

inside

your monthly exploration of new music

10 Hurdy-Gurdy Madness

Clive Bell gets a handle on the crankiest medieval instrument of all

12 Bites

B12 Techno by numbers: **Kato Hideki** Back to bass: **Mass** Power trio politics: **Solex** Girl with a sampler
Fast track: **Slapp Happy** **Label lore:** **Kitty-Yo** **Int**

18 Global Ear: Tokyo

Rob Young goes shopping for music in the Japanese capital, and enters a culture-shocking world of customised cassettes, vinyl exotica, and virtual DJs

20 The Secret History of Film Music

In a time when movies are treated as marketing devices for CD compilations, Philip Brophy hails the narrative-enhancing use of records in the films of Martin Scorsese and Michael Mann

22 James Blood Ulmer

Is there still a place in the world for hardcore harmonoid punk-jazz? This legendary New York guitarist thinks so, and Steve Holtz agrees with him

26 Sonic Youth

The four members of the world's most influential rock group since The Velvet Underground get together in New York City, and give Biba Kopf a lesson in how to grow old disgracefully

34 Robert Moog

When Walter Carlos released *Switched-On Bach* in 1969, the sound of music was changed forever. Mark Sinker meets the man who invented the instrument that made it all possible: the Moog synthesizer

42 Invisible Jukebox: LTJ Bukem

The oceanic Jukebox enters our mysterious listening booth, and tries to identify tracks by Leroy Hutson, Pharoah Sanders, Wax Doctor, Double Dee & Steinski and more. Tested by Peter Shapiro

46 Royal Trux

Once they were strung out rock 'n' roll casualties. Today, avant-rock's First Couple speculate on the stock market, and espouse the universal music theories of Ornette Coleman. By Louise Gray

reviews

51 Soundcheck May's selected albums and 12"s, including new releases from Boards Of Canada, Luc Ferrari, Josi, Khaleel, Joe and Mat Manen, Merzbow, Jeff Mills, Money Mark, Bernard Parmegiani, Arvo Part, Plazkman, Pulp, The Raincoats, Sonic Youth, Soft Machine and more. **68 Multimedia** Sounding out new CD-ROMs. **70 On Location** Going live: The Fall come apart in NYC, East meets West at London's ICA, improv antics north of the border, Electronica comes to New Zealand, David Thomas's near-disastrous Disastordrome. **74 Print Run** New music books: Kodwo Eshun's adventures in sonic fiction, England's green and silent land, The story of soul power, Musicians on the couch

4 Editorial **6 Soundings** May's selected live events, festivals, happenings, club spaces and radio
8 Letters **50 Charts** **80 Back Issues** **81 Subscribe** and get a FREE Robert Wyatt CD
82 Epiphanies Thurston Moore grows a weird beard



Robert Moog page 34

LTJ Bukem page 42

Royal Trux page 46