

Sparks add new headline shows in Dublin, Edinburgh & Wolverhampton to the MAD! tour

Appearance at Bilbao BBK Festival announced and venue in Cologne upscaled

'MAD!' - [the new album](#) - out on May 23rd 2025 on Transgressive Records

Tickets for the new headline shows go on general sale on Friday 4th April.

Fan Club presale starts Wednesday 2nd April.

www.allsparks.com



Expect musical thrills and unbridled joy from the career-spanning show

The Times ★★★★★ *“a magnificent night”*

Mojo *“a unique and glorious spectacle”*

The Guardian ★★★★★ *“Proper musical thrills”*

March 31st, 2025. Sparks announce extra dates on their MAD! tour which kicks off in Japan on June 8. The European leg of their world tour will now include 2 shows at Dublin's National Stadium on July 15 and 16 before the band return to the UK for a date at Edinburgh Playhouse on July 18, ending at Wolverhampton's The Halls on July 19. North American dates will be announced soon.

Ron and Russell Mael, and their band, wowed audiences and critics alike on their 2023 tour – including sold out shows at London's Royal Albert Hall (two) and Sydney Opera House, a hometown triumph at Hollywood Bowl, and a headlines-stealing set at Glastonbury Festival. This new tour promises more musical thrills and unbridled joy from the career-spanning show.

Despite the efforts of Edgar Wright's superb 2021 documentary *The Sparks Brothers*, which introduced the duo to a wider audience than ever before, the exact creative dynamic between the siblings remains inscrutable, as mysterious and unknowable as their private lives.

The one thing we know for certain is that Ron Mael is one of our most acutely perceptive observers of social mores. In a different discipline – dramaturg, cartoonist, novelist, cineaste, chronicler – he'd be a Moliere, a Hogarth, a Fitzgerald, an Altman, a Swift. He just happens to work within the medium of popular song. Another thing we know for certain is that Russell Mael has the asset of a talent to put those observations across in a uniquely arresting manner, captivating as a frontman and gifted with a countertenor voice of extraordinary range. The alchemy between Ron on keys and Russell on vocals – Two Hands, One Mouth, to invoke the name of one of their tours – is simply what they do. And they've rarely done it better than on **MAD!**, the band's 28th studio album.

Most acts, by the time they've been making music together across seven different decades, would have slowed to a crawl, creakily playing the oldies on the heritage circuit and releasing nothing more modern than the occasional Greatest Hits collection.

Sparks aren't most acts. If anything, their rate of productivity has sped up in recent years: since the millennium the duo have released eight new studio albums (including, in 2024, the original Sparks 2013 album recording of *Annette*), a radio opera (*The Seduction Of Ingmar Bergman*), a side-project (Franz Ferdinand collaboration *FFS*), a live album, a film musical (2021's *Annette*, which won a 'Best Director award for Leos Carax and the Best Original Score for the Maels at the César Awards), and several compilations (notably 2019's career-spanning *Past Tense*), toured the world numerous times, as well as appearing in the aforementioned *The Sparks Brothers*. Their laurels remain resoundingly unrested-upon.

Classic Rock “Forever fresh”

The Wire “Sparks have truly located their own niche and dug in, as opposed to joining in”

Clash “Piquant and literate”

The MAD! Tour

Sun. June 8 - Kyoto, JP @ ROHM Theatre

Tue. June 10 - Osaka, JP @ Zepp Namba

Thu. June 12 - Fri. June 13 - Tokyo, JP @ EX Theater

Wed. June 18 - Thu. June 19 - London, UK @ Eventim Apollo

Sat. June 21 - Sun. June 22 - Manchester, UK @ O2 Apollo

Tue. June 24 - Glasgow, UK @ Royal Concert Hall

Thu. June 26 - Haarlem, NL @ PHIL Haarlem

Sat. June 28 - Brussels, BE @ Cirque Royal

Mon. June 30 - Paris, FR @ La Salle Pleyel

Tue. July 1 - Cologne, DE @ Live Music Hall (venue upscale)

Thu. July 3 - Copenhagen, DK @ The Koncerthuset

Fri. July 4 - Stockholm, SE @ Grona Lund Tivoli

Sun. July 6 - Berlin, DE @ Uber Eats

Tue. July 8 - Milan, IT @ Teatro degli Arcimboldi

Sat. July 12 - Bilbao, ES @ Bilbao BBK

Tue. July 15 - Dublin, IE @ National Stadium

Wed. July 16 - Dublin, IE @ National Stadium

**Fri. July 18 - Edinburgh, UK @ Edinburgh Playhouse
Sat. July 19 Wolverhampton, UK @ The Halls**

[Pre-order *MAD!*](#)

[Listen to JanSport Backpack](#)

[Watch the video for 'Do Things My Own Way'](#)

Further information on *MAD!* and background on Sparks is [available here](#).

www.allsparks.com

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