

**Camila Cabello**

*Romance*

Epic Records and Syco Music  
*Producer: Various*

There is no hiding Camila Cabello's love for fellow pop star and collaborator Shawn Mendes. Aply titled *Romance*, her second LP is dedicated to her relationship with the singer ("Used To This") and the emotional turmoils of attraction, heartbreak and love detailing an unfiltered and refreshing look at Cabello's life. She proudly sheds her innocence and embraces her sexuality on "My Oh My" with lyrics like "Swear on my life that I've been a good girl (Oh)/Tonight, I don't wanna be her." *Romance* showcases Cabello's vocal strengths, her ability to switch from a raspy seductress to an emotional crooner is delightful. — **Jacqueline Naranjo**



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**Emerson Loughman  
 Palmer**

*Be Empirical*

LonMan Records  
*Producer: Mark Loughman*

You've got modern rock & roll royalty here with Emerson Swinford, Mark Loughman and David Palmer, whose six-song EP contains melodic, cleverly conceived gems. Loughman's production with Simon Phillips' engineering is warm, engaging and strikingly crisp. "Finding Sense" grabs you with an intelligent take on the current state of society, consumerism and politics. "The Best I Can Give Is All You Get" is a delight, with '60s harmonics and a Marc Bolan/Cheap Trick feel. "You See Wonderful, You See Pretty" is also noteworthy for its socially astute lyrics and rich guitar work. — **Eric Harabadian**



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**Jeffrey Foscett**

*Voices*

BMG  
*Producer: Jeff Larson*

What do The Beach Boys, Nancy Sinatra, Heart, Billy Joel, America and Chicago have in common? They have all employed the services of vocalist-arranger extraordinaire Jeffrey Foscett. In this solo release he not only covers note-for-note versions of Beach Boys faves like "Good Vibrations" and "Wouldn't it Be Nice," but also unearths deep cuts by The Association, Buddy Holly and Jimmy Webb. Of particular note is Foscett's take on Neil Sedaka's "Laughter in the Rain." He reworks it in a manner that seems to mine Take 6/Manhattan Transfer territory. *Voices* is a special release from a truly gifted artist. — **Eric Harabadian**



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**Wildwood Kin**

*Wildwood Kin*

Silvertone  
*Producer: Ed Harcourt, Ian Grimble and others*

The lush, soulful acoustic melodies and soaring vocal harmonies of UK alt folk trio Wildwood Kin—and the transcendent chemistry of Meg Loney and her cousins, sisters Emillie (guitar) and Beth (bouzouki, keyboards)—have earned critical comparisons to everyone from Simon & Garfunkel and Fleetwood Mac to Mumford & Sons. I cheerfully add "this generation's West Country moors-based Wilson Phillips" to the praise, albeit with more grit and a deeper social consciousness. Their second album is driven by high impact vocals, dreamy acoustic grace, bright pop/rock textures and powerful, personal yet universal storylines. — **Jonathan Widran**



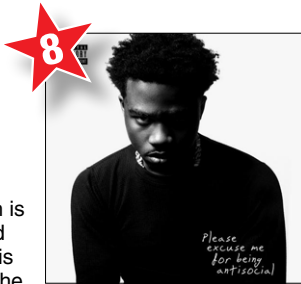
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**Roddy Ricch**

*Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial*

Atlantic Records  
*Producer: Mustard*

Fresh off of massive collaborations with Nipsey Hussle and Mustard, Roddy Ricch is perhaps the most successful SoundCloud rapper to emerge from the West Coast. His debut is a collection in the same vein as the summertime bangers that made the 21-year-old a household name. With songs like "Perfect Time" and "High Fashion" you can hear the influence of Rich Homie Quan and Young Thug. The most touching track is "God's Eyes," about the trials and tribulations that the Compton native faced as an impoverished youth surrounded by violence. — **Miguel Costa**



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**Handsome Dick Manitoba**

*Born in the Bronx*

Liberation Hall  
*Producer: Jon Tiven*

Punk legend Handsome Dick's debut solo effort is finally here and, fittingly, The Dictators vocalist spent just four-and-a-half days laying down this slapdash bundle of boasts and personal reflections. He isn't the greatest singer ever, but HDM's unabashed absence of polish lends garage rock realism to everything he does. Amid yarns dissecting hometown pride and misspent youth, Manitoba performs a gravelly version of "Eve of Destruction" that shouldn't work yet mysteriously does. — **Andy Kaufmann**



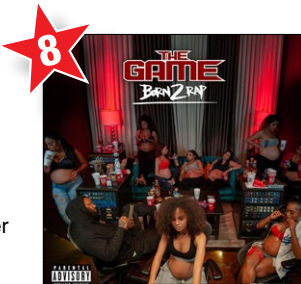
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**The Game**

*Born 2 Rap*

Prolific/5th Amendment/eOne  
*Producers: Various*

*Born 2 Rap* is The Game's 9th and final studio album. Game gets more personal on *B2R* than on any of his other official releases as he reflects on his rollercoaster ride of a life. With features from music heavy hitter's like Ed Sheeran, Miguel, Travis Barker, Nipsey Hussle (RIP), Chris Brown and Anderson .Paak, among others, *B2R* is solid, but should have been a bit shortened to avoid monotony. "Gold Daytonas," "Westside," "Stainless," "Welcome Home," plus a few other tracks are enough to keep fans of The Game busy for this winter season. — **Adam Seyum**



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**Carly Pearce**

*Carly Pearce*

Big Machine Records  
*Producer: busbee*

Get ready for some good ole country pop from Carly Pearce's self-titled sophomore album. She hits all the classic country themes from heartbreak ("Halfway Home") to full-on romance and everything in between ("Dashboard Jesus"). Sweet standout "Finish Your Sentences" is a heartwarming duet with her husband, fellow country singer Michael Ray. And we would be remiss to not give special mention to "I Hope You're Happy Now," Pearce's duet with Lee Brice that was performed at the CMAs and the Grand Ole Opry. Grab your girlfriends and a box of tissues and settle in for a girl's night with Carly. — **Carmina Taylor**



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To be considered for review in the Album Reviews section, you must have a record deal with a major label or an independent label with an established distributor. If you do not, please see our New Music Critiques section.