

o u t t h i s w e e k

albums of the week

nurses : apple's acre (cd / lp) a euphoric yet dreamy, psychedelic pop album from portland, oregon. nurses' off-kilter psych-pop is driven by ever-swelling vocal harmonies, adventurous electronics, some serious wheelin' & dealin' on the rhodes piano & the kind of new-primitivist percussion that may or may not involve a standard drum kit. their compositions revel in the unexpected, creating music that's endlessly fascinating, much as animal collective do. part of the allure is that the songs of aaron chapman & john bowers (the cosmic troubadours & longtime best friends behind nurses, here joined by percussionist & visual artist james mitchell) are in a constant state of motion, as if they're evolving while you listen. highly recommended for fans of yeasayer, luke templeton / here we go magic, sunset rubdown & wild-minded popmusic. "delicately shambolic...the songs have a real sonic sprawl due to the space within the airy voices & the ticking, whirring electronic effects that resonate in the background mysteriously" 7.2/10 – pitchfork. [dead oceans](#)

sleeping states : in the gardens of the north one of the most beguiling releases we've heard for a while comes from the musical project of bristol-based markland starkie, armed with an electric guitar, found sounds & vocal samplers. an upbringing learning various musical instruments & classical theories, fused with a diy experimental-noise ethos is at the heart of sleeping states. yet within this experimentation & exploration there remains a regard for beautiful melodies & arrangements with the whole thing bound together by markland's exquisite voice. in the gardens of the north' has literary inspirations aplenty : opening track 'rings of saturn' is a eulogy for wg sebald while 2nd track 'the next village' is inspired by kafka. conceptually robbie basho, jorge luis borges & soundscape theorist r murray schaffer are referenced & benjamin britten is mused upon. the results are hypnotic & riveting, with markland's voice floating atop gorgeous guitar motifs & weaving mesmerising harmonies. for fans of grizzly bear (ed droste is a huge fan) or the low anthem. [bella union](#)

rock / indie / modern classical

múm : sing along to songs you don't know 2 years after the release of their 2007 masterpiece 'go go smear the poison ivy', the eccentric icelandic pop maestros return with their 5th album proper. a flickering candle of an album, this is a more laid back affair than their last outing. this time, many of the songs revolve around a lightly prepared piano, hammered dulcimer, a string quartet, marimbas, guitars, ukuleles & in the background of a few of the songs, you can also hear örvar's parents' parakeet singing with the piano! the band or group or collective or whatever people want to call it, have delivered another album of quirky pop compositions that are rather beautifully easy on the ear. part folk tinged electronica, part grand, expansive pop, this record brings to mind elements of everything from dan deacon to goldfrapp to efterklang & the sound is perfect for their return to morr music. [morr music](#)

arctic monkeys : humbug (cd / lp) arctic monkeys' 3rd album is what the critics have, it would seem, disparagingly called a 'grower' but to our mind that's no bad thing – in fact, most of the best albums are. it seems the boys have gone & grown up - they've been name checking hendrix, cream, black sabbath & nick cave but thankfully, with the help of josh homme, they haven't turned in a museum piece that gets suffocated by their influences. in fact, it could be their best album yet. it's heavier - lean & muscular rather than musclebound - & alex turner's lyrics have taken a turn down a pleasingly surrealist back alley that twists his great turn of phrase in curious & intriguing ways. from the lascivious 'my propellor' through the mean & stomping 'potion approaching' to the final 'the jeweller's hands', they don't put a foot wrong & what's most exciting is their continued blossoming into a band worth following. "a triumph of courage & impudence & one giant step forward for this country's most impressive youngsters" 8/10 - clash magazine. [domino](#)

the fall : last night at the palais (cd/dvd) in 2007, the hammersmith palais, one of london's most historic music venues, was condemned to close. by a strange quirk of fate, the last band to ever play there was the fall. their hammersmith gig on 1st april had been booked as part of their uk tour to promote the release of their 27th album, 'reformation post tlc'. it was certainly a memorable one, which is thankfully captured here, in the fall's inimitable way! never one to play a greatest hits set, smith with this 7-piece though short-lived line-up, which mixed the us & uk wings of the band (supporting smith & his keyboard-playing wife elena, were guitarists tim presley & pete greenway, bassists rob barbato & dave "the eagle" spurr & the ever-smiling opho mccord on drums) delivered a mainly recent, forthcoming & unreleased set of songs to the capacity crowd. the dvd documents the complete concert. the ultimate sending off for the historic venue. [sanctuary](#)

nudge : as good as gone (cd/lp) nudge returns with a slow burning full-length of sounds perfect for the dying days of the summer's swelter. nudge is brian foote (fontanelle) with collaborators paul dickow (strategy) & honey owens (valet) & this is his/their 2nd album on kranky. brian is also known as a producer for lotus plaza & atlas sound amongst others & here he skilfully employs these well explored talents to masterfully blur the music's entangled live & programmed approaches, to the point of imperceptibility. layer upon layer of synth, guitar & vocals are draped over skeletal pop structures & anchored by dub bass-lines born of resin-stained fingers. blissful ambient dub post-rock soul pop – spot on! this is yet another fine outing on the kranky label that comes very highly recommended. [kranky](#)

the fiery furnaces : i'm going away (cd / limited indies only lp) the friedberger's have always done an expert job of confounding their critics & fans with every release while still managing to sound like nothing but themselves, & their 8th record is no exception. it has been billed as their most straight ahead record & this is clearly true – but everything is relative! they have stripped their sound back to basics & the songs are the most direct they have been since their debut. they never could expunge all the dramatic time changes & lyrical verbosity but who would want them to? for those who have long claimed they have been burying their pop hook nous under so many time changes & about-faces this record is vindication. *"the fiery furnaces abandon their surrealist tendencies to work outside their comfort zone, experimenting with structure & euphony to reassert their status as our most vital musical siblings"* – nme. [thrill jockey](#)

mew : no more stories are told... 'no more stories are told today, i'm sorry they washed away, no more stories the world is grey, i'm tired let's wash away', to give it its full, preposterously unwieldy title, is the 5th album from the danish progressive indie-dream-pop-rockers, following 2005's critically lauded '& the glass handed kites'. while it is happier & more upbeat than its predecessor, featuring some of the band's most accessible material to date, fans should not fear that they have abandoned their typically unusual songwriting structures & arrangements. recorded in new york during the summer of 2008 by top producer rich costey (muse, glasvegas, nin), mew have pushed their artfully weird & epic sound-labyrinthine & sugary heaven-bound vocals into a warm, accessible collection of songs with more stick-in-your-head hooks than words in its extensive album title. for fans of everyone from m83 or engineers to passion pit & mgmt. [columbia](#)

