



**DAVID GRAY**  
**THE BEST OF DAVID GRAY**  
 IHT RECORDS

David Gray's early music was in a contemporary folk-rock, singer-songwriter mode; his primary instrument was acoustic guitar, with occasional piano. Starting with the release of 1998's *White Ladder*, Gray began to make significant use of computer-generated music to accompany his voice and acoustic instrumentation, a technique that differentiates him from many of his peers. Despite the move to more complex music, Gray has used small-scale, often home-based, recording methods and equipment and espoused a do-it-yourself approach to music production – and that homespun quality allows his music to remain both forward-thinking and intimate. When it came time to compile *The Best of David Gray* – his 2<sup>nd</sup> career anthology – Gray wanted showcase both his legitimate hits as well as the deep cuts that hold similar weight in his 25-year career. "It felt like the right thing to do to accompany the main collection with a further collection of songs of my own choosing," says Gray. "These recordings stand like markers in the road, and I still refer back to them every now and then, whenever I'm in need of taking my creative bearings." As an added bonus, *The Best of David Gray* features two brand new songs recorded by Andy Barlow of Lamb.



**THE PRETTY RECKLESS**  
**WHO YOU SELLING FOR**  
 RAZOR & TIE

Between 2013 and 2015, *The Pretty Reckless* traveled the globe touring in support of their second album, the raucous, roaring, Catholic guilt-inspired *Going To Hell*. A bruising blend of ferocious rock and roll and inky blues, the album debuted in the Top 5 on the Billboard Top 200 and spun off three No. 1 Mainstream Rock singles, "Fucked Up World," "Follow Me Down" and 2014's most successful song at the format, "Heaven Knows," which spent a total of 18 weeks in the top spot. *Going to Hell's* success meant strong live demand for the New York City band, which is anchored by its songwriters, singer-guitarist Taylor Momsen and guitarist Ben Phillips. Despite feeling physically and emotionally spent after returning from their two-year odyssey, Momsen and Phillips jumped right into writing the songs for their third album, the scorching yet soulful *Who You Selling For*. The necessity of music as a balm for the soul is a theme that threads its way through *Who You Selling For*. The band's live prowess came into play when recording *Who You Selling For*, which found the band tracking live – eschewing any digital fixes. As such the record captures the raw and visceral power that the band has honed in front of audiences around the globe. Warren Haynes guests.



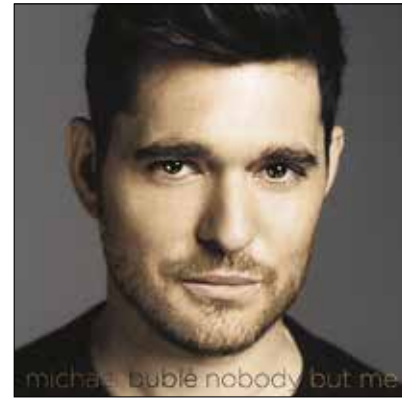
**CONOR OBERST**  
**RUMINATIONS**  
 NONESUCH

In the winter of 2016, **Conor Oberst** found himself hibernating in his hometown of Omaha after living in New York City for more than a decade. He emerged with the unexpectedly raw, unadorned solo album *Ruminations*. "I wasn't expecting to write a record," says Oberst. "I honestly wasn't expecting to do much of anything." Oberst began publicly releasing music as *Bright Eyes* in 1994 at the age of 14. Those early recordings, made in Omaha on four-track cassette by Oberst and his friends, were an introduction to the work of a prodigious songwriter whose creative outpouring would soon be widely lauded. *Ruminations* harkens back to that earlier era. Oberst went to ARC, the studio he built with his Bright Eyes bandmate and longtime friend Mike Mogis, to record that music. With the help of engineer Ben Brodin, he recorded all the songs in the span of 48 hours. The results are almost sketch-like in their sparseness. This is Oberst alone with his guitar, piano, and harmonica; the songs connect with some of the rough magic and anxious poetry that first brought him to the attention of the world, while their lyrical complexity and concerns make it obvious they could only have been written in the present.



