

STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 9PM THURSDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2008

IT'S THE ARCTIC AGE

ARCTIC MONKEYS CEMENT THEIR POSITION AS THE BIGGEST BAND OF A GENERATION WITH ANOTHER TRIPLE WIN AT THE SHOCKWAVES NME AWARDS 2008

For the third year running, **Arctic Monkeys** have walked away as the big winners of the **Shockwaves NME Awards**. Staking a claim to be their generation's Oasis, the Sheffield lads led the way with a record seven nominations and scooped three of the most hotly contested awards at this year's ceremony, held at IndigO2 - **Best Track**, **Best Video** and the big one, **Best British Band**.

Since coming to prominence on the **Shockwaves NME Awards Tour** just three years ago, Arctic Monkeys have racked up an unprecedented 15 **Shockwaves NME Awards** nominations and won eight of the prestigious awards, making them the most voted for and most popular band of the decade. This comes only one week after music industry experts voted Arctic Monkeys Best Band and Best Album at the Brits. Now it's the fans that have spoken and one thing is very clear - the **Arctic Monkeys** ARE the band of a generation.

The other big reader-voted award of the night for **Best Album** went to **Klaxons** for '**Myths Of The Near Future**'. After being snubbed by the industry at the Brits last week the Mercury Award-winners finally got the fans' vote at the **Shockwaves NME Awards 2008**, beating off stiff competition from Arctic Monkeys, Babyshambles, Radiohead and The Enemy.

Noel Fielding and **The Mighty Boosh** also triumphed with a trio of award-wins – **Mighty Boosh** for **Best TV Show** and **Noel Fielding** for **Sexiest Man** and **Best Dressed**. Cementing his place in rock'n'roll history, Noel Fielding is proof that there's always room for a little comedy genius at the **Shockwaves NME Awards**.

It was hot newcomer **Kate Nash** who stood proud as she accepted the award for **Best Solo Artist**, beating off tough competition from Amy Winehouse, Jamie T, Patrick Wolf and Jack Peñate. Fellow newcomers **The Enemy** were further proof that Britain is a fertile breeding ground for new talent as they scooped the award for **Best New Band**.

After losing out to Kasabian last year and Franz Ferdinand in 2006, the mighty **Muse** were back on top as winners of the **Best Live Band** this year. Another band currently taking the live circuit by storm are Scots rockers **Glasvegas**, who picked up the **Philip Hall Radar Award**.

With the best of British sweeping the board, it was **The Killers** who stacked up another Stateside win and walked away with **Best International Band** for the second year running. The US was also represented in the **Best Music DVD** category, with iconic rock band **Nirvana** winning the award for 'Unplugged In New York'.

Other winners included influential DJ **Zane Lowe** for **Best Radio Show**, notorious rocker **Pete Doherty** for **Hero Of The Year** and super sex kitten **Kylie Minogue**, who was voted **Sexiest Woman**.

Along with the usual hotly contested categories, this year saw music fans casting votes in four new categories. **Best Band Blog** and **Best Music Blog** both recognised the importance of the internet in keeping music fans in touch and were won by **Radiohead** and **The Modern Age** respectively.

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Meanwhile, the inaugural award for **Best Album Artwork**, to celebrate the iconic art form of album covers, went to **The Good, The Band & The Queen** for '**The Good, The Band & The Queen**'. Finally, the resurgence of the indie club and the tracks that fill the dancefloor was celebrated with the newly added **Best Dancefloor Filler** Award, which was won by **The Wombats** for their anthemic track 'Let's Dance To Joy Division'.

This year's highest accolade, the **Godlike Genius Award**, went to one of the most successful and influential bands of our time... **Manic Street Preachers**. The Welsh rockers have been delivering era-defining music to the masses for over two decades and headed straight from the awards to celebrate with thousands of their biggest fans in the O2 Arena as they prepared to headline NME's first ever 'Big Gig' in celebration.

With more amazing live performances on the night from **Klaxons, Gallows & Lethal Bizzle, Lightspeed Champion, Manic Street Preachers**, plus stunning collaborations between the legendary **Billy Bragg** and Best Solo Artist winner **Kate Nash**, and **The Cribs** and **Johnny Marr**, the **Shockwaves NME Awards 2008** was, once again, the rock'n'roll show-stopping, showdown of the year! As always, NME is the first to recognise new music and the first to reward it.

Music fans can watch all the action as it unfolds as live on **E4** on the **28th February** at **11pm** as the finest music will be welcomed to the stage by the best new talent in comedy, hosts **Mathew Horne** and **James Corden**. The awards' highlights will then be shown the next day on **Channel 4** at **11.50pm**. And as if that isn't enough, T4 will bring viewers further backstage coverage on **Saturday, 1st March**.

The bands packed into new venue IndigO2 to watch all the action at the biggest rock'n'roll event of the year before continuing the party at the O2 Arena to catch stunning live sets from Manic Street Preachers, Kaiser Chiefs, Bloc Party, Klaxons and The Cribs at the **Shockwaves NME Awards Big Gig**.

NME associate editor Dan Silver said: "Once again the NME readers have voted in their thousands and demonstrated their impeccable taste. We're thrilled that Arctic Monkeys have been recognised as the greatest band of their generation by the people whose opinion really matters – the fans that buy the albums and go to the gigs – and it's a testament to the strength of the current British music scene that the likes of Muse, Klaxons, The Enemy, Kate Nash and The Wombats have all picked up gongs. Roll on next year."