jj : no.2 (limited import) following a rave pitchfork review, we have had a flurry of demand for this album, so we asked the label to send some over the water. it seems very little is known about the band other than that they are signed to the gothenburg, sweden-based, tough alliance-owned label & that this is their debut full length release. wikipedia & google could get us no further so, that leaves us with the music. this is a lovely, light summery album that floats on a similar warm jetstream as air france's balearic pop but they also explore the tribal ambience of high places' hazy beauty, ennio morricone strings & the tweeness of the iconic sarah records & with the charming little interspersions of giggles & claps, the whole thing feels beautifully intimate. to be honest, the pitchfork review says all this better than we can but this is well worthy of repeated listens & comes highly recommended. *"pretty, touching, funny & motivating, in different ways, in all the right places...jj excel just as much at strummy intimacy as they do at lavish blissouts"* 8.6/10 – pitchfork. [sincerely yours](#)

solid gold : bodies of water (upfront copies, available in selected shops only) this minneapolis outfit make downbeat dance music, sad synth-pop, melancholy club tracks, which might sound like a contradiction in terms but not to those of you who have, over the past 25 years, appreciated artists from pet shop boys to junior boys. this is music for the mourning after the failed night out before. it's pretty dour & dark for dance music - the synthesizers are thick, the percussion punchy & aggressive & the vocals distant & eerie.. like junior boys, solid gold have released an album's worth of exquisitely doleful disco. it's got the same breathy, wispy, not androgynous but drained-of-passion male vocals as junior boys' debut 'last exit'. minor-key synth chords, choirboy sighs, glitches, jerks, feedback & more are thrown into this pot of gold that's getting tons of attention in the blogosphere. [solid gold](#)

the soundtrack of our lives : communion (2cd) never judge a record by its cover – this lot better hope we don't anyway! while it would be easy to lump these swedes in with the slew of pseudo-garage acts that rose to prominence after the white stripes broke big in the early 2000s, to do so would be to overlook the various members' decades-long service to the swedish rock 'n' roll underground. tsool formed in the mid-90s following the dissolution of the legendary union carbide productions. both bands shared a penchant for classic 60s sounds & punk's aesthetic sturm und drang. however, tsool are marked by a decidedly more accessible touch. their 5th album offers an epic 90 minutes of material that flits from hook-laden, psych-heavy guitar rock, a layered 60s-style uptempo pop that owes as much to ray davies & the kinks, to the grandness of arthur lee & love, as well as townshend's gang, syd barrett's floyd & the crunchy, soaring guitar rock of television. however, as drenched in the past as this music is, it is utterly contemporary, relevant & exhilarating. [raw power uk](#)

nodzzz : nodzzz (cd release – vinyl already out) this is hipper than thou/hotter than whatever new spuzz out from the usa.....please welcome nodzzz, from san francisco, ca. they're sweet dudes with an even sweeter sound. the group's self-titled debut is a real grower, with 10 new songs in a markedly more pop direction than their self released 2007 single suggested, whilst still maintaining their lo-fi pop aesthetic. you can hear 3 guys examining where punk became something more, between notions of power pop & advanced songwriting on the embarrassment/big dipper/pointed sticks axis, but with the economy of the minutemen or beat happening. they're in & out before you know it (these 10 songs clock in at under 16 minutes), having firmly planted the seeds of catchy melodies between your ears. *"where other groups look to nuggets & back from the grave for inspiration, these guys draw upon stiff records, pub rock & the earliest british new wave of the 70s - nick lowe & elvis costello are accurate reference points"* - pitchfork. [whats your rupture?](#)

black boned angel : verdun (limited) sharing a similarly bleak ground to corrupted, sunn 0))) & earth, new zealand's black boned angel return with their 4th full length & perhaps their most sombre & fully-realised work to date. 'verdun' was the longest battle & one of the most devastating in world war 1 & indeed in history. over the course of 50 minutes, bba soundtrack that brutal conflict with their trademark dark ambient drones & doom-laden riffs. the cd version of this release contains an exclusive extra piece entitled 'tears strike the mile high gong'. [riot season](#)

desolation wilderness : new universe swooning guitars, found sounds, synthesizer trills, forward percussion & dream vocals – this is the beautiful 2nd full-length album by desolation wilderness. after extensive touring, this album is the labour of a restless engine - postcards from being constantly on the move. the record alternates between lonely sounds & the euphoria of freedom & distance – like an empty, foggy beach in the early morning. it's a rather lovely & enticing set of gauzy sonics that call to mind galaxie 500, spacemen 3 & the likes of. *"they simultaneously strive for vastness & intimacy, splitting the difference between the complexity of pop's masters of yesteryear like spacemen 3, my bloody valentine or the magnetic fields, & today's single-minded bedroom 4-track heroes"* – dusted, *"like relaxing in a beach house with some wind chimes, a guitar & a million different effects pedals...every song like its own mini beach vacation"* - the fader. [k records](#)

imogen heap : ellipse (standard cd or deluxe 2cd - very limited hardback edition with 28 page colour booklet, with lyrics/pictures & bonus cd of instrumental tracks) the british singer-songwriter-producer & 2 time grammy nominee, releases her much anticipated new solo album. swirling vocals run powerfully through this downtempo set, with surprising twists & turns. one for fans of sia, dido, the bird & the bee or feist. *"her 3rd solo album adds teaspoons of ice & melancholy to an otherwise comforting brew, then melts them away, recalling the postal service's mix of the human & machinelike"* – spin, *"an understated vocalist, heap sounds by turns warm & inviting & mistily detached...lovely stuff"* - guardian. [epic](#)

fruit bats : the ruminant band over the course of 3 records, eric d. johnson's fruit bats have been employing bright melodies, defiantly major-key chord structures & natural imagery mixed with the occasional blazing insight & tender observation. they have never shied away from darkness but, more uncommon in this day & age, they've equally refused to shy away from light. with 'the ruminant band', this tradition continues in characteristically rich & involving fashion. from the barn-floor stomp of 'hobo girl' & the fleetwood mac-esque shimmy of the title track to the propulsive yet spacious 70s country-rock jam 'tegucigalpa' & the parlour piano soft-shoe of 'flamingo', this record hits all those notes that the fleet foxes, the acorn & beach house have made so popular in recent times. in fact, this sounds like a bella union signing all over & will undoubtedly please fans of any of the aforementioned. [sub pop](#)

pete molinari : today, tomorrow & forever ep pete molinari is back with his first new recordings since his breakthrough 2nd album - 2008's highly acclaimed 'a virtual landslide'. this 7 track ep features 4 of his live favourites - covers of 'today, tomorrow & forever', 'satisfied mind', 'guilty' & 'tennessee waltz' - all backed up by the extraordinary vocal talents of the georgettes & the legendary jordanares! the 3 remaining tracks provide, for the first time on cd, the b-sides from his last three 7" singles. *"the soul of american music distilled into the voice of a cuban-heeled greaser from the medway delta"* – guardian, *"a singular talent...his distinctive voice & guitar establish him as a medway hank williams. worth investigating"* – uncut, *"sweet-voiced blues-folk...a cherishable artefact even before you fall under the spell of the actual music"* – nme. [damaged goods](#)