**KORN**  
**THE SERENITY OF SUFFERING**  
 ROADRUNNER

At long last, **Korn** - one of the most influential rock bands of the JNCO era - return with their twelfth studio album, *The Serenity of Suffering*. Produced by **Nick Raskulinecz** (Foo Fighters, Deftones, Mastodon), the album marks the band's welcomed return to Roadrunner Records who previously released 2010's *Korn III - Remember Who You Are* and 2011's *The Path of Totality* and features a special guest appearance from **Corey Taylor** of Slipknot. **Jonathan Davis** on the album's lead single: "Rotting in Vain was written about being in that black place, being in situations that I don't like in life - be it relationships, or feeling when you're stuck and you're just being abused or you don't like where you're at, and you just sit there and rot. It takes you years and years to figure out how to claw your way out. That's where 'Rotting in Vain' came from. I'm just sitting there, fucking dying and letting it happen for years and years and not helping myself to get out of that place. That's the vibe that inspired the song." Those vibes permeate the rest of *The Serenity of Suffering* which finds **Korn** sounding as powerful as they did in its heyday, thanks in no small part to guitarists Head and Munki's intricate 7-string guitar weaving and surprising melodicism. This is **Korn** reborn.



**MICHAEL BUBLÉ**  
**NOBODY BUT ME**  
 REPRIZE

*Nobody But Me*, the new album from multi-Grammy, multi-platinum award winning singer and perfume peddler (seriously: look it up), **Michael Bublé**, is his first album in three years and is his 9th overall. It follows the critically acclaimed *To Be Loved*, which was his fourth album to reach No. 1 on Billboard's Top 200 Charts. The exciting new collection of original pop tunes and beautiful standards highlight **Bublé's** talent as a profound interpreter of the American songbook as well as his gifted songwriting and producing style. "I don't know that I've ever had this much fun working on an album," says **Bublé**. "It was especially thrilling to collaborate with my band who understand that I want to sound better than I've ever sounded. I'm also very proud of the new songs." *Nobody But Me* was recorded in Los Angeles and Vancouver and includes three new **Bublé** penned originals along with breathtaking reinventions of classics including "My Baby Just Cares For Me," "The Very Thought of You," Brian Wilson's "God Only Knows," and the Johnny Mercer classic "I Wanna Be Around." **Mehgan Trainor** and **Black Thought** (of **The Roots**) are among the guests.



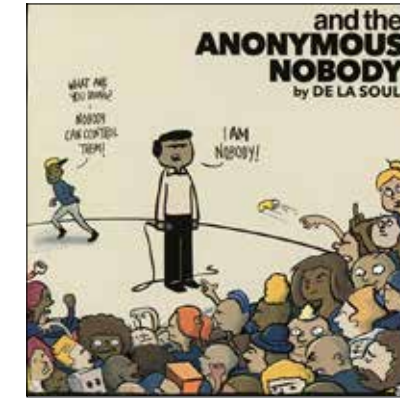
**NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS**  
**SKELETON TREE**  
 BAD SEED LTD

The songs of **Nick Cave** have always been spectral, haunting, scary, sexy, and profound. Not afraid to take on taboo subjects or lighten the mood with his own brand of gallows humor, **Cave** is a unique storyteller – one that straddles the divide between lounge act and a fire-and-brimstone preacher. He's got the voice for it, too: A quaking baritone that rides along the unconventional axis of Johnny Cash, Lou Reed, and William S. Burroughs. The music, provided by his long-running band, **The Bad Seeds**, always delivers with stunning precision and apocalyptic aplomb: stately, chaotic, and beautiful... The mystic haze from which he conjures harrowing visions and – dare I say – sharp-yet-surreal poetry. But *Skeleton Tree*, the new album from **Cave and The Bad Seeds**, is born from a place of personal tragedy: Namely, the loss of a child. Here, **Cave** reaches plunges into some dark territory in order to reckon with a loss that's almost too terrifying to mention and comes out with a record as harrowing, beautiful, and poignant as any in his storied career.



