



Florist

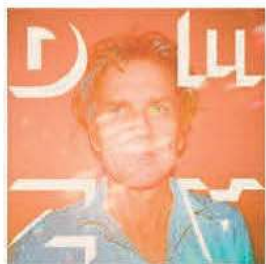


Eiko Ishibashi



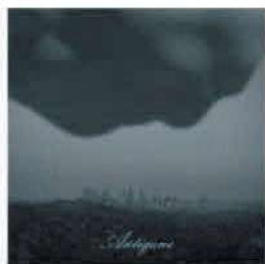
3 NICO GEORIS
Geological Observations

From his Granny's Dancehall studio in Death Valley, this sonic adventurer has been busy working with the electronic pulses of psychedelic mushrooms over recent years. *Music Belongs To The Universe* is all his own work, however – a welcoming collision of ambient, New Age and far-out lysergic drones.



4 DEAN WAREHAM
Yesterday's Hero

Back with only his third solo album, *That's The Price Of Loving Me*, Wareham is on top form. This quietly despairing track, one of the high points of the record, examines the passing of time with a wry outlook: "All our marches got nowhere..."



5 EIKO ISHIBASHI
October

Antigone is the long-awaited latest from this Japanese singer, songwriter and experimentalist, who's been busy soundtracking Hamaguchi films such as *Drive My Car* and *Evil Does Not Exist* in recent years. Teaming up with Jim O'Rourke on production, her new LP is a sugared, strange and deeply fascinating adventure. Read more on page 26.



6 BROWN HORSE
Dog Rose

This Norwich troupe haven't taken long to follow up their debut, but *All The Right Weaknesses* is an even finer record. "Dog Rose" is a good measure of the rest: crunching guitars and pedal steel, enigmatic lyrics and a wooziness that recalls Pavement and Silver Jews as much as *Tonight's The Night*.



7 BLACK COUNTRY, NEW ROAD
Besties

South London's most eclectic crew continue their journey towards baroque prog-pop perfection on new LP *Forever Howlong*. For the first time, all the songs are written and sung by the three female members of the group, with "Besties" led by Jockstrap's Georgia Ellery.



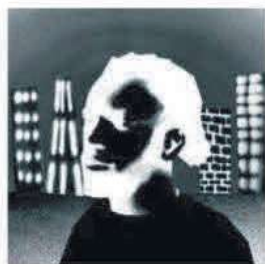
11 INDEX FOR WORKING MUSIK
Sister

This London group have sprung from the roots of Toy to offer a kind of ragged post-punk folk horror on their second album, *Which Direction Goes The Beam*. Sawing strings and Nathalia Bruno's stern vocals drive this waltzing, Velvets-y anxiety dream, to stunning effect.



12 JASON ISBELL
Foxes In The Snow

Here's the title track to Isbell's new acoustic album, a daring showcase of his singing, guitar skills and way with a turn of phrase and a lilting riff. These have been difficult times for the songwriter, and it's all laid out here. Find our feature on p60.



13 SAM AKPRO
Evenfall

This is the title track of south Londoner Akpro's debut album. Imagine King Krule with a little less jazz and a little more gothic Portishead clamour and you might come somewhere close to this blown-out, industrial delight.



14 SNAPPED ANKLES
Pay The Rent

Forest-born shamans (or so they claim, anyway), this London-based collective have got their raving shoes on for new LP *Hard Times Furious Dancing*. Like LCD soundtracking *The Wicker Man*, it's a transportative joy, as heard on this propulsive, dance-punk epic.



15 BUTLER, BLAKE & GRANT
Bring An End

Sublimely low-key, this indie supergroup – Bernard Butler, Norman Blake and James Grant – are standing by the power of their heartfelt songs and gorgeous harmonies. On this evidence, it's a distinction all round. **CD**