a lot of expectation. It's more than fulfilled"* 5/5 - subba-cultcha. **moshi moshi**

implosion quintet : the future sound of yesterday implosion quintet is singular fivesome james baker, a british musician now residing in norway. following a scattering of tracks on the cookshop label, his 1st full length outing is a hugely ambitious work that spans almost every conceivable genre. whilst an undercurrent of bohemian eastern europe runs beneath the breadth of the album, iq delves into stoner-rock, prog, electronica, retro-futurist pop & more in a way that somehow sounds remarkably cohesive given its diverse elements. the result is the kind of joyously odd cinematic psychedelic nugget a label like finders keepers or trunk might dig up in a few decades from now. highly recommended. *"a vital work that's part barry adamson, part 'in rainbows' & the part of your mind that makes you commit evil acts"* - source, *"on beats-based soundbeds, baker lays down compositions of a bewildering & beguilingly hybrid nature"* - uncut. **cookshop**

bombay bicycle club : i had the blues but i shook them loose (limited edition digipack)

a beautifully literate & ambitious debut from the north london 4-piece, recorded by long-term producer jim abbiss. from the dizzying mbv/m83 swoops & morning-after ruefulness of the opening song to the open-tuned, appalachian folk feel of the closing track, the album thrums with subtle invention & quiet emotional intensity. jamie & jack formed b.b.c. after spending their early teens trying to sneak into 18+ gigs together. neill then heard the astonishing cache of songs jack had amassed in his bedroom with garageband & a cheap guitar & instantly offered to produce their first demos. any mildly sensitive soul with a fondness for ricocheting guitar chords will enjoy this. for fans of tokyo police club, the maccabees & the answering machine. [island](#)

bowerbirds : upper air (cd/lp) justin vernon of bon iver has admitted that bowerbirds 1st record was an influence on his debut & it would appear that the north carolina duo (phil moore & beth tacular) are going some way to repaying the favour. their 2nd album ups the ante somewhat & is more diverse & dynamic. it is a very personal record, exploring love & human emotions – a stark contrast to the previous album which focused on the world outside. though the music is more grounded than bon iver's, it has beautifully rustic backwoods charm more akin to iron & wine or labelmate phosphorescent. it's an acoustic record that lends itself variety by foregrounding different elements song to song - from accordion to a thudding bass drum. intelligent, melodic folk music. "an exquisite sense of existing in its own hermetically sealed world" 4/5 - *uncut*. [dead oceans](#)

foreign born : person to person (cd/lp) a band willing to keep their pallet open to almost any influence – hi-life guitars, countered with new wave wash, from u2 to the feelies – this could be phil spector's mid-70s lost recordings inspired by the depth of second-line drum bands from new orleans. it's an album filled with anthems that comes across like a more restrained yeasayer or vampire weekend's older brothers. these southern californian beach boys have made a 2nd album that's truly celebratory (but with a hint that there's trouble looming on the horizon) - it's an absolute gem from start to finish that brings together the rootsyness of fleet foxes, the hypnotic melodies of war on drugs & a touch of gaz coombes' swooning pop laid on top. their joyous sounds feel like the perfect mixtape for a summer party. highly recommended. [secretly canadian](#)

engineers : three fact fader we thought they were gone for good but thankfully, engineers are back. their epic 2nd album was produced by the band along with ken thomas, whose previous production credits include sigur rós, m83 & maps, which should give you a good idea of the terrain that these guys explore. simon phipps (vocals), dan macbean (guitar), mark peters (bass) & sweeney (drums), approach their music like engineers (as you might gather from the name!), carefully constructing wonderful walls of sound. following the rapturous reception that greeted their mini-album 'folly' in 2004 & their gorgeous self-titled debut in 2005, they became unwitting victims of record company restructuring & this album was left in limbo, unfinished until the band reconvened earlier this year, largely motivated by public support. fans of m83, ulrich schnauss, maps & the likes of will love their oblique shoegaze. "never anything less than beautiful" – *nme*. [kscope](#)

the bobby mcgee's : l'appropriation bourgeoisie de la bobby mcgee's brighton's jimmy & el started writing & playing songs together in 2002, until they were joined by graham on bass & recorded a whole album's worth of hit songs together in one night. the result of these recordings was their debut ep 'the bobby mcgee's? yes please!', released in 2006. this was followed up by their 2nd ep 's'amuser com des fous', in 2007. now we get their debut album proper – a charming collection of boy/girl twee-pop songs that are both upbeat yet tender, backed by ukulele, harmonium, handclapping, jew's harp & saxes. for fans of the lovely eggs, slow club & bearsuit. perfect summer festival music! "in my ideal world bobby mcgee's would be no 1 every day" - huw stevens, "like dostoyevsky doing skiffle!" - everett true, "demented... psychotic... brilliant... world beating" – *artrocker*, "evoking the spirit of ivor cutler & ed gein" – *bizarre*. [cherryade](#)

benni hemm hemm : murta st.calunga benni hemm hemm's latest offering represents the finest of iceland's experimental scene. the songs are powerful, nicely wrapped up in giant string & brass arrangements where the instruments get to step up to the occasion. this album has been described by benni hemm hemm as containing "11 smashing ballads" & indeed it does. the icelandic songwriter is on splendid form throughout 'murta st. calunga', which exhibits all the usual tendencies towards big band grandeur & buoyant, uptempo acoustics. another winning set of songs from the icelandic troubadour. [kimirecords](#)

ape school : ape school the debut album from michael johnson, one-time member of subpop signed holopaw & sometime member of lilys, is an experiment in gentle psychedelia with analog equipment. upon taking up his new position at the philadelphia university of the arts he discovered an original moog synthesiser. with the help of a number of his students he crafted this delicate record. it bathes in a fog of modern psychedelic sounds, the woozy keyboards & high vocals recalling at times the flaming lips & granddaddy or a chemically altered fleet foxes. "captures something of the pulsing neo-psych of mgmt & the honeyed retro-harmonies of fleet foxes" – *uncut*. [counter](#)

the duckworth lewis method (neil hannon & thomas walsh) : the duckworth

lewis method as you'd expect with a band whose name is a predictive rule applied to cricket, this album is all about the gentlemen's game. consisting of neil hannon (the divine comedy) & thomas walsh (pugwash), the duckworth lewis method have made a gloriously summery collection of 70's orchestral pop with overtones of striped caps & edwardian moustaches, along with musings about the weather & the game's infinitely fascinating history. it's all highly catchy & dryly humorous stuff that fans of hannon's divine comedy output should definitely enjoy. "essential, hazy summer listening" – *bbc*. [divine comedy records](#)

discovery : lp wow, didn't see this one coming! discovery is the recording project of rostam batmanglij & wes miles, better known as members of vampire weekend & ra ra riot respectively, formed by miles to fulfil his dream of having a band where everyone plays synthesizer. sonically it's an embrace & also a commentary on the pop music of the past decade, of booming 808 bass & jittery 16th note high-hats, with elements of european electronic dance music skittering in double time over steady r&b. rostam & wes make a success of merging the unlikely r&b influences of the neptunes, timbaland & the recent auto-tuned output of kanye west with the sounds of their respective bands, resulting in a summer-soaked pop-laden affair that's far removed from their day jobs, but definitely worthy of investigation. features guest vocals from vampire weekend's ezra koenig & dirty projectors' angel deradoorian. xl

