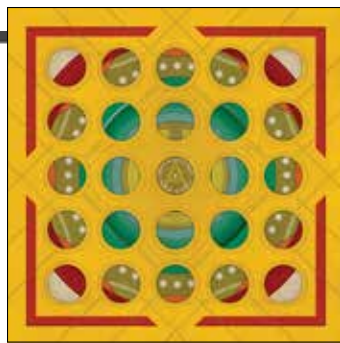




THE UNDERACHEIVERS
EVERMORE - THE ART OF DUALITY
 RPM MSC

The Flatbush, Brooklyn duo of 25-year-old Issa Gold and 24-year-old AK - better known as **The Underachievers** - are part of the same West Coast collective to which '90s revivalist Joey Bada\$\$ and the psychedelic Flatbush Zombies belong. They also count forward-thinking beat-smith Flying Lotus and his Brainfeeder crew among their earliest supporters. But while they share the aforementioned artists' affinity for psychotropics like LSD, curiosity about the occult and self-identification as "indigo children" **the Underachievers'** own music and message are more explicitly philosophical. *Evermore - The Art of Duality* is a study in contrasts: The first half (Phase 1) is more introspective and psychedelic while the second half (phase 2) is a harder, street-worthy bangers that dare you to fuck with 'em. The production through the record is stellar - and it sounds great in headphones or trunk-rattling loud. You need this.



TREY ANASTASIO
PAPER WHEELS
 ATO RECORDS

Paper Wheels is the 10th solo album from Phish frontman (and recent Grateful Dead participant) **Trey Anastasio**. *Paper Wheels* features the classic **Trey Anastasio Band (TAB)** line up of drummer Russ Lawton, bassist Tony Markellis, and keyboardist Ray Paczkowski, augmented by a full horn section. Produced by **Anastasio** and longtime collaborator Bryce Goggin, *Paper Wheels* was recorded last year at The Barn, the Phish founding guitarist's Vermont farmhouse-turned-rehearsal space/recording studio. Taking a cue from the energetic immediacy of classic Stax Studio recording sessions, TAB worked fast and loose, playing together live in The Barn and wrapping up tracks after one or two takes. Songs like the funk-driven "Bounce" and the elegiac "Invisible Knife" (written solely by Anastasio) are among the legendarily diverse artist's most infectious and inventive, alive with creative vigor, robust musicianship, and true soul power (see the complete tracklisting below).



SUN CLUB
THE DONGO DURANGO
 ATO RECORDS

The Dongo Durango is the debut long-player from Baltimore's **Sun Club**. This new 9-song collection finds **Sun Club** joyously deconstructing the traditional pop song—then rebuilding it with off-kilter time signatures, gleefully unhinged vocals, and sunny hooks that sink deep into your already fevered brain. The group then started recording *The Dongo Durango* with their longtime collaborator and producer Steven Wright. Using an old warehouse space just outside of Baltimore as a makeshift studio, Wright set about recording the band live, all the better to capture the raw energy of their raucous performances. Just listen to the booming singalong of "Language Juice" and "Puppy Gungum." It's like being in the room with the band, getting swept up in a youthful spirit that calls to mind Animal Collective's pop freak-outs as filtered through Real Estate's coastal bliss.



MARC SCIBILIA
OUT OF STYLE
 I.R.S. NASHVILLE

"Sometimes I look at the world in a darker way," says **Marc Scibilia**, "but when I hear a melody, when a lyric comes to me, I feel like things are going to be OK." While the sounds and styles of the eleven songs on **Scibilia's** debut album, *Out of Style*, span a broad spectrum—from singer-songwriter narratives to dance beats, drawing on folk, pop, and rock along the way—this hard-fought but positive spirit never wavers. *Out of Style* was produced by artist and hit maker Butch Walker (Pink, Fall Out Boy, Taylor Swift, Keith Urban), who's quick to praise **Scibilia**: "I'm a sucker for someone who can write a song with heart and emotion and meaning, but still have the decency to put a pop hook in it and make it relatable. You just want him to win, he deserves it—he's just a good soul."



MUTEMATH
VITALS

WOJTEK RECORDS / CAROLINE

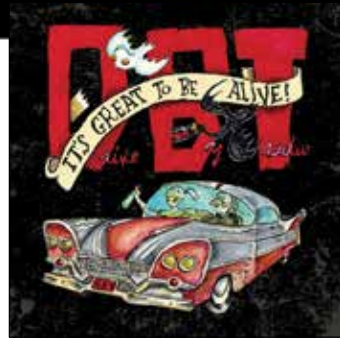
MuteMath are many things: Jammy, electronic, catchy, poppy, poppy. The follow-up to 2011's *Odd Soul*, *Vitals* is the sound of **MuteMath** re-invigorated. But what took them so long? "We just made a decision, we wanted to take our time. Transition, experience life a little bit, not rush an album," says singer Paul Meany. "I would certainly say it's a departure a bit. We changed up the formula and palette of sound. The way we looked song ideas and how we dressed them; we tried to get away with as little as we would do to a song. That was process of growth for us, because we had never put those kind of parameters on ourselves." Those restrictions have made weirdly perfect pop songs out of "Monument" and "Used To." By taking a "less-is-more" approach, **MuteMath** has made *Vitals* its biggest and boldest collection of pop songs to date.