Winners in full (those bolded):

Best British Band supported by Shockwaves

Arctic Monkeys

Babyshambles

The Cribs

Klaxons

Muse

Best International Band supported by T4

Arcade Fire

Foo Fighters

The Killers

Kings Of Leon

My Chemical Romance

Best New Band

The Enemy

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Foals

Joe Lean & The Jing Jang Jong

The Pigeon Detectives

The Wombats

Best Live Band supported by Carling

Arctic Monkeys

The Cribs

Kaiser Chiefs

Muse

My Chemical Romance

Best Solo Artist supported by 4Music

Kate Nash

Jack Penate

Jamie T

Amy Winehouse

Patrick Wolf

Best Album supported by HMV

'Favourite Worst Nightmare' - Arctic Monkeys

'Shotters Nation' - Babyshambles

'We'll Live And Die In These Towns' - The Enemy

'Myths Of The Near Future' - Klaxons

'In Rainbows' - Radiohead

Best Track supported by Trinity Street

'Fluorescent Adolescent' - Arctic Monkeys

'Flux' - Bloc Party

'Men's Needs' - The Cribs

'Lord Don't Slow Me Down' - Oasis

'Let's Dance To Joy Division' - The Wombats

Best Video supported by NME TV

'Teddy Picker' - Arctic Monkeys

'Flux' - Bloc Party

'D.A.N.C.E.' - Justice

'Golden Skans' - Klaxons

'Teenagers' - My Chemical Romance

Best Dancefloor Filler

'Flux' - Bloc Party

'Hummer' - Foals

'D.A.N.C.E.' - Justice

'Atlantis To Interzone' - Klaxons

'Let's Dance To Joy Division' - The Wombats

Best Music DVD

'Up The Shambles' - Babyshambles

'The Song Remains The Same (Special Edition)' - Led Zeppelin

'Unplugged In New York' - Nirvana

'Lord Don't Slow Me Down' - Oasis

'I Told You I Was Trouble' - Amy Winehouse

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Best Live Event

Glastonbury
Muse At Wembley Stadium

Carling Weekend: Reading And Leeds Festival

T In The Park
V Festival

Hero Of The Year

Matt Bellamy

Pete Doherty

Noel Fielding
Ryan Jarman
Thom Yorke

Villain Of The Year

Tony Blair
Johnny Borrell
Gordon Brown

George W Bush

Amy Winehouse

Best Dressed

Pete Doherty

Noel Fielding

Kate Nash
Alex Turner
Gerard Way

Worst Dressed

Johnny Borrell
Pete Doherty
Mika
Gerard Way

Amy Winehouse

Best Album Artwork

'Favourite Worst Nightmare' – Arctic Monkeys

'The Good, The Bad & The Queen' – The Good, The Bad & The Queen

'Sawdust' – The Killers

'Because Of The Times' – Kings Of Leon

'Send Away The Tigers' – Manic Street Preachers

Best Radio Show

Russell Brand (Radio 2)

Zane Lowe (Radio 1)

Chris Moyles (Radio 1)

Colin Murray (Radio 1)

Jo Whiley (Radio 1)

Worst Album

'All The Lost Souls' - James Blunt

'The Trick To Life' – The Hoosiers

'Spirit' - Leona Lewis

'Life In Cartoon Motion' - Mika

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'Blackout' - Britney Spears

Worst Band

30 Seconds To Mars
Fall Out Boy

The Hoosiers

My Chemical Romance
Panic At The Disco

Best TV Show

Heroes
The IT Crowd

The Mighty Boosh

Never Mind The Buzzcocks
Skins

Best Film

Control

Hot Fuzz
Pirates Of The Caribbean: At World's End
The Simpsons Movie
Superbad

Sexiest Man

Howlin' Pelle Almqvist
Julian Barratt

Noel Fielding

Nicky Wire
Patrick Wolf

Sexiest Woman

Jenny Lewis

Kylie Minogue

Rihanna
Hayley Williams
Rachael Yamagata

Best Venue

Brixton Carling Academy
Glasgow Barrowland
London Astoria
Manchester Apollo

Wembley Stadium

Best Website

Bebo

Facebook

Last.fm
MySpace
YouTube

Best Band Blog

Lily Allen (www.myspace.com/lilymusic)
Foals (www.wearefoals.com/blog)

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Lightspeed Champion (www.lightspeedchampion.com)

Radiohead (www.radiohead.com/deadairspace)

The Streets (www.myspace.com/thestreets)

Best Music Blog

The Hype Machine (hypem.com)

The Modern Age (www.themodernage.org)

Nothing But Green Lights (nothingbutgreenlights.net)

Spinner (spinner.com)

Stereogum (stereogum.com)

Philip Hall Radar Award

Glasvegas

Godlike Genius

Manic Street Preachers

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

TX Media

tony@tx-media.co.uk dawnstefan@tx-media.co.uk

020 8883 4244

About Shockwaves:

Shockwaves, UK's favourite range of hair stylers, has 29 fantastic products that create workable, wearable looks for guys and girls. The easy solution to getting the latest trends, the new line up of creams, mousses, waxes, gels and sprays guarantee striking styles to attract. RRP from £2.79.

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