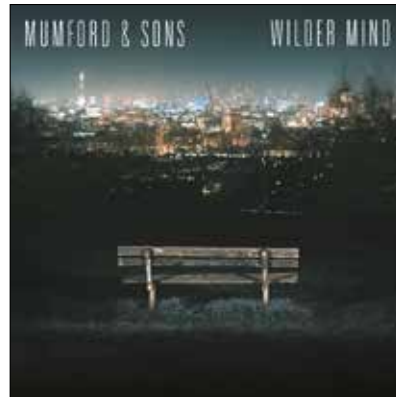




25
COLUMBIA

"My last record was a break up record and if I had to label this one I would call it a make up record. I'm making up with myself. Making up for lost time. Making up for everything I ever did and never did." From 19 to 21 and, now, **25**, British soul-bearing sensation, **Adele**, has done a lot of growing up in public. But, as she so eloquently stated, her new album is about moving onwards and upwards. A good thing, too, because why waste the momentum? With 19 she made an impression, but looked to become merely a footnote on this side of the pond. 2 years later she was a global sensation, her heartbroken aggression fueling a collection of passionate and undeniable songs so powerful that it would defy all expectations and sell over 30 million copies worldwide. Understandably, she took her time when considering her next move – and in the years that have transpired, **Adele's** confidence is never cocky. **25** ain't an album about answers – it's an album about allowing yourself to live. The music has the same philosophy: It keeps on keepin' on. There is evolution, sure, but evolution is slow. That said, the results are worth the wait. "**25** is about getting to know who I've become without realizing," she says. "I'm sorry it took so long, but you know, life happened."



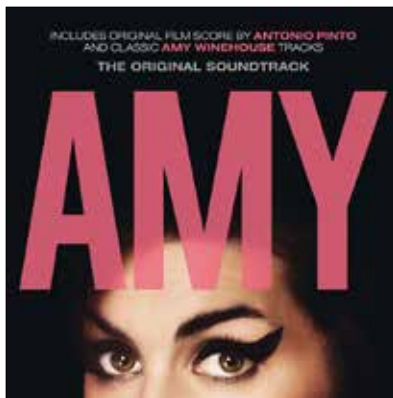
MUMFORD & SONS
WILDER MIND
GLASSNOTE

Angered at the establishment, **Mumford & Sons**, British by birth but, like our fearless immigrant forefathers, are given to a rebellious streak that bleeds America. Yet rather than dress up in silly hats with teabags hanging about they took on an turn of the century look that was less Jules Verne and more George Orwell gone "Down and Out" – stealthily employing the visage of well-manicured blue collar types (i.e. a mining operation's middle-management, or stable boys running from their aristocratic roots) who were eager to learn about our rough-and-tumble folk traditions in order to slightly subvert them into pounding, four-on-the-floor populist anthems so powerful that they could shellac listeners with the mere suggestion of a wordless chorus. Familiar yet foreign, this family band – all passion and pomade – conquered and charmed us all (well, Atlanta's Clermont Lounge took some umbrage with our heroes). So impressed, T-Bone Burnett imparted the gnostic gospels of America's True Bard, Bob Dylan, to the band – a tacit approval! With *Wilder Mind*, **Mumford & Sons** have fought their Newport and won! They have gone electric – wrapping their *sturm und drang* in leather jackets and Springsteenian Tones! Grit your teeth and cry "FREEDOM!"