ramona falls : intuit ramona falls is the 1st solo venture of brent knopf – one 3rd of shop favourites menomona & by the sound of it, he has had things tough on the relationship front. 'intuit' explores those age old themes of love, loss, exploration of life & one's self - from the internal struggle to follow one's heart in the song 'i say fever', to the drowning dream & betrayal imagery of 'salt sack,' to the bittersweet & delicate album finale of 'diamond shovel.' there are echoes of menomona through out, as you would expect, but ramona falls is altogether more organic than knopf's fulltime gig. with help from 35 or so friends (including members of the helio sequence, mirah, 31 knots, talkdemonic, dear reader & matt sheehy) he has produced a record that is full of tightly arranged songs with an acute attention to detail that blends acoustic & electronic elements that feel at once surreal & real, both strange & familiar. *"knopf's talent is extremely evident throughout 'intuit' ... outstanding album"* 4/5 - obscure sound. [souterrain transmissions](#)

dinosaur pile up : the most powerful ep in the universe (mini album) this leeds based trio affirm their riff-driven roots on their debut mini album, having received rave press from kerrang, the fly, the guardian & many more. working in the studio with leeds based knob twiddler james kenosha (pulled apart by horses, grammatics) to record this modestly titled & double-exclamation-marked ep, they have come up trumps. sounding like a happy melting pot of the early 90s output of queens of the stone age, weezer & foo fighters, they may be severely indebted but they have formed a strong enough sound to stand their own ground. *"dragging weezer's grunge-punk synthesis kicking & screaming into the 00's...dinosaur pile-up have got tons of what righteous dudes have called 'sweet riffs'"* – nme, *"the band to fill that void & make rock n' roll as dark, sexy & thrilling as it should be"* - rock sound. [friends vs records](#)

laudanum : the coronation the band's sophomore full-length sees their world-eating heaviness fully realised. joining the husband-&-wife duo of judd hawk & becky hawk are greg wilkinson (low-end frequency discharge, vocal disruption & auditory experimentation) & nathan misterek. misterek, widely known as vocalist for the legendary graves at sea, adds an element of occult grimness previously absent from laudanum's corrosive noise-doom wasteland - the final piece in the puzzle. on 'the coronation', punishing, bruised sludge doom & bleak industrial noise experiments are fused ever more tightly together into a cohesive soundtrack for the slow collapse of modern life & culture. the intense low-frequency pummel of wilkinson's bass rumble is itself an apparent cause for some of this collapse, such is its massive, earth-shaking power. becky's crushing drum beats deliver sheer intensity & brute force; judd's repetitive, stone-slab riffs carry the weight of the world & misterek's vocals, colliding with becky's, coat the whole thing with a mournful oppression. [20 buck spin](#)

athlete : black swan (cd/deluxe 2cd with bonus disc of 7 extra new tracks) the south east londoners worked on their new album 'black swan' with esteemed american producer tom rothrock (foo fighters, eliott smith, elbow, beck), who'd been convinced to come along for the ride after falling in love with some acoustic demos. a poppier, more immediate album than anything they have ever done before, 'black swan' apparently comes from a desire for "getting the songs across as much as we could" & the band seem to have succeeded here. a distinct 80's influence is also prevalent, with a heavy use of synths. "generous servings of crescendo-&-strings guitar music...joel pott & co hope to follow fellow fiction emigres elbow in going supersonic on a self-made record" - guardian. [fiction](#)

lovelikefire : tear ourselves away (upfront indies release) san francisco alt. rock quartet lovelikefire unleash their dramatic debut album. lovelikefire is the brainchild of las vegas born, san francisco based ann yu who trained as a classical violinist. when she left home, she moved into a downtown apartment with members of the killers, sharing their garage rehearsal space in the heart of las vegas. it is those sub conscious sounds absorbed during that time that step forward on 'tear ourselves away', to produce an ambitious record of huge scope & dynamic but with a more delicate, controlled touch than the ex-house mates. it is a sound that simmers in a darkly brooding territory in a similar way to howling bells or the duke spirit, before it twists & turns into a different shape altogether. yu's vocal is rich in its reflective delivery & veers from the tender to the lush & aggressive - equal parts mazy star's hope sandoval & yeah yeah yeah's karen o. [heist or hit](#)

the hat : heart string & headtime stories so the much-loved brighton band finally release their debut album, just after playing their last ever gigs & announcing their retirement. from any other band you'd be scratching your head over the logic at play here but from the hat, frankly it's no suprise. never ones for conforming or pigeon-holing, their sound is a groundbreaking, joyously life-affirming blend of storytelling, rock, jazz, bebop & beyond, with each song being a pocket musical odyssey in its own right, where barbed stories are set to noir-ish symphonies of the highest calibre. frontman dan clark is our guide to this weird & wonderful world - his smoke-stained vocal delivery at times reminiscent of the likes of tom waits & ken nordine, backed by all manner of instruments including trumpet, guitar, double bass, trombone & vocal scratching. all in all it's a highly inventive, yet very accessible debut. with a band as great as the hat i have a sneaky suspicion this won't be the last we hear of them. [the hat](#)

the bottle rockets : lean forward suffused with the determination & resilience of their distinctly midwestern roots, this is a flat out, smoking rock record. 'lean forward' continues the rockets' creative resurgence ignited by 2006's 'zoysia'. reunited with producer eric "roscoe" ambel (who ran the knobs on their seminal albums 'the brooklyn side' & '24 hours a day'), the bottle rockets do what no other band does better - populist anthems with the sympathetic eye of woody guthrie & the sonic stomp of crazy horse. they are songs that demand the windows be rolled down & the volume turned up. "one of the best albums of the year so far" 9/10 - classic rock. [bloodshot](#)

remi nicole : cupid shoot me remi nicole's 2nd album takes on a vision of 50s doo wop & 60s girl groups, re-imagined by the north londoner. evoking the sounds of the shirelles, the supremes & carole king's teenage songwriting tenure at the brill building, this is both a celebration of a classic era of vintage pure pop songwriting & a modern channelling of a classic sound back through an album of saturday night drive-in pop. the album comprises 11 songs, all delivering a varsity-jacketed girl-gang, diner-hanging, 'will you still love me tomorrow' mix of bubblegum & heartbreak, singalong melody & pain. for fans of v v brown. [island](#)

