

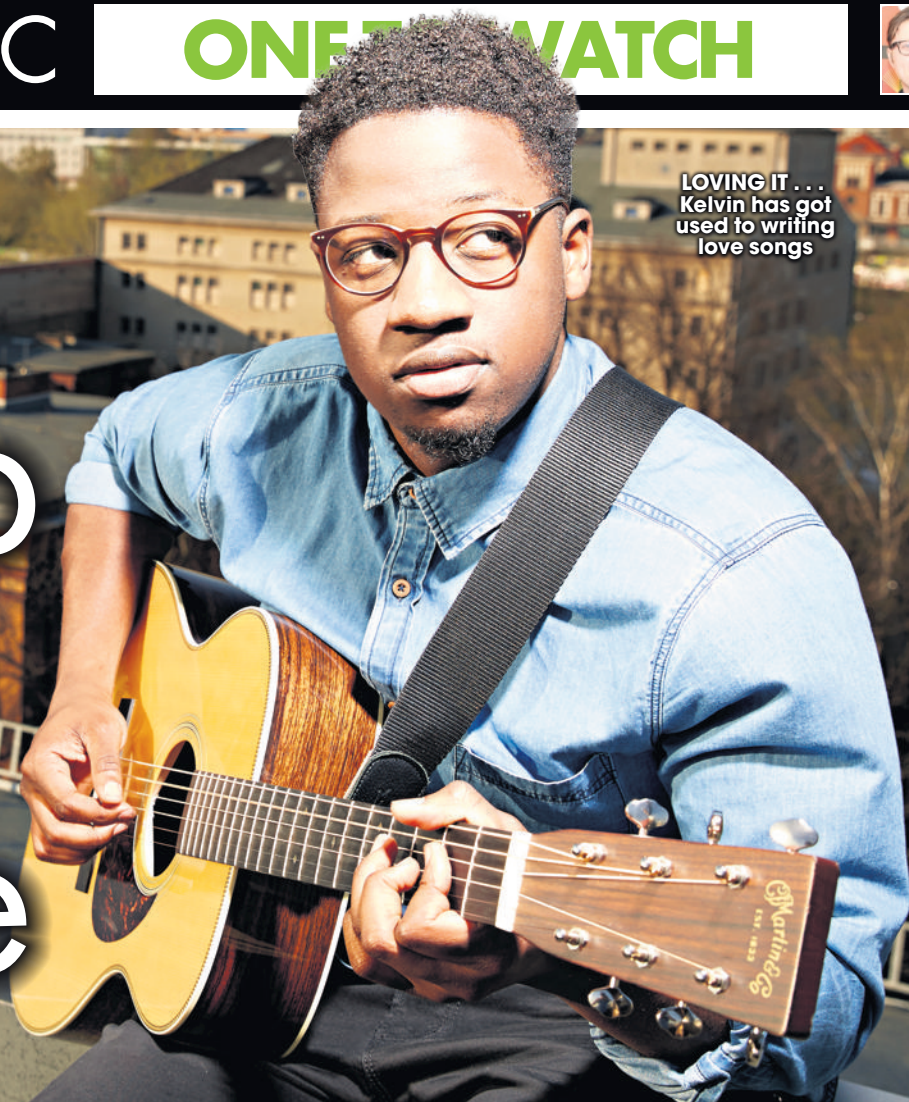
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MUSIC

ONETWO WATCH

By
CHRIS SWEENEY

Kelvin is turning up the heat in Europe



LOVING IT...
Kelvin has got used to writing love songs

KELVIN Jones is doing a David Hasselhoff in Germany — as a springboard to powering to the top of the UK charts.

Instead of making moves here, the youngster from Stevenage launched his career in mainland Europe.

Kelvin, 21, explained: "My friends ask all the time 'You seem to be big in Germany, why aren't you big here?'"

"But I just started over there. The reason why is a deep insider secret — basically, Radio 1 is the answer."

'Build a back story'

"Here you have to play to them. If they don't like you, there's nowhere else to go."

"In Germany, they've got over 200 equally important stations — not just one national station."

"So if you fail at one, you can go the next one and so on. You build a back story then when you go to Radio 1, you can say 'You should play my song as all these people like it'."

"Germany is now the second biggest market after the US, you could easily live off having a career there. The

UK is only big in terms of influence as it's cooler than Germany.

"There's so much music here that no one really appreciates it that much. But when you turn up to a small town in Germany, they look at you like you're a god and the crowds really listen."

We'll soon get a taste of Kelvin's stuff — his debut album *Stop The Moment* is out on March 25.

It's packed full of love songs and he's making no apologies.

Kelvin said: "I'm not Bob Dylan. I can't write songs about politics or changing the world."

"More than half my songs are about girls that broke my heart."

"I always felt that was a bit stupid. And then I spoke to a friend of mine who's about 50 and he said,

'That's what matters'. On your deathbed, you're not wondering who the president is — you are thinking about the people you love. So I thought, 'F*** it, I'm going to write about the things I care about' and right now, that's what I care about."

"Some singer/songwriters write about love a lot and it's become this stigmatised thing."

"At this point in life, I don't feel qualified to write about much else."

Kelvin is out on tour with James Morrison — they're at Glasgow's O2 Academy tonight.

'Didn't make sense'

And he'll get to showcase his development from his early days, after quitting a degree in mechani-

cal engineering. He said: "My problem is that the first 100 songs I wrote were s*** so it didn't make sense to keep them. What's interesting is I guess I've been in the music industry for a year. I wrote 70 per cent of the songs on the album on my own. They sign you and say 'Go write some songs'."

Kelvin did not get into music until well into his teens because he was fixated with football, but he insists he's in the zone now.