ty segall : lemons burying 60's sing-alongs & dance crazes beneath waves of reverb & giddy thud, ty segall has carved out his own shelf in the san francisco neopsych garage alongside local compatriots & collaborators sic alps & thee oh sees. after shattering the bay area underground as a frantic oneman band that was devoured by the local press, segall has now given up the solo act for a 3-piece group that destroys sonic & melodic boundaries with manic glee. this new live setup is a better reflection of his studio work. as an exploration of the space between cro-magnon fuzz & atmospheric acoustic psych, 'lemons' is the natural next step after his celebrated self-titled 2008 debut on castle face. highly recommended. "look out jay reatard, this bay area one-man band has even scuzzier static in his garage" - spin. [goner records](#)

the gentleman losers : dustland a most welcome, if somewhat overdue 2nd album from finnish duo the gentleman losers, whose eponymous debut set hearts aflutter in the summer of 2006. that 1st lp's blend of dreamlike faux-vintage instrumentals is carried over to this new set of songs but there's a noticeably heightened sense of depth to the writing on 'dustland'. samu & ville revel in a sound that evokes tarnished grandeur - where decay & starry-eyed innocence rub shoulders with dusty strings & syrup-drenched instrumentation. whilst the majority of the tracks are beatless, this only adds to the overall naturalistic & organic feel. a beautiful record that fans of tape & the less scary end of the type label are sure to love. "it's incredibly lovely, & importantly never really sounds like it's been forcibly made to sound aged & weathered; it just does...highly recommended" - boomkat. [city centre offices](#)

black sheep (julian cope) : kiss my sweet apocalypse (2cd & 2lp) debut album from julian cope's new free action group - a 9/10 piece ensemble of outsider reprobates whose spirited performances upon massed orchestral percussion, mellotron 400s & acoustic guitars, summon dead ancestors & memories of times past in an effort to achieve total psychic meltdown. black sheep's music is as beautiful as a fairy-tale princess one minute but is hobbling like a smitten ditch-dweller the next. songs are long & strung out, combining chanting & street protest with ambient meditations on the heroes of the past. eulogies to such revolutionaries as che guevara, ulrike meinhof & one of cope's long time obsessions, leila khaled, are offset by chanting & massed drum works outs & tripped out ambulant pieces such as the near-1/2-hour title track. [invada](#)

billy childish : archive from 1959/the billy childish story (2cd & 3lp) billy childish has been releasing records, painting, writing poetry & generally doing his own thing for the past 32 years. he first took to the stage back in 1977 with seminal punk garage band the pop rivets. they split after 2 years & from there he joined the milkshakes along with fellow pop riveter bruce brand & local lads micky hampshire & russ wilkins. after that came thee mighty caesars, thee headcoats, the buff medways & right up to date with his 2 current ensembles : the musicians of the british empire & the chatham singers. this 51 track compilation is a look back at the more rock n roll aspects of his musical career, so there's no spoken word or poetry. there are also tracks he recorded solo & with other artistes like the delmonas, thee headcoatees, singing loins, kyra rubella etc. many of the tracks on this compilation have been unavailable for ages & some have never appeared on cd before now. an essential retrospective of a sadly, much ignored career to date. [damaged goods](#)

jackie o motherfucker : ballads of the revolution the band's 10th studio record is the culmination of 15 years spent defining their unique take on american music. the record begins with an arrangement of a traditional ballad featuring greenwood's vocals & guitar with the lush accompaniment of bob jones' double bass & the pedal steel guitar of lewi longmire. 'dark falcon' is an improvisation & re-mix of a lucky dragons song. this is followed by 'skylight', a recent live favourite, now beautifully rendered in the studio. 'the corner', was written & sung by greenwood & owens - it begins with the pulsing bass of a roland keyboard, accompanied by turntable manipulations & the sparse, sting of owens guitar - its dark minimalism, a new classic moment for the band. 'the cryin' sea' features incredible guitar work by nick bindeman & special guest michael dustdevil, who fills out the recording with raw, fuzz guitar. the closing track, 'a mania', is one of those rare, jomf radio friendly tracks, with beautiful wah-wah guitar lines by joanne robertson. top stuff! [fire records](#)

colin macintyre (mull historical society) : island better known for his releases under the mull historical society moniker, acclaimed singer-songwriter colin macintyre releases his 5th album (his 2nd under his name), on his own label. this is undoubtedly his most stripped-back album to date. crafted partly in america, sitting plucking a toy guitar on log piles & in basements next to the roaring atlantic & also back home on the other side, at the tobermory arts centre on the isle of mull. he has created a community feel on this record by including contributions from king creosote, the mendelssohn on mull festival string players & members of his own family. grand in scope but intimate in delivery, the record features only acoustic instrumentation (the first time for him to do so) & this is his most personal collection yet, flitting between soul, pop, folk & rock. "a well-paced & lovingly-crafted album" 4/5 - the fly. [future god recordings](#)

tiny vipers : life on earth tiny vipers is jesy fortino, a musician living in seattle. recordings for the new album began at home & were then interpreted by andrew hernandez in a classic analog studio in austin, tx. retaining both the glow of her work on guitar & the strength of her voice, hernandez has captured the organic nature of fortino's songwriting. transcending the mere folk tag ("she's not telling stories; she's after incantation & trance"- new york times), the music draws from disparate inspirational sources, from the avant-garde or from country musician townes van zandt. rather than the warmth that is usually aspired to with folk-inspired records, fortino seems to look to the dark side for her atmospheric which make this a far more interesting proposition. the skeletal arrangements & doomy-strummings beneath jesy's haunting voice, create a record that sounds like nina nastasia meets magik markers. recommended. [sub pop](#)

the church : untitled #23 the legendary aussie band's new record features 10 tracks of thoughtful simplistic epics, unusual in their ability to be simultaneously dark & accessible. an irresistibly melodic album - dense, psychedelic, yet emotive & personal. set in a lush soundscape carved out of another world, the band has created a lush work meshing guitars & rhythms into a sonic journey of intrigue. "after 30 years the church have succeeded in creating a listenable work of art...a pure masterpiece & a religious experience" 4/5 - *rolling stone (australia)*, "a haunting, dark, thrilling, ecstatic, melodic psychedelic journey in 10 unforgettable pieces... 'untitled #23' is the latest instalment in one of the longest, richest unbroken streams of creative endeavour the rock'n'roll era has ever witnessed"- *the age*. [second motion records](#)

wet hair : dream when iowa city freak-out free-rockers raccoo-oo-oon called it quits last year, it left a bummer scar in the midwest underground scene - but time is a great healer & so are new bands. so out of the ashes of the rac pack comes wet hair - a synth-punk-trance duo composed of keyboardist/vocalizer shawn reed & keyboardist/drummer ryan garbes. this is the band's debut vinyl full-length after a series of increasingly shredding limited edition cassettes on their own night people label. piling together an unlikely trash heap of suicide-style drum machine beat-bops, zone-droned krautrock keys & fucked up outsider crooning, the lp's 4 tracks career across a spectrum of moods & mangled melodies. wet hair's cult electric annihilation has never gleamed with such razor-edged weirdness. [release the bats / not not fun](#)

