VOL. 21 'DISCOVER' UPDATE NEWS REPORT MAGAZINE www.fullpeltmusic.com

# MELCOME



to the Full Pelt Magazine!

Packed full of music news, reviews and more!

This week we've celebrated our first

'Discover' New Music Week, and that

concludes with a special edition

magazine!

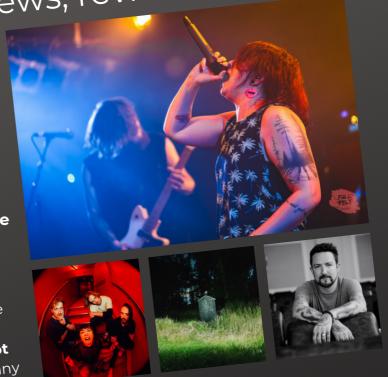
We also have reviews of new releases from

Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes and Alkaline

Trio plus a live reviews for the Slam Dunk

Winter Tour and The Sleeping Souls.

And of course our News Report is back with the latest from Frank Turner, Billy Talent, Liam Gallagher, The Zutons, Latitude Festival, Y Not Festival, Kendal Calling, Truck Festival and many more!



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BEANS ON TOAST



CJ WILDHEART



THE DOLLYROTS



REWS

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NEW ADDITIONS

## HARDS HEAVY

## Bruce Dickinson

'Rain on the Graves'

**Bad Wolves** 

'Knife'

**Amongst Liars** 

'Alibi'



## FULL PELT MAGAZINE

Every week we roundup the best music news



PHOTO CREDIT: SHANNON SHUMAKER

### FRANK TURNER

**Frank Turner** has announced the release of his tenth album **'Undefeated'** on 3rd May! The record follows his first UK #1 album, 2022's **'FTHC'**, and is the result of his decision to step away from the major label world to re-embrace the liberation of working as an independent artist. Frank says, "my first back home with a global independent label setup (still with Xtra Mile of course)."

Frank says of the album, "There are no clichés about the difficult 10th album, so in some ways, that's a liberating statement. But at the same time, I have a duty to justify writing and releasing a 10th album. That's a lot of records for anybody. Also, I'm 42. Which is not a sexy, rock'n'roll age. But all through my career, I've been interested in writers like Loudon Wainwright III or The Hold Steady, people who write about adulthood, essentially."

Alongside the album announcement, Turner also unveiled brand new single, 'Do One'!

Frank adds: "Do One' is the last song I wrote for the new album, and the first song on that album, as well as the first single. So it's a summation of what I'm trying to say with this record, a record about survival and defiance, but also one with a sense of fun and self-deprecation. 19 years into my solo career, I'm still standing up and putting out some of my best work. It feels good."



## BRUCE DICKINSON

PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN MCMURTRIE

Bruce Dickinson has released his brand new single, 'Rain On The Graves', taken from forthcoming solo album 'The Mandrake Project' which will be released on March 1st.

"I had the chorus lyric since I visited Grasmere for a wedding back in 2012," explains Bruce, "and it wasn't difficult years later to create the rest of the song with so much rich imagery in my head!"

## SCOTT STAPP

**Scott Stapp** has released 'Deadman's Trigger', the fourth single from upcoming solo album 'Higher Power', due for release on 15th March 2024.

Stapp explains: "Higher Power was born out of never ending consequences with triggered, yet naive defiance. It's the realities and realizations of being human in this experiment we call life - holding onto hope in the dark waiting for the light."







#### THE LONGEST JOHNS

**The Longest Johns** will release their brand new album **'Voyage'** on February 9th. They've also shared new single, **'Shawneetown'**.

Regarding the single Andy says, "Shawneetown, in Southern Illinois, was a major trading centre back in the day. Located close to where the Ohio River meets the Wabash. Keelboats were an extremely efficient transport for trade then but had to be pulled upriver against the current on the return trip. I can only guess how gruelling the work would have been for the crew."

## SHANNON & THE CLAMS

Shannon & The Clams are set to release their new album 'The Moon Is In The Wrong Place', produced Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys, on May 10.

"We all felt the urgency of making something that reckoned with this meteor that smashed into our planet," Will Sprott says. "This is the most focused record we've ever done, as far as everything coming from a singular traumatic event."

#### DON'T PANIC

**Don't Panic** are kicking off 2024 with a brand new single!

'The Long Way' is taken from their recently released new album, 'Setting Up To Fail', and comes ahead of their upcoming coheadline UK Tour with the Thomas Nicholas Band.

#### AMONGST LIARS

**Amongst Liars** have have announced the release of their second album **'Design'**, out 4th July, and shared new single **'Alibi'**!

The band comment: "'Alibi' is a reflective song about when trust breaks down in a relationship and things start to spiral downwards. It also echoes mental health and the way that people perceive each other in relationships."







## BAD WOLVES

PHOTO CREDIT: WOMBAT

**Bad Wolves** have shared new song **'Knife'**, featuring scream vocals from vocalist/guitarist **AJ Rebollo** (ex-ISSUES)!

"Feels good to be able to be the kind of band that one day works on a ballad and the next works on a song that is this heavy," shares vocalist DL. "Sometimes it's fun to 'prove' that you can still write an ass beater. It's exciting to be able to incorporate another powerful dynamic into Bad Wolves arsenal with AJ's vocal style and riffs."