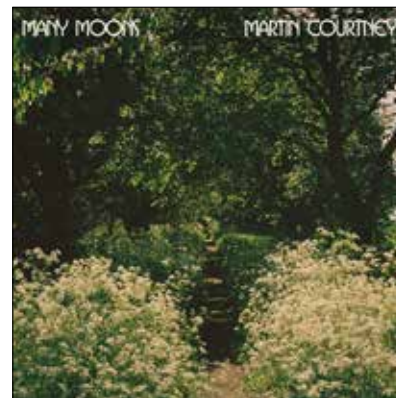
GRIMES
ART ANGELS
4AD

Grimes is the multimedia project of Canadian artist Claire Boucher. She is best known for her work as a producer, singer and songwriter, although '**Grimes**' also encompasses her work as a director, painter and writer. Spanning fourteen tracks, her new album, **Art Angels**, features collaborations with Janelle Monáe and newcomer, Taiwanese rapper Aristophanes. It was recorded primarily in **Grimes'** home studio in Los Angeles, CA. Like all of her previous albums, **Art Angels** was written and recorded entirely as a solo endeavor. **Art Angels** features more live instrumentation than ever before on a **Grimes** record. She plays piano, guitar and violin, continuing her evolution as a musician and a producer for her most ambitious album to date. As ever, **Grimes'** music is youthfully schizophrenic and searching, a voyage into the yet undefined territory of post-internet, re-spiritualized sound. **Grimes** strongly values a physical and communal experience of music (it's danceability), experimental vocalization, and psychedelia. **Grimes** is self-indulgence, devastation and ecstasy. humanity, spirituality, escapism, identity, reality. And **Art Angels** is quintessentially now.



VARIOUS ARTISTS
AMY-OFFICIAL MOTION PICTURE
REPUBLIC

Amy is a documentary about the troubled life and times of **Amy Winehouse** – one of the greatest soul singers the world has ever known. It might seem odd to make such a statement – many know her more has a one-hit wonder thanks to her worldwide smash "Rehab" – but **Winehouse's** musical gifts have touched a generation of music lovers. But if she has an analog then it might be Kurt Cobain – someone who's deeply internalized love of music begat a voice that was both classic and unique... But the baggage that came with such power was too much, causing both artists to self-destruct before our eyes – something particularly true of **Winehouse**, who came of age in the Selfie Era. **Amy** has caused quite a stir in critics and fans. It's the highest-grossing documentary in the history of the UK and the 2nd globally (it rests behind *Fahrenheit 9/11*). This soundtrack features the Antonio Pinto's moving score as some seminal live performances by **Winehouse** that are worth having whether you've seen the film or not (but you totally should).



MARTIN COURTNEY
MANY MOONS
DOMINO

Many Moons is the solo debut from **Martin Courtney**, the principal songwriter of **Real Estate**. After the 2014 release of their third album, *Atlas*, **Courtney** started writing some songs while waiting to head out on tour. He's created an album of soft psychedelia that sonically recalls the Kinks and Big Star and that lyrically reveals his life as a family man, father, and touring musician. **Many Moons** is breezy and full of subtle introspection. It's an elliptical document of **Courtney's** transition into family life and fatherhood written through the filter of being away from his loved ones and home. **Many Moon's** musicians, which include Jarvis Taveniere of Woods, who produced the album, and Julian Lynch and Matt Kallman, help bring a newfound sonic clarity, a brightness evidenced in 'Northern Highway'. Songs are rounded out with orchestral arrangements, as evidenced in 'Vestiges', or the instrumental title track, a sweetly luxurious string and flute number that wouldn't be out of place on a prime-era Pentangle record.



SETH MCFARLAND
NO ONE EVER TELLS YOU
 REPUBLIC

No One Ever Tells You is *Family Guy* creator **Seth MacFarlane's** third full-length album. Turns out that our foremost champion of all things scatological has a deep love for classic crooners. The 17-track album features both originals and covers. **MacFarlane** teamed up with Grammy Award-nominated composer Joel McNeely for the project. Expanding his discography, *No One Ever Tells You* follows up last year's *Holiday For Swing*. His 2011 debut, *Music Is Better Than Words*, received Grammy Award nominations in Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album & Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical. Given that **MacFarlane** has such a knack for voices, it shouldn't come as a surprise that he has a lovely singing voice that aims occasionally (and oddly) recalls Scott Walker more than it does Sinatra. Furthermore, *No One Ever Tells You* is beautifully arranged and recorded – so much so that he should consider pimping it during PBS fundraising events. It could be considered atonement for *Ted 2*.



SPOON
GIMME FICTION DLX
 MERGE

Gimme Fiction dragged the sonic pointillism of *Kill the Moonlight* further into dub-influenced weirdness as the increasingly confident **Spoon** went crazy in the studio, experimenting with everything from warped hip-hop samples to horse whinnies. How all this directionless Dylan worship and psychedelic goofing resulted in an album as sharply realized as *Gimme Fiction* is a testament solely to **Spoon's** self-assurance and tastefulness (and some hard work, and a bit of luck, etc.). Whatever digging or strange alchemy had to go into it, they only produced more gold. *Gimme Fiction* deserves special recognition because it's the album where **Spoon**—backed into a corner—took some crazy leaps, all of them forward. It's a "departure point" for a band that, lucky for us, has never made a real departure. Now, in celebration of the 10th anniversary of *Gimme Fiction*, the album has been reissued as a double-LP (180g) and double-CD, along with 12 previously unreleased demos from the era, nine additional bonus tracks via digital download, and a full-color book containing photos and an extensive oral history of the making of the album. You need this.



