

**HIGHLAND** sensation Tamzene went to The Royal Family's favourite school — and now she's aiming to rule the charts.

The teenager, who was a pupil at posh Gordonstoun, is the first signing to new label Belladrum Records.

It's been set up following the success of the Inverness-shire summer festival of the same name.

Tamzene, 19, says: "It's so encouraging and a huge honour for them to see my potential, and pick me to launch their label."

"I've going to Belladrum for the past 10 years. It's my local music festival."

"Every year my mum does the salsa dancing tent. Then three years ago I got myself on the busking stage and last year I was on the grassroots stage."

"It feels like it's fallen into place perfectly."

Tamzene's first single Lullaby is released on Friday. But it was never expected to see the light of day.

She explains: "I didn't intend for it to be played."

"I genuinely did write it just as a lullaby for a friend of mine who sleeps really badly."

"But the producer transformed it."

"It was nice he really made something of it and, to be honest, it even took me by surprise."

The singer is from tiny Easter Ross town of Cromarty — which has a population of around 700.

And it was a tough slog to carve out a name for herself.

Her main route was busking, due to the lack of gig venues in the Highlands.

Tamzene says: "It's an untapped area."

"And it's not for lack of talent, as you do look around and there's people doing it."

"There's just a lack of people taking it that one step further."

"So starting a label like Belladrum have done will be a big step for acts in the future."

"It could carry on to sign other talent."

"It's a shame people need to move away from the Highlands to make a career in music — this is a step that could hopefully see them do that and stay there."

"Busking gave me the confidence to approach venues."

"And then I did some small

venues in Inverness then a few in Dingwall and Ullapool.

"It was pubs and cafes, open mics and that sort of thing."

But because of her isolation, Tamzene reckons she's become what she really wanted to be — without any interference.

She says: "There was no one for me to follow or a scene to be a part of."

"So I got to develop exactly how I wanted to."

"I felt I was doing something different and unique on my own."

"It's not as saturated in the Highlands, so I really did my own thing."

"My mum would play a lot big voices like Roberta Flack and Eva Cassidy at home — that's the kind of music I grew up with." And a

key part in that development was going to Gordonstoun.

That's the same exclusive school where Prince Charles, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Andrew and Zara Phillips all attended.

Tamzene reveals: "It was 100 per cent a big help for me."

"I was able to access so many resources there."

"They had everything. There were pianos you could sit down at and play, so you could lock yourself in a room and just create."

"And there were a couple of amazing teachers who were very encouraging."

"That's all you need when you're 14 — and it's carried on from there. Going to Gordonstoun played a huge part in me becoming a musician." But Tamzene

reckons she owes her biggest debt to the Highland punters who have always given her their backing.

Particularly the folk in Inverness High Street, who stopped to watch and listen to her.

She adds: "There were loads of people in Inverness who were really encouraging and they'd always suggest places to play."

"I got my live experience from that and they really helped me."

"I'd be on the High Street and so many people would stop and have nice things to say."

"I'm grateful for their support and it's got me to here."

● HEAR Tamzene's single Lullaby at [www.facebook.com/tamzenemusic](http://www.facebook.com/tamzenemusic). She will also be appearing at Belladrum Festival in August.

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# Leading Highland charge on charts



**ONE  
2  
WATCH**  
by **CHRIS  
SWEENEY**

## ONE2HEAR

**PALE** Waves have used their pop connections wisely.

The Manchester group got pals Matty Healy and George Daniel from The 1975 to produce their debut single *There's A Honey*.

And it's no surprise, the chart-toppers have done the business for them.

It's electro pop with a nice, big chunky chorus.

Check it out now at: [www.facebook.com/palewaves](http://www.facebook.com/palewaves)

## ONE2SEE

**SOUL** star Jorja Smith has swaggered out of Walsall. She made an impact a year ago with a song about the police, sampling Dizzee Rascal's *Sirens*. Rap star Drake liked it so much he played it on his radio show.

And no wonder, she's got a powerful but elegant voice —

Catch her at King Tut's in Glasgow on Thursday night. Go to [www.facebook.com/jorjasmithmusic](http://www.facebook.com/jorjasmithmusic)

## BRONSTON

**WHO:** Adam Campbell (vocals/guitar), James Callaghan (bass), Ryan Firth (guitar/keys/synths), Mark Hennys (drums).

**WHERE:** Edinburgh.

**FOR FANS OF:** Queens Of The Stone Age, Arctic Monkeys, Led Zeppelin.

**JIM SAYS:** Packed with explosive riffs and glorious melodies, Edinburgh lads Bronston truly deliver with their new EP *Salutations*.

I first became aware of Adam and James when they were playing in a band called *SeaOfCrowns*. They split in 2015, paving the way for the Bronston adventure.

Adam said: "James knew Mark from school and Ryan from uni so he brought them in and we started jamming. We realised we had a great chemistry so we set our sights towards turning my songs into big, full-blown tracks. Our sound is definitely centred around a rocky guitar vibe."

Bronston take their name from a relatively obscure American comedian.

Adam explained: "We had gone through a whole bunch of different, mainly random, names to try to find something that stuck. James and I



## NEW MUSIC

By **Jim Gellatly**

had seen this comedian from California at the Fringe one year. At the end of the show there was a bit of funny chaos and all nine of us in the little room literally laughed for about three minutes solid. The comedian's name is Bronston Jones. I was reminded of the name on Facebook when we were trying to think of band names and immediately thought to myself that Bronston would be a cool, snappy little name."

With James and Ryan studying music technology, Bronston were able to take advantage of the Edinburgh Uni's studios to record the EP.

Adam said: "It was a long process for us to lay all the stuff down and get it mixed. James and

Ryan were pretty much entirely in charge of producing the record, handling everything from recording to the mixing and mastering. The two of them went back and forth on many things and I think that's worked out very well for us in the end. For me, the artistic idea was to create something that represented where we were as a band at the point. It's sort of a greeting from Bronston to the world. That's why it's called *Salutations*."

The EP's current single, *Glamour*, features fellow Edinburgh musician Leo Bargery (Mt. Doubt). Adam said: "Since Leo began Mt. Doubt we've all been big fans and admirers of his work. We're lucky enough to be good friends with him now. Ryan now plays keys in Mt. Doubt as well."

"I thought Leo's style of singing would complement mine nicely. He loved *Glamour* so we decided to have him jump on there. I think it's worked out brilliantly."

Bronston play *The Hug and Pint* in Glasgow on May 28.

**More:** [www.facebook.com/bronston.band](http://www.facebook.com/bronston.band)  
● Jim presents a weekly showcase of New Music on Amazing Radio (Sundays 2-4pm).

[www.amazingradio.com](http://www.amazingradio.com)  
[www.jimgellatly.com](http://www.jimgellatly.com)



▶ Watch a video of the band playing at: [www.thescottishsun.co.uk](http://www.thescottishsun.co.uk)