"I'm very stoked that I've been given the opportunity of joining up with the legends in Bad Wolves," exclaims AJ. "I've been a fan of each of their bands since my early teens, so to say I'm honored to be playing with them would be an understatement. Each and every one of these guys brings something to the table that I've looked up to for many years. I had the amazing opportunity to get into the studio recently and work on the new track 'Knife' with them, and I'm very pumped for everyone to hear the vocals we put together. Cheers to the future!"

BLACKOUT PROBLEMS

**BLACKOUT PROBLEMS** have released their brand new single 'STASH', the latest song to be taken from their forthcoming album 'RIOT' out February 23rd.

"For me, the single was like a test to see how it works when I produce on my own," explains Mario Radetzky. Continuing about the album he says, "On RIOT, I tried to open up and find my way to myself as well as out of myself. When you listen to the album, you learn things about me that I would never tell you. But maybe you'll also learn something about yourself when you listen to it, because you're not hearing my story and my mistakes, but projecting them onto your own life."





## THE ZUTONS

PHOTO CREDIT: JONATHAN TURTON

**The Zutons** have shared **'Creeping On The Dancefloor'**, their first new single in 16 years. Taken from the forthcoming album **'The Big Decider'**, which is out on 26th April.

Lead singer and guitarist Dave McCabe says: "We wrote 'Creeping On The Dancefloor' during lockdown when Abi moved in the house and we were all living together in our own little bubble. But I think because we were all trapped in the house and I was singing it onto my phone, just the melody and some of the words to keep the noise down, when we got let loose and recorded it with the band it had a great energy. It's one of those songs you want to hear again as soon as it's finished and that's always a good sign."

Talking about the new album, McCabe says: "Working with Nile was just an amazing experience, he gave me a confidence that I've never felt before making a record. He's very laid-back as a person and a good listener. On the song 'Disappear', I wrote a spoken word piece about The Zutons travelling the stars and galaxies asking the most powerful question in the universe, "Why?". I asked Nile if he'd read it out over the top of the end section of the song, thinking he'd just say no. But he jumped in the vocal booth with his chain around his neck and his sunglasses on and did about 20 different takes, all in different styles of himself. It was mind-blowing! It was as though he really does travel around the universe in some spaceship and just makes music in his spare time. He's just one of the coolest people I've ever met.

It was great to reconnect with Ian Broudie on this record as well. He told me the demo of Big Decider brought a tear to his eye and that's why he said yes to working with us again. It was one of the first songs we wrote for the album so getting that reaction from Ian made me feel like we were doing something right. The song spoke for itself."



## COURTING

PHOTO CREDIT: CHARLIE BARCLAY HARRIS

**Courting** have released their new album 'New Last Name'. To mark the album's release the band have shared a new song titled 'The Wedding'.

"It's a theatrical play within an album," explains frontman Sean Murphy O'Neill. "There's a lot going on. It can be simply enjoyed as an album, but there are characters, acts, stage directions etc. The listeners can decide on the narrative themselves, but we want them to get lost in it."

Going on to speak about the new song, Murphy O'Neill says, "The Wedding' is the 7th Act of New Last Name, with the overall narrative starting to come to its conclusion. Our protagonist appears to have come to terms with everything, and looks back with misty eyes."

## BUZZARD BUZZARD BUZZARD

**Buzzard Buzzard** have announced second album 'Skinwalker', due for release on 12th April, and shared new single, 'National Rust'.

Speaking on the single frontman Tom Rees says, "'National Rust' was my attempt at consolidating my 2020 obsession with Sly and the Family Stone with my 2021 obsession with David Bowie's album 'Low'. It was the first song that really paved the way for the new album, it broke a lot of the sonic boundaries that I was writing within when starting the second album, "I AM NOT AFRAID OF PLAYING FUNKY GUITAR!", I exclaimed, mu-tron in hand."





JUST ADDED

## HOT LIST!

FRANK TURNER DO ONE

BLACKOUT PROBLEMS STASH

THE LONGEST JOHNS
SHAWNEETOWN

THE ZUTONS
CREEPING ON THE DANCEFLOOR

**COURTING**THE WEDDING

BUZZARD BUZZARD BUZZARD NATIONAL RUST



### LIAM JOHN GALLAGHER SQUIRE



#### 2024 TOUR

Wednesday 13 March
GLASGOW BARROWLAND
Thursday 14 March
OLVERHAMPTON THE HALLS
Saturday 16 March
DUBLIN 3OLYMPIA
Monday 18 March
NEWCASTLE OZ CITY HALL

Wednesday 20 & Thursday 21 March MANCHESTER O2 APOLLO Saturday 23 March LEEDS O2 ACADEMY Monday 25 March LONDON O2 FORUM KENTISH TOWN Tuesday 26 March LONDON TROXY Tuesday 02 April
PARIS SALLE PLEYEL
Thursday 04 April
BERLIN COLUMBIAHALLE
Saturday 06 April
MILAN FABRIQUE
Thursday 11 April
BROOKLYN PARAMOUNT

TICKETS ON GENERAL SALE 9.30AM GMT FRIDAY 02 FEBRUARY

THE NEW ALBUM 'LIAM GALLAGHER JOHN SQUIRE' RELEASED 01 MARCH

EXCLUSIVE TOUR PRE-SALE ACCESS PRE-ORDER THE ALBUM FROM THE OFFICIAL STORE BY 3PM GMT TUESDAY 30 JANU

Fresh off the heels of announcing their first album in 15 years, 'Happiness Bastards', legendary rock band The Black Crowes have announced their 2024 headline tour

Frontman Chris Robinson said, "Hope everybody is ready to rock & roll with us on the Happiness Bastards Tour this spring! We're excited to be playing songs from our new album along with some deeper tracks, juicy covers, and the songs you want to hear!".

