

out this week

album of the week

noah & the whale : peaceful, the world lays me down an exceptionally charming lo-fi offering from the urban folkies. a collection of songs that muse on the connections between love, death & time. like the wonderful laura marling (who helps out on the album & provides some of the best moments) & the fresh-faced johnny flynn, this lot use their youthful perspective to breath new life into the once-battle-worn folk genre. there's tinkling percussion, violins & some light ivory stroking but the foursome are anchored by their very impressive frontman & songwriter charlie fink who at times sounds like smog's bill callahan & at others, will oldham. it sounds remarkably effortless moving between epic grandeur & intimate melancholy but all with a very clear sense of englishness. for fans of tunng, the moldy peaches, adem or laura marling. [mercury records](#)

rock / indie / post rock / americana

late of the pier : fantasy black channel (cd & lp) the extraordinary debut, produced by erol alkan. this one's a bit of a surprise – whilst the singles have all been undeniably catchy, it is unusual for a band of this nature to deliver an album of such quality throughout. it segues between musical styles with fleet footed fluidity, constantly experimental & boundary-pushing, yet focused & - at its core - unashamedly pop. the sounds of gary numan, franz ferdinand & queen all fused into one irresistible pop-tastic package. *"making most other british bands seem like primitive, drooling luddites by comparison" – nme, "they combine the best bits of all genres to forge the way in pop & set a challenge for everyone else" – artrocker, "preternaturally brilliant" – guardian, "a modern pop masterpiece...deliriously different" 4.5/5 - the fly.* [parlophone](#)

alex tiuniaev : i knew her an electronic musician & producer from moscow & this gorgeous release is a 40-minute, 1 track journey of heart-melting, melancholic & neo-symphonic splendour. the piece opens with gentle tones slowly making their presence known on the outskirts of audibility. gradually, a deep bowed string section introduces the central motif of the piece - a repeated phrase of 4 notes, delivered as swelling chords, with a backdrop of ambient atmospherics & a bright but distant trumpet adds to the steadily building swell of sound. wordless choral voice samples are added, which unfurl majestically in ethereal veils across the strings. this intoxicating blend of ambient, electronic & orchestral music builds to a haunting & majestic crescendo that then comes gently back down to earth. for fans of sigur rós, philip glass or olafur arnaulds. [cold spring](#)

wild billy childish & the musicians of the british empire : thatcher's children (cd & lp, with cover design by the legendary sex pistols cover artist, jamie reid) this is their 3rd album in as many years but this is possibly their best to date & probably one of billy's best ever. as usual the songs are fast & furious with biting lyrics & wry observations on today's world. with his latest combo, the musicians of the british empire, billy carries on his tradition of home made punk & rhythm & blues. real rock 'n' roll! *"working within the musical pallet of the who, the kinks, phil spector, the small faces & the pistols, childish renders the ancient modern with his razor-sharp vignettes. his thames estuary delivery & ready wit may not be to everyone's taste, but for those wishing to go beyond the album's strict door policy, there is a world of wonder inside" - bbc.* [damaged goods](#)

the postmarks : s/t the miami threesome release their uk debut. a sublime collection of indie pop, fronted by chanteuse tim yehezkely, whose enchanting vocals provide the band's bacharach-like polish. she has that breathy, sweet vocal style associated with french singers of the '60s or brazilian bossa nova girls of the same era & is the focal point of the band's sound as she drifts like a cotton candy cloud through sophisticated chamber pop backdrops like astrud gilberto's mopey little sister. these lovely, meticulously arranged songs are filled with vibraphones, shimmering strings, gently plucked guitars & should appeal to fans of broadcast, belle & sebastian, francois hardy or st.etienne. *"arrangements that enjoy the urbane whiff of lounge, burt bacharach, henry mancini & sunflower-era brian wilson" 7.9/10 - pitchfork.* [right track](#)

oxford collapse : bits the 4th album from the brooklyn outfit. the tension is still present in their three-way interplay (listen to them firing off of each other, squealing out of control at the end of 'back of the yards') but the direction & presence in this set is open, flowing against anything they've done before. it's the sound of fun turning into purpose, of a great band writing & playing their best songs & knowing how great that feels. straightforward, memorable, mature (but not necessarily grown-up) – overall, a whole lot better. it's all heart & ingenuity - the joyous racket that connects c86 pop to the present, made by 3 guys who are realizing that they can be so much more than before. [sub pop](#)

