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**SPRING/SUMMER 2017**

# UPCOMING GOLDENVOICE SHOWS

3/11	<b>SKANKING REGGAE FEST</b> with Panteón Rococó, Tokyo Ska Paradise Orchestra, Dread Mar I, Antidoping, Los Caligaris, The Slackers, La Banda Skalavera & more!	Shrine Expo Hall
3/24	<b>LOS FABULOSOS CADILLACS</b>	Microsoft Theater
3/31	Goldenvoice & KCRW present <b>TINARIWEN</b> with Dengue Fever	Fonda Theatre
4/1	<b>CHRONIXX</b> with Jesse Royal & Max Glazer (Federation Sound)	Fonda Theatre
4/3	<b>SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS</b>	El Rey
4/8	Goldenvoice & KCSN present <b>FOXYGEN</b>	Fonda Theatre
4/11	Goldenvoice & KCRW present <b>SIGUR ROS</b>	Bren Events Center
4/12	<b>THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS</b> with Waxahatchee	Theatre at Ace Hotel
4/14	<b>HANS ZIMMER REVEALED</b>	Microsoft Theater
4/27	Goldenvoice & The Bluegrass Situation present <b>DREW HOLCOMB &amp; THE NEIGHBORS</b>	El Rey
4/29	<b>THE ZOMBIES</b> Odessey and Oracle 50th Anniversary	Theatre at Ace Hotel
5/12	Goldenvoice, FYF & KCRW present <b>GRANDADDY</b>	Fonda Theatre
5/13	<b>CONOR OBERST</b>	Greek Theatre
5/13	<b>ME FIRST AND THE GIMME GIMMES</b> with together PANGEA	Fonda Theatre
5/19	<b>FKJ</b>	The Novo
5/27	<b>JEAN-MICHEL JARRE</b>	Microsoft Theater
6/3	Goldenvoice & KROQ present <b>HIGHLY SUSPECT</b> with special appearance by DJ REDBEES	Fonda Theatre
6/29	Goldenvoice, FYF & KCRW present <b>NICK CAVE &amp; THE BAD SEEDS</b> with special guest Cat Power	Greek Theatre
7/6	Goldenvoice & Relix present <b>UB40 LEGENDS ALI, ASTRO &amp; MICKEY</b> with Matisyahu & Raging Fyah	Greek Theatre



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# THE THEATRE

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### UPCOMING SHOWS

**SAT 4/1**  
**TINARIWEN**  
DENGUE FEVER

**TUE 4/11**  
**TECH N9NE**  
BROTHA LYNCH HUNG + KRIZZ KALIKO  
STEVIE STONE + CES CRU

**WED 4/12**  
**THURSDAY**  
TOUCHE AMORE  
BASEMENT + WAX IDOLS

**FRI 4/14**  
**TOOTS**  
AND THE MAYTALS

**WED 4/19**  
**STATE CHAMPS**  
AGAINST THE CURRENT  
WITH CONFIDENCE + DON BROCO

**THU 4/20**  
**MONOPHONICS**  
ORGONE

**FRI 4/21**  
**COCK SPARRER**  
OFF WITH THEIR HEADS  
THE BODIES + WESTERN ADDICTION

**SAT 4/22**  
**BALKAN BEAT BOX**

**TUE 4/25**  
ODYSSEY AND ORACLE  
50TH ANNIVERSARY  
**THE ZOMBIES**

**FRI 4/28**  
**PETER HOOK**  
& THE LIGHT  
EL TEN ELEVEN

**SAT 5/6**  
**ANDREW MCMAHON**  
IN THE WILDERNESS  
ATLAS GENIUS + NIGHT ROOTS

**TUE 5/9**  
**TODRICK HALL**  
PRESENTS  
**STRAIGHT OUTTA OZ**

**SUN 5/14**  
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**THE GIMME GIMMES**  
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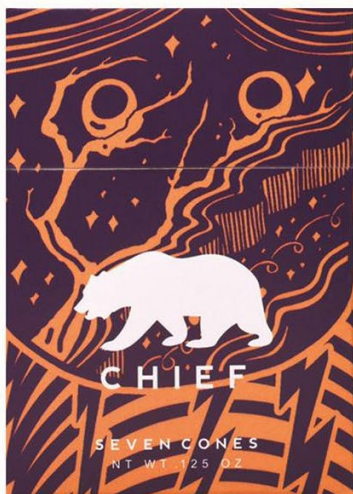
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Fri, Apr 14

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Thu, Apr 27 & Fri, Apr 28

**Zakir Hussain & Rahul Sharma**

Sat, Apr 29

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Thu, May 4

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Thu, Jun 1

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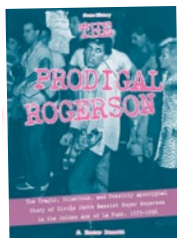


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Four generations of women from Ukraine interact with feminism, Judaism, and democracy. **\$15**

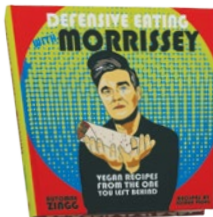


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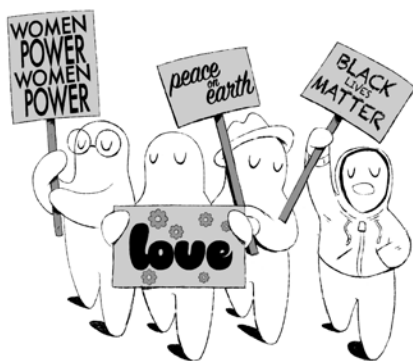
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**SPRING/SUMMER 2017**

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## CONTENTS

*Spring/Summer 2017*

Amoeba Music has become synonymous with music and movie expertise, from the arcane to the popular. Our staff consists of the most passionate connoisseurs of all cultural explorations.

All Amoebites were asked to list their favorite releases from the past six months and beyond. We then had a team of experts decipher their cryptic handwriting, analyze the results and compile the lists into this little book!

We hope you find the results interesting and useful. For more lists and updates on new releases, visit the Amoeblog on [Amoeba.com](http://Amoeba.com).

### A SELECTION OF OUR FAVORITES BY GENRE

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### FEATURES FROM THE AMOEBLOG

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### EDITOR'S NOTE:

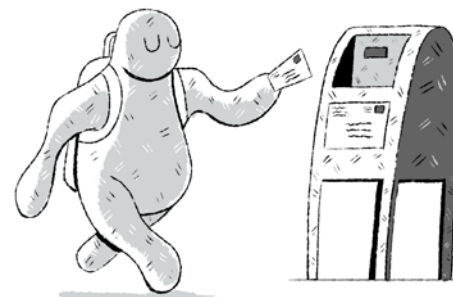
What I've been reminded of time and time again while putting together this "protest" issue of Music We Like, is that music, movies and books – ART, if you will – has a tremendous impact on the way we think and what we can accomplish. Who hasn't been profoundly moved by a song, brought to tears by a movie or inspired by a book? In 2017, it seems more important than ever to stay true to ourselves and express ourselves, whether it's writing letters to speak up for what we believe in or simply making ART. I hope you enjoy the offerings in here and are inspired to get out there and make your own statement. Choose love, my friends, and get busy!

Be sure to let us know if you find something you love!  
[@amoebamusic](https://twitter.com/amoebamusic) #musicwelike

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### VINYL REISSUES

**Angelo Badalamenti – Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me [OST]** (DEATH WALTZ)

**Autechre – Catalog** (WARP)

**Beck – Sea Change/Odelay/Guero** (INTERSCOPE)

**Bright Eyes – Catalog** (SADDLE CREEK)

**Dead Can Dance – Catalog** (4AD)

**Elliott Smith – Either/Or [Expanded Edition]** (KILL ROCK STARS)

**Erasmus Carlos – Catalog** (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Massive Attack – Catalog** (VIRGIN)

**Selena – Dreaming Of You** (EMI LATIN)

**Sia – Some People Have Real Problems** (HEAR MUSIC)

**Sleepytime Gorilla Museum – Catalog** (BLOOD MUSIC)

**Stevie Wonder – Talking Book** (UNIVERSAL)

**Temple Of The Dog – Temple Of The Dog** (INTERSCOPE)

**The Avalanches – Since I Left You** (ASTRALWERKS)

**The Chemical Brothers – Catalog** (ASTRALWERKS)

**The Killers – Hot Fuss** (ISLAND)

**Unwound – Fake Train** (NUMERO GROUP)

**Various Artists – Trainspotting [OST]** (PARLOPHONE)

**West Coast Pop Art Experimental Band – Part One/Vol. 2** (JACKPOT RECORDS)



## SOUL

**Solange – A Seat At The Table**  
(COLUMBIA)

**Khalid – American Teen** (RCA)  
**Gabriel Garzon-Montano – Jardin** (STONES THROW)

**Lee Fields & The Expressions – Special Night** (BIG CROWN)

**The Weeknd – Starboy** (REPUBLIC)

**Kehlani – SweetSexySavage**  
(ATLANTIC)

**Jidenna – The Chief** (EPIC)

**Jones – New Skin** (PIAS)

**The Olympians – The Olympians** (DAPTONE)

**NxWorries – Yes Lawd!**  
(STONES THROW)

## JAZZ

**Alex Cline's Flower Garden Orchestra – Oceans of Vows**  
(CRYPTOGRAMAPHONE)

**Andrew Cyrille Quartet – The Declaration of Musical Independence** (ECM)

**Anthony Braxton / Miya Masaoka – Duo (DCWM) 2013** (ROUGEART)

**Aziza (Dave Holland / Chris Potter / Lionel Loueke / Eric Harland) – Aziza** (DARE2)

**Becca Stevens – Regina**  
(GROUND UP)

**Bobby Previte – Mass** (RARE NOISE)

**Charlie Haden / Carla Bley Liberation Music Orchestra – Time / Life (Songs for the Whales & Other Beings)**  
(IMPULSE!)

**Chris Thile / Brad Mehldau – Chris Thile & Brad Mehldau**  
(NONESUCH)

**Don Cherry / John Tchicai / Irène Schweizer / Léon Francioli / Pierre Favre – Musical Monsters** (INTAKT)

**Donny McCaslin – Beyond Now** (MOTEMA)

**Harriet Tubman – Araminta** (SUNNYSIDE)

**John Abercrombie – Up & Coming** (ECM)

**Jonathan Finlayson – Moving Still** (PI)

**Mary Halvorson Octet – Away with You**  
(FIREHOUSE 12)

**Leyla McCalla – A Day for the Hunter, A Day for the Prey**  
(JAZZ VILLAGE)

**Nels Cline – Lovers** (BLUE NOTE)

**Nicole Mitchell Black Earth Ensemble & Ensemble Laborintus – Moments of Fatherhood** (ROUGEART)

**Taylor Ho Bynum – Enter the Plustet** (FIREHOUSE 12)

**The Bad Plus – It's Hard**  
(OKEH)

**Wadada Leo Smith – America's National Parks**  
(CUNEIFORM)

## ROCK

**Aimee Mann – Mental Illness**  
(SUPER EGO)

**Alison Crutchfield – Tourist In This Town** (MERGE)

**Beware of Darkness – Are You Real?** (BRIGHT ANTENNA)

**Clap Your Hands Say Yeah – The Tourist** (CYHSY INC.)

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(CAPITOL)

**Craig Brown Band – The Lucky Ones Forget** (THIRD MAN)

**Dan Sartain – Century Plaza**  
(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

**Dead Daisies – Make Some Noise** (SPITFIRE)

**Depeche Mode – Spirit**  
(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

**Diet Cig –** (FRENCHKISS)

**Father John Misty – Pure Comedy** (SUB POP)

**Froth – Outside (Briefly)** (WICHITA)

**Future Islands – The Far Field**  
(4AD)

**Glass Animals – How to Be A Human Being** (HARVEST)

**Head & The Heart – Signs of Life** (WARNER BROS.)

**Hope Sandoval & The Warm Inventions – Until The Hunter**  
(TENDRIL TAILS)

**Japandroids – Near To The Wild Heart Of Life** (ANTI-)

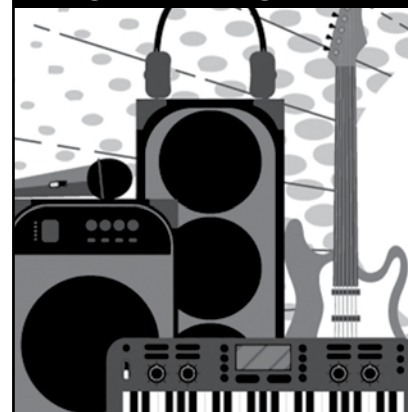
**Jay Som – Everybody Works**  
(POLYVINYL)

**Julia Holter – In The Same Room** (DOMINO)

**Julie Byrne – Not Even Happiness** (BA DA BING!)

**Jens Lekman – Life Will See You Now** (SECRETLY CANADIAN)

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**Mastodon – Emperor Of Sand**  
(REPRISE)

**Mild High Club – Skiptracing**  
(STONES THROW)

**Minus The Bear – VOIDS**  
(SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

**Nelly Furtado – The Ride**  
(NELSTAR)

**Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds – Skeleton Tree** (BAD SEED)

**Old 97's – Graveyard Whistling**  
(ATO RECORDS)

**Parrots – Los Ninos Sin Miedo**  
(PIAS)

**Pixies – Head Carrier** (PIAS)

**The Raveonettes – Atomized**  
(BEAT DIES)

**Real Estate – In Mind** (DOMINO)

**Ryan Adams – Prisoner**  
(CAPITOL)

**Shins – Heartworms** (COLUMBIA)

**Spoon – Hot Thoughts**  
(MATADOR)

**Strand Of Oaks – Hard Love**  
(DEAD OCEANS)

**Surfer Blood – Snowdonia**  
(JOYFUL NOISE)

**Temples – Volcano** (FAT POSSUM)

**Tennis – Yours Conditionally**  
(MUTUALLY DETRIMENTAL)

**The Growlers – City Club**  
(CULT)

**The xx – I See You** (YOUNG TURKS)

**Tim Kasher – No Resolution**  
(1 SPASSENGER)

**Tov Lo – Lady Wood**  
(ISLAND/DEF JAM)

**Vagabon – Infinite Worlds**  
(FATHER/DAUGHTER)

**Warpaint – Heads Up**  
(ROUGH TRADE)

**WHY? – Moh Lhean** (JOYFUL NOISE)

**Xiu Xiu – Forget**  
(POLYVINYL)

## HIP-HOP

**A7PHA - A7PHA** (ANTICON/EYE)

**A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here... Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

**Apollo Brown/Skyzoo – Easy Truth** (MELLO MUSIC)

**Atmosphere – Frida Kahlo vs Ezra Pound** (RHYMESAYERS)

**Berner – Packs**  
(BERN ONE)

**Blu/Union Analogtronics – Cheetah In The City** (FAT BEATS)

**Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!** (GLASSNOTE)

**Czarface – A Fistful Of Peril**  
(SILVER AGE)

**Danny Brown – Atrocity Exhibition** (WARP)

**Funky DL – February: A Rest In Beats Tribute** (WASHINGTON CLASSICS)

**GZA – Dark Matter** (IHIPHOP)

**J Cole – 4 Your Eyez Only**  
(DREAMVILLE)

**Joe Young – Invincible Armour**  
(YOUNGLIFE)

**Joey Bada\$\$ – All-Amerikkkan Bada\$\$** (CINEMATIC MUSIC)

**Karriem Riggins – Headnod Suite** (STONES THROW)

**Kool Keith – Feature Magnetic**  
(MELLO MUSIC)

**Mac Dre – The Genie Of The Lamp (LP)**  
(THIZZ)

**Mac Dre – Ronald Dregan – Dreganomics** (THIZZ)

**Mozzy – Mandatory Check**  
(MOZZY)

**Murs – Captain California**  
(STRANGE MUSIC)

**Pete Rock/Smoke DZA – Don't Smoke The Rock**  
(IHIPHOP)

**Run The Jewels – Run The Jewels 3**  
(RUN THE JEWELS INC.)

**Stro Elliot – Stro Elliot**  
(CORNER MUSIC)

**Yasmine Hamdan – Al Jamilat**  
(IPECAC)

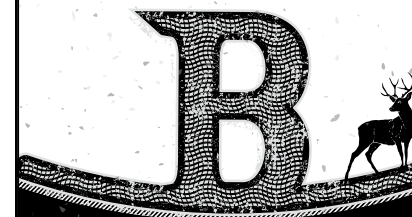


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**Avalanches – Wildflower**

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**Badbadnotgood – IV**

(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

**Bonobo – Migration**

(NINJA TUNE)

**Demdike Stare – Wonderland**

(MODERN LOVE)

**DJ Shadow – The Mountain Will Fall**

(MASS APPEAL)

**Eli Escobar – Happiness (LP)**

(CLASSIC)

**Goldfrapp – Silver Eye**

(MUTE)

**Kassem Mosse – Disclosure**

(HONEST JON'S)

**Nicolas Jaar – Sirens**

(OTHER PEOPLE)

**Other People Place – Lifestyles Of the Laptop Café (LP)**

(WARP)

**Roisin Murphy – Take Her Up To Monto**

(PIAS)

**Sampha – Process**

(YOUNG TRUKS)

**Sohn – Rennen**

(4AD)

**Tall Black Guy – Let's Take A Trip**

(FIRST WORLD)

**Thundercat – Drunk**

(BRAINFEEDER)

**Tycho – Epoch**

(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

**Various Artists – The Men In The Glass Booth**

(BBE)

## COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS

**Alison Krauss – Windy City**

(CAPITOL)

**Aubrie Sellers – New City Blues**

(ATLANTIC)

**Bill Kirchen & Austin De Lone – Transatlantica**

(RED HOUSE)

**Dale Watson & His Lonestars – Live at the Big T Roadhouse: Chicken \$#!+ Bingo Sunday**

(RED HOUSE)

**Greensky Bluegrass – Shouted, Written Down & Quoted**

(BIG BLUE ZOO)

**Jim Lauderdale – This Changes Everything**

(SKY CRUNCH)

**Kris Kristofferson – The Cedar Creek Sessions**

(KK)

**Neko Case / k.d. lang / Laura Viers – Case / lang / Viers**

(ANTI-)

**Robert Earl Keen – Live Dinner Reunion**

(DUALTONE)

**The Cadillac 3 – Bury Me in My Boots**

(BIG MACHINE)

**The Handsome Family – Unseen**

(MILK & SCISSORS)

**The Time Jumpers – Kid Sister**

(ROUNDER)

**Tift Merritt – Stitch of the World**

(YEP ROC)

**Willie Nelson – For the Good Times: A Tribute to Ray Price**

(LEGACY)

## FOLK

**Béla Fleck w/ the Colorado Symphony & Brooklyn Rider – Juno Concerto**

(ROUNDER)

**Bert Jansch – Living In the Shadows**

(EARTH)

**David Bromberg – The Blues, the Whole Blues & Nothing But the Blues**

(RED HOUSE)

**Eliza Carthy & the Wayward Band – Big Machine**

(TOPIC)

**John Prine – For Better, or Worse**

(OH BOY)

**Michael Chapman – 50**

(PARADISE OF BACHELORS)

**Norman Blake (assisted by Nancy Blake) – Brushwood (Songs & Stories)**

(WESTERN JUBILEE)

**Rhiannon Giddens – Freedom Highway**

(NONESUCH)

**Richard Osborn – Endless**

(TOMPKINS SQUARE)

**Shirley Collins – Lodestar**

(DOMINO)

**Shovels & Rope – Little Seeds**

(NEW WEST)

**Theodore Bikel – While I'm Here**

(RED HOUSE)

**Various Artists – Imaginational Anthem Vol. 8: The Private Press**

(TOMPKINS SQUARE)

## BLUES AND NEW ORLEANS

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**Living: Live 1966** (REAL GONE)

**Various Artists – New Orleans**  
**Funk Vol. 4** (SOUL JAZZ)

## WORLD

**Andres Landero – Yo Amaneci**  
(VAMPIROUL)

**Angkanang Cunchai –**  
**Never Forget Me** (EM)

**Arsenio Rodriguez –**  
**Como Se Goza En El Barrio:**  
**Havana & NYC Recordings**  
(GROSSOS)

**Awa Poulo – Poulo Warali**  
(AWESOMETAPES FROM AFRICA)

**Baba Zula – XX**  
(GLITTERBEAT)

**Chicano Batman –**  
**Freedom Is Free** (ATO)

**Debashish Bhattacharya –**  
**Hawaii to Calcutta: A Tribute**  
(RIVERBOAT)



**Erasmus Carlos –**  
**e os tremendões** (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Group Doueh & Cheveu –**  
**Dakhla Sahara Sessions** (BORN BAD)

**Jose Mauro – Obnoxius** (FAR OUT)

**Jungle Fire – Jambu**  
(NACIONAL)

**Mark Ernestus' Ndagga**  
**Rhythm Force – Yermande**  
(NDAGGA)

**Metá Metá – MM3**  
(JAZZ VILLAGE)

**Noura Mint Seynali – Arbina**  
(GLITTERBEAT)

**Ondatropica – Baile Bucanero**  
(SOUNDWAY)

**Pedro Santos – Krishnada**  
(MR. BONGO)

**Residente – Residente**  
(SONY MUSIC)

**Shadow – Sweet Sweet Dreams**  
(ANALOG AFRICA)

**Systema Solar – Rumbo A**  
**Tierra** (NACIONAL)

**Tinariwen – Elwan** (ANTI-)

**Various Artists –**  
**Togo Soul 70: Selected Rare**  
**Togolese Recordings from**  
**1971 to 1981** (HOT CASA)

**Various Artists –**  
**Music Of The Bahnar People**  
**From The Central Highlands**  
**Of Vietnam**  
(SUBLIME FREQUENCIES)

**Various Artists – Khmer Rouge**  
**Survivors: "They Will Kill You,**  
**If You Cry"** (GLITTERBEAT)

**Various Artists – Bobo Yeye**  
(NUMERO)

**Various Artists – Doing It**  
**In Lagos** (SOUNDWAY)

**Various Artists – Colombian**  
**Gold: Best Of Felito Records**  
(COLOMBIA GOLD)

**Various Artists – Ishq Ke**  
**Maare: Sufi Songs From Sindh**  
**And Punjab, Pakistan**  
(SUBLIME FREQUENCIES)

**Various Artists –**  
**Boogie Breakdown-**  
**South African Synth Disco:**  
**1980 to 1984**  
(CULTURES OF SOUL)

## CLASSICAL

**Alvin Lucier – Two Circles**  
(MODE)

**Carl Stone – Electronic Music**  
**from the Seventies & Eighties**  
(UNSEEN WORLDS)

**Julius Eastman – Feminine**  
(FROZEN REEDS)

**Max Richter – Three Worlds:**  
**Music From Woolf Works**  
(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Musica Elettronica Viva –**  
**Symphony No. 106**  
(VICTO)

**Pauline Oliveros / Connie**  
**Crothers – Live at the Stone**  
(IMPORTANT)

**Steve Reich / Terry Riley –**  
**Six Pianos / Keyboard Study #1**  
(FILM)

## EXPERIMENTAL

**Biosphere – Departed Glories**  
(SMALLTOWN SUPERSOUND)

**Bohren & Der Club of Gore –**  
**Black Earth** (PIAS)

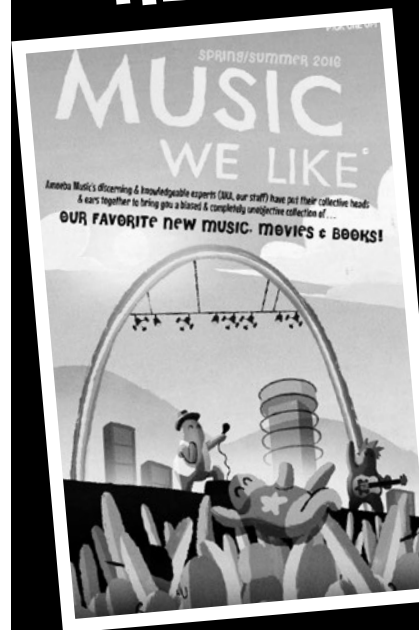
**Einstürzende Neubaten –**  
**Greatest Hits** (POTOMAK)

**Harry Bertoia – Clear Sounds /**  
**Perfetta** (SONAMBIENT)

**Jack Rose – Catalog Reissue**  
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**John Bender – Plaster Falling**  
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## METAL

**Ash Borer – Irrepassable Gate**

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**Blood Incantation – Starspawn** (DARK DESCENT)

**Brujeria – Pocho Aztlan**

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

**Cultes Des Ghoules – Mesmerizing Occult Black Filth**

(HELLS HEADBANGERS)

**Darkthrone – Arctic Thunder**

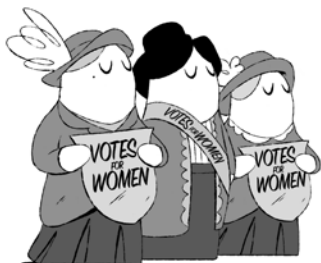
(PEACEVILLE)

**Death – Sound of Perseverance**

(RELAPSE)

**Deathspell Omega – The Synarchy of Molten Bones**

(SEASON OF MIST)



**Ghoul – Dungeon Bastards**

(TANKCRIMES)

**Incantation – Tribute to the Goat**

(SEASON OF MIST)

**Inquisition – Bloodshed Across the Emyrean Altar Beyond the Celestial Zenith**

(SEASON OF MIST)

**Mizmor – Yodh** (GILEAD MEDIA)

**Ominous Circle – Appalling Ascension**

(20 BUCK SPIN)

**Pallbearer – Heartless**

(PROFOUND LORE)

**Ulcerate – Shrines Of Paralysis**

(RELAPSE)

**Watchtower – Concepts Of Math: Book One**

(PROSTHETIC)

**Worm Ouroboros – What Graceless Dawn**

(PROFOUND LORE)

## OLDIES

**Elvis Presley – Way Down in the Jungle Room**

(LEGACY)

**Lee Hazlewood – 13**

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Lee Hazlewood – Cowboy In Sweden**

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Rascals – A's & B's**

(REAL GONE)

**Roy Orbison – The Ultimate Collection**

(LEGACY)

## COMEDY

**Amy Miller – Solid Gold**

(KILL ROCK STARS)

**David Brent & Foregone Conclusion – Life On the Road**

(CAROLINE)

**George Carlin – I Kinda Like It When a Lotta People Die**

(MPI MEDIA)

**Janeane Garafalo – If I May**

(COMEDY DYNAMICS)

**Patton Oswalt – Talking for Clapping**

(A SPECIAL THING)

**Tig Notaro – Boyish Girl Interrupted**

(SECRETLY CANADIAN)

**W. Kamau Bell – Semi-Prominent Negro**

(KILL ROCK STARS)

## REGGAE

**Errol Brown – Orthodox Dub**

(DUB STORE)

**Errol Flabba Holt – Roots Radics Dub (LP)**

(RANKING JOE)

**Hempress Sativa – Unconquerebel**

(CONQUERING LION)

**Keith Hudson – Pick A Dub**

(VP)

**Lloyd Parks – Time A Go Dread**

(PRESSURE SOUNDS)

**Mighty Maytones – Madness/Boat To Zion**

(BURNING SOUNDS)

**Skatalites – Foundation Ska**

(STUDIO ONE)

**The Frightnrs – Nothing More To Say**

(DAPTONE)

**Various Artists – Dread Operator From The On-U Sound Archives**

(HOT MILK)

**Yabby You – Beware Dub**

(PRESSURE SOUNDS)

## PUNK

**Against Me! – Shape Shift With Me**

(TOTAL TREBLE)

**Descendents – Hypercaffium Spazzinate**

(EPITAPH)

**Greg Graffin – Millport**

(ANTI-)

**NOFX – First Ditch Effort**

(FAT WRECK CHORDS)

**Spazz – Sweatin' II: Deported Live Gorilla**

(TANKCRIMES)

**True Love – Heaven's Too Good For Us**

(BRIDGE NINE)

**Turnstile – Nonstop Feelings (LP Reissue)**

(ROADRUNNER)

**Uranium Club – All Of Them Naturals (LP)**

(STATIC SHOCK)

**Warzone – Don't Forget The Struggle (LP Reissue)**

(REVELATION)

## SOUNDTRACKS

**Johann Johannsson – Arrival**

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Lesley Barber – Manchester by the Sea**

(MILAN)

**Mica Levi – Jackie**

(MILAN)

**Nicholas Britell – Moonlight**

(LAKESHORE)

**Pedro Bromfman – Narcos – Season 2**

(LAKESHORE)

**Ramin Djawadi – Westworld: Season 1**

(WATER TOWER)

**Various Artists – Broad City Original Series Soundtrack**

(MILAN)

**Various Artists – Crazy Ex-Girlfriend: Original Television Soundtrack (Season 1 Volume 1)**

(WATER TOWER)