#### THE BLACK CROWES

#### LIAM GALLAGHER & JOHN SQUIRE

**Liam Gallagher** and **John Squire** have revealed their first tour for their collaboration which will see their self-titled debut album released on March 1st.

Liam says, "I can't wait for people to hear the album. I think the people that are into the Stone Roses and Oasis and that kinda thing, I think they'll fucking love it. It's spiritual, it's crucial. LG x"

John adds, "It was really inspiring to have those Knebworth gigs fresh in my mind as I started writing. Then it was a case of trying to steer it away from all being too rocky, and trying to mix up the sentiments as well. I like the way that in some parts, it's quite melancholic and it can make you well up, but there are other parts that are kind of irreverent, rude or crude. There's a little bit of everything in there, I think it's a really good mix. I had a hunch that we'd sound good together, but I wasn't prepared for it to be such a good fit."



#### **EAGLES**

The legendary **Eagles** have announced that a Manchester residency will mark their final UK shows!

The band said, "The Eagles have had a miraculous 52-year odyssey, performing for people all over the globe; keeping the music alive in the face of tragic losses, upheavals and setbacks of many kinds. Credit and thanks go to our longtime management team, our dedicated road crew, and our exceptional backup musicians for providing skilled and steadfast support, throughout these many years. We know how fortunate we are, and we are truly grateful. Our long run has lasted far longer than any of us ever dreamed. But, everything has its time, and the time has come for us to close the circle.

The official farewell tour is currently underway. We want to give all our fans a chance to see us on this final round. So, scheduling information will be released as dates are set. The difficulties of booking venues for multiple nights may require us to return to certain cities, depending on demand. But, we hope to see as many of you as we can, before we finish up. Most importantly, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for embracing this band and its music. At the end of the day, you are the reason we have been able to carry on for over five decades. This is our swan song, but the music goes on and on."

# EAGLES THE LONG GOODBYE — FINAL TOUR

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

## STEELY DAN

FRI 31 MAY | SAT 1 JUNE | TUE 4 JUNE

FINAL 2 SHOWS ADDED
FRI 7 JUNE | SAT 8 JUNE
MANCHESTER CO-OP LIVE



It's been a big week for **Alkaline Trio** with the release of new album, **'Blood, Hair and Eyeballs'** plus news of a new headline tour!

#### ALKALINE TRIO

#### **BILLY TALENT**

**Billy Talent** have revealed additional headline shows to coincide with their summer festival appearances.

For the UK that means newly announced shows in Cardiff, Glasgow, London and Manchester alongside their performance at Download Festival.



PLUS SPECIAL GUESTS

22 JULY - NEWCASTLE BOILER SHOP, UK
23 JULY - NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY, UK
24 JULY - BRISTOL O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY, UK
26 JULY - LONDON O<sub>2</sub> FORUM KENTISH TOWN, UK
27 JULY - LEEDS O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY, UK
28 JULY - MANCHESTER O<sub>2</sub> RITZ, UK
30 JULY - GLASGOW O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY, UK
31 JULY - BIRMINGHAM O<sub>2</sub> INSTITUTE, UK
04 AUG - COLOGNE LIVE MUSIC HALL, DE
06 AUG - BERLIN HUXLEY'S, DE
10 AUG - WELS ALTER SCHLACHTHOF, AT
11 AUG - MUNICH BACKSTAGE WERK, DE

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TICKETS AVAILABLE AT OCTOBERDRIFT.OS.FAN

## **TOBER**

October Drift have finalised details of their latest headline tour!

Fans can catch the band across the UK this Spring.

The band teased, "So excited to announce our UK headline tour dates for Spring 2024! New year, new songs, same energy."



This November will see a small run of headline dates for **Pitchshifter** as the band unveil the 'Everything (Still) Sucks' Tour!

**PITCHSHIFTER** 



**PLACEBO** 

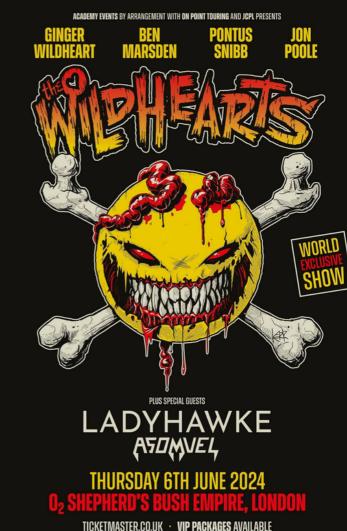
An already packed summer just keeps getting bigger!

Bristol Sounds has welcomed their latest performers as **Placebo** have been revealed to headline a date on Friday 28th June.

A new look line-up for **The Wildhearts** will make their live debut in London this June.

Catch Ginger and co at the O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire on Thursday 6th June!

