



100

MAC MILLER

Swimming

After several months of headlines that focussed purely on his breakup with Ariana Grande and the DUI arrest that came shortly after, Miller needed to get back into his groove. His fifth record did just that. Sadly it turned out to also be his last.

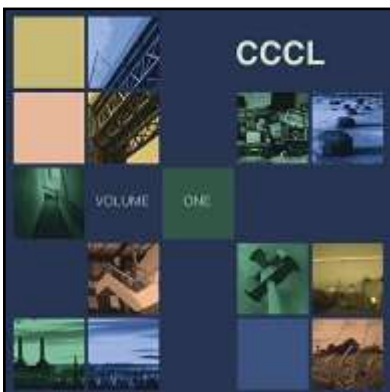


99

77:78

Jellies

Set to pick up where the Bees left off, the album picks it way from sublime west coast harmonies that recall the frayed beauty of the Beach Boys Smiley Smile, to the ramshackle dub of King Tubby via the playfulness of early Syd Barret .



98

CHRIS CARTER

Chemistry Lessons Vol 1

CCCL Volume 1 reinforces Carter's significant but often under-appreciated role in the development of electronic music - a journey that for Carter started ahead of his work with Throbbing Gristle. Here you will find music with a distinctly futuristic leaning, with insistent melodic patterns and a distinct sense of wonderment at the limitless possibilities of science.



97

KIEFER

Happysad

Kiefer is a jazz pianist and beatmaker based in LA with production credits for Kaytranada et al. Inspirations for Happysad and Kiefer's music in general include jazz titans Herbie Hancock and Bill Evans, as well as label mates Karriem Riggins and Knxwledge.

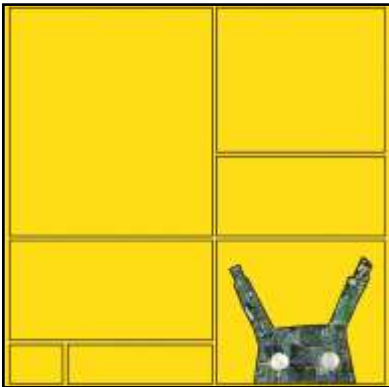


96

STELLA DONNELLY

Thrush Metal

Boys Will Be Boys is the standout track. Atop delicate, singsongy acoustic finger-picking, Donnelly confronts a man who raped her friend and takes to task the accompanying victim-blaming. “Why was she all alone? / Wearing her shirt that low / And they said boys will be boys / Deaf to the word no,”

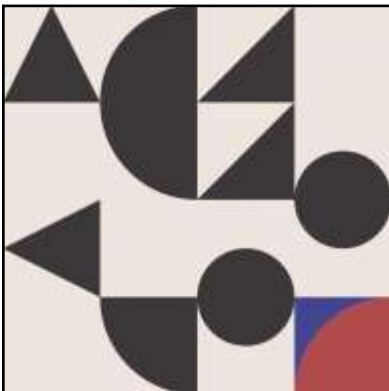


95

HEN OGLEDD

Mogic

Each hailing from historically different tribal regions of the Old North, the musicians on Mogic challenge the idea that the ancient world was rife with magic, while the new is infiltrated by cold logic.



94

TELEMAN

Family Of Aliens

An instantly recognisable lead vocal like a blissful voicy caress from a little angel. Folk songs played on synths. Not folktronica but synths made to tell stories and pave a path for the most gorgeous pop songs.



93

ROSEANNE CASH

She Remembers Everything

Dreams still beckon in a damaged world, and Rosanne Cash renders them with fierce grace on She Remembers Everything, a studio recording from Blue Note Records. Cash's album offers shimmering pop—with hints of twang and jazz—that could find a home in almost any year of postwar American music.



92

HOMEBOY SANDMAN & EDAN

Humble Pi

Humble Pi is a collaborative album from two NYC-based rappers, Homeboy Sandman and Edan. Homeboy Sandman is a flagship Stones Throw rapper and Edan is a revered cult hip hop producer and beatmaker. This is Edan's highly anticipated return since 2005's Beauty And The Beat.



91

PAUL SIMON

In The Blue Light

14th studio album from legendary singer / songwriter. Produced by Simon and Roy Halee (who have worked together since the 1960's) the album features a talented cast of musicians who have joined Simon to lend fresh perspectives on 10 of his favourite (though perhaps less familiar) songs drawn from his unparalleled body of work.



90

TRACY ANNE & DANNY

Tracy Anne & Danny

A new collaborative project between singer-songwriters Tracyanne Campbell (Camera Obscura) and Danny Coughlan (Crybaby). On the suggestion of their manager (and Teenage Fanclub drummer) Francis Macdonald, they recorded at Clashnarrow, a studio in Helmsdale in the highlands of Scotland owned by the esteemed Edwyn Collins who co-produced.



89

SHE MAKES WAR

Brace For Impact

Right now, the world needs a warrior. Town by town and tour by tour, She Makes War has been widening her battle stance and soothing tortured souls with her no holds barred, peaceful protest music.



88

HALF MAN HALF BISCUIT

No-one Cares About Your Creative Hub...

Contemporary culture has obligingly stepped right into the sardonic sights of Blackwell and Crossley. On this new album, they lock target and do not miss.



87

THE BREATH

Let The Cards Fall

Ríognach Connolly and Stuart McCallum are the creative heart of The Breath. Connolly writes a stream of poetic consciousness giving rise to honest, personal, heartfelt songs as likely to touch on childhood summers and first love as cultural dislocation, post-colonial injustices and grief.



86

SAUNA YOUTH

Deaths

12 tracks that touch on political rhetoric, artistic legacy, action and passivity, work and leisure, and, of course, distraction, referencing many musical genres in the process while never leaving punk's orbit.



85

THE JAYHAWKS

Back Roads And Abandoned Motels

11 track collection that showcases Gary Louris' compositions co-written with Dixie Chicks, Jakob Dylan, Emerson Hart (of Tonic), Ari Hest, Scott Thomas, Carrie Rodriguez and more.



84

RIVAL CONSOLES

Persona

Recorded at his studio in south-east London, Persona benefits from the artist's exploration of a dynamic production process that combines analogue-heavy synthesisers, acoustic and electric instruments with a shoegaze-level obsession with effect pedals.



83

LAURA VEIRS

The Lookout

A prolific songwriter for nearly twenty years, Laura Veirs proves the depth of her musical skill on her tenth solo album, The Lookout, released via Bella Union. Here is a batch of inimitable, churning, exquisite folk-pop songs; a concept album about the fragility of precious things.



82

RATTLE

Sequence

An ongoing musical project concerned with experiments in rhythm, metre and tension. Katharine Eira Brown and Theresa Wrigley make up the duo who with just drums and occasional vocalisations weave an expanse of percussive vortices. Their songs swirl and envelop with all the physicality and drama of another world pulling together around its own shifting centre of gravity.



81

CHRISTINE AND THE QUEENS

Chris

These are songs celebrating Christine's polysexual desire without sidelining her emotional pain. Rigid irresistible disco beats commanding a dancing rhythm reaction from feet and minds swaying while sultry pop vocals swoop and glide garnished by divine harmonies.