



BRANDI CARLILE
THE FIREWATCHER'S DAUGHTER
 ATO RECORDS

The Firewatcher's Daughter is the newest collection of songs from golden-voiced singer / songwriter **Brandi Carlile**. The 12-song album explodes with energy, urgency and pristine harmonies and represents the start of a fresh chapter for **Carlile** and her longtime collaborators Tim and Phil Hanseroth – also known as “The Twins.” *The Firewatcher's Daughter* was recorded almost entirely as first takes without any demoing and result is immediate and electrifying. “The Eye,” a song influenced by Crosby, Stills and Nash, is so intimate and hushed you can hear the quiver of **Brandi's** voice in a flawless 3-part harmony. Lead-off track and first single “Wherever Is Your Heart” captures a fiery intensity. The creative spirit of the album is also exemplified in **Brandi's** sold-out Pin Drop Tour, where **Brandi** and The Twins performed songs new and old without any amplification. The *Chicago Tribune* attributed **Carlile** to proving “that sometimes music has more to say than speakers can communicate.” Indeed.



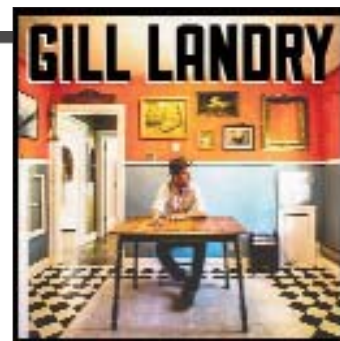
TUXEDO
TUXEDO
 STONES THROW

Mayer Hawthorne (Aquarius) and Jake One (Taurus) – together as **Tuxedo** – are descendants of the one-word moniker family of funk: e.g. Chic, Shalamar, Plush & Zapp. The **Tuxedo** collaboration began with an exchange of mixtapes back in 2006. The fruits of a long-standing kinship were three tracks that mysteriously showed up on Internet doorsteps nearly two years ago. In between personal projects, these three tracks became a full album's worth of **Tuxedo**. The album was mixed by original disco don *dada* John Morales at his home studio in South Plainfield, New Jersey. “I flew out there,” Mayer says. “He made me spaghetti and everything.” **Tuxedo's** eponymously-titled debut marks Mayer's return to the label since his debut release of *A Strange Arrangement* in 2009, which is worth mentioning for two reasons: (1) It's also featured in this month's Mixtape and (2) because it should let you know that our kid already has soul, which is more than half-way to funk. Breakdancing is required.



AZEALIA BANKS
BROKE WITH EXPENSIVE TASTE
 PROSPECT PARK

Harlem-born **Azealia Banks** has always been a force. Since her first steps as a child in off-Broadway theatre productions to her training at La Guardia High School of Performing Arts - a breeding ground for stars - she's been steadily perfecting her craft and making a name for herself. **Banks** started make waves with her celebrated cover of Interpol's “Slow Hands”, and collaborations with Major Lazer, but it was when her 2011 single “212” – and it's accompanying video – went viral that the collective jaws of the blogosphere cracked keyboards the world over. She released an EP (1991), scored a major record deal, toured her ass off, and worked on her proper full-length debut... Which, years later, is finally here. **Broke With Expensive Taste** has blown the minds of critics and fans alike with her unparalleled lyrical skills and unexpected productions. **Banks** is a star and **Broke With Expensive Tastes** is an instant classic.



GILL LANDRY
GILL LANDRY
 ATO RECORDS

Gill Landry's self-titled third album is his first on the ATO label, but he is not new to the family. He's played guitar, banjo, pedal steel, and been a contributing songwriter in **Old Crow Medicine Show** since 2004. Although **Gill's** music is influenced by some of the same sources as **Old Crow**, his music is very much his own. **Gill** produced and recorded the album himself, but was aided by a constellation of talents gathered on his nonstop travels. From Laura Marling, who duets on “Take This Body,” to trumpeter Nick Etwell of Mumford and Sons, who plays with tasteful power on a handful of songs. From Odessa, who lends harmonies and violin to a number of tunes to Robert Ellis whose eloquent and understated guitar work is mellifluous. This album is one that anyone can relate to and will want to listen to, over and over, with their lovers – real or imagined.



LIONS
SOUL RIOT
 STONES THROW

Inspired by reggae, sound system culture and the myriad of musical styles influenced by Jamaican music old and new, **The Lions'** sound is firmly placed in soul music. The band draws together a dozen or so of Los Angeles reggae and soul forerunners who loosely coalesced as **The Lions** in 2007. Members of the legendary ska band Hepcat, Deston Berry and Alex Désert, form half of the vocal train, and the latter also has a successful career on screen, including roles in the films *Swingers* and *High Fidelity*. The other half is the sweet falsetto of Malik Moore and DJ stylings of Black Shakespeare, the charismatic cousin of Robbie Shakespeare (of Sly & Robbie fame) and co-runner of the i&i Sound System, a customized ice cream van bringing bass to the streets of the west coast. **Soul Riot** is **The Lions'** aptly-titled response to the fever-pitched emotions of America circa now, delivered with mellow eloquence rather than high tempers.