james johnston & philippe petit : fiends with a face the first collaborative work from james johnston (founding member of gallon drunk) & philippe petit. as the titles suggest it's a homage to the golden era of horror movies. the 2 fiends wanted to conjure up blood-curdling & haunting soundscapes, playing with unsettling ambiances to create a contemporary soundtrack for those who like to be frightened. they strive to elicit responses of fear & terror - not the style of blood-infested in-your-face grotesque slashers - but rather that kind of presence lying in the dark behind you, a musical voyage to allow this noisy delicacy to slowly infiltrate your body, instead of violently exploding into your face. if you enjoy the menacing output of the caretaker, svarte greiner or lawrence english, you should find much to submerge yourself in here. [dirter promotions](#)

the phenomenal handclap band : the phenomenal handclap band a many-membered ensemble which also features musicians from tv on the radio, jon spencer blues explosion & the dap kings, all of whom contribute their individual talents to make for a very exciting whole. their sound is an anthemic, dancefloor-oriented blend of progressive rock, disco, electro & 60's soul with sprinklings of hip hop-styled orchestral breakbeats & moody, synth-soaked & heavy hooks. using live instrumentation to evoke the intricate arrangements of norman whitfield, quincy jones & phil spector, as well as the pared down beats of contemporaries like the neptunes & danger mouse, they stir up a melting pot of styles. "vintage sounds of blondie & esg with some css & james murphy thrown in" - zane lowe, *radio 1*, "sounds something like if school of seven bells listened to more george clinton & no cocteau twins" - *stereogum*. [tummy touch](#)

the minus 5 : killingsworth the minus 5 remain relatively obscure, which is astonishing when you consider that past line-ups have included members of sonic youth & wilco, as well as e, patti smith, ben gibbard & "pretty much everyone else". ringleader scott mccaughey isn't joking either - there are over a hundred ex-members listed online. for his 8th album, mccaughey utilises the talents of various decemberists, longtime collaborator peter buck & members of m. ward's band. the results blow a resounding raspberry at the "too many cooks spoil the broth" aphorism by being both cohesive & richly rewarding. working largely from a classic country-folk palette & blessed with honey-smooth backing harmonies courtesy of the shee bee gees, 'killingsworth's 40 minutes include upbeat pedal-steel punning ('the long hall'), a banjo-backed ode to 'the lurking barrister' & various sun-kissed ballads of the highest calibre. 4/5 - *uncut*. [cooking vinyl](#)

dave house : intersections after building up a solid underground fanbase from 2 previous solo albums, split singles with get cape.wear.cape.fly, jenny owen youngs & gavin osborn, plus 2 highly regarded punk rock albums (with his band the steal), kingston's dave house is back with his best solo work to date - an underground folk-punk gem that fans of frank turner would do well to check out. "if commercial success was correlated to charm & songwriting class, 'intersections' would be a sure-fire bet to go platinum" 8/10 - *rock sound*, "dave's finest album to date" 4/5 - *big cheese*, "a beauty of a record" 4/5 - *punktastic*. [banquet](#)

battant : no head battant are 4 noisy upstarts from east london. with production involvement from andrew weatherall & tim holmes (death in vegas) as well as tours under their collective belt with primal scream, ladytron, adulf & nitzer ebb, theirs is a scuzzy, lo-fi guitars-meet-electronics sound brimming with energy & attitude, led into battle by chloe raunet, whose vocals are truly the glue that holds this primitive techno together. her jagged yet succulent siouxie vocal shapes make you work to appreciate every subtle nuance in every barbed melody she releases. "battant bleeds genius out of its ears" - *nme* [modular](#)

that fucking tank : tanknology andy abbott & james islip have been playing music together since pre-teenhood when they met at school in 1991. 'tanknology' is their 2nd full-length & brings together tracks written & performed live over the last 2 years. in this time, their sound has matured from its minimal math-rock beginnings to incorporate more of the duo's classic rock, prog & early techno influences, whilst staying true to the stripped-down equipment that instigated the band. traces of hawkwind, esg & hendrix can be picked out amongst the more contemporary reference points like don caballero or the fucking champs, as well as the appearance of pop hooks & song structures. the album even features a homage to 'dancing in the dark' with 'brucespringstonehenge'. this is a more accessible & colourful record than the pair's previous output but one that embodies the integrity, self-assuredness & love of springsteen that comes with age. [gringo records](#)

the lucky strikes : the chronicles of solomon quick rattling out of the thames delta area of essex, the lucky strikes unleash their 2nd album via east london's stovepony records. on 'the chronicles of solomon quick', this young garage-blues'n'country quartet deliver tales of outlaws, desperadoes & chain gangs in 1930s mississippi, telling the fictional story of the man responsible for the death of singer & guitarist robert johnson. the sprawling 13-track album alights on a number of styles & will appeal to fans of indie, blues, punk, classic rock & alt.country but gothic americana, fused with garage bar room blues is the mainstay of this album. [stove pony](#)

pocketbooks : flight paths pocketbooks are 3 northerners & 2 southerners based in london who remember when indie pop knew how to sparkle - when songs weren't afraid to be bright & uplifting, even if the subject matter was anything but. when bands adopted innocent sounding names like everything but the girl, the housemartins & the sundays, because they weren't skulking in the shadows of "cool". when indie pop reflected tiny moments in the suburbs rather than melodramatics in squats & dingy clubs. consequently, this record is pure indie pop through & through, combining melodic boy/girl harmonies, spiralling guitars & delicate piano lines. "pocketbooks are pure snowshaker pop & more dressing table than kitchen sink" - [simon armitage](#). [how does it feel to be loved](#)

the constellations : southern gothic dubbed an atlanta supergroup by locals, the constellations officially formed when vocalist elijah jones teamed up with grammy-winning producer ben h. allen (animal collective, gnarls barkley) to create 'southern gothic'. the record is a meandering tour of the underbelly of atlanta, lead by jones' gruff delivery & parabolic lyrics. lush production invokes the muscular rhythms of '70s fela kuti, the propelling pop sensibility of the gorillaz & the vocals of a modern-day tom waits. cee lo of gnarls barkley & newly signed src artist asher roth are featured on the album, with a revision of tom waits' 'step right up' as a centrepiece. "drawing from the grittier aspects of atlanta's ever growing nightlife scene, the group looks to shift the spotlight from the blinged-out glamour of hip-hop to a darker, edgier, sex-drugs-&rock-'n'-roll soaked subculture" - [southeast performer](#). [make records not bombs](#)

trainwreck riders : the perch trainwreck riders started out playing music with their san francisco friends two gallants back in 2003, eventually releasing a diy album in 2005 & a follow up for the alive label in 2007. meat puppets, dinosaur jr., buffalo springfield & creedence clearwater revival are among trainwreck riders admitted musical references but it is said that the boys main influence is rob kerwin's (steve & andrew's dad) music collection of old timey country & fiddle playing. their new album is filled with the band's unique brand of romantic urban country, bohemian folk & dirty punk blues & displays pete frauenfelder's & andrew kerwin's amazing songwriting evolution, both lyrically & musically. [alive records](#)

christina courtin : christina courtin this young brooklyn, ny-based singer, songwriter & violinist self-deprecatingly describes herself as a "non-prodigy" but her many credits & collaborations in both the pop & classical worlds suggest otherwise. the list of the artists with whom this julliard graduate has already worked is as impressive as it is eclectic (ryan adams, kanye west, teddy thompson & many more). with her nonesuch debut, courtin displays remarkable maturity as a songwriter & preternatural sophistication as a vocalist. though she has garnered a considerable following for high-voltage live performances, courtin turns her bravura style inside out on disc. her approach is disarmingly intimate, understated - her vocals are warm, gentle & dreamy, embracing rock, folk & jazz. "uniquely otherworldly, as if it couldn't possibly be entirely human born" - [ny times](#). [nonesuch](#)

