Picks for ‘06

1. The Pipettes
Polka-dotted trio on a retro girl group pop trip. Think Phil Spector in his prime, the Brill Building era and just plain ol’ wholesome fun.

2. The Organ
Often compared with The Smiths, Joy Division and The Slits, Canada’s The Organ have just signed to Too Pure. Album due in February.

3. Be Your Own PET
Nashville’s finest decidedly un-country export, fronted by Jemina Pearl, NME’s coolest woman of 2005. Self-titled debut out January 30th.

4. The Howling Bells
Australian rock sensations fronted by the almighty Juanita Stein. Signed to Bella Union and their self-titled debut is on its way.

5. Tilly & The Wall
These co-ed funsters don’t need a drummer, they tap dance instead! Debut album Wild Like Children finally coming to the UK in February.

6. Bat For Lashes
Nashville’s finest decidedly un-country export, fronted by Jemina Pearl, NME’s coolest woman of 2005. Self-titled debut out January 30th.

1. Jenny Lewis
This year, Rilo Kiley’s invincible frontwoman is leaving the boys with their toys and stepping out solo with melodic and lyrical wonder.

2. Emmy The Great
We knew she was destined for big things and now she’s signed to Drowned In Sound. An album’s in the works, so prepare to get excited!

3. Corinne Bailey Rae
Hotly tipped jazz/soul singer with an almost childlike voice that drips with a sweet, delectable languor. Debut album out in March.

4. Joan As Police Woman
Finnish sci-fi cabaret wonder Heidi Kilpelainen is loved by Björk and Alison Goldfrapp. The musical lovechild of Bowie and Grace Jones.

5. HK119
With her very own Welsh brand of antifolk, Julia Harris is definitely one to watch for the future. For fans of Ani DiFranco especially.

6. Julia Harris