



O.A.R. XX

CONCORD/VANGUARD

Two decades in, Maryland-born jammers **O.A.R.** (an abbreviation for "Of A Revolution") are commemorating its longevity with the aptly-titled **XX**. This two CD / 3 LP set includes a career-spanning collection of **O.A.R.**'s biggest hits, incredible live shows, plus new studio material. **O.A.R.** is renowned for its intense, vibrant live show—including selling out Madison Square Garden twice—and the communal feeling it shares with its fans. With each studio album, the band has endeavored to achieve that sense of immediacy, and that's where the first half of **XX** finds its focus, featuring fan favorites such as "Heaven," "Peace," "Shattered," "Two Hands Up," and more. The 2nd half features select performances from their (to put it mildly) extensive live catalog – the place where **O.A.R.** truly shines. That said, **O.A.R.** will embark on their 2016 **XX Tour: Evolution of a Revolution**, a national summer headline run with over 30+ dates throughout August and September to coincide with this new milestone. Naturally, you won't wanna miss it.



GUCCI MANE EVERYBODY LOOKING

ATLANTIC URBAN

The ways of Atlanta hip hop wizard are mysterious, mercurial, occasionally infuriating, and always entertaining. His new album, **Everybody Looking**, is the first since **Gucci** became a free man – free from prison (Felony. Guns. House arrest. It's all good now) and his various chemical addictions. It's a lot of drama for sure, but you wouldn't know it by listening to **Everybody Looking**. In fact, he sounds like he's happier than he's ever been. Besides, it ain't like he's been out of practice, given the steady stream of mixtapes that he released while doing his bid. The album, produced by his old friend Mike-Will-Made-It, is buoyant and bouncy – the perfect foundation for **Gucci's** weird-ass, chevy rhymes and features guest spots from Young Thug ("Guwop Home") and Kanye West ("P** Print"). "Waybach" is straight up irresistible – proving yet again that **Gucci** is not only one of the most charming emcees in The Game, but one of the most influential. But there are plenty of serious moments, too – the grace of freedom is not lost on **Gucci**. In that sense, **Everybody Looking** is aptly-named: Not only is everyone glad to see **Gucci** again, but we're ready for his new music to point us toward the future. Do your best to keep up.



BLOOD ORANGE FREETOWN SOUND

DOMINO

Freetown Sound is the third full-length album from Dev Hynes – AKA **Blood Orange**. Written and produced by Hynes, **Freetown Sound** is a *tour de force*, a pastiche of Hynes' past, present, and future that melds his influences with his own established musical voice. For well over a decade, Dev has proven himself a virtuoso of versatility, experimenting with almost every conceivable musical genre and working with a wide variety of artists as a writer and producer. On his solo work he has created a singular style of urgent, delicate pop music by carefully stitching a sound palette that gently recalls elastic funk, slinky R&B, and pure pop. **Freetown Sound**, which follows 2011's *Coastal Grooves* and 2013's breakthrough *Cupid Deluxe*, builds upon everything Hynes has done as an artist, resulting in the most expansive artistic statement of his career. Drawing from a deep well of techniques and references, the album unspools like a piece of theater, evoking unexpected communions of moods, voices, and eras. **Freetown Sound** derives its name from the birthplace of Hynes' father, the capital of Sierra Leone. Thematically, **Freetown Sound** is profoundly personal and unapologetically political, touching on issues of race, religion, sex, and sexism over 17 shimmering songs.