the manhattan love suicides : the manhattan love suicides (deluxe version) (cd/dvd) this modern fuzz pop classic finally gets released as a deluxe cd package, fully remastered (extra loud) & with 10 bonus cuts comprising single tracks previously only available on limited edition 7"s , as well as a handful of brand new & exclusive recordings to bring you right up to date with this band's recorded output. however, that's not all. in addition to the 22 tracks on the cd you also get a bonus dvd featuring all the manhattan love suicides promo videos so far. the rough & raw visuals on display here perfectly compliment the no frills , no spit n' polish production of the tracks - recorded with the needles in the red & the fuzz pedals set to maximum. despite the lo fi quality of the tracks, the pop melodies shine through & the jesus & mary chain / velvet underground / 1960s girl group influences are apparent throughout. if you missed out on this debut the first time around, this is your opportunity to hear the manhattan love suicides earliest recordings. [squirrel](#)

nick lowe : the brentford trilogy comprising the thematically-linked trio of albums which established lowe as britain's finest songsmith on release between 1994 & 2001 ('the impossible bird', 'dig my mood' & 'the convincer'), 'the brentford trilogy' is a superb & soulful collection. these cds will not be available separately - the package contains the 3 cds in individual digipaks using original artwork & a 12 page booklet with rare photos & essay. [proper](#)

foreign press : the whole story (2cd) the 1st cd release of material by cult manchester post-punk band foreign press, who were active between 1979 & 1989. the group recruited joy division manager rob gretton to produce their first single, 'downpour', in 1979. after a 2nd single, 'climbing', in 1981, foreign press elected to pursue a more overtly commercial direction. the result was anthemic electro single 'the great divide', produced by bernard sumner (new order) & donald johnson (a certain ratio) in 1983. the group failed to crack the charts & after later demos for an album, they finally split in 1989. however during their decade together, they recorded a wealth of material, much of it released here for the first time. this digitally remastered, 32 track 150 minute set features all tracks from all 4 singles, as well as previously unreleased demo & session tracks. the booklet includes archive images & liner notes by singer ralph bowe. [ltn](#)

björk : voltaic (lp box with 2 cd & 2 dvd) this is a mammoth & typically beautifully packaged set by ms.guðmundsdóttir. in this deluxe package you get one disc of songs from across her career recorded live at olympic studios, a dvd recorded on the 'volta' tour live in paris & reykjavik, a dvd collecting all the music videos for the singles from 'volta', plus making ofs & competition winning videos from the public & finally a disc of remixes by the likes of simian mobile disco, modeselektor, alva noto, matthew herbert & more! the deluxe edition also features superb special artwork spread across interior foldout packaging. it once again shows what an essential live experience bjork delivers, that she raises the video to an art form & how important the remixing & reworking of her tracks is to her progression. essential stuff for any fan. [one little indian](#)

fenn o'berg : magic & return (2cd) the legendary fenn o'berg (christian fennesz, jim o'rourke & peter rehberg) are resurfacing 8 years after their last performance. starting with this double cd reissue of their 2 albums : 'the magic sound of...' & 'the return of...', originally released in 1999 & 2002. throughout 1998 & 1999 the trio toured extensively throughout europe, as well as in north america & japan. the highlights of these trips were presented on 'the magic sound'. each show became an improvised twisted journey through the various strands of electronic music where popular music sources clashed with more academic tricks. by 2002, the group's live output was drastically reduced due to all 3 members' schedules moving in different directions. only 2 performances were committed that year & although the sound was more polished, their music was still considered to be rather challenging. edited highlights of these shows made up 'the return of...'. contains 2 bonus tracks from the same period. classic material & an absolutely essential purchase. [editions mego](#)

jeniferever : choose a bright morning re-issue of the swedish band's debut album. 'choose a bright morning' was first released in 2006 by drowned in sound recordings in the uk. its shimmering blend of melodic ambient indie rock, post-rock & shoegaze won many fans for the band & earned them favourable comparisons with bands such as appleseed cast & sigur ros. their post-rock-ish, mbv-indebted epic soundscapes are laden with properly dramatic jangle-guitars & hushed vocals. if you don't already have this shoegazing beauty of a record, this reissue's well worth picking up. *"a beauteous little treasure of atmospheric ... morning glorious" 4/5 - the fly, "a frosty morning treat that will melt your heart" - plan b, "bands like jeniferever have never been more essential" 8/10 - rock sound.* [monotreme](#)

jefferson airplane : the woodstock experience (limited 2cd) in 1969, jefferson airplane was the band to book at a major festival. the first act to be confirmed for woodstock, they set the precedent for all that followed. their performance early sunday morning was the perfect greeting to a rising sun & the material from their forthcoming album, 'volunteers', awakened the woodstock generation to a new day. disc one features the original 1969 'volunteers' album & disc 2 is their live woodstock performance. [rca/legacy](#)

janis joplin : the woodstock experience (2cd) already a tremendous star, 1969 was a year of change for janis joplin. her legendary performance at woodstock came just weeks before the release of 'i got dem ol' kozmic blues again mama' & both pointed to the new, exciting direction joplin's music would take. the emotionally captivating performances, both live & in the studio, defined a moment & a legacy. disc one is the original album & disc 2 is her live woodstock performance. [rca/legacy](#)

santana : the woodstock experience (2cd) taking the stage at woodstock, santana was a little-known latin rock group from san francisco. when they walked off, they were an undeniable legend. the appearance was a perfect prologue to the debut, self-titled album that followed just weeks later. 1969 was an epic year for santana - their groundbreaking album & the performance at woodstock would define them & their virtuosic guitarist, carlos santana, for years to come. disc one is the original album & disc 2 is their live woodstock performance. [rca/legacy](#)

david bowie : vh1 storytellers (cd/dvd) vh1 storytellers began in 1996 with intimate tv performances by ray davies & elvis costello. over the next few years many singer/songwriters appeared on the show, performing in front of a live audience while telling stories of their music & memories. many of the most memorable episodes featured british rock acts & david bowie appeared on the show 23rd august 1999. bill flanagan, executive producer of the show explains, *"bowie's storytellers was a unique theatrical event, a sort of off-broadway "evening with the artist" in which a great songwriter used bits & pieces from his life & career to show us all the roads leading up to a single moment...a compelling introduction to david bowie for the uninitedated & a fresh experience for the long time fan. it was a highlight of the series"*. [emi](#)

the jayhawks : music from the north country (standard cd/2cd+dvd) the jayhawks have been winning over legions of fans for nearly 2 decades now with their magnificent vocal harmonies, intuitive guitar layers & consummate song-writing. under close guidance of frontman gary louris, the first compilation ever released of the band is a career-spanning assemblage of 20 signature singles & album tracks. the deluxe edition includes a 14 track bonus disc of demos, out-takes & unreleased tracks, with a dvd of videos. [american](#)