THE WILDHEARTS



ATITUDE

#### KASABIAN

KHRUANGBIN THE VACCINES CAITY BASER WAXAHATCHEE WITCH

**FUTURE ISLANDS** CORINNE BAILEY RAE
VOCUMENTS BLACK RAINBOWS
BC CAMPLIGHT
SWIM DEEP
BLUSHER

ARMAND HAMMER

NEMDAND HAMMER EVIAN CHRIST ENGLISH TEACHE
ALESSI ROSE - JULIE BYRNE - MARY IN THE JUNKYARD - NIEVE ELLA - PICTURE PARLOUR - UNIVERSI

LONDON GRAMMAR KEANE

RICK ASTLEY CMAT REVEREND & THE MAKERS

ORBITAL

JOCKSTRAP THE MARY WALLOPERS ANTONY SZMIEREK

NILE RODGERS & CHIC RAG 'N' BONE MAN THE DARKNESS BABY QUEEN THE ZOMBIES

**DURAN** 

DURAN

LANKUM ASH
DAVID DUCHOVNY
MARIKA HACKMAN
BEEN STELLAR
BIG SPECIAL

**ENGLISH TEACHER** 

TIGHTONE PROBLET TO COME AND THE STORY AND T

DR JOHN COOPER CLARKE

DR JOHN COOPER CLARKE

JOELLE TAYLOR: A NIGHT ALPHABET - PAPPY'S FLATSHARE SLAMDOWN

THE COSMIC SHAMBLES NETWORK with ROBIN INCE process

DBIN INCE'S BOOK CORNER with NATALIE HAYNES, CHRIS UNTOTT and AYOBÁMI ADÉBÁY

NINE LESSONS FOR LATITUDE with HELEN CZERSKI - AN UNCANNY HOUR



**Live At Leeds: In The Park** has revealed additional names for the Mya event including Sea Girls, Circa Waves and **HotWax**!

Circa Waves said: "Glad to be back in Leeds. They never let us down! The people, this festival, it's gonna go off."

Festival Promoter Joe Hubbard said: "We're already counting down the weeks until we bring the third edition of Live At Leeds: In The Park to Temple Newsam! This truly is our biggest lineup to date and we're over the moon to reveal indie titans Sea Girls, hometown hero Corinne Bailey Rae and "T-Shirt Weather" charmers Circa Waves to our already-stacked summer billing. Live At Leeds has always been the place to find your new favourite acts, and with rising stars like HotWax, Lucia & The Best Boys, Tom A. Smith and The Clause joining the line-up, we're hoping our audience are blown away by this year's talent. You've got 17 weeks to round-up your friends, sort out your festival fits and pack the essentials so you're ready for another incredible summer day-out in May'

#### LIVE AT LEEDS

#### LATITUDE

The Latitude Festival line-up has taken shape this week with new additions including **The Vaccines**, **The Darkness** and **Ash**!

The Vaccines said, "The last time we played Latitude, it felt almost transcendent. a secret gig in the tent, and our first back since covid, that brought tears of joy to our eyes! I can only imagine that watching the sun go down from the main stage as we play on Friday evening will feel just as special. We can't wait to come back!"



IN THE PARK TEMPLE NEWSAM PARK, LEEDS

A ONE DAY FESTIVAL

## THE KCC

DECLAN MCKENNA THE CRIBS SEA GIRLS FUTURE ISLANDS CIRCA WAVES MELANIE C CORINNE BAILEY RAE BLACKOWS WHITE LIES

MYSTERY JETS THE ACADEMIC ORLA GARTLAND THE MYSTERINES VISTAS THE SLOW READERS CLUB SPRINTS

ANTONY SZMIEREK FLOWEROVLOVE NIEVE ELLA COSMO PYKE HOTWAX MATILDA MANN MICHAEL ALDAG SOMEBODY'S CHILD LUCIA & THE BEST BOYS THE CLAUSE TOM A. SMITH

" INDIE LEGENDS AND EXCITING NEW NAMES " DORK <

TICKETS AT LIVEATLEEDS.COM



The **Truck Festival** line-up also dropped this week including Wet Leg, IDLES, The Kooks, The Snuts, Soft Play, Yard Act, The Pigeon Detectives, Bob Vylan, Black Honey, The Mysterines, Coach Party and Willie J Healey!

#SUMMERISCOMING Coalla THATCHERS COSTA

Head Of Marketing Sam Harris said: "It's that time again! When we sit down to plan Truck every year, we treat the weekend like the ultimate summer party - complete with friends, amazing moments and the artists we love all in one place. To welcome long-awaited headliners like Jamie T and The Streets to Hill Farm is a true honour, whilst having Wet Leg headline their very first festival with us is going to make for a very special weekend. Whether it's discovering new favourites, diving straight into mosh-pits thanks to those The Oxford legends Symphony Orchestra, singing along to your favourite songs or checking out the comedy/family amazing entertainment on offer - Truck 2024 is a landmark year for us and we can't wait to see everyone there! We'll get our requests for Barrioke in now...

**Y Not Festival** have revealed a huge line-up for 2024 including Snow Patrol, Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds, Kaiser Chiefs, The Kooks, The Vaccines, Jake Bugg, The Snuts, Frank Turner, Soft Play, Yard Act, Pale Waves and Bob Vylan!

Also on the bill are **Lottery Winners**, The View, Black Honey, The Mysterines, Beans On Toast, HotWax, Lambrini Girls, Lauran Hibberd and

Frank Turner commented, "Stoked to be back at Y Not Festival this summer. What a lineup. See you there."







