

## Ten best gigs

By Tim Cumming

### Mulatu Astatke & the Heliocentrics

Wed

With a brilliant album behind them, the Ethiopian jazzman Mulatu Astatke joins the London-based futuristic jazz octet on stage. *Koko, London NW1*



### English Originals

tonight

Joe Boyd presents this tribute to Nick Drake, one of England's most original songwriters, with a cast including Seth Lakeman, Graham Coxon, Zoe Rahman and Vashti Bunyan. *Town Hall, Birmingham*

### Fertilizer on Tour

tonight & Sun

This posse of new Polish bands includes Sing Sing Penelope's electro-jazz, Jacaszek's electronics with strings and the underground maelstrom of the Contemporary Noise Sextet. *Academy, Oxford, tonight; Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, Sun*

### Hanggai + Mamer

tonight

The Barbican's Chinese season continues with the rock'n'roll throat-singing of Hanggai from Mongolia, and the underground singer Mamer. *Union Chapel, London N1*

### John Jones and the Reluctant Ramblers

Thur

The Oysterband's frontman sets off on an intriguing solo tour itinerary, as he rambles from Hereford to the Wychwood Festival, dropping in on local venues down your way. *Globe, Hay-on-Wye*

### June Tabor

Tue & Wed



June Tabor, another quintessential English original, leads two concerts at the Brighton Festival. The first with Huw Warren and Iain Ballamy, and with her regular group the following night. *Corn Exchange, Brighton*

### Roberto Fonseca

Thur

The brilliant Cuban pianist debuts a superb new album, *Akoka* (featuring Mayra Andrade on guest vocals), at this intimate London gig. *ICA, London SW1*

### Lisa Knapp + James Yorkston

Fri

Lisa Knapp and James Yorkston share a repertoire of traditional songs and a way of making them, which are as fresh as tomorrow's headlines. *ABCI, Glasgow*

### Group Doueh + Omar Souleyman

Wed

The Sublime Frequencies label are behind this pairing of the Syrian folk pop of Souleyman with the Saharan rock vibe of Doueh. *St George's Church, Brighton*

### Gilad Atzmon and the Real Jazz Quartet

Fri

A familiar repertoire with some fresh faces as the fiery Israeli saxman introduces his new quartet. *Vortex Jazz Club, London N16*

**CITY GIG**

## Be there when the haar rolls in

**J**AMES Yorkston headlines the Lemon Tree tomorrow as part of a unique collaboration. The Tune Up show will see the nu-folk singer-songwriter play alongside rising star Lisa Knapp. The duo will play tracks from their new solo albums, including James' *When the Haar rolls in*. James said: "People in Aberdeen will really relate to *When The Haar Rolls in* because they will be used to the haar. "Many people have not seen that curious, haunting fog that rolls in off the sea, but it happens all the time in Aberdeen." The 38-year-old was one of the original members of the Fife-based Fence Collective which boasted King Creosote, KT Tunstall and the Beta Band.

### "Air play from DJ John Peel"

After a spell in punk band Miraclemen, he opted to go solo and received heavy air play from legendary DJ John Peel. Now one of the elder statesmen of Fence, he continues to collaborate with various musicians. "I love working with different people. "Tune up is fantastic and I have worked with Lisa Knapp before but only on one-off events. "The idea of playing with Lisa and her band throughout a whole tour is very exciting." As debut concerts go, they do not come much bigger than supporting folk legend Bert Jansch. But James impressed so much on that bill, he was invited to accompany John Martyn on a 27-date British tour, all before he ever released a record. The singer's status has risen so much that a host of stars are lining up to collaborate with James, who is signed to Domino Records, home of Arctic Monkeys and Franz Ferdinand.