chooglin' : sweet time it's a verb, baby - as in, to choogle. just check your creedence american dictionary, it's right there : "to ball & have a good time". or better yet, check the minneapolis octet that bears the name. to them, chooglin' means the soul train getting robbed by the james gang, kiss on 78 speed & the mc5 tearing into blood, sweat & tears. all at once. with a bleating horn section & ferocious guitar playing, the band is a boogie-rock juggernaut that has the guts & the skills to deliver greasy, proto-stax soul with as much power & conviction as their relentless, riff-driven rockers. for fans of the aforementioned, or on a more modern tip, the detroit cobras or the dirtbombs. "the 4-piece utilizes garage-borne punk fury to remind us of the ass-shaking salvation once offered by the boogie-down guitar rock of the 70s...theirs is the sound of workaday shackles rapidly evaporating into a rank steam of spilled beer & hormones" - austin chronicle. [big legal mess](#)

v/a : chimera music release no.0 (severely limited, indies only import) the 14 track / 52 minute japanese import cd, previews a half dozen exciting new forthcoming projects on the adventurous new (new york / toyko based) label. 10 of the 14 tracks are exclusive to this compilation. a selection of tracks from the likes of if by yes, sean lennon, the g.o.a.s.t.t., yoko ono plastic ono band & more. mom returns to kick more ass! with nyc jazz musicians daniel carter, shahzad ismailly, indigo street & others. [chimera music](#)

bloc party : intimacy (new version) as seems to be the band's standard practice these days, they have re-released a new version of their latest album with an additional track, the new single 'one more chance'. the follow up to 'a weekend in the city' sees bloc party continue to build a bigger & more polished sound. it feels like they're fully adjusted to their arena status & ready to go stadium. whilst all the old elements are still there, this time they show that last year's 'flux' was no one off. almost the whole album is steeped in elements of dance or electronica, from opener 'ares' with its chemical brothers style block rockin' beats, through 'mercury's horns & effects to the glitch of 'biko'. lyrically, kele, recently single again, is as miserable as vocal inspiration robert smith until the mood changes on closer 'ion square' described by mojo as "a moment of clarity amid the bleakness....possibly the loveliest song bloc party have ever recorded". [polydor](#)

emiliana torrini : rarities a must for any fan's collection, 'rarities' features acoustic versions of tracks from emiliana's criminally overlooked debut album, 'love in the time of science'. the record features remixes by rae & christian & junior sanchez. if, like us, you can't get enough of this beautiful italian/icelandic songstress, then this will be a welcome addition to your collection. "emiliana torrini's 1999 debut album 'love in the time of science' remains one of the most underrated gems in recent memory. lushly produced by tears for fears' roland orzabal, the album was a sumptuous piece of techno-pop, the gorgeous arrangements acting as a perfect backdrop to the young, eccentric italian-icelandic singer-songwriter" – popmatters. [one little indian](#)

blitzen trapper : black river killer ep as the title would lead one to believe, 'the black river killer' ep contains the disturbing & great song 'black river killer' from blitzen trapper's excellent 2008 full-length album 'furr'. what is perhaps less evident from the title is that it also contains 6 more songs that have been, up to now, only available as a cdr that blitzen trapper has been selling at their live performances for the past year or so. now these additional gems are available to all, on this 7 track ep. [sub pop](#)

lost & found : everybody's here one of the most influential independent record companies of its day, international artists has gained cult status over the years, particularly amongst fans of prime american psychedelic & garage rock. the label is best known for the output of its flagship act the 13th floor elevators, but the label released other albums of ground-breaking texas psychedelia. lost & found emerged from the mid-60s houston scene & roky erickson introduced the band to lelan rogers of international artists, who promptly signed them. they then recorded their only album, 'everybody's here'. rightly regarded a psych classic, it features great fuzz guitars & a healthy dose of psychedelic weirdness & now includes 3 bonus non-album tracks. the rigid digibook's bound-in 16-page illustrated booklet features an authoritative overview of the band & its music as well as reproductions of the album's original notes. [snapper](#)

endle st. cloud : thank you very much endle st. cloud were formed in texas (one of the members rising from the ashes of lost & found) in 1968 & this was the group's only album, released by international artists in early 1970. endle st. cloud's sound ranges from good time blues to country rock with a leaning towards the heavy, not unlike that of their west coast contemporaries moby grape. this deluxe, limited edition digi-book re-issue of this highly-regarded psych classic includes 2 bonus non-album tracks. the rigid digibook's bound- in 16-page illustrated booklet comprises an authoritative overview of the band & its music. [snapper](#)

colin hay : american sunshine while colin hay's voice & visage are familiar to millions as front-man, songwriter, & vocalist of men at work ('down under', 'overkill', 'who can it be now?' – come on, you know!), the past ten years have found him quietly re-introducing himself to a new generation of fans. the frequent uses of his music on soundtracks— including the sitcom scrubs & the film garden state—have proven the timeless appeal of his songs: quizzical, curious, cynical yet open-hearted. 'american sunshine' is a multifaceted portrait of a performer, songwriter, & recording artist. "my last record was the first new album i'd done in a long time," he explains. "in a way, it felt like my first solo album. i'm still learning, & i learned a lot on that record. this one is definitely a step up in terms of the quality of the songs & the sounds we captured." [compass](#)

v/a : el mexican rock & roll vol.1 the title says it all & it's all that need be said but let's expound a little more. when the rhythm of rock & roll crossed the mexican border in 1955, it wasn't through young bands but by experienced musicians used to playing anything new coming from the other side of rio grande. in the case of rock & roll, this gave birth to various ways of understanding & playing it - some of them different to the original & others loyal to it but with a latin flavour. this disc tries to reunite these artists who in the 1st years of rock & roll created new songs & covers recreating the rhythm coming from the north helping to spread it across mexico. [el toro](#)

v/a : wayfaring strangers - lonesome heroes the 3rd in the numero group's wayfaring stranger series holds the magnifying glass up to the singer/songwriter troubadour scene that sprang up in the late 60s – inspired by the likes of charlie patton & woody guthrie & brought to life by dylan, lennon & mccartney, fred neil & others. others may have had modest success in their folkie incarnations but the 17 artists represented here are those that fell through the cracks – some never played a single gig, others are gigging to this day. they may have travelled down different paths but the results are assuredly sombre, dark, & meditative expressions reliant on one guitar, one voice, & one's own words. the hushed, intense & occasionally rapturous songs collected here could easily have launched these artists to success on a par with tim buckley, john martyn, cat stevens & other like-minded artists & they certainly deserve to be in their company. recommended. [the numero group](#)