david cronenberg's wife : bluebeard's rooms debut album from the ascending underground music scenesters, with their distinctive sharply observed dark urban tales soundtracked to post-punk surf-psych guitars. frontman tom mayne mixes the spoken word stylings of john cooper clarke & the rough folkiness of bob dylan to create his intense vocal delivery. raucous lo-fi new wave janglings & rough edged pop for fans of art brut. *"for sheer scope & lyrical intensity, dcw have made one of the albums of the year! 4.5/5 – the fly, "a cross between clinic & suicide" – gary crowley, "where genius meets idiocy" - mark lamarr, "sarcastic, sardonic & articulate...once you've heard this, it will stay in your head all day" - music week.* [blang](#)

spork : many of them seriously drummer ed lush & bass player matt chilton formed spork after discovering they were both in fact closet guitarists with a liking for atmospheric space rock. neither of them sing but there's nothing missing here amongst the venus-bound guitars, glacial rhythms & echoes of early 70's tangerine dream. what's more the music was recorded without the help of loops or computer editing - for the listener this means all the invisible threads are still intact. *"from a slow burning, intensifying, building crescendo of noise that is opening track 'dust bowl' through to the following 13 tracks, this is an album of imagination, brilliant invention & noise landscapes designed to intrigue & titillate"* 5/5 – subba-cultcha. [scratchy](#)

the script : s/t the debut album from this london-based dublin trio features the hit singles 'we cry' & 'the man who can't be moved' & there are undoubtedly a whole load more hits to follow. the band describe their own sound as follows : *"this is a whole new brand of celtic soul, blending hip hop lyrical flow with pop melodiousness, state-of-the-art r'n'b production with anthemic rock dynamics, classic song construction with gritty contemporary narratives. it's got all the emotion & passion you would expect from across the irish sea, but it is glittering in its modernity, universal in its singalong addictiveness & global in its syncopation, music for the feet, heart & head. think u2 versus timbaland, van morrison remixed by teddy riley"*. [sony](#)

black to comm : fractal hair geometry the solo venture of dekorder label boss marc richter, who has established himself as one of the most prolific drone artists out there. as with previous work, this album is centred around recordings of a variety of vintage organs but the new album opts for a more electronic, effects-laden sound, sending an old farfisa compact deluxe & casio sk-5 through an armada of analogue & digital effects pedals. the results are massive one-chord drones layered into dense & ecstatic, flickering & pulsating clusters of psychedelic electronic sound. additional wordless vocal effects, hyperventilating & sizzling drum machines & hypnotic violin and guitar noises make for a hyperactive sound that never stands still even though most of the music is pure drones (sometimes consisting of more than 50 recording layers). [dekorder](#)

the levellers : letters from the underground (limited 2cd version with new & live recordings & a video) the 9th album from the brighton based band was recorded at their own metway studios, is released on their own label & has been produced by sean lakeman (brother of seth). here, the band do what they do best - combine politically charged lyrics with their unique upbeat brand of anarcho-folk punk. *"one of the most politically committed & musically incisive albums of their career...pitched midway between the clash & fairport convention, the perennially unfashionable outfit emerge as fans have long known them to be : a galvanising & indomitable british band"* album of the week – mirror. [on the fiddle](#)

nordvargr : pyrrhula henrik nordvargr björkk is an incredibly prolific & chameleonic swedish musician. he has worked under many different names, such as nordvargr, toroidh, maschinenzimmer 412 (or mz.412), goatvargr & folkstorm among others. his music varies from dark ambient to power electronics & death industrial & all points in between. partly based on an old swedish folktale, 'pyrrhula' ("doomlord") is a pitch black journey into utter darkness. this is a tale of foreboding doom - a portent of dark times to come. 8 black ambient / doom / droneworks containing the malevolent vocals of lord nordvargr himself! [cold spring](#)

