

**CLASSES**

**OF**

**2020**



Remember, last year, how we made a big fuss of Lizzo before she conquered the world? Lots of you listened to us (thank you for that) but for those that didn't, we didn't want you to make the same mistake again.

Team Warner

So without further ado, we introduce the Class of 2020.



ASHNIKKO

FRED AGAIN

GRIFF

HAMZAA

HANNIE

HOBO JOHNSON

J RICK

JC STEWART

KOJEY RADICAL

L DEVINE

MAISIE PETERS

OLIVER TREE

SAD NITE DYNAMITE

STEREO HONEY

THE SNUTS

ZAYA



# ASHNIKKO





[ Music Here ]

# ASHNIKKO

Art, music and sexual liberation are the three most potent ingredients in the rebellion that Ashnikko is leading. Beguiled by M.I.A.'s 'Arular' – a record her liberal Aunt sneakily downloaded onto her iPod when she was a kid – her internet-led deep dive into punkish pop artists and melodic rap began. Up until the age of 17, she listened exclusively to female musicians.

Now, she counts the likes of Nicki Minaj, Bjork, Janis Joplin, and M.I.A. as the profoundly feminist and sex positive influences that helped shape her early sound. ASHNIKKO makes music for the girls in the club with their heels in their hands, mascara running down their cheeks as they screech “This is my song!” and scurry to the dancefloor. The perfect antidote for coy pop sexuality.

## From The Press:

“A hot stack of sass pancakes drizzled in dark and playful wordplay” – [i-D](#)

“Ashnikko takes charge with a burst of playful energy” – [Complex](#)

“If smashing the patriarchy has a sound, we’re pretty sure it would sound like Ashnikko” – [Time Out](#)





# FRED AGAIN...





# FRED AGAIN..

Who will be the important voices UK underground music of 2020? The breakthrough artists whose sound may help shape the year? Enter Fred again..., a mid 20s, London-based production sensation who, behind the scenes, has already been involved in some of the biggest UK rap, grime and pop tracks of the last couple of years and is now ready to step out of the shadows to release the artist music he's been creating in parallel all along.

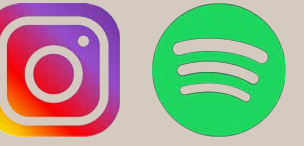
[ Music Here ]

Head to Fred's [Soundcloud](#) and you'll get an immediate sense of what he's about. Prolific is an understatement – in just four months he's already low-key released close to an album's worth of material, while his regular Rinse FM shows are packed with unreleased exclusives. He describes his music as 'Actual Life', a trademark sound that features vocals uncovered from the unlikeliest of sources; from obscure YouTube clips to personal FaceTime conversations, random Instagram accounts and iPhone video footage of half-remembered nights out.



**GRIFF**





[ Music Here ]

# GRIFF

A precociously talented 18 year-old pop artist from London. Blessed with an incredible voice, she plays, writes and largely produces her own music, blending soulful vocals with pop hooks over sparse atmospheric arrangements and beats.

## From The Press:

“The hottest new artist to come out of the UK since Dua Lipa” – [V Magazine](#)

“Pop's Next Big Star Griff Makes Her Own Music And Her Own Clothes” – [Vogue](#)

“Griff epitomises all there is to be excited about the new generation” – [MTV](#)

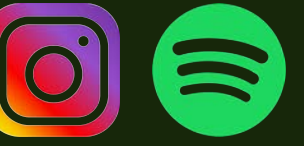
“One of 2019’s most exciting newcomers” - [Idolator](#)





HAMZAA





[ Music Here ]

# HAMZAA

With her powerfully vulnerable lyrics and sincerely breathtaking voice, Malika Hamzaa is an artist whose music sounds emotionally-wise beyond her 20 years of age. As the London singer-songwriter – who goes, simply, by Hamzaa – says, “the most beautiful thing about humans is that we can speak; that we can say how we feel and voice our opinions”. This expressiveness that she sees in human nature is something that seems to resound innately and effortlessly in her soulful, R&B-pop.

## From The Press:

“Music inhabits the soulful jazzy space left by Amy Winehouse.  
A star is born.”

**Evening Standard**

“There is no doubt about it – we’re going to be hearing a lot more from  
Hamzaa and we are so, so ready for her.”

**The Line Of Best Fit**

“Knows how to sing emotions that you didn’t even realise you were feeling.”

**Julie Adenuga**



# HANNIE





[ Music Here ]

# HANNIE

HANNIE formed in 2017 and since then they have received tremendous success. Hannah, originally from South Germany, plays keys and Annie, born in Surrey, plays guitar. The two met whilst studying at university in the UK and went on to study at Berklee College of Music together. Once graduated, they both moved to East London and converted their living room into a recording studio.

