Róisín Murphy saved a lot of people during lockdown. Her 2020 disco-pop gem, *Róisín Machine*, came out at a time when celebrating its merits on the dancefloor just wasn’t possible yet. So, her empowerment and self-discovery anthems had to come across as viscerally as possible and Jesus did they ever.

The Irish pop singer (her name is pronounced “Ro-Sheen” by the way) came to the fore in the late '90s as the vocal yin to producer Mark Brydon's yang in the duo Moloko. Their track “Sing It Back” is forever a gushy, melt-on-the-dancefloor staple and Murphy has made a career out of sparkling alongside a range of dance music producers. From Matthew Herbert to Crooked Man and then briefly in 2018 with one of today’s finest-yet-elusive artists, DJ Koze, on his masterpiece knock knock. On the chilled-out thump of “Scratch That” and especially on the driving pulse of “Illumination,” theirs was a collaboration that seemed destined for greater things. And here we are. Read our interview with Róisín Murphy here.

Adrian Spinelli — *Róisín Murphy Tells Us About Coming Together With DJ Koze For A 'Hit Parade'*
Billy Porter had some recent thoughts about Harry Styles being on the cover of Vogue and called out the "gatekeepers" of the fashion industry.

Speaking of Harry Styles, he has a rumored new girlfriend, and yes, it's another actress.

Ariana Grande is set to drop her new line of Cloud Pink perfume, and it's coming to a shelf near you.

Olivia Rodrigo fans are discovering some pop culture easter eggs in her "Bad Idea Right" music video.

NUMBER ONE STUNNERS

JUNG KOOK AND LATTO

Jung Kook and Latto's "Seven" collaboration is spending its fourth week at the top of Billboard's Global 200. "I honestly didn't have a huge goal in mind, but since you said that, I'd be ecstatic if it becomes a hit," the BTS member previously told Variety upon the song's July release.
However, it has clearly since exceeded his expectations, proving each of the members has the power to step out solo and into the spotlight.

LISTEN

BUBBLING UNDER

LILY KINCADE

Lily Kincade's *LA Doesn't Miss Me* originally dropped in 2021, but has been a fun new discovery after Spotify recommended it. Across the seven songs, Kincade details her journey out of the City of Angels and into Nashville as an explanation for the title. Her blend of pop and country songwriting makes the album feel like a breezy listen, even when she details her emotional struggles — from keeping up with influencer culture on the title track to thinking about what-ifs on “Wish You Would’ve.”

It also seems like she might have more songs coming this year after
dropping a ballad, “3 Months,” last February. Thankfully, the newsletter readers can be ahead of it when it does.

CHECK OUT

'BARBIE THE ALBUM' BUNDLE

The Barbie movie has taken the world (and box office) by storm. You can now pick up a copy of the iconic soundtrack — with songs by Dua Lipa, Lizzo, Charli XCX, PinkPantheress, and more — pressed to hot pink vinyl. This bundle also includes a Barbie shirt, which is perfect to wear to the movies!

REMEMBER WHEN
MADONNA'S NO. 1 HIT

This day in 1986, Madonna earned her fourth No.1 hit with “Papa Don't Preach,” one of her biggest singles that focuses on the subject of a young woman dealing with pregnancy. (The song would see a brief resurgence as a Glee cover.) On the same day, Madonna also topped the Billboard 200 with her album, True Blue. As the pop icon's third studio album, it would become the best-selling record from a female artist through that entire decade. It has since been certified as seven times platinum for selling millions in the US alone, placing it behind Like A Virgin and The Immaculate Collection in sales.

LOVE LETTERS
V OF BTS

V of BTS is gearing up for the release of his first solo album, *Layover*, dropping later this month. While only two of the six tracks are out so far, they show off that he can handle varied production styles. For example, “Rainy Days,” is a twingly, slower track. “I'm thinkin' 'bout you, what to say / Wish I knew how to find the way / Right back to you,” V points out during the catchy chorus that first greets listeners, right after the quiet pitter-patter of the rain makes them feel at home.

The other, “Love Me Again,” is the focal point of *Layover*, as it is also set to receive a separate piano version. The standard version pulls inspiration from R&B stylings as V is struggling to move on from a relationship, his dark and moody vocals propelling it forward. Although it differs sonically, the lyrical themes still carry over throughout the early singles so far.

Was this email forwarded to you? Sign up here.
YOU SAY YOU WANT MORE MUSIC

→ Follow the official playlist

→ Indie Mixtape has the scoop on all the best emerging artists