caroline

Mixtape



"SEEN A DIFFERENT WORLD UP CLOSE,
 LIVING THROUGH A DREAM I'M WOKE
 I'M GONNA MAKE MISTAKES, I KNOW, BUT
 I'LL NEVER EVER CHANGE MY COURSE"
 PELL / "VANILLA SKY 2.0"



DRIVE BY-TRUCKERS
IT'S GREAT TO BE ALIVE!
 ATO RECORDS

"Once upon a time my dream was to play in a Rock and Roll Band..." begins the Patterson Hood-penned liner notes of *It's Great To Be Alive* - a new 5 LP / 3 CD deluxe album recorded over three nights at San Francisco's historic Fillmore Auditorium. "We originally began thinking of 'The Live Album' (as we called it for several years) as first and foremost a collection of songs spanning our entire career as **DBT**," Patterson further explains. "Part of the joy of this incarnation of the band has been digging back and seeing what this band can do with songs from various periods of our history. I'm proud of every lineup we've had and of the records that we've made, but this incarnation has brought a primal energy and personal camaraderie to the process that takes it all to new levels and we've been really excited about capturing that."



PELL
LIMBO
 FEDERAL PRISM

Pell - born and raised in New Orleans but forced, at 13, to relocate with his family to Jackson, Mississippi when Hurricane Katrina hit and destroyed their home - has been praised for fusing precise lyricism and soulful singing into an eclectic sound, entirely his own. Turning to music both as an emotional outlet and a way to make friends in a new city, he pursued it through high school, college, and while working day jobs; including his first, at the local Dollar Store—a place he eventually paid homage to in the first track on his debut album. **Pell** rose to prominence following the release and subsequent critical acclaim of that very album, *Floating While Dreaming*. His new album, *Limbo*, was produced by Dave Sitek of TV on the Radio and pushes his hypnotic, experimental, and neck-snapping soul even further on tracks like "Queso" and "Café Du Monde." Another win for Hip Hop in 2015.



ALABAMA SHAKES
SOUND & COLOR
 ATO RECORDS

"We took our time to write this record, and I'm really glad we did," says Brittany Howard, lead singer and guitarist of **Alabama Shakes**, about the band's new album *Sound & Color*. "It's even harder now when people ask, 'What kind of band are you?' I have no clue." Rather than rest in "Southern Drag" purgatory, **The Alabama Shakes** find the perfect balance of RnB dynamism and "weird guitar band" only to burn it down and rise again as a powerful apparition that will haunt the pure analogue signal path that runs from your ears to your ass. Just check out the bluesy groove of "Shoegaze" or the garage-rock freak-out on "The Greatest" and the psychedelic space jam "Gemini," or the tightly-coiled funk of "Don't Wanna Fight." Long instrumental intros and passages create hazy atmosphere, and then the intensity of Howard's vocals snaps everything back into riveting focus. You need this.



TYRESE
BLACK ROSE
 VOLTRON

After starring in the massively successful *Furious 7*, **Tyrese** - the model, poet, actor, musician - has dropped a new LP, *Black Rose*. The 14-track album (his 10th) will feature collaborations with **Snoop Dogg**, **Wiz Khalifa**, **Chrisette Michele**, **Tank**, and **Brandy**. **Tyrese** claims that *Black Rose* will be his final solo album, which may explain his multimedia onslaught and the raw lyrical content. *Black Rose* finds **Tyrese** pouring his heart out - e.g. the aptly-named single, "Dumb Sh*t." "I was in a relationship for 5 years and I got caught cheating and doing some dumb sh*t so the song is real." And reality is the name of the game on *Black Rose*. "I feel like this is my confessions album," says **Tyrese**. "When you think about all the music that is out now, but I think the music that is cutting through is the music that's honest."



ALLEN STONE
ALLEN STONE
 ATO RECORDS

USA Today has called **Allen Stone** a "pitch-perfect powerhouse" and *The New York Times* has likened his socially conscious music to that of Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, Donny Hathaway and Bill Withers. But the singer-songwriter from the tiny backwoods town of Chewelah, Washington just sees himself as "a hippie with soul." Like many soul singers, **Stone** got his start in church. He was a preacher's kid, so whipping crowds into a call-and-response frenzy is second nature. On his new album, **Stone** shines a light into some of the darker corners of his own era. "Contact High" is a striking commentary technology's toll and the sensuous sounding "Unaware" is a sly examination of the current economic crisis. **Stone** is equally enraptured by its ability to simply make people feel good—as evidenced by "Celebrate Tonight" and "Say So." Have a listen and catch the fever.