silvery : thunderer & excelsior the london band release their debut album - a 14 track blast of infectious eccentric british pop influenced by bowie, sparks, xtc, blur & victorian london. the result is an organ-led, energetic maelstrom from a band who are "not afraid to play very fast & not afraid to play very slow". includes the supergrass-a-like single 'horrors'. *"what a little belter this is. pure, head-on pop music. this could be a very good year for silvery. buy this record"* – artrocker, *"extrovert & slightly dramatic"* - steve lamacq, *"the psychopop of blur, if damon albarn spent the 90's taking acid... more please!"* - nme. [blow up](#)

head like a kite : there is loud laughter everywhere the band's 2nd full-length album is their 1st for mush & is an expert blend of electronic rock production & pure pop-songcraft built on a bed of pillaged found-sound from cities the band visited on their 2006 us tour. ringmaster dave einmo has assembled some of seattle's finest for the album including members of the long winters, smooch, radio 4, crooked fingers & preston school of industry. whether it be guest vocals from asya smooch & graig markel, added inspiration from touring drummer trent moorman, or the production of brian deck (modest mouse, iron & wine) each track is flavoured with the perfect additions to the epic songwriting & bigbeat electronic production that is their forte. [mush](#)

darren hayman : great british holiday songs eps between 2005 & 2007 the former hefner front man released 4 eps detailing his british holidays. darren took ukuleles, minidiscs & casio keyboards to caravan parks, butlins & b&bs. the songs are sweet & tender, lo-fi vignettes about lost youth, faded photographs & half-understood britishness. all the sold out eps are featured here as well as 3 newly recorded cover versions of famous holiday songs; v.a.c.a.t.i.o.n. by connie francis, holiday road (the theme from national lampoons vacation) by lyndsey buckingham & margate by chas & dave. the cd also comes with a dvd featuring 5 beautiful videos, shot by darren himself & a documentary on the making of the album. [belka](#)

bromide : the trouble with.. bromide bromide is london-based, essex-born, capri-owning, cat-worshipping singer-songwriter simon berridge & anyone he can talk into playing with him. like lightspeed champion, berridge isn't afraid to pile instruments & additional band members on top of his writing. this is a collection of 13 lo-fi acoustic folk pop gems, including a cover of the legendary guided by voices song 'game of pricks'. *"mainman simon berridge has an ear for a canny tune & a keen lyrical eye for detail. front that with his ray-davies-meets-lloyd-cole crooning & you're onto a winner"* - the big issue, *"romping, indie-pop blast with lyrics that recalls the heyday of the only ones"* - time out. [scratchy](#)

warmer milks : soft walks recorded in kentucky with paul oldham (brother of billy), this is by far & away the band's strongest release to date. it contains some truly riveting lyricism & invokes the sounds of songs:ohia (in their prime) & some of oldham's oeuvre. this album dispenses with the anger & fury of 'let your friends in' or 2006's 'radish on light', in favour of pastoral arrangements & acoustic guitar-plucking have that old-time, back-porch feel. a great american alt-country styled album - a unique blend of southern rock, improv & modern confusion. 10 songs about what grows, what dies & where we fit in between. [animal disguise](#)

daniel padden : pause for the jet padden has established a solo career via releases as 'the one ensemble of daniel padden', whilst holding down a position in volcano the bear since 1995. he now releases a collection of strange, often very short compositions under his birth name, based on beautiful, droning string instruments or shambling, jazzy interludes via horns, otherworldly percussion & even a few vocals. padden has developed a strong fascination for obscure musics from all over the world & in combining these interests with his love for british folk & art rock (this heat, robert wyatt), kraut rock (faust), free jazz, the surreal collage techniques of nurse with wound & the odd humour of the residents, he has developed a totally unique & highly personal musical vision without ever sounding overambitious or directionless. [dekorder](#)

mock orange : captain love the indiana four-piece have been writing and performing together for more than a decade. their new album is a highly melodic nugget of alternative pop-rock, with nods to american indie royalty such as the flaming lips, modest mouse & built to spill. "*bright acoustic guitars, marching band drums & quirky, arcade fire style meanderings. combines the sophisticated songcraft of pavement and the flaming lips with the melodic bite of weezer*" [drowned in sound](#). [tigertrap](#)

