

Get Out There Playlist

SKIN

Words: STEPHANIE PHILLIPS

From singing *Happy Birthday to Nelson Mandela* to being the first Black woman to headline Glastonbury, there's little that Skin, frontwoman of British rock icons Skunk Anansie, has not achieved in her 30-year career. The jet-setting singer lists Rome as her favourite European getaway. 'It's one of those places where you can just walk around and chill,' she says. 'I really love outdoor street culture.' Here Skin picks her favourite playlist to suit every moment on her holiday.

TAKE OFF

Lovesong *The Cure*

I fly so much and there's always something exciting about it, but also a bit sad, because you're always leaving somewhere. This song – its chords, how it moves on the chorus and the melodic notes – it sums up that vibe.

SETTLING INTO YOUR HOTEL

New York *St Vincent*

This evokes a kind of happiness in me. It reminds me of when I first came to New York. I fell in love with my partner and the city to that song. I played it so many times that my wife got really annoyed with me. I think she hates this song now.

GETTING READY FOR AN EVENING OUT

Silly Games *Janet Kay*

I don't know a Black person who doesn't know this song. It reminds me of being a kid in Brixton at house parties on Effra Road. This song would come on and the best bit was when everyone tried to hit that high note in the chorus.

SUNSET

The Rapture Pt III *Black Coffee*

It's the perfect sunset sound when you're just lounging somewhere really hot. I've got a house in Ibiza, so this is a song that we play when



Above: Skin is the frontwoman of rock band Skunk Anansie. Below: Rome is her favourite destination

we're just relaxing by the barbecue with some friends.

LOUNGING POOLSIDE

California *Joni Mitchell*

I've always loved folk music and Joni Mitchell. I've got a really nice folk and country playlist so any time I'm by the pool, I'll put that on, because I don't want anything too groovy in this environment.

EMBARKING ON A NEW ADVENTURE

Lads Lads Lads *Lambrini Girls*

I found this band a couple of years ago when I was looking for music for my radio show. This is a get-up-and-go song. I play this track, on my punk playlist, when I'm ironing or when I'm doing housework.

ENJOYING A COCKTAIL

I Hate It Here *So Good*

So Good is going to be supporting Skunk Anansie on the new tour. She knows how to write a really good, cheeky song. It's always sarcastic, but it's highly intelligent, and I love this song particularly, it just makes me laugh.

EXPLORING A NEW CITY

Bloodbuzz Ohio *The National*

I like when I can really feel that a singer is very stylised. The National have their own sound, their own thing, but the words and the way that Matt Berninger sings them are so luscious. It's one of those songs I never get bored of.

HITTING THE DANCEFLOOR

Promised Land *Joe Smooth*

Sometimes at the end of the night, if I'm in the right environment, I'll put this on as my last track.

RETURNING HOME

Lover You Should've Come Over *Jeff Buckley*

It's a very emotional song. I love *Grace*, that whole album, but this is my favourite track. When I'm taking my make-up off, it's one of the songs I like to play, because it just releases the night. You just forget about your worries.

The Painful Truth by Skunk Anansie (FLG) is out 23 May. They tour the UK this month.

GET OUT THERE

FLY TO...

easyJet flies to Rome from 16 airports, including London Gatwick and Berlin Brandenburg. Book now at easyJet.com

STAY IN...

Rome Times Hotel is within walking distance of the Colosseum. Book now at easyJet.com/holidays