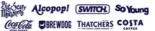
DECLAN MCKENNA | SEA GIRLS | HOLLY HUMBERSTONE IE SNUTS SOFT PLAY YARD ACT KATYB THE PIGEON DETECTIVI **BOB VYLAN PEACE BLACK HONEY SUNDARA KARMA** 

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LEXIE CARROLL FRED ROBERTS CAMERON HAYES CUCAMARAS MARY IN THE JUNKYARD NIGHTBUS MITCH SANTIAGO PROBLEM PATTERNS ME REX THE MENSTRUAL CRAMPS EBBB JUICE POPS

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LIGHTNING SEEDS • THE HUNNA\* • LOTTERY WINNERS • THE K'S **CMAT · GARY NEVILLE B2B TIM BURGESS · PEACE** THE PIGEON DETECTIVES · SUNDARA KARMA · HEATHER SMALL **GLASVEGAS · RED RUM CLUB · ROYEL OTIS · THE ROYSTON CLUB** 

ALAN FLETCHER AKA DR KARL KENNEDY - LAURAN HIBBERD - BBY - TOM A. SMITH - THE 900 - DEAD PONY
RATS - CUCUMARAS - SNAYX - BEATLES DUB CLUB - DJ ANDY SMITH - REACH UP DISCO WONDERLAND - THE ALLERGIES LIVE
JTH SECTOR - VENUS GRRRLS - HELLO COSMOS - MEGAN WYN - ARIANNE - FIONA-LEE - CREEPING JEAN - BABY PANNA - DR ME
DWICKE CIRCUS\* - VACANT WEEKEND - SLAY DUGGGE - WHEEL OF FOUR TUNES - CONSERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEMBLE - OMEGA NE
RIOGNACH CONNOLLY - HONEYFEET - MICHAEL SEBASTIAN & FRIENDS - PIGEON WIGS - POTTER - SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY
UNITOU SUSSO - STATE OF SATTA - THEY SAY JUMP - URBAN FOLK OUARTET - LOS DEDOS - FRESHLY SOUEEZED - AWEN ENSEMN
NEBULA SUN - DIEKAIDIE - REVIVALRY - GRANFALLOON - RUBY JOYCE - BAGGY MONDAYS - SH\*\* INDIE DISCO - BANDAOKE

THE ABBA DISCO : HOWLING RHYTHM - WE BROKE FREE'S MURDER ON THE DANCEFLOOR - DISCO PUSS TAKEDVER FARMER OF FUNK - CRAG SOW - BUCKET HAT CREW - WOODLANDS SILENT DISCO - SHOTGUN WEDDING - QUEENS OF DISCO PLUS LOST EDEN, KIDS CALLING, THE SOAPBOX, DESERT ISLAND DISCO, THE PICTUREHOUSE OKTOBERFEST, CHAI WALLAHS, REAL ALE FESTIVAL, PARADE & MORE!

LOWTHER DEER PARK See You in the Fields!

WWW.KENDALCALLING.CO.UK \*\*ARTISTS MARKED WITH AN ASTERN ARE PLAYING D GOOGLE THATCHESS 88 Ovodafone

Cheltenham's Wychwood Festival has set a line-up including The Feeling, Ocean Colour Scene, The Hoosiers, Peter Hook & The Light, Steve, Lightning Dexys, The Futureheads, Beans On Toast and Buzzard Buzzard!

Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds and Paolo Nutini help to top the bill at Kendal Calling this year.

They are joined by Paul Heaton, Keane, The Snuts, Pale Waves, Feeder, Lighting Seeds, The Hunna, Lottery Winners, The K's, The Pigeon Detectives, Sundara Karma, Beans On Toast, Lauran Hibberd, Snayx and Temples.



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BEER FEST IDYLLIC CAMPIN BENEATH THE PRESTBURY HILI

KID





Frank Carter has never been one to simply take the road of least resistance, especially when it comes to his musical direction. After all this is the man that left one of the hottest breakthrough bands to push his boundaries and experiment with a wider sonic palate.

With his own name on the posters now though he has a near frictionless opportunity to fully explore whatever direction he feels like taking. That is of course ignoring the noisy minority who will forever pine of an angry Carter full of rage and a desire to burn the world down.

That though isn't a healthy mindset to carry through life and Carter's own life has reached a point where he can suitably reflect on the ups and downs that have paved the way for the fifth **Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes** album – **'Dark Rainbow'**.

Musically the album sees Carter and co-conspirator Dean Richardson indulge the softer elements that have gradually crept in over the first four records. There are still some headbanging moments for good measure but if you're somebody looking for another 'I Hate You' then you're going to be disappointed.

If however you have an open mind and a willingness to soak in the suave aesthetics of the album then your curiosity will be rewarded by Carter's ambition. This is certainly an album that needs your full attention, but you will be rewarded if you stick with it.

Indeed the pre-release singles may be some of the weakest in relation to the immense depth shown across the album. This record will divide opinion for sure, but as a snapshot of an artist formerly known as a hellraiser, this collection is as genuine as it is brave!



While **Alkaline Trio** remained active during the Matt Skiba era of Blink 182, Skiba himself has admitted that they took something of a backseat. It's perhaps not surprising then that the gap between 2018's 'Is This Thing Cursed' and new album, 'Blood, Hair, and Eyeballs' is the longest one in the groups history.

Recent times have been particularly transitional with Skiba's untimely departure from Blink 182 and the exit of long time drummer Derek Grant of particular note. Thankfully though for fans, the band continues to persevere and their tenth studio album is now out in the world.