fightstar : alternate endings the band's 4th album to date is a celebration of their favourite tracks which have appeared as flipside / additional tracks from their singles. also included in the package are recordings the band have done during their various live radio sessions - including the monumental cover of 'waitin for a superman', which the band did for colin murray on radio 1 & acoustic recordings of 'floods' & '99'. also features their cover of judas priest's 'breaking the law'. [institute](#)

los peyotes : introducing los peyotes these 5 peruvian-argentine boys go out at night to do the best thing they can do : garage & caveman rock 'n' roll. influenced by los saicos, 13th floor elevators, ? and the mysterians & many other bands from the 60's, they deliver surf-guitar, tex mex, psychedelic garage-punk & rhythm'n'blues, that seems to have crossed time & space from the buenos aires of 1965. [dirty water](#)

brian wilson & van dyke parks : orange crate art brian wilson enlisted van dyke parks as his collaborator for 'smile', the follow-up to the beach boys' groundbreaking album 'pet sounds'. one single, 'heroes and villains', was released from the sessions & became a hit, but the rest of the album remained on the shelves. over the years, the legend of 'smile' continued to grow, as bootlegs circulated & selected songs were recorded by the beach boys (including 'sail on sailor', from 1973's holland). parks & wilson didn't work again until 1995, nearly 30 years after the smile sessions. however, the resulting album, 'orange crate art', isn't quite a collaboration - it's a collection of parks songs as sung by wilson. [rhino](#)

tonto's expanding headband : zero time available for the 1st time ever on cd. t.o.n.t.o ("the original new timbral orchestra") formed by robert margouleff & malcolm cecil were true pioneers of synthesiser music & were one of the first to use the moog exclusively. 'zero time' (1972) was years ahead of its time & this album paved the way for electronic music later in the decade. immediately after this album, stevie wonder used the pair on 4 consecutive albums including 'talking book' & 'innervisions'. [rhino](#)

sparks : s/t sparks established themselves so perfectly with their 1972 bearsville debut that arguably the rest of the brothers' long career has been a continual refinement from that basic formula. even more striking is realising how astoundingly ahead of its time it was - what must have sounded indescribably strange in 1972 now feels like the precursor to nearly all of new wave & synth-pop. 'sparks' remains a wonderfully entertaining listen & an honestly unique debut. [rhino](#)

sparks : a woofer in tweeters clothing 'woofer...' starts with another killer opening track, musically & lyrically, with 'girl from germany', a chugging number detailing the problems the narrator has with his parents over his girlfriend, given their lingering wartime attitudes. the album builds upon the strengths of the debut to create an even better experience all around. james lowe had taken over production duties from todd rundgren & turned in twisted pop perfection. "*anyone wondering why faith no more appeared on sparks' self-tribute album plagiarism need only listen to woofer to understand - as a full-on purée of musical styles in the service of twisted viewpoints, it's a perfect album*" 4.5/5 - *all music guide*. [rhino](#)

sonic's rendezvous band : the second chance (2cd) fred sonic smith (mc5, patti smith) scott asheton (stooges) gary rasmussen (the up) scott morgan (rationals, hydromatics, hellacopters) arose, phoenix like, from the ashes of four of the motor city's finest proponents of high energy rock : the mc5, the stooges, the rationals & the up. this is the unreleased full show from the famous second chance club, taken from original reels. more famous in death than when they were alive, sonic's rendezvous band has attained legendary status in the pantheon of michigan rock. they existed from 1975-80 & during that time issued just one 45, the monumental 'city slang'. arguably the right band, in the wrong time. [applebush](#)

dance/electonica

black affair : pleasure pressure point for the whole of last year, steve mason, the man behind the beta band & king biscuit time was at work in his studio, writing songs about obsession, documenting the beginning & end of a relationship & rediscovering his teenage love for early house music & electro, before flying to new york to mix the white-hot results with fellow maverick genius jimmy edgar. & how does it sound? like a magical trip round the best 80s underground clubs...retro yet modern, dark yet euphoric...like the finest electronic soul. some might also detect some classic 80s influences... shades of early new order, depeche mode, japan etc., while the idiosyncratic melodic style that steve brought to his earlier work is still on display. for fans of neon neon. *"the dark side of the mason moon"*. [v2](#)