**Various Artists – The Hamilton Mixtape** (ATLANTIC)

**Various Artists – La La Land** (INTERSCOPE)

**Various Artists – Hidden Figures: The Album** (SONY)

**Various Artists – Suicide Squad: The Album** (ATLANTIC)

## DVDS & BLU-RAY

### MUSIC DVDS

**Beatles – Eight Days A Week: The Touring Years** (CAPITOL)

**Frank Zappa – Eat That Question** (SONY HOME PICTURES)

**Iggy Pop – Post Pop Depression: Live At The Royal Albert Hall** (EAGLE ROCK)

**Leon Russell – A Poem Is A Naked Person** (CRITERION)

**Morphine – Journey Of Dreams** (CINEMA FIRST)

**Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds – One More Time With Feeling** (BAD SEED LTD.)

**Oasis – Supersonic** (A&E)

**Rush – Time Stand Still** (ROUNDER)

**Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings – Miss Sharon Jones** (DAPTONE)

**The Damned – Don't You Wish We Were Dead** (CLEOPATRA)

**The Stooges – Gimme Danger** (SONY PICTURES)

**Various Artists – Louder Than Love: The Grande Ballroom Story** (LOUDER THAN LOVE)

## TV

**The Americans: Season 4**

**Better Call Saul: Season 2**

**Broad City: Season 3**

**Game of Thrones: Season 6**

**Mr. Robot: Season 2**

**Outlander: Season 2**

**The Night Of**

**Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt: Season 2**

**Vice Principals: Season 1**

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**Hell Or High Water**

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**Split**

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**The Handmaiden**

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**Bleed For This**

**Captain Fantastic**

**Hunt For The Wilderpeople**

**Jackie**

**Loving**

**Manchester By The Sea**

**Moonlight**

**Swiss Army Man**

**The Edge Of Seventeen**

**The Nice Guys**

## HORROR / SCI-FI / SUPERHERO

**Bye Bye Man**

**Doctor Strange**

**Don't Breathe**

**Ouija 2**

**The Neon Demon**

**Train To Busan**

## BLU-RAY

**Being There [Criterion]**

**Blow-Up [Criterion]**

**Dead Ringers**

**Death of a Salesman**

**Fox & His Friends [Criterion]**

**Lone Wolf & Cub**

**Multiple Maniacs [Criterion]**

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**Wait Until Dark**

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**Kubo & The Two Strings**

**Moana**

**Sing**

**Trolls**



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**De Palma**

**Gleason**

**Heart of a Dog**

**Lo & Behold, Reveries of the Connected World**

**Cameraperson**

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### LITERATURE / GRAPHIC NOVELS

**Milk & Honey** by Rupri Kaur  
(ANDREWS MCMEEL PUBLISHING)

**Patience** by Daniel Clowes  
(FANTAGRAPHICS)

**March: Book Three**  
by John Lewis/Andrew Aydin  
(TOP SHELF)

**Swing Time** by Zadie Smith  
(PENGUIN)

**Moonglow** by Michael Chabon  
(HARPER)

**Underground Railroad**  
by Colson Whitehead  
(DOUBLEDAY)

**Saga Vol. 1** by Brian K.  
Vaughan (IMAGE)

**Norse Mythology**  
by Neil Gaiman  
(W.W. NORTON & CO.)

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**Stanley Kubrick Archives**  
by Alison Castle (TASCHEN)

**Golden Girls Forever**  
by Jim Colucci  
(HARPER COLLINS)

**Tim Burton: The Iconic Filmmaker** by Ian Nathan  
(AURUM PRESS)



**Princess Diarist**  
by Carrie Fisher  
(PENGUIN)

**Godfather Notebook**  
by Francis Ford Coppola  
(REGAN ARTS)

**Secret History Of Twin Peaks**  
by Mark Frost  
(MACMILLAN)

## MUSIC BOOKS

**Groupies & Other Electric Ladies** by Baron Wolman  
(ANTIQUÉ COLLECTORS CLUB)

**Brighter Day: A Jellyfish Story**  
by Craig Dorfman  
(FAN CLUB)

**The Age of Bowies**  
by Paul Morley  
(GALLERY BOOKS)

**Slim Harpo: Blues King Bee of Baton Rouge**  
by Martin Hawkins & John Broven (LSU PRESS)

**Total Chaos: The Story of the Stooges** by Iggy Pop & Jeff Gold (THIRD MAN)

**In Between Days: The Cure In Photographs**  
by Tom Sheehan  
(FLOOD)

**Substance-Inside New Order**  
by Peter Hook  
(HARPER COLLINS)

**Lonely Boy: Tales From A Sex Pistol** by Steve Jones  
(DA CAPO)

**Choosing Death**  
by Albert Mudrian  
(BAZILLION POINTS)

## NON-FICTION

**We Should All Be Feminists**  
by Chinananda Ngozi Adichie  
(PENGUIN)

**You Can't Touch My Hair**  
by Phoebe Robinson  
(PLUME)

**Elvira, Mistress Of The Dark**  
by Cassandra Peterson  
(TWEETERHEAD)

**Where's Banksy?**  
by Xavier Tapies  
(GINGKO)

**The Revenge Of Analog**  
by David Sax  
(PUBLIC AFFAIRS)

**Good Clean Fun**  
by Nick Offerman  
(DUTTON)

## ESSENTIAL READING

**1984** by George Orwell  
(PENGUIN)

**Journals** by Kurt Cobain  
(RIVERHEAD BOOKS)

**Tranny** by Laura Jane Grace  
(HACHETTE)

**Living Like A Runaway**  
by Lita Ford (DEY STREET)

**Just Kids** by Patti Smith  
(ECCO)

**The Devil In The White City**  
by Erik Larson (VINTAGE)

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FROM THE AMOEBLOG



## TOP 10 PROTEST SONGS

By Billy Jam

*One could do easily do a Top 1,000 Protest Songs list.  
This subjective list hones in on just ten.*

Bad times, periods of war, and social unrest trigger some of the best art including powerful protest songs. Hence the recent renaissance of revolutionary rap and rock music that will likely proliferate for the next four years. Protest music works on two primary levels: as the soundtrack to the actual protest/rebellion/revolution, and secondly as a medium to vent and share feelings of discontent as a form of relief or catharsis, preferably offering hope. There are endless subdivisions and categories of protest music, each worthy of their individual top ten lists that could be ranked by groups such as Best '70s R&B/Soul Anti-War Songs, Irish Folk, '80s Reagan-themed Punk, Aboriginal Hip Hop, etc. The sheer number of protest songs among these diverse genres from various decades is proof of how many bad times we've endured to inspire so much protest music! A real protest song is one you sing at your own peril, at the risk of getting killed or at least arrested. Tireless protester of our time Rev Billy, who has been arrested during more protests across the U.S. than anyone, is often handcuffed while still singing gospel protest music. Some of the best protest is rooted in simple repetitive chants, geared for singing during protests. Examples include "We Shall Overcome," "Another Brick In The Wall," "Get Up, Stand Up," "Give Peace A Chance," "Fuck Donald Trump" and, of course, Country Joe and The Fish's memorable "I'm Fixin' To Die Rag," with the lines:

*"And it's one, two, three, what are we fightin' for?  
Don't ask me, I don't give a damn.*

*Next stop is Vietnam."*

1. BILLIE HOLIDAY -  
"STRANGE FRUIT"
2. PLASTIC ONO BAND -  
"GIVE PEACE A CHANCE"
3. PUBLIC ENEMY -  
"FIGHT THE POWER"
4. BOB DYLAN -  
"THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'"
5. MARVIN GAYE -  
"WHAT'S GOING ON"
6. STIFF LITTLE FINGERS -  
"ALTERNATIVE ULSTER"
7. N.W.A. - "FUCK THA POLICE"
8. BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS -  
"GET UP STAND UP"
9. CROSBY, STILLS, NASH & YOUNG  
- "OHIO"
10. YG + NIPSEY HUSSLE -  
"FUCK DONALD TRUMP"



# OUR GREATEST RECORD STORE DAY MOMENTS

*It's hard to believe, but it was just ten years ago that Record Store Day was conceived. It happened in 2007, at a gathering of indie record store owners and employees as a way to celebrate and promulgate the unique culture of record stores. The first Record Store Day was held nation-wide on April 19, 2008, and all three Amoeba Music locations were joyously mobbed for special limited edition releases and all-day festivities.*

*With RSD 2017 on its way (April 22!), we look back at the nine we've celebrated at our stores and pick our favorite moments. We hope they were your favorites, too.*

## APRIL 19, 2008 AMOEBASAN FRANCISCO

The inaugural Record Store Day was certainly one to remember at Amoeba SF as we invited several local luminaries to DJ on the Amoeba stage throughout the day, including V. Vale of RE/Search Publications, Aaron Axelson of LIVE 105, and more. Then we asked Jello Biafra (Dead Kennedys, Alternative Tentacles) to work at our Info Counter where he signed many an autograph!

## APRIL 18, 2009 AMOEBAHOLLYWOOD

Wendy & Lisa of Prince's '80s lineup of The Revolution played a DJ set in support of their new album, *White Flags of Winter Chimneys*, while also simultaneously schmoozing with fans and babysitting several children. In a last-minute development, legendary KISS guitarist Ace Frehley decided to swing by and hang out, so we set up a signing table!

## APRIL 17, 2010 AMOEBASAN FRANCISCO

Rock / fashion / film royalty Charlotte Gainsbourg joined us for a signing, and then later in the day, Jonsi (from Sigur Ros) played a highly-anticipated in-store show that filled the store wall-to-wall. Jonsi even played his ukulele on a few songs while we pined for Iceland.

## APRIL 17, 2010 AMOEBAHOLLYWOOD

Guns N' Roses guitarist, Slash, top hat and all, signed copies of his new CD. Everyone who met him was bowled over by his charm and general rockitude, and was inspired to meet one of the true legends of Sunset Strip metal in person. Another legend, Spinderella (the DJ from Salt-N-Pepa), DJed for us and dominated the booth with a slammin' selection of funk, electro and pop breaks, all mixed and scratched live with original vinyl.



## APRIL 16, 2011 AMOEBAHOLLYWOOD

Henry Rollins (Black Flag, Rollins Band) spun California-themed songs and spoke to a huge crowd about the daily worship of music. Later in the day, Fucked Up kept the beats rolling and signed copies of their very own RSD release, *David's Town*.

## APRIL 16, 2011 AMOEBABERKELEY

The legendary Al Jardine of the The Beach Boys played a few songs and spoke to a rapt crowd about recording *Smile* and *Pet Sounds*. Al brought his exclusive 7" that he sold to benefit the Red Cross's relief efforts for the damage from Japan's tsunami. He ended up raising more than \$1,000 for the organization and thrilled long-time fans by signing albums. Later that day, The Lonely Island joined us for an intimate question-and-answer session, moderated by Jorma Taccone's own father, Berkeley Rep's Artistic Director Tony Taccone.

## APRIL 20, 2013 AMOEBAHOLLYWOOD

Americana singer/songwriter Lucinda Williams chatted with fans and picked out a playlist of her favorite songs. Jeff McDonald (singer, guitarist and co-founder of Redd

Kross) DJed, spinning an eclectic mix of K-Pop, rock and more. Lance Rock, former Amoebite and current *Yo Gabbu Gabbu!* host, DJed as well.

## APRIL 18, 2015 AMOEBASAN FRANCISCO

We had a full roster of DJs, including Radiohead drummer Philip Selway, who played a selection of his favorites and signed albums. We scored a primo interview with Mr. Selway, in which he discussed his love of record stores.

## APRIL 18, 2015 AMOEBABERKELEY

We held an exciting day of DJ sets including Pam The Funkstress of The Coup, and a special edition of 45 Sessions with DJs Platurm and Enki, who played only (you guessed it) 45s! That's a lot of talent under one roof.

## APRIL 16, 2016 AMOEBASAN FRANCISCO

We were joined by singer/songwriter Pete Yorn and Kevin Martin, singer of '90s alternative darlings Candlebox, for DJ sets and signings of their new albums. Martin blew the roof off the place with a killer set of obscure punk 7"s. Even our experts were amazed! Both Yorn and Martin joined us up in the attic of Amoeba SF for a conversation about records.

# TOP 10 MUST-OWN TV SHOWS OF ALL TIME

By Gabriel Wheeler

*There are many great television shows, but what shows are actually worth watching over and over again? Here's the Top 10 of must-see and re-see television*

## 10. ALL IN THE FAMILY (1971-1979)

In one of the rawest portrayals of an ignorant bigot, anti-hero Archie Bunker navigates serious issues of the '70s, often in opposition to those closest to him. The show remains poignant while being hilarious. Topics like racism, rape, and drugs are but a few of the issues tackled in honest, funny and thought-provoking ways. A must-watch for captives of 2017.

## 9. FIREFLY (2002-2003)

Joss Whedon, creator of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, brought us this epic cowboys-in-space sci-fi action/drama. Failing to find an audience during its tenure, it quickly became a cult favorite on home video and syndication. The show centers on the ship *Firefly* and its crew as they travel the galaxy trying to make a quick buck in perhaps not-so-honest yet morally responsible ways. Funny and well-written, it's a shame there are only two seasons.

## 8. THE SHIELD (2002-2008)

This one probably has a lot of people shaking their heads, but if you like over-the-top drama and action, this fast-paced series is one hell of an adrenaline rush. It revolves around corrupt cop Vic Mackey and his elite strike force as they attempt to fight crime and enrich themselves in the fictitious L.A. district of Farmington (think *Rampart*). This vastly underrated show has one of the best series finales of all time.

## 7. STAR TREK: THE ORIGINAL SERIES (1966-1969)

Tastefully remastered with digitally enhanced effects, yet smart to include the unadulterated versions as well. Join Kirk, Spock, McCoy and the rest of the crew as they boldly go where no one has gone before. See the origins of the entire *Star Trek* universe unfold before your eyes. Fun fact: The first televised interracial kiss occurred between Kirk and Uhura in the episode "Plato's Stepchildren" in 1968, causing quite a controversy. How far we have come, and how far we have to go.

## 6. COLUMBO (1971-2003)

Peter Falk as Columbo is one of the best murder investigators around. His brilliance in seemingly bumbling his way through investigations while letting his person of interest underestimate him is sublime. Falk's performance is top notch. Take a break from *Murder She Wrote* and revisit *Columbo*.

## 5. THE OFFICE (U.S., 2005-2013)

Worth many a rewatch. This show is sure to deliver some belly laughs. The hijinks and shenanigans never end, and Michael Scott's ignorant evil is so sweet and uncomfortable.

## 4. THE SIMPSONS (1989-PRESENT)

While the citizens of Springfield may have been best in the mid-'90s to early aughts, *The Simpsons* still endures as one of the best sitcoms ever made.

## 3. SEINFELD (1989-1998)

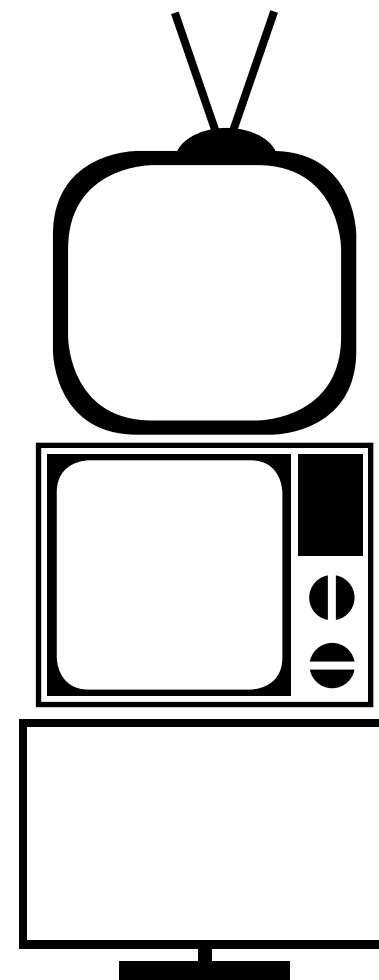
Larry David and Jerry Seinfeld's classic sitcom explodes social niceties and social conventions into pieces. A blueprint for awkward, uncomfortable comedy.

## 2. TWIN PEAKS (1990-1991)

"Who killed Laura Palmer?" was the new "Who Shot JR?" for the water cooler crowd in the early '90s. The secrets of this little northwest town were never totally revealed. Let's hope the new series will retain the magic and mystery of the original. In the meantime, heed Agent Cooper's advice and give yourself a present every day by watching *Twin Peaks*.

## 1. THE WIRE (2002-2008)

A slow burn, but well worth the time. The city of Baltimore is the main character of *The Wire*. The show explores the city's citizens mostly through cops, drug dealers, stevedores, journalists, teachers and politicians. It unfolds more like a novel than a traditional TV script. *The Wire* thoughtfully explores tough issues facing the inner city and working class people without relying on stereotypes. A true masterpiece. ★



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## BERKELEY



### FELIX

**Dmitri Shostakovich –  
*Under Stalin's Shadow* –  
 Symphonies 5 / 8 / 9**

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Featuring: Andris Nelsons / Boston  
 Symphony Orchestra**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Listening to this 2-CD set has been a constant source of enjoyment for me. Shostakovich's music provokes visual effects without the notion of sounding like a soundtrack. With the four pieces presented here in Deutsche Grammophon's second installment of *Shostakovich Under Stalin's Shadow* (Sym's 5, 8, 9 & Hamlet Suite excerpts) performed by Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony there is a fullness and richness of sound that transport the listener to intensified levels of stimulation. Each one of these pieces are so well thought out with intentional and premeditated phrases that incite and sharpen one's imagination. The overall sound that the Latvian conductor Andris Nelsons and the BSO create is a thick and lustrous tone, and not without a great deal of warmth. In this interpretation, crudeness has been rubbed out while preserving the muscularity and potency of its charge against tyranny.

Shostakovich wrote these three symphonies under a distracted Stalin and the soviet regime due to the development and horrors of WWII. Particularly the fifth & eighth symphonies, written in 1937 and 1943, were more of a response towards Stalin suppressing individualism. So it would make musical sense to attack these

powerful compositions with a certain vulgarity. In the '50s and '60s, Russian orchestras performing these works typically sounded crude and cruel in mood as well as in tone due to reasons beyond their control. The roughness in sound was more a case of poor recording quality as well as the shabby conditions that the Russian musicians endured. Despite these unsuitable circumstances those recordings were extremely effective (not to mention VERY well played) in expressing what Shostakovich wanted to convey.

As far as the recording quality of this live set with the BSO is concerned, quite the opposite is the case for the mood, although it is potently forceful with a great deal of punch, at the same time thoroughly engaging, as well as captivating. This is the sort of recording for which the effectiveness will increase if played with a relatively capable sound system. Nelsons takes advantage of the sumptuousness of DG's 21st century engineering as well as exposing the great talent that the musicians of the Boston Symphony surely possess. There is nothing that is outlandish here but instead rather magnificent.

The excerpts from "Hamlet's Suite" were an unexpected yet welcome surprise for me as this was my very first listen. The music is full of parody and burlesque caricatures of nostalgic throwbacks of times perhaps forgotten. Thoroughly dazzling and gracefully executed.

Finally the ninth symphony that opens this winsome 2-CD set is full of lightheaded frivolity that fitfully dances its way through the eight movements. There was a great deal of speculation that Shostakovich was going to write an ambitious symphony with a full chorus modeled on Beethoven's ninth (choral symphony) and as a celebration of the Russian victory over Nazi Germany in 1945. This idea was discarded later by the composer in favor of a much lighter mood. In this live set, Nelsons accentuates the humorous traits of Shostakovich with a mythical and frolicsome bent. A highly productive reading of an historic composition.

It's important to note that Stalin was certainly anticipating a grandiose symphony but the composer reckoned this would only swell Stalin's pride and vanity, so he chose to mislead him with a more beguiling composition. Why encourage a dictator already bloated with vanity? Not a surprise that Stalin was eventually peeved.



Because this is a live performance, interested customers should not be put off by this feature. DG does a marvelous job at erasing any outside noise. Frankly I had no idea it was a live recording until after the majestic conclusion of the fifth symphony because there was a thunderous applause from the heedful audience. I imagined I was right alongside them. A thoroughly captivating and electrifying performance.

## John Adams – *Scheherazade.2*

(NONESUCH)

**Featuring: Leila Josefowicz / David Robertson / St. Louis Symphony**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

In the provided booklet, John Adams writes about his experiences while strolling through an exhibition which dealt with the history of the “Arabian Nights” at the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris. What affected the composer primarily was that the storyteller Scheherazade in “One Thousand and One Nights” recounts how the king, who after hearing that his first wife was unfaithful to him, decides to “solve” the issue by marrying a virgin everyday and beheading the previous day’s wife. One thousand days (and virgins) later, he is introduced to Scheherazade, who elects to spend the night with the king. Her life is spared ONLY due to her cleverness and guile as the king eventually falls in love and makes Scheherazade his queen.

The “One Thousand and One Nights” story disturbed Adams immensely, and in turn, he decided to write this riveting composition (or what Adams calls a “dramatic symphony”) entitled “Scheherazade.2” as a response to how cruel women have at times been treated not only throughout history but even today, and not just (as he states) in the Middle East and places like Pakistan, India and many other countries but even in our own country. Adams even flatly recalled (and rightly so) abuses of women on our college campuses. Immediately I can think of two recent incidences right here in the Bay Area. It’s crucial to understand what Adams is thinking before you hear this captivating music, considering this composition is unlike anything he’s ever written.

Leila Josefowicz, an American/Canadian violinist and a champion of modern music, expresses the voice of Scheherazade. Here is where your concentration should be glued. Her playing is at an erratic yet frantic pace as Josefowicz sporadically saws at her violin with a feverish intensity, but when she eases the tempo, it becomes breathtakingly beautiful. One would assume the discordance of the throbbing violin could sound unsettling, yet it’s

done with such a focused imagination. Again, understanding Adams’ ideas for work is crucial for the listener to grasp. No doubt Josefowicz masters her role.

Ornamentation throughout embellishes each movement thanks to the placement and sound of the cimbalom (a hammered dulcimer/stringed instrument struck with handheld hammers), smartly played by Chester Englander. The St. Louis Symphony, led by David Robertson, swirls around (but not at a dizzying speed) the lead violin with reactionary forces (woodwinds are significant) to Josefowicz’s frenzied violin. There is a pungent aroma that seems to pervade the music, and this is where similarities to Rimsky-Korsakov’s 1888 romantic masterpiece “Scheherazade” come to mind (not to mention it is based on the same subject, Scheherazade). Basically John Adams has transformed the ideas of a 128-year-old composition and through his candid, no-nonsense approach has simply updated/actualized it. The music of this modern version can be disturbing, but it’s music that deserves to be heard. A rewarding and moving experience. Certainly the old adage comes to mind: Truth is stranger (darker?) than fiction.

## Thomas Adès / Per Nørgård / Hans Abrahamsen – Adès /

**Nørgård / Abrahamsen** (ECM)

**Featuring: Danish String Quartet**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

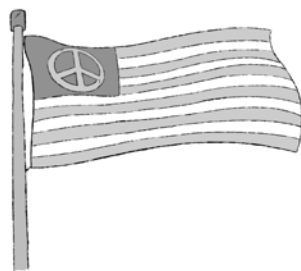
This recent release by the Danish String Quartet is the most exciting of 2016, no question. I’ve been affixed to this CD ever since I removed the shrink wrap and inserted the disc into my player. I can’t remember the last time I heard a release full of unfamiliar composers (or that I’ve seldom heard except for Abrahamsen, which I reviewed in the last MWL issue) played by a group of musicians that were new to me, and by the time the music finished, I was blown away by just the sheer excitement of both the compositions and performance. It’s as if I was sitting at the edge of my couch in eager anticipation as to what the next note/chord change would be. I also was

astonished to find that repeated playing/listens provided the same results. A pleasant surprise, to say the least.

This lively and spirited release opens with a seven-movement piece by the British composer Thomas Adès entitled “Arcadiana” (1994), as each of the four members sparsely begins playing. It’s almost as if each musician were fine-tuning their stringed instruments. Before long they timidly join each other in what ends up being an impromptu harmony. Cleverly written by Adès, as the fickleness of each 2/3 minute movement continues to surprise and delight. The use of pizzicato is liberal and aggressive, as the fourth embarks with stuttered pizzicato and is promptly answered with what sounds like laughing hyenas from both violins and viola. I swear to you it totally fits in as the perfect tonic. Then suddenly in the sixth movement the string quartet delivers a tuneful and heartbreaking melody. I was surprised by the sudden change of mood as well as the abrupt swelling of tears in my eyes. Adès clearly understands the power of music.

The second piece, “Quartetto Brave” (1952), by the Danish composer Per Nørgård, is only seven minutes in length, but it’s an appropriate segue to the closing title. The mood is gloomy and distressed (cello and viola), with an exciting edginess as the violins soar to a shrilling high pitch. Apprehension and uncertainty is always in the air as the cello and violins answer each other with such an anxious passion. The DSQ make it distressingly beautiful for finally finding the tonic after a nervous affliction. How a difficult arrangement can sound so human is a great tribute to these fine members of the DSQ.

Lastly, the “String Quartet No.1” (1973), from the Danish composer Hans Abrahamsen, closes out this fabulous triptych by The Danish String Quartet. Initially a wonderful unison of eerie and penetrating sounds from the strings immediately surges to the forefront while still maintaining an exciting uneasiness, keeping in line with Per Nørgård’s previous piece. There are no long movements in this 10-part string piece (one to three minutes only) as Abrahamsen finds inventive ways to keep the listener engaged. Even as the short fifth movement reminds me of the opening notes to Laurie Anderson’s “O Superman,” that repetitiveness is quickly dispelled by an arrogant cello. The music is constantly changing while keeping you alert and wondering what will be next. Short phrases are simplified, but again there is a wonderful tenseness about them that is difficult to explain.



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Similar to the sheer unexpectedness of the sixth movement from Thomas Adès' opening piece, Abrahamsen closes his string quartet with an equally unanticipated segment as the DSQ play a very brief baroque minuet in tuneful unison. Utterly unexpected and yet strangely appropriate. If you're looking for something new, refreshing and enjoyably unpredictable, then I strongly suggest you buy this disc. This very young Danish String Quartet (young Danes no older than 33... and one Norwegian cellist) are an exceptionally accomplished bunch.

## David Lang – *The National*

**Anthems** (CANTALOUPE)  
**Featuring: Los Angeles Master Chorale / Calder Quartet**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

For this project, the very young composer Robert Honstein was asked to research the original national anthems from every nation member of the United Nations. His assignment was to pick one line or phrase from each nation's national anthem. The excerpts run in alphabetical order, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. Last I checked, that amounted to 193 nations or in this case, 193 phrases. Lines like "Our land with peace," "Death is the same for everyone," "For we would rather die than live as slaves," "Our sacrifice of every drop of blood," "The flower of our blood," "Branches of the same trunk," "The light in our eyes is the brilliance of our faith," "We are your sacrifice" and so on are strung thoughtfully together quite effectively and are sung by the exceptional Los Angeles Master Chorale (33 singers in this release). The New York composer David Lang writes music that is mesmerizing, charming and unearthly, relying on stark voices with a light accompaniment by the Calder Quartet. The effect is a pure and clean sound that seems to start and stop on a dime. Fascinating and hypnotizing to hear. Frankly, I was surprised by how much I became attached to this a cappella-like format. The strings bring about an ethereal effect without any sense of crowding the voices. Also, the lucidity of the recording is breathtaking. Terrifically recorded by Cantaloupe Music.

The closing piece, "The Little Match Girl Passion," is David Lang's masterpiece, which won him a Pulitzer Prize in music back in 2008. Originally written for four voices, this is the choral version and is BEAUTIFULLY sung by the Los Angeles Master Chorale. It's a frigidly stark and gorgeous composition, as the story is taken from the Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen's 1845 fable "The Little Match Girl." Briefly and succinctly put, it's a dismal tale of

a young poor girl trying to sell matches in the freezing weather, and because she is fearful of her abusive father, decides to endure the bitter cold. She uses the matches to warm herself, but they eventually run out and she freezes to death. Although many more significant images are involved in this dreary story, it's important to note that Lang's purpose is to come as close as he possibly can to a religious theme without actually adhering to pious beliefs. In David Lang's mind, one doesn't NEED to be a believer of God or Jesus in order to create an honest and ethical piece that inspires goodness in others. "For many people like me," said Lang, "who are not Christians but who have really deep classical music roots, we often come to these moments. There's a limit to how deeply into this world we can go because we don't believe in Jesus. It's a weird kind of no man's land for people like me."

Lang borrows Bach's choral ideas from "St. Matthews Passion." In Bach's choral masterpiece, the chorus operates as onlookers as they watch Jesus suffering on the cross. "It was the idea of challenging yourself to be a better person because you've noticed this other person's suffering," Lang said. "What would it be like to tell the passion story, but take Jesus' suffering out and put some other person's suffering in? Would that make the story universal? Would it trivialize the whole thing? I didn't know. It was an experiment for me."

In my mind, his experiment worked not only because of the heartbreaking story borrowed from the H.C. Andersen tale, but also due to David Lang's mastery of writing choral music. Near the end of the story, when all the matches are finally used up, the little girl is left standing barefoot in the snow, as the soprano Claire Fedoruk emulates the freezing/suffering child by stuttering her lines in such a touching and convincing way while the rest of the chorus wafts closely and lovingly over her pleas. Both David Lang and the L.A. Master Chorale make a magnificent team. HIGHLY recommended.

# CAIL TODD

## Johnny Thunders – *I Think I Got This Covered*

(SECRET)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Ramones – *Ramones*

**[40th Anniversary Edition]**

(RHINO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Soundwalk Collective & Jesse Paris Smith featuring Patti Smith – *Killer Road*

(SACRED BONES)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Cupol – *Like This For Ages*

**[Reissue]** (DARK ENTRIES)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## James Booker – *Bayou Maharajah*

(CADIZ)

**Find it in:** New Orleans

## Kleenex/LiLiPUT – *First Songs*

(KILL ROCK STARS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

## Washington Phillips – *Washington Phillips and His Manzanare Dreams*

(DUST TO DIGITAL)

**Find it in:** GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN

# JAKOB

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## Terry Allen – *Lubbock*

**(On Everything)**

(PARADISE OF BACHELORS)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

A gorgeous and in-depth reissue of what may be one of the greatest "cult" country records in the history of the genre. A beautiful, earthy, perfectly produced (neither under- nor over-, just right) mountain of Texas cosmicisms. It bends where country songs shouldn't; it doesn't buckle to trends or clichés, there's no flossy bullshit here. It's unique, inventive, and revelatory.

## Fleetwood Mac – *Mirage*

(RHINO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A grossly underrated album (all practically stunners, except "Empire State"). Shorter than *Tusk* but with all the prettiness intact. Lovely, wispy, short enough to play through over and over again.

## Big Star – *Complete Third*

(OMNIVORE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

One of my top 10 favorite albums of all time, finally issued in all of its endless, cracked,

spoiling glory. 10/10, A+. Many revealing and excellent paired-down demo recordings here. That acoustic cover of "Don't Worry Baby"? Absolutely crushing.

