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Bjork - Bastards

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Our music critics give their verdict on this week's album releases

POP

Bjork: Bastards

One Little Indian, £11.99

Star rating: * * *

BJORK'S painstaking Biophilia album gets a second life with this curated compilation of some of the remixes she has commissioned over the past year from artists who intrigued her — Syrian singer Omar Souleyman, experimental hip-hop trio Death Grips, intense art rockers These New Puritans and Glasgow's electro maestro Hudson Mohawke among others. There are some predictable responses, replete with minimal glitchy pulse, chorus-effect synths and dubstep quake which don't depart radically from Bjork's style. But Matthew Herbert's reading of Mutual Core moves from peaceful dreams to nightmare and back, while Souleyman adds Arabic instrumentation, chanting keyboards and his own bluesy vocals to transform Crystalline and Thunderbolt.

FIONA SHEPHERD

Jah Wobble & Keith Levene: Yin & Yang

Cherry Red Records, £11.99

Star rating: * * *

BASS-WIELDING renaissance man Jah Wobble and his old PIL mucker Keith Levene have reunited with each other, if not with their former band, to produce this brooding collection of dark, dubby bass rumblings and ominous guitar distortion. The pair also put their distinctive stamp on other genres. The freewheeling rhythm'n'blues of Mississippi comes as a surprise, as does the hard-edged cover of George Harrison's Within You Without You, while the elastic jazz fusion of Fluid is blessed with a soulful turn from Sean Corby on trumpet.

FS

CLASSICAL

Fauré: Requiem

LSO Live, £9.99

Star rating: * * * * *

NWHAT do Fauré's Requiem, the Bach Partita that ends with the famous "Ciaconna", and the particular batch of Bach chorales featured on this recording have in common? They're all in D minor, which gives this entire curiosity package a unity that is compelling. But there's something much deeper at work, which the combined forces of vocal ensemble Tenebrae, the LSO Chamber Ensemble and LSO leader Gordan Nikolitch unfold to stunning effect. Nikolitch's tasteful playing of the solo Partita movements is interspersed with sung chorales, those features coming unexpectedly together in the Ciaconna, where Tenebrae add the