



YOUNG FATHERS ~

Cocoa Sugar

Cocoa Sugar sees Young Fathers operating with a newfound clarity and direction, and is without doubt their most confident and complete statement to date. For all the more accessible moments, there still lurks a heart of darkness inside.



NADINE SHAH

Holiday Destination

For most of us, 2016 was a tumultuous and ugly year – one steeped in political chaos and an air of uncertainty. For Nadine Shah, these headlines had been a big part of her life for years, and *Holiday Destination* – her brilliant and compelling third album out on 1965 Records – sees her stepping out of the shadow of the complicated relationships she examined on her second album *Fast Food* and taking account of the world at large.



QUANTIC & NIDIA GONGORA

Curao

With infectiously danceable rhythms, captivating songwriting and up-to-the minute production, *Curao* brings a new and highly original interpretation of the unique, rich and mystical musical traditions of the Colombian Pacific Coast. Combining Quantic's trademark electronic production with the distinctive traditional rhythms of Pacific music, the album presents itself as a captivating body of work.



PREOCCUPATIONS ~

New Material

Preoccupations' songs have always worked through themes of creation, destruction, and futility, and they've always done it with singular post-punk grit. The textures are evocative and razor-sharp. The wire is always a live one. But while that darker side may have been well-explored, that's not quite the same as it being fully, intensely lived.



KATE TEMPEST

Let Them Eat Chaos

Kate Tempest started out when she was 16, and ten years later she is a published playwright, novelist, poet and respected recording artist. *Brand New Ancients*, her self-performed epic poem to a live score, won the Ted Hughes prize 2013 and the Herald Angel at Edinburgh Fringe. In 2014, the Barclaycard Mercury Music Prize nominated album *Everybody Down* was released and has achieved widespread critical acclaim. Kate now releases her new album *Let Them Eat Chaos* featuring new single *Don't Fall In*.



ARCTIC MONKEYS **Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino**

Arctic Monkeys' daring sixth album is a left-turn if ever there was one, but the way Alex Turner swaps witty sleaze for absurdist suave makes it a totally bemusing and fascinating listen. Their first release since 2013's AM finds the band intent on continuing to explore new musical terrain with each album. *Tranquility Base Hotel and Casino* ups the ante in a big way; it is a bold and brilliant album reflecting Turner's ever more comprehensive creative vision. It's a cosmic pop opus and a complete sonic overhaul.



THE BUTTERTONES **Midnight In A Moonless Dream**

Midnight moves to the dark cityscapes of 70s NYC and tells the story itself - a perfect and intricate crime executed by a crew of professionals under cover of night; a biting sound befitting of CBGB's. Echoes of Suicide and Bauhaus, nods to the spirit of sax and violence that powered the Deadbeats. *Midnight* is music made for dancers but also for doomed romancers that will appeal to fans of The Cramps, The Gun Club, Car Seat Headrest, Black Lips, King Tuff, Thee Oh Sees, Ty Segall and Parquet Courts.



SOCCER MOMMY **Clean**

Clean is the Debut album proper from Nashville based 20 year old Sophie Allison who records under the name Soccer Mommy. Following on from the critically acclaimed *Collection*, released in August. *Clean* was recorded by Gabe Wax (Deerhunter, War on Drugs, Beirut) in NYC and mixed by Ali Chant (PJ Harvey, Perfume Genius, Aldous Harding). The album is a big step up production wise, and it's the most grown up Allison has sounded to date. For fans of Liz Phair, Frankie Cosmos, Angel Olsen and Julia Jacklin.



SHAME **Songs Of Praise**

Utilizing both the grit and sincerity of that musical background, Shame carved out a niche in the S London music scene and then barreled fearlessly into the angular, thrashing post-punk that would go on to make up *Songs of Praise*. From *Gold Hole*, a tongue-in-cheek takedown of rock narcissism, to *Concrete* detailing the moment of realizing a relationship is doomed, to the frustrated *Tasteless* taking aim at the monotony of people droning through their day-to-day, *Songs of Praise* never pauses to catch its breath.



TONY ALLEN **The Source**

The Source represents Blue Note's classic era at the same time as it symbolizes its innovative present. The album achieves this by means of a sound-aesthetic that has total integrity, the result of a scrupulous transcribing of the music using a technology that is exclusively analogue, and doing so according to the precepts of the virtuous philosophy inherited from the label's founders, Alfred Lion and Marx Margulis. But *The Source* also reflects Blue Note by its hybrid nature, because the jazz here is a mode of navigation that allows us to return upriver to the source in Africa.



AKLPHA & OMEGA **One By One**

UK Dub pioneers Alpha & Omega (Greensleeves / A&O Records) represent the foundation of UK soundsystem culture and bass music. A&O have not only left a lasting legacy but are continuing to do so via collaborations with some of the most established names in reggae, underground artists and newly discovered talent alike. A&O's brand new studio album 'One By One' is a nod to the classic A&O sound yet illustrates A&O's forward thinking and distinctive outlook on reggae music.



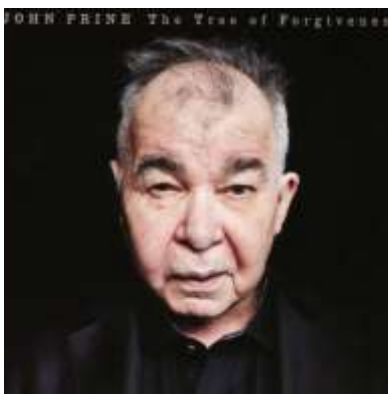
NATHANIEL RATELIFF **Tearing At The Seams**

This group's mentality is most evident on the glorious opener *Shoe Boot* a five minute, funk-infused jam and *Intro*, the raucous jam used to open the band's sets over the last few years. The album closer and title track, however, is perhaps the most moving, lyrically tackling the huge challenges and sacrifices faced by a band who are constantly away from home on the road. Rateliff's expressive, world-weary vocal leads the track as it builds into an emotional yet defiant close – the energy and passion palpable.



BICEP **Bicep**

Bicep - the Belfast-born, London-based duo of Matt McBriar and Andy Ferguson - release their self-titled debut album, a record that truly encapsulates their history and the distillation of their passion for music and club culture since their first release in 2010. The album *Bicep* is the perfect summation of the duo's career to date - it's a sonic tour of their history touching the cornerstones of underground club culture.



JOHN PRINE **The Tree of Forgiveness**

First record of new original material in over a decade. Rather than going out on a limb, Prine cultivated the themes that have brought international acclaim since the 1970s. For example, he can take a topic like loneliness and make it funny (*Knockin' on Your Screen Door*) or heartbreaking (*Summers End*). Perfectly aligned with his quirkiest songs, *The Lonesome Friends of Science* makes its point through the characters he calls "those bastards in the white lab coats who experiment with mountain goats," as well as the discredited planet Pluto and the towering Vulcan statue in Birmingham, Alabama.



THE LOVELY EGGS **The Tree of Forgiveness**

Northern psychedelic punks The Lovely Eggs return with a mind-melting new album. The Lovely Eggs are one of the most unique, innovative and genuine bands on the British Underground music scene. Heavier and more in-your-face than anything they've done previously, Holly Ross (guitar / vocals) and David Blackwell (drums) bring together a fierce DIY ethos, surreal sense of humour and kitchen-sink realism.