



MARGO PRICE
MIDWEST FARMER'S DAUGHTER
 THIRD MAN

First impressions matter, especially on a debut album. Time and attention-strapped listeners size up an artist within a song or two, then move on or delve in further. Fortunately, it only takes **Margo Price** about twenty-eight seconds to convince you that you're hearing the arrival of a singular new talent. "Hands of Time," the opener on *Midwest Farmer's Daughter*, is an invitation, a mission statement and a starkly poetic summary of the 32-year old singer's life, all in one knockout, self-penned punch. Her voice has that alluring mix of vulnerability and resilience that was once the province of Loretta and Dolly. From the honky tonk comeuppance of "About To Find Out," to the rockabilly-charged "This Town Gets Around" to the weekend twang of "Hur-tin' (On The Bottle)", **Price** adds fresh twists to classic Nashville country, with a sound that could've made hits in any decade.



THE RANGE
POTENTIAL
 DOMINO

Potential is as a document of its time. **The Range** – aka James Hinton – has made an electronic record inspired by Baltimore club, early '00s grime and mid '00s electronica, but also as a member of the last generation that will remember going online for the first time. As its backbone, *Potential* utilizes a series of vocal samples that Hinton found in the deep corners of YouTube, introducing us to unknown artists expressing themselves unfettered by the constraints of industry. He might be fascinated by the code that determines his YouTube searches, but what truly grips him are the human stories behind the samples. In addition to the forthcoming album *Potential*, a documentary titled *Superimpose* will look at the human stories behind the unknown artists included on the album. As Hinton states, "I am very conscious that these people who I have sampled elevate what I do, just as much as my record brings their work somewhere else."



NEW MADRID
MAGNETKINGMAGNETQUEEN
 NEW WEST

From the southern wilds of Athens, GA comes young four-piece, **New Madrid**. Their music is a dynamic mixture of underwater-psych-rock that engages the listener in fully textured aural landscapes, both on record and live. **New Madrid's** chemistry and singular sonic stamp are undeniable. Years of relentless touring, hundreds of shows and several thousand hours playing together have yielded a battle-hardened brotherhood – a band on a mission. **New Madrid's** new record *magnetkingmagnetqueen* comprises a sprawling 15 tracks, equal parts groove and jangle, psyche and fuzz, rock, grit and slow burners. Co-produced with esteemed engineer David Barbe (Deerhunter, Animal Collective, Drive-By Truckers), the album rewards the careful listener with unfolding layers of experimental soundscapes and grooves, bearing new discoveries with each entrancing listen.



AESOP ROCK
IMPOSSIBLE KID
 RHYMESAYERS

On *The Impossible Kid*, Indie-rap mainstay **Aesop Rock** continues finding new ways to improve on the skills that have made him one of the kings of indie hip-hop. His creative process now includes a newfound willingness to open up about his personal life, going deep on topics like depression, his sometimes rocky relationship with his family, and the turbulent handful of years that culminated in **Aesop** leaving his adopted home of San Francisco to live in a barn out in the woods, where he recorded the foundations of *The Impossible Kid*. There's also moments of levity though, as **Aesop** taps into the funny side of his persona that he suppressed during the period where being taken as a serious lyricist was more of a priority. **Aesop** exercised complete creative control over every aspect of the album, from the production (which he handled himself, with instrumental help from Philly's Grimace Foundation) to conceptualizing the cover art by his friend Alex Pardee.



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ANOHNI
HOPELESSNESS
 SECRETLY CANADIAN

Anohni – the lead singer from **Antony and the Johnsons** – has collaborated with Oneohtrix Point Never and Hudson Mohawke on the artist's latest work, *Hopelessness*. *Hopelessness* is a dance record with soulful vocals and lyrics addressing surveillance, drone warfare, and ecocide. *Hopelessness* is led by "4 Degrees" – a bombastic dance track celebrating global boiling and collapsing biodiversity. Rather than taking refuge in good intentions, **Anohni** gives voice to the attitude sublimated within her behavior as she continues to consume in a fossil fuel-based economy. "I have grown tired of grieving for humanity, and I also thought I was not being entirely honest by pretending that I am not a part of the problem," she said. "'4 Degrees' is kind of a brutal attempt to hold myself accountable." *Hopelessness* seeks to disrupt assumptions about popular music through the collision of electronic sound and highly politicized lyrics.



KYLE CRAFT
DOLLS OF HIGHLAND
 SUB POP

Kyle Craft grew up in a tiny Louisiana town on the banks of the Mississippi, where he spent most of his time catching alligators and rattlesnakes instead of playing football or picking up the guitar. He's not the born product of a musical family, and bands never came through town—it was only a chance trip to K-Mart that gave him his first album, a David Bowie hits compilation that helped inspire him eventually to channel his innate feral energy into songwriting and rock and roll. That self-made talent drives every note of *Dolls of Highland*, **Craft's** exhilarating, fearless solo debut. "This album is the dark corner of a bar," he says. "It's that feeling at the end of the night when you're confronted with 'now what?'" **Craft** relocated to Portland where Brandon Summers and Benjamin Weikel of The Helio Sequence helped transform this DIY into to a more fully-realized work capable of transporting you to unexpected places.



SAM BEAM & JESCA HOOP
LOVE LETTER FOR FIRE
 SUB POP

Love Letter for Fire is the name of the collaborative record from songwriters **Sam Beam (Iron & Wine)** and **Jesca Hoop**. Contemplating a duets album for some time, **Beam** was never able to find the right voice, until **Hoop's** music found its way to his stereo. Diving into her catalog one afternoon, specifically the album *Kismet*, was the spark **Sam** needed to reach out to **Jesca** and propose the idea of writing together. Over the course of thirteen songs *Love Letter for Fire* brims with joyful energy, contrasting **Beam and Hoop's** songwriting styles yet never feeling forced, nor pandering. Veering from disparate pop ("Every Songbird Says" / "Chalk It Up To Chi") to introspective folk ("One Way to Pray" / "Soft Place to Land") to a few things in between ("Welcome to Feeling" / "Midas Tongue"), the record never rests solely on just the two voices but rather showcases the new chapter of songwriting each found in the collaboration.