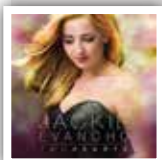


what's ON

MUSIC

By Nicholas Jennings

OF NOTE



JACKIE EVANCHO

Two Hearts

At 16, the *America's Got Talent* alum – recently seen performing at Donald Trump's inauguration – is already releasing her seventh studio album.

The new disc, like some of Jackie's previous work, showcases her versatility, mixing pop songs by Taylor Swift and others with classical crossover material like "How Great Thou Art."



BETTY BUCKLEY

Story Songs

Although a veteran of film and TV acting, Betty has triumphed as a singer, winning a Tony Award for her role in *Cats*. This live album captures her acclaimed show at Joe's Pub in

New York, performing stellar versions of Broadway show tunes like "Another Life" and classic songs by Peter Gabriel and Emmylou Harris.



SARAH SLEAN

Metaphysics

A poet, painter, actress and classically trained musician, Sarah is a Renaissance woman. Her first album in six years is a revelation, full of inventive orchestral-pop arrangements,

deeply confessional lyrics and a stunning voice once described as "19th-century Kate Bush," best heard on tracks like "Sarah," a horn-drenched gem.



Pick
of the
week



THE CHAINSMOKERS

Memories... Do Not Open

Andrew Taggart and Alex Pall are doing something right. The New York-based electronic dance music DJ duo lucked out when their songs – simple tunes like "#Selfie," set to thumping, catchy choruses – caught on with club-goers. International success followed with the chart-topping hit "Closer" and the Grammy-winning "Don't Let Me Down," which

features 18-year-old singer Daya (she accepted the trophy for Best Dance Recording). Drew and Alex are savvy enough to know that strong guest vocalists are an asset and that, as another critic put it, "no one ever died from hearing a chorus too often." So the pair's debut album features cameos from Coldplay, Emily Warren and Jhené Aiko, who elevate each of the tracks on which they sing. The standout number is "It Won't Kill Ya," a typical Chainsmokers jam that starts out slow on piano before building to dance-club intensity. It's transformed by the powerhouse vocals of French singer-actress Louane who, like Daya, seems certain to help clinch the band's next big hit.

BOOKS

By Alison Eastwood



SEVEN DAYS IN MAY *Kim Izzo*

This captivating wartime romance – with its class-and gender-based cross-currents, German code-breaking feats and terrifying, inevitable conclusion – is *Downton Abbey*, *The Imitation Game* and *Titanic* rolled into one. It's based on the true story of the *Lusitania*, a luxury British ocean liner targeted by the Germans in the First World War. "I grew up hearing the story," says

Toronto author Kim, whose great-grandfather survived the 1915 disaster that saw nearly 1,200 passengers perish.

Weaving in real-life figures amid her colourful cast, Kim makes us feel that we, too, are standing on the deck of the doomed ship.



RAISING ROYALTY *Carolyn Harris*

When we saw Prince William gamely attempt to buckle baby Prince George into his car seat outside St. Mary's hospital, public fascination with royal parenting peaked and, thanks to the arrival of George's sister Charlotte, shows no sign of diminishing. *Raising Royalty* is well placed to satiate this interest. Using today's royals as a jumping-off point, Canadian historian Carolyn turns back the clock and deftly

guides us through 10 centuries of royal child-rearing (a highlight is Queen Victoria and her "deeply ambivalent" approach toward her nine children). Informative, amusing and royally riveting. **H**

MUSIC • BOOKS • MOVIES • TV • HOROSCOPES • PUZZLES