

melographic



Kalmir Traver of Rubblebucket photographed exclusively for Melographic by Stuart Glossop

Inside This Issue: Live At Leeds, Chasing Dragons, Slam Dunk, Leeds Festival Preview, Rubblebucket, Slow Club, Ghostfest 2014

Live At Leeds

Live At Leeds has become something of a tradition. It is, to all intents and purposes the opening of the festival season for not only Yorkshire but the whole of the UK. This is no mean feat for a festival that was only formed in 2007 when fifty bands performed at half a dozen venues to celebrate Leeds' 800th birthday. 2014 is the biggest one yet and may just go one better than simply being on the short-list for Best Metropolitan Festival awarded by UK Festivals.

A touch over 200 bands on 20 stages: There are a few ways to approach this: Take a lucky dip and just go see whoever you can on the day. You can cluster the venues to make sure that time travel from venue to venue is kept at a minimum. You can stick to one venue. Or, meticulously plan the day in advance to make sure you see who you want to see. It seems that the some have been planning for weeks with military precision and some I'm sure some are tinkering with the idea of studying quan-

ally, the only way to get a true indication of how splendid an event it is, is to do it!

So off to Belgrave Music Hall for the start. **Othepeopleslives** produced a confident set. They have a spell binding cocktail of subtle melodic hooks that go from soothing to soaring in a matter of beats. Leeds band **Blue Laurel** follow. The alt-rock outfit are beginning to make waves and their set, strangely nostalgic for a band formed in 2013 goes down rather well. **Disraeli Gears** followed them and their set is so spellbinding that plans to leave just before the end were jettisoned. Not sure if they are named after the album by Cream but you can sure hear that influence.

Lauren Aquilini opened the afternoon at the O2 academy, the largest venue of the day. For a young lady to simply sit at a keyboard and sing and to fill the whole of the auditorium with her personality is no mean feat. Indeed, by

in her songs. If you are older you remember what it was like being a teenager and are glad of the memories she brings. Faultless:

ace Beach. The venue, sweltering, which is apt as the 90s drenched melodies impeccably delivered by Ryan Needham and Liza Violet are



Lola Colt

A quick walk to Leeds Met. An easy decision as there are two stages to choose from. But it is here that a couple of gems are uncovered. One will become a jewel in the crown of Leeds mu-

sweltering good too. You knew these would be good, but here is one of the delightful things about Live at Leeds. You will come across something that you would never have heard of but are completely hooked on when you do. **Lola Colt** fall into that category. A myriad of sound within their set is alternative and countryesque. The choruses simply blow you away. Whilst they are on the stage nothing else matters. They are superb, they outgrew the stage with every song. Never heard of them? Well go do something good and listen to them. You can also do the same with **Black Moth**. the latest break out from the current hotbed of UK rock: Leeds. The band pumped out heavy riffs that lie somewhere between Black Sabbath and early Queens of The Stone Age. The band's sound is best heard on 'Spit Out Your Teeth', an oppressively heavy tune drifts along like a lazy dog before going demoniacal Almost every song is loud and aggressive with little respite. They will be massive! Watch out for their record in June. It will not disappoint.

A complete change at the O2 Academy for **Nina Nesbitt**. I remember her with little more than an acoustic guitar and some sweet songs about nothing in particular. She's all grown up now. Indeed, from her set she seems to be turning into something of a rock chick. The sound is, since the release of her Peroxide album, fuller and richer. Some say her songs are still about nothing which in truth misses the point. They are about things that are considered absolutely normal nowadays but Nina picks up on the dark side of this normality. Her cleverness lies in the fact that you can decide how light, or dark, you want Nina to be. Whichever



Indiana

tum physics so they can build a time machine to enable them to see all the bands on offer. Alas, this is not an option on what is the strongest ever bill for Live At Leeds. But whatever choice you actually took you were onto a winner musically speaking, But of course, any review will only be able to deliver a minute snapshot of the actual day. Re-

2015 this girl from Bristol who now lives "next to the Queen", will be a superstar. Her set included her ridiculously beautiful Fools, the sublimely angst ridden Talk To Me and her new EP Liars, which is receiving serious attention from Radio 1. Half an hour in her company and if you are a teenager you understand every feeling conveyed

But first **Hero Fisher**. Reminiscent of the turbulence of Jeff Buckley she has been rightly lauded as one of the most talented singer songwriters in the UK. She is hypnotic on stage and it is clear that she will be one of the hits of the festival season. There is little time to digest just how good she is though before you the next set began. It's **Men-**

er you desire this Scottish lassie never fails to deliver.

