

MOJO

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WORLD

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ALBUM
OF THE
MONTH

Konono No 1



Congotronics

CRAMMED

Techno, Congo-style. The heaviest album of the year?



BUSTING OUTTA Kinshasa, blowing bass bins to bits. The play is simple enough: three thumb pianos, three percussionists and microphones reconditioned from car parts. Lead man Mingiedi looks about 60, and wears a nice pink shirt and braces. Sweet as pie. But stick on the nine minutes of opener Lufuala Ndonga, turn the bottom end up and stand back. What happens next is unbelievable. Ever had your head used as a ball in rugby? It's hard house meets Sister Ray with call-and-response vocals for three minutes, then the thumb pianos start pulping your brain, building in ferocity and intensity as they go. A second's breather and then Masikulu hits you, even harder. They can't keep this force up for the full album, but only a masochist would want them to. Live in a club, this'll have crowds shitting themselves.