



80

DAVE ALVIN & JIMMIE DALE GILMORE

Downey To Lubbock

Born by immaculate inspiration from live shows Grammy winner Dave Alvin and Grammy nominee Jimmie Dale Gilmore performed together in 2017. Musicians who've been on the road their entire adult lives. The result is an album of blues, rock and folk inspired tunes that both of their fans will enjoy.



79

JIM GHEDI

A Hymn For Ancient Land

Through the inclusion of double bass, violin, cello, harp, trumpet and numerous other instruments, Ghedi has elevated his unique blend of folk music to a level far beyond that of that of his earlier work. Rather than wrestling for space, the wealth of instruments float in and out of one another, interlocking absorbing guitars, gently whirring strings and drums that beat like the faint sounds of thunder on the horizon.

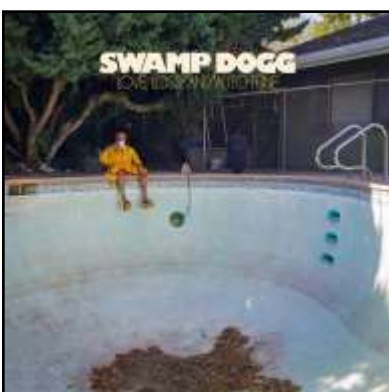


78

HAILU MERGIA

Lala Belu

Modern Ethiopian jazz built on ancient scales and standards. Capping several successful years traveling the world performing to audiences big and small, Hailu Mergia's Lala Belu has been a long time coming. It builds on Mergia's remarkable career resurgence over the past few years.



77

SWAMP DOGG

Love, Loss And Auto-Tune

In 1970 the Southern soul music maverick Jerry Williams, Jr. made the most radical move of his career. Frustrated with music business politics Williams reinvented himself as Swamp Dogg, an irreverent anti-hero smashing the conventions of commercial R&B music. Now, nearly fifty years later his latest creation Love, Loss, and Auto-Tune finds Swamp Dogg's bluesy southern soul colliding head-on with 21st Century electronic music production techniques.



76

CONSTANT MONGREL

Living In Excellence

Constant Mongrel has developed over time with previous releases on RIP Society and Siltbreeze. Chipping and changing, adding to their sound and lineup while maintaining its Australian oddness. The new album has a sharper Post Punk expression reminiscent of Wire's first three albums.



75

PORTICO QUARTET

Untitled (AITAOA #2)

Sending out echoes of jazz, electronica, ambient music and minimalism, the group have created their own singular sound. And while their new music mixes dense layers and textures with electronic and acoustic instruments the sound remains uniquely, recognisably their own.



74

JON HOPKINS

Singularity

Singularity begins and ends on the same note: a universe beginning, expanding, and contracting towards the same infinitesimal point. Where Immunity – his hypnotic breakthrough LP – charted the dark alternative reality of an epic night out, Singularity explores the dissonance between dystopian urbanity and the green forest.



73

ELIZA SHADDAD

Future

Each song is based around a highly-fleshed out psychological idea, to reveal a songwriting voice that's fundamentally human in its everyday relatability. Set on the bedrock of Eliza's early folk and grunge influences, it revels in "flavours of trip-hop, West-Coast surf sounds, 80's chorus, 90's movie soundtracks, and all-out pop" into the vast pools of her past and present.



72

BILL RYDER-JONES

Yawn

A smooth wash and gentle fuzzy guitar ripple like the fur on a Persian cat in the woody bass rumble. Soft almost crooning hushed choruses of vocals weave coaxing, enticing spells. A hazy dream-washed guitar hovers and swoops it's somnolent sounds.



71

Baxter Dury/Etienne de Crecy/Delilah Holliday

B.E.D

Baxter Dury says "Etienne has created a musical background for my confession-al narrative and Delilah has encouraged it to be something more emotional. It's an unlikely mix that works because its short, simple and honest."



70

HALEY HEYNDERICKX

I Need To Start A Garden

Haley has a wonderful voice and the lyrics are poetic and heartfelt. Musically it's sometimes reminiscent of early Velvet Underground in that many of the songs quickly build into frenetic and emotive climaxes. The difference here is that these crescendos dissolve into tender moments of unabashed vulnerability, rather than fragmenting into splinters of drug-fueled confusion.



69

MARIBOU STATE

Kingdoms In Colour

A warm and highly textured collage of breakbeats, guitar licks and found sounds from their worldwide travels, the record features Khruangbin (Feel Good), long standing collaborator Holly Walker (Nervous Tics and Slow Heat) and Turnmills. For fans of The XX, Caribou, Bonobo, Mount Kimbie and Khruangbin.

