

FESTIVAL BANDS

Festival season is upon us! **Alexandra Petropoulos** and **Jo Frost** have picked ten artists – and their albums – who will be rocking stages across the country this summer. See p45 for our UK festival guide round-up



01 Afriquoi *Kolaba*

(Wormfood Records, 2015)

This London-based Afro-dance project burst onto the scene with this debut album and have been taking stages by storm with their live performances ever since. Check out their fusion of African rhythms, house and drum'n'bass at Boomtown, Shambala or Farmfest. Reviewed in #112. *AP*



02 Baba Zula *XX*

(Glitterbeat, 2016)

'We are the sound of Istanbul,' frontman and *saz* player

Murat Ertel proclaimed in #125. The Turkish psychedelic dubsters Baba Zula were founded by Ertel and percussion genius Levent Akman and this double album was released to commemorate their 20th anniversary. Their live shows are legendary – expect exotic costumes, an impressive array of 'taches and plenty of fun – the Boomtown crowd are guaranteed to love it. *JF*



03 Elephant Sessions

All We Have is Now
(Elephant Records, 2017)

The Scottish quintet perform a mix of traditional roots, electronic, rock and funk in what they call 'Highland neo-trad.' Catch their barnstorming live performance at various festivals including Doune the Rabbit Hole, Larmer Tree Festival and Cambridge Folk Festival. Reviewed in #129. *AP*



04 Daoirí Farrell *True Born Irishman*

(Daoirí Recordings, 2016)

The Irish singer and *bouzouki* player has had a whirlwind couple of years since this debut release won him two BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in 2017.

He's still a regular performer on the Dublin session circuit and this summer will see him returning to Cambridge, plus he'll be at numerous other folk festivals including Wickham and Shrewsbury Folk Festival. A Top of the World in #124. *JF*

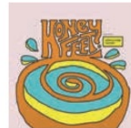


05 Dobet Gnahoré *Miziki*

(LA Café, 2018)

It's been some time since we've heard from the Ivorian

singer, but her return to the studio, with samples wiz and producer Nicolas Repac, has resulted in a glorious pan-African showcase, sung largely in her native Bété language. Dobet sounds on top form and given her reputation as a formidable live act, she's sure to wow the crowds at WOMAD in July. A Top of the World this issue, see p59. *JF*



06 Honeyfeet *Orange Whip*

(Wah Wah 45s, 2018)

There is nothing but sass and good fun to be had with this

Manchester folk-hop group. While they can reliably be seen tearing it up on several stages at Shambala Festival every year, they've just released this album in March so they will be at loads of other festivals including Underneath the Stars and Cambridge Folk Festival. Be prepared to fall in love with them as soon as the groove starts. *AP*



07 Ibibio Sound Machine

Uyai

(Merge Records, 2017)

Fronted by British-Nigerian vocalist Eno Williams, this group bring swagger and futurism to their mix of Afrobeat and highlife. This is boogie music, so be ready to throw some shapes at Larmer Tree Festival, Greenbelt Festival, or Standon Calling. A Top of the World in #127. *AP*



08 King Ayisoba *1000 Can Die*

(Glitterbeat, 2017)

An unexpected hit at last year's WOMAD, the

Ghanaian *kologo* (two-stringed lute) player returns to the UK this summer when he'll bring his raw and relentlessly energetic live show to Shambala. His latest album features luminary guest appearances including Lee 'Scratch' Perry and Orlando Julius, but the real star is the vocal dynamo King Ayisoba whose rasping vocals are not for the faint hearted. Reviewed in #127. *JF*



09 Lankum *Between the Earth and the Sky*

(Rough Trade Records, 2017)

After a name change, the

self-labelled Dublin folk miscreants (formerly Lynched) have been taking the folk world by storm. They took home the awards for Best Group and Best Original Track at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards in April. But their live shows are both funny and intense, so don't miss them at Brighton Festival and Larmer Tree Festival. A Top of the World in #133. *AP*



10 Vishtèn *Terre Rouge*

(Vishtèn Music, 2015)

Acadian trio Vishtèn are the multi-instrumentalist

LeBlanc sisters, Emmanuelle and Pastelle, and formidable fiddler Pascal Mioussé. Their sixth album will be released later this year, but in the meantime this, their latest (reviewed in #112) is an exemplary showcase of the French-Canadian roots tradition, replete with their trademark foot-tapping and gorgeous harmonies. They'll be at HebCelt, Cambridge and others this summer. Reviewed in #112. *JF*

+ **LET US KNOW** Have another suggestion? Get in touch, letters@songlines.co.uk