The title-track gave fans a glimpse of the band at their best when it acted as the lead single for the album, which is named after a phrase coined by Skiba's nurse mother. Thematically the album explores the similarly grotesque nature of what the band have referred to as "apocalypse culture".

The concept of fear-inducing bad news in the media creating a toxic environment will surely remain apt as both the US and UK prepare for a year of election frenzy.

Yes the world is always going to focus on the bad, but the fact that Alkaline Trio are still pushing out new music is something good that we can all focus on. Music is such an important distraction and the eleven tracks on 'Blood, Hair, and Eyeballs' can certainly keep you entertained for half an hour or so.

Ten albums in and any band will struggle to deliver an earth shattering new record. This album ultimately is decent without being that standout release. It does have its moments though and feels now like a solid reset moment for the band.

With Skiba now fully invested again and the accomplished Atom Willard on board, you feel it won't be that long between releases this time around; and that future really does seem more exciting now with this album feeling like a timely reminder of what the trio can offer.

## EP REVIEW



After unleashing a new line-up and initial EP last year, it's time for **Dream State** to kickstart their new era with something a little bulkier. Described as a mini-album, 'Still Dreaming' represents six new tracks including recent singles, 'Still Dreaming', 'Chin Up Princess' and 'Anxious State of Mind'.

This release certainly picks right up where both **'Untethered'** and the groups earlier material left off. The lyrics are meaningful, the guitars are soaring and the vocals are ferociously majestic. There really can be no doubt now that the future remains incredibly bright for the band.

All three of the unreleased tracks, 'Calling Out', 'Set Free' and 'Day Seeker' do their jobs perfectly and help to create a well rounded statement of intent for a line-up creating their own distinctive identity.



There was some surprise when after pushing on for two decades playing as the backing band for Frank Turner, **The Sleeping Souls** announced that (whilst continuing in that role) they will be teaming with longtime friend Cahir O'Doherty to release an album of their own. Arguable there was further surprise when that album turned out to be a real top quality collection of indie rock bangers.

Now fans are getting what will be a rare chance to hear these songs live, so we head to **Nottingham** and the **Rescue Rooms** to do just that. Up first is former 'Discover' New Music Podcast guest **Hannah Rose Platt** who serenades the audience with her delightfully spooky tales. Platt continues to captivate her audiences and you couldn't wish for a better way to start the evening.

Nor could you wish for a better co-headline act to follow. Another former Podcast guest, **Sean McGowan** is in town to play old favourites and some great new tracks off of his latest release, **'Who On Earth'**. McGowan is another artist with a unique natural ability to grip his audience and the crowd love singing along with the likes of **'No Show'**, **'Costa del Solution'** and **'Cuppa Tea'**.

Completing the entertainment tonight are those Sleeping Souls and it's somewhat surreal to see them without that tall bloke with the goatee. O'Doherty and Matt Nasir fill the onstage banter void well and with O'Doherty on lead vocals the band are well served. There is a different sonic experience as well of course, but the experience of the members ensures that you don't feel like you are watching a brand new band. Although, of course the music is new, it's also familiar and quite remarkable in all honesty.





## **SLAM DUNK WINTER JAM** @ WATERFRONT, NORWICH - 25/01/24

January is always a touring wasteland, with most fans nursing festive hangovers and following a month of sobriety. This year however Slam Dunk have decided to kickstart 2024 and truly get the party started with their 'Winter Jam' Tour!

Tonight the circus rolls into the Waterfront in Norwich and literally getting the party started are local favourites Millie Manders and the Shutup! The opening slot on a four band bill with doors as early as 18:30, may not usually be all that it's cracked up to be. Manders and co though have absolutely no problem whatsoever in getting the crowd up to the desired level.



Manders and co have a strong following tonight and they make the most of their short opening set with the likes of 'Rebound' and 'Bitter' getting everyone dancing and singing along. 'Bacchus' encourages everyone to "have another drink", and not being the only drink themed song of the evening probably ruins a fair few dry January's!

The band are a force of fun-inducing nature and are the ideal band to open up a line-up such as this. Equally our next act **[spunge]** are well versed in getting a crowd to liven-up with their infectious poppunk revelry.





Songs such as 'Jump **Demand'** and 'Skanking Song' are built with a purpose the Norwich crowd are more than happy to oblige this evening. When you throw in a cover of 'Monkey Man' and the bands signature 'Kicking song Pigeons', you get another super fun set from a band that can only be described as underground national treasures!

The bands selected by Slam Dunk for this tour are all regulars at the summer spectacular, except for the main support act **Teenage Bottlerocket**. The group did play this past summer but they are a much rarer prospect for UK fans and the good folk of Norwich certainly seem appreciative of the chance to bang their heads to their intense punk rockers.

As expected, the pace is unrelenting throughout their time on stage and people's ear drums may take a little while to recover. That's down to the pure velocity of their sonic onslaught which is rough, ready and able to hypnotise a punk from 1000 metres!