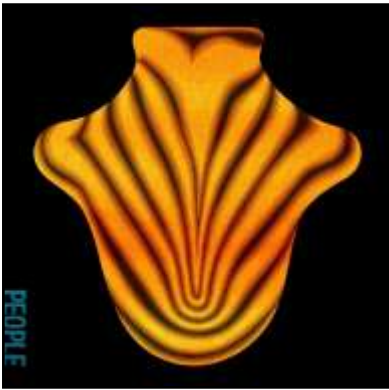


68

JANELLE MONAÉ

Dirty Computer

In 2007, Janelle Monáe arrived here from another world. A self-proclaimed android dressed in black and white, she could emulate Prince's rubbery funk, Stevie Wonder's synth-laden soul and the Jackson 5's sugary R&B, while somehow retaining the festive Southern bounce of her Atlanta base. In the 11 years since, Monáe has forged a distinct path in music, fashion and film.

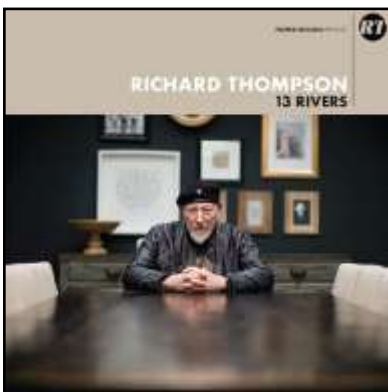


67

BIG RED MACHINE

People

Collaboration between Bon Iver's Justin Vernon and The National's Aaron Dessner, plus Phoebe Bridgers, Lisa Hannigan, Richard Reed Parry and more. In 2008, Aaron sent Justin an instrumental sketch of a song called Big Red Machine for Dark Was The Night. Justin wrote a song to it, interpreting the Big Red Machine title as a heart. 10 years of friendship later, there are 10 more songs.



66

RICHARD THOMPSON

13 Rivers

This is Thompson's first collection of new material since 2015's Still. 13 Rivers also marks Thompson's first self-produced record for over a decade and he feels this makes for an emotionally direct album that speaks from the heart with no filters.

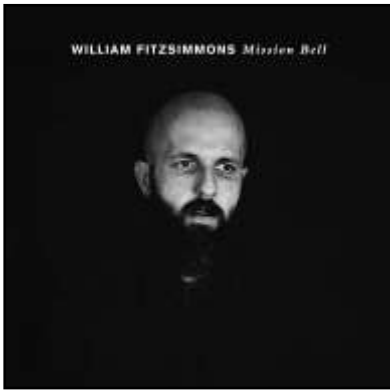


65

THE INTERNET

Hive Mind

With the chaos of the current world, all of The Internet wanted to champion good feelings and the joy of following your heart and passions, in addition to using their own positive relationships and experiences to inspire their community. In collectively working through the process, the crew unearthed an even deeper purpose as they collaborated on this record.



64

WILLIAM FITZSIMMONS

Mission Bell

A chronicling of a tumultuous year of his life and the separation from his second wife. The resulting 11-song album tells the story of a decade-long marriage destroyed and eventually rebuilt from the ground up. The sounds are raw, real and tangible. The familiar comforts of acoustic guitars are present but now joined generously by synthesizers, electric guitars, drum loops and violins.



63

FUCKED UP

Dose Your Dreams

Psych-rock-groove! The drums mixed wide, propensity for drones, for delay pedal, for repetition, groove. The politics and aesthetics of hardcore married to an open approach to genre. Elements of doo-wop, krautrock, groove, digital hardcore. "Fucked Up have made their Screamadefica."



62

DAMIEN JURADO

The Horizon Just Laughed

It started with a dream. His first self-produced album in a 20+ year career, more personal and more rooted than even his Maraqopa trilogy, as though after so much time on the road he's stumbled upon his home. The album feels like a beautiful collage — its narrative pieced together through letters and postcards, with each part contributing to its greater whole, and providing snapshots of one's journey to find a sense of place and connection to a changing world.



61

LEON VYNEHALL

Nothing Is Still

Nothing Is Still is defiantly atmospheric and textural and finds Vynehall harnessing his passion for early contemporary minimalist composers such as Gavin Bryars as well as records like Philip Glass' Koyaanisqatsi and Terry Riley's A Rainbow In Curved Air.