## Ravi Shankar – *In Hollywood, 1971*

(NORTHERN SPY)

**Find it in:** WORLD

So wild to hear Ravi at home with dishes shifting in the background and the occasional murmur of nearby voices. An especially loose, searching set captured at slightly hissy cassette fidelity. To hear a master like Mr. Shankar play in such a relaxed, private environment, away from studio engineers or the expectations of an audience, is truly magical.

## Spacemen 3 – *Recurring*

**[Reissue]**

(SPACE AGE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A strange, unexpanded, CD-only reissue of this 1991 beast. Still, always happy to see the Spacemen catalogue being tended to. "I don't know just where I'm goin' to / But I know I'm goin' there with you." Spacemen family tree forever. Thank you Boom, thank you Spaceman.

# KEVIN

## Helms Alee – *Stillicide*

(SARGENT HOUSE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Found out about this band from a recording mentor of mine. He was the FOH engineer for the Melvins on their last tour, and Helms Alee were the opener. Decided to check them out on his recommendation, and I was not disappointed! This band is heavy. They have just enough atmospheric spaciness to keep from tearing your face off but are big enough to do just that.

## Betty Davis – *The Columbia Years 1968-1969*

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC/COLUMBIA)

**Find it in:** SOUL

If you are looking for more of the screechy, sexy, in-your-face Betty Davis that her other albums provided, this is not that kind of record! This is a pretty straightforward soul record with a couple of nice covers in there. Her voice is incredibly tame here, compared with her other albums. Clearly she had not developed her vibrant musical persona at this point. However, this is still a cool, funky comp and a good addition to a fan's collection.

## Cass McCombs – *Mangy Love*

(ANTI-)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This is not my typical listening material, but I think that is a testament to how good this record is. What really caught me from the very first song was how beautiful the guitar work and general musicianship is on this record. A mellow, thoughtful album, this one could appeal to people of many musical interests.

## King Gizzard and The Lizard Wizard – *Nonagon Infinity*

(ATO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

When I first heard this band's name I thought I would hate them. But I was pleasantly surprised! A pretty rambunctious Australian garage rock band with a fairly abrasive sound, this is some fun, driving music. This album is particularly tight and somewhat lo-fi. I am really looking forward to their next release!

## 🦞 *The Lobster* – Directed by Yorgos Lanthimos (2015)

I am WAY late on this one, considering it came out almost two years ago but it was so good I couldn't resist putting it in here. This bizarre dystopian comedy is about a society where people who can't fall in love are sent to a hotel and forced to find a partner in a certain amount of days, otherwise they are turned into the animal of their choice. They are able to obtain more days at the hotel by hunting people who have run away and been cast out from society. Brilliantly awkward performances from Colin Farrell, Rachel Weisz and John C. Reilly (among many others) made this film one of my favorites of the last 10 years, hands down.

# KURT

## Blut Aus Nord / Ævangelist – *Codex Obscura Nomina*

(DEBEMUR MORTI)

**Find it in:** METAL

Another quality release from Debemur Morti Productions. For me, Ævangelist stole this release. An epic opus of black metal goodness. However, the avant-garde black metal of Blut Aus Nord is a challenging and taxing journey through a hellish nightmare. Two different approaches to the cannon of black metal that compliment each other. BEWARE: This release is not for the faint of heart.

## Darkthrone – *Arctic Thunder*

(PEACEVILLE)

**Find it in:** METAL

Please give this a chance. I know it would be easy to dismiss whatever Fenriz and Nocturno Culto are doing. After all, Darkthrone has released such iconic albums, can they still make music worthy of parting with your hard earned cash? YES THEY CAN! This was a welcome addition to my collection and I urge you to add it to yours.

## Death – *The Sound Of Perseverance* [Reissue]

(RELAPSE)

**Find it in:** METAL

This is essential. Do not hesitate to purchase this album.

## Deathspell Omega – *The Synarchy Of Molten Bones*

(NORMA EVANGELIUM DIABOLI)

**Find it in:** METAL

I have enjoyed all of Deathspell's output. Every album is unique and forward-thinking. *The Synarchy Of Molten Bones* is no exception. This has been one of my favorite new releases of 2016.

## Napalm Death – *Scum* [Reissue] (EARACHE)

**Find it in:** METAL

An absolutely necessary album to own. Amazing. Just get this already.

# MICHAEL HENNING

*International specialist, vinyl lover,  
tape enthusiast and sound  
artist/DJ/producer aka Selaroda.  
~ <http://selaroda.bandcamp.com/> ~*

## Aukai – *Aukai* (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Beautiful neoclassical miniatures with subtle yet dynamic arrangements, featuring piano, cello, violin, harp, percussion and a host of organs, keyboards and synths. Lush, cinematic and quietly epic, this has the emotional heft of much of the best post-rock but (thankfully, in this case) without the often-cumbersome rock.

Delicate and assured, this debut introduces a new talent who appears to be just beginning to hit his stride.

## Julianna Barwick – *Will*

(DEAD OCEANS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A bit more experimental than her last few albums, and perhaps a bit darker overall too. This one is still a step forward though, with multiple layers of her gorgeous voice merging with synthesizer based soundscapes to yield a dynamic and encompassing listening experience.

## Chris Cohen – *As If Apart*

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Another fine release from this tunesmith par excellence on his second solo album. The songs are great, but as on his superb debut *Overgrown Path* from 2012, it's his warm, silky voice that truly shines. He uses it to expertly wrap his delicate melodies in a velvety vocal web, and the effect of this near-crooning is a comforting cocoon that feels just right.

## Chuck Johnson – *Velvet Arc*

(TROUBLE IN MIND)

**Find it in:** FOLK

Local Oakland guitar-slinger Chuck Johnson is back, this time with an album of guitar instrumentals that focus on his electric (and eclectic) playing. Side one features three tracks that hint at film music and nighttime road trips, full of ambiance and also a touch of mystery. Side two brings the twang, with four country-inflected tunes that call to mind the rural backroads, natural beauty and rustic landmarks of the deep south. The whole thing sounds like it was a blast to record, and it's definitely a pleasure to listen to it as well.

## Jherek Bischoff – *Cistern*

(LEAF)

**Find it in:** ROCK

An album of haunting compositions that falls somewhere between classical and ambient music, *Cistern* is rich in both timbre and nuance. There is a subdued elegance to much of the work here, with some lovely segments that lull you into a dreamy reverie. Every so often, tension will build up, allowing for the sensuous catharsis that accompanies orchestral music at its best. Certainly cinematic and somewhat dark overall, it sounds as though it could be the score to a fantasy film of some sort, the kind where things don't necessarily all work out in the end, but it's still poignant and moving nonetheless.

## Marielle V Jakobsons –

*Star Core* (THRILL JOCKEY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A fantastic album from a local Oakland musician who was previously a member of two great local duos, Date Palms and Myrmyr. On this album, her second solo release under her own name, she crafts a real masterpiece by playing everything, including violin, flute, electric bass and voice, along with various synthesizers. Her gorgeous string and flute melodies and arrangements bring to mind a cross between Alice Coltrane and Indian Classical music, very lush and dreamlike with lots of space to really get lost in and simply let them wash over you. One of the most organic sounding and fully realized albums I've heard this year, and also one that I know I will keep returning to in years to come... highly recommended!

## Medina / Walsh – *Vault of Angles*

(DEBACLE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This debut album is a strong start for an obviously talented duo of Seattle-based multi-instrumentalists. Throughout seven eclectic tracks, they weave together a psychedelic tapestry of heavy drones, Krautrock grooves, fingerpicked acoustic guitar, bluesy swamp tribalism and an assortment of other zones drawn from various combinations of ambient synths and processed guitars. This is one of those records in whichever track sounds a bit different from the others when taken on its own. However, when listening to them as an album, it all becomes a cohesive whole, bringing together disparate elements into a multifaceted and complex post-modern sonic stew.

## Morgan Delt – *Phase Zero*

(SUB POP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A groovy album of well-crafted modern/classic psychedelic pop, featuring stellar tripped-out production. Following on from his self-titled debut four years ago, this one ups the ante big time in every department, with better songs, tighter arrangements and cleaner production, yielding a truly great album that ends up being well worth the wait. With 10 tunes in under 40 minutes, it's over almost before you notice, and you're left marveling at how cool it was and often ready to just play it again already. Definitely one of my most-listened to albums of 2016, despite it only being released in August. So good!



## Stag Hare – Velvet and Bone [Cassette] (INNER ISLANDS)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Stag Hare returns with another excellent set of songs, and perhaps her finest album to date. Laid back organic electronic grooves are the solid foundation, with warm, ambient textures, spacy guitars and synth melodies all added to create a nice instrumental backdrop. On top of this, she sings thoughtful lyrics about life, death, the shadow self, physical touch and much more. It's easy to tune them out and simply hear the funky rhythms and beautiful melodies here, but focusing on the verbal content elevates this to a much higher level, bringing out the human element and allowing the album to really shine.

## Tor – Blue Book (LOCI)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

This album continues to grow on me, and I'd definitely rank it as one of the best electronic music records released in 2016. It's got killer rhythms throughout, and there are some interesting melodies on every track. But what really sets it apart from everything else is the dark, echo-laden, smoky ambience... some parts remind me of the recently departed Susumu Yokota, while others bring to mind the trip-hop vibe of early Portishead, back when that still sounded so fresh. It's hard to make electronic music that really stands out these days, but Tor manages to do that for me. If this all sounds promising, then hopefully you will find something to love here as well.

## Ashley Bellouin – Ballads

(DRAWING ROOM)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Deep, cosmic, meditative drones from this local Oakland artist and Mills College alumni. On these two sidelong tracks, she draws on her experience as both a composer and an instrument builder to create a seemingly simple yet ultimately complex work, and one that rewards patient and focused listening. This impressive debut album brings to mind the long-form minimalism of Eliane Radigue and the Deep Listening aesthetic of Pauline Oliveros, but remains true to Bellouin's unique personal vision. Open your ears to the unique sonic world contained herein, and let the overtones guide you to your own inner harmony.

## Chambers – Sigma Flare I & II

(DEBACLE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Excellent dubby, drone-based, minimal ambient techno from this Vancouver duo, which features

one member of early 2000's experimental music legends Yellow Swans. Straying pretty far from the noisy fare of that former duo's work, these two 12" EPs are both great, with a similar sound throughout. Skittering electronic pulses and hi-hats, gently throbbing bass drums and heavily-reverbed hiss are all at the core of this project's sonic DNA, with dark synth melodies adding the icing on the cake. Definitely feels like nighttime music, for when you just want to tune out the outside world and be enveloped by the darkness.

## Brian Eno – Reflection (WARP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Eno is back yet again, this time with another long-form ambient work that is probably most similar in sound to his lovely *Thursday Afternoon* and more recently, the album *LUX* from 2012. As with most of Eno's work in this vein, one finds multiple possibilities for utilization and enjoyment here, from the casual "sounds nice in the background while I'm doing other stuff" to the rather more intense "wow, this is really great music to think about life and get lost inside my own mind," or something to that effect. I've done both with this one a number of times since it was released just a few weeks ago, and it certainly works quite well either way. I don't think it will replace *Thursday Afternoon* or *On Land* as my favorite ambient Eno works, but it is already a very solid top five in that category for me, and I expect it will get lots of play in the years ahead... we all need to slow down a bit and do some reflecting, and this is the perfect music to accompany that activity.

### Tip:

*Support your local bands, labels and record stores. Build community, make friends and share your gifts with the world. Also, do your part to help keep huge corporations and corrupt governments from ruining the Earth. We've only got one home... and please, don't be apathetic when it comes to politics. Get out there and spread the word, contact your representatives about issues you care about and VOTE!*

# MONTY

## Once Future Band – Once Future Band

(CASTLE FACE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## J.D. Buhl – Little Victories 1978-1985 (MIGHTY MOUTH)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Sun Ra – Singles: The Definitive 45s Collection (AFROSTRUT)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

## Washington Phillips – Washington Phillips and His Manzanare Dreams

(DUST TO DIGITAL)

**Find it in:** GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN

## Randy Newman – Songbook

(NONESUCH)

**Find it in:** Rock

## Various Artists – The Big T.N.T. Show

(SHOUT! FACTORY)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

## Lee Moses – Time and Place

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** SOUL

## Mose Allison – I'm Not Talkin': The Soul Stylings of Mose

*Allison 1957-1971* (BGP)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

## Various Artists – Lord Have Mercy: The Soulful Gospel of Checker Records (PLAYBACK)

**Find it in:** GOSPEL

## Lonely Boy by Steve Jones

(DA CAPO PRESS)

# PAPI

*I choose to believe there is a purpose  
to this life, despite what may at times  
appear to be overwhelming evidence  
to the contrary*

## Foodman – Ez Minzoku

(ORANGE MILK)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

burp\*\*

## Yves Tumor – Serpent Music

(PAN)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

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## Macula Dog – Why Do You Look Like Your Dog? (WHARF CAT)

**Find it in:** ROCK  
Biodegradation

## Graham Lambkin – Community

(KYE)  
**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL  
Ballast

## Dedekind Cut – \$uccessor

(NON WORLDWIDE)  
**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA  
Mostly fear

## Puce Mary – The Spiral

(POSH ISOLATION)  
**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL  
Saw VII

## Cube – My Cube (LEFT HAND PATH)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA  
VWWF 1997

## Lolina – Live in Paris

(SELF-RELEASED)  
**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL  
Park Place

## Jim Haynes – Scarlet

**[Cassette]** (HELEN SCARSDALE AGENCY)  
**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL  
Trucker Radio

### Tip:

Plug your ears and hold your nose in the shower

# TAYLOR

Professional enthusiast

## Kate Bush – Before the Dawn

(CONCORD/FISH PEOPLE)  
**Find it in:** ROCK  
This document of Kate Bush's return to the stage after 35 years of absence is righteously endearing. It's especially revealing to hear "The Ninth Wave" (a.k.a. side B of "Hounds of Love") fleshed out with live instrumentation, and it's a real treat to hear Bush tackle the most criminally overlooked piece of her catalog: "A Sky of Honey" (a.k.a. the second half of "Aerial").

## Bon Iver – 22, A Million

(JAGJAGUWAR)  
**Find it in:** ROCK  
2016 might be remembered as the year the world officially went insane; the fact that Frank Ocean's *Blonde*, and then Bon Iver's *22, A Million*, were met with such resounding popular approval is reflective of the nation's trauma and confusion. Filled with damaged electronic textures, and employing autotune to achieve aesthetic grotesqueness (rather than as an auditory photoshopping technique), Bon Iver's third LP broke with Justin Vernon's pastoral, sentimental past efforts to reckon with something far darker and more experimental. It's a testament to Vernon's respect for his audience that he was willing to take them on such a wild journey.

## Bibio – The Serious EP 12"

(WARP)  
**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA  
It's easy to miss singer/songwriter/beatmaker/producer/whatever Bibio's killer instinct for pop hooks, underneath his artier pretensions. However, this collaboration with R&B vocalist Olivier St. Louis brings that immediacy to the forefront like never before.

## Rihanna – ANTI (ROC NATION)

**Find it in:** SOUL  
The record that finally sold me on Rihanna's inescapable world-domination campaign. There's a stoned I-don't-give-a-fuck-ness at play here that's refreshing, coming from an artist with such a huge platform. Plus, "Work" is a hugely inventive pop song that accomplishes a lot with very little.

## Cass McCombs – Mangy Love

(ANTI-)  
**Find it in:** ROCK  
Though released before the election, *Mangy Love* feels like a handbook for a new reality, bearing political lyrics that tactfully avoid preachy heavy-handedness, as well as some lush instrumental arrangements. Amidst an oversaturation of singer/songwriters working within the folk/rock tradition, Cass McCombs is beginning to stand out in a big way.

## Aphex Twin – Cheetah (WARP)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA  
After the suffocating density of *Syro*, it's nice to hear Richard D. James cooling his heels a bit and giving his music some breathing room. It's been forever since we heard an Aphex Twin release with such a sense of groove, and the results are exhilarating.

## GAS – BOX (KOMPAKT)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA  
Wolfgang Voigt's shimmering ambient output finally gets the lovingly compiled reissue treatment it deserves.

## Sleaford Mods – TCR

(ROUGH TRADE)  
**Find it in:** ROCK  
These post-post-post-post-punkers continue to confound and inspire, flipping familiar ingredients upside-down and effectively bringing a stale, obsolete genre back from the dead.

### Tip:

Call your representatives. Stay vigilant, stay focused and refuse to normalize fascism. Don't be distracted by Trump's constant death-spiral of misdirection, and keep your energy focused on issues of policy. We're at a historical tipping point, so let's do this.

# VAUGHN

## Lee Fields & The Expressions – Special Night (BIG CROWN)

**Find it in:** SOUL

## Foxygen – Hang (JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Wilco – Schmilco (ANTI-)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Ramones – Live At The Roxy

(RHINO)  
**Find it in:** PUNK

## Kandace Springs – Soul Eyes

(BLUE NOTE)  
**Find it in:** JAZZ

## Van Morrison – Keep Me

**Singing** (CAROLINE)  
**Find it in:** ROCK

## Mystic Eyes – Mysterious

**[Reissue]** (BURNING SOUNDS)  
**Find it in:** REGGAE

## Bunny Wailer – Solomonic

**Singles Vol. 1 & 2** (SOLOMONIC)  
**Find it in:** REGGAE

## Bob Dylan – The Real Royal Albert Hall 1966 Concert

(COLUMBIA LEGACY)  
**Find it in:** ROCK

## Bryan Ferry – Bryan Ferry Live

**2015** (WWW.BRYANFERRY.COM)  
**Find it in:** ROCK

# DOUBLE AY

Amoeba Berkeley writer and  
staff member / Thizzler.com writer  
and A&R (916-510)

## Lil Yachty – Lil Boat (CAPITOL)

## Blood Orange – Freetown Sound (DOMINO)

## Mykki Blanco – Mykki (!K7)

## Yves Tumor – Serpent Music (PAN)

## Frank Ocean – Blonde

(BOYS DON'T CRY)

## Young Thug – Jeffery

(300)

## Mozzy – Fake Famous

(MOZZY)

### Tip:

Tap in on Twitter for more music! @dub\_ay



## MarQ Spekt & Blockhead – *Keep Playin'* (HIPNOTT)

MarQ Spekt ranks highly on my lengthy list of unheralded rap talents out of NYC. His raw, aggressive delivery and grimy imagery have been gracing microphones since the early days of Sub Verse Records, right around when MF DOOM was getting his start with *Operation: Doomsday*. Blockhead similarly has a long history of stellar beat work under his belt, and caters his production to Spekt's rap style well. Menacing, moody and downright savage. If you vibe with this one like I did, be sure to check MarQ Spekt's album with Mobonix, *Bionic Jazz*, as well.

## Sims – *More Than Ever* (DOOMTREE)

Sims' last full-length, *Bad Time Zoo*, was one of my favorite Doomtree releases, but the *Field Notes* EP that he released as precursor to this album had me a bit skeptical. It represented a huge shift in sound that found Sims exploring elements of dance-driven electronic music and experimenting with his vocal style in unconventional ways. I was not immediately sold on the EP, but am pleased to say that this full-length manifestation of his new sound had me by the throat at the first listen. It's one of the edgiest Doomtree releases in recent memory, with crazy production from Paper Tiger, Lazerbeak and ICETER. Makes me want to revisit his last EP with a new set of ears.

## Willie Green – *Doc Savage* (BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

The first official solo offering from one of New York's most slept on production talents, *Doc Savage* is a project years in the making, and the amount of painstaking effort that went into creating this album is apparent in everything from the packaging to the choice of featured guests. Loosely billed as a sci-fi hip hop epic, the album boasts appearances from Open Mike Eagle, Billy Woods, Milo, Elucid, Has-Lo, Denmark Vessey, PremRock and Junclassic, to name only a few. Standout cuts include "The Man of Bronze," which features Henry Canyons and Googie trading verses about the French Revolution and American Slavery, respectively, and "The Haunted Ocean" in which Curly Castro and Cavalier drop thoughtful lyrics about race relations over an infectious flute beat that sounds like it could be from a hidden level in Tetris. With beats ranging from triumphant cinematic horns to the strangest of warped space synths, *Doc Savage* is a dense

and challenging body of work recommended for seasoned hip hop listeners.

## The Gaslamp Killer – *Instrumentalepathy* (CUSS)

If you listen to the opening track of *Instrumentalepathy* closely enough, you might catch whispers of the Gaslamp Killer's soul floating between the land of the living and the dead. The album was recorded shortly after a skateboarding accident left Gaslamp Killer's life in jeopardy, and the songs reflect a cathartic musical release. Ugly and beautiful sounds mixed with the dirtiest of breaks, transformed into epic psych beats in a style that can only be described as vintage Gaslamp Killer. This album carries a prog edge to it, with some epic guitar solos and live instrumentation provided by the Heliocentrics, Amir Yaghmai and Migel Atwood-Ferguson, amongst others. Haunting and not to be missed.

## Fulgence – *Homecooking* (CASCADE)

Seems they cook their beats with a great deal of creative flair in France. This massive, 33-song tour de force from Fulgence is one of the most engaging instrumental releases I've heard in recent memory and is essential listening for any self-respecting beat head. The album travels in all sorts of wild directions, tapping into a diverse set of moods while showcasing Fulgence's signature synth-driven style. Songs like "The Chase" and "Cowboy" get some seriously strange sample grooves going, while deeper cuts like "Ritournelle" sound like baroque music channeled through a lo-fi synthesizer. Weird and wonderful stuff from beginning to end.

# RAMO

Cass Me Ousside

## P.O.S. – *Chill, Dummy* (DOOMTREE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Aggressive beats and raps from one of Minneapolis' finest. A few features on production and lots of rap guests. Welcome back, Stef. Highly recommend.

## Sims – *More Than Ever* (DOOMTREE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

A deeply personal album that refuses to come off preachy or sad. Full of internal battles with which I easily connected. Seriously dope production full of bass and bang, with skilled story rap painted on the walls of your mind. Highest recommendation.

## Zavala – *Fantasmas* (FAKE FOUR INC.)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Producer of the Hip Hop duo Dark Time Sunshine, Zavala drops one of the best House records I've heard in a long time. Supposedly, the music was mostly done for years, and it has finally been made ready to see the light of day. Groovy shit, indeed. Includes DL code. Highly recommend.

## ZULUZULUU – *What's The Price?* (SOUND VERITE)

**Find it in:** SOUL/HIP HOP

Smooth, funky, atmospheric soul music (with sprinkles of hip hop) from a group out of Minneapolis, which consists of rapper Greg Grease, who has seen praise before in these pages. A short album, but a great album, nonetheless. Includes DL code.

## Sean Price – *Gorilla [Box Set]* (DUCK DOWN)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Collects the long out-of-print albums *Monkey Barz*, *Jesus Price Supastar* and *Mic Tyson*. Price (Rest in Peace) was a lyrical beast in every sense of the term. Catching these albums on vinyl is a MUST. Highly recommend.

## A Tribe Called Quest – *We Got It From Here...*

**Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Hard to say enough nice words about this album. It sounds like something new and fresh, but made in a mid-'90s musical mindset. Dropping just post-election of the orange menace, it also feels like they made it within the first 48 hours of that Great American Tragedy. Lyrics so apropos it quickly became a sort of soundtrack answer to current events. Every single song is perfection. Every beat is what I love most about ATCQ production. Every rapper brings their own flame to the bonfire of humanity. Time will prove this album to be a true classic. Highest recommendation.

## Klaus Layer – *Society Collapse* (REDEFINITION)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Klaus is a German producer who has been able to tap the vein of that classic, golden era hip hop sound. I have not been even remotely disappointed in anything he has put out, and this release is even more heat than the last. An instrumental transportation to 1992. On a side note: I REALLY wish Redef would start



They have been putting a lot of fire the last couple years, and we all know vinyl hits our pockets these days. A DL code softens the blow a bit.

Another German producer that delivers that laid-back, soulful, jazzy, hip hop-sampled instrumental funk. Super great album.

Funky, original instrumentals from the member of P.U.T.S. Much of it sounds like they would find a great home as soundtracks to blaxploitation, a grimy TV detective series or an underground version of *Sesame Street*. LP on beautiful clear vinyl with orange sunburst. Highly recommend.

The Godfather of Grime, the creator of eskibeat, the snowman of Bow delivers another album of pure East London badman beats and bars. Signature sounds frame the spit of a legend both at the top of his game and ready to rest. Like a big sendoff, though retirement is supposedly on the table (again). I hope it proves to be false. Grime is making its mark still, becoming more and more popular, and I for one want Eskiboy to be part of that ride. Highly recommend.

Another crazy banger from two of the nicest guys in the rap game. If you have the chance to see them live, do it. You'll thank me later.

Snippet beats in the style of Dilla's *Donuts*. Owner and curator of SCM, House Shoes, really gets the cream of the crop on his label. This is just great instrumentals to nod your head to.

More Golden Era-style hip hop instrumentals. Great stuff. SCM is another label I wish would embrace the download code in their vinyl releases.

I am beyond excited that this finally gets a vinyl release. Boy Sand's sophomore album, of which the CD is very hard to find and will cost you some loot. Just dope, acrobatic lyrics over equally adept beats. Highest recommendation.

**Find it in:** *BLUES*

**Find it in:** SOUL

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

*Rest In Peace Amoebites Jordan Christensen, Jim Kaiser, Barrett Clark and all the victims of the Ghost Ship fire.*



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# SAN FRANCISCO



## ONE OF THE ALLENS

Remember, digital download permits are temporary, but sexting is forever!

### Mary Halvorson Octet – *Away With You* (FIREHOUSE)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Here's a question no one ever asks me: "Why do you write about big bands so much?" Usually it's because they offer so many possibilities, and there are plenty of imaginative composers to explore them. And when I refer to "big bands," I really mean groups with a lot of horns in them. The writer has to make each voice count. In this case, it was finally my way "in" to understanding Mary Halvorson; she's a prolific guitarist whom I've been hearing a lot about, but her small group recordings can be spiky and impenetrable. She's not afraid to go off the deep end, which is great but can often leave a difficult trail to follow. But here with eight "voices," and most importantly a counterpoint in pedal steel guitarist Susan Alcorn, Halvorson provides a context in which

she can place her own voice. She's still kinda out there, but now the band reflects her innovative spirit and fresh viewpoint. It's the ideal entry point for her work.

### Randy Newman – *The Randy Newman Songbook* (NONESUCH)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Each of these songs is a time bomb waiting to go off in your head. Newman is the quintessential unreliable narrator; does he really mean the twisted, corrosive things he writes and sings? We think he's being ironic, but is he embracing the irony or making fun of it? How deep do the layers go? The intimate piano-and-voice setting adds to the sinking feeling; it's like he's whispering in your ear. Some of his lovely movie themes provide welcome instrumental interludes. Unless you're familiar with all 50-odd songs in this 3-CD/4-LP set, you might want to use the pause button frequently to mull over what he's really trying to get at, so maybe it's best not to swallow it in big chunks. It's good stuff, but sip, don't gulp.

### 📀 *Kill 'Em and Leave: Searching for James Brown and the American Soul*

by James McBride (SPIEGEL & GRAU)

For a comprehensive James Brown biography, read *The One* by R.J. Smith. McBride has another agenda. He admits up front that Brown was "unknowable" because he made himself so. Still, McBride draws a good overall picture by asking the people who served around Brown to describe him and what they had to do. It was usually a lot; Brown was a mercurial taskmaster whose habit of burying money in the yard created a financial nightmare after he died. The book reveals the high cost his staff paid to serve Brown's cause.

### 📀 *Pressed For All Time: Producing the Great Jazz / Albums, From Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday to Miles Davis and Diana Krall*

by Michael Jarrett (UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS)

A jazz nerd's wet dream. It's an oral history of 80 years of recording history in less than 300 pages. Juicy stories, technical details, distanced perspective, corporate interference, passion,

idealism and resignation; every record tells a different story, revealing different aspects of the process. Did Tony Williams really play the same beat straight through *In a Silent Way*, one of the classic albums, because he was pissed off? Maybe.

### John Scofield – *Country for Old Men* (IMPULSE!)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Sometimes reverent, sometimes agnostic, Scofield and co.'s versions of country standards by Waylon, Dolly, George Jones, Shania (!), etc. do a neat job emphasizing the strengths and beauty of both jazz and country. Through good song selection and playful yet sensitive treatments, he turns in his most satisfying album in a long time.

### Charlie Haden/Liberation Music Orchestra – *Time/Life* (IMPULSE!)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

This album feels like a gift. It might actually be more of a Carla Bley album than Haden's because she wrote and arranged most of it and Haden unfortunately didn't live to see the record's completion, but she's been the through-line throughout the Liberation Orchestra's existence anyway. They seem to get more beatific and poignant with age. The Orchestra always came through when conservative administrations took power, and boy, do we need Haden's activist voice now. Even if you don't agree with his politics, the writing and playing here are so moving that the sense of loss — of Haden, and of something more in all of us — is palpable.

### Miles Davis Quintet – *Freedom Jazz Dance: The Bootleg Series, Vol. 5* (COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Talk about being a fly on the wall; this set releases every session, from beginning to end, of the most creative period of one of the most influential jazz groups of the modern era. The reason this is so revealing and absorbing is the way Miles conducted these sessions: throwing out ideas and suggestions, editing, trying something else. Within 10 to 15 minutes, you can hear it turn from a suggestion to something exceptional, and now we can trace the path they took, because almost everything was recorded — starts, stops and all. The crude verbal asides bring the participants (Shorter, Hancock, Carter and Williams) back down to earth, but that adds to the charm. To hear Miles hit upon the idea not to have any solos during "Nefertiti"... maybe the word is "sublime."