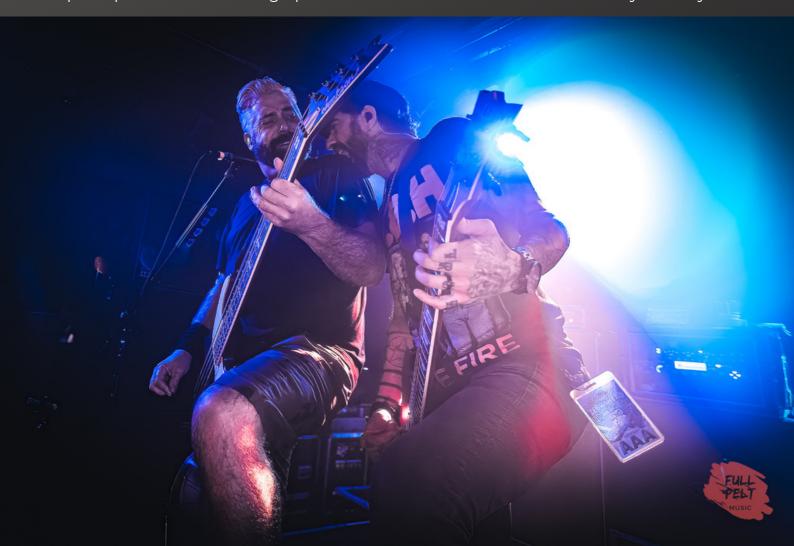
quick relatively tonight which doesn't allow much respite for the audience, but that also means that the four band bill breezes by. Three fun sets down already, and the crowd are ready for their punk heroes pop Zebrahead to bring proceedings to a close.



The group are more than capable of topping a line-up such as this and more than prepared to deliver the knockout blow that will destroy any remaining festive hangovers. They kick off their set with 'When Both Sides Suck, We're All Winners', 'No Tomorrow' and 'Hello Tomorrow' which sets their pace early on.

Again, as expected, because you know what you are going to get on the Slam Dunk Winter Jam, that pace never really drops. There is no lethargy in the crowd and their hour or so on the Waterfront stage is a joyous celebration of both Zebrahead and the pop punk movement. Whilst the genre may be maligned by certain sections of the musical elite – a night like this will always produce a fun evening of frivolity!

An encore of 'All My Friends Are Nobodies' and 'Falling Apart' is the perfect cherry on top of the pop punk cake. Tonight that four-tiered cake has been tasty as hell and Slam Dunk have perhaps baked something up which could become as traditional as dry January!







When Both Sides Suck, We're All Winners

No Tomorrow

Hello Tomorrow

Worse Than This

LayMeToRest The Perfect Crime

Mike Dexteris a God, Mike Dexteris Role Model, Mike Dexteris an Asshole

Hell Yeah!

Who Brings A Knife To A Gunfight?

Drink Drink

RescueMe

We're Not Alright

Homesick For Hope

Anthem

All My Friends Are Nobodies

Falling Apart









Can you name each song from the lyrics?

Go on give it a go - the theme this week is:

NEW!

THE BITTERNESS INSIDE
IS GROWING LIKE THE NEW BORN

HEY, I PUT SOME NEW SHOES ON AND SUDDENLY EVERYTHING'S RIGHT

DOUBLE, DOUBLE DOWN FINDERS KEEPERS, LOSERS WEEPERS

WE WILL MAKE A BRAND NEW START FROM THE PIECES TORN APART THE BREAK OF DAY IS BEFORE US

YOU CAN DO ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU LIKE TO DO ALL AROUND, UNDERGROUND, PICK A PART THAT'S NEW

#### NEW MUSIC PLAYLIST



#### **VENUS GRRRLS - 'Divine'**

**VENUS GRRRLS** are poised to become the next big name in UK rock, and they start their year with new single, **'Divine'**!

Giving more insight into the track, lead singer GK says: "'Divine" is the female gaze; the unsaid, but the known. It narrates the earlier stages of a relationship which is shrouded in mystery, making for an addictive and all consuming sentimentality."

#### Neversaid - 'No Father'

**Neversaid** are poised to step up with the release of their sophomore EP, 'Bond Over Blood', which lands on Friday 29th March. The band have now unleashed their breathtaking new single, 'No Father'.

Lead vocalist, Logan Samuel, remarks about the motivation behind the single: "These songs are among some of the angriest we've ever written, lyrically drawing from pain and disfunction within various relationships in my life. Sonically, the EP blends various elements of emo, pop-punk and hardcore, resulting in a raw and emotional collection of tracks". With rampant shows and festivals planned for this year, stay tuned to the band's social sites for constant updates.

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Then find out the stories behind the songs on our 'Discover' New Music Podcast!



#### Gürl - 'Boys in the 90s'

**Gürl** serve up pure, chaotic, sugary anti-pop with their latest single 'Boys in the 90s'.

Says vocalist and lyricist Josh Dalton: "It's about growing up poor, on a council estate, going to a special measures school, and getting beaten up by kids that think you're ugly... but then coming home and watching these 90s movies where men aren't really portrayed as typically masculine or handsome, but instead androgynous and beautiful. Seeing that and thinking, why can't I look like that?

"It's about insecurity, and rage, and reverence to 90s icons. Even the drum beat we ripped straight off Backstreet Boys."





#### NEW MUSIC PLAYLIST



#### FLOYA - 'Lights Out'

**FLOYA** have released their new single 'Lights Out' - the first song they wrote and recorded as a band. The track is taken from their upcoming debut album 'Yume', due for release on 8th March.