tim buckley : live at the folklore center, nyc - march 6th, 1967 this previously unreleased recording was captured by folk impresario izzy young at his famed folklore center, which served as a nexus for up-&-coming singer-songwriters during the folk boom of the late 60s. the entire night's concert, performed in front of about 35 people, is presented in its original running order of 16 songs, 6 of which are tim buckley compositions that have never appeared on any studio or live album. the album has been mastered from the original tapes by grammy-winning engineers steve rosenthal, warren russell-smith & jamie howarth & also includes an unpublished interview with buckley conducted by young in 1967, along with new notes from young. this is the earliest live recording in print & it showcases buckley in an intimate, solo acoustic setting, highlighting his magical guitar playing & soaring vocal style. "this one-mike mono verite gives us our earliest glimpse of the young troubadour in performance & in the process of evolving" 4/5 – [mojo](#). [tompkins square](#)

rocket from the crypt : all systems go 2 some years after the initial collection, this follow-up to the first 'all systems go' follows the same method as the original. alongside a slew of b-sides from british singles taken from their "regular" albums like 'scream, dracula, scream', any number of one-offs, contributions to split singles & compilations & more, are again assembled, an amazing 25 songs worth of great times. with jc 2000 on board throughout (1 or 2) early cuts aside, the distinct horn attack that makes rocket such a treat is on full display. everything from almost winsome pop to nuclear-strength guitar obliteration gets the rocket treatment here. [sympathy for the record industry](#)

merzbow : 13 japanese birds vol 7: kujakubato (limited) merzbow's 13 japanese birds is a 13 month series of releases inspired by olivier messaien's 'catalogue d'oiseaux'. beginning in january 2009 one volume of '13 japanese birds' is being released each month. the 13th & final volume will be released january 2010. each volume will be a one time pressing of 1000 copies. [important records](#)

richmond fontaine : winnemucca (reissue) this long time out of print record from 2002 combines elements of country & folk music. the members of richmond fontaine provide a compelling backdrop for the heart wrenching tales of lead singer willy vlautin. his carver-esque lyrics bring a vision of the west which is both vital & compelling. bleak characters occupy the songs, ready to break out of the prison everyday life has brought them. wistful pedal steel, melodic bass, jazz inflected drumming & ringing electric guitar. coming from the same domain as ryan adams, gram parsons & wilco, this portland, or, group's 4th album provides a great escape from suburbia [el cortex](#)

richmond fontaine : lost son (reissue) the long time out of print 'lost son' from 1999, is a beautiful album - a collection of narratives whose characters are both fascinating & doomed. from the kid of 'cascade' to the security guard of 'pinkerton', the subjects of the songs move through despair & hope. musically, the album is just as compelling : the loud, ragged guitars & pounding drums of 'mule', 'savior of time' & 'muddy conscience' often give way to quiet acoustics, mandolins & pedal steel. the overall effect is a rich, textured record. like a son volt that manages to rock while at the same time delivering slow songs that never come across as dirge-like, richmond fontaine is one of portland, or's best exports & 'lost son' is certainly one of their finer works. [el cortex](#)

dance/electronica

zomby : one foot ahead of the other (cd & lp) since releasing his debut album late last year zomby has gone from being one-to-watch to one-to-keep-a-very-keen-eye on. each release has been eagerly anticipated & salivated over. 'one foot ahead' proves to be no exception as he continues to pepper his spastic r'n'b infected grime, dubstep & bassline tunes with rave. these tunes are generally 4/4 but zomby pushes & pulls them every which way, contorting them as best he can & it appears there may be a few ghosts in his machines - specifically those of early games consoles. "shooting lasers from every orifice & dripping psychoactive sweat all over the dancefloor... one of the best records you'll hear this year." - boomkat. [records](#)

hindzy d : bass speaks louder than words grimy fella hindzy d delivers a rukkus of instrumentals & a couple of vocal cuts featuring crazy d & baba blk star. this is from the low riding skool of grime production, favouring a sublow bass & sci-fi dub aesthetic over hyper staccato rhythms & manic beats. from the menacing, snaking pulse of 'dusky' to the buzzy 'knockout', the b-lines do indeed do much of the talking. dub reggae, electro & drum & bass collaborate through hindzy's trademark minimal style - with musical elements woven atmospherically into intriguingly abstract & oblique rhythms. [dub inject](#)

felix da housecat : he was king possibly the best paid cat on the planet, felix returns with an album chock-full of electro-pop anthems. as you'd expect it's all aimed squarely at the dancefloor but still has a catchy pop element that makes it easily digestible. opener 'we all wanna be prince' is felix's own electro tribute to the purple one, whilst elsewhere 'kickdrum' lays down a dirty, distorted half-speed groove, giving a an ominous touch to proceedings. fans of the likes vitalic, miss kittin & tiga need look no further. [netzwerk](#)

neil landstrumm : bambaataa eats his breakfast following from his rustie rerub on stuff earlier this year, this new album tackles tipsy 8-bit funk, glowing grime melodies & ruddy rave post-techno, all analog style. 'the coconut kestral' starts up with a dubstep shaped riddim enveloping cheeky computer game melodies with a g-funkin twist, 'eva' comes off like slightly twee idm, 'can't see me' & 'say 'n do' feat. profisee sound like agitated versions of harmonic 313 & '6 at le mans' completes the game with a flourish of bass steppin' arcade fun. if you're into slugabed, rustie or randy barracuda, check this! [planet mu](#)

private domain : private domain there seems to be quite a love-in going on at the moment between the contemporary electronic producers of today & the old classical masters of the past, as recently illustrated by moritz von oswald & carl craig's reworking of music by ravel & mussorgsky. following the same path is this compilation, which features re-arrangements of classical composers bach, schubert, purcell, mozart & more by some of the electronic genre's most creative minds including para one, murcof & marc collin (nouvelle vague). the result is part switched-on bach, part contemporary classical ambience, with murcof undoubtedly providing the album's highlights with his beautifully haunting renditions of 'amor' by monteverdi & 'death & maiden' by schubert. [naïve](#)

v/a : brownswood bubblers four compiled by gilles peterson every year tastemaker, dj, label boss & a&r man gilles peterson compiles his favourite tracks of the last twelve months. peterson traverses styles from laidback hip hop thru nu-soul, jazz, african & latin pop & so many places inbetween. it's a beautifully compiled set of laidback summer grooves in various incarnations – the man is not known as a tastemaker for nothing! it's hard to pick a highlight out of a compilation that is compiled from so many highlights from great records. if you know his radio show then you know the drill & if you don't, be assured that if you want to chill out, then you have come to the right place. [brownswood recordings](#)

fontän : winterwila from the same stable that brought you studio & d. lissvik comes another balearic kraut-disco odyssey, this time from the production duo of jesper jarold & jahin melin. after a semi-ambient opening sequence on 'backstugu' layering meandering electric guitar leads & softened up synth textures, along comes the more pronouncedly funky up '... you too', which cruises along with spandau ballet basslines & slightly out of place slide guitar phrases, all set within a context of motorised discoid beats. even better is 'early morning', whose dissolved vocals & rampant guitar soloing make for a classic case of something enormously cool arising from a convolution of several deeply uncool things. one for fans of cosmic-disco, prog & chart-bothering synth-funk alike. [information records](#)

