

Something for the Weekend

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BY CHRIS SWEENEY

ONES2WATCH

LADY GaGa meditates to his music and Oscar winner Tilda Swinton can't get enough of it.

But pop boy Patrick Wolf isn't bothered by any of that.

He's just glad to have his hunger back and reckons fifth album *Lupercalia* out on May 30 – is actually his **REAL** debut album.

It's all about the trials and tribulations of falling in love.

Patrick, 27, said: "People are miserable in the UK right now. I'd rather fight that with love and optimism to help people look on the brighter side of things."

"This is an older and more knowledgeable album about love than the typical ones you hear. I'm really proud of what I've done but I do feel the best is yet to come."

"This feels like my debut album, which is really odd. I feel like I've returned to a state of innocence and confidence that I've been yearning to get back to since I was 17."

South Londoner Patrick has always had a cult following and been big news in music circles.

His last album – 2009's *The Bachelor* which featured Swinton reading passages as the voice of Hope – was totally financed by his fans but, for this one, he's teamed up with record giants Mercury.

He said: "I've

People are miserable right now..I'd rather fight that with love

— PATRICK WOLF

gone from the really indie world to major labels, then funded by my fans – and now I'm back with a major label."

The audience for this album looks like being massive.

Musical bible NME is getting right behind the super catchy, lead single *The City* – which was released this week. And even Lady GaGa has given it her superstar seal of approval.

Patrick said:

"She came to one of my shows when I was touring the last album and I know she's a fan of mine – the last time we were in contact she was inviting me to her gigs."

"I'm very flattered as she's a real genius, so it's really cool."

"The single is all about times being hard and it's like a middle finger to all things material. It's getting back to things like loyalty and love – you don't care if your mum's just got fired or your best friend's in debt, we should all focus on

the important things in life." The 6ft 4in beanpole crooner kicks off his UK tour at Glasgow's Oran Mor on Wednesday.

And Patrick is looking for some crowd participation.

He said: "Five albums is pretty tricky to fit into an hour and a half."

"Plus I take requests. I like to make sure I'm well prepared knowing all my tracks – so it's lucky I've always written my own songs."

And he's so in the zone with his new stuff, Patrick has put

his proposed summer wedding on ice until next year.

He raved: "I've had my Britney moments for sure and said I was quitting music before, but I've got nowhere else to go."

"I feel I've turned a whole 360 degrees now – I'm back to feeling as excited about life and music as I've ever been."

● See patrick-wolf.com for tour info and downloads.



BY JIM GELLATLY

NEW MUSIC

JACK TOWNES

WHO: Jack Townes (vocals/guitar), Andy O'Neill (guitar), Johnny Madden (bass), Connair McCann (drums)

WHERE: Glasgow

FOR FANS OF: The Clash, The Vaccines, Jesus And Mary Chain

JIM SAYS: I've been telling everyone who'll listen that the best band I've seen this year are The Controis... then they change their name to Jack Townes!

They may have signed to Columbia Records before they'd even played a proper live show, but Andy and Johnny had been playing together since they were 12.

While this is Jack's first band, he's always been a songwriter. Maybe it's in his genes as his dad is Texas legend Johnny McElhone.

He's not tried to hide the family connection, but that hasn't stopped some in the Glasgow scene being suspicious. Fact is,

they're an amazing band, and if connections helped them get a leg up... so what?

It may be the first band he's fronted, but Jack has all the swagger and stage presence of someone that's been at it for years.

With hints of Elvis and Joe Strummer, backed by a band with a vintage rock 'n' roll feel, it may be nothing new, but boy is it good!

Jack knows how to perform, and it's not unsurprising he has a parallel career as a BAFTA-nominated actor (Young Adam, Dear Frankie, Nowhere Boy).

It's still so fresh that they only played their first gig as Jack Townes last week.

Despite what some scenesters think, they're set to continue Scotland's line of great guitar bands.

MORE: facebook.com/jacktownesmusic
● Hear Jim on **Amazing Radio**, Sunday 2-4pm (DAB digital radio & online) — jimgellatly.com



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COMING ON STRONG

BY TOM CHURCHILL

1 DEATH DISCO @ The Arches, Glasgow, tomorrow: DD goes back to its New York roots with a live set from the mighty Hercules And Love Affair, pictured. The disco-house collective, led by Andrew Butler, scored hits with *You Belong and Blind*, featuring Antony Hegarty of Antony & The Johnsons fame, and new album *Blue Songs* is being showered with critical acclaim. The ten-piece live show should be pretty special.

2 ULTRAGROOVE @ Cabaret Voltaire, Edinburgh, tomorrow: The queen of London's funky house scene, Cooly G, makes a rare trip north of the border.

3 KOLLEKTIV @ Art School, Glasgow, tomorrow: Another treat for lovers of the minimal techno sound, with Italian rising star Fabrizio Maurizi making his Scottish debut.

4 DEVIL DISCO CLUB @ Bongo Club, Edinburgh, tomorrow: Electro-punk outfit HRH return to the stage for a live set at this eclectic bash, after seriously rocking it last July. DJ support comes from Giles Walker plus Trouble DJs Hobbes and Erik D'Viking.

5 COSMIC @ The Store, Edinburgh, tomorrow: There's a space-inspired fancy dress theme at the launch party for this new tech-house offering. Kris Meja and Jakal are the highlights of a long line-up of local talent.

Her super-fresh productions, joining the dots between dubstep, garage and deep house, have catapulted her into the spotlight and she's bound to play plenty of upfront material.

● Email your news and listing to tom.churchill@the-sun.co.uk

TOP 5 NIGHTS

CLUBBING