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"All the News That Fits"

ROCK & ROLL

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Hear hot tracks from our South by Southwest picks.

Cover PHOTOGRAPHED BY SAM JONES

Styling by Vincent Boucher for Margaret Maldonado. Grooming by Sylvia Viau.

The Monkeys closing out their show with "A Certain Romance" – they don't play an encore because they don't have enough songs. Clockwise from top: Bassist Andy Nicholson, Hefders, Cook, Turner.

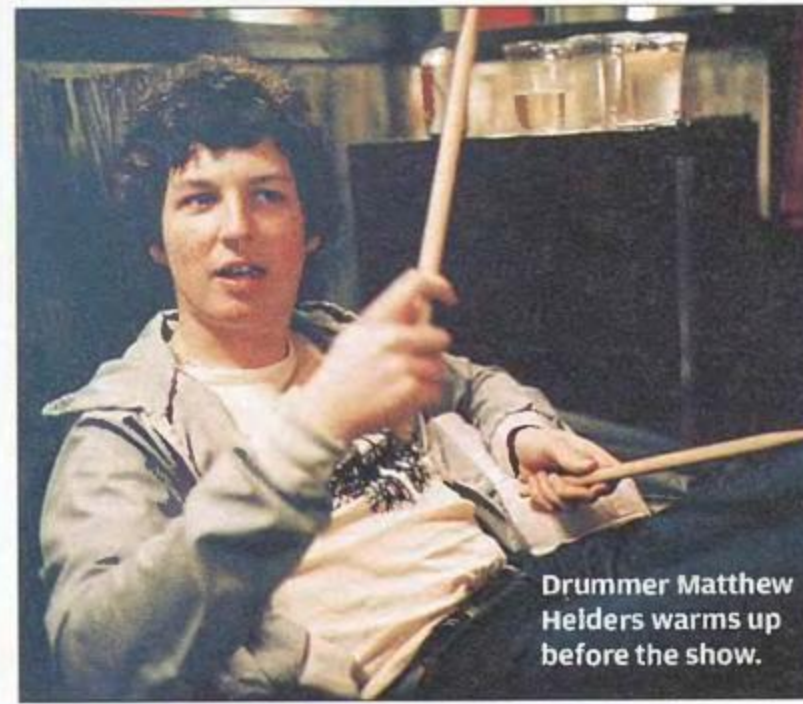


Lead singer and guitarist Alex Turner hangs out backstage.



British sensations the Arctic Monkeys

parked the riot van in New York on March 25th and unleashed their hyperactive, hyperliterate pop punk to a packed house at Webster Hall. Fans brought homemade banners. Screaming teen girls shredded their vocal cords. Backstage, photographer Ryan McGinley – the youngest artist to have a solo show at the Whitney Museum, though maybe you know him from his naked pictures for *Vice* magazine – got a rare look at the Monkeys at rest in their natural habitat.



Drummer Matthew Hefders warms up before the show.



Turner snogs his girlfriend in the wings.

Guitarist Jamie Cook refuels.



Springsteen will hit the road with the Seeger Sessions band.



nosebleeds are \$30 to \$40.

As usual, some of the best shows aren't necessarily the biggest: The Warped Tour, in its twelfth year, packages punk pioneers the Buzzcocks and Joan Jett and the Blackhearts with emo-punk acts like AFI and Saves the Day; System of a Down headline Ozzfest (with Ozzy Osbourne topping the bill for the first ten nights); Nine Inch Nails bring along TV on the Radio and a reunited Bauhaus; Ben Harper has a late-summer run with Damian Marley; and Slayer headline the Unholy Alliance Tour: Preaching to the Perverted.

Such diversity is a promising sign, but many promoters say they have yet to solve ongoing problems. High ticket prices for the Stones, U2, McCartney and others helped the business make more money in 2005, but attendance dropped – and competitors accuse major promoters such as Live Nation of spending too much money on tours, which drives up ticket prices. "Until these companies change their business plans, they're going to flood the market," says Washington, D.C., independent promoter Seth Hurwitz.

Still, Hurwitz says several shows are already selling well, notably Fall Out Boy and the Black Eyed Peas. And House of Blues' Hodges says average amphitheater sales went up from 9,000 to 10,000 in 2005. "We'll see how that holds, but so far sales and shows look pretty decent," he says. "The summer looks healthy."

ON THE ROAD: WHAT TO EXPECT

First details on eight of the season's hottest tickets

Madonna After grossing nearly \$80 million in 2004, the Material Girl hits the road again for an arena tour – kicking off sometime after her Coachella performance on April 30th, maybe as early as June. Says her spokeswoman, "She'd make more money playing stadiums, but visually she thinks it'd work better in an arena."

Bruce Springsteen

His second non-E Street Band tour in a row, this time with his Seeger Sessions folk-rock big band in May and June (in addition to his New Orleans Jazz Fest gig on April 30th).

Radiohead "To keep things more fun and spontaneous, we will be playing new songs that are a work in progress," the band posted on its Web site. The only scheduled date so far is at Bonnaroo on June 17th, with other June dates in the works.