sally shapiro : my guilty pleasure sweden's disco queen sally shapiro returns with her 2nd album. whilst her 1st effort was pre-occupied with the italo sounds of old, this one's all about euro-trance & hero-disco, rife with electro arpeggations & cycling-top tight melodies with a fluoro finish. the highlight has to be her cover of nicolas makelberge's 'dying in africa', pushing the emo-buttons like a expert ninja finding your chi points, which beautifully leads into the already classic 'jackie jackie'. end track 'miracle' brings things to a melodramatic close to an epic nightdrive of an album, all saccharine saturated synths & open heart emotions. definitely a good stop gap until the new annie album arrives. [permanent vacation](#)

hip hop

the heliocentrics : fallen angels - the singles collection fresh off their 'inspiration information' collaboration with ethiopian jazz legend mulatu astatke, the best songs from malcom catto & the heliocentrics12" singles have been compiled for a strictly limited edition cd album. catto has long been in demand as a drummer & the heliocentrics blistering chops have found favour with the stonies throw crew & much of the underground hip hop scene evidenced by collaborations included here like 'distant star' featuring mf doom & percee p, guilty simpson's 'before i die' & 'sirius b' (remix) with vast aire. alongside these are further cuts that run the gamut from deep jazz to deep funk & deep psychedelia on the epic nearly title track, 'vibration of the fallen angels'. this album was made primarily for release in japan but a very small quantity has been made available for the uk. [now-again](#)

v/a : bass brains a sterling compilation celebrating all strains of contemporary bass music; from berlin's dingy raves & the bohemian bars of paris to the hot streets of miami & london's dubstep laboratories, all are united for their love of pure, gut-shaking low-end frequencies. artists featured here include yo!majesty, terry lynch, pole, ben mono, robot koch & datamc, with many of the tracks exclusive to this compilation. truly bass heavy cuts that can't fail to nice up the dance. [brd bass](#)

dj magic : no hats no hoods edition 1 as co-creator & resident dj at london's leading grime night 'dirty canvas' dj magic has been instrumental in opening the music up to a much wider audience, as well as providing a platform for up & coming artists such as chipmunk to hone their crafts. the grime scene's current dynamism & breadth is thoroughly explored on this excellent mix with veteran artists like wiley, kano & d double e featured here, as well as rapidly rising stars like chipmunk, ice kid & griminal. the number of exclusives is also sure to have grime fanatics chomping at the bit - jammer, badness, frisco & chipmunk are just a few of the heavyweight mcs that drop verses you wont hear anywhere else. [no hats no hoods](#)

micall parksun : first second time around it's been 4 eventful years since micall parksun's critically lauded 'working class dad' gained him widespread respect from the uk hip hop underground. since then, parky has honed & perfected his trademark sound, inspired by the happiness of seeing his family grow. with musical guidance from jehst, parky has been able to continually drop scene stealing guest verses & leave audiences spellbound by his live persona. this, his sophomore effort, bangs in the club, booms in the car & bumps in your headphones, with a style of forward thinking uk hip hop that re-affirms parksun's position as the hardest spitting working class dad in the game. includes guest spots from jehst & kashmere. [ynr productions](#)

soul/funk

v/a : german funk fieber vol.2 a compilation of sought-after german funk & infectious rare grooves from the 1970s. vol.1 introduced this mysterious german funk virus into the world & since then, the fever has rolled on unabated, on vol. 2 we get the funkier moments of all time classic "krauty schlager wonders" such as joy fleming, manfred krug or kati kovacs (including the classic sought-after 'get up stand up' by malcolm's locks) & the orchestrated big band funk from maestro james last, les humphries or fredy brock. all in all, 13 of these 18 tracks appear on cd for the very first time & none have appeared on compilations before. [show up](#)

the rivingtons : papa oom mow mow the rivingtons secured their place in musical history when their first 45 reached the top half of the billboard hot 100 in the summer of 1962 & the instantly catchy title 'papa oom mow mow' turned every listener into a sing-a-long bass voice. the group followed this with their own answer-disc, 'mama oom mow mow' & went on to capture the dance-craze market with 'the bird is the word' - a crossover hit in spring 1963. the rivingtons were more than just a rock n roll novelty group however & at the dawn of the soul era, produced a number of superb deep soul ballads, of which 'i'm losing my grip' & 'deep water' have long been hard-to-find classics of their genre. the pedigree of featured vocalists al frazier & carl white stretches back deep into the doo-wop era. this very welcome repress of this extensive cd brings together all of the group's recordings for liberty, from the early 1960s. [shout!](#)

osibisa : the very best of the brainchild of teddy osei, a ghanaian sax player, composer, & drummer who came to london to study music, osibisa were 70's pioneers, a breakthrough african world music act before the term was coined. their mix of african (especially highlife) & caribbean forms made them a sensation in the mid 70s, one that conquered the world with their soulful, crossover sound. this superb 17 track collection has been compiled by leader teddy & includes gems 'music for gong gong', 'woyaya', 'dance the body music' & many more. features original artwork from long-time collaborator & renowned pop artist roger dean – he of yes cover fame. [golden stool](#)

osibisa : osee yee the line-up may have seen a personnel change here & there but osibisa's new album 'osee yee' declares business as usual! the template they laid down on their 1st record back in 1971 holds true as they continue to forge their own unique sound from the building blocks of the western & african influences of highlife, jazz, soul & rock. on a foundation of heavy tribal rhythms they mix all these ingredients into a joyous whole. features original artwork from long-time collaborator & renowned pop artist roger dean. [golden stool](#)

blues

watermelon slim : escape from the chicken coop slim's latest album is something of a departure – he largely leaves his blues behind for country. it is an album of truck driving songs dedicated to the father of truck driving country, dave dudley. & slim knows a thing or two about them trucks – he supported his family for many years driving up & down the routes of america & he would write truck driving songs to while away the time on his long haul journeys, so this is the real deal! the album features the best musicians in nashville & was recorded in the same studio as 'o brother, where art thou?' yet it's fair to say these songs still have that wonderfully loose, ragged & wry blues feel that slim has always done so well. "affirming, joyous, & appropriately somber by turns" – *allmusicguide*. "watermelon slim incarnates the deepest & truest roots of american music...a one-of-a-kind pickin' & singin' okie dynamo" –jerry wexler. [northernblues music](#)