dance/electronica

quantic & his combo barbaro : tradition in transition taking over from the acclaimed quantic soul orchestra, quantic brings you his combo barbaro. recorded in cali, colombia, 'tradition in transition' sees quantic fusing the psychedelic, experimental & rhythmically rich sounds of the caribbean, latin america & africa with deep funk & soul & folkloric vocal styles. employing an all-star cast including peruvian pianist alfredo linares, revered brazilian arranger arthur verocai & british drummer malcolm catto of the heliocentrics, this a very accomplished effort & shows our man in colombia on fine form as ever. "this musical travelogue is a masterpiece of its kind" 4/5 - [mojo](#). [tru thoughts](#)

desire : ii (available in indies only) the highly anticipated new album from this new italians do it better supergroup comprised of johnny of glass candy & chromatix, nattie from chromatix & vocalist megan from montreal. johnny jewel's focussed vision of emotionally driven disco, bleeds a sleazy & impossibly glamorous late night vibe that's hard to find anywhere else & makes his many projects so damn cherishable. desire is the result of his latest work, still bringing the sharply honed pop sensibility & immediate hooks of his glass candy & chromatix projects but this time embellished with a moodier slow-disco vibe, as opposed to midnight glam. lush, lo-fi synths & an early 80's new romantic-miserabilist sense of bleak euphoria – their melancholic synth pop could perfectly soundtrack the inner life of the sensitive/alternative kid in a john hughes movie! highly recommended. [italians do it better](#)

major lazer : guns don't kill people... lazars do (cd/picture disc lp) major lazer is the alias of uber-producers, diplo & switch. the philadelphia & london producers, famed for their eclectic productions for the likes of m.i.a. & santigold, decamped to tuff gong studios in jamaica to record a dancehall lp with the cream of jamaican vocalists. of course, it's not as straightforward as that, these guys take inspiration from all kinds of music round the globe including baile funk, miami house, fidget-house & much more & so the record runs global pop culture through a filter of their particular brand of 80's-inspired digital dancehall. it occasionally looks back to a bygone era, as on the sublime rocksteady inspired 'can't stop now,' but more often looks excitedly to the future & all its possibilities.. blast it out loud! "kicking off summer with an armful of perfect cookut, top-down-ready songs" – [pitchfork](#). "a genre-destroying mix of innovations which entirely depends on a refusal to settle for any one trademark sound" 4/5 - [guardian](#). [v2 coop](#)

keaver & brause : the middle way keaver is a veteran of the ceder studio system, known as a sound effects man but in fact, something of an innovator in electronic music. brause, a dozen years younger, has moved from worksop to berlin to london to nottingham, working as a folk singer & session musician & is becoming more & more interested in beat sculpting. their debut album twists a broad spectrum of elements to create hip hop founded electronics that relish the use of hazy samples & spiraling rhythms. landing somewhere between dabrye, lukid & boc, 'the middle way' is drenched in the sound of a youth spent locked in the studio, crafting the kind of intricately plotted instrumentals that unfold with textured detail, yet never hurry their slow-burn predilection. highly recommended for fans of lone, blockhead, paul white & lukid. [dealmaker](#)

bodycode : immune alan abrahams (aka bodycode aka portable) is a restless spirit. his tracks have itchy feet & busy brains, chugging along at a brisk clip while cramming in enough rhythmic detail to make yer head spin. this 9 track album runs deep into heartfelt chicago house tributes with an irresistible afro-rhythmic edge. take the reverbed keys & chopped dialects of 'hyperlight' for a warm welcome before settling into the rich twilight hues & gently groping bass pressure of the sublime 'i'll hold your hand'. 'what did you say' invites sūd's lerato to provide authentically sensual vox over a drippin' chicago house joint, while 'arigato' is a prime example of his fine attention to detail with ornate japanese percussion & instruments shaped into a firm but gentle house roller. further indulging his experimental side 'spacial harmonics' mixes cosmic flutes with ascending organ chords creating a spiritual connection to the afro-cosmic jazz of sun-ra, leaving album closer & choice deep house cut 'immune' to win over any doubters with an ounce of soul in their bones. [kompakt](#)

general midi : operation overdrive colonel of the brash breakbeat general midi returns with a new album that steps away slightly from the breaks & delivers some hi-octane electro-infused bangers, aimed firmly at the dancefloor. this is proper overdriven stuff, with sounds that wouldn't sound out of place on a prodigy or pendulum album. add to that some vocal hook ups with foreign beggars, sean gill (passengerz) & more & the end result is a smasher of a record that throws electro, punk, hip hop, fidget house & more at the traditional template, bucking the minimal trend to present 12 tracks of midism with maximum impact. "when general midi is in overdrive, there's not many better" – [fly global](#). [distinctive](#)

v/a : disco kosmische volume 1 a nu-disco compilation from cool labels tirk, bearfunk & italians do it better. 18 space disco anthems from the likes of friendly fires, they came from the stars i saw them, chromatics, colder, snorkel, wax stag, plugs, lindstrom & many more, remixed by the likes of idjut boys, mock & toof, hercules & love affair, optimo, heartbreak & more. what a great way to introduce yourselves to the lush & decadent new wave of disco - an awesome bundle! plump summer, cosmic vibes! [people in the sky](#)

flunk : this is what you get there was a period when these norwegians seemed to appear on every chill-out-type compilation going. their debut single, a cover of new order's 80s classic 'blue monday', set them up as the leading lights of the new "folktronica" genre. their 4th studio album is a natural evolution from their last album, with a distinct inspiration from the backstreets of london, elements of dubstep, house music but also a small dose of rock. with a darker & more experimental feel, the electronic elements are more present in the sound producing a record of gentle groove-alongs that are not quite danceable & neither sing-able but are completely endearing. flunk have the habit of including a cover track on each album & this time the radiohead-classic 'karma police' gets the flunk treatment, with rough, edgy syncopated rhythms & anja's ethereal vocals. for fans of sia, husky rescue, nouvelle vague, bent & royksopp. [beatservice](#)

groove diggerz : money for good times nearly 2 years in the making, the groove diggerz debut artist album is finally complete & ready to be unleashed. rob savage & gang have produced some mind blowing instrumentals with some of the hottest up & coming vocalists, bringing you a truly unique sound. winners of the 2007 breakspoll breakthrough producer award, groove diggerz have managed to break into the mainstream without selling out or compromising their sound. their music ebbs & flows throughout 'money for good times' ; soothing instrumentals backed by deep harmonious vocals, live funk break beats, fat house riffs, big bass & more vocals. *"perfectly judged so that it's just accessible enough to get everybody up & dancing while still featuring enough freaky noises & growly bass for the headz"* 4.5/5 - dj mag. [breakin' even](#)

v/a : bugged out presents suck my deck mixed by brodinski brodinski is the most exciting dj & producer to explode onto the scene in recent years. yes, he may hail from france but he is quite unlike any of his parisian peers. his taste in music is broad & this is reflected in his own productions & dj sets, which may encompass noisy techno, bass heavy house through to more melodic minimal. his programming is impeccable & he plays with such spirit that his 6'2" frame jerks & bounces when he gets excited by a track, yet he is never fuelled with anything more than fanta lemon! this monstrous tracklisting hops between electro wobbliness & dirty, dirty minimalish techno & thereabouts - it's sure to be fierce as hell! [new state](#)

the rogue element : lumina ben metcalfe, the rogue element, delivers the follow up to 2005's debut, 'rogue rock'. this is all about top drawer dancefloor stompers, with a thread of dark atmospherics running through the album punctuated by brighter, melodic & optimistic moments. unconventional arrangements on tracks such as 'binary suite', 'in place' & 'an unsavoury urge' give insight into the rogue's compositional sensibilities & rival peers such as booka shade & trentemoller. his uniquely idiosyncratic blend of techno, breakbeat & electro is definitely worthy of further investigation if the likes of stanton warriors & meat katie appeal. [exceptional records](#)