### Fred Hersch Trio – *Sunday Night at the Vanguard* (PALMETTO)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Fred Hersch is a difficult pianist to categorize because he employs so many techniques so well. One minute he's playing Monk, the next Rodgers and Hammerstein, then the Beatles... first he's playing beboppy, then a tender ballad with wonderful voicings, then an exploratory free tune... wait a minute, is the rhythm section speeding up intentionally? He doesn't seem to run out of ideas, either. He and the trio make it all so seamless and effortless, it's almost like a trick.

## ALLEN

Loves to dish the "Info"

### Robbie Robertson – *King of Comedy* (WARNER BROS.)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

First time on CD. Great Robbie song, "Between Trains." Also, Van Morrison doing "Wonderful Remark."

### Michael Kiwanuka – *Love & Hate* (POLYDOR)

**Find it in:** SOUL

Michael sounds great!

### Leonard Cohen – *You Want It Darker* (SONY)

**Find it in:** FOLK

Leonard goes out on a high note.

### 📺 The Beatles – *Eight Days A Week*

Great restored footage; it's timeless.

### Childish Gambino – *Awaken, My Love!* (GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

A great combination of hip hop and soul.

## ALLISON

### The Coathangers – *Nosebleed Weekend* (SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The fifth studio album by these three multitalented women from Atlanta. They're constantly rotating vocalists and instruments within the band, including a solo from a squeaky toy. Unapologetically catchy and worth a listen

## Angel Olsen – *My Woman*

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Emotional, melodic and soul-exploring album. Each song is hauntingly beautiful and entrancing all at once

## G.L.O.S.S. – *Trans Day of Revenge 7"*

(TOTAL NEGATIVITY/NERVOUS NELLY)

**Find it in:** PUNK

G.L.O.S.S.' (Girls Living Outside Society's Shit) final release before the bands' falling out. Hardcore, in your face, necessary lyrics against passive action regarding prejudice. From politics to gender, each song urges you to take an active stand and fight back.

## Deap Vally – *Femejism* (NEVADO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Two powerhouse females preaching the struggles of modern day womanhood over heavy guitar and drums. Both relatable and danceable. :)

# AUDRA WOLFMANN

*Master of disguise. Friend to animals.*

*Marketer of Bay Area Amoebas.*

*Founder of Speakeasily:Comedy,*

*Burlesque & More.*

*AKA Odessa Lil.*

## Death Valley Girls – *Glow In The Dark* (BURGER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Running the risk of sounding like Stefon from *Saturday Night Live*, this band has everything. By everything, I mean the three Cs: concept, chicks (and one guy named Larry) and costumes. Relative newcomers to the high-stakes world of high-concept costume rock, Death Valley Girls are a force to be reckoned with. Their sound is dark garage-y party rock for the Armageddon; their look is 1970s Sunset Strip sex 'n' drugs cult meets girl gang, and their onstage schtick must be experienced. Like Z-Man from *Beyond the Valley of the Dolls*, I can't help but say, "This is my happening and it freaks me out!" every time I see them play. If you can't see them live, *Glow in the Dark* is the next best thing. This is the most fun your record player will have all year.

## King Gizzard and The Lizard Wizard – *Nonagon Infinity* (ATO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Australia has gifted the world many amazing things, such as kangaroos, AC/DC and the TV show *Danger 5*. This year my favorite Australian imports are the heavy psych band King Gizzard and The Lizard Wizard and their most recent album, *Nonagon Infinity*. The seven-man, two-drum-kit lineup has a complex sound for sure, but on *Nonagon Infinity*, they take their complexity to new heights, with wicked crackling guitar riffs, trance-inducing rhythms and repetitive kaleidoscopic melodies that border on raga. Each song on the album leads directly into the next, making for one long, continuous, far-out trip.

## The Mystery Lights – *The Mystery Lights* (WICK)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This N.Y.-by-way-of-Salinas, Calif. band's self-titled debut on Daptone Records' new subsidiary, Wick, is pure sinister garage — the darker side of the '60s Nuggets, Pebbles, and Back From The Grave comps. Think about the proto-punk of The Seeds, The Sonics, and The Jesters of Newport and add a little Brooklyn-hip to it. Unlike many garage rock revivalists, The Mystery Lights don't just recreate the sound; these guys channel it spiritually, putting on a raucous show led by the howling, jumping, guitar-wielding Mike Brandon.

## Maury Laws, Jules Bass – *Mad Monster Party [Original Soundtrack]* (WAXWORK)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

The kooky 1967 stop-motion cult classic musical featuring the voice of Boris Karloff finally gets an official vinyl soundtrack release and it is glorious. Released on both green-and-black swirl and pink-and-yellow swirl colored vinyl, the entire shebang is totally worth getting just for "The Mummy," performed by Little Tibia And The Fibias. You know the part when a bunch of Claymation band skeletons are rocking out on stage for a party of monsters? Yeah, that song.

## Kyle Dixon, Michael Stein – *Stranger Things, Vol. 1 [Original Soundtrack]* (LAKESHORE)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Yes, the show is very cool. It's infectious even to those (like me) determined to find it overrated after hearing about it for weeks. The series has

many things going for it, including suspenseful writing, visual style, nostalgia tailor-made for my generation, and eerily talented kid actors. But what really sent me over the edge into TV fandom was the music. Cold, Carpenter-esque synth trills glide through the series like sonic glaciers, and soon enough the soundtrack and the show become inseparable concepts, not unlike the pairing of music and mood in *Twin Peaks* 25 years before.

## ■ The Witch – Directed by Robert Eggers (2016)

As far as I'm concerned, this is THEE most intelligent horror film made in recent years and, overall, the best film of 2016. Pitting Puritan settlers against nature (and the possible ~dark forces~ of nature) in 1630 New England, Robert Eggers' film examines religious fanaticism, paranoia, family dynamics, manifest destiny and witchcraft (the witch makes flying ointment, people!) with enough dramatic tension to have you holding your breath for 92 minutes. Not to spoil anything for anyone, but let's just say nature wins in the end. Doesn't it always? BLACK PHILLIP FOR PRESIDENT!

**Tip:**

Visit [Speakeasily.TV](http://Speakeasily.TV) for my "art."

# BRENT JAMES

*Eventicus Coordinaticus*

## Michael Giacchino – *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story [Original Soundtrack]*

(WALT DISNEY RECORDS)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Michael Giacchino did NOT have an easy task ahead of him when it came time to score the first ever live-action Star Wars "stand-alone" film but soared through with flying colors and has added a much welcomed piece of SW canon that will last through the ages (anyone remember the *Shadows of the Empire* soundtrack?). The nods to previously used themes are great, and there are moments near the climax that you have to remind yourself that it ISN'T a John Williams signature set.

## Prince & The New Power Generation – *The Love Symbol Album [Original Soundtrack]* (P&NPG)

**Find it in:** SOUL

A near perfect sound board recording of one of my favorite P eras, although I'm bummed it's

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not the exact transfer of the "Live 1985" video cassette. Still, it's pretty close and an absolute wet dream. Omitted is the "Irresistible Bitch/Possessed" medley instead they've included "God." U only get a second into this "import" CD until U realize The Revolution were/are one of the best bands to ever grace a stage. Give me the *Parade*-era Detroit "Birthday" show and I'll never ask 4 anything again.

### Prince & The Revolution – *Parade* (WARNER BROS.)

**Find it in:** SOUL

My favorite Prince album, and hands down best era EVER for The Revolution.

### Ariana Grande – *Dangerous Woman* (UNIVERSAL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Too bad there's not a video for every song on this album...

### Run The Jewels – *RTJ3* (RUN THE JEWELS, INC.)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

I remember distinctly saying to myself while listening to the last RTJ album, "It's gonna be really hard to top this." Guess what? They did. There's NO way you can just pop this disc on for shits 'n' gigs; once it starts you're there until the end. El & Mike make more sense in ONE hour than anyone has in three years.

### 120 Days Of Sodom by The Marquis de Sade

(SUN VISION PRESS)

Buried deep inside the most appreciative flaxen quim for ages, at long last the original, unedited version of this masterpiece finally comes to light. Perhaps the best book (besides the Bible) written by Mankind, *120 Days...* crosses lines that we only pretend not to carve into our lovers buttocks. It's truth, it's imagination and it would get you imprisoned even now, for we are afraid of such things and nowhere close to being ready for it. Makes for an interesting recipe book as well! With a forward by Georges Bataille. Xo

### Star Wars: Rogue One: The Ultimate Visual Guide by Pablo Hidalgo (DK)

This is a supersized version of the normal visual guides that accompany each SW film. Combining a technical guide with a glossary/visual counterpart was genius. A perfect companion piece to what's quickly becoming one of my favorite Star Wars films.

### Hanni El Khatib – *Savage Times* (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Looks like we get one a year from HEK, and if you've followed him, you know that he's continuously reinventing himself with each outing, without really changing anything at all. The love for his family shines through, and the T-Rex-ish "sludge" of past songs like "Teeth" may be lightly peppered this time, but I love that Hanni is keeping up with strings. His storytelling is getting stronger, as well. Hanni El Khatib is a man that can do anything, play anything and deserves everything. His attention to detail on the vinyl release of this album is proof.

### Glam Skanks – *Glitter City*

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

True Glam from Hollywood and poised to take over the world!

### ScHoolboy Q – *Blank Face LP*

(INTERSCOPE/TOP DAWG)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

This is the album I do my stretches to ;) Solid set from start to finish.

**Tip:**

For a taste of the #Ffiglife, follow me on Insta @Wherehethetoyare

# 20TH CENTURY MAN

*i don't want to die here...*

Here's my TRUMPY17 mixtape, featuring my favorite songs of the last year, composed of mostly recent releases with a couple of nods to those we lost along the way.

### 1. "Nothing Compares 2 U" – Manfred Mann from *THE LONE ARRANGER*

Manfred Mann is THE unsung genius of rock arranging. This album is his take on the influence of hip-hop on modern music.

### 2. "I Can't Give You Everything" – David Bowie from *BLACKSTAR*

This song sounds like it could have been in on *LOW* or *HEROES*... it's that good.

### 3. "Morpheus" – Ian Hunter and the Rant Band from *FINGERS CROSSED*

Plenty of Mott moxy and strong, catchy songs. If you really want to know what it's like to feel blue and lonesome in your seventies, pick this up.

### 4. "Storm Country" – Bob Weir from *BLUE MOUNTAIN*

Even though I am totally dedicated, I approached this with caution. But that turned out to be silly cynicism. This is flat out great.

### 5. "Estimated Prophet" – The Rileys from *DAY OF THE DEAD*

Kudos to the Dresner Brothers for seeing this massive labor of love through to the end. Terry Riley's take on this Grateful Dead staple is truly mind-blowing (if you look at it right).

### 6. "Closing" – Phillip Glass from *THE COMPLETE SONY CLASSICAL COLLECTION*

This is remix of the Glassworks track, made for personal cassette players (!) back in the day.

### 7. "Amnerika" (Vocal Version) – Frank Zappa from *FRANK ZAPPA FOR PRESIDENT*

If only... although the family trust has been shattered, the net result has been a bonanza of new releases. *MEAT/LIGHT*, *THE CRUX OF THE BISCUIT* and *LITTLE DOTS* are all exceptional. This particular song features Napoleon Murphy Brock and is a sad yet remarkably prescient comment on the current state of the union.

### 8. "Meltdown" – King Crimson from *RADICAL ACTION TO UNSEAT THE HOLD OF MONKEY MIND*

This new composition combines Belewish wordplay about wordplay with hybrid '70s/'80s instrumentation. Mel Collins' saxophone playing is nothing short of astounding.

### 9. "Knowledge" – Anderson/Stolt from *INVENTION OF KNOWLEDGE*

If you're a fan of the classic Yes sound, this is as close as you are going to get in this day and age. Jon's best album in many a moon.

### 10. "Nothing Part 14" – Pink Floyd from *THE EARLY YEARS BOX SET*

Forget the insane price. You're either down or you're not. I'm down.

### 11. "Watching You Without Me" – The KT Fellowship (Kate Bush)

The rarest of birds, a document of her return to live performance after 35 years in 2014. Eminently satisfying.

### 12. "Electron Bonfire" – Tangerine Dream from *QUANTUM KEY*

The final statement from Herr Froese and proof that the father of those of us who who feel obliged to space had found his way back home at the end.

**Tip:**

Live music is the best. It's also just about the only way musicians can make any money these days. So whether it's your roommate's band or your favorite dinosaur walking the earth yet again, go out and support those that make life worth paying attention to.



# DAVID JAMES

*I still listen to music sometimes*

## **Solange – A Seat at the Table**

(COLUMBIA)

**Find it in:** SOUL

As vibe-y and enigmatic (and tune-fun!) as a D'Angelo record, with melodies aplenty. The layers of vocals sometime remind me of Dirty Projectors but without ever annoying me; the minimal production is an ideal setting for the singer's Janet Jackson-sized voice. The surprise of the year! All songs written by Solange Knowles.

## **Elza Soares – The Woman at the End of the World (A Mulher do Fim do Mundo)**

(MAIS UM DISCOS)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Elza Soares is an 80-year-old Brazilian singer who has sung all kinds of music in her long career: brassy '60s show pop, pagode in the '70s and now, funky, punk-inflected "dirty" Samba. Aggressive (Google Translate the song title "Pra Fuder" and realize this woman is way past the point of beating around the bush), with much energy provided by a cohort of young São Paulo musicians, some of whom are in Metá Metá (see below). The buzzy guitars, the distorted basses, the overdriven drums — all these elements blended together with Ms. Soares's husky, gravelly voice on top, well, it's a beautiful thing!

## **Various Artists – Tanbou Toujou Lou: Meringue, Kompa Kreyol, Vodou Jazz & Electric Folklore From Haiti 1960-1981**

(OSTINATO)

**Find it in:** WORLD

AWESOME!!

## **Matt Wilson's Big Happy Family – Beginning of a Memory**

(PALMETTO)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

## **Mary Halvorson Octet – Away With You**

(FIREHOUSE 12)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

## **Metá Metá – MM3**

(JAZZ VILLAGE/PIAS)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Thiago França (sax), Kiko Dinucci (Guitar) and Juçara Marçal (vocals) are the core of this group of experimental musicians, who hammer their

sounds into a series of jazz/punk vignettes. If you like the Ex's collaborations with Ethiopian saxophonist Getachew Mekuria, you may want to look into this.

## **Idris Ackamoor & The Pyramids – We Be All Africans**

(STRUT)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

# DOC

*Dude, seriously, where is my water bottle?*

## **A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here...**

**Thank You 4 Your Service**

(EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Tribe came back to remind us what real hip hop is, one last time before 2016 took Phife away from us. Thank you.

## **Obscure Evil – Void Fumes**

(UNSPEAKABLE AXE)

**Find it in:** BLACK METAL

Obscure Evil return after an awesome demo last year with six more thrashy, creepy and, above all, KILLER tracks. It's really awesome to watch the musical conversation between South America and Scandinavia continue to develop and produce dozens of new black/death/thrash bands each with their own unique combinations of influences and styles (a connection made more apparent considering their frontman is now playing bass in Obscure Burial, which is totally not confusing), resulting in records like this one. It's a black thrash record, but it's oddly adventurous in terms of song structure, occasionally throwing in some odd rhythmic emphases and employing long instrumental passages without coming off as too cerebral. Good stuff.

## **Predatory Light – Predatory Light**

(INVICTUS)

**Find it in:** METAL

This kinda sounds like if Mortuary Drape got together today and was influenced by... well, I dunno, Mortuary Drape? By that I mean Predatory Light takes their cues more from the non-Norwegian late-'80s/early-'90s black metal bands such as Master's Hammer, Sabbat, Torr and you guessed it, Mortuary Drape, maintaining the spooky atmosphere and ever-present sense

of impending doom, but dropping the goofier elements, which hold their charm on those early metal releases but come across as hokey when put in a more contemporary setting.

## **Darkthrone – Arctic Thunder**

(PEACEVILLE)

**Find it in:** METAL

Darkthrone are probably older than you, definitely cooler than you and have for the last 26 years managed to put out albums that consistently do not suck. They may not all be classics, but none of them are bad. *Arctic Thunder* admittedly falls a little short of Darkthrone's median level of output, but it still sounds like two old friends, getting together, getting drunk and stoned, and playing together for no other reason than because they want to. Here's to the next thousand years of Gylve and Ted's excellent adventure.

## **Roy Harper – Stormcock**

(SCIENCE FRICTION)

**Find it in:** FOLK

I'll admit, I'm pretty late to the party on Roy Harper. My bad. Folk rock isn't necessarily my thing, and dude has a pretty hefty discography that I'm just starting to dig into, but if you're a latecomer like me, *Stormcock* is a good place to start. Sure, it's four long songs, and yes, \$40 is fucking expensive for one record, BUT the whole thing still clocks in around 40 minutes, which is still shorter than most current pop records, AND pressing vinyl ain't cheap, particularly if you're running your own operation (Science Friction is Roy Harper's own label), so you can rest easy knowing your hard earned dough is going into the right hands. Ours. I mean, uh... Roy's...

# DONNELL (GOD OF APATHY)

## **Victor Gould – Clockwork**

(FRESH SOUND NEW TALENT)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

This is by no means your run of the mill debut recording. Victor Gould shows from the outset that the colours he paints with are both captivating and vibrant. I'm always on the lookout for pianists with a lot to say and I've most definitely found one here. Victor Gould (piano), Jeremy Pelt (trumpet), Godwin Louis (alto

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sax), Myron Walden (tenor sax), Ben Williams (bass), E.J. Strickland (drums) and guests: Anne Drummond (flute), Pedrito Martinez (percussion), Yoojin Park (violin), Heejin Chang (viola) and Veronica Parrales (cello).

**Thandiswa (Mazwai) –  
Belede** (UNIVERSAL SOUTH AFRICA)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Just when I was starving for a new songstress to delight my ears Thandiswa shows up with her third solo outing (I missed the previous two, I've homework to do) after a seven-year hiatus. This album pays tribute to her mother, for whom the album is named and some of South Africa's greatest musicians, including Letta Mbulu, Hugh Masekela, Caiphus Semenya and Miriam Makeba. If you're a fan of beautiful voices, South African jazz or any of the artists listed above, this one's for you.

**A Tribe Called Quest –  
We Got It From Here...  
Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

What is there to say. Tribe's final album was all I needed it to be: timely, reverent, bombastic, boombastic. It is Tribe at its best, firing on all cylinders. One of the best groups to ever do it. Q-Tip, Phife Dawg, Ali Shaheed Muhammd and Jerobi, Thank You.

**Alsarah & The Nubatones –  
Manara** (WONDERWHEEL)

**Find it in:** WORLD

"East African RetroPop" is what they call their musical style, rooted in the sounds of Sudan and Nubia, and further inspired by the eastern coast of Africa. Alsarah & The Nubatones' *Manara* has me at times floating on a sea of calm and at other times up on my feet dancing. Beautiful vocal harmonies, great percussion, adept electric bass and masterful Oud playing make this a gem.

**Julius Eastman –  
Femenine**

(FROZEN REEDS)

**Featuring: S.E.M Ensemble**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Sublime, is not a word I often have use for but I can think of no other descriptor for this work by Julius Eastman. Time seemed to slow as I listened and a feeling of joy came over me not all at once but slowly. Like his onetime collaborator Arthur Russell, he was ahead of his time.

**Eli Escobar – Happiness**

(CLASSIC MUSIC COMPANY)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Not just anybody gets to put out an album on Luke Solomon & Derrick Carter's Classic Music Company label. Eli Escobar is an exceptional house music producer bar none. Every track will have you shaking a tail feather (Yo Ass) like nobody's watching. Be sure to also check out his previous release *Up All Night* on the Night People NYC label.

**Kindred: A Graphic Novel  
Adaptation – Damian Duffy  
(Adapter), Octavia E. Butler  
(Author), John Jennings  
(Illustrator)** (ABRAMS COMICARTS)

This is the graphic novel adaptation of Octavia E. Butler's *Kindred*. If you've not read the novel it is a master work of speculative fiction. *Kindred* tells the story of Dana, a young black woman suddenly transported from 1970s California to a pre-Civil War Maryland plantation. As she time-travels between worlds, one in which she is a free woman and one where she is part of her own complicated familial history on a southern plantation, she becomes frighteningly entangled in the lives of Rufus, a conflicted white slaveholder and one of Dana's own ancestors, and the many people who are enslaved by him.

## DUNCAN

*i buy movies.*

**Arthur Verocai –**

**Arthur Verocai** (MR. BONGO)

**Find it in:** WORLD

like "superfly" and his ladies collaborating with shuggie otis in portuguese. this album has kept me coming back over and over until it was clearly one of my favorites, ever (and that was before the mr. bongo label released a sparkling remaster).

**Pulse [Blu-ray] (2001) –  
Directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa**

lurking, unsettlingly, at the heels of the as-brilliant-as-anything-he's-ever-done *creepy*, comes the long-overdue high-definition release of another of kiyoshi kurosawa's high-water marks in the japanese horror/thriller genre.

**Creepy (2016) – Directed by  
Kiyoshi Kurosawa**

like hitchcock, polanski and cronenberg suddenly became one masterful japanese filmmaker.

**Our Little Sister (2015) –  
Directed by Hirokazu  
Kore-eda**

I have never seen a more ingratiating film than hirokazu (*still walking, nobody knows*) kore-eda's latest. mirroring the slice of its characters' lives, which it presents, it is a gentle reminder of the better side of humanity in a trying time. no saccharine, just savory, homespun sustenance.

**April and the Extraordinary  
World (2015) – Directed by  
Christian Desmares &  
Franck Ekinci**

while clearly tipping its chapeau to hayao miyazaki and herge (not to mention jacques tardi, who designed much of its extraordinary world), *april* stands up to the inevitable comparisons. the best animated film of 2016.

**Tip:**  
*in the waistband.*

## TUNDRA

*Balloon artist, C.T.O., vehicle*

**Scantron – 882-E**

**[Cassette]**

(DISCONTINUOUS INNOVATION INC.)

**Find it in:** PUNK

A+ on midterm

**Uranium Club – All of Them  
Naturals** (FASHIONABLE IDIOTS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

great corporation.

**Lithics – Borrowed Floors**

(WATER WING)

**Find it in:** PUNK

big fan, top notch stuff

**Pissed Jeans – Why Love Now**

(SUB POP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

this is a very good band.



**Grandaddy – Last Place**  
(30TH CENTURY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

this band is also very good.

**Tip:**  
for more products, visit: [discontinuousinnovationinc.bandcamp.com](http://discontinuousinnovationinc.bandcamp.com)

## DYLAN T-J

*Vinyl pricer and FRONDS frontperson*

**Yves Tumor – Serpent Music**

(PAN)

A sensual funnel through hypnotic underwolds, occasionally gasping for light.

**Jenny Hval – Blood Bitch**

(SACRED BONES)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Iconoclast masterpiece of avant-pop vampirism. Pairs well with Adam Curtis' documentary *Hypernormalisation* + *The Letters of Mina Harker* by Dodie Bellamy.

**Huerco S. – For Those Of You  
Who Have Never (And Also  
Those Who Have)** (PROIBITO)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Lovely, soothing, static encased dark ambience for rainy day reading.

**Tim Hecker – Love Streams**

(4AD)

My favorite of his since *Harmony In Ultraviolet*, a decade earlier. Celestial.

## Chris Cohen – *As If Apart*

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

A worthy follow-up to 2012's impeccable *Overgrown Path*.

## EDGARDO

*Just because you put a cat in the oven  
doesn't make it a biscuit.*

## Dungen – *Häxan (Witch)*

(MEXICAN SUMMER/SMALLTOWN SUPERSOUND)  
**Find it in:** ROCK

This Black Friday Record Store Day release features the soundtrack to Lotte Reiniger's 1926 silent animation *The Adventures Of Prince Achmed*. An all-instrumental work, the music is rooted in the familiar folk-alt-prog-psych Dungen sound but is more dramatic, with experimental flashes that feels unfamiliar initially yet fresh in the end which invites repeated listening. Very recommended! (Available on CD, colored vinyl LP and limited-edition double LP)

## ABBA – *Arrival [Half-Speed Mastered 45RPM 2-LP]*

(POLAR/UNIVERSAL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

For its 40th Anniversary, Universal released this deluxe vinyl reissue of this iconic ABBA album which contains some of their biggest hits. Mastering Engineer Miles Showell at the famed Abbey Road Studios in England carefully prepared a vinyl-specific master from which the record was cut. Half-speed mastering and 45RPM playback was used to provide maximum sonic benefit. Plating and pressing were done by Optimal in Germany to ensure high quality. The results are a very smooth, warm, musical and coherent presentation that is simply wonderful!

## Ito Ema – *J.S. Bach: Goldberg Variations* (MA RECORDINGS)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

A beautiful rendition by Japanese pianist Ito Ema done on a 1903 Steinway D Concert Grand. Superbly recorded and sensitively performed, this is a special Goldberg indeed. A great addition to the ones (on piano) by Gould, Hewitt, Perahia, Schiff and Tureck. Highly recommended! Available on CD, 180g LP (mastered by Bernie Grundman and pressed at QRP) and high resolution DVD Audio. (Do check out the other really excellent releases by MA Recordings at [www.marecordings.com](http://www.marecordings.com))

## Janine Jansen – *Vivaldi: Le Quattro Stagioni (The Four Seasons)* (DECCA/UNIVERSAL CLASSICS)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Of the countless Four Seasons available, this is truly a great one! Ms. Jansen hand-selected the players for this recording with just one to a part, which creates a chamber ensemble feel that allows an easier delineation of the different parts and a more lucid presentation. The tempos are basically brisk, but never does it feel rushed; Janine's soloing is super clean and perfectly timed, and the ensemble grooves confidently. One gets a true sense of the Seasons. The recording is impeccable and is especially good on SACD and LP. (Also available on CD and Blu-Ray Audio.)

## *In Order Of Disappearance (Kraftidioten) (2014) – Directed by Hans Petter Moland*

This dark comedy-action-thriller set in Norway stars Stellan Skarsgård as a father who seeks to avenge his son's murder. A smart and slick production by director Hans Petter Moland (see *A Somewhat Gentle Man*, also starring Skarsgård) makes for an very entertaining film. Imagine *Death Wish* or *Taken* as if done by the Coen Brothers or Quentin Tarantino. (In Norwegian with English subtitles on Blu-ray and DVD.) Note: Liam Neeson reportedly liked this film so much that a remake is in the works — with him, of course...

## BRIAN COUSINS

*Sometimes I listen to Sugar Ray  
and just go nuts.*

## Fishplate – *Heavy Heart*

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

New Orleans' Grady Bell delivers one "hearty" full length, drawing from alt-country, folk, and indie rock. For fans of Wilco, Tom Petty, and expertly crafted songs. Find it at Amoeba SF or check it out at [fishplate.bandcamp.com](http://fishplate.bandcamp.com).

## MNDSGN – *Body Wash*

(STONES THROW)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

On his second Stones Throw album, the Klip-mode collective member showcases his vocals

over washed out cosmic funk. Supposedly it's some sort of concept record, but that part went right over my head. For fans of Knxledge (or NxWorries), Devonwho and fat beatz.

## Isaiah Rashad – *The Sun's Tirade* (TDE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

This Chatanooga rapper is a more recent member of the Top Dawg roster (the label that houses Kendrick Lamar and Schoolboy Q). His debut studio album, the followup to *Civila Demo*, one of my favorite hip hop records, is a bit tamer than the previous but great nonetheless. For fans of K Dot, Goldlink and Southern hip hop.

## LVL UP – *Return to Love*

(SUB POP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Great indie rock album from Brooklyn boys and recent Sub Pop signees LVL UP. Buncha real catchy pop songs. For Fans of Alex G., Silver Jews and the '90s.

## Happy Diving – *Electric Soul Unity* (TOPSHELF)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Ex-locals Happy Diving deliver a nice collection of riff-heavy, fuzzed-out rock on their second LP. For fans of guitars.

## Jay Som – *Turn Into* (POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

S.F.'s Melina Duterte's latest output is beautifully put together. Some real solid tunes on this bad boy. For fans of Mitski, Wild Nothing and Mazzy Star.

## Alan's Cousin – *I Lost My Pants at the Parade / I Think About Jesus Too 7"* (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Imagine if James Taylor and The Barenaked Ladies had a baby, then Flight of the Conchords and Tenacious D had a baby, then those babies had a baby. And then those babies give their baby up for adoption because they're babies and don't know how to raise a child, then the baby is adopted by Bob Dylan and The Beatles. That is what the novelty rock of Alan's Cousin sounds like. For fans of funny ass jokes and shit. [Soundcloud.com/alans-cousin](http://Soundcloud.com/alans-cousin).

**Tip:**

*Milk Was A Bad Choice* // 1st & 3rd Wednesdays // Milk Bar on Haight // Free RSVP



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# MISS CORN SYRUP

A sweet boy.

## ■ **The Greasy Strangler (2016) – Directed by Jim Hosking**

**Find it in:** COMEDY

A little disturbing with a large, saggy prosthetic monster. Not for kids.

## **Bad Dream Fancy Dress – Choirboys Gas (ÉL)**

**Find it in:** ROCK

It's perfect.

## **The Body – No One Deserves Happiness (THRILL JOCKEY)**

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Not one of my favorite things, but it's a new thing that I like.

## ■ **Three... Extremes (2004) – Directed by Takashi Miike, Park Chan-Wook, Fruit Chan**

Three short horrors from three Asian countries. Like dumplings? You might not after seeing this.

## **Vivien Goldman – Resolutionary (Songs 1979-1982)**

(STAUBGOLD)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Easy listening with creative differences from a former member of Flying Lizard. She wrote a bio 'bout Bob Marley.

# GARY

.)

## **Mitski – Puberty 2 (DEAD OCEANS)**

**Find it in:** ROCK

Rly good stuff if ur bf just broke up w/you.

## **Jay Som – Turn Into (POLYVINYL)**

**Find it in:** ROCK

S.F.'s Dream Pop Kween, more good cry stuff.

## **Sleater-Kinney – Live In Paris (SUB POP)**

**Find it in:** ROCK

Always so good!