machinefabriek : dauw yep, it's yet another release from the exceptionally prolific rutger zuydervelt but just when you might have thought that you've had quite enough of this man's work, he's gone & delivered his masterpiece! his recent collaborations with other like-minded artists seems to have expanded his musical horizons somewhat & the result is one of his most subtle & quiet, yet refined, works. mainly built around small but gorgeous melodies of piano & guitar playing & the crackling sound of dusty vinyl samples, the songs slowly build into intensive hymn-like angel choirs of sheer heavenly beauty. packaged in typically beautiful fashion, it comes with an assertion from the label that it sounds something like arvo pärt, something like mogwai, something like philip jeck & something like fennesz & for once these comparisons are pretty much spot on. mastered by guiseppe ielasi with artwork by zuydervelt himself, this comes highly recommended. [dekorder](#)

v/a : ellen allien - boogybytes vol 4 if you're planning to visit berlin for the first time, take this mix with you on the plane. you'll have had a good solid dose of berlin's vibrant, experimental spirit before you even touch down at tegel. boogybytes vol. 4 is the latest in a series of mixes put out by the berlin electronic label bpitch control & it's the first to be conducted by ellen allien herself, the label's founder. with it, she continues her career-long sonic love letter to the city that continues to inspire & fuel her. she calls the mix "emotional, noisy, trippy, weird & sexual", & it's a testament to both her deejay skills & to berlin's music culture in general, that it is in fact possible to make emotional, sexual music out of the dry, almost surgically clean palette that dominates the city's collective musical endeavours. [bpitch control](#)

v/a : brighton treats with popped beats (mixed & compiled by rob luis) (2cd) another exclusive from those good folks at the tru thoughts label, this is a mix/compilation from tt head honch rob luis with the concept being 'where the world of so called underground music collides with pop music'. over the course of 2 discs you'll find a fine selection of covers, mixes, originals & rarities that have been in or around the british top 40, with 1 disc erring on the side of uptempo & the other being a more downtempo affair. if you enjoy the tom middleton 'crazy covers' comps then this is most definitely for you. [rebtuz](#)

the black seeds : solid ground with their 4th album, the new zealand outfit deliver more of their infectious genre crossing conscious roots music for the soul. 'solid ground' finds the band's antipodean reggae in fine form, casting an impressively authentic, vintage sound over the production whilst maintaining a contemporary feel in terms of the songwriting & vocal delivery. for fans of fat freddy's drop or horace andy. *"utterly convincing in its appropriation of the aesthetics and big-band musicianship of '70s reggae and soul"* - boomkat. [sonar kollektiv](#)

v/a : fabric 41 - simian mobile disco english electronic music production duo james ford & james anthony shaw present their mix for fabriclive. an arresting, expansive mix that shuffles with 4/4 rarities and gems. at times tough, other times spacey, and riveting throughout, the iridescent collection is an exploratory trip onto a dancefloor commanded by the improvisatory musicians. smd strips back and lets loose with the thump of smith n hack, the disco shine of metro area & the proggy sounds of sisters of transistors. also features hercules and love affair, shit robot, plastikman, moon dog, popof, raymond scott & many more. [fabric](#)

v/a : sessions - mixed by meat katie a journey into the deep & dirty underbelly of techno & tech-inspired house. such luminaries as locodice, martin buttrich & dubfire rub shoulders with andomat 3000, worthy & martin eyerer to provide a mix with depth & quality that shines from beginning to end. this is an insight into the afterhours mind of meat katie, a selection that says as much about his wide ranging love of electronic music as his dj'ing style. [mos](#)

starting teeth : i won't do anything i can do a collaboration project between electronic producers childe grangier & nathan jonson, aka hopen & hrdvsn. together they have joined forces to create some futuristic, haunted dancefloor sounds for twisted legs groovers, using a free combination of sounds collected on virtual worldwide adventure. their imaginative mixture of free-electronica, humorous mental techno & breaks 'n cuts will break your ankles if you try dancing to it. *"haunted dancefloor - an exorcist would not know where to start."* - planb, *"taking cues from autechre, raymond scott & mouse on mars, they gleefully deconstruct pop & dance music conventions into throbbing, shuddering grooves: a collision of funk & anti-funk that sends sonic shrapnel in every direction"* - the wire. [creaked](#)