v/a : the best of howlin' wolf 1951-1958 (3cd + dvd) this set revolves around legendary bluesman howlin' wolf & other artists that influenced him. collecting wolf's finest recordings, made between 1951 & 1958 over 2 cds, the 3rd cd features artists that influenced the wolf including charlie patton, sonny boy williamson, leroy carr, elmore james, skip james, jimie rogers & many more. the dvd features interviews with bob brozman, guy davis, sid griffin, charlie musselwhite, paul oliver & charles shaar murray. howlin' wolf, along with muddy waters, defined the chicago sound of the 50s & influenced generations of would be rock stars in the process. whereas muddy waters filtered the country blues of son house & robert johnson through his amplifier & into the ears of the world, wolf built on the foundations laid down by the original architect of the delta blues, charley patton. [proper box](#)

john hammond : rough & tough a well-travelled blues troubadour, the latest recording (his 36th) by john hammond features him with just his guitars & harmonica revisiting songs by the likes of muddy waters, howlin' wolf & blind willie mctell, plus a couple of originals & even a cover of 'chattanooga choo choo'. critics have described hammond as a white robert johnson & on 'rough & tough', hammond does justice to classic blues by combining powerful guitar & harmonica playing with expressive vocals & a dignified stage presence. son of legendary columbia records producer john hammond ii, hammond has been immersed in the blues since the mid-60s. along the way, he has recorded with such legendary figures as dr. john, duane allman, charlie musselwhite & members of the band but is best-known as the solo guitar man, harmonica slung in a rack around his neck, reinterpreting classic blues songs from the 1930s, 40s & 50s. [chesky](#)

country

willie nelson : american classic the septuagenarian outlaw countryman's latest record has been billed a follow-up to 1978's 'stardust' on which he put away the country & folk to tackle the great american songbook & as the label & title would suggest, this time round he plans to tackle the songbook in the jazz idiom. the great man applies that staggeringly easy & actually quite seductive voice to classics such as 'fly me to the moon', 'ain't misbehavin'', 'always on my mind' ably assisted by upcoming (well, to him anyway!) singers diana krall & norah jones. [blue note](#)

v/a : the essential charlie poole (4cd) 4 cd set covering the legendary charlie poole & those that surfaced around him. charley poole helped sow the seeds of country & bluegrass music - he was the original country outlaw, an archetype that set the standard for the likes of johnny cash, townes van zandt, steve earle & many more. contains a booklet with extensive notes & pictures [proper box](#)

sam baker : cotton the 3rd album from sam baker delivers stories of splendour, struggle & beauty. the final chapter in the 'pretty world' trilogy, 'cotton' joins its predecessors in coming to terms with surviving a terrorist attack & accepting a return to life. 'cotton' explores the struggle to understand forgiveness & its absence. his jagged vocals tell stories of ordinary people - a field worker, a young mennonite, a serving girl, a travelling nazarene, a young mother to be - each joined one to another & each joined to every one of us in our great community. these songs incorporate piano & pedal steel into beautiful lush landscapes that reveal a perhaps even rawer vocal from baker than ever before. [music road records](#)

joe henry : blood from stars for more than 2 decades, grammy-winning producer joe henry has worked with some of the most celebrated names in music, from ornette coleman & elvis costello to ani difranco & madonna. most recently, henry produced allen toussaint's 'the bright mississippi' & ramblin' jack Elliott's 'a stranger here', both of which found veteran artists exploring classic blues songs. with his work as a producer & a songwriter overlapping & informing one another, it is only natural that the blues found their way onto henry's 'blood from stars' & opened up a new part of joe's own songwriting - joe at his most visceral, passionate & raw. filled with murmuring samples lend the proceedings a dreamy, fragmented & cinematic feel, the record features marc ribot on guitar & jazz pianist jason moran. [anti](#)

folk

woodpecker wooliams : diving down diving down is the debut full length album from brighton based multi instrumentalist gemma williams aka woodpecker wooliams. it has one foot delicately in acid folk & the other planted firmly in the seventies folk revival. recorded in an 800 year old cottage below a devonshire castle, it is an album of magic & of yarn, where you can still hear the spit & crackle of the fire & possibly some whispers from the ancient cottage walls. the album's clockwork rhythms, plucked strings, chimes, whistles & whirs echo the domesticity that bjork was trying to express with 'vespertine' & gemma's high tremulous vocals - equal parts joanna newsom & kate bush - do a high wire act atop these gossamer songs. it is a very confident record that successfully bridges the ever decreasing gap between experimental, genre splitting modernity & solid, old time folk lore. recommended. [autumn ferment records](#)

rachel unthank & the winterset : cruel sister the unthinks' debut finally gets reissued. when it was originally released in 2005 it was greeted by folk purists & others as a breath of fresh air & was eventually crowned mojo folk album of the year. 'cruel sister' draws largely on songs from rachel & becky's native north-east with a beautiful rendition of nick drake's autumnal 'river man' thrown in for good measure. although it was recorded on a shoestring, this only serves to make the listener feel they're in the room with the group & with various members of the unthank family involved, you feel drawn into the fold. "simply gripping ... their ambition knows no bounds" - roots. "i just love it ... i simply can't recommend them enough" - bob harris. [rabble rouser](#)

world

ost : dekha jaye ga / uf yeh beevian following the ecstatically received 'sound of wonder' compilation of lollywood psych-pop strangeness from 70's pakistan, the good folk at finders keepers have seen fit to release these two soundtracks by the inimitable m. ashraf as a double header. some of the tracks will be familiar from the aforementioned comp but there is plenty more unfathomable strangeness blessed with pop hooks herein! m ashraf & co embraced emerging technologies & western influences & saw fit to stitch these disparate styles & techniques together to forge a unique & wonderful new sound. highly recommended! [finders keepers](#)

v/a : laya project (2cd/2cd+dvd) an extraordinary musical & visual journey of folk communities in the tsunami-affected regions of sri lanka, thailand, indonesia, maldives, myanmar & india. in remote villages that lay in the 2004 tsunami's path in asia, unknown local folk musicians were recorded & filmed - the performances were mostly in makeshift on-location studios. the laya project mixed & enhanced the original recordings, crossing boundaries of genre while respecting them, to create a tribute to the spirit & musical traditions of those who survived the tragedy. the accompanying dvd is a documentary-cum-music video-cum-travelogue that doesn't dwell on the actual tsunami & its awful consequences, but rather on the people who survived & their determination to return their lives to normality. "inspirational" - the telegraph. [earthsync](#)

v/a : latin beats (8cd boxset) following on from their collected 'brazilian beats' boxset, mr bongo have decided to collect their other latin collections into one reasonably priced box. included here are 'the original latin beats', 'cuba moderna', 'cachao classics', 'the remixes', 'cuban classics', 'montuo sessions', & 'i like it like that' - all in all over 120 classic tracks from old-style mambo, son, boogalo, the sounds of fania to latin funk & jazz, as well as contemporary remixes. a great starting point for the curious & even for the aficionado for killer tunes by the likes of the legendary tito puente, ray barreto, la lupe, masters of work, quantic & so many more. [mr bongo](#)