## **Nicolas Jaar – Sirens (OTHER PEOPLE)**

(OTHER PEOPLE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Really interesting stuff. Think early Amon Tobin.

## **Wonderbread – 6 Vitamins [Cassette]**

(DISCONTINUOUS INNOVATIONS, INC.)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

S.F.'s best kept secret: Matt Ferrara.

# GREGG

I live in SF, I work @ Amoeba.

## **Various Artists – Coxson's Music 2: The Sound Of Young Jamaica (More Early Cuts From The Vaults Of Studio One 1959-63) (SOUL JAZZ)**

**Find it in:** SKA

Ska is the granddaddy of reggae, and it has nothing to do with crappy ska/punk. The artists who recorded for Coxson Dodd's Studio One in the late '50s early '60s produced the real Ska sound. A blend of jazz heard on the radio waves emanating from U.S. shores at the time, mixed with African musical traditions in the hands of progenitors Don Drummond, Roland Alphonso and Tommy McCook, to name a few, make this release a must have. Crucial!

## **Funkadelic – Maggot Brain**

(4 MEN WITH BEARDS)

**Find it in:** SOUL

It seems Funkadelic has reissued a fair portion of their early catalog on limited edition colored vinyl-only releases. I want to hype the first time I heard *Maggot Brain* which was also from an LP record. A friend was shocked that as a late teenager, I had never heard Funkadelic. We got ready to relax and listen to some music in the fashion that some late teenagers do, and he started the long opening cut on the hi-fi. Eddie Hazel's guitar solo was mind-blowing, and the whole rest of the record was too. Trippy and funky, buy some Funkadelic.

## **Big Business – Command Your Weather (JOYFUL NOISE)**

**Find it in:** ROCK

Big Business is a two-piece made up of Jared from Karp on bass and Coady from Murder City Devils on drums. The music is thick and fuzzy, with all of that Pacific Northwest volume. Both musicians share vocal duties, and in the end, I think it comes off quite Thin Lizzy-sounding. Dig it!

## **Mr. Oizo – All Wet (ED BANGER)**

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Mr. Oizo is a French electronic musician/movie director named Quentin Dupieux. I first came across his break-beat masterpiece *Analog Worms Attack* when it was released in 1999. This release still has some of the elements of the earlier title, but this time around the sound is more refined and less frenetic. This techno/house music is made up of samples and synth warbles, but soulful vocals and some rapping are added to update the sound. I would say it's not as crazy as the earlier title but still enjoyable for a listen.

## **The Frightnrs – Nothing More To Say (DAPTONE)**

**Find it in:** REGGAE

Daptone Records does it again! The label has expanded on their usual musical styles on offer from R&B/funk/soul with this rocksteady release. I love classic ska/rocksteady so the first time I heard this, I was floored by how they recreated that Jamaica sound so faithfully. Sadly, lead singer Dan Klein perished soon after the release of the record due to a chronic disease. Even so, if you want a true slice of classic '60s rocksteady, be sure to pick up this release from The Frightnrs. In addition, any record on the Daptone label is the best, top-quality and should be in your collection. You cannot go wrong!

# JAMES DILLON

The Bally Table King

## **Adrian Sherwood's On-U Sound Label**

Disturbing the comfortable and comforting the disturbed since 1979, Adrian Sherwood's On-U Sound label has been releasing music you can seldom place, rarely hear or hardly ever find until now. He has opened up his catalogue and reissued a whole heap of a ting! He is an experimental artist with leanings mainly toward reggae and dub. He just released a box set of African Head Charge called *Environmental Holes*

and *Drastic Tracks 1981-1986* featuring the first four albums and a new platter of unreleased tracks called *Return of the Crocodile* which I love and play over and over. Also, Hot Milk just reissued four rare albums as a box set called *Dread Operator* featuring the albums *Threat to Creation* and *Lows and Highs* by Creation Rebel, the *Wild Party Sounds* compilation, and *Leaps and Bounds* by Singers and Players. This one features Prince Far-I's song *Beward the Flying Preacher*, which has to be heard to be believed. A few of the artists he has worked with are Lee Scratch Perry, Deadly Headly, Bim Sherman, Price Far I, Einstürzende Neubauten, Ministry, Cabaret Voltaire, KMFDM and Nine Inch Nails. These titles are all available separately on vinyl. I have been collecting this music since the '80s and to say it is some of my favorite music is an understatement. Enjoy!

## **YG & Nipsey Hussle – "Fuck Donald Trump"**

(400/CTE/DEF JAM)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

We are about to enter the most corrupt government in America's history and I want to thank the person or persons that bumped this out of their car driving around Alameda the night Donald got the nomination. I am trying to be hopeful, but it is really hard when we have a childish internet troll running the country. WE ARE ALL GONNA DIE!

**Tip:**

Go to Free Gold Watch around the corner if you want to play pinball. It is the largest arcade in San Francisco. They also print T-shirts and are really nice guys.

# JEFF

## **Doug Stanhope – No Place Like Home (COMEDY DYNAMICS)**

**Find it in:** COMEDY

Home is where the heart is!

## **George Carlin – I Kinda Like It When A Lot Of People Die (EARDRUM)**

(EARDRUM)

**Find it in:** COMEDY

Maybe his best work!

## **Colin Quinn – Unconstitutional (COMEDY DYNAMICS)**

**Find it in:** COMEDY

Clever, witty, insightful and inaudible!



## **The Du-Rites – The Du-Rites**

(REDEFINITION)

**Find it in:** SOUL

## **Mitch Hedburg – The Complete Vinyl Collection**

(COMEDY CENTRAL)

**Find it in:** COMEDY

He has great penmanship, too!

## **Brookzill! – Throwback To The Future**

(TOMMY BOY)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

It's fucking Prince Paul! What else do you need?

## **Sam Kinison – Breaking The Rules**

(COMEDY DYNAMICS)

**Find it in:** COMEDY

## **☞ Digging Up Mother: A Love Story by Doug Stanhope**

(DA CAPO PRESS)

336 pages of well-blended topshelf and well stories about a drunken dreamer stumbling his way through life's watering holes and the unconditional love and support of a mother.

# JOE

Roots Music Maven

## **Mike Neer – Steelonious**

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Mike Neer is an excellent lap steel player. He hits a home run on this, his first album, as he tackles the wonderful and eccentric music of Thelonious Monk. Mike is not really a jazz player, but he certainly does justice to the music. If you're a Monk fan or a steel guitar fan, you will love this album.

## **Joe Rut – Stolen Tools & Stereos**

(SELF-RELEASED)

Joe Rut flies under the radar but is probably the best "unknown" singer-songwriter in the Bay Area. His fourth album should give him some notoriety. My favorite tunes are "Black Velvet Elvis" and "Porcupine."

## **☞ Korla (2015) – Directed by John Turner, written by Eric Christensen**

Great documentary by local filmmaker Eric Christensen. Korla Pandit was a mystery

celebrity during the heyday of L.A. He also made a slew of albums, many on the Fantasy label. The documentary takes a strange twist as it delves into Korla's roots. A must-see for exotica fans.

## **Boz Scaggs – A Fool To Care**

(429)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Boz' best album since his heyday. I like all the tunes. Nice to hear Boz doing his roots thing with a great cast of musicians.

## **Johnny Cash – Out Among The Stars**

(SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

Although the '80s and '90s were not prime years for Johnny Cash, this previously unreleased album from 1983 has some good tunes on it and finds Johnny in fine voice. The tune "She Used to Love Me a Lot" is worth the price of the album.

## **The Time Jumpers –**

**Kid Sister**

(ROUNDER)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

The Time Jumpers, along with Asleep at the Wheel, are keeping a bright flame burning for classic Western swing music. This album pays tribute to the life of Dawn Sears, a former TJ who recently passed from cancer. My favorite tunes are "We're the Time Jumpers" and "All Aboard."

**Tip:**

Check out my website [www.VinylBeat.com](http://www.VinylBeat.com) for amazing record galleries!

# JULIAN

## **Yves Tumor – Serpent Music**

(PAN)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

## **Laraaji – Be Still and Glow**

**[Cassette]**

(LEAVING)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE

three cassettes of expansive zither meditations

## **Paul R. Marcano – Valley Flutes**

**[Cassette]**

(CONSTELLATION TATSU)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE

empty canyon, layer flutes

## **☞ HyperNormalisation (2016) –**

**Directed by Adam Curtis**

the best, most thought-provoking and mesmerizing socio-cultural documentary i've seen in years. you can watch on youtube. after viewing this i immediately watched all his other documentaries. an artist with something to say.

# KATHY

I'm in my 17th year.

## **Joan Baez – 75th Birthday Celebration**

(UMVD)

**Find it in:** FOLK

This honors more than 50 years in the business. OK her voice doesn't have the same range as it did before, but it is still beautiful. She performs with many fellow artists and friends, to name a few, Paul Simon, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Judy Collins and Emmylou Harris. If you are a Joan fan, this is a must-have.

## **Macy Gray – Stripped**

(CHESKY)

**Find it in:** SOUL

This is her ninth album, and it is recorded using a single microphone in a Brooklyn Church. This is a jazz album and she is accompanied by a first rate jazz ensemble. This album has a couple of original compositions and a number of covers, which is delivered with lots of emotion.

## **Miranda Lambert – The Weight of These Wings**

(SONY)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

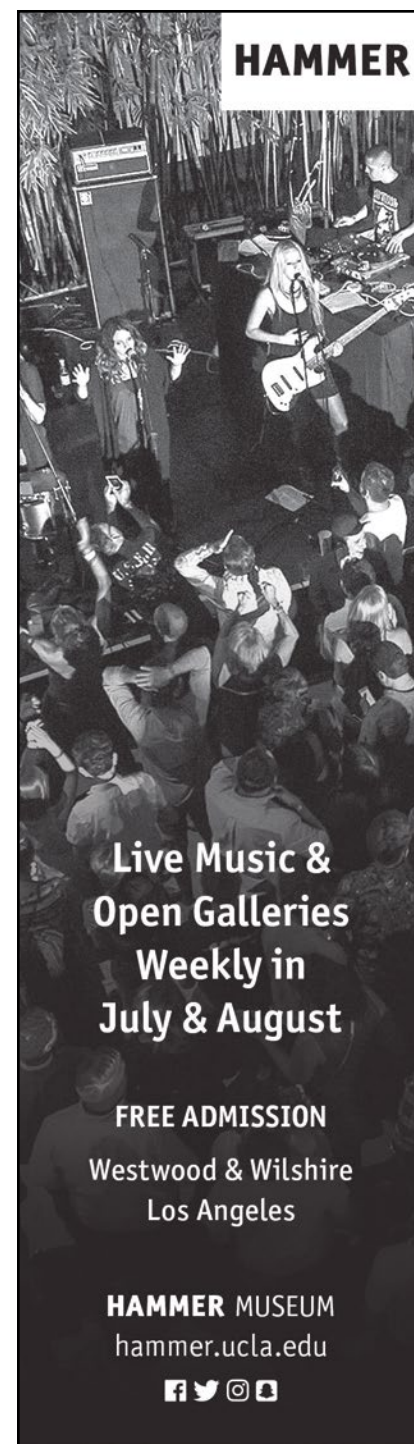
This album is focused on moving on and growing up. It's a rootsy stomp. It was not what I expected after the high-profile divorce. I highly recommend it.

## **Abbey Lincoln – Love Having You Around: Live at the Keystone Korner, Vol. 2**

(HIGHNOTE)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

I love her voice and I am so happy to have a Volume 2. Nothing is repeated from Volume 1, so it is something you should own.



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# KIANA

*I'm trying.*

## Angel Olsen – *My Woman*

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Heartbreaking and beautiful. This one is more poppy than her previous albums, but it's just as perfect in a new way.

## Sheer Mag – *Compilation*

(WILSUNS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Female-fronted, Thin Lizzy-influenced rock 'n' roll gold. This "comp" is great because you don't have to try and find all their singles; they're all here on one LP.

## Kleenex/LiLiPUT – *First Songs*

(KILL ROCK STARS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

"EE-EE!" This album is so F U N. It'll make you want to jump around and yell and start your own sick female punk band.

## Angelo Badalamenti – *Twin Peaks [Original Soundtrack]*

(DEATH WALTZ)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Still as beautiful as you remember it from the original series, but with a really cool die-cut Black Lodge record sleeve to go along with it.

## 🎬 *The Witch* (2016) – Directed by Robert Eggers

HAUNTING. CHILLING. SCARY. BEAUTIFUL.

# LEN DEL RIO

## Serge Gainsbourg – *London Paris 1963-1971*

(UNIVERSAL FRANCE)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Excellent double vinyl LP compilation of Gainsbourg's pop, jazz and soundtrack compositions.

## Madness – *Can't Touch Us Now*

(UME)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Madness continue their legacy as the greatest British pop/ska group ever!

## 🎬 *The Pink Panther Film Collection Starring Peter Sellers* – Directed by Blake Edwards

(SHOUT! FACTORY)

Finally released on Blu-ray thanks to Shout! Factory. All the "Pink Panther" films starring the late, great Peter Sellers.

## 📀 *Soundbreaking: Stories from the Cutting Edge of Recorded Music* (PBS)

The art and evolution of music recording as told by the many artists, producers and recording engineers that were there.

## The Fall – *Room To Live & Hex Induction Hour [Reissues]*

(SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Superior Viaduct has reissued many of the early Fall albums on vinyl, including my two favorites here. Hope to see more titles in 2017.

# LUCIANO

*Lust Commander at  
Wild Snakes Productions*

## Vexx – *Wild Hunt* (M'LADY'S)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Powerful, passionate infectious punk from Olympia Washington... LUST!

## Rexy – *Running Out Of Time*

(LNBR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

British New Romantic left field pop from 1981. Addicting!

## Kleenex/LiLiPUT – *First Songs*

(KILL ROCK STARS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Reissue. Late '70s Swiss feminist art punk. Legendary!

## 🎬 *The Neon Demon* (2016) – Directed by Nicolas Winding Refn

Satanic fashion mind fuck. Watch it LOUD!

**Tip:**

*For a taste of what a real Celine Dion lover looks like, add me on Instagram @Lautreamont. Also check out my Bandcamp called Indigenous Quiver.*

# MICHAEL COOPER

## Hope Sandoval & The Warm Inventions – *Until The Hunter*

(TENDRIL TALES)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Roy Montgomery – *R.M.H.Q.: Headquarters* (GRAPEFRUIT)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

FOUR LPs!!!

## Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds – *Skeleton Tree* (BAD SEED LTD.)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## The Brian Jonestown Massacre – *Third World Pyramid*

(A' RECORDS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Thee Oh Sees – *A Weird Exits*

(CASTLE FACE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

# CRUZ CONTROL

*Sure.*

## 🎬 *Lo and Behold, Reveries of the Connected World* (2016) – Directed by Werner Herzog

Are the Internet and robot technology positive progressions for humanity or are they our downfall? Watch this Herzog documentary for further thought.

## 🎬 *The Eyes of My Mother* (2016) – Directed by Nicholas Pesce

A beautifully shot black and white film that makes me think about sick twisted habits resulting from a horrific childhood. Looking forward to future works from Nicholas Pesce.

## 🎬 *Rabid* (1977) – Directed by David Cronenberg

Early Cronenberg film that will spread its rabid virus onto you. If you like Cronenberg and haven't seen this one, watch it. Own the recently released Blu-ray collector's edition.

## 🎬 *Shin Godzilla* (2016) – Directed by Hideaki Anno, Shinji Higuchi

*Shin Godzilla* made it onto my top 10 favorite Godzilla films list. I have to say this is the creepiest looking Godzilla to date and a definite top five on my list for favorite Godzilla designs. It's great fun.

## 🎬 *Hardcore Henry* (2016) – Directed by Ilya Naishuller

Unlike any other action film I've ever seen. It truly is a non-stop, cyborg-asskicking, mercenary-blood exploding, fun ride in first person. Please feel free to experience it.

**Tip:**

Nope.

# BOSH510

*I make fondant.*

## Original Broadway Cast – *Hamilton [Original Cast Recording]*

(ATLANTIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

For my daughter, Ahlani, I find myself singing these songs throughout the day. The mixtape they put out later is good too, but I actually like the original Broadway cast recording most.

**Tip:**

*I hear this Batter Up Cakery business creates custom cakes and dessert bars for every occasion! Try their Ooey Chewy cookies, you won't regret it!*

# NICKI JIZZ

## Nicholas Jaar – *Sirens*

(OTHER PEOPLE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

I don't know if Nicholas Jaar can make a "bad" album. This is his first album after the *Darkside Project*, and it's dreamy. Amazing production and the samples used are divine. Buy it on vinyl; it has a scratch-off album cover!

**Nine Inch Nails –  
Not The Actual Events**

(THE NULL CORPORATION)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Perfection! OK, I might be a bit biased, since NIN is my favorite band, but it really is good! This is a “surprise” EP with five tracks that have a bit of the classic NIN sound mixed with the new electronic sound. Do yourself a favor and listen to it in the dark with headphones. Really loud.

**Kyle Dixon/Michael Stein –  
Stranger Things, Vol. 1  
[Original Soundtrack]**

(LAKE SHORE)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

If you haven't heard of the show *Stranger Things*, then you must be living under a rock, buried at the bottom of the sea. The show is spectacular, and part of what makes the show so amazing is the music. It's beautiful and haunting. Enjoy.

**Solange – A Seat At The Table**

(COLUMBIA/SAINT)

**Find it in:** SOUL

The little sis of our Lord and Savior, Beyoncé, has given us the best album of 2016. Solange has found her sound and delivered it to you with a bow on it. A fresh neo-soul vibe with great production and thought-provoking lyrics to go with it.

**Erykah Badu – But You Cain't  
Use My Phone**

(MOTOWN/UNIVERSAL)

**Find it in:** SOUL

Ms. Badu is a fuckin' creative genius. This mixtape, released in early 2016, finally got a limited release this past Record Store Day. The 'tape is all based around the hit “Tyrone.” Badu delivers and slays this mixtape. It's beautifully done and even has a tad bit of humor to the lyrics. A must-have.

**Tip:**

Check out these artists: Princess Nokia, Abra, Gliss, Van Hein. Follow @nicki\_jizz on Insta for pics of my drag adventures, drunken nights at the taco truck, hot trade and Tiffany Pollard.

**CAMRY**

Y8G921B

**Erik Nervous – Teen  
Distortion Art Junk Music 7”**

(NECK CHOP)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Great

**Neo Neos – Unit 2/  
In Punk For The Culture Set**

**[Cassette]** (ANOTHER LABEL)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Great

**Wonder Bread –  
Single Slice Vol. 1 [Cassette]**

(DISCONTINUOUS INNOVATION INC.)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Great

**The Minneapolis Uranium  
Club – All Of Them Naturals  
12”**

(STATIC SHOCK/FASHIONABLE IDIOTS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Great

**The Wad – 2nd 7”**

(LUMPY)

**Find it in:** PUNK

great

**Liquids – Hot Liqs LP**

(DRUNKEN SAILOR)

**Find it in:** PUNK

great

**Mr. Science – 1978-1979 EP 7”**

(FAMILY VINEYARD)

**Find it in:** PUNK

great

**Lithics – Borrowed Floors**

(WATER WING)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Great

**NICO**

**Clothes, Clothes, Clothes.  
Music, Music, Music. Boys,  
Boys, Boys. by Viv Albertine**

(THOMAS DUNNE BOOKS)

**The Handmaiden (2016) –  
Directed by Park Chan-wook**

**Various Artists – Loving On  
The Flipside: Sweet Funk And  
Beat-Heavy Ballads 1969-1977**

(NOW-AGAIN)

**Find it in:** SOUL

**Various Artists – Don't Think  
I've Forgotten: Cambodia's Lost  
Rock And Roll**

(DUST-TO-DIGITAL)

**Find it in:** WORLD

**Tip:**

KUSF

**ROBERT EDWIN  
HAINES**

Profane Herb Caen

**Various Artists – Sharon Signs  
To Cherry Red: Independent  
Women 1979-1985**

(CHERRY RED)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Double-CD killer comp of great punk, post-punk & indie ladies from the iconic (Marine Girls, The Mo-Dettes) to the willfully obscure (The Kamikaze Pilots).

**Vivien Goldman – Resolution-  
ary Songs 1979-82**

(STAUBGOLD)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Daring & beautiful experimental, reggae and art influenced post-punk from the brilliant feminist writer-thinker-singer-critic & former Flying Lizards collaborator.

**Washington Phillips –  
Washington Phillips and  
His Manzanarene Dreams**

(DUST-TO-DIGITAL)

**Find it in:** BLUES

Impossibly beautiful gospel blues from another world captured on earth by a preacher with his own homemade invented instrument from 1927 to 1929.

**Various Artists – Killed By  
Death Rock Vol. 2**

(SACRED BONES)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Second compilation of obscure batcave floor fillers for the macabre taffy puller in your life/afterlife.

**Angel Olsen – My Woman**

(JAGAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Fourth full-length that builds on the dark, hermetic beauty of her previous work while adding fun, playful sexiness & an expanded musical palette.

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**RW**

*Defender of the Faith (still...)*

### Johnny Jewel – *Home [Original Soundtrack]* (ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Brooding, glacial and atmospheric ambient tracks complimented by tracks by Jewel's group projects, Chromatics and Symmetry.

### Johnny Jewel – *Music To Drive* (ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Test-driven (and lives up to its name), this is the best compilation of electro-noir you will likely ever own. Features all of Jewel's groups, including Glass Candy, Desire, Chromatics and Symmetry.

### Angel Olsen – *My Woman*

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Haunted dramas of romance, both gorgeous and fucked up but the way you crave it. This record is exhausting but has a natural anarchic wisdom.

### Slowdive – *Star Roving*

(DEAD OCEANS)

The long awaited return from 1995's *Pygmalion*, this is only a single for the record slated to come out in 2017—this is a taste of the timeless wonder to come...

### Ace Frehley – *Origins Vol. 1* (E1)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Kiss' underrated original guitarist does his favorite formative covers, including Zeppelin and Thin Lizzy. Best cover of The Stones' "Street Fightin' Man" I've heard, and much more.

**Tip:**

Watch for the new *Spiritualized this Summer*—promises to be a gas!

## RYAN

Sri Syadasti

### Hypernormalisation (2016) – Directed by Adam Curtis (BBC)

My choice for best documentary of 2016. It's long and takes a level of focus. The story begins in 1970s New York City and winds us through world political and monetary decisions that lead to our current state of hypernormalisation.

### Frank Zappa – *Meat Light*

(ZAPPA)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A 3-CD deluxe take on *Uncle Meat*, one of my favorite records. The sound quality is amazing, and each disc works well on its own. Includes original recordings, sequence variations, every piece of the *Uncle Meat* puzzle.

### Eden Ahbez – *Eden's Island*

(CAPTAIN HIGH)

**Find it in:** EASY LISTENING

This has always been a difficult "exotica" record to find, so get it while it's around. The CD is currently out of print. Ahbez was an interesting character outside of the music scene but had some great off-kilter writing credits. This LP is a standout from the exotica era for its unique, relaxed hippie feel. Originally recorded in 1960.

### Manuel Gottsching – *Inventions For Electric Guitar*

(MG ART)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Not as well known as the epic genre bending *E2-E4* also currently available on vinyl. 1974's *Inventions for...* is a must-have for fans of unique guitar and has been hard to find forever. RIYL: Robert Fripp, Hans Reichel, Mike Oldfield etc.

### Korla (2015) – Directed by John Turner

If you grew up going to record shops, you know the sights and sounds go together. The visual component exists like a museum to pop culture cool. The first time I spotted a Korla Pandit record, I had to know more. Korla Pandit was the music. However, pop culture and his spot within it is the story of *Korla*.

### Ann Magnuson – *Dream Girl*

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I heart Ann Magnuson and have listened to *Bongwater* millions of times in the last 25 years

without tiring. *Dream Girl* is an intimate art folk affair mixing dreams, reality and storytelling, a great escape in these obnoxious times.

## RYAN WONG

### Johnnie Frierson – *Have You Been Good To Yourself*

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN

Some context: This guy was the bandmate and brother of Wendy Rene, singer of "After Laughter (Comes Tears)." Frierson recorded this at home while grieving the death of his son and after coming home from Vietnam. This is definitely a gospel album, but hell, what you're listening to is a guy desperately making sense of his shattered life. Heaviest record I've listened to in a long time.

## SEAN MURPHY

*Irish drinker, Jewish thinker.*

### Solange – *A Seat At The Table*

(COLUMBIA/SAINT)

**Find it in:** SOUL

An album. A statement. A movement. A masterpiece. #BlackLivesMatter

### Chavez – *Cockfighters 12"*

(MATADOR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Chavez was one of my favorite bands from the '90s who sadly broke up after releasing two amazing albums. These are their first new songs in more than 20 years. There are only three of them, but... HOLY CRAP.

### Run The Jewels – *Run The Jewels 3* (RUN THE JEWELS, INC.)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

El-P and Killer Mike strike again with what is sure to be not only one of the best hip hop releases of 2017, but one of the best albums period. A must have.

### Fight Club 2 by Chuck Palahniuk, illustrated by Cameron Stewart

(DARK HORSE COMICS)

One of the most iconic movies of the early 2000s finally gets a sequel in the form of this

excellent graphic novel, written by Chuck Palahniuk and drawn by Cameron Stewart. I'd like to say more about it, but everyone knows the first rule of Fight Clubbers...

### Lou Reed – *The RCA Arista Album Collection* (SONY LEGACY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This box set contains every album Lou released, from his 1972 eponymous solo debut through 1986's *Mistrial*. Includes such classics as *Transformer*, *Berlin*, *Coney Island Baby*, *Sally Can't Dance*, *The Blue Mask* and even his giant middle finger to the Industry, 1975's *Metal Machine Music*. The legend may be gone, but his music lasts forever.

**Tip:**

Listen to *Jesus Dude Mom* at [Jesusdudemom.bandcamp.com](http://Jesusdudemom.bandcamp.com) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

## SHAYDE

*17 years and still givin' a damn*

### Alex Dingley – *Beat the Babble* (BIRTH)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This may be my favorite record in many years, honestly. It's short but heavy. This is the kind of the record that can totally consume you. I've never listened to it less than three times in one sitting. I love Kevin Coyne and Epic Soundtracks, and I would put this on par with anything they've ever done. Minimal instrumentation. Every note on this thing has purpose. DONT SLEEP ON THIS.

### Tim Presley – *The Wink*

(DRAG CITY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The most underrated record of the year. In my world this would dominate your "feed." Tim is mostly known for *White Fence*, who are also fantastic, but this is how a first "solo" record should be. This crushes anything from his previous discography. Attitude for days.

### Sheer Mag – *Compilation LP*

(WILSUNS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Souful rock 'n' roll with one of the best vocalists in the game right now. I typically don't care for riff-rock, but this has everything. Songwriting is tops. If you like Thin Lizzy / Wipers / Gits etc.



## Slash: A Punk Magazine From LA – Brian Roettinger / J.C.

**Gabel** (H & B)

The greatest punk zine of all time. That's not hyperbole.

## Fred Thomas – Changer

(POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I've seen Fred referred to as an "Indie lifer," and as cringeworthy as that may be to some it's true. This is a record that leaves no doubts that you're hearing someone committed to their art. If you're a person that likes dense lyrical records in line with Patti Smith or pure infectious guitar pop that leans on simplicity and beauty, then you'll definitely love this.

**Tip:**

S.F. Rock 'n' Roll lives

# SHERYL

## T. Currentzis/Musicaeterna – W.A. Mozart: Don Giovanni

(SONY)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

COMPLETE OPERA CATALOG #J31603

The latest in Teodor Currentzis's Mozart Opera recordings.

## Steven Isserlis – Complete RCA Recordings (SONY)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

CATALOG: 88985312572

Isserlis performs with various ensembles and artists. This budget box set is a must-have for any cello music lover.

## Maurizio Pollini – Beethoven Piano Sonatas No. 30 & No. 31

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

CATALOG: B002590601

A reissue of Pollini's recording from 1976, now available as a 180-gram pressing. These are Pollini's superlative performances of two of Beethoven's last three piano sonatas.

## Isabelle Faust – Mozart: Violin Concertos

(HARMONIA MUNDI)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

CATALOG# 902230

Recordings include Mozart's five violin concertos/Rondo K269+K373+ Adagio K261 for violin and orchestra. All works on these CDs are performed with the Ensemble Giardino Armonico, conducted by Giovanni Antonini.

# SHT EVE

Receivin' Stephen keepin' it on the Q-T

## Sham 69 – The Best of Sham 69: Cockney Kids Are Innocent

(CASTLE/SANCTUARY)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Very similar to Peter & The Test Tube Babies, which I'm a very big fan of.

## Siouxsie & The Banshees –

**Superstition** (Geffen)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Produced by Stephen Hague, this is one of their poppiest efforts. I was hooked on "Fear (Of The Unknown)."

## The Who – Face Dances

(MCA)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Their first effort with Kenney Jones on drums, they had an uphill battle replacing the late Keith Moon. But this is a solid album despite a tepid reaction from hardcore fans.

## The Ray Conniff Singers – Somebody Loves Me/It's The Talk Of The Town

(COLUMBIA)

**Find it in:** EASY LISTENING

Schmaltz of the highest order. If this doesn't get your toes tappin', we need to see about funeral arrangements for you.

## Wax U.K. – American English

(RCA)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The band consists of the late Andrew Gold and 10cc's Graham Gouldman. This is their second (and best) album, released in 1989. Half the songs are single-worthy. It's a shame they weren't promoted very well in the U.S.

# THOMAS

## Nots – Cosmetic (GONER)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Haven't been listening to much punk this year – thinking it might be cus this record scratched that itch for me in a big way. I thought their last record was a pretty much perfect take on jagged, synth-laced post-punk, but *Cosmetic* improves on it in every way. Lengthier, groove HEAVY song structures let the songwriting idiosyncrasies and expert playing really sink in. I typically prefer these kinds of records in the 7" format, but Nots are one of the few active punk bands that make full use of the length an LP provides, and I can't recommend this one enough!

