



PANDA BEAR
BUOYS
DOMINO RECORD CO

From the opening minutes of *Buoys*, Noah Lennox's sixth solo album as **Panda Bear** resembles something both wholly new yet intimately familiar to fans and followers of the **Animal Collective** member's body of work. Lennox's bright, sincere voice is still front-and-center, along with his beatific approach to melodic structure and vocal phrasing – but there's miles of space surrounding it... With just a guitar and a few textured samples here and there fleshing out **Buoys'** dubby sparseness. The off-white loveliness of 2011's *Tomboy* is recalled, as well as the sampledelica of 2007's landmark *Person Pitch* – but *Buoys* otherwise represents a surprising and intimately pleasurable new direction for an artist who's embraced not repeating oneself as its own creative ethos.



DRENGE
STRANGE CREATURES
BMG

Strange Creatures is “the most considered record we have ever made” according to English three-piece **Drenge**. “It’s a nocturnal record. A psychological horror movie on wax,” the group adds. “Warped hallucinations from mundane observations as you move through it. Is that a school or a skyscraper on fire in the distance? Or maybe it’s just the ski village? You drive nearer, past roadside diners jammed with dancing teenagers, through Uncanny Valley, past the most unhygienic nightclub in the world. The stereo sounds like it’s going to fall apart at any moment.” And just wait until you hear the guitars! It’s a sexy, pummeling record that fans of The Fall, Nick Cave, Protomartyr, and Sleaford Mods will wanna crank this with a quickness.



RY X
UNFURL
BMG

Between its rippling beats, mellifluous guitars, poised piano and questing vocals, *Unfurl* does as its title suggests. “Body (Ambient)” – an overture where plush strings and keys add new ripples to **Ry X's** evocations of feeling and space. Burial-ish beats and tender electronics herald further developments on “Untold,” while **Ry's** tremulous voice holds the fragile focus. Ethereal vocals and gently moving electronics ring true as “Bound” gently opens the doors to new arenas between alt-folk and alt-R&B. “Body Sun,” meanwhile, layers and builds its vocal intimacies, with deep strings and clusters of percussion. Most of the songs were recorded live using analog equipment at an old east LA studio and in an airstream on his land in Topanga.



VARIOUS ARTISTS
SHARP OBJECTS (MUSIC FROM THE HBO...)
EONE

Sharp Objects (Music from the HBO Limited Series) is the soundtrack and musical companion to the groundbreaking summer mini-series crime drama starring **Amy Adams** as Camille Preaker – a troubled reporter returning home to an equally troubled assignment: the murders of two preteen girls. Trying to put together a psychological puzzle from her past, she finds herself identifying with the young victims a bit too closely... Like the smash limited-series, *Big Little Lies*, *Sharp Objects* benefits greatly from both the vision of director Jean-Marc Vallée and the Emmy Award-winning music supervision of Susan Jacobs, who masterfully brought Engelbert Humperdinck, Snoop Dog, and Alexandra Streliski under one conceptual roof. It truly is a new Golden Age of Television.



METHYL ETHEL
TRIAGE
4AD

Methyl Ethel continues to subvert pop music across its many styles with *Triage*. Born in the heat of the Australian summer, Jake Webb built *Triage* from the ground up in various bedrooms and friends' studios. “I got obsessed with a lot of theory, essentially trying to discover how songs work,” he says. “Scream Whole” marries Sibelius' piano work with Venezuelan producer Arca. “Trip The Mains” has the fizzy thrill of The Cure's “Let's Go To Bed” and with the melting synths of David Bowie's “Ashes to Ashes.” “Real Tight” is so infectious that it takes several listens to realize there isn't a chorus. And *that voice!* *Triage* is a psychedelic pop masterpiece that sounds both familiar and unlike anything you've ever heard. You need this.



HAND HABITS
PLACEHOLDER
SADDLE CREEK

Meg Duffy cut her teeth as a session guitarist and touring member of Kevin Morby's band. **The Hand Habits** began as a solo project, but soon evolved into a fully-fledged band with Meg at the helm. **Hand Habits'** debut album was entirely self-produced and recorded in Meg's home during spare moments when the band wasn't touring. Two years later, **Hand Habits** emerged with its sophomore album, *Placeholder*. To make this album, Meg chose to work in a studio – and she emerges with new confidence over the course of these 12 tracks. *Placeholder* is as tender and immediate as anything Meg's ever written, but it's also intensely focused and refined – the work of a meticulous musician ready to share their singular vision with the world.



PJ MASKS
TIME TO BE A HERO
EI

PJ Masks is an animated series that follows the thrilling nighttime adventures of three young friends who transform into their dynamic alter egos, **Catboy**, **Owlette** and **Gekko**, when they put on their pajamas at night and activate their animal amulets. Together, they embark on action-packed capers, solving mysteries and learning valuable lessons along the way. *PJ Masks Live: Time to Be a Hero* is a touring live show that puts the trio's adventures to song, much to the delight of children around the country. If yours are among them, then what would make their day more than having this Original Cast Recording, that can be played morning, noon, and night. Besides: It's cheaper than a VIP ticket... And / or therapy.