Back to the Belgrave: **San Fermin** are an added bonus as they ran a fraction late. San Fermin is the work of a Brooklyn composer Ellis Ludwig-Leone. They are huge fun: Baroque is the style and they don't do songs as such but swirling landscapes of music with huge choruses and brass fuelled melody. The crowd wanted more and no doubt more will be coming. They were followed by **Say Lou Lou**: Do you remember Erasure in the 1980s reinventing themselves with the Abbaesque EP? Well that is what they reminded you of. They will become everybody's favourite guilty secret. The comparison with Abba is inevitable one is blonde one is brunette: And some of their music reminds you of Abba. But there is more to the twin sisters Elektra and Miranda Kilbey. Indeed, they are a lot more sultry. They've already tagged themselves a sound of 2014 nomination and these half Australian half Swedish duo will be wowing crowds everywhere with their hypnotic pop.

For the final leg of the day I went to Nation of Shopkeepers. One of the smaller venues. The atmosphere was a little oppressive. Not helped by a sound issue. So it says a lot for **Laura Welsh**, that she not only had the crowd dancing in such a tight space but had them forgetting the delay. There is a simplicity about Laura but she has a powerful and beautiful voice. One to definitely watch for in the future. Finally, **Indiana**. Her 80s inspired synth pop is simply infectiously mesmerising. Haunting vocals that send chills down your spine. She's already riding high in the Top 40, and deservedly so. In essence, a headline act in a venue holding less than a hundred people. That was the beauty of Live At Leeds. No fillers: just killer acts: All 200 of them. You couldn't go wrong whichever method of choosing who you saw you used. Roll on next year and we'll do it all again. In the meantime, Live At Leeds has been the perfect intoxicant to a summer that Yorkshire will not forget.

