



THIS MONTH

INVESTIGATING THE EIGHTIES
ZOMBIES INVADE AFRICA
THE SWEDISH SOUND OF ROYKSOPP
AMERICAN DAD! ON DVD
CORPORATE CONSPIRACIES
EDWYN COLLINS' BIRDS

THE BRIEF

MUSIC

ALBUMS

THREE TO HEAR



1 | Bat For Lashes

Two Suns

Haunting, stellar and oh-so-cool, Natasha Khan cruises through

the musical cosmos once more with her second full record. With nods to Imogen Heap and Björk, Khan continues her unique brand of dark pop, though the ardent listener will enjoy the album's various changes in pace and mood, from the spookily percussive "Glass" to the brooding electronic swells on "Daniel".

Two Suns sits incongruously but confidently in mainstream pop.

Out on 6 April (Parlophone)



2 | Doves *Kingdom Of Rust*

Holing up in a barn in Cheshire for two years to record your

fourth LP can result in a record that's a little, well, overcooked. But while Doves do go on the odd flight of fancy here — fussy cascades of notes punctuate opener "Jetstream" — they emerge triumphant with plenty of beefy bass lines and foot-stomping fun. The country shuffle of the title track and first single is a must-listen.

Out on 6 April (Heavenly Recordings)



3 | Röyksopp *Junior*

Their third album sees the Norwegian duo at their most dancey and outgoing.

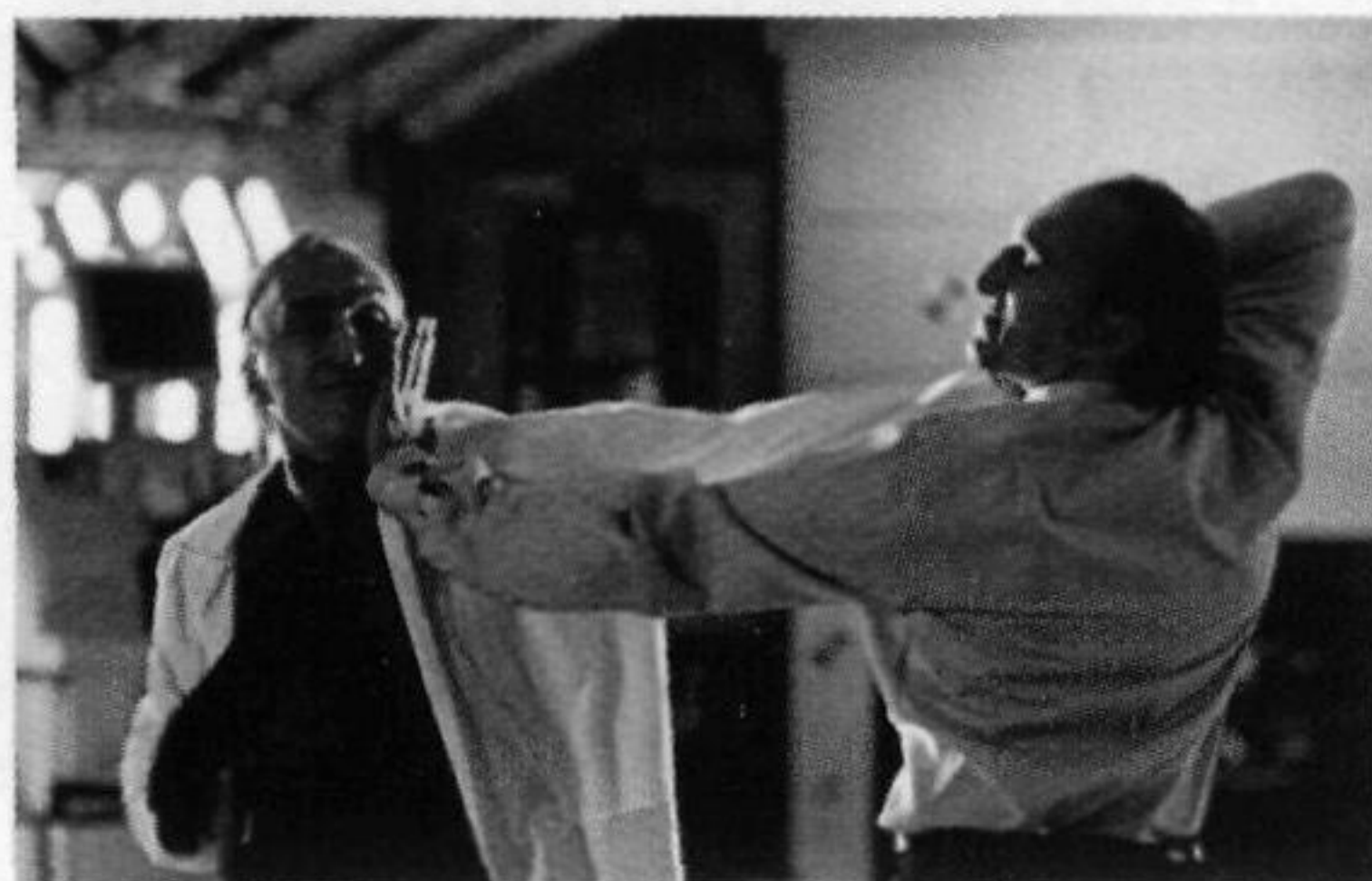
Combining boundless energy and pop — the best bits of their previous two albums — Junior is definitely a chip off the old block. The Knife's Karin Dreijer-Andersson features in "Tricky Tricky" and "This Must Be It" with fellow Swedes Robyn and Lykke Li adding cartoony cute vocals to "The Girl And The Robot" and "Miss It So Much".

Out on 6 April (Wall Of Sound)

NAME THAT TUNE

HEARD IT THERE FIRST

You may not have known that the chant of "Eins, zwei, drei, vier" on the new Volkswagen Golf ad, "Fight", is the work of Berlin-based Jeans Team and MJ Lan on a track called "Keine Melodien"; but really, there's no need to beat yourself up about it.



NATASHA KHAN WORKS THE ARMPIT MAKE-UP LIKE A TRUE POP MAVERICK

3 | Mr Solo *It Makes You Wonder*
Remember David Devant And His Spirit Wife? Anyway, this is their lead singer, with a ukelele romp in the English eccentric tradition.

4 | Stevie Nicks *Landslide (Orchestra Version)*

A pared-back, melancholy rendition of the Fleetwood Mac classic, recorded in Chicago in 2007.

COUCH POTATO

BIG NIGHT IN

VIEW Ashes To Ashes. DCI Hunt (Philip Glenister) and Alex Drake (Keeley Hawes) are back for another series and have travelled through time as far as 1982, with Drake still no closer to her long-lost 2008. The tension between them crackles like static from pink acrylic leg-warmers (yes, you'll probably see a few), but the arrival of hotshot DS "Supermac" Macintosh (Roger Allam) to the team may be a chafing too far...

DRINK Taboo. Brings the Eighties out in you. £9 (www.drinkshop.com)

SNACK Tooty Frooties. It's hip to be square. £2.42 for five (www.aquarterof.co.uk)

TRACKS TO BUY

DOWNLOAD LOW-DOWN

1 | Gomez *Airstream Driver*

It's more than a decade since their Mercury Prize, but this rollicking new single is Noughties fresh.

2 | Filthy Dukes feat Orlando Weeks *Nonsense In The Dark*

The Maccabees' front man lends his bruised vocals to emotional electro-indie loveliness.