line : hearts line (aka neil wells) is one of the comparatively few artists operating within what might be loosely termed as the electro-pop genre to really get a firm grasp of the 'pop' part of that pigeonhole. 'go let it out' distinguishes itself straight away, sounding like it has a bit of a brandon flowers thing going on, as if the killers had been remixed by someone on the rephlex roster. the production remains brittle & fizzy throughout, lending a real sense of laptop-born intimacy to the album, as if casiotone for the painfully alone finally got around to buying a proper computer. [uncharted audio](#)

bill laswell / fanu : lodge after the path-setting method of defiance album 'inamorata' where he brought together cutting-edge drum & bass producers (paradox, enduser, submerged, black sun empire a.o.) & avantgarde / jazz masters such as john zorn, craig taborn, herbie hancock or toshinori kondo, the visionary, versatile pioneer laswell picked out some new combatants for an audacious follow-up. young finnish fanu's syncopated rhythms & sharp breaks reveal him as the art blakey of drum & bass, his feverish beats are an ideal playground for laswell's growling, hard-driven yet funky bass attacks. now jazz trumpet players nils petter molvaer & graham haynes accentuate the album's psychotic heat, while p-funk keyboard wizard bernie worrell ensures that this meeting of musical masters is a solid weapon for the dancefloor! [karl records](#)

muslimgauze : mullah said (repress of this 1998 1000-copy subscription series release) the prolific muslimgauze released a ridiculous amount of repetitive ethnic industrial infused electronic music during his life but this is one of his standouts. this record concentrates on the softer yet still ominous side of muslimgauze, coming across as meditative, late-night music which still has an understated edge to it all. a 50 minute suite of prime muslimgauze middle eastern ambience, 'mullah said' displays delightful drifting ambience, shimmering string sounds, dark & subdued synth/string arrangements, low-key drum machine beat, gentle interjections of wind instruments, random vocal bits, drones & percussion, echo, samples & much more, all combined to create these intense grooves. anyone into techno infused dubstep or more specifically, shackleton, should check this - your jaw will drop - this man was ridiculously ahead of his time. [staalplaat](#)

hip hop

v/a : dillanthology vol 2 in his brief 32 years j-dilla, otherwise known as jay-dee or james yancey created & shaped a new sound for hip-hop that inspired beat smiths, mcs & music lovers around the globe. his crackling & soulful beatcraft made him the go to man for the longest list of quality artists you could imagine, including: de la soul, tribe, erykah badu, the pharcyde, busta rhymes, common, d'angelo, ghostface, not to mention his own crew slum village & so many more. volume 2 of this anthology series compiles a selection of his remix efforts for a variety of artists - some have never been available before, most are hard to find & all are essential. he may have been gone but his influence will be felt for some time. [rapster](#)

maniac : new age grime at only 18, maniac might be a young producer in the grime scene, however his tight crisp production belies his tender age. having produced beats for wiley as well as collaborating with finchy stryder, this new album is a full instrumental release that showcases his talent & aptly illustrates why he's so in-demand today with a sound that, unlike some of his peers, has a freedom & inventiveness that separates him from the hordes of wobble drones currently flooding a major part of dubstep's market. [gpp records](#)

naledge : chicago picasso naledge, one half of kidz in the hall, brings us chicago picasso, a mixtape direct from the streets of chicago that showcases the city's healthy hip hop scene, with appearances from bun b, chip tha ripper, jay electronica, rhymefest, carlita durand, j ivy, russoul, doe boy, fooch & more. naledge proclaims "i wouldn't call this a mixtape so much as an exhibit, hence the name chicago picasso. the same way pablo picasso created a commissioned statue that has sat downtown in chicago for years of interpretation; i want this mixtape to float the same way." [duckdown](#)

soul/funk

maxwell : blacksummers' night there have been a few artists labeled 'the new marvin gaye' in the 13 years since maxwell's critically lauded 'urban hang suite' but his silken pipes ensure that he remains the pick of the bunch. this 1st part in an album trilogy finds maxwell embracing his usual themes of love, lust & betrayal with a more direct approach than he has previously. recorded entirely live, it has the feel of an impeccably cool jam session. maxwell continues to carry the nu soul torch with a mix of luxuriant jazz flavours & gospel tinges. "his honeyed tones merit adoration" - *the guardian*. [columbia](#)

isaac hayes : hot buttered soul stone. cold. classic. nothing more need be said! this 40th anniversary edition of the classic album that transformed isaac hayes is a 'must-have' for any record collection. it may only be 4 tracks but what tunes! originally released at the end of the 60s, 'hot buttered soul' set the precedent for how soul would evolve in the 70s - simultaneously establishing isaac hayes as a major music force. there's only one hayes original but he makes them all his own. it has been digitally remastered & comes with the single edits of 'walk on by' & 'by the time i get to phoenix' & extended liner notes. a colossal work that comes with the highest recommendation. [concord](#)

the marvelettes : forever - the complete motown albums vol.1 though they aren't as well known as the supremes or martha & the vandellas, they did - with the help of the cream of motown's writing staff - record motown's very 1st number one single 'please mr postman'. this collection brings together the group's 1st four studio albums 'please mr postman', 'smash hits of 1962', 'playboy' & 'the marvellous marvelettes plus', their only live album, the stereo greatest hits set, & every stray single, b-side & rare cut from the early era that have been issued on various compilations through the years. phew! every track has been newly remastered from the original lp & single masters in the motown vault. [umc](#)

parliament : osmium reissue of their debut album from 1970, now with bonus tracks. the first parliament album as such was a mixed-up mess of an affair - but would anyone expect anything less? the overall sound is much more funkadelic than later parliament, if with a somewhat more accessible feel. after a stripped-down start, things explode into a full-on funk strut with heavy-duty guitar & slamming drums setting the way, while the singers sound like they're tripping without losing the soul - sudden music dropouts, vocal cut-ins, volume level tweaks & more, add to the off-kilter feeling. 'osmium's' sound progresses from there - its funk's fire combined with a studio freedom that feels like a blueprint for the future. bernie worrell's keyboard abilities are already clear, whether he's trying for hotel lounge jams or full freakiness. similarly, eddie hazel is clearly finding his own epic stoned zone to peel out some amazing solos at the drop of a hat. [edsel](#)

sly & the family stone : the woodstock experience (2cd) sly stone & co.'s performance at woodstock is largely considered one of the very finest of the historic festival. anticipation for their next record, 'stand!' had been building & by the time they took the stage late saturday/early sunday of the festival it had reached fever pitch. the band did not disappoint & they preceded to blow people's minds (if they weren't already). this set collects the performance in its entirety for the 1st time & 'stand!' in a vinyl replica sleeve. highly recommended. [rca/legacy](#)

