

# ic moments in 2013

## ND TRACKS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS



Saif Ali Khan  
(centre)  
with RDB



(From left) Juggy D,  
Rishi Rich and Jay Sean

**17 Reunion:** Rishi Rich, Juggy D and Jay Sean surprised the entire music industry by reuniting in the studio a decade after they first got together. They have picked up from where they left off and will be dropping their musical bombs in 2014. The inside word is that the songs are going to be pretty special.

**16 Cool collaboration:** Brilliant bhangra man Jassi Sidhu showed us that there was a lot more to Lilly Singh than her hilarious YouTube videos when he collaborated with her for the single *Hipshaker*. The catchy song combined the talents of the two stars and the result was a tasty musical cocktail that was enjoyed by everyone.

**15 Rahat's record:** Qawwali maestro Rahat Fateh Ali Khan showed just why he is the most popular Asian live performer in the world by delivering a solo show to a record-breaking audience at 02 Arena in London in August. He followed that up with more sell-out shows around the country that delighted fans and critics alike.

**14 Alchemy:** The amazing Alchemy music festival at the Southbank Centre in London hosted a series of spectacular live events powered by world-class performers. The highlight of the musical calendar showed us all just why it is the leading mu-



Rahat  
Fateh  
Ali  
Khan



Shreya  
Ghoshal

sic and dance festival of its kind in Europe. It will be returning to create more magic next year.

**13 Voice from heaven:** In terms of reality television the most memorable musical moment happened on popular BBC show *The Voice* with Abi Samp's stunning audition. The super singer, who is also a qualified dentist, left all those who saw her haunting performance of Oasis song *Stop Crying Your Heart Out* in awe.

**12 Royal rumble:** Shreya Ghoshal delivers the most successful-ever solo concert at London's Royal Albert Hall and such was the demand for tickets at the sell-out show that many audience members were happy to stand in the very top tier. Then six months later, fellow playback singer Sunidhi Chauhan delivered one of the finest Bollywood shows ever seen in the UK at the world-famous venue.

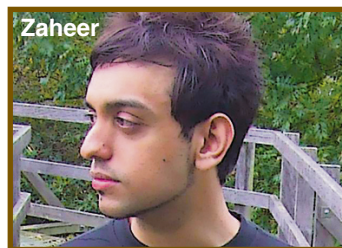
**11 Top boy:** The most successful British-Asian man in the western mainstream this year wasn't Jay Sean, but Naughty Boy. Apart from working with high-profile names like Gabrielle and Emilie Sande, the award-winning music producer (real name Shahid Khan) gave us chart-topping single *La La La*.



Bups  
Saggi

## And the top 10 are...

**10 Best Unsigned Act:** Not having the backing of a major label didn't stop ace music producer Zaheer from releasing acclaimed songs, getting airplay on the biggest mainstream radio stations, doing exciting collaborations and performing at major music festivals. He also gave a platform to some of the best unsigned talent there is in the UK right now.



Zaheer

**9 Best Newcomer:** It was no surprise that San2 won Best Newcomer at the BritAsia Music awards in October. Almost like a flash of lightning on a sunny day, San2 took everyone by surprise with his thunderous debut *Nayo Lagda*. One of the most accomplished debut singles of the past decade, the catchy contemporary song with a classical feel delighted critics, DJs and music fans.



San2

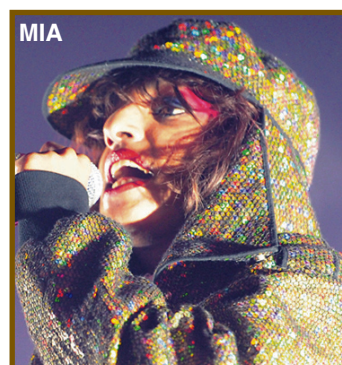
**8 Best Single:** The first song of the year to score a perfect five in *EE*'s music review was Bups Saggi's brilliant bhangra track *Drama Queen*. The best track of 2013, it was the perfect combination of world-class vocals, catchy music and fun lyrics.



Arjun

**7 Best Male:** British-Asian singer, songwriter, music producer and all-round nice guy Arjun continued to conquer the internet with stunning songs and the live circuit with powerful performances. This year Arjun performed all over the world and showed international audiences just why he is one of the most exciting acts in the music scene.

**6 Best Female:** You can't keep MIA out of the headlines and that was the case again in 2013. She took on her record label and threatened to leak her album if they didn't release it. In between the battles with her label, estranged husband and the media, she released some great music and entertained fans with some electrifying performances.



MIA

**5 Best Video:** *Meh Punjabi Boli Ah* by Jaz Dhani had a beautiful music video that matched the heartfelt sentiments of the superb song to deliver a meaningful message and added to the increasingly growing stature of the singer.

**4 Best Live Act:** Bat For Lashes was nominated at prestigious ceremonies like the Brit Awards and even gave us some superb new music, but she made her ultimate mark on the live scene. Real name Natasha Khan, the British-Asian singer/songwriter performed at huge music festivals and prestigious venues around the world. She showed just why she is one of the finest performers in the world.



Bat For  
Lashes

**3 Best Album:** The best album by far was *Global* by ace music producer Bups Saggi. Incredible songs like *Drama Queen*, *Punjabi Hurrri*, *Milky* and *Battle Giddha* had cross-generational appeal and the kind of entertainment value that was lacking in many other releases. The five-star album shows that Bups is one of the finest beat-makers in the UK right now.

**2 Girl Power:** Earlier this year, a DJ who is not as clever as he thinks proclaimed there weren't many British-Asian female artists. *EE* reacted by showcasing more talented music acts than any other media organisation, including a feature highlighting more than 50 fabulous females. Hopefully in 2014, radio stations, TV channels and DJs will follow our lead and support more females.

**1 Best Music Producer:** Taking the top spot for 2013 is talented music producer Bups Saggi. A dream year saw the brilliant beat maker deliver not only the best single and album of the past 12 months, but also some top-drawer music videos. In addition, he did some cool collaborations and gave us songs that showed just why the UK is the Punjabi music capital of the world.