**JIM JAMES**  
**ETERNALLY EVEN**  
 ATO/CAPITOL

**Jim James**, the driving force behind *My Morning Jacket*, is back with an unexpected new album, *Eternally Even*. Purposefully released in the midst of possibly one of the most politically controversial elections to date, **James'** new music is a call to action. **James** says of the album "I'm just trying to be a part of the discussion and encourage people to speak out for equality, to not be afraid to speak out for peace and love. All of us feel afraid at times in these absolutely insane times, but it's important we speak our minds, cast our votes, and do not give in to fear and hatred." Co-produced by Blake Mills – who produced the Alabama Shakes' sonic triumph, *Sound and Color* – and **Jim James**, Mills describes *Eternally Even* as "the beautiful sounds of a violent collision between someone's past and future." **James** is already planning to tour from the album – and \$1 will benefit My Morning Jacket's Waterfall Project, which will benefit to the following organizations: Everytown For Gun Safety Support Fund, The Fairness Campaign, and Healthcare Now. Established in 2015, the Project is dedicated to supporting and promoting actions, big and small, for positive change in the world.



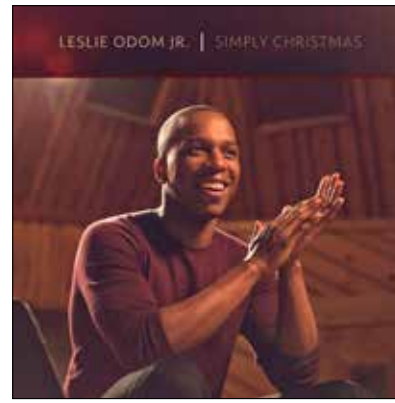
**DE LA SOUL**  
**AND THE ANONYMOUS NOBODY**  
 A.O.I. RECORDS

*and the Anonymous Nobody* is the first **De La Soul** studio album in eleven years and as independent artists, free of record labels interfering in the creative process. True to the roots of Hip-Hop, the new album incorporates elements of Jazz, Funk, Rock, Country and more—all sampled to create the tracks. Sampling is how **De La** has always made music but after spending a huge part of their career fighting off the "sample police," **De La** decided to take a completely new approach, something Hip-Hop hasn't done before: Sampling themselves. Over three years, **De La** collaborated with some of LA's finest studio musicians and recorded them in free-styled, unrehearsed, jam sessions. They played everything from banjo to upright bass—sometimes up to a dozen musicians at once—simply allowing sounds to integrate. With over 200 hours of sounds, **De La** began listening, enjoying and discovering those special moments where, musically, something magical happens, where interesting sounds and layers were forgotten, where new sounds can be sampled, looped, chopped, filtered and arranged, freely. The result is typically atypical—and, as we've come to expect, a work of pure genius. **Jill Scott**, **Snoop Dogg**, **Damon Albarn**, and **David Byrne** are among the guests. You need this.



**JUSTICE**  
**WOMAN**  
BECAUSE MUSIC

It's been five years since French house music titans **Justice** have graced dance floors with brand new music. Finally the wait is over: **Justice's** new album **Woman** is a groovy journey that encapsulates both laser-guided disco precision and free-form house music workouts. It's as strong, complex, and beautiful as the title implies. "**Woman** is a very powerful, beautiful word," says **Justice's** Xavier de Rosnay. "If we're honest with ourselves, much of what we do is mostly to please women or make them proud of us. It's a tribute to the women in our lives... mothers, daughters, lovers, friends, collaborators." **Woman** catapults you from the elastic R&B pop of "Pleasure" straight into the rush of "Alakazam!" "Fire" its way through a dazzling bout of thumping electronic piano and clavinet sparring, barely pausing for breath before it lands at "Stop" - a sparkling, bittersweet slice of dance pop that boasts one of **Justice's** best choruses. "Randy" has a melody Michael McDonald would have killed a fellow Doobie Brother for (if Michael McDonald was into gut-shuddering electro). "Love S.O.S." is a disco anthem for a new generation. Vinyl comes with a copy of the CD, 3 full sides of audio and one side etched.