gilles peterson : brownswood bubblers three a compilation of brand new music from gilles peterson on his own label. a tried & tested, well loved series, the 3rd volume is packed with exclusives, debuts & little known gems. the soundtrack to the summer features tracks from bullion, the sunburst band, katalyst, jukes, rozzi dame, arun ghosh - aurora, keneth bager & many more. [brownswood recordings](#)

the karminsky exp inc. pres junior bonner : south by southwest ost for the 1st time, the legendary lost soundtrack to the great unmade road movie of the early 70s can be heard. it's a rich gumbo of southern soul & hollywood slick - deep funk rhythms straight out of the meters' pocket, patchouli guitars like wah-wah watson on angel dust, a horn section as greasy as a trucker's sideburns & all topped with sweeping movie strings. these london lounge legends persuaded mitch levine (the film's producer) to entrust them with the responsibility of restoring the tapes & completing the sessions & over several painstaking months, using only 70s instruments, amps & guitar strings, they completed the sessions begun in 1974. a must-have addition to any fan's collection or an ideal widescreen introduction to their easy listening sound. [patterns of behaviour](#)

v/a : renaissance anthems (3cd) over 50 tracks & 3.5 hours of music, this is a definitive collection of house classics. these are the anthems that have made renaissance one of the finest crossover clubbing brands in the world. the first 2 discs are well known classics whereas the third disc contains more diverse, but equally loved 'cooler' moments. includes tracks from the prodigy, basement jaxx, fatboy slim, leftfield, the age of love, kosheen, deep dish, bedrock, underworld & many more. [mos](#)

metronomy : pip paine (pay the 5000 you owe me) (limited repress) long out of print, the brilliant debut from brighton's own joseph mount & co, is now available again for a limited time only. it is a must have mindblowing mix of sea shanty electronica, deep weirdo beats, free jazz & some other previously uncharted waters in between. every home really should have one of these! [holliphonic](#)

hip hop

invincible : shapeshifters invincible's spittfire wordplay has won her wide acclaim, while her active involvement in progressive social change has taken her music beyond entertainment. repping detroit, many are already familiar with her work with waajeed & the platinum pied pipers & black star among many others. here, her versatility shines through, over production by waajeed, black milk, lab techs & house shoes. her visual lyricism is interwoven with heavy hitting musical backdrops, creating a compelling cinematic soundscape. "one of the most talented emcees i've ever heard: black or white, male or female" - [talib kweli](#). [emergence](#)

v/a : ukhh.com presents - mic:ctrl mixed by blufot & wyffang ukhh.com is the world's most popular uk hip hop website & this is their 2nd cd release, with the focus this time on the mcs. the first ukhh.com release 'ctrl: alt: the beat' took people on a 20 year classic-laden journey through the sounds of uk hip hop. this release switches everything to give new, existing & completely unknown artists a platform to promote their dope music. blufot & wyffang are 2 heavyweights within the current scene & they've submitted a razor sharp blend, that fully represents all corners of the uk. features hefty tracks from blufot, mystro, loki, conspicuous, skrein, verb t, dubbledge, vee kay, dynamite mc & many more. [boombox](#)

soul / funk

v/a : norman jay presents good times london (2 cd) the 8th release in 'the good times' series, features 24 killer tracks across 2cDs from artists as varied as chubb rock to the great ella fitzgerald. from reggae, modern jazz, house, drum n bass, soul, funk, disco & r 'n' b, selected & sequenced by the one & only norman jay mbe, in true 'good times' style. also features very rare & sought tracks from ray charles, lou rawls the dramatics & maynard ferguson. [azuli](#)

irma thomas : simply grand the grammy & mojo award-winning soul queen of new orleans, returns with her 10th album for rounder records. the concept for the album was simple: bring thomas together with a group of soul mate pianists & perform songs that find common ground in each pairing. the result is a beautifully crafted album that showcases the musical depth of thomas, one of the most iconic & beloved entertainers in new orleans. guest artists include dr. john, norah jones, ellis marsalis, randy newman & others. [rounder](#)