## Alex Dingley – Beat The Babble

(BIRTH)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Feel like this one swept in out of nowhere and made a particularly insufferable holiday season a little more tolerable. Picked up the record on a whim, due to its release on Tim Presley of White Fence's Birth Records, which brought the fantastic Jessica Pratt to my attention, and Alex Dingley is no less a revelation. A perfect singer-songwriter record backed up by uniquely spare production and arrangements courtesy of Presley and Cate Le Bon.

## Teenage Fanclub – Here (MERGE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This one's a no-brainer — another flawless record in a spotless catalog from my favorite band.

## Chook Race – Around The House

(TROUBLE IN MIND)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I'm a total sucker for this kind of Flying Nun-inspired jangle, and Melbourne, Australia's Chook Race deliver in spades. Excellent melodic sensibilities and endearingly droll vocal delivery make this record a sure thing for fans of classic kiwi pop à la The Clean and The Bats or contemporary devotees like Dick Diver and Twerps.



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## TOM LYNCH

*I'd rather be drinking beer and playing 45s right now.*

### Lee Fields & The Expressions – *Special Night* (BIG CROWN)

**Find it in:** SOUL

Genuine veteran soul man Lee Fields once again stuns you with his abilities to charm and seduce. Thank the stars above that a talent like his is still here to make life and loving great again!

### Betty Harris – *The Lost Queen of New Orleans Soul* (SOUL JAZZ)

**Find it in:** NEW ORLEANS

Collecting a number of Ms. Harris's SANSU label singles, her smokey, sultry voice curls around ears and neck thrilling the listener like so few do. Betty still performs, so treat yourself when you can.

### Rozetta Johnson – *A Woman's Way 1961-1975* (KENT SOUL)

**Find it in:** SOUL

The overlooked diva of Southern Soul, Ms. Johnson's 10-year run in the studio put forth some beautifully warm and mellow records that require your attention. Though she started as a teen in Birmingham, Ala. singing gospel and jazz, Sam Dees heard something in Rozetta's voice

that was new to southern soul. Fame and hits were almost in reach when Ms. Johnson decided to use her college education and go in to counseling instead. This CD of her Clin-Tone label output is a honey-drizzled delight.

### Korla (2016) – Directed by John Turner, written by Eric Christensen

**Find it in:** WORLD

A documentary John Turner and Eric Christensen looks into the exotic world of musician and icon Korla Pandit. Recording a number of LPs for Fantasy Records in Berkeley, Calif., as well as starring in his own daily AM TV program, Korla took the listener to the far flung realms of romance and mystery. And mystery is the key here in the story of Korla Pandit.

### Allen Toussaint – *American Tunes* (NONESUCH)

**Find it in:** NEW ORLEANS

Mr. Toussaint's final recordings, produced by Joe Henry, such beauty and elegance... and soul. These elements Toussaint brings forth are the only things we have to immerse ourselves in to ease the pain in the loss of one of the world's great writers, arrangers and performers. Needing him now, more than ever before.

### Various Artists – *Follow Me To The Popcorn* (JAZZMEN)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

Two record set covering the Popcorn Club in Antwerp, Belgium. Similar to the Twisted Wheel, Manchester UK, the Popcorn Club was entirely a hangout for dancers, beer drinkers, and total music freaks in the early '70s. The OG recipe had been Soul & Funk, then it changed to include earlier R&B, Rockabilly, Exotica, and Pop Jazz to satisfy the dancing thrill seekers that frequented the Popcorn Club.

### Various Artists – *Saint Etienne Presents Songs For The Carnegie Deli* (ACE)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

With the evocative cover photo of the one-time American institution The All Night Diner, Bob Stanley and Pete Wigg assemble a musical menu in celebration of both the places, the Carnegie Deli and its customers — the songwriters of the Brill Building. That magical world of 1963 and the NYC songwriters that filled the radio with the myth of being young and in love. Irma Thomas, Leslie Gore, The Chiffons, Trade Winds,

Chuck Jackson and many more. No big hits, just deep tracks and rare sides sounding fresh and beautiful. For wistful night listening.

### Danny & The Darleans – *Bug Out* (IN THE RED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A fine and fast 12-song hit-and-run blast from Kid Kroha and his super tight rhythm section, The Darleans. This is pure high-energy power garage, the only thing I've come to expect from Dan.

### The Gerbils – *Dead Detroit: Lost 1982 Recordings* (LSD)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Ron Sakowski is an unsung hero of Detroit Rock 'n' Roll. He's been in The Necros, Laughing Hyenas, NA, and he's STILL a sweetheart of a human in spite of it all. I recall hearing these songs late night on public radio in Detroit and laughing at it all and being totally envious of these kids really out there doing it.

### Linda Jones – *Precious: The Anthology 1963-1972*

(KENT SOUL)

**Find it in:** SOUL

Compiles the incomparable Linda Jones singles, which still blow you away in their power and singular singing style. Linda was taking vocals to a whole new level when her body gave out from a long battle with diabetes.

### Lonely Boy by Steve Jones

(DA CAPO)

Jones's naked, brutally honest testimonial is like his guitar tone: cutting, wrenching and laugh-out-loud fun. Here is to a survivor with his humor intact.

### Dex Romweber – *Carrboro*

(BLOODSHOT)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Always reliable, always tasty, Dex is continuing in ways that will firmly establish him as an American music treasure. Dark ballads, frenzied instrumentals, standards and his own haunted vision of song. *Carrboro*, his latest recording, is both treat and treatment.

### Various Artists – *Rhythm 'N' Bluesin' By The Bayou: Nights of Sin, Dirty Deals, and Love Sick Souls Vol. 16* (ACE)

**Find it in:** BLUES

Ace Records UK continues in this seemingly endless series of 45s from not just the Crescent City, but from all over South Louisiana and Southeast Texas. Blues, boogie, gritty and greasy, this entire series is an education on how the melting pot really works!

### Various Artists – *Out In The Streets Again: The Soul Sounds of Scepter* (SUNDAZED)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

Scarce 45s collected here. Side two is the killer listen, and it's down to three guys, all white, and murdering it. Ronnie Milsap, Johnny Maestro and BJ Thomas. Red vinyl, but what isn't right now? Highly recommended.

## TONY GREEN

*Zona Rosa Taco Enthusiast*

### Angel Olsen – *My Woman* (JAGAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I didn't dig the earlier stuff that much, but this kills it. Not only is she a great singer, but the (slightly more) polished sound here is perfect for her songs and arrangements. "Shut Up Kiss Me" and "Never Be Mine" are just great, intelligent pop, and more introverted songs such as "Intern" pack a more affectionate punch... add that to the amazing videos she does for the songs, and it's obvious that Olsen is the real McCoy.

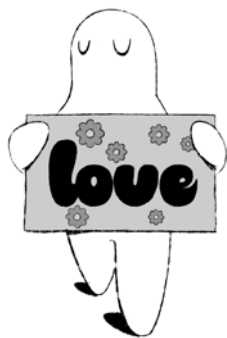
### The Features – *X-Features* (FLYING NUN)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Wow! A great reissue of the Auckland, N.Z. band that was kinda the missing link between the first generation punk sound and the more ragged post-punk noise of the early-'80s. And they could really play... the band were the best musicians around the Auckland scene at the time, especially drummer James Pinker and guitarist Jed Town (later of Fetus productions). They imploded pretty fast, but they left an impression on all who saw them. Check out the singles "City Scenes" and "Victim"... great stuff!

#### Tip:

Baron Wolman "Groupies" — an amazing, tawdry and yet oddly respectful expose of the rockstar groupie scene of the '60s/'70s... don't know what the Plaster casters were? This is your chance to find out!



## VINNIE ESPARZA

[www.djvinnie.net](http://www.djvinnie.net)

### Yabby You – *Beware Dub*

(PRESSURE SOUNDS)

**Find it in:** REGGAE

Long out-of-print album gets a proper double vinyl issue.

### Solange – *A Seat at the Table*

(COLUMBIA/SAINT)

**Find it in:** SOUL

What Beyoncé?

### Andres Landero – *Yo Amaneci*

(VAMPI SOUL)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Brilliant best of from this titan of Colombian cumbia.

### Ethel Beatty – *I Know You Care / It's Your Love 7"* (EXPANSION)

**Find it in:** SOUL

One of the rarest Roy Ayers productions finally gets a re-release. "It's Your Love" is top notch soul.

### John Carpenter – *Escape From New York [Original Soundtrack]* (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Proper double-vinyl issue of this seminal soundtrack. The unreleased tunes kill.

**Tip:**

Resist Trump

## NOTES:

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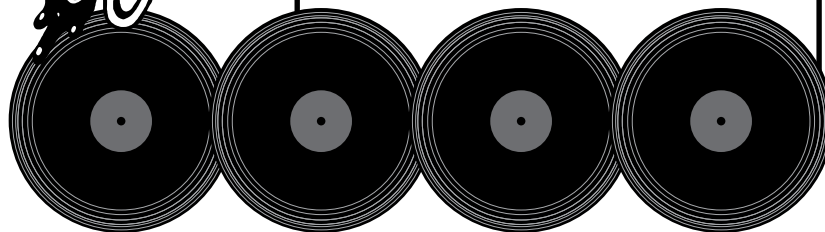


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# HOLLYWOOD



## AARON

### Crocodiles – *Dreamless* (ZOO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The sixth album by San Diego noise-pop rockers finds the duo in a more electronic-sounding venture while still retaining a palpable dose of guitar attitude. Crunchy bass, hypnotic keyboards and minimal-yet-infectious beats rule this album, especially on tracks like “Jumping On Angels.” “Welcome To Hell” is a moody electro-disco track with some dirty guitar groovin’, while “I’m Sick” sounds like a collaboration between Suicide and The Ramones. Album opener “Telepathic Lover” will be stuck in your head for days with its “Love Will Tear Us Apart”-esque synths and catchy melody, and album closer “Not Even In Your Dreams” is a welcomed poppy rocker that reminds us that beneath all the attitude, this music is just plain fun.

### Deap Vally – *Femejism* (NEVADO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Sometimes sludgy, sometimes surfy, always rockin’, producer Nick Zinner (of Yeah Yeah Yeahs) gets the most out of the seemingly minimal set up of the band. “Little Baby Beauty Queen” features a sinister “Helter Skelter”-like guitar hook, while the vocals invoke glam rock

at its nastiest. “Gonnawanna” seems to sum up the band’s attitude with the lyric, “I’m gonna do what I wanna, I’m gonna do it ‘cause I wanna.”

### 🍷 *Eat That Question: Frank Zappa in his Own Words* (2016) – Directed by Thorsten Schütte

In regards to Frank Zappa’s vast catalogue of music, my knowledge is somewhere between entry level and intermediate, which proves how little you need to know about the man to enjoy this documentary. Essentially just a compilation of interviews with the artist, the film is not so much about his music as much as it is about his unyielding desire to be himself, and to not be censored in the process. Above all else the film shows how thoughtful and eloquent Frank Zappa was off stage.

### 🍷 Iggy Pop – *Post Pop Depression: Live at The Royal Albert Hall* (2016)

I haven’t actually seen this film, but I saw him on this tour, and it was incredible!

### The Shaggs – *Philosophy Of The World* [Reissue]

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I’m not including this reissue of the 1969 cult record purely so you can ironically laugh at the inexperience of the musicians, nor do I want to give you some phony, pseudo-intellectual mumbo-jumbo about why it’s a brilliant album. Let’s just say I was probably about seven years old the first time I heard this record and I thought it was hilarious because they were so awful and had a song called “My Pal Foot Foot” (whatever that means), but now as a “discerning” adult I can’t help but feel its charm.

### ☐ *T.A.M.I. Show / The Big T.N.T. Show*

Finally the T.A.M.I. and Big T.N.T. shows get the blu ray treatment! These two TV specials from 1964 and 1966, respectively, showcase some of the greatest American rock and soul pioneers and British innovators. These time capsules capture American pop culture in arguably its most charismatic and innovative phase, and

remind us why music and entertainment became our greatest cultural exports. The featured acts are all Grade A, including Bo Diddley, Chuck Berry, The Rolling Stones, The Ronettes, and Ike and Tina Turner, but the highlight of them all is James Brown, who proves just why he was nicknamed “The Hardest Working Man in Show Business.”

### 🐈 *Cat People* [Criterion] (1942) – Directed by Jacques Tourneur

Criterion’s restoration of Val Lewton and Jacques Tourneur’s classic feline suspense/horror film looks incredible and drives home just how immaculate each shot is.

## PIZZA

“Under lamp posts and cherry trees I glide” ~ Viv Albertine

### Sheer Mag – *I/II 7”* (STATIK)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Sing along to this in your hair brush!

### Black Sabbath – *Paranoid* [Reissue] (WARNER BROS.)

**Find it in:** ROCK

### Slutever – *Almost Famous* [Cassette] (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Listen to this and make a sticker book!

### Kyle Dixon/Michael Stein – *Stranger Things, Vol. 1*

[Original Soundtrack]

(LAKESHORE)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Listen to this while you make sugar cookies!

### The Paranoyds – *After You* [Cassette] (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Listen to this while you dye your hair!

### The Paranoyds – *Eat Their Own* [Cassette] (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Listen to this in your car with all the windows down!

### The Cigarette Bums – *Sidewalkin’* (LOLipop/SICK CITY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Listen to this and eat Cherry Garcia!

## ANNA

“The universe is not harmonious: you know that by looking outside.”

~ Werner Herzog

### A Tribe Called Quest – *We Got It From Here... Thank You 4 Your Service* (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

ATCQ’s final project is as magnificent and vital as anything they’ve ever recorded. Q-Tip, Jarobi, and the late great Phife Dawg are all at the top of their spitting game here; the production crackles with warmth and energy in classic Tribe fashion. A true masterpiece, stacked from top to bottom with tracks that effortlessly groove to soothe your ears and heal your soul in these troubled times.

### Danny Brown – *Atrocity Exhibition* (WARP)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Brown got signed to Warp (a label traditionally trafficking in experimental and electronic music) last year, and they are a match made in heaven. The ferocity and grimness of Brown’s rhymes — delivered with few exceptions in his signature cartoonish timbre — are matched only by the clattering, eerily catchy beats. Dissonant bangers and borderline unlistenable earworms abound. A no wave hip hop classic from one of rap’s most singular, unique voices.

### GØGGS – *GØGGS*

(IN THE RED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Local lo-fi legends Ty Segall and Charles Moothart are at it again, this time thrashing and bashing the hell out of their instruments while Ex-Cult frontman Chris Shaw handles the vocal duties. Shaw’s Henry Rollins-esque presence on the mic adds a kind of looseness and aggression to the proceedings, and Segall’s traditional melodic garage punk sound greatly benefits from that extra kick. Easily my favorite Segall/Moothart side project to date.

## The xx – *I See You* (YOUNG TURKS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I'll be the first to admit I found The xx's previous work a bit boring sound-wise, but their latest effort is something different. Oliver Sim and Romy Madley Croft's vocals, weaving in and out of each other as beautifully as ever, are pushed to the foreground this time; the instrumentation meanwhile, leans more toward producer Jamie xx's trademark blue-eyed synth funk than the guitar-driven dream pop the group is commonly known for. It's music you can actually dance to instead of just passively swaying in place, and it's a thrilling new direction for the band.

## Sheer Mag – *Compilation LP*

(WILSUNS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

If Thin Lizzy were more into punk rock and had a female singer with killer pipes, they would probably sound a lot like Sheer Mag. The obscenely hard-rocking Philly quintet have released three excellent EPs so far, and here they are compiled together and remastered for your listening pleasure. It's 40 minutes of tasty guitar licks and foot-stomping rhythms, always buoyed up by Tina Halladay's inimitable yowl. Do yourselves a favor and don't sleep on this band. They're gonna be huge.

# AYE TEE

"When life hands you lemons, make lemonade...then throw it in life's face."

~ @itsatsworld

## ❑ *The Flash: Season 2* – Created by Andrew Kreisberg

(CW NETWORK/ DC COMICS)

From the making of Kid Flash and Jessie Quick to the takedown of Killer Frost and the frightening Zoom, *The Flash* has proven to be the greatest superhero show on the CW Network, and their well-crafted DCTV-verse (Legends of the Super Flash verse). If you like action, superpowers and comedy, you'll love *The Flash*... (just not more than me)

## Solange – *A Seat at the Table*

(COLUMBIA/SAINT)

**Find it in:** SOUL

While Solange has been around for years, *A Seat at the Table* is easily her landmark album. From her smooth and unique voice to her bold political statements, her album will go down in history as one of the great albums of this decade.

## Kaytranada – 99.9%

(XL/HW&V)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Yea... so I'm obsessed with this album. Maybe it's the creativity. Maybe it's the soothing voices and superb wordplay that coasts along with the beats. Maybe it's the trippy album cover. Regardless, Kaytranada is a beast, and this is easily my favorite album of the year. I listen to it almost everyday.

## Childish Gambino –

### *Awaken My Love* (GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Man... if James Brown, Sly and the Family Stone, Jimi Hendrix and an alien gave birth, it would be this album. It's crazy, I know. But that's how epically odd this album is. It's genius smh. Like... can we all agree that Donald Glover is the EFFIN man? Actually, don't answer that. I already know the truth.

## Anderson.Paak – *Malibu*

(STEEL WOOL)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

He's definitely an artist that should be on everyone's radar. Many people aren't fans of rappers "rap-singing," and I understand why; however, Anderson shouldn't be in that same category. While most rappers force their singing abilities, he effortlessly croons over his beats to create a unique sound. And I'm here for him and this album.

## Chance the Rapper –

### *Coloring Book* (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Many artists shined this year, but no rapper shined like Chance... and rightfully so. Chance is one of the few rappers that I can relate to. He's talented, creative, nerdy, happy and isn't afraid to challenge "the man." Chance is basically the famous version of me.



# MEZZADETH

*Technical death metal and true progressive black metal found here.*

## ☞ *Moonlight* (2016) –

### Directed by Barry Jenkins

Best drama of the year.

## ☞ *Deadpool* (2016) –

### Directed by Tim Miller

Most fun movie of the year.

## Vattnet Viskar –

### *Settler*

(CENTURY MEDIA)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Heavy and intense metal that knows how to take a step back from technicality in favor of arrangement, chord structure and emotion. Violent, yet somehow calming.

## Behold... the Arctopus –

### *Cognitive Emancipation*

(HATHENTER)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Behold... is back with a new/better drummer and IT IS ON! Face ripping, mind blowing, brain snapping technical insanity. Listen at your own risk. You probably can't handle it.

## Gorod – *A Maze of Recycled*

### *Creeds* (UNIQUE LEADER)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Versatile, virtuosic, face-pounding tech-death from a powerhouse of a band that has long since proven themselves and continues to do so with this amazing album.

## Thantifaxath – *Thantifaxath*

(MEDIA TREE)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Their first EP.

## Thantifaxath – *Sacred White*

### *Noise* (DARK DESCENT)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Toronto Canada's best kept secret, Thantifaxath is a criminally unknown band. This power-trio seems to prefer obscurity and have produced some of the truest black metal I've ever known. Shit is real!

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## Aborted – Retrogore

(CENTURY MEDIA)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Just plain vicious shredding death metal. So satisfying! Get into it.

## Gorguts – Pleiades' Dust

(SEASON OF MIST)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Featuring Colin Marston & Kevin Hufnagel of Dysrhythmia on bass and guitar respectively, and led by mastermind Luc Lemay, this nearly half hour single-song EP is quite a journey. Take the ride! The drumming is especially impressive on this one.

## First Fragment – Dasein

(UNIQUE LEADER)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

The cutting edge of progressive technical death metal. Their first full-length comes screaming onto the scene with neo-classical inspired shredding, beautiful fretless bass work and blistering drums. All lyrics in French.

## Der Weg Einer Freiheit –

**Stellar** (SEASON OF MIST)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Frighteningly good epic black metal from Germany. Rarely in my life have I heard black metal this musically impressive. All lyrics in German. Shit is real!

## Obscura – Akróasis

(RELAPSE)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

This German melodic tech-death outfit does not need my recommendation to let people know how amazing they are. Every album they've released has been a milestone for technical death metal. However, I suggest you look up what happened with the guitarist who composed and recorded much of this album only to be fired shortly before its release. DRAMA!!!

## 🎬 The Witch (2016) –

**Directed by Robert Eggers**

My favorite film of the year! A slow burn descent into madness with a genuine satanic reverence.

## Wormed – Krighsu

(SEASON OF MIST)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

A new sci-fi tech death band that focuses more on guttural brutality rather than sweeping arpeggios and the like, especially with the vocals (which are all about interdimensional cybernetic

androids or something!). So gnarly you can't understand what he's saying, even if you follow along with the lyrics. Metal! Definitely replay value here.

## Dysrhythmia – The Veil of Control

(PROFOUND LORE)

**Find it in:** ROCK / METAL

Another impressive Colin Marston project. I would describe Dysrhythmia as music for musicians, meaning: If you don't play an instrument yourself, you might have a hard time appreciating what this instrumental progressive three-piece is doing. Time signature madness! Check it out.

# BILLY GIL

*I write about music  
and other things, too!*  
[crystales.bandcomp.com](http://crystales.bandcomp.com)

## Warpaint – Heads Up

(ROUGH TRADE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Warpaint have never really gotten their due, critically speaking. There aren't a lot of young bands making free-form, adventurous guitar-based music like this, especially when you consider the often breathtaking results. Perhaps it's because they eschew hooks, preferring to establish mood, instead. On this latest record, they do gun for hooks and admittedly aren't always successful. It's those in-between tracks where the real Warpaint shines through. Diaphanous, dreamy soundscapes are this band's bread and butter, and *Heads Up* still provides that in spades.

## A Tribe Called Quest –

**We Got It From Here...**

**Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Hands down, the best album of 2016. A beautiful, bittersweet comeback.

## Ablebody –

**Adult Contemporaries** (LOLIPOP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Former guitarist for The Pains Of Being Pure At Heart makes some sweet, Orange Juice-inspired jangly sounds with his new band. Catch them around town.

## Weyes Blood – Front Row Seat to Earth

(KEMADO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Natalie Mering has perfected a certain kind of morose-but-not-mournful singer/songwriter sound that any comparisons to those who came before her — think a skillful blend of The Carpenters and Vashti Bunyan — fall by the wayside. These songs are heartfelt and melodically strong, yet still retain a certain intrigue, as on the haunting single "Do You Need My Love," which pairs its directly stated lyrics with psych-pop meanderings into unknown territory. It's a delicate balance of emotion and mystery that keeps you coming back for more, again and again.

## Roses – Camera Trouble

(GROUP TIGHTENER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Roses nail every nuance to new-wave melancholia on their smashing debut. While other artists may similarly mine the territory of churchbell-chime guitars, Peter Hook basslines and synth melodicism, Roses fit in perfect details, like the handclaps and drum machine breakdown in "It's Eerie" and lovelorn OMD-ish coda to "Julian March," that make the whole thing hum. The best album that never came out in 1984.

## The Squids – O Shrek Yes

(LOLIPOP)

Furiously catchy, brilliant local power-pop that'll swim around your brain for days on end.

# BRAD

## Vagabon – Infinite Worlds

(FATHER/DAUGHTER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Xiu Xiu – FORGET

(POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Cherry Glazerr –

**Apocalipstick** (SECRETLY CANADIAN)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Lowly – Heba

(BELLA UNION)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Thomas William Hill – Asylum For Eve

(VILLAGE GREEN)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

# BRIAN DAVIS

*Ya can't knock it, baby, it's just the hustle:*  
<https://youtu.be/rQAdtoEnqul>

## Angel Olsen – My Woman

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Marlon Williams –

**Marlon Williams** (DEAD OCEANS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Lydia Loveless – Real

(BLOODSHOT)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

## Big Thief – Masterpiece

(SADDLE CREEK)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## EZTV – High In Place

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Julia Jacklin – Don't Let

**The Kids Win** (POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## XTC – Skylarking [30th Anniversary Definitive Edition]

(APE HOUSE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Gillian Welch – Boots No. 1: The Official

**Revival Bootleg** (ACONY)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

## Various Artists – Still In A Dream: A Story Of Shoegaze 1988-1995

(CHERRY RED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## The Chills – Kaleidoscope World

(FLYING NUN)

**Find it in:** ROCK

# BRIAN C.

## Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds – *Skeleton Tree / One More Time With Feeling* (BAD SEED LTD.)

**Find it in:** ROCK

While recording sessions were underway for his sixteenth studio album with The Bad Seeds, Nick Cave's teenage son, Arthur, died following an accidental fall from a cliff in England. The tragedy that befell the Cave family looms heavily across the album *Skeleton Tree*, and its companion documentary film, *One More Time With Feeling*, and both are stately and thoroughly haunting affairs aurally and visually. Out of unimaginable pain and loss comes perhaps the finest example of vulnerable Nick Cave, a hurt and confused family man whose songwriting — where once was vivid storytelling and sinister balladry — here comes from true personal grief. Musically stripped back and featuring more avant-garde and experimental textures than ever before, Cave and his cohorts (namely chief musician Warren Ellis) create an almost ambient setting for Cave's ruminations on death, loss, grieving and solace. Upon its September 2016 release, this album quickly shot to the top of my all-time favorite Nick Cave records, alongside similarly beautiful/miserable albums like 2001's *No More Shall We Part* and 1986's bleak *Your Funeral... My Trial*. *Skeleton Tree*'s counterpart film *One More Time With Feeling* is part performance piece and part interview, woven together by Nick Cave's aching narrative. Beautifully shot in black-and-white for most of the film's duration, in-studio performances of album tracks offer glimpses of the creative process, while interviews with Cave, Ellis, and Cave's wife, Susie, give voice to the struggle to comprehend and cope with tragedy and grieving.

The burbling static of album opener "Jesus Alone" is eerie and unsettling, where the noise threatens to erupt with every rise of strings and Cave's commanding, "With my voice, I am calling you." "Rings Of Saturn" is the only pop tune on the record, with its "whoa-oh-oh" backing vocal looping throughout, making the song almost sprightly. The piano ballad "Girl In Amber" is possibly Cave's most devastating musical moment yet: a tragic and somber tune abetted by weeping violin and funereal backing vocal swells from The Bad Seeds. "Magneto" follows dressed in black, with Cave's numbed and aching pondering supported by a slow-gaited and hollowed musical backing. Side two opener "Anthocene" boasts jazzy drumming that weaves in and out with piano and buzzing synthesizers as Cave's delivery turns almost

taunting with his "come on now, come on now" lyrics, finishing in an ominous harbinger of "Close your eyes, little world / And brace yourself." The ambient warm-up of synths, comforting backing vocals and subtle textural flourishes of drums and xylophone on following song "I Need You" makes for another of The Bad Seeds' best songs ever; Cave delivers a set of stream-of-consciousness lyrics that are both honest in their observations and gut-wrenching in their urgency. "Distant Sky," whose partial verse adorns the back cover of the album's sleeve, is a duet with Danish soprano vocalist Else Torp Schroder. The song is a pained but assuring comfort, with Torp providing relief to Cave's confused and heart-broken distress. Album closer "Skeleton Tree" bows out on a cathartic and contemplative note; Cave revises a line from opener "Jesus Alone" in his delivery: "I call out, I call out / Right across the sea / But the echo comes back empty / And nothing is for free." There's the overwhelming feeling that grief will be never-ending; 'la tristesse durera toujours.' But despite the very specific and personal background to the album, Cave and company have crafted a deeply moving album that's ambiguous enough in its approach and concept to be felt and understood in the most basic human terms: loss and suffering. And nothing's more universal than that.

# BRIAN J

*The Brian with the J*

## Justice – *Woman*

(ED BANGER/BECAUSE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Although it's not nearly as heavy as their previous work, Justice has returned with another album full of disco-era rhythms, pounding bass riffs and angelic vocals. It probably won't make you feel like a god, but it may make you speed in your car.

## The Rapture – *Echoes*

(DFA/VERTIGO/UNIVERSAL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

An early 2000s essential. Blending dance-rock with screeching guitars and wailing vocals, nearly every track has something interesting going on. Oh, and did I mention there's a cowbell solo in it? Also some of the first music produced and released by DFA Records.

## *The Handmaid's Tale* – Directed by Park Chan-wook

For those who are familiar with Park Chan-wook's master storytelling and outrageous dark humor in movies such as *Oldboy* (2003) and *Thirst* (2009), this is a must-see. True to form, *The Handmaid's Tale* boasts immaculate imagery along with a multilayered plot filled with deception, sex and a heavy dose of "what the fuck."

## *May* (2002) – Directed by Lucky McKee

A movie that can please both the art-horror fanatics and the art-horror haters. Set to the soundtrack of The Breeders and The Kelley Deal 6000, it follows a socially inept woman trying to find love while sacrificing her relationship with her best friend/childhood doll. Highly recommend for Argento fans.

## Phonogram: *The Immaterial Girl* by Kieron Gillen & Jamie McKelvie (IMAGE 2016)

Witches who use music as the source of their magic — can you think of a concept more hip than that? Every page is full of references and love for music (particularly the '80s). This is the third installment of the series, and although I would recommend starting from the beginning, each volume is its own story, and it's not totally necessary. Perfect for the music lover who wants an introduction to graphic novels.

## *Scud: The Disposable Assassin* by Rob Schrab (IMAGE 2016 REISSUE)

When it comes to imaginative vision, there isn't much that tops *Scud*. It's a science-fiction and fantasy hurricane that details the adventures of a robot assassin with a cast of unique and odd characters. Also one of the most kinetic comics in existence — seriously, once it gets moving, it doesn't stop. Fans of *Rick and Morty* will delight in this — not only is it similar in tone, but Dan Harmon guest writes some of the issues.

**Tip:**

Read more comics, go to a *Paranoids* show, and dance "till you feel better."