After working intensively on session work with other artists, Annie & Hannah began posting online videos they filmed of themselves covering songs in their living room. Within 18 months, HANNIE gained over 300,000 followers and released six singles, featuring the likes of Ralph, Carys Selvey and most recently, Embody.

HANNIE write and co-produce all their own tracks, collaborating with different vocalists. Most recently, they played at Omeara. Camden Assembly, Sebright Arms and Festivals in Switzerland and Dubai (to name a few). The girls have achieved an amazing musical platform with over a million streams on Spotify and they are now searching for their next act for a hit collaboration.

They have worked with Will Simms, Hight & Russ Chimes (all renowned producers in the current music scene) and an EP release is in the pipeline this coming autumn. They have also recently signed to The Empire agency with booking agent Rob Mcgee.

2020 promises to be an exciting one for HANNIE so watch this space....





# HOBBO JOHNSON





[ Music Here ]

# HOBO JOHNSON

Hailing from Sacramento, CA, artist Frank Lopes, who cultivated the moniker Hobo Johnson after being kicked out of his parents' house and left to live in his '94 Corolla, is propelling his way to the top. The half Azorean Portuguese, quarter Mexican and Native American vocalist built a grassroots following via viral homegrown style videos showcasing his singularity; an amalgamation of spoken word poetry, punk, folk and rap backed by his band The Lovemakers.

Hobo's momentum reached a tipping point after gaining feverish interest through his entry in NPR's "Tiny Desk" Contest, which went viral (25 million streams to date) despite not winning. Bursting with unadulterated sincerity, his genre-defying sound feels akin to musical anomalies of the past and future. 2017 saw Hobo Johnson's self-released debut album *The Rise of Hobo Johnson*, selling out shows everywhere and amassing over 65 million cumulative U.S. streams.

## From The Press:

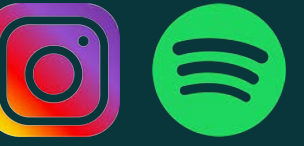
“He’s emerged as one of the hottest and perhaps most unlikely stars of local hip-hop.” - [Sacramento Bee](#)

“...might just be the next big thing” - [DJ Booth](#)



# J R I C K





[ Music Here ]

## J RICK

For every great rapper, there's a producer in the background working tirelessly to supply them with an endless stream of killer beats. For Jay-Z's iconic 'Blueprint' album it was Kanye West, while early Missy Elliot had Timbaland supplying the goods. And for rising South London rapper Octavian, J Rick is the producer providing the tunes that have taken him to the brink of stardom.