COLDPLAY
A HEAD FULL OF DREAMS
 ATLANTIC/PARLOPHONE

A Head Full Of Dreams is the widescreen follow-up to 2014's fragile and lovelorn *Ghost Stories*, **Coldplay's** sixth consecutive worldwide chart topper, award winner and multi-million seller. The band chose not to tour *Ghost Stories* and headed straight back into the studio to record *A Head Full Of Dreams*. Revitalized, they've made an album that's bursting with energy, color and big, life-affirming moments such as the ebullient disco-inflected (yes: you read that correctly) first single "Adventure Of A Lifetime" and the rocket-powered "Hymn For The Weekend." *A Head Full Of Dreams* has the infectious energy and heart-on-the-sleeve sincerity you've come to expect from **Coldplay** but with plenty of pleasant surprises (e.g. the WTF guitar solo of "True Love"). The album, recorded in Malibu, Los Angeles and London, was produced by Norwegian duo Stargate together with the band's long-time collaborator Rik Simpson. It features more guests than any previous **Coldplay** album, with Beyoncé, Noel Gallagher, Tove Lo and Merry Clayton among those appearing across its 11 tracks. **Coldplay** have never enjoyed making a record more than this one. Nor have they been happier with the results. And, this time, they plan to take it around the world.



BEACH HOUSE
THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS
 SUB POP

For over a decade **Beach House** – the Baltimore-based duo of Victoria Legrand and Alex Scally – have been creating some of the most gorgeous, intimate, and engrossing dream pop ever committed to tape. With every album **Beach House** has expanded both its sound and its popularity and their latest albums, *Depression Cherry* (which came out in September) and, now, the surprise release of the band's sixth album, *Thank Your Luck Stars*, continues on that upward trend. "The songs came together very quickly and were driven by the lyrics and the narrative," says **Beach House**. "In this way, the record feels very new for us, and a great departure from our last few records. Thematically, this record often feels political. It's hard to put it into words, but something about the record made us want to release it without the normal 'campaign.'" We wanted it to simply enter the world and exist." Like *Depression Cherry* there's a fuzzy slipstream that subtly lifts *Thank Your Lucky Stars'* songs to new realms, especially the tricky rhythms of opener, "Majorette" and bubble-propelled choogle of "One Thing," and the sleepy skronk of "Elegy to the Void." If *Twin Peaks* had a roller rink, then **Beach House** would be the house band.



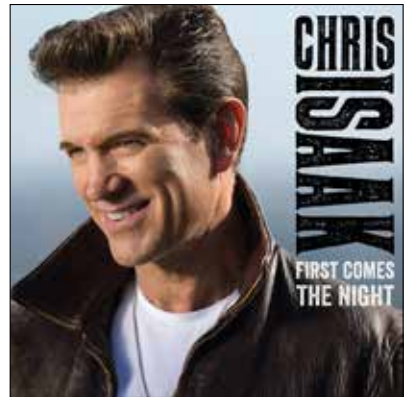
BARONESS
PURPLE
 ABRAXAN HYMNS

After making waves with their *Red* and *Blue* albums, **Baroness** explored new sonic realms with their 2012 double album *Yellow & Green*, which received rave reviews from both fans and critics. That said, the expectations for **Baroness'** fourth studio release, *Purple* are high – but **Baroness** has risen to the challenge. "After releasing a lengthy and investigative record like *Yellow & Green* we all felt that we needed to make something much more direct and immediate," explains band founder and singer John Baizley of the approach behind *Purple*. "We wanted to write with our normal focus on artistry, balanced against an increased level of energy and focus. It was important for us to write our new songs with the type of enthusiasm and expressiveness that could act as a counterpoint to the album's dark themes. As a result, the music came out in an intense, heavy and sonically captivating in a new way, which was important, loathe, as we are to fall into any kind of complacency pitfall or formulaic songwriting routine. *Purple* is the most fully realized representation of our intention as a band; considering the amount of physical and mental energy spent writing it, we have accomplished something which would have seemed impossible to us a couple of years ago." Produced by David Fridmann!