kimi djabaté : karam djabaté hails from the former portuguese colony of guinea-bissau in west africa. his 2nd album is a beautiful balance of balafón (african xylophone), acoustic guitar & his tender vocals with occasional flourishes of brass, kora & kani, additional percussion & the odd electric guitar or keyboard here or there. the songs themselves are gently melodic confections with an irresistible bounce which kimi peppers with swinging lines of balafón & call & response vocals. for fans of habib koité, toumani diabaté, cesaria evora & sara tavares. [cumbancha](#)

reggae

v/a : the caribou & downbeat story (2cd) the caribou label featured ja recorded mento mixed with other music styles from around the caribbean gulf, including r'n'b, cha cha, rumba & meringue. these tracks mark the birth of an urban jamaican musical style & feature well known mento artists such as lord tanomo, count lasher & count sticky, as well as new boy laurel aitken, whose blending of mento with ja gospel & us r'n'b created a whole new style of jamaican music - his 'boogie in my bones' for chris blackwell's fledging island records, was a reworking of his caribou 'aitken's boogie'. this 2cd set features great music & great pictures of original djs with their crates of 78's.....previously only known to hard core fans. [complete blues](#)

black uhuru : love crisis / black sounds of freedom (2cd) formed in waterhouse, it was only right & proper that black uhuru would lay their foundations at jammys. 'love crisis', originally released in 1977 in the uk on count shelley's third world imprint, was remixed by jammy in 1981 as 'black sounds of freedom' at the height of black uhuru's popularity. both versions are included on this deluxe edition along with the crucial prince jammy dub mix & 3 crucial dj cuts from legendary kingston 11 mic man u black. years ahead of its time, 'love crisis' / 'black sounds of freedom' represents the first major step of one of the most talented & influential vocal groups to ever come out of jamaica. [greensleeves](#)

michael prophet : righteous are the conqueror the legendary michael prophet's 1980 greensleeves debut, has now been remastered & reissued with 2 bonus 12" mixes. produced by henry 'junjo' lawes at channel one utilising the rock-solid backing of the legendary roots radics, this is a genre defining classic that's ripe for rediscovery & no true reggae fan should be without it. 4.5/5 – amg. [greensleeves](#)

dubkasm : transform i joining the dots between heavy brazilian batteria, count ossie & the mystical revelation of rastafari, jah shaka & pinch selected plates from this release have become regular favourites on top flight uk roots sound systems with international reputations - such as iration steppas, aba shanti i, channel one & jah shaka. this record represents the meeting of bristol & brazil : 'transform i' is the result of many years of work carried out between these 2 musical hubs. a heavy, authentic blend of roots & dub reggae, dubkasm's sound varies from militant digital steppas to acoustic vocal tracks, with brazilian rhythms & samba instrumentation occasionally woven into the mix. guaranteed to move any crowd. "modern roots reggae at its finest" - the wire. [sufferah's choice](#)

vinyl

caretaker : persistent repetition of phrases (v. limited vinyl edition) snap this up while you can – you won't regret it! if you've not experienced this gorgeously eerie album's terrifying atmospheric yet, then now is most definitely the time to check out the work of vvm's 'the caretaker' project. under this guise, james kirby's work has always dealt with the suggestion of haunted memory & the obscuring of temporal motion & his 2008 masterpiece makes that more explicit than ever, with titles that reference amnesia, alzheimer's, past life regression & other such memory misfires & short circuits. the distorted & crackly soundscapes are incredibly effective at evoking the images of faded & distant memories flickering back into consciousness & the overall effect is one of cinematic beauty. fans of philip jeck, fennesz, marsen jules, machinefabriek et al, absolutely have to check this out. amaaaazing! "these creepy, semi-dissolved musical passages sound no more tangible than shadows & the album for the most part comes across as some sort of séance held via wax cylinder"- boomkat no.7 album 2008, the wire, no.10 album 2008. [history always favours the winners](#)

peter broderick : 4 track songs (crazily limited to 150 lp) in his earliest days as a recording artist, peter broderick assembled two cd-rs based on sketched recordings committed to tape with old, worn-in microphones. the discs were labelled "4 track songs" & got bundled off to type records. this was a first taster of the work that was just around the corner, you can hear the building blocks of both the 'float' & 'home' albums in these sketches, accounting for the full breadth of his creative endeavours - as a composer, pianist, guitarist, violinist & singer/songwriter. look beyond the functional labelling & you'll hear a beautiful soundtrack-in-miniature or a slightly more experimental, off-topic composition, but perhaps the most revelatory content here comes in the song-based material. during his fingerpicked acoustic numbers there's a rawness that goes beyond the kind of multi-layered polish of his work on 'home'. as always, recommended! [type](#)

om : live conference (limited lp) this deluxe vinyl-only release packaged in heavy-duty tip-on style die cut jackets is a definitive statement of the new om energy, recorded on 24-track multi-track remote audio at their 2008 performance in new york, the audio quality is strikingly clear & full. on this night om performed the seminal album 'conference of the birds' live in its entirety. newly invoked energy resonates in the sound of the band: the dynamics between emil amos & al cisneros have rendered these songs & om's sound, into a higher evolution. a proper documentation of conference-era om. [important](#)

new order : movement ; power corruption & lies ; lowlife ; brotherhood

technique rhino uk release the 2nd batch of 'vinyl plus+' titles, with the re-issue of the 5 classic factory-era albums by new order : 'movement' (1981), 'power, corruption & lies' (1983), 'low-life' (1985), 'brotherhood' (1986) & 'technique' (1989). all feature newly re-mastered audio by frank arkwright & the original sleeves, labels & inner bags, pressed on high-quality 180 gram vinyl. in addition, each comes with a unique redemption code to download the complete album as mp3 files. [rhino](#)

the xx : xx xl

tara jane o neil : a ways away k records

reigning sound : love & curses in the red

six organs of admittance : luminous night drag city

passion pit : manners columbia

m a g s

mojo : october 2009 the beatles, richard hawley, the cribs, the who & free cd of beatles covers

s i n g l e s

single of the week

woods : to clean limited 7". handmade records

koko von napoo : june 10". trouble records

biffy clyro : that golden rule coloured 7") rhino

jane bartholomew : fiery son numbered, limited 7". random act of vinyl

king creosote : no-one had it better limited 7". domino records

jet : she's a genius 7" eleven seven

brendan benson : feel like taking you home 7". v2

sic alps : l.mansion limited 7". slumberland

ou est le swimming pool : dance the way i feel v. limited 7" young & lost club

p r e - o r d e r s

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