

# single *cream*

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Spencer Grady is spinning dizzy in 7" heaven with a review of the revived vinyl 45 scene



## The Miserable Rich

Pisshead/Boat Song  
*Humble Soul HS 205*  
Allegedly these Brighton booze hounds do a Hot Chip cover (why would you bother!!!?), but we'll gloss over that and focus on this little gem, a string-driven folk hymnal to the glories of necking nut brown and quaffing the amber nectar. Pisshead has the lilting wistfulness of early Appendix Out and the understated beauty of Lincoln, Nebraska's much-missed and tragically ignored Lullaby For The Working Class. Every group like this needs a nautical song and The Miserable Rich throw out theirs on the flip, which sees a little bit of Josh Rouse and Jeff Buckley creep into the mix. Nice, but I'll stick with the A-side thanks.  
[www.humblesoul.net](http://www.humblesoul.net)

## Lisa O Piu

Whisperers, Wavers,  
Hunters & Sailors/  
Equatorial Changes  
*Autumn Ferment*  
*AFR 001*  
This new Scottish imprint boasts a brave pagan heart, staunch in its belief in the miraculous powers of nature. So it's quite right that they kicked off their schedule this summer with this deliciously delicate pair of woodland folk hymnals in celebration of a new phase of the moon. The music of Swedish songstress Lisa Issaksson owes as much to the clutch of Finnish folk musicians that gather around the Fonal Records roster, as it does to the delicate stirrings of Vashti Bunyan or Joni Mitchell. *Equatorial Changes* is particularly enchanting, with its double tracked harmonies rising over plaintive flute calls and nylon string patterns. [www.autumnfermentrecords.com](http://www.autumnfermentrecords.com)



## Petals On A Wet Black Bough

Turn The Car Around/In Your Sleep  
*Everyone EL 002-7*  
Checked these cuts for breach of copyright infringement (Sufjan Stevens and David Vanderslice seemed most at risk), but the boy behind this curtain (Mr David Roodcroft) was clever enough to wipe the prints. Of the two tracks I plump for the flip, with its hushed-up whispers and shuffling rhythms, backed by some fiery blues figures and plaintive drones. The main attraction builds up into a sweet little heartfelt something that could've belonged to New Order, but still doesn't quite shuffle my deck. But break out a smile indie prince, this one's for you. Ezra Pound sounds for Radiohead fan boy clowns.  
[www.myspace.com/wetblackbough](http://www.myspace.com/wetblackbough)



## It Hugs Back

Work Day/Take Apart  
*4AD AD 2816*  
This four-piece from Kent turn in a jaunty slice of summer dream pop on the A-side, sounding like Teenage Fanclub in their pomp, or Swervedriver if they swerved off the highway strip for a blowin' bubbles bonanza breezin' on a bountiful bouncy castle. It's saccharine sweet guitar sauce, ready for pouring out of open college windows, covering campus gardens in its luscious honeyed melodies. The B-side ain't as fun – a slow creeper that erupts from tension-laden, spider-webbed atmospherics into a fuzz-fry of discordant tumult. It's by no means a disaster (if you like Sparklehorse you might dig it) but it won't be the side that I'll keep spinning. [www.ithugsback.co.uk](http://www.ithugsback.co.uk)



## Harmonia

De Luxe (Immer Wieder)/  
Monza (Rauf Und Runter)  
*Bureau B BB16/SI 913097*  
So this is what they thought the future sounded like in Germany, circa 1975; grey monoliths wrapped in alien rainbows. Harmonia's only ever single, originally put out on the Metronome/Brain label, gets the reissue deal and finds the trio of Rother (Neu!), Roedelius (Cluster) and Moebius (Cluster) reeling out two bite-sized, blissed-out edits of gliding kosmische, both of which appear fully-formed on their stellar *Deluxe* long player. Yeah, this ain't the ideal format for these masters of motorik, but I sure got a buzz out of the retro sleeve work and it's always a pleasure to hear the boys witching up their swirling psyche jams. And if this little cookie ain't enough to cool your Krautrock cravings, well, you're in luck cos Bureau B just rustled up a couple of old La Düsseldorf platters. Yowza, consider this cochlea well and truly cranked! [www.bureau-b.com](http://www.bureau-b.com)

## Marianne Nowotny & The All American Band

All Over The World/Ain't Gonna Be Pretty/Mr So & So/Love Is Just A Dream  
*Sad Gnome Records*  
*SG 0802*  
Coming over like The Knife hijacked by the Moldy Peaches and stored in a dank disco cellar with Stephin Merritt, this EP boasts four avant-pop nuggets as daringly original as anything else I've heard this year. Nowotny has shifted her difficult haridan like dirges for voice and keys into a micro-universe populated by frenetic fuzzed-up frolics, toy town electronics and devilishly delectable vocals. Closing number, Love Is Just A Dream, is Blondie's Atomic for every librarian and ragged trousered philanthropist who never had the chance to say "I love you". This is what that last Magnetic Fields album shoulda sounded like. [www.sadgnomerecords.net](http://www.sadgnomerecords.net)