# BRIAN M

## Mike & Rich – *Expert Knob Twiddlers* (PLANET MU)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Deluxe reissue of a collaborative album

originally released in 1996. As an import CD way back when (I think it was \$24.99 from the local record store), and in the pre-YouTube, pre-soundclips era, was quite a daring blind buy for a perpetually broke teenager. Of course, the discographies of both Mike and Rich, even back then, were incredible. As  $\mu$ -Ziq, Mike Paradinas had released brilliant albums like *Bluff Limbo* and *In Pine Effect*, as well as memorable stuff under aliases such as Kid Spatula and Tusken Raiders, while Richard D. James as Aphex Twin was already known for both volumes of *Selected Ambient Works*, and still my favorite of his: *I Care Because You Do*, as well as numerous 12" singles (enough that two compilations had been released by '96) and his own plethora of side projects. Their collaboration here is plenty fun and catchy, featuring dashes of both of their unique sonic signatures and plenty of dwelling in the common area where their musical qualities overlap: crunchy, filtered drums, undeniable melodies on the wooziest of analog synths, screwball needle drops from moldy lounge and exotica (which was something of an order of the day, see also Stereolab and Pizzicato Five) and so on. Looking back, it seems this release formed a pivot point for both of their careers, as RDJ would soon go heavy into the laptop DSP-oriented stuff (and away from the rigidities of dance music, really) beginning with his self-titled record, while Paradinas started really assaulting breakbeats with a blooming sense of melody alongside (such as the wonderful *Lunatic Harness* album). Originally on Rich's label, this reissue now comes via Mike's—and with excellent alternate mixes and bonus tracks.

## Sloppy Heads – *Useless Smile* (SHRIMPER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The debut full-length from this Brooklyn trio after a few cassettes, 7" singles, CD-Rs and comp tracks, recorded and mixed (and assisted instrumentally) by James McNew of Yo La Tengo (not to mention his own, equally great project, Dump). While this is music that is unequivocally rooted in psychedelia and otherwise arty rock from the '60s, it's no fawning tribute to some particular moment. Throbbing tremolo'd guitars, seething transistor organ and laid-back drums occasionally give way to noise/drone/pedal-fest flare-ups and offset the gentle and lovely vocals of Ariella Stok (with a couple lead vocal turns by guitarist Jimmy Jumpjump and backing vox from Bill the Drummer). Shades of the Red Krayola and the Velvet Underground, sure — but I also hear Rainy Day, the Maps (from Boston, one amazing single from '79), the Bevis Frond's four-track years, Bongwater, the Vaselines, etc. etc. — the Heads follow a thread



of great songwriting and inspired, sometimes warped sonics that has essentially been the foundation of heavy listening my entire adult life. Recommended if you or someone you love was a college radio DJ in 1989.

## John Cale – *Fragments of a Rainy Season* (DOMINO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Long overdue reissue of Cale's 1992 live recording, also available on vinyl for the first time. While it's great to have this one back in print in any form, the bonus tracks make this one highly recommended. The original show was simply Cale — usually at the piano, sometimes guitar — and the songs. Cale is a brilliant songwriter, a fact sometimes buried among the rest of his resume: pianist with John Cage, minimalist alongside La Monte Young and Tony Conrad, co-founder of the Velvet Underground, producer of the Modern Lovers, the Stooges, Nico, and Patti Smith, session musician on Nick Drake's *Bryter Layter* — just a few examples. The stripped-down presentation of the original *Fragments* proves Cale's great talent. Indeed, it's Cale's own solo interpretation of "Hallelujah" that has become the definitive arrangement of Leonard Cohen's song. And with his own compositions, it's hard to part out the eternal beauty of, say, *Paris 1919* without considering the arrangement on the original recording. This expanded edition now features bonus tracks recorded at various live dates around the time of the original *Fragments* show, several of which feature string sections and pedal steel alongside Cale in familiar and new presentations of selections from his discography. Timeless stuff from one of the greatest.



# CHARLES D. REECE, ESQ.

## His Girl Friday [Criterion] (1940) – Directed by Howard Hawks

I haven't actually watched this new Criterion version of the best screwball comedy of all time, but it's the best screwball comedy of all time. Rosalind Russell can speak really fast, with a crisp, clearly delineated delivery that puts those mumbling method actors to shame.

## O.J.: Made in America (2016) – Directed by Ezra Edelman

The best filmic critique of racialist thought and celebrity culture I've come across. Everyone is condemned by the end. Truth is about the only thing that makes a pessimist something akin to happy, I guess. Nothing will change, but at least someone else gets it.

## Giulia Alessandrone aka Kema – *Alle Sorgenti Delle Civiltà 10*

(FINDERS KEEPERS)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Manufactured ethnological musical experiments that surely beat having to be eaten by mosquitoes to hear anything of comparable quality.

## Giafranco Reverberi – *Riti, Magie Nere E Segrete Orge Nel Trecento (aka The Reincarnation of Isabel)*

(CINEDELIC)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Made with tapes and chanting for some horror film I've never seen. The music actually makes satanism sound disturbing, rather than a way for cheesy bald dudes to get laid by movie stars. Best soundtrack discovery of the year!

## Townes Van Zandt – *Texas Rain* (CHARLY)

**Find it in:** FOLK

One of the few "duets" albums that's actually great. I don't need more from life than Freddy Fender singing with Townes. Townes belongs in the Country section.

## Mother Love Bone – *On Earth As It Is: The Complete Works*

(STARDOG)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The only good rock to come out of Seattle after Metal Church, and now you can hear everything they ever did on this here box set.

# CHRIS CURTIS

Vinyl pricer, meeples mover

Perhaps you've heard that Amoeba Hollywood carries an excellent curated selection of tabletop games? Well, you heard right! Maybe you've also heard that board and card games have improved dramatically in recent years, and are more popular than ever? Again, correct! Modern (or designer) games have more streamlined mechanics, usually play faster, and have a variety of fun and interesting themes. Plus, they bring people together for a type of interactive entertainment that is unique and satisfying. I've tried all the titles on this list in the past few months and can recommend them wholeheartedly. They are all reasonably easy to learn and offer lots of replay value. Why not host an evening of games, music and refreshments for friends or family?

## ◆ Sushi Go! – Designed by Phil Walker-Harding (GAMEWRIGHT)

(Tabletop Game) A relatively recent game mechanic is "card drafting," whereby hands are passed between players, a card is selected and the remaining hand is passed again. It's all made quite simple in this ultra-kawaii game! Imagine yourself sitting in front of a conveyor belt at a sushi restaurant selecting the tastiest feast while preventing your opponents from getting goodies for themselves. Best with three to five players. A recently released sequel/expansion, *Sushi Go Party!*, accommodates more participants and allows you to customize the "menu."

## ◆ Hanamikoji – Designed by Kota Nakayama (QUICK SIMPLE FUN)

(Tabletop Game) This two-player game is like a strategic tug-of-war where each of your decisions carries a lot of weight! Try to win the favor of the most artistic geisha in this beautifully illustrated and designed title.

## ◆ Jaipur – Designed by Sébastien Pauchon (GAMEWORKS)

(Tabletop Game) This attractive, two-player title gives the feeling of trading and selling in a bustling Indian marketplace. Casual and easy to learn but still chock full of strategic possibility.

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♦ **Kitty Paw – Designed by Aza Chen** (RENEGADE)  
(Tabletop Game) This Asian cat game has super cute components and emphasizes speed, dexterity and puzzle-solving as you race against your opponents. Can be frantic and hilarious!

♦ **Carcassonne – Designed by Klaus-Jürgen Wrede** (Z-MAN)  
(Tabletop Game) Though this game was originally released in 2000, it is still very popular and can be revelatory for new players. Players take turns laying tiles to create a tableau of the French countryside. Many choices and possibilities at every turn! The game is easy to learn and has broad appeal. Watch for the Star Wars edition!

## CHRISTY

**Deap Vally – Femejism**  
(NEVADO)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

**SURVIVE – RR7349** (RELAPSE)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

**Ryuichi Sakamoto – Music for Film** (SILVA SCREEN)  
*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**The Weeknd – Starboy** (REPUBLIC)  
*Find it in:* SOUL



**A Winged Victory For The Sullen – Iris [Original Soundtrack]** (ERASED TAPES)  
*Find it in:* ROCK, EXPERIMENTAL, SOUNDTRACKS

**AND IN CASE YOU MISSED THESE EARLIER 2016 RELEASES:**

**Nothing – Tired of Tomorrow** (RELAPSE)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

**Savages – Adore Life** (MATADOR)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

## COURTNEY FRYSTAK KERZNER

[www.darkandsombergreetings.com](http://www.darkandsombergreetings.com)

**Deth Crux – Pears of Anguish EP [Cassette]** (T(R)APE)  
*Find it in:* GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

Five-piece death/goth/post-punk rock band from Los Angeles, featuring members of Ides of Gemini, Lightning Swords of Death, Glaare, Ancestors, and Buried at Sea.

**Mustard Gas & Roses – Becoming** (THE MYLENE SHEATH)  
*Find it in:* METAL

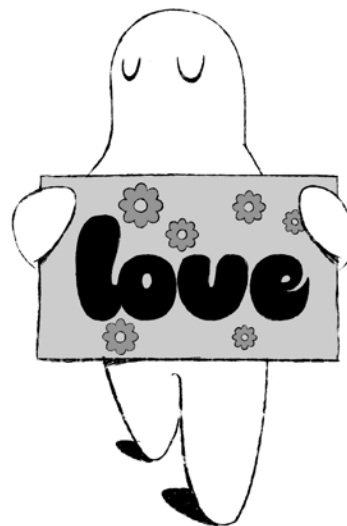
Beautiful instrumental ambient metal/rock, featuring members of Isis, Ides of Gemini/Black Mare, Chelsea Wolfe, Black Math Horseman/Mother Tongue.

**Drab Majesty – Careless** (DAIS)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

Dreamy new wave/synth pop/goth/post-punk. Deb Demure is a magical alien unicorn, floating on a cloud of despair, sprinkling glitter all over our heads.

**Glaare – Surrender/Control [Cassette]** (SELF-RELEASED)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

A three-piece darkwave/synth pop band from L.A., featuring sweetly melodic, at times haunting, female vocals.



**Ides of Gemini – Old World New Wave** (NEUROT)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

Hauntingly moving, ethereal doom rock.

**Iggy Pop – Post Pop Depression** (LOMA VISTA)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

I love Iggy Pop and Josh Homme, so what's not to like? No brainer.

**Darkthrone – Arctic Thunder** (PEACEVILLE)  
*Find it in:* BLACK METAL  
Darkthrone!! All the metal in this one. Simple old-school sound, stripped down, thrashtastic.

**Tip:**  
Check on Tuesday nights at Footsies in Highland Park, great metal DJ night!

## DAVE C

[www.catorce.net](http://www.catorce.net)

**A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here... Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)  
*Find it in:* HIP HOP

**LNZNDRF – LNZNDRF** (4AD)

**Nothing – Tired Of Tomorrow** (RELAPSE)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

**Angel Olsen – My Woman** (JAGJAGUWAR)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

**Morgan Delt – Phase Zero** (SUB POP)  
*Find it in:* ROCK

## DAVID WATKINS

**Luis Bacalov – L'Amica [Original Soundtrack]** (CINEDELIC)  
*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Margo Guryan – 29 Demos** (MODERN HARMONIC)  
*Find it in:* ROCK OLDIES

**Lee Hazlewood – Cowboy in Sweden** (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)  
*Find it in:* ROCK OLDIES

**Ennio Morricone – Escalation [Original Soundtrack]** (DIGITMOVIES)  
*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Ennio Morricone – I Pugnì In Tasca [Original Soundtrack]** (DAGORED)  
*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Penthouse 5 – It's All My Own Bizarre Dream** (BREAK-A-WAY)  
*Find it in:* OLDIES

**Nino Rota – Toby Dammit [Original Soundtrack]** (BELLA CASA)  
*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Wally Tax – Love In** (MUSIC ON VINYL)  
*Find it in:* OLDIES





**Piero Umiliani – La Legge Dei Gangsters [Original Soundtrack]** (DAGORED)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

**The SEEDS – The Seeds**

(GNP/CRESCENDO)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

# DAVIS JONZ

**Ryan Adams – 1989** (PAX AM)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Granted, this album was released in September 2015, and it's now 2017, but this Ryan Adams record is superbly timeless. A track-for-track re-recording of Taylor Swift's *1989*, and I must say while Taylor's is good, this one is fantastic! In his own words, Ryan stated, in regards to the recording style, "It's a mixture of Springsteen's *Darkness at the Edge of Town* and the Smiths' *Meat is Murder*," which I believe is a pretty accurate statement of these recordings. His version kicks off with "Welcome to New York" (as does Taylor's), but the meat of this record is almost squarely in the middle with "All You Had To Do Was Stay" and "Shake It Off." To be honest it is really hard to pick out key tracks here as they all really good pure Ryan Adams' interpretations. You will not be disappointed with this record, I guarantee you. Mind you this was my first introduction to Ryan Adams' music, and I was so impressed, I bought all of his other records. This man is an amazing recording artist.

**Ariana Grande – My Everything / Dangerous Woman** (REPUBLIC)

**Find it in:** POP VOCAL

In the age of mixed genres and miscatogorized artists (see: The Weeknd), Ariana Grande is pure pop, and it's FANTASTIC! Having been out of the retail music biz myself for some time, coming to Amoeba opened my ears to some brand new music, one of which being Ariana's second release, *My Everything*, which I picked up out of curiosity. This album rocks... err... POPs, that is, with tracks like "Break Free" and "Bang Bang." But quite frankly, this whole record is really good — pop at its unabashed best! The only negative critique here is the really unnecessary rap from Big Sean in "Best Mistake"; it's out of place and not a good rap at all. *Dangerous Woman*, Ariana's third release, is just as fantastic, if not better than *My Everything* — hooks galore! "Into You" and "Side by Side" are the best, sans the Nicki Minaj rap, which cheapens the song. A rap can bring an extra level to a song, but Nicki's and Big Sean's seem to really be out of place on these records. If you are into PURE POP vocals and fun jams, then these records will not steer you wrong!

# DYLAN

*Legalize Ranch*

**Moonlight (2016) – Directed by Barry Jenkins**

IT'S SO PRETTY! Just an incredible story. With an ending that the world needs.

**Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!** (GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Everything future young Lando touches turns to gold and my senses melt. From this to *Atlanta*, there isn't much this Donald Glover can't do.

**Run the Jewels – Run the Jewels 3** (RUN THE JEWELS, INC.)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

More of those same, good, revolutionary bangers.

**La La Land (2016) – Directed by Damien Chazelle**

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Okay. Yeah. I thought it was fun. Like a lot of fun. And I thought it was catchy. Like reeeeeeeally catchy. So what? You might also.

**Our Revolution: A Future to Believe In by Bernie Sanders**

(THOMAS DUNN BOOKS)

You know, I just like the guy. Is he perfect... nah. But he is a smart cat who is very close to breaking the two party system and I'm all for that.

**Tip:**

*I don't know how... and I don't know why. But you should listen to the Orbiting Human Circus of the Air.*

# ELIAS

**Quasimoto – The Unseen**

(STONES THROW)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

**DOOM – Born Like This** (LEX)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

**The Bhagavad Gita As It Is by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada**

I believe every human should read this book. It not only helps you understand the science of being human but also explains universal spiritual laws. If you're looking for spiritual guidance this is the perfect book to begin with. You can find this book in the philosophy or clearance section at times. If you can't find it at our store I recommend picking up a copy whenever you stumble across it. It will change your life

**The Butterfly Effect (2004) – Directed by Eric Bress & J. Mackye Gruber**

*This is a list of movies pertaining to the wonder of time. these three movies go great together.*

**Cloud Atlas (2012) – Directed by Lana Wachowski, Tom Tykwer, Lilly Wachowski**

**Looper (2012) – Directed by Rian Johnson**

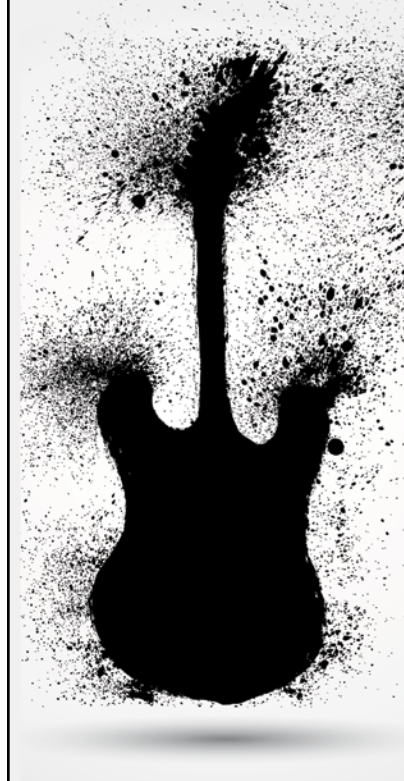
**Pan's Labyrinth (2006) – Directed by Guillermo del Toro**

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# ERVIN ARANA

Root Down Sound System / Soul Simple.

## J.Cole – 4 Your Eyez Only

(INTERSCOPE / DREAMVILLE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Mature hip hop audiences will appreciate the artistry and storytelling elements that went into this album!

## A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It from Here... Thank You 4 Your Service

(EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

For all true hip hop culture practitioners and enthusiasts, you need this in your life!

## Kaytranada – 99.9%

(XL / HW&V)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

First solo debate does not disappoint! Soulful, hardhitting, modern hip hop / housy beats and vibes. Visit his incredible work of remixes and special edits on his soundcloud account! <https://soundcloud.com/kaytranada>

## Stro Elliot – Stro Elliot

(STREET CORNER)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Just do yourself a favor and copp this album! As an added bonus, go check him out on bandcamp and take advantage of all the freebies he put out throughout the years. You welcome! <https://stro.bandcamp.com/music>

## Thievery Corporation – Temple of I & I

(ESL)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

If you know Thievery Corporation, then you already know how consistent they've been in their illustrious 20 year career. These Jamaica Sessions recorded in Port Antonio will not disappoint!

## Alicia Keys – Here

(RCA)

**Find it in:** SOUL

I love the soulful R&B sound of Alicia Keys, but this feels like a straight up hip hop album. I love it!

## Ervin Arana – Cypher Adikts

(SOUL SIMPLE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

A little something I put together. Nu-Jazz, Hip Hop & Bboy breaks seamlessly mixed just for you!

## Demu The Fudgemunk – Vignettes

(REDEFINITION)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Two hours of soulful, jazzy hip hop to stimulate your mind. Pete Rock fans would love this!

## Funky DL – February EP: A Rest in Beats Tribute to the Sounds of J Dilla & Nujabes

(WASHINGTON CLASSICS)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

If you're a fan, you'll need this!

## Jungle Fire – Jambu

(NACIONAL)

**Find it in:** WORLD

L.A.'s very own is back with their 2nd album. Rooted in afro latin funk, this will put a smile on your face!

## Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!

(GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

This feels like a P-Funk album!

# FELIX A.K.A. SIGILS

<https://twitter.com/SigilsFelixH>

## Yotam Avni – Tehillim 12

(STROBOSCOPIC ARTEFACTS)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## Daedelus – Labyrinths

[Cassette] (DOMES OF DOOM)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## Loscil – Monument Builders

(KRANKY)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## Schwarzmodul – Schwarzmodul EP

[Cassette] (TRACK NUMBER RECORDS)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## VC-118A – Shift Register

(TABERNACLE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here... Thank You 4 Your Service

(EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

## Jóhann Jóhannsson – Orphée

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Featuring: Anthony Weeden, Paul Hillier, Theatre Of Voices**

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

## John Frusciante – Foregrow EP

(ACID TEST)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

## William Basinski – A Shadow In Time

(2062)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

## Tim Hecker – Love Streams

(4AD)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

## VUM – Cryptocrystalline

(SECRET LODGE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## DJ Earl – Open Your Eyes

(TEKLIFE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

# HILAND.

## Yo La Tengo – Murder In The Second Degree

(EGON)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Iain Shaw & David Shrigley – Listening To Slayer

[Cassette] (ALREADY DEAD TAPES AND RECORDS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Leon Redbone – Long Way From Home: Early Recordings

(THIRD MAN)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Ween – GodWeenSatan Live 9/14/01

(CHOCODOG)

**Find it in:** ROCK

# HILDOG

Professional girl.

## Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!

(GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

This record is flooded with ethereal harmonies and mind-numbing, powerful lyrics that will drive you mad. Heavily inspired by funk legends Parliament-Funkadelic, the album is a gracious and incredibly intricate bow to George Clinton and the the entire community of '70s feel-good, intelligent soul while maintaining a contemporary sound that is all its own. The record is inspirationally solid without one number lacking in the thick, pulpy sound that makes it one of my favorite picks in quite some time.

## Angel Olsen – My Woman

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I have a serious connection with every song on this. Truthfully, if you gave nothing else on this list a chance, I would be happy to hear you even entertained the idea of this album. Vaguely familiar with her previous couple of records, I've never been impressed enough by anything in her discography to stop me in my tracks. That is, until *My Woman* came along. Every song is beautiful and honest and simple. The whole record maintains a good balance between upbeat optimism and cool, intimate introspection. It's the perfect record to put on alone within the solitary confines of your room or to blast in the car with someone you care for. Both will have you furrowing your brow in the most positive auditory frustration.

## Bon Iver – 22, A Million

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Very pleasantly surprising for me. Sad, sweet, sleepy and sultry songs arranged in quite an endearingly chaotic manner, with some seriously impressive and intensely personal production courtesy of Justin Vernon himself. The record yearns to be understood as he spins his own dramatically poetic slang and fills the silence with the unintelligible noises of his psyche resulting in a unique use of autobiographical storytelling.

## Leonard Cohen – You Want It Darker

(COLUMBIA)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Every note sets my tear ducts at the ready. His last album is lovely and pure. His voice is



simultaneously soft and rough, and it is warmly familiar and distant, like that of an estranged relative. Back to front, each song sends me into a hazy state of melancholy and I hope it does the same for you. The final song, his final song, is chillingly regal, and the strings can paint you into an imaginary vignette of his last moments.

### **A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It from Here...**

**Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

FIRST ALBUM IN 18 YEARS and it holds up! Hit after hit after hit, *We Got It from Here...* is truly a topical and cultural work of outstanding artistry. Please take a listen for yourself and then show it to all of your friends.

### **NxWorries – Yes Lawd!**

(STONES THROW)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

### **Ryo Fukui – Scenery** (TRIO)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

### **Austra – Future Politics**

(DOMINO)

**Find it in:** ROCK

### **Run the Jewels –**

**Run the Jewels 3** (RUN THE JEWELS, INC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

### **Brian Eno – Reflection** (WARP)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

# COYOTL A.K.A MR. MYSTERIOUS

*Struggling Musician  
born and raised in Los Angeles*

### **HORSE The Band –**

**Desperate Living** (ROADRUNNER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

This is HORSE The Band's latest album from 2009, entering the studio for the eighth time. This album has everything people who love

8-bit nintendo sounds with heavy influences. This is, however, where I feel they refined their sound. Showing a mature color to nostalgia, we see HORSE The Band find a new potential that continues with their love for their roots but also shows growth in their musicianship with their lyrics.

"Shapeshift" was the first song I heard, and immediately, I said to myself, "They stepped up their game big time." Immediately you hear the refined sound that is HORSE The Band, Grom amazing changes in time signatures to all of a sudden dancing in the middle of the song back to headbanging to creating anthem type sounds.

Most people have heard of this band from their early days in 2003/2002 with R. Borlax, however, I must say if this is a genre that you are barely discovering and wanting to see the many different colors of this type of music, I feel this album best exemplifies that, from Nathan growing as a singer to Lord Gold finding new dimensions which makes infinity look like a number 4, to David Isen's beautiful tone. It all blends from five members to create a power glove fist that punches you and knocks you out like glass joe.

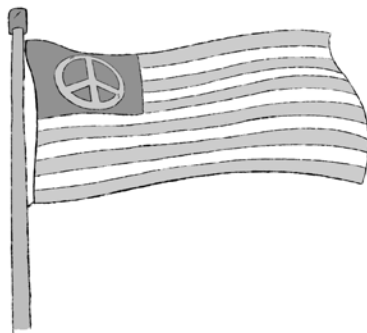
Welcome to the world that is HORSE The Band

Where power gloves are relevant

Where H The B is chanted out loud

Where your life ended and was reborn with HORSE The Band's image in mind

If you like the nintendocore sound, check out the many different types. There are ones that predominately scream, but there are others that have more singing, like math the band.



# IZZYNova

::\*Penetrating deep space\*::

"Do you see anything?"

::\*satisfying grin\*::

"Neither do I"

### **Sand – Sylph Ballet**

(ROTORELIEF)

**Find it in:** ROCK, EXPERIMENTAL

Listening to this collection of unreleased tracks from experimental German band Sand (including one from Current 93 and one from Nurse With Wound) makes one feel like they're following a haunting sound heard in the distance that continues to travel at the same pace as your search, without revealing itself. Only glimpses of its full manifestation can be caught. Taking it further, imagine going through an initiation in a dark, wet forest, with healing pockets of light from unseen sources amongst the shadows. Most "accessible" song is "This Morning Has Blown You Away."

### **Annie Anxiety –**

**Soul Possession** (DAIS)

**Find it in:** ROCK, DUB

Weirdo experimental dub of the finest kind, done right by Sherwood our Lord and Savior, with gut-wrenchingly beautiful vocals/lyrics by Annie Anxiety (member of Crass)... traveling to many ah' far out spaces, borderline industrial. Recommended track: "Third Gear."

### **Desmond Leslie –**

**Music of the Future**

**[Reissue]**

(REISSUE ON TRUNK RECORDS 2005, ORIGINAL ON MUSIQUE CONCRETE 1960)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONIC

Originally released in 1960 on the Musique Concrete label, this album is a collection of electronic music that Leslie composed for various sci-fi films from '55-'59. :::Lift off::: explore interplanetary systems in depth down to their boiling cores, attend an alien communication seminar, experience a chamber choir sung from life forms unknown to man, relax in a bubbling mud bath at a spa from the sixth dimension. Travel from eerie moods that make one question their darkest fears of the unknown, to ebullient adventures full of spontaneous splendor! For the weirdos out there!

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*The Battlefield performing at last year's Make Music Hollywood.*

# June 21, 2017



*Arthur Autumn performing at last year's Make Music Hollywood.*

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## Conjunto Folklórico Nacional De Cuba – *Ciclo Yorubá. (Vol. I)*

(AREITO)

**Find it in:** WORLD

All percussion, with complex, off-kilter, wobbly, tribalesque polyrhythms that make you wanna move every part of your body. "This is the music that just makes you let go." – Tim Koh

## Popol Vuh – *In Den Gärten Pharaos [Reissue]*

(REISSUE ON WAH WAH 2013 / ORIGINAL ON PILZ 1971)

**Find it in:** ROCK ELECTRONIC

PV's second album incorporates electronic and tribal music, with hints of free jazz and minimal field recordings... like going on a self-explorative voyage through oceanic lands found both externally and internally, a place with open access to nature's secrets. May cause psychotropic effects, deep meditation, forgetfulness of the physical body, etc. Relax into it, preferably with eyes closed and ear passages open. I recommend listening/experiencing in its entirety.

## Creation Rebel & New Age Steppers – *Threat to Creation [Reissue]*

(ANTHOLOGY)

**Find it in:** REGGAE

Heavy. Stoney. Droopy. Spatial. Massaged by Sherwood.

## Manuel Göttsching – *Inventions for Electric Guitar [Reissue]*

(MG.ART 2016, ORIGINAL ON KOSMISCHE MUSIK 1975)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONIC

One of the original and current members of Ash Ra Temple, Göttsching tapped into something truly captivating on this debut solo release; his warm, natural flow and majestic grace enchants the listener as he layers driving guitar and electronic sequences that fluidly blend within each other.

## Derdiyoklar Ikilisi – *Disko Folk [Reissue]*

(REISSUE ON GUERSSSEN 2012 / ORIGINAL ON TÜRKÜOLA 1980)

**Find it in:** WORLD

One can hardly keep still when listening to the heavy-steady-groovy sounds from Turkish duo Derdiyoklar Ikilisi. Masterfully produced, incorporating guitar, traditional instruments and synthesizers, all manicured with spacey reverb, phasers and delay.

## Baka – *Cameroon: Baka Pygmy Music*

(ODEON/EMI)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Field recordings taken in the South African jungles of Cameroon, showcasing the raw, highly complex polyphonic vocal choirs and percussive polyrhythms ceremonially performed by the Baka people. Pure magic.

## Suzanne Ciani – *Buchla Concerts 1975*

(FINDERS KEEPERS)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE, ELECTRONIC, EXPERIMENTAL

Former employee of the Buchla synthesizer co. When listening to these archived performances, it is quite clear that she possesses an intuitive connection with the instrument, harnessing its continuously morphing nature with a strong musical and sequential sensibility. Lifts me out of this realm and into a weightless, timeless space.

## Harold Budd – *The Pavilion of Dreams*

(OBSCURE)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE, ELECTRONIC

If one were to meditate in a garden that is awake, swaying with your breath. Can take you into a calming, serene space, reassuring you that all is okay and as it should be, right now.

## Laraaji – *All In One Peace [Cassette]*

(STONES THROW/LEAVING)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE

Bless-ed music with special, secret powers.

## Bernard Gagnon – *Musique Electronique 1975-1983*

(TENZIER)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONIC, EXPERIMENTAL

If you jive with Leslie and other experimental electronic artists and have trusted me thus far in that department, give this fellow a try (without descriptive pre-exposure).



# JOE C.

*dodging lions and wasting time*

## Gillian Welch – *Boots No. 1: The Official Revival Bootleg*

(ACONY)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

Studio and home demos of this brilliant folk/roots duo. Beautiful cuts. Sing me back home, Gillian.

## John Prine – *In Spite of Ourselves*

(OH BOY!)

**Find it in:** FOLK

Vinyl reissue of this classic Prine duet album. Can't get enough of these straightforward love songs. The harmonies, the pedal steel, and fiddle. It doesn't get much better than this.

