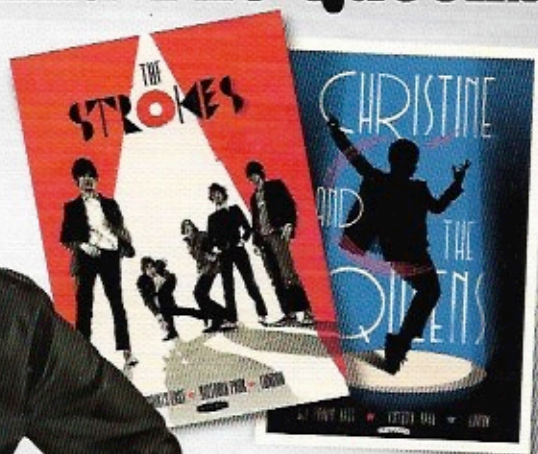


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BILLY CHILDISH

PUNK ROCK IST NICHT TOT

DAMAGED GOODS, OUT 24 MAY

Turbo-creative garage-rocker's musical highlights.

In the liner notes to this compilation, comedian Stewart Lee calculates that Medway garage rocker Billy Childish

has released 135 albums. So, no career summary can be definitive. Classics like *Troubled Mind* and *You Make Me Die* nestle amongst copious obscurities, arranged chronologically, from *The Pop Rivets* in 1977 through to today's *CTMF*. Yet there's no progression: where even *The Fall* had a pop phase, Childish held firm. In the best possible way, this is one long ear-bashing. ★★★★★ ANDREW PERRY



JOAN AS POLICE WOMAN

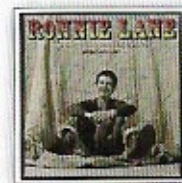
JOANTHOLOGY

PIAS, OUT 24 MAY

Stirring overview of songwriter's work to date.

The first 15 years of Joan Wasser's career enjoy a 3CD run-out, taking us from the bluesy-jazz of her 2006

debut EP *My Gurl*, to two new tracks – *What A World* and a cover of Prince's *Kiss*. Along the way there are pit stops at BBC sessions, collaborations with Antony and Sonic Youth, and the radiant title song of her 2006 album *Real Life*. Across these 43 tracks it's hard not to be stirred by Wasser's voice and the muscular force of her songwriting. A sultry, powerful collection. ★★★★★ LAURA BARTON



RONNIE LANE

JUST FOR A MOMENT

UNIVERSAL, OUT 17 MAY

The former Small Face/Face's solo output.Upon leaving *The Faces* in 1973, bassist Ronnie Lane embarked on a commercially disastrous but artistically

fruitful life playing his rustic mesh of folk, R&B and country. *Just For A Moment* gathers Lane's music up to his death in 1997. The first few albums with Slim Chance have all the bonhomie of a pub lock-in while his 1977 LP with Pete Townshend, *Rough Mix*, is an overlooked gem. Non-completists might want to start with the distilled one- and two-disc options. ★★★★★ CHRIS CATCHPOLE



PRIMAL SCREAM

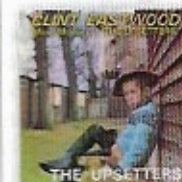
MAXIMUM ROCK'N'ROLL: THE SINGLES

SONY, OUT 24 MAY

Bobby G and co's 45s amassed.

Primal Scream might not strike you as a natural singles act, more of a broad brushstrokes group best enjoyed on

albums. Yet when laid out nose to tail these songs provide a wonderfully diverse, consistently on-the-money set. The one-and-a-half-minute jangle of *Velocity Girl* remains the greatest song to come out of C86, *Higher Than The Sun* still sounds like the universe being created while later tracks such as the jazz-rock skronk of 2013 shows their fire can still burn brightly. There are a few missteps, but over 33 years it's been a hell of a ride. ★★★★★ CHRIS CATCHPOLE



THE UPSETTERS

CLINT EASTWOOD/MANY MOODS OF THE UPSETTERS

DOCTOR BIRD, OUT NOW

Early kinky reggae from Lee Perry and friends.Originally released in 1969 and 1970, Clint Eastwood and *Many Moods Of The Upsetters* showcase Lee "Scratch"

Perry's love of spaghetti westerns and reveal early signs of the genius producer's idiosyncratic tendencies. Scorching, organ-led instrumentals such as *Return Of The Ugly* and *Clint Eastwood* (Perry's favourite cowboy) predominate. Dave Barker's gutsy James Brown impersonation on *Prisoner Of Love* is a sweat-drenched, soulful delight and *The Reggae Boys'* *Selassie* points the way to the conscious roots to come. And with 24 bonus tracks, including *The Bleachers'* rude(boy) anthem *Ram You Hard*, this makes for a tasty two-fer. ★★ ★ SIMON McEWEN