



**1**  
**The Go! Team**  
**Proof of Youth**

**WHO**  
Brighton-based six piece band (with two drummers), subconsciously known to the nation thanks to every TV producer in the land sampling music from their debut album.

**WHAT**  
A Slush Puppy-fuelled, sweat-band drenched jamming session between the 70's cast of Grange Hill and their US cousins, The Red Hand Gang. Bonde do Role's Marina Ribatski and Solex contribute vocals, as do the Double Dutch Divas, a troupe of veteran jump-ropers who toured with Run-DMC in 1985. There are also vocals from the Rapper's Delight Club and everyone's favourite Enemy, Chuck D.

**WHY**  
The perfect soundtrack to a fierce game of Swingball or particularly crowded game of Twister, this album provides safe fun for all the family.



**2**  
**Manu Chao**  
**La Radiolina**

**WHO**  
José-Manuel Thomas Arthur Chao, a French-born and raised singer, also occasionally credited as Oscar Tramor. Heavily influenced by the UK punk scene, particularly The Clash - Chao and other musicians formed the Spanish/English rockabilly group Hot Pants in the mid-80s. He's since gone on to become one of the worlds best selling solo artists, despite being relatively unknown in the English-speaking world.

**WHAT**  
With shards of global musical culture glinting throughout, this album display's Chao's signature stew of rhythmic rock, ska and Latin.

**WHY**  
It's about time Chao conquered the UK with his impossibly infectious and energetic music, and this just might be the album to do it.



**DEAR LISTENER**

We really appreciate the opportunity to welcome you to this album. I guess one of the main aspects of this album is that each of our songs have their own entity, so Luscious Life is the only song on the album that sounds like Luscious Life. The Storm is the only song on the album that sounds like The Storm. That's kind of what we worked on for the album was to make sure that every song had its own identity. It's also important to realise that we're not a singer/songwriter project. That's probably the furthest thing from it. Our band doesn't have that vibe. We're all studied musicians and when we were younger we'd always see bands that played for five years and would never really play again. So we were always afraid of being a band because we want a musical career for the rest of our lives. We didn't really think we were gonna be a band back at the beginning but over a period of five or six years we got to a point where it became very difficult to change the name. It was difficult to find a name that suited us especially as we had such an eclectic music style. Maybe we'll find a new band name for the next record... anyhow, here we are, we hope you enjoy our work.

**3**  
**Shearwater**  
**Palo Santo**

**WHO**  
Formed by two bandmembers of Austin, TX's Okkervil River. Okkervil's singer and guitarist, Will Sheff, and back-up vocalist and accordion/keyboard player, Jonathan Meiburg formed Shearwater with Thor Harris, Howard Draper, and Kim Burke.

**WHAT**  
Beautifully cold and fragile, this is the first Shearwater release (fourth album) to be made up entirely of songs by vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Jonathan Meiburg. Originally released only last year, now re-released this year not only with bonus material, but fully re-recorded versions of five songs and a brand-new cover.

**WHY**  
Dark, haunting yet magical.



**4**  
**Modeselektor**  
**Happy Birthday**

**WHO**  
Gernot Bronsert and Sebastian Szary, who as Modeselektor, are signed to BPitch Control, a Berlin-based record label founded in 97 by Ellen Allien. BPitch, along with the Tresor and Kanzleramt labels, are at the heart of the Berlin Techno scene.

**WHAT**  
Favourites of Thom Yorke (Radiohead), who incidentally guests on a track, this is party-hop techno and then some.

**WHY**  
Setting the controls for the heart of the dancefloor, this is hedonistic, irreverent genre-defying genius.



**PATRICK WATSON**  
**CLOSE TO PARADISE**

**WHO**  
Born in California but raised in Hudson, Quebec, Patrick Watson is both a man and a band, the former the latter's namesake, but either way, one of Canada's most exciting and original up-and-coming acts. This is their second album after 2003's Just Another Ordinary Day.

**WHAT**  
A delicately balanced collection of timeless pop-music artistry, jazz precision, indie-rock honesty and classical romance.

**WHY**  
They manage to conjure up the whole world around themselves. Needless to say, treasure this record (and the exclusive bonus CD of their first album).



**6**  
**Kevin Ayers**  
**The Unfairground**

**WHO**  
A founding member of the pioneering psychedelic band Soft Machine in the late 1960s, John Peel wrote in his autobiography that "Kevin Ayers' talent is so acute you could perform major eye surgery with it." He's worked with Brian Eno, Syd Barrett, John Cale, Elton John, Robert Wyatt, Andy Summers, Mike Oldfield, Nico, Ollie Halsall and many others. Long resident in Deya, Mallorca he returned to the United Kingdom in the mid 1990s. He now lives in the south of France.

**WHAT**  
15 years since his last new material, and almost two years in the making, Ayers returns with an over-the-shoulder glance back at past experiences, recounted with his signature louche baritone croon.

**WHY**  
"Our mission is simple : to blow away musical boundaries, to make underground music accessible to everyone."



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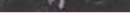


**INFLUENCES**

**Sufjan - Stevens Michigan**  
The first of Stevens' charismatic albums - intimate soft spoken tunes with a majestic Stereolab meets Luke Vibert meets Steve Reich gone folky complexity.

**Rachel's - Systems/Layers**  
Stunning album from Louisville, Kentucky's Rachel's. Assembled from material recorded at home, field recordings and several large ensemble sessions with members of the Louisville orchestra.

**Beirut - Gulag Orkestar**  
Rough Trade's Album of the Year 2006, sounding like the glorious dance of a twelve-piece Balkan gypsy orchestra.

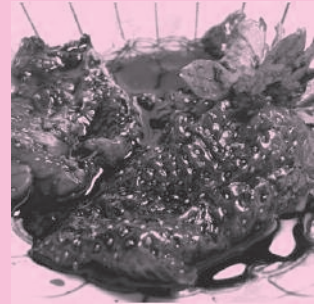


**8**  
**Animal Collective**  
**Strawberry Jam**

**WHO**  
New York City-based group of experimental musicians from Baltimore, Maryland, consisting of Avey Tare (also known as David Portner), Panda Bear (also known as Noah Lennox), Deakin (also known as Josh Dibb), and Geologist (also known as Brian Weitz).

**WHAT**  
A never-ending cosmic jam session.

**WHY**  
Sweet and vibrantly coloured, this oozes more interesting aural colours the longer you listen to it.



**9**  
**Murcof**  
**Cosmos**

**WHO**  
Murcof is the performing and recording name of Mexican artist Fernando Corona, member of the Tijuana-based Nortec Collective of electronic musicians.

**WHAT**  
Sparse, minimalist, sample-based electronica that has a unique way of using silence to generate intense emotion.

**WHY**  
Like a subtle sorbet, this album helps cleanse the sonic palate.