Words Allan James: Photographs Stuart Glossop



Lauren Aquilina



Disreali Gears



San Fermin

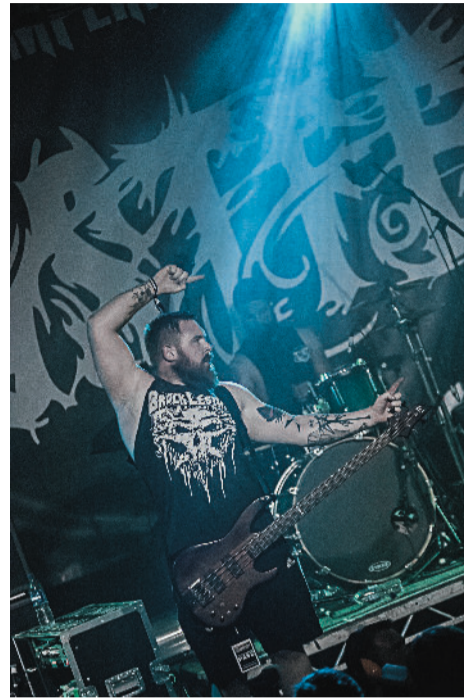


Say Lou Lou



Nina Nesbitt

Ghostfest: Leeds University: June Photographer Stuart Glossop



July Talk: Brudenell Social Club, Leeds

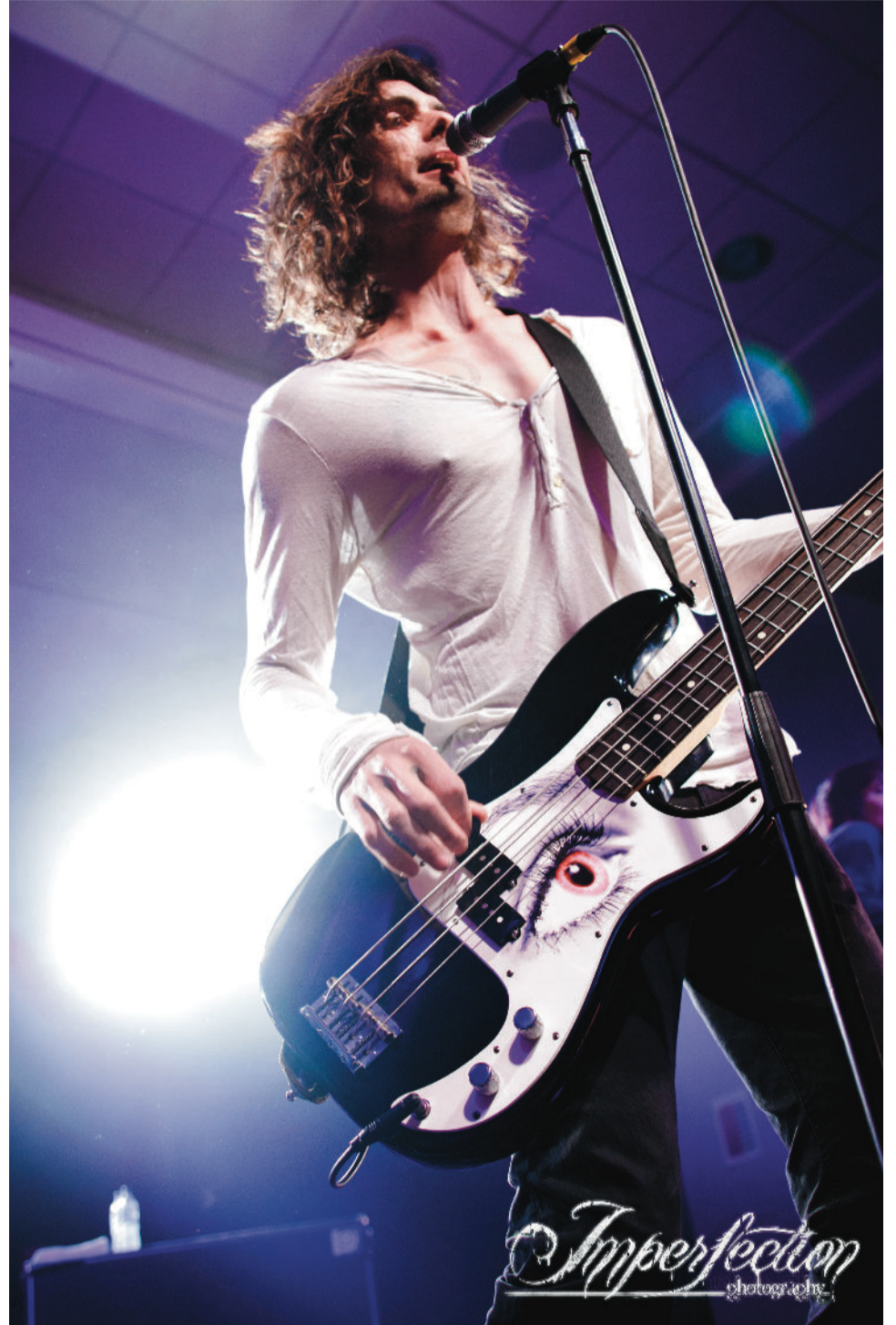
You go along to a free show not expecting much. On a night when some people were paying hundreds of pounds to see Robbie Williams a mile away Toronto band July Talks were playing a free gig at The Brudenell Social Club. I know who got the best deal! I'm sure Robbie was good: Note perfect even. But I doubt him or his audience had quite as much fun as we did. Or for that matter as much fun as Talk July themselves. Because if there is one word that can describe a Talk July show that word simply has to be fun. It was a small crowd but they pulled out all the stops and their free gig will not quickly be forgotten.

