



**WALTER TROUT**  
SURVIVOR BLUES  
MASCOT LABEL GROUP

From the day he conceived the project to the moment he counted off the first song in the studio, **Walter Trout** had a bolder plan for *Survivor Blues*. "I'm riding in my car sometimes," says the U.S. blues titan. "I've got a blues station on – and here's another band doing 'Got My Mojo Working.' And there's a little voice in me that says, 'Does the world need another version of that song?' So I came up with an idea. I didn't want to do 'Stormy Monday' or 'Messin' With The Kid.' I didn't want to do the blues greatest hits. I wanted to do old, obscure songs that have hardly been covered. And that's how *Survivor Blues* started." The Doors' Robby Krieger guests.



**TRAPPER SCHOEPP**  
PRIMETIME ILLUSION  
XTRA MILE RECORDINGS

By the time 2016 – after riding high on critically-acclaimed new album – came to its end, **Trapper Schoepp** had split with his longtime partner, been all but forced out of his longtime home and band clubhouse by a new landlord, and worst of all, painfully re-herniated a disc in his back that had plagued him for years. Then two things got him back on his feet: Learning to play piano and co-writing a song with **Bob Dylan**. Invigorated, new songs came fast and furious – and *Primetime Illusion* was born. Produced by Wilco's **Patrick Sansone**, *Primetime Illusion* is a truly remarkable collection of sonic snapshots in which people we all know struggle to fulfill their own American dream.



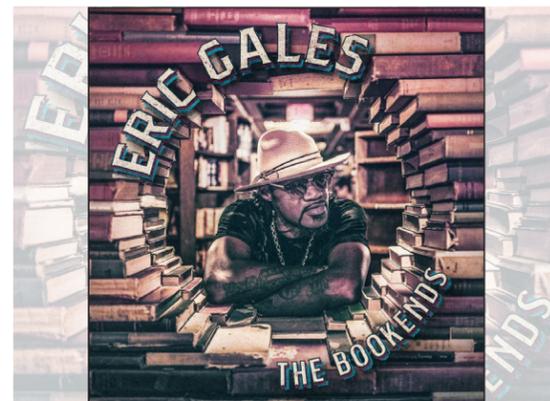
**ADDI MCDANIEL**  
AFTER THE NEWS  
SYLVAN SONGS

**Addi McDaniel** is both an extraordinary singer and a gifted interpreter. *After The News* finds her breathing vivid life into a raft of original songs from collaborator Tom Siering, whose material she deftly pairs with covers of Andrew Bird and Bruce Cockburn to form a broader tale of mortality, acceptance, grief, and forgiveness. She points her search inwards, channeling the pain of loss and regret into a transformative work of beauty and strength that blurs the lines between roots, blues, soul, and jazz. *After The News* finds **McDaniel** backed by an all-star cast of musicians who thrive on raw spontaneity. **McDaniel** mentally transformed herself for each track – recognizing large parts of her own personality and experiences in these well-considered songs.



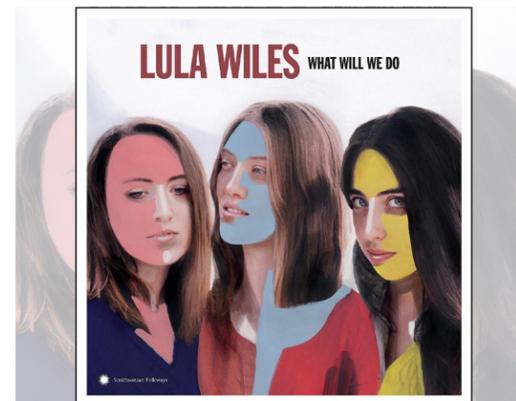
**THE KENTUCKY HEADHUNTERS**  
LIVE AT THE RAMBLIN' MAN FAIR  
ALLIGATOR RECORDS

*Live At The Ramblin' Man Fair* finds Grammy-winners **The Kentucky Headhunters** blazing through a 10-song set in front of 25,000 screaming UK fans while on the first European tour of its 30-year career. Combining old-school blues and blistering Southern rock with country overtones, **The Kentucky Headhunters** cross borders and genres with ease, as the elated UK audience roars its collective approval throughout the concert. The album features three recently rediscovered studio tracks from the legendary *Meet Me In Bluesland* sessions – featuring late blues piano icon Johnnie Johnson (known for his seminal piano work driving Chuck Berry's most famous songs) – and raucous covers of "Big Boss Man" and The Beatles' "Don't Let Me Down." You need this.



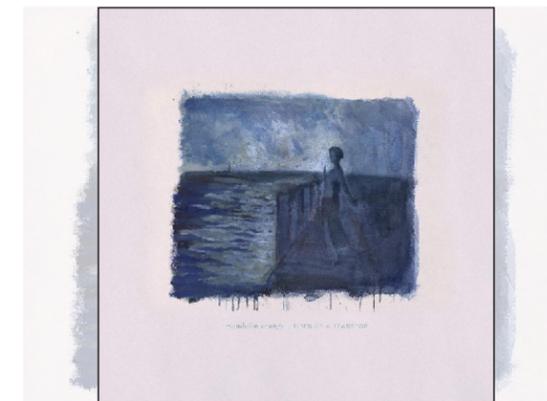
**ERIC GALES**  
THE BOOKENDS  
MASCOT LABEL GROUP

The challenge of making *The Bookends* was, quite simply, for **Eric Gales** to challenge himself. "As a guitar player it's been established that I can play a little bit, just a little bit," he says, ever humbly. But for this album he not only wanted to push himself as a musician, but also as a vocalist – to build up his vocal repertoire. "What spearheaded that was the artists that I have on the record," he adds which includes **B. Slade**, **Doyle Bramhall II**, and **Beth Hart**. If his previous album, *Middle of the Road*, was the rebirth of **Eric Gales**, then *The Bookends* is him blurring boundaries and taking flight on a voyage of self-discovery.



**LULA WILES**  
WHAT WILL WE DO  
SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS

**Lula Wiles** in the practice rooms of Boston's Berklee College of Music. In 2016, the band self-released *Lula Wiles*. Since then, they have toured internationally, winning fans at the Newport Folk Festival, and sharing stages with the likes of Aoife O'Donovan, the Wood Brothers, and Tim O'Brien. On *What Will We Do*, **Lula Wiles** fosters contradiction – embracing the spirit of traditional American music, while questioning the virtues of the culture that produces it: Country songs that shine a light on a country's crimes, love songs about being alone, and murder ballads that challenge the standards of morality. **Lula Wiles** exist in the tense space where tradition and revolution meet, from which their harmonies rise into the air to create new American music.



**MANDOLIN ORANGE**  
TIDES OF A TEARDROP (FIRST EDITION)  
YEP ROC RECORDS

*Tides Of A Teardrop* finds **Mandolin Orange** – the duo of Andrew Marlin and Emily Frantz – exploring the intimate grief at the frayed edges of their songwriting, facing down the depths of despair and emerging with something renewed and redemptive. It's a progressive, personal statement from one of roots music's most thoughtful young groups, on the cusp of yet another prodigious breakthrough – one that's focused on slow-burning acoustic meditations on love and loss. Whether it's the trilling, weighty atmosphere of the allegorical "Wolves" or the Appalachian yearning of the hymn-like "Suspended In Heaven," Marlin and Frantz's vocal and instrumental interplay is as dialed in as ever, the instinctual expression of deeply known but unspoken truths.