**LESLIE ODOM JR.**  
**SIMPLY CHRISTMAS**  
S-CURVE RECORDS

**Leslie Odom, Jr.** recently completed his run as the original Aaron Burr in the smash hit **Hamilton**, a role that won him a Tony & Grammy Award, and has since been performing an exciting array of shows in support of his album, including a sold-out three-week residency at The McKittrick Hotel in NYC, a performance with Phil Collins at the US Open on opening night, and a performance of his single "Autumn Leaves" as part of the stellar lineup at the Tony Bennett 90th Birthday Concert. Now he's already back with a new album in time for the Holidays - **Simply Christmas**. "I get asked about recording a Christmas album a few times a week. I hope we've made a record you'll gladly add to your collection of holiday classics," says **Leslie**. "**Simply Christmas** was a real pleasure to sing and create. It's filled with everything that is special to me about the holidays." The new collection will feature **Odom Jr.'s** soulful jazz versions of holiday Christmas gems including "I'll Be Home For Christmas," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "The Christmas Song," "First Noel" and many more.



**LESLIE ODOM JR.**  
**LESLIE ODOM JR.**  
S-CURVE

**Leslie Odom Jr.** is best known for his role of Aaron Burr in the blockbuster hit musical, **Hamilton** - a role that earned him a Tony nomination for best lead actor in a musical. He is a Grammy Award-winner as a principal soloist on **Hamilton's** Original Broadway Cast Recording, which won the 2015 award for Best Musical Theater Album. **Odom's** self-titled debut album features soulful new interpretations of beloved songs that have been longtime favorites of his. Standout tracks on the album include **Odom's** ethereal rendition of the Jerome Kern gem "Look for the Silver Lining," a new arrangement of "The Guilty Ones" from Spring Awakening, a stunning percussion and piano-driven version of "Love Look Away" and his inspired take on the timeless classic "Autumn Leaves." **Odom's** repertoire was chosen specifically to create "something you could put on for a dinner party or something you could put on for a long drive," he said. "But also I wanted to sing songs that might encourage you, that might make you smile."



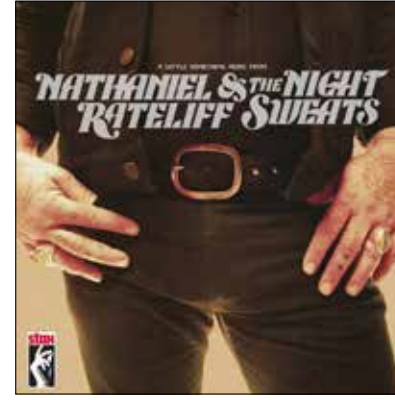
**METALLICA**  
**HARDWIRED ... TO SELF-DESTRUCT (DELUXE)**  
BLACKENED

Say what you want about **Metallica**, but the band has never been afraid to take chances. After rewriting the Book of Metal in 80's with a string of classic albums, slowing its tempos while expanding its palate (and collaborating with the likes of Marianne Faithfull) in the 90s, and spending the 21<sup>st</sup> century dodging criticism that the band had gone soft only to tap into a new ferocity that may have seemed clumsy at first (**St. Anger**) but eventually found sure footing with **Death Magnetic** (Also: *Lulu* is way better than the pundits claim). Now, with their brand new album, **Hardwired... To Self-Destruct**, **Metallica** have once again proven themselves a force to be reckoned with a double-album of straight ahead thrashers that, despite the sprawl, still feels like a cohesive statement - as tracks like "Hardwired" and "Mo'n Into Flame" clearly attest. "Most of the songs are simpler," says drummer Lars Ulrich. "We introduce a mood and we stick to it, rather than songs we've done where one riff happens and we go over here and then over there and becomes a journey through all these different soundscapes. It cruises along a little bit more than the last record." This deluxe edition features a third disc featuring the band's recent Record Store Day performance at Rasputin Records.