Peter Dreimanis and his husky delivery will I suppose be compared to Tom Waite: To me it was more Johnny Cash because his growl is deliciously augmented by the shadowy-voiced Leah Fay. Their chemistry is something you can touch, and it all comes together on stage. It is easily obvious that this is where they fell most comfortable, they were up for a Bucky Award for best live performance. The whole of the set drips with sultry sexiness because of Fay and a whole set of confidence from Dreimanis. Everything they do screams fun, indeed, the rapport between band and spectators is littered with Dreimanis asking "are you having fun"? The answer was a resounding yes. The reason for this is simple. July Talks writes their caustic songs with the live show in mind. "I would die before playing an unenergetic show" Dreimanis once said in interview. It is clear that all their energy will soon be direct-



July Talk photographed by Stuarts Photography, Leeds

Slam Dunk: Photographed by Emma Boorman of Imperfection Photography





Rub-ble-buck-et [ru-bul-buck-it] Noun 1

. A vessel in which workers collect waste materials on a construction site; We need a rubblebucket for all this rubble. 2. A wild art-pop band from Brooklyn, NY; I'm jonesing for the new Rubblebucket album 'Survival Sounds'. 3. The condition of having hard nipples, or riding a mean yes wave; He has great Rubblebucket. Verb 4. The act of uncrossing one's arms and letting loose, while strange, new feelings and sounds flood mind and body, leading to uncontrollable dancing, possible injury and definite sweat; Man, we really put the rubble in the bucket last night. You can hear jazz influences, along with funk and even disco throughout their catalog. There is undoubtedly an element of pop that attempts to break the surface but Rubblebucket is just too awesome to let that happen. Overall, their live show was both inspiring and engaging. The band's leader, Alex Toth, takes on the role of trumpeter while his right-hand man, Adam Dotson, holds down the trombone. The pair multitasks as backup vocalists, whistlers, and synchronized dancers throughout the show, but its saxophonist Kalmia Traver on lead vocals that truly blows you away. Her high energy, passionate performance is wild. In fact, the highlight of the night arrived when Traver abandoned the stage to sing the first verse of "Came Out of a Lady" from the middle of the dance floor. By the end of the song, the whole brass section was throwing down in the center of the room as the audience danced around them. Rubblebucket's emphasis on audience interaction is a refreshing approach to the live music. They'll be back soon I hope and if they are do yourself a favour and go along, let yourself go and be part of a truly memorable occasion.

New album 'Survival Sounds' out 8.25.14
"Sound of Erasing" out now / Free Download @
www.Rubblebucket.com

Rubblebuckets Kalmir Traver - photographed for Melographic by Stuart Glossop



Despite a malestrom of sound issues, dealt with true Yorkshire grit and humour Sheffield's Slow Club, (Rebecca Taylor and Charles Watson) played a storming set to a packed Brudenell Social Club in Leeds. They have a new record out called Complete Surrender which is really rather brilliant and they played most of it here. They are also playing Tramlines in their hometown at the end of July which will be reviewed in the next issue. <http://po.st/SlowClubWB>

Photographer Allan James



Chasing Dragons: Corporation, Sheffield: Photographed by Stuart Glossop

Chasing Dragons

Checkmate, was released on June 2nd. It is a flawlessly constructed rock album. Crushing guitars, pumping drums and vocals that will literally shake you from head to toe. I, and anyone who cares to listen will, be immediately hooked. Laurie "Tank" Carnen, has one of the most powerful female vocals I have heard on this side of the Atlantic, indeed, it matches anything on the other side of the Atlantic. Her soaring vocals are ably assisted by the screaming guitars of Mitch Sadler, the thumping bass of Ant Varenne and the ferocious drumming of Kate Bullock. There is no let up in the energy until we reach the penultimate track on the record called The Last Defence, a moody piano led ballad as good as anything delivered by Amy Lee. A brief respite though this before ending the album

with their new single Broken Jaws, which is an anthem in its construction and delivery. This is a beautifully crafted record: The musicianship is exemplary but the biggest thing about Checkmate is that it has not simply been thrown together. It has been thought about, writing wise and production wise. It's a big record in every sense for a band that are about to be big. From this record it is clear they deserve every bit of success that comes their way.

