

Rock & Pop



**The Human League**  
Credo

WALL OF SOUND, £11.99 ★★★

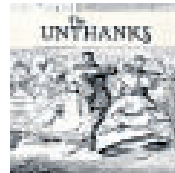
It was the techno-rendered love songs of the Human League's 1981 LP *Dare* that first won over mass audiences to electronic music. Their sound on this first new album in nine years still feels unique, even after 30 years of assimilation by the rest of the world. What's lacking are tunes: plenty of *Sound of the Crowd*-type rallying cries here; not enough *Don't You Want Me* heartstring-tuggers. **Andrew Perry**  
*Download this Night People*



**Lykke Li**  
Wounded Rhymes

ATLANTIC, £12.99 ★★★

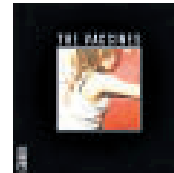
The 24-year-old Swedish singer Lykke Li Zachrisson is a passionate bohemian whose second album, written on an existential sojourn in the Californian desert, is packed with earnest heartache. But her songs are nailed to rich, alternative pop music, plastered in tribal percussion and, in one instance, a real Phil Spector feel. The result is never maudlin, but big, bouncy and entertaining. **Thomas H Green**  
*Download this Rich Kid Blues*



**The Unthanks**  
Last

EMI, £12.99 ★★★★

Rachel and Becky Unthank's group – once nominated for a Mercury Prize – are not folk-pop in the Mumford & Sons vein. Instead they take a sombre aspect of their native Northumbrian traditional music, regional accent and dialect intact, and, sprinkling in a few intriguing covers along the way, build something string-laden and luscious but also delicate, wistful and melancholy. **THG**  
*Download this No One Knows I'm Gone*



**The Vaccines**  
What Did You Expect From The Vaccines?

COLUMBIA, £10.99 ★★★★

British rock desperately needs a big new act to capture the popular imagination. Though hyped in the music press and rising extra-fast, this London-based quartet lack the vision to fit that particular bill. Yet their debut is simply terrific, serving up 30-odd minutes of pulse-quickenning indie-rock, with echoes of the Strokes and Glasvegas, and catchy ditties aplenty. **AP**  
*Download this If You Wanna*