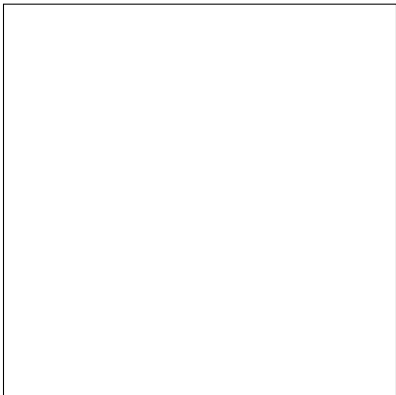
CHVRCHES
EVERY OPEN EYE
GLASSNOTE

A lot has changed for **CHVRCHES** in the past few years. When the Glaswegian trio wrote and recorded their debut, *The Bones Of What You Believe*, **CHVRCHES** came together with the idea of working on a writing project together, unsure of what path that would take other than one which belied their previous musical projects and foregrounded melody and classic songwriting styles before everything else. *The Bones of What You Believe* went on to sell over 500,000 albums worldwide. The band also became both a critical success and a major festival draw. Made in **CHVRCHES'** Alucard Studios – the same converted three-bedroom flat on the southside of Glasgow where the band made its debut. Musically, *Every Open Eye* seeks to do more with less: To make something intense and urgent and visceral, using the basic tools of melody, rhythm and arrangement rather than the mentality that 'more is more'. Sonically, *Every Open Eye* develops **CHVRCHES'** signature style, juxtaposing the light and the dark, creating their own brand of twisted pop music that uniquely merges the organic with the electronic, molding sounds and ideas forged over two years on the road into an electronic-pop record with a heart.



CHRIS ISAAK
FIRST COMES THE NIGHT
VANGUARD

Chris Isaak's accurately-titled *Beyond the Sun*, is a self-described labor of love. Since he fell in love with his parents' 45s as a child, this passionate writer/artist has been obsessed with the glory days of Memphis' Sun Studio and the visionary artists who got their starts there—including Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis—all of them discovered and nurtured by Sam Phillips. Now, at long last, **Isaak** pays tribute to the roots of Rock 'n' Roll with his unique renditions of classics, plus new, original self-penned tunes. Both before and during the sessions, **Isaak** was inspired to pen some original tunes in the spirit of these sacred texts. One of them, the cranked-up rocker "Live It Up," is being released as the first single. "When we were doing the record, I kept learning things," says **Chris**. "For instance, nothing on those early records has a rock beat—it's all shuffle and stripper beat. I wrote "Live It Up" to put a rock beat on the record, so that that beat too is represented." Produced by **Isaak**, *Beyond the Sun* was recorded mostly at the historic Sun Studio in Memphis with his longtime band. The album also features a guest performance by the Memphis legend, 'Cowboy' Jack Clement.



SHOVELS & ROPE
BUSTED JUKEBOX: VOLUME 1
DUALTONE

Shovels & Rope is the musical child of Cary Ann Hearst and Michael Trent – a South Carolina based husband and wife duo responsible for some of the most heartfelt, raucous, fun, and sexy Americana (or whatever you wanna call it) ever committed to tape. It's like The Civil Wars except they actually love each other... And, you know, prefer fun to high gravity musical theatre. The band's 2012 breakthrough, *O' Be Joyful*, garnered unanimous praise from the press followed by dozens of sold out shows, national television appearances, numerous year-end lists, impressive album sales and major festival performances. To cap it all off, **Shovels & Rope** took home two of the top honors, Song of the Year ("Birmingham") and Emerging Artist of the Year at the 2013 Americana Music Awards. Since then they've been featured in a documentary called *The Ballad of Shovels and Rope* and released another killer collection of songs called *Swimmin' Time*. Now, just in time for the holidays, **Shovels and Rope** are back with *Busted Jukebox Volume 1* – a collaboration between the band and some of their friends playing some of their favorite songs, including classics by Neil Young and Lou Reed. Guests include Shakey Graves, The Milk Carton Kids, JD McPherson, and more!