Find out more about Chasing Dragon, including how to order Checkmate at <http://www.chasingdragons.co.uk/>



Preview: Leeds Festival

Even more incredible new names announced for Reading & Leeds 2014! With just 50 days to go until the Festival gates open, even more amazing acts are now revealed for Reading & Leeds 2014.

This year's Festivals will see over two hundred artists take to the stage at Richfield Avenue and Bramham Park over the August Bank Holiday weekend, with an incredible bill topped by headliners Queens Of The Stone Age, Paramore, Arctic Monkeys and Blink-182.

New additions to the line up Red Fang and The Wytches will join the bill on the NME/Radio 1 Stage, featuring headliners Courteeners, Bombay Bicycle Club and Disclosure (Live).

Secondcity, Zinc, Milky Chance, We Were Evergreen, Nightbox and The Tea Street Band join the BBC Radio 1 Dance Stage line up, which includes closing sets from Netsky (Live), Pendulum (DJ set) and Flume.

On the Lock Up, Empress AD, Misty Miller and Blacklist Royals join a bill featuring the very best in punk and rock, including stage headliners Jimmy Eat World and Gogol Bordello.

Festival Republic Stage headliners Palma Violets, Band Of Skulls and Augustines are joined by great new additions Childhood, Sweethead, Dolomite Minor, The Bohicas, The Royal Concept, X Ambassadors, Flyte and Twisted Wheel.

The BBC Radio 1 Xtra Stage returns for its second year in 2014, offering the best of hip hop, urban and grime, with headline acts Giggs, Pusha T, Danny Brown and Joey Bada\$\$, joined today by Sinead Harnett, Sasha Keable, Mirror Signal, Bad Rabbits, Star.One and Tinashe.

With so many incredible acts in one place over one weekend and an unbeatable atmosphere, Reading & Leeds Festivals are the highlight of the summer for music fans! All Reading Festival tickets have already sold out, however those who've missed out still have the chance to catch the same incredible line up at Bramham Park. Leeds Festival goers are urged to buy their tickets from official ticket agents as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Online/Telephone -Tickets are strictly limited to a maximum of four per person/address/payment card for those booking by telephone or online. Credit Card line: 0871 231 0821 Or online at: www.festivalrepublic.com www.readingfestival.com www.leedsfestival.com or See Tickets

In Person -Leeds tickets can be bought at face value, in person when paid for in cash at outlets including Leeds Visitor Centre.

Please note that picture ID/proof of address will be required at the time of booking. Tickets are subject to availability. Limit of two per household/person for personal callers. For a full list of national outlets please visit: [here](#) for Reading and [here](#) for Leeds

Children 12 and under are admitted free but MUST be accompanied by a ticket holding adult. Please note there is no separate children's area at this event.