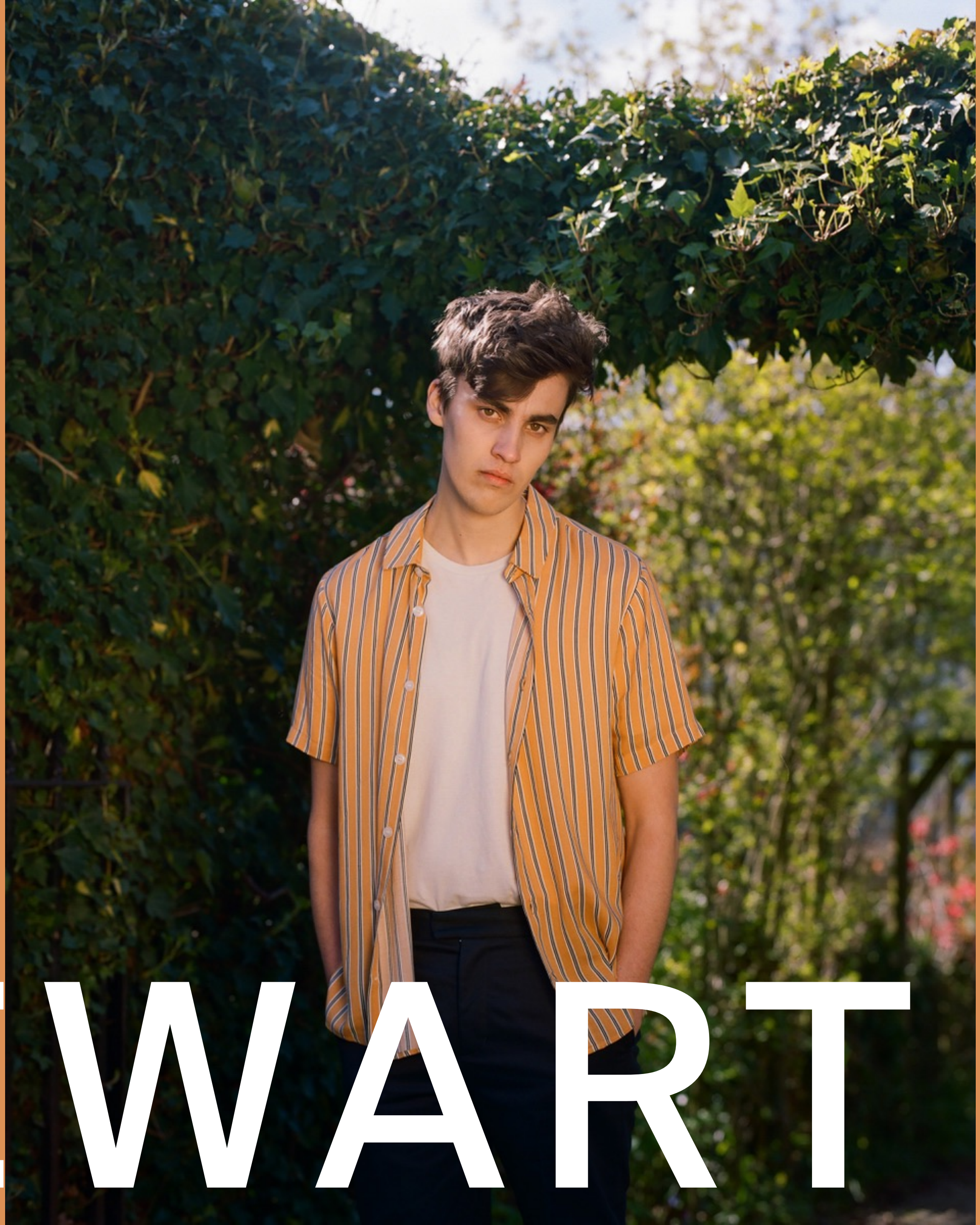
Now, J Rick is ready to share music of his own. Before last year, his was a relatively unknown name outside of very specific circles. Part of Essie Gang, the collective responsible for Octavian, the Tottenham-raised producer was the mastermind behind his friend's breakout hit, 'Party Here', which won praise from the likes of Drake and became something of a UK underground anthem. "I always had plans to make a living from music, but it was when 'Party Here' came out that I took things further," he says.

Mixmag



JC

STEWART





[ Music Here ]

# JC STEWART

Ever wondered how to write a hit song? Of course you have. Well, JC Stewart is here to tell you you're not the only one, far from it in fact. "The biggest thing I've learned is that nobody knows what they're doing, which I love". Stewart grew up in a village somewhere near Derry and speaks with the refreshing candour of a kid who abandoned dreams of becoming a rugby player to pursue music at 15 and has somehow ended up as a Warner Records priority signing who's just passed a million monthly listeners on Spotify.

## From The Press:

"...Stewart is a shoo-in for chart ubiquity" [The Sunday Times](#)

"JC Stewart's own ascent continues." [Wonderland](#)

"JC Stewart is in the midst of a breakthrough." [Notion](#)





# KOJJEY RADICAL





[ Music Here ]

# KOJEY RADICAL

Creative chameleon and whipsmart East London rapper Kojey Radical, is set for a very big 2020. Continuing his quest to articulate his deepest feelings through his work. Kojey's unwavering and unapologetic approach to his artistry, vision and output position him as an incredibly unique and contemporary artist for today.

## From The Press:

"The rising poet-rapper-singer returns with bold, brassy, gospel-tinged pop" **The Observer**

"Kojey Radical is one of our favourite UK artists" **Afropunk**

"Kojey is one of the UK's most creative artists, continually experimenting and evolving his aesthetic as he matures as a musician" **Hypebeast**

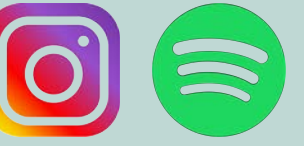
"Kojey Radical is an artist with a capital 'A'—a multi-disciplinary creative whose work spans music, poetry, fashion, and visual arts" **Pitchfork**





# L D E V I N E





[ Music Here ]

# L DEVINE

L Devine's quest to craft the perfect pop song is connecting with a rapidly growing audience. Charli XCX and Lewis Capaldi are the household names who are leading the charge, while support from Radio 1 and Beats 1 is attracting waves of newcomers. There's a natural spark between L Devine and her expanding following – the vulnerability of her songwriting is embraced by fans who are experiencing similar growing pains as they transition into adulthood.