**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
**THE LIFE & SONGS OF EMMYLOU HARRIS:**  
**AN ALLSTAR CONCERT CELEBRATION**  
ROUNDER

For four decades, **Emmylou Harris's** music has had a profound influence on countless musicians and songwriters, and has inspired legions of loyal fans throughout her extraordinary career. On January 10, 2015, a remarkable and diverse assemblage of artists and Emmylou Harris herself gathered together at Washington, DC's DAR Constitution Hall to honor one of the most distinctive and deeply-admired musicians of our time. **The Life and Songs of Emmylou Harris** captures a once-in-a-lifetime concert celebrating one of the most influential women in music whose contribution as a singer and songwriter spans 40 years. Performers include Alison Krauss, Kris Kristofferson, Lee Ann Womack, Martina McBride, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Sheryl Crow, Vince Gill, Emmylou Harris herself, and many more. Fan favorites such as "Two More Bottles of Wine," "Born to Run" and "Boulder to Birmingham" are brought to life in this series of magnificent collaborations led by musical directors Don Was and Buddy Miller. Captured and presented in stunning HD with true Dolby 5.1 surround stereo The set will be released in multiple configurations, including Blu-ray, DVD, CD, and various combo packs.



**NATHANIEL RATELIFF**  
**& THE NIGHT SWEATS**  
**A LITTLE SOMETHING MORE FROM**  
STAX

**Nathaniel Rateliff's** musical family and upbringing in a rural Missouri church laid the foundation for his soulful, folk-aced sound. Though he considers himself "a poor boy from Missouri," **Rateliff** relocated to his current home, Denver, at the age of 19. **Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats's** new eight-track, EP, **A Little Something More From**, is a companion to the band's critically-acclaimed debut, **Falling Faster Than You Can Run**, featuring new studio recordings of live favorites ("Parlor," "Out On The Weekend," and "I Did It,") B-sides ("What I Need," "How To Make Friends"), and a live version of "Wasting Time" recorded at the Stax Museum of American Soul Music in Memphis. This collection follows what has been a phenomenal 18 months for **Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats**. The band, along with their loyal hometown fans, just celebrated the one-year anniversary of their debut album with a sold-out headlining show at Denver's renowned Red Rocks Amphitheatre. Also available on vinyl and cassette!



**BALKAN BEAT BOX**  
**SHOUT IT OUT**  
DIGITAL MONKEY

If you ask the members of **Balkan Beat Box** to describe their sound you'll get a different answer from each individual; you'll also likely get a different answer from the individuals if you ask them the same question multiple times. This is partially because **BBB's** contemporary cross-cultural musical polyglotism covarts with many styles, but this is also because the band doesn't want to be tied to any one answer. They revel in the fact that their influences are worldwide and given equal value, but this is no mere mash-up, this is music made by citizens of a world culture. Hailing from New York and Tel Aviv, **Balkan Beat Box** blend Balkan brass, earth shattering bass, hip-hop and dub electronics to exhilarating effect. Their live shows are explosive affairs, with singer Tomer Yosef delivering his sometimes politicized lyrics with passionate performances always sending audiences into a frenzy. **BBB's** new album, **Shout It Out**, is an intoxicating and intense sonic assault that takes no prisoners and makes no apologies for its outspokenness.



**ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO**  
**BURN SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL**  
FANTASY

**Burn Something Beautiful**, **Alejandro Escovedo's** first solo endeavor since 2012's highly acclaimed **Big Station**, is in actuality, a highly collaborative affair. Teaming with Peter Buck (R.E.M.) and Scott McCaughey (The Minus 5) to co-write the album's songs, **Escovedo** also enlisted the pair to act as the project's producers. **Escovedo** and company take some mighty big swings here. At once a celebration of the rock and roll life, a contemplation on mortality, and the healing power of love, **Burn Something Beautiful** connects repeatedly with **Escovedo's** soulful heart and voice at its core. Recorded in April at Portland's Type Foundry studio, the project coalesced with the help of an esteemed group of musicians who give the album a genuine band feel. They include guitarist Kurt Bloch (The Fastbacks), drummer John Moen (The Decemberists), vocalists Corin Tucker (Sleater-Kinney) and Kelly Hogan (Neko Case) as well as saxophonist Steve Berlin (Los Lobos).



# ON THE RADAR

## NOVEMBER 2016



**LUMINEERS**  
**CLEOPATRA**  
DUALTONE

It took four years for **The Lumineers** to follow up their platinum-plus, multi-Grammy-nominated, self-titled debut. Three of those years found **The Lumineers** touring six of the seven continents, earning Grammy nods, stomping and hollering their way into millions of homes. Their new album, **Cleopatra**, is anything but a sophomore slump. With the help of producer Simone Felice (The Felice Brothers, The Avett Brothers), the band ensconced itself high atop a hill in rural Rhinebeck, N.Y., not far from Woodstock, and set about trying to make musical sense of their three-year-plus roller coaster ride. Their skill at setting a visual story to music comes through amidst the delicate, deceptively simple acoustic soundscapes remains intact, but **Cleopatra** is the sound of a group willing to take some chances. The band had total artistic freedom in writing and recording the album, so they pushed the envelope on experimental tracks like the stream-of-consciousness, purposely lo-fi "Sick in the Head," the yearning, piano buttressed "In the Light," or the closing orchestral instrumental, the aptly titled coda, "Patience."



**TOVE LO**  
**LADY WOOD**  
ISLAND RECORDS

**Lady Wood** is the long-awaited successor to Swedish pop sensation **Tove Lo's** landmark debut album of 2014, the RIAA platinum **Queen Of The Clouds**. Similar to **Queen Of The Clouds**, whose tracks were broken into three intimate chapters ('The Sex,' 'The Love,' 'The Pain') – **Lady Wood** will be divided into two chapters: "Fairy Dust" and "Fire Fade." **Tove Lo** describes them as "the emotional curves I go through when I'm chasing any kind of rush." "Fairy Dust" refers to anticipation, as in the seductive slow-jam "Influence" (featuring rapper Wiz Khalifa), and the prowling title track, "Lady Wood." **Tove Lo** compares that anticipation to "when the adrenaline starts to kick in. It gives you butterflies. It's that tingling sensation of sex." "Fire Fade" captures the moments when that thrill starts to wear off, as in the swelling, unguarded "Keep It Simple" and the cocksure "WTF Love Is." As she says, "You feel a little bit uneasy. And you really want to chase that first feeling again."



**THE BEAT BUGS**  
**THE BEAT BUGS: BEST OF SEASONS 1 & 2**  
REPUBLIC RECORDS

**Beat Bugs** is an animated series (created by Josh Wakely) that centers on the lives and adventures of five charming and funny child-like bugs that live in an overgrown backyard. The album features the covers of various songs by The Beatles from the first two seasons of the animated show performed by musicians including Sia, P!nk, Eddie Vedder, Robbie Williams, Rod Stewart, Regina Spektor, Chris Cornell, James Corden, The Shins, Jennifer Hudson, Of Monsters and Men, Aloe Blacc & more. You can catch the show on Netflix. Obviously, your kids will love it... And, likely, so will your adults.