Guitarist Marv Wilder comments: "We were jamming somewhere in Norway when we stumbled upon the main riff of the song. Phil went straight into the recording booth and laid down some sketches, it was very natural. I feel like 'Lights Out' is an homage to our musical roots, we were very different people when we wrote that one. Lyrically it's probably the darkest one we did, but the topic it tackles is so important. It's an amazing feeling to now release it after all this time, it's very humbling."



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#### **Defects - Lockdown**

**Defects** will release their debut album, 'Modern Error', on 24 May. They have also revealed their brand-new song, 'Lockdown'!

"I use songwriting as a tool to vent rather than be poetic," explains Tony Maue. He was taken into care from a young age, and that trauma and the experiences that followed are ones that he has battled with ever since. "The traumatic memories of going into care, losing my family when I was very young, and having to deal with that and adjusting myself to that kind of lifestyle, at the time was brutal. The only thing that helped me, and I'm not just saying this, was music."

"We've always been told to strive for perfection, but I don't think anyone can be perfect," he considers. "We are all defects in a way, but that makes us all unique."



#### The Gems - 'Fruits of My Labor'

**The Gems** celebrate the release of their debut album 'Phoenix' by revealing fifth single 'Fruits Of My Labor'.

The Gems on 'Fruits Of My Labor': "This song is about overcoming and appreciating the struggles on the way to making your dreams come true."

Photo Credit: Gustaf Sandholm Andersson

#### NEW MUSIC PLAYLIST



## El Moono - 'The First Man On Mars'

**El Moono** have announced their debut album, **'The Waking Sun'**, out 10th May. The band also share new single **'The First Man On Mars'**.

The band comment: "Modern life looks more like a dystopia every day - the rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, and billionaires are planning their escape to Mars. 'The First Man On Mars' is a comment on the billionaire space race, and how we're allowing those billions to be invested in a vanity project, rather than problems that affect us all on earth. Sometimes we feel like we're stuck in the Truman Show, with no escape from our predetermined fates. Musically, the track sums up our band's divergent style of songwriting, with verses of world-music tinged pop suddenly juxtaposed by doom-metal sludge sections, and accentuated by the biggest riff we've ever written."

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#### **SWARM6IX - 'LIP\$TICK'**

**SWARM6IX** release new single 'LIP\$TICK'!

Ben Fordham - "LIP\$TICK" is ultimately the realisation that someone isn't who they made their self out to be. LIP\$TICK is the cover up of those imperfections and lies that people hide to make themselves seem like a better person until their true selves come to fruition. The backstabbers, the manipulators, the narcissists, and the deceivers"



#### **Ashen Reach 'Lost'**

**Ashen Reach** return with new single **'Lost'**, ahead of new EP, **'The Fear'**, out 22nd March.

The band remark about the EP: "The Fear was written and created as a concept release highlighting different fears and phobias, and how fear can also be used as a weapon."

The foursome elaborate: "We wanted to push our sound in a heavier direction as we felt this was a more organic evolution of where we are at musically in our journey as a band. We also felt the concept of the EP was a perfect canvas for our new sonic palette."

#### NEW MUSIC PLAYLIST



#### Shooting Daggers - 'Smug'

**Shooting Daggers** share **'Smug'** ahead of debut album, **'Love and Rage'**, out February 16th!

New single 'Smug' is, according to the band "about the hierarchy of the music scene and how important it is to go back to your roots and never forget where you came from/started. For this reason in the video we wanted to highlight our little community and our favourite spots in SE London."





#### Feral Family - 'Sold'

Northern post-punks **Feral Family** share **'Sold'**, as they release debut album, **'Without Motion'**.

Jamie Lowe says of the track, "Sold' is based on life being taken over by work, it quickly gets to a point in your day to day where working to live becomes living to work, and I think it's one that many people can relate to."

#### Attendant - 'Chimera'



London based alt rockers **Attendant** share new single **'Chimera'**.

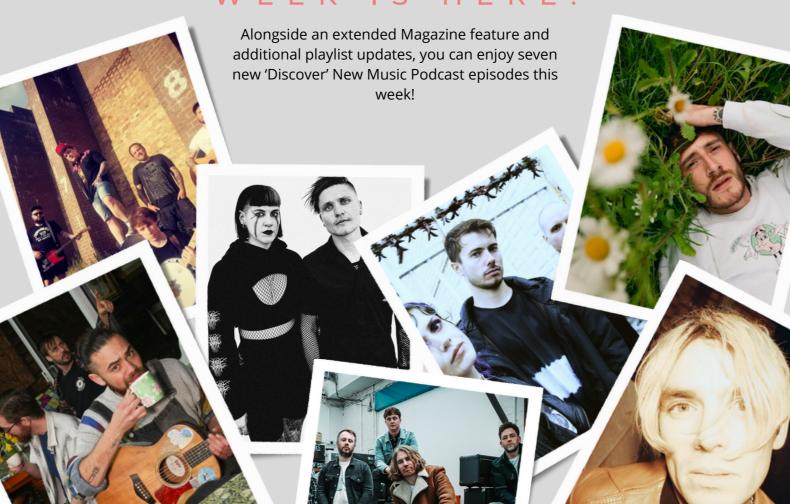
Vocalist Andy Walker mentions, "Chimera is a portrait of an embittered old misanthropist, lashing out at a world he no longer understands. In a moment of self-reflection, he concludes that his cynicism is the product of selfhatred. The world is not the problem. He is."

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**HEADCAGE** 



**NORTH ATLAS** 



**KITE THIEF** 



**DEATH OF ME** 

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