



compiled by **DAVID CURRY**

Happy New Year

So here we are, a brand new year, with the noughties (or naughties, if you were having a good time) behind us. OK, technically the end of the decade is the end of 2010, but it's just not as neat, is it? Just as 1999 wasn't the end of the millennium. But can you imagine Prince singing, 'Tonight we're gonna party like it's 2000'?

It would be like singing, 'Tonight I'm gonna party like it's 1985' – although, come to think of it, that would be a good line for this year's Australia Day concert. But generally speaking, it just doesn't work.

Seven days into the year, how many New Year's resolutions have you broken? I've yet to actually act on – "action", in public service speak – any of mine. Among my resolutions were to watch less TV, remember all my family's birthdays, and stop making resolutions I can't stick to. Having already missed my niece's birthday, I'm not in good shape.

Most importantly, and most relevantly, I've resolved to catch more live music in 2010, because this year is gonna rock.

You heard it here first at Fly.

Deadly Dinner

One film to watch out for this year will be *The Dinner Party*, expected to premier at Dendy's in March. Filmed in Canberra over about three weeks in 2006, *The Dinner Party* is partly inspired by the true-life tale of Anu Singh, an ANU student who administered a fatal dose of heroin to her boyfriend, Joe Cinque, after drugging him with Rohypnol. It's produced by

Canberra actor Brendan Sloane, best known (but maybe not for long) as 'the Magnet Mart' man for his long-running association with the business, and directed and written by Scott Murden. Among the actors are Lara Cox (*Heartbreak High*) and Ben Seton.

The film has been creating a buzz since its premier at the Dungog Film Festival in May. It edged out almost 20,000 other films to be accepted into London's Raindance Film Festival, where it was nominated for best debut feature.

I was lucky enough to be shown some scenes on a laptop in 2007, and based on what I saw I reckon it's going to be a corker. Expect black humour, top-notch acting, and a darkly compelling story. And it's a Canberra film – one of ours, folks!

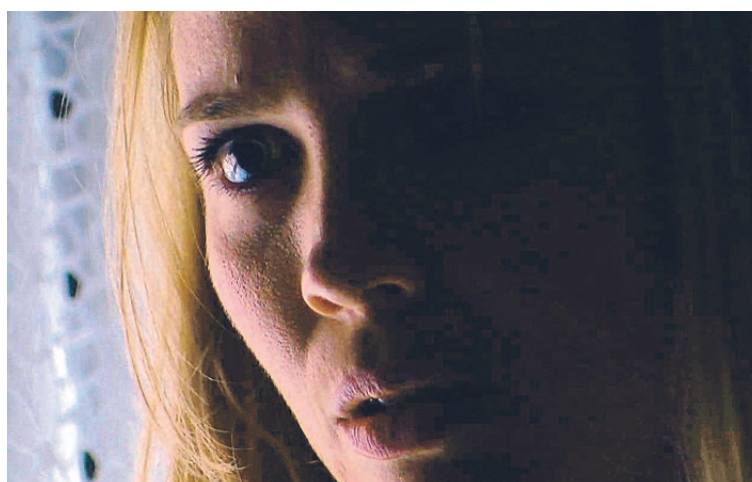
Making waves

Sydney band The Jezabels have been successfully assaulting US College radio. Last week their new EP, *She's So Hard*, was the #3 most added track, behind only The Arctic Monkeys and Them Crooked Vultures, and debuted at #113 in the overall Top 200 chart.

They've now moved beyond college radio, making inroads into the alternative speciality commercial networks. The Jezabels came in at #10 on the FMQB singles chart with the EP's lead track *Hurt Me*, tying with Julian Casablancas, Tegan and Sara and surrounded by some distinguished company.

Burning Canberra

Brisbane Band Burning Brooklyn (nice alliteration, huh?) are playing The Basement tomorrow night as part of their



Lara Cox in *The Dinner Party* – a 'dangerous film'.

Where the Heart Stops tour. Formed in October 2008, Burning Brooklyn have been described by one reviewer as "one of the best unsigned Australian alternative-rock bands".

Their debut single, *Half Past Easy*, got regular airplay on Triple J's Short Fast Loud, and the EP, *Where the Heart Stops*, has featured on the J's Home and Hosed, and even dented Triple M Sydney.

The band has shared the stage with international acts like Haste the Day (USA), Blessed by a Broken Heart (CAN) and Fear Before (USA). Influences include Taking Back Sunday, Anberlin and Saosin. Expect something resembling "the guts of great rock music with catchy melodies".

Roots Fusion

Melbourne-based songstress Katt Beames and her new band The Soular Sky will play The Front in Lyneham next Wednesday night.

The gig will see the launch of their debut album, *Elixir*, touted as "solid singin' grooves, crisp rootsy guitar, laced with vocals that move from being smooth and sweet as honey in one moment – and powerful, rich and smoky in the next."

After releasing her first EP early 2008 and touring solo throughout Europe and Canada, the 23-year-old Beames, currently based in Melbourne

town, has spent the last 12 months studying jazz and recording her first full-length studio album.

Katt and members of the Soular Sky have played national festivals such as Port Fairy Folk Festival and the East Coast Blues & Roots Festival.

Qbn to float

LiquidFest 2010 will be a chance to hear music in either your boardies or your budgie smugglers – or your bikini, of course. Billed as Queanbeyan's music event of the year, LiquidFest 2010 will be held at the Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre on January 30.