MAGIC MUSIC MAGIC MUSIC

BRIGHT SUN RECORDS

Colorado-based legends **Magic Music** dubbed the state's first "jam band" have a storied history that truly complements their name. The group began as a merry troop of renegades whose brotherhood was eternally forged in the music they made. The band's sound coalesced in the days when the members lived in Eldorado Canyon (inspiration for a longtime favorite song in the band's repertoire) in two school buses and a doughnut truck, where they made a living panhandling and busking. In addition to legendary performances at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, they played shows with the likes of Cat Stevens, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Steve Martin, and more. As time passed and band's members sought their own paths but always stayed in touch. **Magic Music** stayed close to their hearts through thick and thin. **Magic Music's** new, self-titled album was produced by childhood friend and now member Tim Goodman, best known for his works with the Doobie Brothers, Emmylou Harris, and the iconic Johnny Cash. The inclusion of Jimmy Haslip (Yellow Jackets), Tommy Major (Entrain), Scarlet Rivera (Bob Dylan), plus guest appearances by John McFee, Billy Payne and many others has resulted in an astonishing musical journey. If there ever was a labor of love, this music is it.



AMOS LEE SPIRIT

REPUBLIC

Amos Lee got his big break after he began writing songs with a then-unknown Norah Jones. That collaboration led to *Come Away With Me*, which has since gone on to sell a bazillion copies – and, in a subtle way, allowed **Lee's** songwriting style – a perennially appealing blend of folk and soul – to become one of the most influential musical styles of the 21st century. And though he rightfully became an in-demand collaborator, **Lee** did plenty to advance this style in his own music, too, via 5 studio albums, a clutch of EPs, and, in 2015, a live album. But now it's time for something new. **Spirit's** 13 songs reflect both the critically acclaimed Philadelphia singer and songwriter's musical journey over the past few years and his expansive sonic palette. Most notably, this is the first time, **Amos** acted as his own producer. Informed by everything from his performances alongside some of the world's most prestigious orchestras to a personal taste that spans Robert Glasper, ScHoolboy Q, and Drake, this body of work boasts an aural anatomy all its own.



STEVEN TYLER
WE'RE ALL SOMEBODY FROM SOMEWHERE
 DOT RECORDS

Everyone's favorite Rock and Roll Muppet, **Steven Tyler**, has gone country. His first ever solo album, *We're All Somebody From Somewhere*, was produced by the ever ubiquitous **T Bone Burnett**. "Country music is the new rock 'n' roll," says **Tyler**. It's not just about porches, dogs and kicking your boots up. It's a whole lot more. It's about being real." That, of course, is bullshit – pop music wouldn't exist without some kernel of artifice and – and just because Country Music is dressed up in expensive jeans and cowboy hats doesn't make it any less pop. That said, just like when he tackles the blues, **Tyler** can sing the ever-living hell out of country music – and *We're All Somebody From Somewhere* is a breath of fresh air for both the genre and **Tyler** himself. Written with some of Nashville's most prominent songwriters, the 15-track album rocks as much as it twangs – this is **Steven Tyler** after all. But from the very get go – the stellar opening track "My Own Worst Enemy" – *We're All Somebody From Somewhere* sucks you in. More Sturgill Simpson than Keith Urban, **Tyler** is not afraid to use the genre to make unexpected turns. Hell, it's even got a cover of "Janie's Got A Gun." *We're All Somebody From Somewhere* is a Dixieland delight.



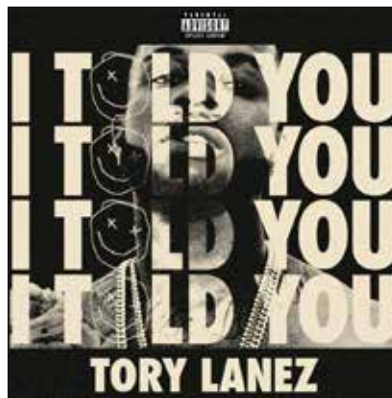
YOUNG THE GIANT
HOME OF THE STRANGE
 FUELED BY RAMEN

Young the Giant continues to brave new sonic landscapes with their wildly adventurous third album *Home of the Strange*. Thematically, *Home of the Strange* builds from the opening track "Amerika," a song inspired by Franz Kafka's posthumously published and unfinished novel of the same name. The members of **Young the Giant** are all the sons of immigrants, with a majority of the band being first generation Americans. They can relate to Kafka's story of Karl, a sixteen year old who flees Germany under uncertain circumstances. He becomes a stowaway on a ship headed to NY and the book tells the tale of a bizarre coming of age story of a boy caught between the cultures of two worlds, struggling to belong. "Amerika" explores the contradictions of our psyche and America at large," says **Young the Giant**. "Searching for the American Dream is to lust for excess, power, sex. Behind it all, we just want to feel at home, to belong, and to be loved." And that's a message we need to hear now more than ever – especially when it's wallowing in deep, dark synth landscapes, ambitious arrangements, big beats, and even larger hooks. *Home of the Strange* is decadent, sentimental, inviting, and scary – sometimes all once (like the soaring "Titus Was Born"). Crank it.



