



Headphones on

MERCURY RISING

THE 2018 MERCURY MUSIC AWARDS TAKE PLACE IN HAMMERSMITH THIS SEPTEMBER. HERE'S OUR PICK OF THE NOMINEES AND THEIR MUST-LISTEN TRACKS



Lily Allen
No Shame

Allen's signature frankness – this time about her children and disintegrated marriage – is ever present on her fourth album, and it's all set against infectious electro-pop beats. She's at her most vulnerable yet, and it's beautiful.

Standout track: Lost My Mind



Arctic Monkeys

Tranquility Base Hotel & Casino

Sheffield's finest have returned, and with a richer, sexier and smoother sound than ever. Their music has matured like fine wine, with Roy Orbison undertones and the constant of Turner's witty lyrics.

Standout track: Four Out Of Five



Everything Is Recorded
Everything Is Recorded

You'd expect good things from the man who first signed Adele, and you get them: Richard Russell, head of record label XL, has released his own album of damn-fine hip-hop and soul tunes.

Standout track: Mountains of Gold



Florence + The Machine
High As Hope

Tapping into her innermost demons on her first album as a credited producer, Florence has given us a body of work even more refined and brutally honest than previous LP *How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful*. This record is on her terms, straight from the heart.

Standout track: Hunger



Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds
Who Built The Moon?

In an experimental, psychedelic departure from his Oasis days, the less mouthy Gallagher still knows how to make a hit.

With guest spots from The Smiths' Johnny Marr (on guitar and harmonica) and Paul Weller (on the – can you believe it – organ), this LP is a star-studded affair.

Standout track: It's A Beautiful World



Jorja Smith
Lost & Found

When you hear a voice as soulful as this, you never forget it. Utterly mesmerising, Smith's debut album is packed with silky R&B tracks telling stories of misguided romance and self-discovery. Get to know her now – we've got a strong feeling that this is just the start for her...

Standout track: Blue Lights