jazz

sun ra : sun ra featuring pharoah sanders & black harold in 1964, sun ra asked the young tenor saxophonist pharoah sanders to join him, while arkestra mainstay john gilmore was busy working with paul bley, andrew hill, & art blakey. before the live recording's original release in 1976, sun ra stated: "it should be very interesting to the world to show what the pre-coltrane pharoah sanders was like" & now it can be heard in it's entirety for the 1st time since it was put to tape. also appearing is the little-heard flautist, black harold (harold murray), who takes the lead on the track 'the voice of pan', continuing into 'dawn over israel'. 'featuring pharoah sanders & black harold' is notable not only for its unique line-up but also for the first known recording of the composition 'the shadow world' here titled 'the world shadow', which was featured on later arkestra albums. 'a vital document in the recording history of the arkestra' – allaboutjazz.esp

blues

blind blake & the royal victoria calypsos : bahamian songs not the pioneering ragtime blues guitarist – this is the banjo-picking bahamian national treasure, known to his friends as alphonso higgs. one of those rare artists whose output stands alone in the annals of sound recording, blind blake is the foremost musical export of the bahamas. between the 1930s & 60s he was the band leader at nassau's royal victoria hotel & established a singular oeuvre compositing old island songs with american folk ballads & calypso. this extensive collection demonstrates the full richness of the man's career - including a particularly interesting rendition of 'john b. sail', one of the oldest songs in the bahamian canon & the inspiration for the beach boys' 'sloop john b'. an essential & recommended collection. "in superb voice & clearly relishing every opportunity to kick back & enjoy himself...a zestful selection" 4/5 – mojo, "plain wonderful" – plan b. megaphone

eric bibb : live @ fip (2 cd) recorded live in paris at the fip radio concert hall, bibb is at the top of his game. the latest in a long family line of musicians, including members of the modern jazz quartet & paul robeson, he has long made a name for himself & this set represents a milestone in bibb's career. it shows the full extent of his artistry as he glides gracefully over a repertoire of his strongest material from the past fifteen years. bibb has become a household name for blues fans all over the world - a beacon for the next generation of folk-blues lovers, with his subtle playing & creative vision. dixiefrog

johnny winter : the woodstock experience (limited 2cd) one goal of the woodstock festival was to highlight lesser-known acts along with the superstars. johnny winter was such an artist, yet there is no doubt his performance was on the level of a superstar. his recently released self-titled album highlighted winter's prowess in the blues rock world & his high energy performance at woodstock elevated him to the level of guitar god. disc one is the original self-titled album & disc 2 is his live woodstock performance. rca/legacy

country

steve earle : live at the bbc recorded while earle & band were touring 'copperhead road' these 2 two incredible performances with the dukes lean heavily on material from that album. they capture the texan firebrand in typically forthright mood & the dukes match his passion with incendiary performance after performance. recorded on four dates at the town & country club in london & in manchester it includes live versions of his trademarks 'the devil's right hand', 'copperhead road', 'good ol' boy (gettin' tough)' plus rare live performances of 'when will we be married' & earle's own 'my baby worships me' & a cover of the rolling stones' 'dead flowers'. this is the ideal way to hear earle – uncaged & full of fire. umc

michael j. sheehy & the hired mourners : with these hands for his 6th album michael j. sheehy has written a song cycle which tells the story of francis delaney, a fictional prize fighter whose life unravels after he takes a dive in the most important fight of his career. with a rich mix of gothic, vaudeville, blues & folk, the songs are often vicious & sheehy doesn't shy away from tackling some of the more unsavoury aspects of the fight game such as racism & homophobia. as ever sheehy's gallows humour is prevalent throughout. there are tender moments too, such as the beautiful 'frankie my darling' (sung by gemma ray) & a gut wrenching acappella reading of 'goodnight irene'. glitterhouse

folk

buffy sainte marie : running for the drum (cd&dvd) the international folk star turned political activist turned sesame street presenter releases her 18th album, reuniting with former co-producer chris birkett & recorded in her home studio in hawaii. weaving politicised synth-folk, native american mantras & aching torch songs into a blanket of irreproachable intentions & keening melodies, it's an album that's as eclectic as it is spirited. buffy can still sing up a protest storm too, as on electronic beat-powered opener 'no no keshagesh'. the accompanying dvd includes a documentary & interviews. "clearly still diamond sharp, with a larynx to match" – mojo. cooking vinyl

world

angel brothers : angel brothers there can't be many bands who can lay claim to have cornered the market in cinematic roots funk but angel brothers can! their first new album in 4 years marks a return to the roots of this highly original band, with the founding members keith & dave angel working closely together on 9 sparkling new compositions & recordings. the album reflects their boyhood passion for cinema & the self-penned tracks echo with the soundscapes of fellow yorkshireman john barry, spaghetti western maestro ennio morricone & carnivale composer jeff beal. throughout, the irresistible angel brothers' anglo/asian groove is, of course, still very much present & this, combined with serious musicianship & a myriad of cultural influences, is what sets the angel brothers apart. [navigator](#)

v/a : jalan jalan a collection of recordings made by sound recordist & musician jerry lloyd over 10 years of travel (between 1998 & 2008) through vietnam, cambodia, laos, burma, india, morocco, egypt, malaysia, indonesia, sumatra & bali. the globetrotting tracklist merges into a single stream of global sound which is accompanied by fairly detailed liner notes, documenting the origins & circumstances of each recording. you'll get to hear theatre performances, street musicians, virtuosic tabla solos, calls to prayer & even indonesian stick fighting. the often rather lo-fi recordings only add to the sense that this is a very personal travelogue. [urck](#)

v/a : cuban funk experience 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the cuban revolution & 'cuban funk experience' features music from the bands who led the charge of the new cuban musical revolution. it features the hottest afro-cuban grooves from cuba's state record label egrem as well as killer examples of cuban-funk from the miami based sound triangle label which many cuban ex-pats recorded for in the 1970s. in cuba bands such as los van van & irakere were at the forefront with songo - which saw afro-cuban grooves combine with elements from funk & rock. others pioneered mozambique, a fusion of various afro-cuban grooves which featured 12 conga drums, two bass drums, three bells & a frying pan! over in miami many cuban ex-pats hit a new groove by experimenting with funk filtered through latin percussion & heavy horns. compiled by john armstrong, one of the uk's original latin music djs, it's safe to say this is a comprehensive overview of the golden era. [nascente](#)

khaled : rebel of rai – the early years (2cd) khaled has long been the most internationally recognised algerian singer & is commonly called the 'king of rai'. many of the collected songs were recorded while he was exiled in france by the algerian regime – who frowned upon the taboo busting rai. during his time in france, khaled took the chance to experiment with rai fusing it with elements of funk, rap, soul & disco. as its title suggests, this collection compiles earlier recordings collected from 20 years of his career & draws on music from over 10 of his hardest to find albums – the albums that made his name. [nascente](#)

amadou & mariam : the magic couple compiling 15 track of their best of songs from 1997-2002 – their 1st releases outside africa - & drawn from 3 records in particular ('sou ni tele', 'tje ni lousso' & 'wati') 'the magic couple' serves as a perfect introduction to the 1st couple of malian song. they speak 3 african languages & french & though they're not as bluesy as other prominent malian musicians such as ali farka toure, they embrace a more global sound in a heartfelt style that's accessible in any language. [wrasse](#)

reggae

scientist : international heroes dub 18 roy cousins compositions recorded at aquarius & harry j's by sylvan morris & christopher daley, dubbed to the max by the mighty scientist at channel 1. features the cream of jamaica's session men including, 'flabba' holt, lloyd parks, 'horsemouth' wallace, sly dunbar, 'style' scott, 'gladdy' anderson, pablove black, dwight pickney, 'chinna' smith with horns supplied by both bobby ellis & the legendary tommy mccook. [tamoki wambesi](#)

