

Honorable Mention

Amiina	Kurr	Reykjavík, Iceland	avant-garde string quartet	Sigur Rós all-girl back-up orchestra goes it alone, knits on cover
Black Kids	Wizard of Ahhhs	Jacksonville, FL	indie, dance punk	just a demo that got a lot of well-deserved attention this year
Black Lips	Good Bad Not Evil	Atlanta, GA	garage punk	hilarious retro sound, single O Katrina! best post-deluge song
Black Moth Super Rainbow	Dandelion Gum	Pittsburgh, PA	psychedelic pop, experimental, electronica	freaky , trippy, swirly, analog-y, and incredibly, from PA!
Bloc Party	A Weekend in the City	London, England	indie rock, post-punk	very U2, a bit too formulaic but still very catchy in places
Blonde Redhead	23	New York, NY	indie rock, experimental	that title song can be played forever on an infinite loop
Jarvis Cocker	Jarvis	Paris, France/Sheffield, England	indie rock, Britpop	wonder why Pulp was never popular over here...
Dinosaur Jr	Beyond	Amherst, MA	indie rock	welcome return to form with lotsa screaming guitar
John Doe	A Year in the Wilderness	Los Angeles, CA	folk, roots rock, alt-country	former punk icon continues his gorgeous folk career, I love you
Flight of the Conchords	The Distant Future	New Zealand	comedy	using music as their medium, these guys will totally crack you up
John Fogerty	Revival	Berkeley, CA	roots rock	definitely a revival for once downtrodden former CCR frontman
Gogol Bordello	Super Taranta!	New York, NY	Gypsy punk, Gypsy folk, obscure	probably the strangest record of the year, best in small doses
The Good, the Bad and the Queen	The Good, the Bad and the Queen	London, England	Britpop, alt-rock	Blur+Clash+Verve+Fela Kuti = what's not to like?
Grizzly Bear	Friend	Brooklyn, NY/	post-rock, acid folk, experimental	boy these guys are good, even on a throwaway EP like this
Ted Leo & the Pharmacists	Living with the Living	Washington, DC	indie rock, punk, folk	a true punk, anti-Bush, vegan warrior and handsome man
Modest Mouse	We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank	Issaquah, Washington (Seattle)	indie, lo-fi, noise pop	new guitarist Jonny Marr and newfound fame mean less lo-fi
Nick Lowe	At My Age	London, England	rock, pop, country, roots	excellent comeback from Johnny Cash's ex-son-in-law
Of Montreal	Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?	Athens, GA	psychedelic pop, experimental	Mr. Barnes is always pushing the envelope, gotta respect that
Spoon	Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga	Austin, TX	indie rock	this band does not excite me; many people's results differ
St. Vincent	Marry Me	Austin, TX	singer-songwriter	talented Oklahoman escapes from the Polyphonic Spree
Vampire Weekend	EP	New York, NY	indie rock, "Upper West Side Soweto"	auspicious debut set from this Columbia University band