

## FEATURE IMPALA AWARD

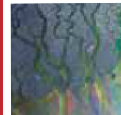
# THE EUROPEAN ALL-STARS

Meet the 18 LPs duking it out for IMPALA's coveted European Independent Album Award 2013. The prize is being voted on by indie music industry leaders and is due to be announced next week. Last year's winner, beating competition from across the continent, was Adele's 21



### AFTERHOURS PADANIA

Afterhours were formed in 1985 in Milan around musician, writer, producer and manager Manuel Agnelli, taking their name from the title of a Velvet Underground song. Their debut was in 1987 with the single My Bit Boy. Badania is the band's 12th album.



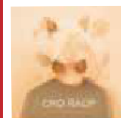
### ALT-J AN AWESOME WAVE

An Awesome Wave won the Mercury Prize in November 2012, and has earned its own appellation 'folkstep'. Three singles have fared well in the charts both in the UK and internationally. The album has sold 100,000 copies in the UK and 75,000 abroad.



### COMPACT DISCO SOUND OF OUR HEARTS

Hungarian electronic-rock four-piece Compact Disco, founded in 2008 is comprised of Behnam Lotfi - one half of the techno producing team Collins & Behnam - and three former members of funk-pop outfit Brownfield.



### CRO RAOP

Cro's album title is derived from his musical style, which he describes as a mixture of rap and pop. He currently has over 30,000,000 YouTube plays for his single 'Easy'. The album, and Easy, reached Platinum status in Germany.



### DJANGO DJANGO DJANGO DJANGO

Django Django's eponymous debut album, which was nominated for a Mercury Prize, is noted for its psychedelic influences and tribal rhythms. The group looks set to follow up the success of their UK tour well into 2013, with a US tour lined up.



### ENTER SHIKARI A FLASH FLOOD OF COLOUR

Enter Shikari's third album solidifies their success as a crossover band from the UK's bass music underground. The album reached the Top 10 in the UK, and debuted at Number 1 in the Rock Chart. It was also chosen as Kerrang's Album of the Year 2012.



### EL PERRO DEL MAR PALE FIRE

El Perro del Mar is a musical project that was started in December 2003 in Gothenburg, Sweden by Sarah Assbring. In 2006 she experienced a host of newfound success when the UK-based label Memphis Industries picked up her self-titled album.



### FIRST AID KIT THE LION'S ROAR

First Aid Kit are a Swedish duo comprised of sisters Johanna and Klara Söderberg. The duo's first full-length album, The Big Black & the Blue was released in 2010, followed by Lion's Roar in 2012.



### FRENKIE TROYANAC

Adnan Hamidović, better known by his stage name Frenkie, is a Bosnian rapper from Bijeljina. The themes present in his music are often concerned with the political situation in Bosnia, as well as traditional hip-hop subject matter such as battle rapping.



### KAIZERS ORCHESTRA VIOLETA VIOLETA

Kaizers Orchestra is a Norwegian alternative rock group formed in 2000. They are particularly notable for being among the first non-black metal Norwegian bands or artists singing in their native language to become popular beyond Scandinavia.



### THE KYTTEMAN ORCHESTRA

Kytteman is the stage name of Dutch hip-hop artist Colin Benders. He made his debut in 2009 with The Hermit Sessions. In order to perform the songs live Kytteman founded Kytteman's Hip-Hop Orchestra, acting as its musical director.



### LIBAR LIBAR

Libar was established in 2007 in Split, Croatia. The band is composed of five singers and four instrumentalists (TBF, Dionysus, fertilizer, Dr. Evil, Benighted). The band first's EP arrived in 2010, winning awards at the Evening of Dalmatian Chanson.



### NORBERTO LOBO MEL AZUL

Lisbon-based Norberto Lobo is a virtuoso guitarist whose playing prompts comparison with the legendary John Fahey. Crafting idyllic and pastoral instrumentals, his work has drawn the attention of admirers both inside and outside of Portugal.



### NETSKY 2

Boris Daenen better known as Netsky is a revered Belgian drum and bass producer. In late 2009, Netsky signed a recording contract with Hospital Records, the same label as other well known liquid artists such as High Contrast and London Electricity.



### JUKKA PIOKA YHDESTÄ PUUSTA

Jukka Rousu, better known by his stage name Jukka Poika, is a Finnish reggae artist. Starting his career with the Soul Captain Band in the late '90s he has gone on to release a number of solo records, incorporating reggae, dub and folk influences.



### SHAKA PONK THE GEEKS AND THE JERKIN' SOCKS

The Geeks and the Jerkin' Socks is the third studio album from experimental electro rock band Shaka Ponk. The band has a conceptual style, which combines traditional rock elements. Animated monkey character, Goz, is considered one of the band.



### JOHN TALABOT FIN

Fin is Barcelona house producer's John Talabot's much-anticipated fifth album and first full-length debut. Its sound is a departure from the house formula and from the pop inflections of his earlier work, and received five-star reviews.



### THE XX COEXIST

The xx released their Mercury-prize-winning debut album in August 2009 - a release that was loved by the critics and named The Guardian's album of the year. The XI-signed British band's second album, Coexist, was released on 10 September 2012.