



BRIGHDE CHAIMBEUL

The Reeling

Recorded live without overdubs in the historic East Church in Cromarty, on the Black Isle. These largely traditional Scottish and Bulgarian tunes were performed by Brighde (pronounced Bree-Chu) on the Scottish smallpipes with the addition of an ancient harmonium found in the church. She was joined on the recording by violinist Aidan O'Rourke from experimental folk trio Lau.

FOR FANS OF:

Lau, Karine Polwart, James Yorkston



THE COATHANGERS

The Devil You Know

In their early years, Atlanta trio The Coathangers were very much of the classic punk ethos. The Devil You Know captures all the vitality of their early years and builds on their established takes on vitriolic punk, playful house-party anthems, and heartworn ballads and melds them into a new sound that retains all their former live show glories while revealing a new level of songwriting and nuance.

FOR FANS OF:

Ty Segall, La Luz, Dream Wife



LORELLE MEETS THE OBSOLETE

De Facto

A dark disco of shimmering synths and ethereal shoegaze but it's disco dance floor shoes that you're gazing at. Ominous soundscapes with marching beats and howling synths. Echoed nightmare sounds are mirrored by vocals coming from all sides. Dark grooves dominate at Cat Woman's nightclub. Prayers to the lord of mysterious fuzzed up pop. Flailing noise, driving bass, percussive rhythmic shuffling and a ghost that just won't leave you alone. Gosh!!

FOR FANS OF:

Sharon Van Etten, Ride, MBV



NUBIYAN TWIST

Jungle Run

One of the leading lights in the UK's new generation of soulful, genre-fluid artists, have created an effortless weave of jazz, soul, hip hop, African styles, Latin, dub, hip hop and electronics in a flow of thought-provoking and life-affirming music. The inimitable, timeless vocals of Nubiya Brandon lead the way on the album's title track about breaking preconceptions and promoting equality. The band also draft in two African legends for guest duties Tony Allen on Ghosts and Mulatu Astatke contributing vibes on the sinuous Addis To London.

FOR FANS OF:

Hailu Mergia, The Comet Is Coming, Kamaal Williams



PATTY GRIFFIN

Patty Griffin

“Mama’s worried all the time/ She tells everyone she’s fine/ But she’s hurting bad and worried so/ She don’t want no one to know” the opening track on American songstress Patty Griffin’s 8th studio album reflect what has clearly been difficult recent times. A long-time relationship with Robert Plant ended and then she had to deal with breast cancer. Events are touched on in her usual oblique manner and so are issues of power, racism, death, identity, migration, memory and the mysteries of the natural world.

FOR FANS OF:

Lucinda Williams, Townes Van Zandt, The Delines



LITTLE SIMZ

Mandala Brush

Simbi Ajikawo, crowned Little Simz, lets her work do the talking - and her prolific releases and boundary-breaking achievements clearly tell a story of a pioneering Hip Hop artist who leads the way on her own terms. Giving lauded, energetic performances, critically acclaimed albums, sold-out headline shows around the world, and international tours with the likes of Gorillaz, this visionary 24 year old woman from North London is inspiring her generation.

FOR FANS OF:

Princess Nokia, Tirzah, BadBadNotGood



STEVE GUNN

The Unseen In Between

For over a decade, guitarist / vocalist Steve Gunn has been one the American music’s most pivotal figures-conjuring immersive and psychedelic sonic landscapes both live and on record, releasing revered solo albums ranking high on in-the-know end of year lists, alongside exploratory collaborations with artists as diverse as Mike Cooper, Kurt Vile, and Michael Chapman. Gunn is known for telling other people's stories but here he explores his own emotional landscapes with his most complex, fully realized songs to date.

FOR FANS OF:

Wilco, REM, Ryley Walker



LAMBCHOP

This (Is What I Wanted To Tell You)

Lambchop continue as forerunners and innovators of Alt-Country. Their sound has morphed to encompass multiple genres, blending folk songwriting with the tones of urban soul. This is brimming with ideas, songs and hooks. A huge influence on the new direction is Matthew McCaughan (of Bon Iver and Hiss Golden Messenger), who produced and co-wrote large parts of the album with Kurt Wagner (Lambchop frontman) over a period of two years.

FOR FANS OF:

Yo La Tengo, Bill Callahan, John Grant



MEAT PUPPETS

Dusty Notes

Since the band debuted in the early '80s, Curt Kirkwood has continually proven himself to be among the most brilliant songwriters of his generation. His latest contributions, especially songs such as Warranty, On, Nine Pins, Outflow could be forgotten gems from Nashville, Bakersfield and Laurel Canyon.

Dusty Notes also features keyboardist Ron Stabinsky, a jazz-trained virtuoso adept at any style, and Curt's son Elmo, whose old-school rock-guitar grit ideally complements his father's spacier explorations.

FOR FANS OF:

Television, Fugazi, Wire



SARAH TANDY

Infection In The Sentence

A unique voice within the new UK jazz generation, Infection in the Sentence is shaped by London's thriving and diverse live music scene. Sarah has performed on keys for Jazz Jamaica, Nu Civilisation Orchestra, Maisha, Where Pathways Meet, Camilla George, Nubya Garcia, Nerija, Daniel Casimir, Binker Golding, Clark Tracey and many more. She is also a member of Ronnie Scotts House Band, the W3 Collective. The inimitable Sheila Maurice-Grey plays trumpet in the band.

FOR FANS OF:

Nubya Garcia, Joanne McCracken, Joe Armon-Jones



WEVAL

The Weight

There's heavy showers of funk drops pouring from endless bars of thunderstorm clouds and laid-back riffs beating a restrained poolside-party kind of pulse, but also sensual vocals rising from beneath the sheets and rueful polaroid-filtered ambiences to soundtrack all possible moments in life - from the most euphoric to those when music seems the only viable healing potion.

FOR FANS OF:

Khruangbin, Nils Frahm, Four Tet



CROWS

Silver Tongues

London's Crows are the latest signing to Balley Records (Idles, Heavy Lungs, Lice). This is their debut album Silver Tongues. The album's thrilling first single Chain Of Being is a real statement: a widescreen slice of post-punk that combines heaviness and brooding melody in equal measures.

FOR FANS OF:

Catherine Wheel, Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs Pigs, Dinosaur Jr