Held annually, the pool party and music festival will feature Queanbeyan bands Corporate Takedown, No Assumption and rap/hip-hop group YBD (Young, Black & Deadly), alongside others from Sydney – including Steady the Fall, Avarin, Friend Or Enemy, Urban Prophetz Recordz Crew, and more.

LiquidFest an all-ages event and alcohol free. The day kicks off at noon with a talent competition, followed by a BMX competition at 3. The action then moves to the pool for a night of music.

The event is organised by the Queanbeyan Youth Council and Axis Youth Centre in partnership with the Indent/MusicNSW grant program.

Arc Cinema

The National Film and Sound Archive continues its run of classic films at the Arc Cinema, the state-of-the-art cinema within the original 1930s Art Deco building. Tonight you can roll up and catch a newly restored print of *Malcolm*, in which tram-fixated Malcolm (Colin Friels), ex-con Frank (John Hargreaves) and his nothing-but-spunk girlfriend Judith (Lindy Davies) become the most effective bank robbing gang since The Kellys. *Malcolm* will be on at the outdoor cinema on Saturday night.

As a tribute to actor 'Bud' Tingwell, the Arc Cinema will screen *Money Movers* on Saturday night.

Air Guitar

All the excitement of air guitar and funny faces is coming back to Canberra. That's right, the search is on once again for "the greatest guitarist in Australia who never played".

The 2010 Australian Air Guitar Champs qualifying rounds and state and territory finals begin in March at venues throughout the nation, including the 'berra. It's time to start cranking up the Hendrix and practising the "hot chip" and "passing the brick" faces. Watch this space.

Orbital descend

For the first time since 1992, Orbital, the legendary stars of techno-tinged electronica, return to Australia.

Orbital has joined the Playground Weekender 2010 line-up, which also includes Lupe Fiasco, The Polyphonic Spree, The Cribs, Brian Jonestown Massacre, Jamie Lidell Pivot, The Bees. Formed in 1989 and influenced by punk rock and early electro, Orbital's legendary status was cemented with a headline performance at Glastonbury Festival.

Hard and fast and successful

By Shailla Van Raad

Stephen Carter sounds so close-by when on the phone, although he is actually thousands of kilometres away. Carter and his hard-core punk band, Gallows, are ready to embark on yet another adrenaline-inducing world tour. He is calling from the small industrial town Barrow-in-Furness, in the eastern UK. "We just started out our UK tour. We didn't even know this place [Barrow] existed. It was one of the best shows on the entire tour though, so far; the kids went off on it. They enjoyed watching the band and we enjoyed playing. We fed off their energy."

Gallows hail from the small town of Watford, Hertfordshire, England, and consists of brothers Stephen (guitar) and Frank Carter (vocals), Laurent Barnard (guitar), Stuart Gili-Ross (bass) and Lee Barratt (drums). The

group is the first hardcore punk-band in the world to be signed with Warner Brothers Records on a \$31 million album deal. This financial freedom has given the boys an independence to express themselves musically as they never had before.

"It has been very strange," Carter says, "It's been wonderful what a million pounds has done for us. We've been touring the world for three years now, and it's definitely helped bring our sound out – I never thought we'd get this big in the UK.

"We have been headlining at the Reading Festival – playing to a crowd of 15 to 20,000 kids in a night. It was f---ing crazy. It's hard to see what came before Gallows for me. I don't think about it any more. The second I came into Gallows, I remember everything from then on."

Their extremely successful album, *Orchestra of Wolves*, hit the airwaves in 2007 and now,

only two years later, their second highly anticipated album, *Grey Britain*, was released. Carter describes what the album represents for the band, "*Grey Britain* is a more personal album than *Orchestra of Wolves*. The album is about everything – it's about the recession, the state of the government, about the youth of today. It's an album that is inspired by the wrongs and rights of the country, what our country has to offer and the mass problems that it is encountering."

Carter attributes Gallows spasmodic and high-octane performances to "trying to be as honest as we possibly can – we're not a typical band of 2009. We don't write crunk like 'my girlfriend's an idiot'. We want to write and play music with as much passion and honesty as we can." Despite their sometimes violent dubbed stage act, the Carter brothers are just big softies at heart. They try to separate



Big crowds: Gallows played to 20,000 fans at Reading.

their on-stage antics that deal with complex social topics from their home and family life. "Performing in Gallows is my ultimate release of everything. Performing is such an aggressive adrenaline rush. Afterwards it's like the calm after the storm – all I want to do is see my friends and girlfriend. I love sitting in my bedroom with my girlfriend and playing Xbox. The most rock and roll thing I've done is tattoo rock and roll on my knuckles. I don't drink or smoke. My brother, Frank is the same."

Having toured the world three times in the short four years of their illustrious musical career,

Gallows will be playing at The Soundwave Festival in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth throughout February and March in 2010, to the delight of their punk-rocker fans. Carter excitedly explains that the band is looking forward to exploring Australia. "Last time we played in Australia in 2007 we didn't get to see the country. We just saw the venue and the hotel – that was about it."

This time the band plans to see a lot more.

Gallows

Where and when: The Soundwave festival in Sydney, February 21, 2010. They also play at Luna Park Big Top with AFI on February 23.