

music

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The fire within

Yasmin Levy fans the flames of a smouldering musical tradition on her brilliant new album; interview, page 28

The hottest downloads

First Aid Kit (below): *Hard Believer* A weary, lilting, lovelorn, country-tinged lament from two teenage Swedish siblings.

Kindness: *Swinging Party* The Replacements song, in a wonderfully sepulchral electro makeover.

Massive Attack featuring Martina Topley-Bird: *Psyche* A highlight from their new EP. Beautiful.

Aidan Moffat and the Best-ofs: *Knock on the Wall of Your Womb* Lord Cut-Glass adds emotional heft. *DC*



Must-have reissue

GARY NUMAN: *The Pleasure Principle* — 30th anniversary edition (*Beggars Banquet*) Numan's reputation has been restored lately; after decades of being dismissed, he's finally been recognised as an important and influential figure. So it's slightly bad luck that this reissue of his most famous album comes at the same time as the reissue of most of the Kraftwerk catalogue (it's not as if it's hard to avoid clashing with a Kraftwerk release date), which reminds us that people were doing this stuff five years earlier. Numan's importance, however, lies in his ability to slap an earth-quaking hook on top of his glacial synths (*Cars* being the definitive example), and therefore join the dots between Kraftwerk, Bowie and Eno on one side and the rise of synth-pop, techno and industrial music on the other. *ME*



Book now

Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck These two former Yardbirds and long-standing guitar heroes play together and apart on February 13, 2010, at the O₂ Arena, SE10.

David McAlmont (right) and Michael Nyman A less obvious collaboration than Eric and Jeff, but an intriguing one. The duo perform songs from their forthcoming album, *The Glare*, on October 24, Union Chapel, N1.

Lily Allen and Dizzee Rascal Once, this would have seemed an unlikely combo; now that Dizzee's a pop star, it all makes sense. From March 5, MEN Arena, Manchester.