Pearl Jam Pearl Jam follow their hard-rocking new album with their first full North American arena tour since 2003 – beginning May 9th in Toronto and continuing through June 3rd with My Morning Jacket opening (tickets around \$50). Further summer dates aren't yet announced, but Sonic Youth will reportedly open shows in July.

The Who Pete Townshend, Roger Daltrey and Co.'s world tour

– behind the band's first studio release in twenty-four years – hits the U.S. in September, according to Townshend, with stops running through December.

Mariah Carey Touring behind *The Emancipation of Mimi*, the biggest album of 2005 – and of her career – Carey will hit the road for a tour that Live Nation president Michael Rapino says will be "big – it'll be amphitheaters or arenas."

Warped and Ozzfest

Warped kicks off June 15th in Columbia, Maryland, with the Buzzcocks and AFI (tickets about \$25); Ozzfest hits the road with Ozzy (playing only the first ten dates) and System of a Down in San Francisco July 1st (tickets \$31-\$135).

Eric Clapton Clapton's tour kicks off on May 5th in France, with a band including Allman Brothers Band slide guitarist Derek Trucks; promoters predict the tour will hit the U.S. this summer or early fall. In related news, Cream bassist Jack Bruce has said that the supergroup will play selected cities this year.

Prince After retiring his hits with the top tour of 2004 (it grossed \$87.4 million), Prince, sources predict, will tour behind *3121*, his biggest hit since the Eighties.



Prince

Radiohead hit the U.S. in June.



Petty's Last Summer Tour?

The Heartbreakers turn thirty with a blowout tour, movie BY AUSTIN SCAGGS

IN 1976, TOM PETTY AND THE Heartbreakers released their debut album, and this summer Petty plans to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary in grand style. He and the Heartbreakers will hit the road in June on a tour that Petty says might be the band's last major summer outing; there's an ambitious documentary in the works; and Petty is finishing *Highway Companion*, a solo album tentatively due on Rick Rubin's American Recordings label this summer. "It's a quieter album than I've done before," Petty says, sitting behind the sound desk in his home studio in Malibu. "I don't think I wasted any lines on this album. I think the songs are all there."

Petty exudes genuine pride as he debuts for ROLLING STONE nine of the songs slated for *Highway Companion*, including "Square One" and "Turn This Car Around." He began recording the album last year with Heartbreakers guitarist Mike Campbell and fellow Traveling Wilbury Jeff Lynne. Each contributes guitar parts, Lynne plays keys and a Hofner bass, Campbell plays a hefty amount of slide guitar ("He's never been better," says Petty) and, for the first time on record, Petty plays drums. Though they all but finished recording in February, Petty says, "The only thing keeping me from wrapping things up is just going, 'Well, I wonder if there's one more in me?'"

Petty plans to incorporate some of these songs into the Heartbreakers tour this summer, which will kick off in June with openers including Pearl Jam, John Mayer, Trey Anastasio and, Petty hopes, the Strokes and the Allman Brothers



Petty: Ain't gonna come around no more?

ers Band. "I think we should do this tour and then put an end to doing national tours, and just play now and then where we want to play," he says. "The idea of doing sheds or arenas... you turn into an animal by the time it's done."

Also, filmmaker Peter Bogdanovich (*The Last Picture Show*, *Mask*) has begun shooting a documentary about the Heartbreakers' history. "We've given him access that we've never given anybody," says Petty. Bogdanovich will interview Petty at length and hopes to talk with Bob Dylan, Stevie Nicks and members of Petty's family. "We're trying to give a sense of what happened to this group of kids that came from Gainesville, Florida – how they made the big time," says Bogdanovich. "How did that change them, and how did they change the world?"

"I'm not an expert on Tom Petty, I'm just a fan," adds Bogdanovich. "But what appeals to me is that he's a real American artist – an impressionist – very much of the American grain."

HOT ALBUM

Pearl Jam Aim High on New Disc

The Seattle rockers find inspiration, score radio hit with the anti-war "World Wide Suicide"

A decade ago, Pearl Jam – who release their eighth studio album on May 2nd – heard some sage advice from Neil Young. "He said that if you stay with it long enough, you'll have peaks and valleys – with a couple of records that are in the valleys," recalls bassist Jeff Ament. "And, eventually, something's gonna pop out. And I guess that's the way this record is starting to feel."

The band worked on *Pearl Jam* for eighteen months, and the result is one of its strongest albums in years: The hard-rocking, anti-war-themed first single, "World Wide Suicide," hit Number One on modern-rock radio, and fans downloaded it 250,000 times in five days when it was online for free. "That song came together quick," says

Ament. "The first session was a week after the [2004] Vote for Change tour, so we were ready to rock." Meanwhile, the band – long averse to most promotional tactics – is tentatively set to play *Saturday Night Live* for the first time since 1994 and is pondering a music video for its second single. (The group's last video was an animated clip for "Do the Evolution" in 1998.) "A lot of people have come up to us and said, 'I didn't even know you guys put any records out in the last five or six years,'" says Ament. "Some people only pay attention to bands on the covers of magazines and whatever. Being outside of that has been fine for us. But at the same time, I think we feel like we could still compete in that arena." BRIAN HIATT



Vedder is ready to rock in '06.