



THE WHO

Who

Despite their precarious relationship, Daltrey and Townshend return for their first album in 13 years, snarling at the Grenfell disaster and hoping for world peace. The first words you hear are Daltrey telling the band's audience to get stuffed. "I don't care," the band's 75-year-old frontman sings, "I know you're going to hate this song." This is obviously not the way heritage rock artists essaying their first album in 13 years are meant to carry on. Then again, it feels, well, very Who.

FOR FANS OF:
The Who!



TROPICAL FUCK STORM

Braindrops

"I invented fake news as a genre of music," Gareth Liddiard observes with a laugh. He's talking about Maria 63, the closing track on Tropical Fuck Storm's sophomore LP Braindrops. The song takes aim at the once-marginalized alt-right conspiracy theories that now seem to be a driving force behind the rise of fascism in global politics. "It may be the most stupid song ever written," Liddiard jokes.

FOR FANS OF:
Thee Oh Sees, Fuck, Ty Segall



SUDAN ARCHIVES

Athena

Sudan Archives is widely acclaimed for her thrilling combination of styles: powerful and anthemic R&B, electronic music, a violin style inspired by Northeast African fiddling, and West African rhythms.

For Athena, she collaborated with a wide cast of songwriters, producers and musicians for a sound that is her fullest and richest to date, while staying true to the unique blend of influences that has won her fans around the world.

FOR FANS OF:
Sampa The Great, Nilüfer Yanya, Weyes Blood



SEAN O'HAGAN

Radum Calls, Radum Calls

This is O'Hagan's first album released under his own name for almost thirty years. It's an exquisite, softly delivered wonder of an album which contains many of the things that he's excelled at over the years while leading The High Llamas. Piano, synths, strings, harp and nylon string guitar all combine majestically to create paths that may have partially been wandered down before but are not any less sumptuous or nourishing.

FOR FANS OF:
Field Music, Gruff Rhys, Cate Le Bon



RICHARD DAWSON

2020

Richard Dawson, the black-humoured bard of Newcastle, returns to release his sixth solo album 2020, his first since the critically acclaimed, Peasant. 2020 is an utterly contemporary state-of-the-nation study, that uncovers a tumultuous and bleak time. Here is an island country in a state of flux; a society on the edge of mental meltdown. On 2020, Dawson introduces us to grand themes through small lives.

FOR FANS OF:

Bill Callahan, Angel Olsen, Bon Iver



FIELD MUSIC

Making A New World

An album about the after-effects of the First World War. But this is not an album about war and it is not, in any traditional sense, an album about remembrance. There are songs here about air traffic control and gender reassignment surgery. There are songs about Tiananmen Square and about ultrasound. There are even songs about Becontree Housing Estate and about sanitary towels. The songs grew from a project the band undertook for the Imperial War Museum.

FOR FANS OF:

Steely Dan, Black Midi, Wilco



JOSIENNE CLARK

In All Weather

First solo album in which, Josienne Clarke finds her life laid bare and played out in the leave-it-all-behind-and-start-anew nature of the lyrics. Josienne accompanies herself on pared-back acoustic and electric guitar throughout. She's joined on the album by experimental piano prodigy Elliott Galvin, innovative jazz drummer Dave Hamblett, celebrated Scottish harpist Mary Ann Kennedy and guitarist/bassist Sony Johns who co-produced the record with Josienne.

FOR FANS OF:

Villagers, Nick Mulvey, Hiss Golden Messenger



YAZZ AHMED

Polyhymnia

As challenging as these times are on planet earth, it is with great wonder and comfort that we are witnessing the emergence of great leaders with vision; individuals who are reinventing Jazz while also becoming role models for others as they express their worldview through their art. Composer, trumpeter, and flugelhorn player Yazz Ahmed has performed with Radiohead. Her second album, La Saboteuse, featured Shabaka Hutchings and Naadia Sheriff and was hailed by critics.

FOR FANS OF:

SEED Ensemble, Binker Golding, Joe Armon-Jones



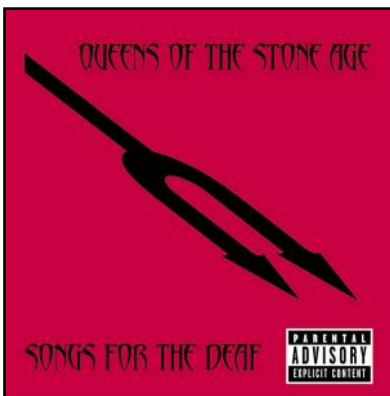
LEONARD COHEN

Thanks For The Dance

After finishing *You Want It Darker*, which was released just 19 days before his death in 2016, aged 82, Leonard Cohen still wanted to add to his tower of song. Thus, he kept on writing and recording as life ebbed away, and the result is this beautiful posthumous collection.

FOR FANS OF:
Leonard Cohen!

Bit of a cheat on the final 3 in this month's selection. With December being a quiet month for new music, we've picked 3 fave re-issues from recent months.



QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

Songs For The Deaf

Queens of the Stone Age third album originally released in 2002. On *Songs for the Deaf*, core Queens of the Stone Age members Nick Oliveri and Josh Homme, with the help of like-minded consorts Dave Grohl and Mark Lanegan, balance pure guitar-induced carnage with more complex, though no less aggressive, rock that whips by so fast it creates its own breeze. It spawned the hits *No One Knows*, *Go with the Flow* and *First It Giveth*.

FOR FANS OF:
Soundgarden, Nirvana, Jack White

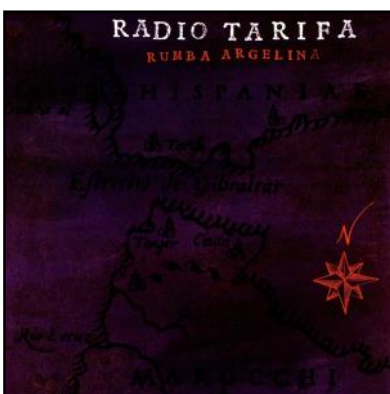


CORNELIUS

Point

Cornelius *Point* was a definitive moment in 90s indie as it almost single handedly evolved the genre beyond American "college rock" to something global, MTV playable pop. Originally released on Matador, Cornelius *Point* has gone on to sell hundreds of thousands of records and create too many to count devotees from Beck to The Strokes to Phoenix and beyond. Now for the first time ever receiving a deluxe reissue with 3 never before heard remixes by Kings of Convenience, Herbert, and Yann Tournier.

FOR FANS OF:
Stereolab, Deerhunter, Yo La Tengo



RADIO TARIFA

Rumba Argelina

Originally released in 1996 and widely regarded as a world fusion classic. Radio Tarifa combined Flamenco, Arab-Andalusian music, Arabian music, Moorish music and other influences from the Mediterranean and the Caribbean. The band's name is taken from Cape Tarifa, the closest European point to Africa, where the local radio receives sounds from across the straits. An irresistible fusion of exotic melodies, it kicks in with the pattering of percussion and drums, undulating pipes and funky guitars, before the smoky flamenco-esque rumba voice of Escoriza grabs you and never lets go.

FOR FANS OF:
Natacha Atlas, Buena Vista Social Club, Rachid Taha