Festival Republic

LEEDS 2014

BRAMHAM PARK, LEEDS
AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST	SATURDAY 23RD AUGUST	SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST
BLINK-182 PARAMORE RYAN LEWIS YOU ME AT SIX A DAY TO REMEMBER SLEEPING WITH SIRENS PAPA ROACH YOUNG GUNS TONIGHT ALIVE THE STORY SO FAR	QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE PARAMORE VAMPIRE WEEKEND ENTER SHIKARI JIMMY EAT WORLD DEAF HAVANA BLOOD RED SHOES CROSSFAITH HACKTIVIST	ARCTIC MONKEYS JAKE BUGG IMAGINE DRAGONS FOSTER THE PEOPLE THE HIVES PEACE DRY THE RIVER PULLED APART BY HORSES GNARWOLVES
DISCLOSURE LIVE THE 1975 THE HORRORS • THE KOOKS MAVERICK SABRE • SCHOOLBOY Q CLEAN BANDIT JUNGLE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD TWIN SHADOW • THE WYTCHEs	COURTEENERS METRONOMY SBTRKT WARPAINT • TEMPLES TWIN ATLANTIC MALLORY KNOX • DRENCE LA DISPUTE • RED FANG PLUS GLOBAL DEBUT FROM GERARD WAY	CLOSING SET FROM: NERO LIVE Bombay Bicycle Club CHVRCHES DIE ANTWOORD • DON BROCO CAGE THE ELEPHANT LOWER THAN ATLANTIS ROYAL BLOOD • MARMOZETS LONELY THE BRAVE DZ DEATHRAYS
FLUME KLAXONS BOYS NOIZE BONDAX • BEN PEARCE BREACH • SNAKEHIPS ZINC • ELECTRIC YOUTH LUXURY BILLON	NETSKY LIVE! ANNIE MAC GORGON CITY WILKINSON ALUNAGEORGE • SIGMA SECONDCITY • INDIANA RUFUS • PANAMA WE WERE EVERGREEN • NIGHTBOX PLUS SPECIAL GUEST DUKE DUMONT LIVE!	PENDULUM DJ SET ANDY C GESAFFELSTEIN THE GLITCH MOB BORGORE • ADVENTURE CLUB JACOB PLANT • KOVE MØ • MILKY CHANCE THE TEA STREET BAND
LOCK UP GOGOL BORDELLO MONGOL HORDE A WILHELM SCREAM • BABY GODZILLA • BASEMENT • BEASTS • BLACKLIST ROYALS • BRUTALITY WILL PREVAIL • ††† (CROSSES) DAVE HAUSE • EAGULLS • EMILY'S ARMY • EMPRESS AD • EVERY TIME I DIE • ISSUES • LESSER KEY • LETLIVE • MARMOZETS MASKED INTRUDER • MISTY MILLER • MUNCIE GIRLS • NECK DEEP • PUP • SLAVES • THE FLATLINERS • THE FRONT BOTTOMS THE HELL • THE SKINTS • THE WONDER YEARS • VALES • WE CAME AS ROMANS • WOVENWAR	LOCK UP JIMMY EAT WORLD BRODY DALLE	THE PIT OF MICE & MEN ARCHITECTS
FESTIVAL REPUBLIC STAGE AUGUSTINES MAYDAY PARADE AMERICAN AUTHORS • BEAR HANDS • CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN • CHILDHOOD • CIRCA WAVES • DARLIA DOLOMITE MINOR • DROWNERS • FLYTE • HOZIER • HUDSON TAYLOR • KING CHARLES • LEADERS OF MEN • LITTLE MATADOR LUCIUS • MARIKA HACKMAN • NICO VEGA • SAINT RAYMOND • SIVU • SOUTHERN • SWEETHEAD • THE AMAZING SNAKEHEADS THE BOHICAS • THE DISTRICTS • THE FAT WHITE FAMILY • THE MINUTES • THE ORWELLS • THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART THE ROYAL CONCEPT • THE SUNSHINE UNDERGROUND • TWISTED WHEEL • WOLF ALICE • X AMBASSADORS	PALMA VIOLETS BIPOLAR SUNSHINE	BAND OF SKULLS WE ARE SCIENTISTS
DANNY BROWN JOEY BADA\$\$ VIC MENSA ADIAN COKER • BAD RABBITS • DAVID RODIGAN MBE • DOMINIQUE YOUNG UNIQUE • DIRTY DIKE EDWARD SCISSORTONGUE • ELLI INGRAM • HAWK HOUSE • KWABS • LITTLE SIMZ • LIZZO • MERIDIAN DAN MIRROR SIGNAL • MISTAJAM • MY NU LENG • NEWHAM GENERALS • P MONEY • SASHA KEABLE • SINEAD HARNETT RALEIGH RITCHIE • STAR.ONE • TEMPA T • TINASHE	GIGGS I AM LEGION	PUSHA T KREPT & KONAN