## From The Press:

“The mother fucking future” [Charli XCX](#)

“One of the most hotly-tipped new British artists.” [Sunday Times](#)

“L Devine pairs Taylor Swift's lyrical sensibility with Lorde's captivating early minimalism” [The Guardian](#)

“L Devine knows exactly how to write pop bangers” [i-D](#)

“Out, proud and continually serving nuggets of pristine pop.” [Gay Times](#)



# MAISSIE PETERS





[ Music Here ]

# MAISIE PETERS

A natural storyteller who wrote her first song when she was nine, the West Sussex native began uploading her songs to YouTube in 2015, quickly earning fans and comparisons to artists like Birdy and Taylor Swift, the latter of whom Peters cites as an early influence. By the time she released the winsome "Place We Were Made" in the summer of 2017, her already loyal fan base helped the song go viral, resulting in widespread exposure and millions of streams. She followed up later that year with the similarly stripped-down piano ballad "Birthday" before returning in 2018 with the more polished and pop-oriented "Worst of You." By year's end, she had delivered her first EP, *Dressed Too Nice for a Jacket*. The 2019 single, "Favorite Ex," saw Peters reconnecting with her acoustic folk side, while her EP, *It's Your Bed Babe, It's Your Funeral*, was a full-on pop release.

## From The Press:

- “If anyone on this list is primed for proper mainstream on-your-mum's-Christmas-list fame, it's Maisie” – [Dork](#)
- “Maisie Peter’s beautifully fragile vocal will blow you away” – [NME](#)
- “With an eye for narrative and story-telling, Maisie Peters makes singer-songwriter pop with a purpose” – [CLASH](#)



# OLIVER TREE





# OLIVER TREE

Genre-defying singer-songwriter-producer-professional scooter rider Oliver Tree has been making waves with his unique high-energy sound and eccentric persona. Having made a striking debut with a visionary, Thom Yorke-approved cover of Radiohead's "Karma Police," Tree soon shook up the music scene with featured collaborations including Whethan and Getter. Oliver recently made his late-night television debut with a groundbreaking performance of "Hurt" on The Late Late Show With James Corden, where he performed atop a set of stilts and commanded the stage with his signature high-energy flair and unique hard-hitting sound.

[ Music Here ]



[ Watch This Space ]

For fans of: Gorillaz, Little Dragon, The Avalanches

SAD

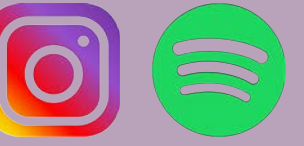
NIGHT

DYNAMITE



# STEREO HONEY





[ Music Here ]

# STEREO HONEY

London-based four-piece Stereo Honey. The quartet (which consists of vocalist and guitarist Pete Restrick, guitarist and keyboardist Nicky Boiardi, bassist Ben Edwards and drummer Jake Black) have become fast renowned for their atmospheric, enigmatic and delicately crafted tracks which showcases Pete's otherworldly vocal rocketing skywards amongst effervescent keys and ethereal riffs. It's honey by name and honey by nature.

## From The Press:

“They’ve widened their gaze and are looking to bigger things” [Gigwise](#)

“Their signature sound of haunting vocals and delicious melodies is, quite rightfully, drawing in some much deseved hype” [Wonderland](#)

“Haunting indie rock that recalls the likes of Radiohead” [The Independent](#)

“Gorgeous songwriting from a London group to watch” [CLASH](#)

“The future is looking bright indeed “ [Metro](#)



# THE SNUITS





# THE SNUTS

Completing 2019 with an onslaught of sold out shows and packed festival tents behind them, The Snuts (West Lothian, Scotland) carry their reign as one of Britain's most exciting new bands into 2020, whilst fans eagerly anticipate new music...

[ Music Here ]

“Scotland's best kept secret and your new favourite band” - **NOTION**

For fans of: Oasis, The White Stripes, Arctic Monkeys & REM





ZAYYA





# ZAYA

ZAYA speaks majoritively of the power of words, manifesting and positivity in her poetic lyrics – focusing on the empowerment and liberation of true self-love.

She is a widely successful Tattoo Artist with a huge social media following. Her delicate, fine-line work revolves around the female form, plants and animals – showing a love for nature.

She counts the likes of Lianne La Havas, Corinne Bailey Rae, Etta James and Amy Winehouse as powerful, female vocalists who have shaped her sound.

[ Music Here ]



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Here's to a massive year.



For more info, please drop us a note:  
Liam Klimek  
[liam.klimek@warnermusic.com](mailto:liam.klimek@warnermusic.com)