

CDs



Strange Clouds B.o.B | Born Villain Marilyn Manson
 Little Broken Hearts Norah Jones | Aufheben Brian Jonestown Massacre

Hearts afire

On this week's playlist: Heartbreakers and game-changers, reissues and returns, musical adventures and much more



DARRYL
STERDAN

CD Reviews

Norah Jones

Little Broken Hearts

Alt-Pop

★★★★

One breakup album is not enough for Jones. Three years after her rueful *The Fall*, the singer chronicles another failed romance on this moody fifth disc. Luckily, the lovelorn star finds a musical match in producer Danger Mouse, who cloaks her tales of jealousy, betrayal and regret in a lightly hazy, gently twangy netherworld of reverb-soaked alt-pop and roots. Heartache meets hipness.

Download: *Take it Back*; *Happy Pills*

Marilyn Manson

Born Villain

Goth-Metal

★★★★½

You can't kill the bogeyman. Just when you thought it was safe to write off Manson, he rises again like the slasher-flick anti-hero he deserves to be. The shock rocker's eighth album finds him musing about destructive love, pondering his humanity and quoting *Macbeth* — while riding a downward spiral of slow-grinding goth-metal and glam-slam. Sound and fury signifying maturity? Go figure.

Download: *Pistol Whipped*; *No Reflection*

Rufus Wainwright

Out of the Game

Pop-Rock

★★★★

Top of his game, more like. Singer-pianist Wainwright



Clockwise from left: Norah Jones, Marilyn Manson and Rufus Wainwright.



follows up 2010's mournful *All Days Are Night: Songs for Lulu* with one of his poppiest outings. Stylishly produced by Mark Ronson and backed by members of Wilco, Miike Snow, the Dap-Kings and more, our hero bares his heart atop a '70s soundtrack of Beatle-pop, piano-rock, country, Philly soul and more. He came to play. **Download:** *Out of the Game*; *Welcome to the Ball*

Billy Bragg & Wilco

Mermaid Avenue: The Complete Sessions

Folk-Rock

★★★★

The late Woody Guthrie supplied the lyrics. Bragg

and Wilco brought the music. The resulting discs — 1998's flawless *Mermaid Avenue* and its spottier 2000 sequel — were landmarks. On the eve of Guthrie's 100th birthday, this superior box collects both albums, a third CD of strong leftovers, a 1999 making-of DVD and 48 pages of artwork, notes and lyrics. All roads lead to Woody. **Download:** *California Stars*; *All You Fascists*

Pennywise

All or Nothing

Punk

★★★★½

They chose All. Three years after parting ways with singer

Jim Lindberg, these SoCal punk vets roar back to life with their 10th disc. Clearly rejuvenated by new frontman Zoli Téglás, these old dogs sound more motivated than they have in a decade, ripping through 12 inspirational punk and hardcore anthems with the speed, power and passion of kids half their age. Welcome back. **Download:** *Waste Another Day*; *Stand Strong*

Patrick Watson

Adventures In Your Own Backyard

Orch-Pop

★★★★

Home is where the art is. Montreal singer-pianist

Watson cut his fourth studio disc at home with his eponymous band. But while the results are indeed somewhat more informal and intimate than usual, this is no rustic, stripped-down curio. Watson's haunting melodies and swooping falsetto coalesce with the quartet's layered and cinematic orch-pop into a work that inhabits its own world. **Download:** *Lighthouse*; *Morning Sheets*

✉ darryl.sterdan@sunmedia.ca

📧 @darryl_sterdan

📄 blogs.canoe.ca/ent

Down Stream

3 Picks. 3 Clicks.
3 Cool Online Tracks

1 Beck

Only Have Eyes For You

One museum piece deserves another. So, for his contribution to Doug Aitken's *Song 1* project — in which various artists have covered the standard *Only Have Eyes For You* for a 360° film projected on a circular Washington museum — Beck turns in a ghostly old-school rendition of The Flamingos' doo-wop version, complete with icy piano tones and shoo-bop shoo-bop vocals. beck.com

2 The Walkmen

Heaven

"The detachment you can feel throughout our younger records is gone," says Walkmen frontman Hamilton Leithauser. "We felt like it was time to make a bigger, more generous statement." That statement is titled *Heaven* and arrives June 5, but here's the first taste — a suitably upbeat title track constructed from jangly shimmering guitars and spry drums. A little slice of ... you know. thewalkmen.com

3 The Flaming Lips

God Only Knows

Between recording hours-long songs, encasing things in creepy gummy molds and apparently collaborating with anyone and everyone who asks, God only knows where Wayne Coyne and his Flaming Lips found the time to cover this Beach Boys classic from *Pet Sounds*. But they did — and with all the spaced-out bliss and reverb-noise guitar abuse you'd expect. A short, sweet trip. flaminglips.com

CHARTS

Nielsen SoundScan Singles

- Stronger (What Doesn't Kill You)**
Kelly Clarkson
- Glad You Came**
Wanted
- Part Of Me**
Katy Perry
- We Are Young**
Fun.
- Call Me Maybe**
Carly Rae Jepsen