the final solution : brotherman - ost continuing a tradition that began with sweet sweetback's baadasssss song & culminated with shaft & superfly, brotherman was a blaxploitation film set to hit screens in 1975. prior to the script being finished, the producers commissioned an original soundtrack to be performed by the final solution, a fledgling vocal group from chicago's west side. in classic numero fashion, before even one foot of film was shot, the plug was pulled & the movie was cancelled. dragged around for 30 years by songwriter, guitarist & arranger carl wolfolk, the tapes of his life's work have been finally mixed & the soundtrack has been augmented to include 2 orchestrated instrumentals intended for the film. [numero group](#)

melvyn price : rhythm & blues the late '60s were an explosive time in america. flower power was blooming, civil rights were in full swing, & while american soldiers were fighting in vietnam, american musicians were creating several brands of rebellious music back home. one such musician, a trombonist/conga player from pontiac, michigan, had grown weary of his nation's volatile political climate. in the wake of martin luther king jr.'s assassination, price set sail for sweden where he immediately began gigging with scandinavia's jet-set jazz musicians. in 1974, price composed & recorded this soul-jazz masterpiece. the music was simple, yet inspiring, pairing sweden's disciplined session players with imported latin american percussionists. this was never widely distributed abroad & has, in recent years, fetched top dollar at auction. [wax poetics](#)

blues

agnostic mountain gospel choir : ten thousand the 3rd album from the intense yet entertaining canadian punk blues artists who seasick steve declares are "his new favourite band" (& they are now labelmates). there's an indisputable tom waits influence at work here but this quartet mine the same ground as the boggs & old crow medicine show, drawing on the dark country-blues spirit of charley patton, robert johnson & son house. this fab album is a mixture of band originals & covers of blues classics & comes very highly recommended indeed for fans of charlie parr & the aforementioned. "best of all is "never be dead", a whooping celebration of life with pert, swaggering slide guitar snaking through : just one highlight from an album that sounds as old as the hills & as deep & dark as the muddy mississippi" 4/5 – independent. [bronzertat](#)

world

suarasama : fajar di atas awan 1st available from radio france internationale (rfi) in 1998 but this release is the first issue of the entire album. suarasama is a group of many members, mostly ethno-musicological musicians. founded in 1995 by irwansyah harahap & rithaony hutajulu, they are based in medan city in north sumatra, indonesia. they play contemporary music, exploring conceptually or instrumentally the sounds of african, middle eastern, indian, sufi pakistani, eastern european & southeast asian & particularly sumatran traditions. arranging this diversity of sounds & instrumentation, suarasama come up with more than the sum of their parts. [drag city](#)

reggae

v/a : tighten up vol. 1 deluxe edition (2cd) this 1969 compilation launched the legendary series that became a key factor in trojan's early success, running for just over 4 years, during which time 8 volumes in total saw issue. now, the seminal first album finally receives its due respect with this deluxe 2 cd version, which augments the original dozen tracks with their respective 'b' sides, plus a further 24 recordings released by the company during this exciting period in the history of trojan records - & jamaican music as a whole. [trojan](#)

singles

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

single of the week

bombay bicycle club : evening / morning very limited 7", only available in selected indies. [young & lost club](#)

poppy & the jezebels : ufo very limited 7", only available in selected indies. [gumball machine](#)

v/a : b-music - migrating, caustic, mutatable' tour ep series vol.1, 2, 3 & 4 v.limited 4 x 7", available individually but much better as a set! [finders keepers](#)

ghostwood : red version very limited 7", available in selected indies only. [chess club](#)

liz green : midnight blues/i do wrong limited 7". [humble soul](#)

beth jeans houghton : ep 7". [bird](#)

the verve: love is noise 2 x 7" & cd. [parlophone](#)

the cure : perfect boy 7"&cd. [polydor](#) (released 13/08/08)

bloc party : mercury cd/7"/12". [wichita](#)

the music : the spike 7". [polydor](#)

haunts : live fast die young 2 x 7". [black records](#)

r.e.m. : man-sized wreath limited 7". [warner bros](#)

the delays : keep it simple 2 x 7". [polydor](#)

pre-orders

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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.

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