THE AMITY AFFLICTION
THIS COULD BE HEARTBREAK
 ROADRUNNER/ATLANTIC

For more than a decade, **The Amity Affliction** has confronted the very darkest edges of man's existence through their music and with *Severed Ties*, 2008's full-length debut, and 2010's gold-certified follow-up, *Youngbloods*, **The Amity Affliction** instantly established themselves as leading force in the heavy music world. Deeply personal and emotionally wrenching, *This Could Be Heartbreak* is **The Amity Affliction's** most transformative and revealing record yet. Recorded by producer and longtime collaborator Will Putney, *This Could Be Heartbreak* finds **The Amity Affliction** evolving their signature powerful and cathartic song craft. Both ambitious and grand, album standouts, "This Could Be Heartbreak" and "All Fucked Up" are equal parts heavy and hopeful, fueled by frontman Joel Birch's desperation, which achieves extraordinary transcendence through radical honesty and absolute power. *This Could Be Heartbreak* follows **The Amity Affliction's** ARIA platinum-certified #1 album, *Let The Ocean Take Me*, which proved an to be an international breakthrough for the group.



TORY LANEZ
I TOLD YOU
 MAD LOVE/INTERSCOPE RECORDS

Once upon the time, the notion of a Canadian rapper would reduce stateside hip hop fans to tears of laughter. There were a handful of exceptions, of course, but they tended towards the weird side of street (What up, Dream Warriors?). Then came Drake and... Well, he still causes some heads to chortle, but mainstream America is buying his shit, so the joke's on us. Not that **Tory Lanez** minds – the Toronto rapper is hoping that his new album, *I Told You*, breaks big. **Lanez** has already benefited from his participation in Mac Miller's GO:OD AM tour and a couple of mixtapes. His upcoming tour with ASAP Ferg won't hurt either, but it's *I Told You* that should garner him the attention he deserves. Led by the singles "Luv" (produced by Cashmere Cat and Benny Blanco) and "Say It" *I Told You* is light on features and heavy on club ready beats and **Lanez** hyped up, melodious voice. *I Told You* is rich on hooks and a breezy and inviting flow. He may not be as innovative as, say, Kanye, but he's certainly less infuriating. Keep yr eyes on **Lanez**.



VARIOUS ARTISTS
SUICIDE SQUAD: THE ALBUM
 ATLANTIC

Suicide Squad: The Album is as wildly diverse as the **Suicide Squad** itself, showcasing new and previously unreleased material from some of the most commendable artists in contemporary music. Other highlights include tracks from such unprecedented assemblages as Action Bronson & Dan Auerbach (of The Black Keys), Mark Ronson, and Skrillex & Rick Ross. What's more, *Suicide Squad: The Album* also features new songs from Kevin Gates, Kehlani, Skylar Grey, Grimes and Panic! At The Disco, who boldly attempt a rendition of the Queen classic, "Bohemian Rhapsody." In addition to these new tracks, the album features musical classics from War and Creedence Clearwater Revival, as well as Eminem's timeless anthem "Without Me" and a modern rendition of Leslie Gore's classic "You Don't Own Me" by Grace and contemporary superstar G-Eazy. The album also features the first full-length version of the ConfidentialMX (Feat. Becky Hanson) cover of "I Started A Joke," which was featured in the wildly-popular **Suicide Squad** Comic-Con trailer. It's got that Twenty One Pilots song, too, but don't that deter you.