He added: "When I was 16 suddenly I heard John Mayer and BB King and I picked up the guitar."

"Nothing beats just standing in front of people and playing music."

"There's no better marketing. 'We're going to do a bunch of playing this year."

"I'll hit up as many festivals as I can and do a headline tour at the end of the year. That's the only way."

"I've spoken to other people who've been in this industry longer than me and they've said, 'You need people around you to help but if you're not pushing it yourself, don't expect it to just go'."

"I'm so, so focused. I don't know where I'm going, but I know where I want to go."

●For more, go to facebook.com/kelvinjones

ONE 2 SEE

ORIGINALLY from Lincolnshire, Callaghan is a one-woman corporation.

The country singer swaggered over to the lion's den, Nashville, and started her own label.

Not only do her albums sell well, she's able to do some serious touring across the US thanks to a loyal fan base. Now she's putting her efforts into cracking the UK.

Catch her debut Scots performance at Edinburgh's Voodoo Rooms on Wednesday.

All the information is at callaghansongs.com

ONE 2 HEAR

JAKE Bugg has pulled a shocker and gone all disco on his new single *Gimme The Love* — which is released on April 15.

In a real change of tack, the wee man from Nottingham has come up with a pearler.

Fast lyrics, disco sounds and a popastic chorus are fused together — it's a real step in another direction for him.

And it bodes well for his new album, which is due out in June.

Watch the single's video now at jakebugg.com

Stylish Lapelles have got all creative



THE LAPELLES

WHO: Gary Watson (vocals/guitar), Leon Green (guitar), Jack Anderson (bass/vocals), Christopher Ballantyne (synth), Jamie Holmes (drums)

WHERE: East Kilbride

FOR FANS OF: Arctic Monkeys, The Vaccines, The Cribs

JIM SAYS: The Lapelles first caught my attention around a year ago when I saw them at Stereo in Glasgow.

They were a last-minute addition to the Scottish Heroes night, organised by alumni of the Behind The Noise music and business education programme for secondary school students.

Their version of Orange Juice's *Rip It Up* was a highlight of the night. Their



NEW MUSIC
By Jim Gellatly

own material was what really excited me though — indie rock with a bit of spice, and amazing stage presence.

Since then, things have developed quickly for the young band, all are just 19 except for 21-year-old singer Gary.

They've had national airplay on Radio X, and last week their song *Seventeen* featured on the line-up announcement video for this year's T In The Park. Fingers crossed they will secure a slot!

Picked up by London-based management company Wildlife Entertainment

(Arctic Monkeys, Travis, Royal Blood), things are set to step up a gear.

Gary said: "We've been able to get a lot more creative and experimental when writing and I think our newest songs show that."

The guys are back in the studio soon. I can't wait to hear the results. If they are as good as the recent tracks, they'll be onto a winner. The Lapelles' single *Snakehips/Seventeen* is out now.

Catch them at King Tut's in Glasgow on March 26 with The Trend, Feet Of Clay and IBG. They'll also be back at Tut's on April 27 supporting VANT.

MORE: facebook.com/TheLapelles1

●Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio Sundays 2-4pm. amazingradio.com/jimgellatly.com

Watch video of band at: thescottishsun.co.uk

HOT TRACKS

THE AMAZONS: *Stay With Me*. This band of scruff balls from Reading launch straight into the action on this noisy and visceral new single. Indie rock at its very best. ★★★★★

FLO RIDA FT. JASON DERULO: *Hello Friday*. Two of pop's naughtiest stars team up on this run-of-the-mill celebration of the weekend. Snore. ★★

HAILEE STEINFELD FT. DNCE: *Rock Bottom*. After controversial debut *Love Myself*, this sounds like something off her mate T Swizz's album 1989. ★★★★★

ZARA LARSSON FT. TINIE TEMPAH: *Lush Life*. A slight reworking of Swedish Larsson's original track, this time featuring Tinie. Unfortunately it worked better without him. ★★★★★

ICONA POP: *Someone Who Can Dance*. Failing to equal the pop brilliance of *I Love It*, this track suffers from cheap-sounding production and weirdly subdued vocals. ★★★★★

CORINNE BAILEY RAE: *Been To The Moon*. This heads up Rae's upcoming album — her first in six years. Her voice is as lovely as ever and her mellow, soulful sound has newfound edge. ★★★★★

CHARLI XCX: *Vroom Vroom EP*. The first release on Charlie's label Vroom Vroom Recordings is a tirade of warped, hyperactive pop, produced by PC Music affiliate SOPHIE. ★★★★★

GWEN STEFANI: *Make Me Like You*. Stefani has attempted to cash in on her 90s pop star credentials on this track, which emulates the likes of Moloko and Jennifer Paige. Alas, it's totally unmemorable. ★★★★★

BRING ME THE HORIZON: *Follow You*. The Sheffield band are remarkably restrained on this lovestruck single from their fifth album *That's The Spirit*. ★★★★★

THE CORRS: *I Do What I Like*. A numbing blur of platitudes and wishy-washy instrumentation — this is the very definition of background music. ★★

POPPY COSYNS



GHOST

@ The London Palladium

THE sinister, masked clergy jetted back to London to close their European tour in truly grandiose fashion.

And the Grammy award-winning Swedes are evidently basking in the stained-glass glow from the global praise heaped on their hit album *Meliora*.

A rapturous, comfortably-seated crowd gave their thanks to Spirit, He Is and the incongruous satanic sing-along *Year Zero*.

But it was the humorous, strung-out theatre of *If You Have Ghosts* and the anthemic *Ritual* that sealed the majestic deal. Heaven help you if you miss their Sunday service at Download this summer. ★★★★★

ROB LEWIS