u roy : 30 massive shots from treasure isle born "ewart beckford" on 21st september 1942, u roy was nicknamed "the originator" - the pioneer of toasting - which many say was the earliest form of any kind of rapping over music. his music career started in 1961 when he began rapping over popular songs remixed by dub music pioneer, the great king tubby. once working with duke reid, u roy's fame grew even more, with hits including 'wake the town' & 'wear you to the ball'. this album features 30 of his finest hits from the vaults of treasure isle. [attack](#)

justin hinds & the dominoes : sinners justin hinds was born in 1942 & started his career singing in bars & on the beach in ochos rios. he later moved to kingston where he became influenced by the rastafari movement. after being turned down by sir coxsone's studio one label, he went on to sign for treasure isle label, along with dennis sinclair & junior dixon aka "the dominoes". the first major recording for treasure isle was the hit single 'carry go bring' which went on to be a chart hit & the track has since been covered by a number of other ska bands. this album contains 19 of the very best hits from the vaults of treasure isle. [attack](#)

soundtracks

ivor slaney : terror/prey - the original unreleased soundtrack 'moscovitch music' is the new label from record archaeologist & one half of cult exotica group 'quiet village', joel martin & is an outlet for all the weird & wonderful music you've never heard before from obscure film scores to ecological jazz! the 1st release compiles the unissued film soundtracks to legendary uk horror director norman j. warren's late 70' movies 'terror' & 'prey', both composed by one of tv & radio's most prolific arrangers, ivor slaney & features dark proto synth-wave, electronic hip-hop, folk-soul & dirty cabaret rock. joel was one of the 1st record collectors to compile ost/library music back in 1997 on the legendary 'bite hard' lp, a retrospective of the famous de wolfe label & has since been sampled by the likes of jay z & kool g rap. joel now works for de wolfe as head of their reissue dept. 'terror/prey' includes 35 unheard tracks, a beautiful full-colour 12-page booklet complete with rare stills & sleeve notes from the director norman j warren & cherrystones. [moscovitch music](#)

v/a : watch with teacher (2cd) back to school for a class assembly of tv themes & interludes from schools television from the 1960s to the 1980s - a double cd split into "breaktime" & "playtime". originally made to fill in the 2 or 3 minute breaks between school programmes as pupils filed into classrooms, these instrumentals have never been available to the public but now these film & library music archives have been opened for us all. this collection includes original recordings by jack arel, brian bennett, james clarke, syd dale, johnny hawthornth, simon may, johnny pearson, roger roger & many others. themes from the 'stop look listen', 'watch', 'meeting our needs', 'good health' & 'my world' programmes, plus the "legendary" rock instrumental 'bart' played by ruby, the ultimate interval track by randy oda. [whr](#)

vinyl

the smith westerns : the smith westerns at long last, the debut full-length from chicago's smith westerns has landed & it's going to help make this summer one of the best ever, for real. with their metamorphosis over the past year from a sloppy teenage punk mess into a full-fledged glam pop explosion, this is one incredible leap of progress. if you haven't tuned in to their latest recordings, it might cause a jolt of euphoric confusion that you can really warm up to, as you marvel at their fastidious growth while digging through the outer fringes of rock n' roll's vast well of influences. straddling the fine line between the misty-eyed feyness of brett smiley & milk'n' cookies, with the slithering macho grunt of marc bolan's silk pyjamas tied around alvin stardust's throat, it's nothing short of a modern summer classic power pop album. [hozac records](#)

the smiths : the smiths ; meat is murder, the queen is dead ; strangeways here

we come re-issue of the 4 classic studio albums by the smiths : 'the smiths' (1984), 'meat is murder' (1985), 'the queen is dead' (1986) & 'strangeways here we come' (1987). all feature newly re-mastered audio by frank arkwright (overseen by johnny marr) & the original sleeves, labels & original inner bags, pressed on high-quality 180 gram vinyl. in addition, each comes with a unique redemption code enabling you to download the complete album as mp3 files. [rhino](#)

the present : the way we are (2lp) [loaf](#)

roxy music : country life [emi](#)

the specials : the specials [emi](#)

d v d

kd lang : live in london recorded live in london with the bbc orchestra, this captures kd lang as you've never heard her before. one of the most enduring performers of recent times, k.d. lang sings her hits, featuring state-of-the-art video & sound. includes 'constant craving', 'upstream', 'i dream of spring', 'helpless', 'coming home', her celebrated version of the leonard cohen classic, 'hallelujah' & many more. [umc](#)

books

loops it's about time there was someone that took writing about music a little more seriously. the sad fact is music journalism has by & large been in the doldrums for some time. the dominorecord label have decided to tackle this by teaming up with faber & faber to produce 'loops' - a twice yearly journal dedicated to engaging, intelligent & diverse writing about music. this inaugural issue includes contributions from nick cave, nick kent, jon savage, james yorkston, brian eno, simon reynolds & rob young, amongst others. some are serious pieces & some less so - simon armitage's poem about why the teardrop explodes are better than the manics may be an example. all in all a highly engaging & recommended read. [faber & faber](#)

magazines

uncut : issue 147 – aug 09 the yardbirds, wilco, roky erickson, rem, the pixies, free covermount cd.....

artrocker : issue 92 – aug 09 the maccabees, the dirty projectors, future of the left & free cd

record collector : issue 365 - aug 09 beach boys, siouxsie & the banshees, bert jansch.....

q : august 2009 michael jackson, jack white & dead weather, the enemy, spinal tap, u2, blur, ladyhawke

singles

single of the week

three trapped tigers : 7/1 limited 7", available in selected indies. [too pure](#)

the stone roses : elephant stone (single plus box) (limited edition reissues) the first single in the set of 5 reissues, 'elephant stone', comes in a collectors' hard-backed deluxe box, to house all 5 singles & includes art prints, liner notes & exclusive bits. the following 4 singles ('made of stone', 'she bangs the drums', 'fools gold' & 'one love') will be released one a week over the coming weeks. [silvertone](#)

maccabees : can you give it 2 part 7" & cd. [polydor](#)

vivian girls : moped girls / death ltd 7" . [for us](#)

v.v brown : shark in the water cd. [island](#)

young widows / pelican : split ep limited 7". [temporary residence limited](#)

ty segall : cents limited 7". [goner](#)

dan black : symphonies 7". [polydor](#)

patrick wolf : hard times 7". [bloody chamber](#)

peaches : lose you 12" xl

desolation wilderness : no tomorrow / pacific palisades 7". [k records](#)

girls : hellhole ratrace 10" [fantasy trashcan](#)

army navy : saints / get right back 7". [label fandango](#)

the normal : warm leatherette/t.v.o.d. 7". [mute](#)

davila 666 : primero muerta limited 7". [hozac](#)

francis harold & the holograms : mirror of fear limited 7". [hozac records](#)

the cave weddings : bring your love limited 7". [hozac records](#)

defend moscow : die tonight 7". [kids](#)

marmaduke duke : silhouettes 7". [14th floor](#)

fight like apes : something global ltd white vinyl & hand-stamped sleeve 7". [model citizen](#)

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"s 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.

gift vouchers

stuck for the perfect gift? our vouchers can be used to purchase cds, vinyl, boxsets, gig tickets & magazines, so they make a perfect present for anyone, anytime of year, for any occasion.