caroline

Mixtape

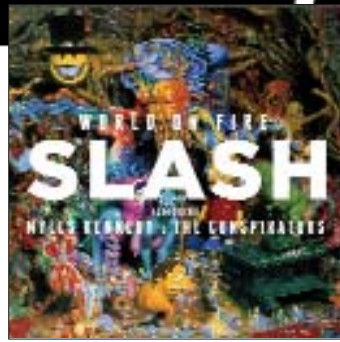


“YOU CAN DANCE IN A HURRICANE, BUT ONLY IF YOU'RE STANDING IN THE EYE”
 “THE EYE” - BRANDI CARLILE



THE ELWINS
PLAY FOR KEEPS
 HIDDEN PONY

The Elwins are a charming pop band from the lakeside town of Keswick, Ontario that specialize in writing bright infectious songs. The release of the band's 2012 debut *And I Thank You* introduced **The Elwins** to audiences worldwide and yielded the approval of taste makers like *Exclaim!*, *Rolling Stone* and CBC. Dripping with high-energy fun and smile-inducing sing-alongs, their sophomore record *Play For Keeps* piles on the charm. Like most of the songs on *Play For Keeps*, lead single, “So Down Low” was written and recorded relatively close to the bands' homes in Keswick, Ontario. The homespun nature of *Play For Keeps* is seemingly safe as milk, but includes just the right amount of naughty because, really, what would rock (indie or otherwise) be without it?



SLASH FEATURING MYLES KENNEDY AND THE CONSPIRATORS
WORLD ON FIRE
 DIK HAYD RECORDS

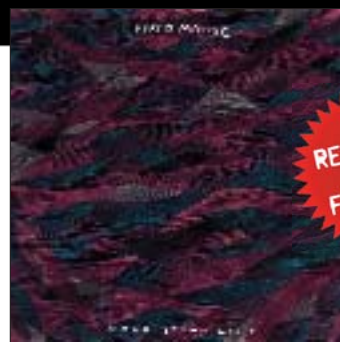
Slash has always been drawn to riff and melody, demonstrated from his early work with Guns 'N' Roses to his later contributions with Velvet Revolver. Since 2008, **Slash** has set his career on its track as a solo artist, and in 2011, invited Alter Bridge frontman **Myles Kennedy** to contribute his second solo album on a whim. This resulted in the release of *Apocalyptic Love* and a lasting collaboration that includes drummer Brent Fitz, bassist Todd Kerns (aka “**The Conspirators**”) and producer Eric Valentine. **Slash's** second release with **Myles Kennedy and The Conspirators**, *World On Fire* is a cohesive effort from a band who has found its groove and perfected an already harmonious chemistry. Heavy, explosive, and filled with brilliant, virtuosic solos, *World On Fire* not only features the best of **Slash** and **Kennedy's** talents, but fills a void for fans of this brand of expert musicianship.



MAYER HAWTHORNE
A STRANGE ARRANGEMENT
 STONES THROW

Mayer Hawthorne's debut album *A Strange Arrangement* grew out of a childhood steeped in Detroit soul. *A Strange Arrangement* draws from the inspiration of Leroy Hutson, Smokey Robinson, and the legendary songwriting and production trio of Lamont Dozier, Brian Holland, and Eddie Holland Jr. At the same time that it revels in the raw sounds of those independent musicians who aspired to achieve a level of success akin to their famous peers. *A Strange Arrangement* is an album full of original compositions and one cover (he had to give The New Holidays “Maybe So, Maybe No” a whirl) that underlies a heartfelt nostalgia to the sweet soul of yesterday with a clear desire to show that his *Strange Arrangement* is no passing fancy. “It's old soul,” **Hawthorne** explains, without an ounce of irony. “But it's new.”

REVISITING THIS FAVORITE!



FIELD MOUSE
HOLD STILL LIFE
 TOPSHELF RECORDS

Hold Still Life, which was co-produced by band members Andrew Futral and Rachel Browne, marks **Field Mouse's** first full-length that's been written and released as a full band. The album was recorded at Seaside Lounge, Brooklyn & Let 'em In, Brooklyn and mixed by Kyle Gilbride (Swearin', Waxahatchee, Upset). Upon returning from a tour with Laura Stevenson and the Cans in 2013, the band wasted no time arranging the album. Inspired by burgeoning adulthood, social overload and isolation, life in New York, and the realization that life is going by with a terrifying swiftness (plus a handful of breakup songs to boot), **Field Mouse** wrote and recorded the new album in late 2013. If you're a fan of artists like The Breeders, Sonic Youth, Velocity Girl, My Bloody Valentine, Beach House or Juliana Hatfield, you're gonna enjoy **Field Mouse**. Plus, they have a really great cover of that Twin Peaks song, so there's that.

REVISITING THIS FAVORITE!



HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF
SMALL TOWN HEROES
 ATO RECORDS

Hurray for the Riff Raff is Alynda Lee Segarra – a Puerto Rican girl from the Bronx. After leaving home at an early age to travel the country, she eventually settled in New Orleans where she began to perform and record with a revolving cast of musicians. Many of the songs on her most recent album, **Small Town Heroes**, reflect Segarra's reverence for New Orleans. She bears witness to a wave of violence that struck the St. Roch neighborhood in the soulful “St. Roch Blues,” yearns for a night at BJ's Bar in the Bywater in “Crash on the Highway,” and sings of her home in the Lower Ninth Ward on “End of the Line,” calling it a “love song to that whole area and crew of people.” **Small Town Heroes** was heralded by many as one of 2014's best albums. One listen and you'll immediately know why.

REVISITING THIS FAVORITE!