## Bob Weir – *Blue Mountain*

(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Cowboy Bob rides again. With backing from members of The National. Very moody, and lyrically, it's naturally reflective of a man nearing the end of the trail.

## Dave Rawlings Machine – *Nashville Obsolete*

(ACONY)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

Existential crisis got you down?

**Tip:**

Check out Viva Cantina in Burbank. Live music, from bluegrass to jazz and everything in between, 7 nights a week.

# JON

## Goatess – *Purgatory Under New Management*

(SVART)

**Find it in:** METAL

## Navajo Witch – *Ghost Sickness*

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** METAL

## Funky DL – *February EP: A Rest in Beats Tribute to the Sounds of J Dilla & Nujabes*

(WASHINGTON CLASSICS)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

## Gatecreeper – *Sonoran Deprivation*

(RELAPSE)

**Find it in:** METAL

## Alcest – *Kodama*

(PROPHECY)

**Find it in:** METAL

## Elaquent – *Worst Case Scenario*

(URBNET)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

## Witchthroat Serpent – *Sang-Dragon*

(DEADLIGHT)

**Find it in:** METAL

## Mars Red Sky – *Apex III (Praise for the Burning Soul)*

(LISTENABLE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Busted Outlook – *Not Defined by Violence*

(REFUSE)

**Find it in:** PUNK

## Zilanova – *The Fader 7"*

(HOPESTREET)

**Find it in:** SOUL

## Izzy Bizu – *Moment of Madness*

(EPIC)

**Find it in:** SOUL

# JEBBE

## Gonjasufi – *Callus*

(WARP)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Album of the year. If you haven't heard this, you need to. This is his best release since Gonjasufi's first album, *A Sufi and a Killer*, which was produced by the Gaslamp Killer and Flying Lotus. Being on Warp Records, it's a bit curious that we keep it in the Rock/Pop section. That being said, it's genre bending and so simultaneously belongs nowhere and everywhere. Stay tuned for his "What's In My Bag?" episode on Amoeba.com.

## Bobby Beausoleil – *Lucifer Rising [Original Soundtrack]*

(AJNA)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

After Jimmy Page dropped out of doing the score for his film, Kenneth Anger asked Bobby

Beausoleil — former Manson family member serving a life sentence for murder — to record a score for him while in prison. Spooky, cult, private press recording.

## Nina Simone

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Mentioning Miss Simone because I'm only just getting into her, and recently there have been many reissues as well as the documentary *What Happened, Miss Simone?* I've been aware of her classics for a long time, but discovering her later, live, angry recordings has been eye-opening. Look up "Pirate Jenny" at Carnegie Hall on youtube for a taste.

## Kate Bush – Before the Dawn

(CONCORD/FISH PEOPLE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Like Miss Simone, I've only discovered Kate Bush since working at Amoeba. She just released a 3-disc live set that was recorded during a 22-day residency in London in 2014. My two favorite albums of hers are *The Dreaming* and *Hounds of Love* and there are plenty of samplings from both. While it might not be the best place to start out for someone new to Kate Bush, it's brilliant in itself.

## The Shaggs – Philosophy Of The World

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** ROCK

What can I say about this album that hasn't already been said? It's just been reissued on Light in the Attic and sounds better than ever. My pal's name is Foot Foot.

## Xiu Xiu – Xiu Xiu Plays the Music of Twin Peaks

(POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Xiu Xiu is an experimental/noise pop-band... if that makes sense. They took on the task of reimagining the music of *Twin Peaks*, and they killed it. A darker, more disturbing sound than the original score.

## Tobacco – Sweatbox Dynasty

(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

His gnarliest yet. Unfortunately, I chose a different show when he (and his "band") performed at the Echoplex in October, but I saw some videos and heard some reviews and now greatly regret my choice.

## Deerhoof – The Magic (POLYVINYL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

While I haven't had the chance to fully digest this one, I can say confidently that they've nailed it again. There aren't many bands that are able to pull off what Deerhoof pulls off time and again. Smart noise-pop.

## Tim Heidecker – In Glendale

(JAGJAGUWAR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

I'm a huge fan of *Tim and Eric*. I've loved the stuff Tim has been doing with Heidecker and Wood, though they were clearly tongue-in-cheek. When I heard that Tim wanted this to be taken seriously musically, I was intrigued and concerned. Halfway into the first song, I realized that this was also a joke. Being a new transplant to Los Angeles, it was fun listening to all the cultural and geographical references. Check out the video for "Work from Home" on YouTube.

# KWAME JAW

*Music is a universal language*

## Gabriel Garzón-Montano –

*Jardin* (STONES THROW)

**Find it in:** SOUL

Gabriel Garzón-Montano's *Jardin* is a soothing, rhythmic and melodious piece of work from start to finish. The album starts off with the very smooth track entitled "Trial." The second track on the album, "Sour Mango," is probably my favorite on the entire record. It has a cross between an upbeat feeling and a groovy electric vibe. The album also ends on a slow, somber and smooth note with the final song, appropriately named "Lullaby."

## Tame Impala – Currents

(MODULAR/UNIVERSAL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Tame Impala's latest album *Currents* is the crowning masterpiece of their career in my opinion. Every single song on the album is catchy, memorable and timeless. The album came out in 2015 but seems like it came out a week ago. The opening track, "Let It Happen," is an electrifying, high-energy filled song sure to get you singing along. My favorite song on the album is "Eventually," not only because of the musicianship and sound, but because of the lyrics, as well as Kevin Parker's amazing voice.

## Post Malone – Stoney (REPUBLIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Post Malone's debut album, *Stoney*, is nothing short of a true listening pleasure all throughout. Malone began to garner major attention with the release of his song entitled "White Iverson," which is on the album as well. This breakout song led to the eventual production and release of this album, which has skyrocketed Malone into the spotlight of the rap world. With collaborations from Kehlani, Quavo & Justin Bieber, *Stoney* is definitely an album worth giving a listen to.

## Metallica – Hardwired... To Self-Destruct

(BLACKENED)

**Find it in:** ROCK

*Hardwired... To Self-Destruct*, which is the latest album from '80s thrash metal band Metallica, is probably my favorite release from the band since *...And Justice For All*. The album is very reminiscent of their earlier work like albums *Master of Puppets* and *Kill 'Em All*, also blending some of their newer style from albums like *Death Magnetic*. This album really brings a nostalgic feeling to listeners who have followed the band since the days of them playing local venues in the Bay Area. I would definitely recommend this record to anyone who is a fan of earlier Metallica.

## Grimes – Art Angels (4AD)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Grimes' latest album, *Art Angels*, is the culmination of her sounds and her growth as an artist as well as a person. The record includes hard hitting tracks like "Venus Fly," which features Janelle Monáe and electronic feel-good songs such as "Butterfly." Unlike her album *Visions*, I feel as if *Art Angels* reaches a more mainstream audience, with a more pop-heavy feel as opposed to her very ambient and atmospheric earlier material. Overall this record is one to be remembered years from now.

## Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!

(GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** SOUL

The most recent release from rapper, actor & writer Donald Glover — more commonly known as Childish Gambino — *Awaken, My Love!* is a major shift from his earlier material and honestly my favorite project he has ever released. Pulling heavily from the likes of Parliament and early funkadelic & soulful music, the album opens up a whole new side to Glover, who sings on almost every track, with very little to no rapping whatsoever. Songs such as "Me And Your Mama" seem very funk & rock inspired. The whole album gives off a

arthouse  
documentary  
anime  
foreign

movies we like,  
every day

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live music  
filming  
beer  
premieres

amongst other  
things

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very nostalgic vibe which is criticised by many and appreciated by even more. This album has infinite replay value and I will definitely be listening to it years from now.

## **Animals As Leaders – The Madness of Many** (SUMERIAN)

**Find it in:** METAL

Animals As Leaders, the progressive instrumental jazz fusion metal band from Washington, D.C. has released yet another album, entitled *The Madness of Many*. This album is intricate and fascinating, from the artwork all the way down to the drumming of Matt Garstka and the amazing musicianship of lead guitarist Tosin Abasi. I would definitely recommend this record to those who enjoy technical, jazz fusion, metal & instrumental music.

# KR BLAIR- HENDERSON

## □ **OJ: Made In America (2016) – Directed by Ezra Edelman**

I found the prospect of watching a 7.5 hour documentary about OJ daunting, to say the least. I never cared much about OJ or the charade his murder trial blossomed into. That said, I absolutely loved every fascinating minute of this film. It's an incredibly rich portrait of not only OJ as a tragic hero-turned-villain, but it gives great insight into him and the outcome of his trial by carefully setting the scene in Los Angeles. The history of Los Angeles, the LAPD, the civil rights movement, the power of celebrity and the flawed justice system all have their parts to play in this epic story. Ezra Edelman crafted a masterful story that kept me guessing and switching allegiances throughout. This is the kind of documentary that I would favorably compare to the work of Errol Morris, Werner Herzog and Joshua Oppenheimer.

## ☞ **Patience by Daniel Clowes** (FANTAGRAPHICS)

The only description on the back cover reads, "A cosmic time warp deathtrip to the primordial infinite of everlasting love." At first glance, this seems like absurd hyperbole or perhaps some misleading marketing copy. Upon finishing the book, I realized that no single statement could more accurately encapsulate the journey

this story takes you on. I am now under the impression that this distillation came from Clowes himself. Its truth and eloquence seem beyond the grasp of mere mortal marketers. For Clowes fans, this book is a home run, do not hesitate. If you're new to Clowes, you are about to become a fan. It's got time travel, a salty badass protagonist, impeccable art and design, and a story that breaks your heart and makes you want to read it again right away.

## ■ **The Lobster (2015) – Directed by Yorgos Lanthimos**

This absurdist black comedy was the best thing I saw all year. The rules that govern the world of *The Lobster* are in many ways the star of the film, and watching the characters forced into corners by these rules is completely enthralling.

## **Sturgill Simpson – A Sailor's Guide to Earth** (ATLANTIC)

**Find it in:** COUNTRY

This is a great modern country record, full of soul, urgency, lush dynamic arrangements and a very unlikely but excellent Nirvana cover. This is the antidote to the pop-country that has otherwise ruined the genre.

## **Angelo Badalementi – Twin Peaks [Original Soundtrack]**

(DEATH WALTZ)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

This soundtrack was one of the most important albums of my youth, and Death Waltz has done right by all the eager fans with this fantastic reissue. The new master sounds smoother and even more hypnotic than the original CD release, and let's be honest, there are few records that belong on vinyl as much as this one.

## **Angelo Badalementi – Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me [Original Soundtrack]**

(DEATH WALTZ)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Like the original show soundtrack, this is haunting and essential listening from my youth. It manages to be even darker and goes into stranger, more terrifying places than the score of the show. The packaging is a nice compliment to the show score, and likewise, it feels like vinyl was made to produce sounds like this.

### **Tip:**

For the cinephiles out there: Letterboxd App. Get on it.



# MARK BEAVER

*Listening like a whippersnapper.*

*"The tyranny of a prince in an oligarchy  
is not so dangerous to the public welfare  
as the apathy of a citizen in  
a democracy."*

*~ Charles de Montesquieu*

## **Shirley Collins – Lodestar** (DOMINO)

**Find it in:** FOLK

Collins, now 81 and as strong a contender for a British Living Legend Award as anyone, releases her first solo album in four decades! Recorded in her own living room, *Lodestar* bears the comfort born of truly understanding one's craft. Relax and let experience tell you important stories.

## **Car Seat Headrest – Teens of Denial** (MATADOR)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Rough and ready poppy, punky songs not too far afield from early Beck, but with their own particular punch and texture. There's an earnest, bratty wistfulness here that works.

## **Dungen – Häxan** (MEXICAN SUMMER)

**Find it in:** ROCK, SOUNDTRACKS

Their first instrumental album, crafted as a new soundtrack to the 1926 animated film *The Adventures of Prince Achmed*. Can't say how well

it works in that capacity, but it gathers all of Dungen's strengths while pushing forward the wide variety of instruments and organ that have taken more of a back seat in the past. Sublime.

## **Jóhann Jóhannsson – Arrival [Original Soundtrack]**

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

Layered, swelling, and collapsing waves of piano and strings along with manipulated voice add up to a spooky, compelling, exhilarating listen. It's been on repeat for weeks. Strong contender for my favorite album of 2016.

## **Thee Oh Sees – A Weird Exits**

(CASTLE FACE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Alternately all-out attack and drone jam, *A Weird Exits* is their first studio recording utilizing dual drummers; a feature that made their early shows so primal and intoxicating. This is the full package.

## **Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith & Suzanne Ciani – Sunergy: FRKWYS Vol. 13** (RVNG INTL.)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL, NEW AGE

The RVNG label's *FRKWYS* series pairs an upcoming young artist with one of the artists that have influenced them. Kaitlyn Aurelia Smith and Suzanne Ciani found that they both lived in the same town, and it seemed a given that they should make music together, so RVNG got them to set up their Buchlas in close proximity, and magic ensued.

## **Deru – 1979** (FRIENDS OF FRIENDS)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONIC

Chamber music for the artificially intelligent.

## **Chi – The Original Recordings** (ASTRAL INDUSTRIES)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONIC

Reissue of the Dutch collective's 1985 recordings made of Juno 60 and JX3P synths, guitars, percussion, flutes, organ and tape loops. Very trippy, slightly hippie and soooooo easy to listen to.

## **Radiohead – A Moon Shaped Pool** (XL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Their strongest effort since *OK Computer*. Their hearts seem committed to this project, and it shows in the strength of the compositions and performances.



**Cliff Martinez – The Neon Demon [Original Soundtrack]**

(MILAN)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

When great scores happen to bad films. Without this soundscape, this film's lack of depth would have been all too apparent. Luckily, you can listen without watching it.

## MEGGIE

**Deap Vally – Femejism**

(NEVADO)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Sheer Mag – Compilation**

(WILSUNS)

*Find it in:* PUNK

**Feels – Feels** (CASTLE FACE)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Hinds – Leave Me Alone**

(MOM + POP)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Sleigh Bells – Jessica Rabbit**

(OMNIAN / TORN CLEAN)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Crystal Fairy – Crystal Fairy**

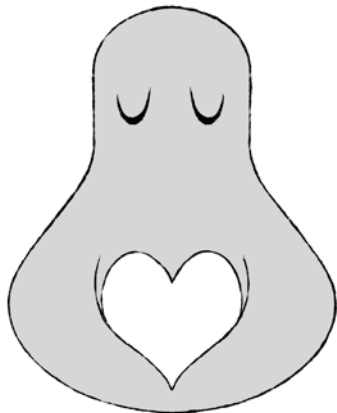
(IPECAC)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Late Slip – Other Men**

(SELF-RELEASED)

*Find it in:* ROCK



## PEGGY

**The Descendents – Hypercaffium Spazzinate**

(EPITAPH)

*Find it in:* PUNK

**Jeff Rosenstock – Worry.**

(SIDEONEDUMMY)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**The Flatliners – Nerves 7"**

(DINE ALONE)

*Find it in:* PUNK

**Kurt Braunohler & Kristen Schaal – Hot Tub with Kurt and Kristen Live at The Virgil**

(KILL ROCK STARS)

*Find it in:* COMEDY

**Against Me! – Shape Shift With Me** (TOTAL TREBLE MUSIC)

*Find it in:* PUNK

## DOOMDEATH

music, cats, records... death

**Darkthrone – Arctic Thunder**

(PEACEVILLE)

*Find it in:* BLACK METAL

**Shape Of Despair – Alone In The Mist** (SEASON OF MIST)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Inquisition – Bloodshed Across The Empyrean Altar Beyond The Celestial Zenith**

(SEASON OF MIST)

*Find it in:* BLACK METAL

**GAS – BOX** (KOMPAKT)

*Find it in:* ELECTRONICA

**Pye Corner Audio – Stasis**

(GHOST BOX)

*Find it in:* ELECTRONICA

**The Caretaker – Everywhere At The End Of Time**

(HISTORY ALWAYS FAVOURS THE WINNERS)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Wuvable Oaf: Blood & Metal by Ed Luce** (FANTAGRAPHICS)

**A Vulgar Display Of Panthera by Joe Giron** (LESSER GODS)

**Cliff Martinez – The Neon Demon [Original Soundtrack]**

(MILAN)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Alcest – Kodama**

(PROPHECY)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Swans – The Glowing Man**

(YOUNG GOD)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Johnny Jewel – Lost River [Original Soundtrack]**

(ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Lord Time – Mandatory Human Livestock Reduction [Cassette]** (UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS)

*Find it in:* BLACK METAL

**Pure Ground – Giftgarten**

(CHONDRITIC SOUND)

*Find it in:* GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

**Clay Rendering – Fires That Cleanse 12"** (GODS OF TUNDRA)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Cold Body Radiation – The Orphean Lyre** (DUSKTONE)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Ulver – ATGCLYLSSCAP**

(HOUSE OF MYTHOLOGY)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Mike & The Melvins – Three Men And A Baby** (SUB POP)

*Find it in:* ROCK

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**Robert Turman & Aaron Dilloway – Blizzard** (FABRICA)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Jóhann Jóhannsson – Orphée**

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

*Find it in:* CLASSICAL

**Huerco S. – For Those Of You Who Have Never (And Also Those Who Have)** (PROIBITO)

*Find it in:* ELECTRONICA

**Tardigrada – Emotionale Ödnis**

(FALLEN EMPIRE)

*Find it in:* BLACK METAL

**Moonknight / Rhuith – To Love Is To Destroy [Cassette]**

(TOUR DE GARDE)

**Skepticism – Ordeal** (SVART)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Seven Sisters Of Sleep – Ezekiel's Hags** (RELAPSE)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Chthe'ilist – Le Dernier Crépuscule** (PROFOUND LORE)

*Find it in:* METAL

**75 Dollar Bill – Wood/Metal/Plastic Pattern/Rhythm/Rock**

(THIN WRIST)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Tip:**

new noise from ACTUARY IN 2017!

# PETER

Zazen and zikr

**☛ Trouble Boys: The True Story of the Replacements**

by Bob Mehr (DA CAPO PRESS)

The *Let It Be* album cover is nonchalant yet profound: four commonplace kids clustered together on a rooftop. For a someone unsure of themselves, such an image serves as invitation — this huddle of others also searching for their place in the world. Except the Replacements would

prove themselves during the 1980s to be more exceptional than ordinary. The great American rock 'n' roll band: incendiary talent colliding with subversive antics. For too long the Mats legend existed only in magazine articles, liner notes and fan accounts. The generalizations tantalized though. Paul Westerberg's ascent as an iconic songwriter. The concerts that ended either in catastrophic immolation or searing triumph. The commercial breakthroughs so often missed due to peculiar circumstances and (more often) self-sabotage. Yes, the Replacements story has been told as such. But not like Bob Mehr's comprehensive telling of the band's birth, life, and death. Here — at last — are the stories, the anecdotes and the commentary from the band members themselves and other participants long forgotten or never known that give brilliant nuance to those broadest strokes of the Mats' biography. That it took so long for the their story to be gathered in full is a shame. Therefore, applaud Mehr for his meticulous research and analysis, and cheer again the Replacements for writing an existential soundtrack for so many who reside in the gray area between growing up and growing old.

**The I Don't Cares – Wild Stab**

(DRY WOOD)

*Find it in:* ROCK

Paul Westerberg delivers another highlight in the sustained run of his “basement tapes” renaissance. His unexpected muse on this album is Juliana Hatfield (!), her guidance influencing the songs selected and her voice adding a particular warmth unknown on prior Westerberg recordings. He himself continues to be a rascal, a romantic, a rogue — a shapeshifter who is never anything less than sincere.

**Pinegrove – Cardinal**

(RUN FOR COVER)

*Find it in:* ROCK

This gust of an album churns with the ramshackle joy of the ephemeral bands that play college house parties. Tentative naivety intermingles with midnight wisdom throughout songs that could accompany either a road trip with friends or a lonely night in one's room.

**Merle Haggard – Serving 190 Proof / Back to the Barrooms / Going Where the Lonely Go**

(MCA / MCA / EPIC)

*Find it in:* COUNTRY

Country music is a genre famous for its recurrent themes: mama, trains, trucks, prison and getting drunk. The earliest years of Merle

Haggard's career found him writing songs that remain pinnacles for these aforementioned tropes. One need only listen to a typical Haggard hits collection to agree. Therefore, I want to call attention to a series of albums that Hag recorded as the 1970s transitioned to the 1980s. This is the era of Haggard's midlife crisis: relationships falling apart, a restlessness becoming pronounced, loneliness tempered with alcohol. In other words, the scenarios he already excelled in describing. What makes the three albums mentioned here worthy of particular notes is their full cohesion, Merle himself writing most of the songs that wander valleys of isolation and pain. Yet that ache never overwhelms his sense of what still remains possible: love, friendship and an invigorating ramble.

**Richmond Fontaine – You Can't Go Back If There's Nothing to Go Back To**

(FLUFF & GRAVY)

*Find it in:* ROCK

If you've ever seen the portraits of Richard Avedon's *In the American West*, you'll remember the hard and worn faces of his subjects: drifters, laborers, and other marginal people of small, arid towns. Richmond Fontaine played songs about such men and women — those whose scams have fallen apart, those outrunning a dangerous past, those in search of redemption in unforgiving land. This album is set to be the band's finale, and happy endings remain elusive. To have anything else would be a betrayal to both Richmond Fontaine's career and the characters brought to full life in their song portraits.

**Hammers of Misfortune – Dead Revolution** (METAL BLADE)

*Find it in:* METAL

Hammers of Misfortune have released a bevy of outstanding albums, and *Dead Revolution* stands as their perfected synthesis of swirling 1960s prog rock, grooving 1970s hard rock and soaring 1980s heavy metal. This brilliant collection of songs awaits the curious and discerning listener.

**Merle Haggard – Kern River Blues** (SELF-RELEASED)

*Find it in:* COUNTRY

Merle Haggard once sang of never swimming Kern River again, its swift current having drowned his best friend. Instead he retreated to rugged Mount Shasta, where he committed to stay. And such a promise was mostly kept — until his final song, “Kern River Blues” surveys again the Central Valley towns of his childhood, except now that same river is as dry and

cracked as the communities he once roamed. Cantankerous to the end, Haggard — his mountainous voice hollowed by death's looming grasp — sings about places ignored and people worth of indictment. In passing, Merle Haggard will be missed. In song, Merle Haggard will be remembered.

**Tip:**

R.I.P. Steve Young. His music should be better known; give the songs “Long Time Rider” and “Look Homeward Angel” a listen. Support the prolific Ginger Wildheart. Read Edward Abbey, Brad Warner and Thomas Merton.

# RANISIA

[pronounced rah-knee-see-ya.]

I like to bake & play loud music.

I also enjoy long walks on the beach,

playing with puppies and

the occasional cry by the fireplace

while clutching a silk pillow &

lip-syncing to Taylor Dane's

“Love Will Lead You Back.”

**Run The Jewels – Run The Jewels 3** (RUN THE JEWELS, INC.)

*Find it in:* HIP HOP

**Nicholas Britell – Moonlight [Original Soundtrack]**

(LAKESHORE)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**JMSN – It Is** (WHITE ROOM)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Various Artists – Doing It In Lagos: Boogie, Pop & Disco In 1980s Nigeria** (SOUNDWAY)

*Find it in:* WORLD

**☐ Broad City: Season 3 (2017) – Created by Abbi Jacobson, Ilana Glazer**

**Solange – A Seat At The Table** (COLUMBIA/SAINT)

*Find it in:* SOUL

## Linafornia – YUNG [Cassette]

(DOVE OF DOOM)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

## A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here... Thank You 4

**Your Service** (EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

## Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings –

**Miss Sharon Jones!** (DAPTONE)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

This is Sharon Jones 101 if you're just gettin hip to her. She was a BAD MUTHA!

### Tip:

If you're a midnight marauder like me, check out 89.9 KCRW on Monday nites for Anthony Valadez from midnight til 3a.m. & J-Rocc's Adventures In Stereo show on Sunday nights from 10 til midnight on 90.7 KPFK!

# RICK FRYSTAK

## Daniel Lanois / Rocco Delucca – Goodbye To Language (ANTI-)

**Find it in:** ROCK

The grand decomposition and re-assembly of Danny's pedal steel guitar while doping the faders, buttons and dials. Beatless, not-Rock, dubbed out neo-Musique Concrete sending the Buddy Emmons zealots running for the 'Eject' button. Slides and bends hovering in a purgatory of stewed major/minor gridlock, then getting the hell out and burning down the left-behinds. Intoxicating beauty, soaring and ping-ponging into a steel Valhalla. Essential.

## Various Artists – Wayfaring Strangers: Guitar Soli Vol. I

(NUMERO)

**Find it in:** FOLK

Número label makes beautiful, well-annotated packages, whether it be LP or CD. This is a collection of long-out-of-print acoustic guitarists (no vocal) private pressings sold out of their trunks and at performances. Many names I've never heard, 6 & 12-string acoustics, decent compositions, some terrific playing and sound that showed these folks cared. There also exists another volume with singing as well. And the aforementioned booklets in these things are just nuts.

## Ola Gjeilo – Ola Gjeilo (DECCA)

**Featuring: Tenebrae, Voces8, Ola Gjeilo**

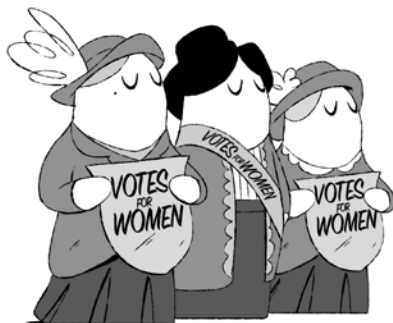
**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Decca unleashed young Norwegian Ola Gjeilo's exquisite piano/choral gem; splendid open and close harmony vox and piano pieces with some orchestra, soaring with modern harmony that goes to the heart and mind, à la Morten Lauridsen and Eric Whitacre. Gjeilo creates a huge, delicious wave of sound performed by acclaimed vocalists Tenebrae and Voces8, and of course Ola's tasty piano. We're keeping an eye on Ola; what a career ahead! Not just for the Gramophone crowd, anymore.

## Allan Holdsworth – The Man Who Changed Guitar Forever: The Allan Holdsworth Album Collection (MANIFESTO)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Manifesto Records does its business again here with the new, 12-CD collection of the legendary, long out-of-print CDs and a 40-page booklet with photos. Allan is the kind of guitarist that only comes along once in a life. All of us guitarists say the same about him. The axons that feed his brain-to-finger activity are unknown. His tone is like an animal, swinging its voice like hell and laughing with attitude in its own environment that no one dare go near. He has a progressive sentimentality about him, and the hand-stretching chords but then the "sheets of sound" soloing style of Bird and Coltrane apply here. Starting with "prog-rock"-ness, playing with legends and developing future ones, Allan has always ventured out in his playing where no man has, ever, and doesn't need to ever look back, for that evidence is here, all 12 of his great works in mini-LP sleeves, boxed. A fucking rocker, called a "jazzier," and we don't know what genre it is, really. Essential.



## Colin Vallon Trio – Danse (ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Heartfelt, folkheaded jazz piano trio writing that's totally his own touch. The tunes feel like traditional works, but his very personal, energetic playing and writing shapes the impact that is so timely. So, a timeless record. Lovely music to listen by.

## Sun Ra – To Those Of Earth... And Other Worlds (STRUT)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Continuing Strut Records' inspired Sun Ra compilations is DJ/Vinyl collector Gilles Peterson's hand-picked 2-LP assemblage of tracks from Ra's over 125-LP back catalog. This had to be an arduous, yet thrilling task to even agree to. Remarkable and impressive compiling, like a big "jazz" show of Ra's back in the day, with the emphasis on the melodic cuts. Even the wildish, dissonant tracks have a certain engaging quality, the whole crew sounding great. "Make a mistake-and do somethin' wrong... Make a mistake-and do somethin' right," they intone, Ra on the main mic. Instead of my 40 EL Saturn releases, I could just play this twofor. Next we need a Sun Ra collection that exclusively features the great tenorist John Gilmore. Mr. Peterson?

## Solo Andata – In The Lens

(12K)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Sublime "ambient" sound pieces, to which their 12K label description reads, "...[In The Lens] was born from recordings found in the interstices of decades-old hard drives, lost email threads from disused accounts, and forgotten samples recorded on cassette dictaphones." A narcotic haze not available in any pharmacy or street corner, this exceptional thing is my AMBIENT BOMB of late. The piano-looping style of "Separate Lovers" is a thing of beauty. It could go on forever. The duo of Kane Ikin and Paul Fiocco make it happen.

## Various Artists – Burkina Faso: Vol. 1, 2 & 3

(SUBLIME FREQUENCIES)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Spectacular audio and visual document of the music of Burkina Faso (below Mali and 100km northwest of Nigeria). Reed zithers, mouth harps and the fantastic side-long balafon tracks will have you jumping around the room. Dazzling LP-sized photo booklet takes me right there. The box is internet only, but the single volumes are out separately in the bins at Amoeba, but without the fabulous booklet.

**the Magpie Salute**

**FEATURING:**  
**RICH ROBINSON,**  
**MARC FORD,**  
**EDDIE HARSCH,**  
**JOHN HOGG,**  
**SVEN PIPIEN,**  
**JOE MAGISTRO,**  
**MATT SLOCOM**  
**& FRIENDS**

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A UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP COMPANY.



Each volume has an insert with details of the trips around the area, just riveting. Sublime Frequencies does it again.

## Johann Johannsson – *Arrival* [Original Soundtrack]

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Find it in:** SOUNDTRACKS

An electrifying, suspenseful score that uses its elements as effects more than a music score. Shivering, wet strings simulate the energy of the spacecrafts, and huge, orchestral swoops or sampling deliver the one-two punch of visual/score, alien/human. Like, whoa! Composer Johannsson has always had a unique emotional texture to his work in film and his own, personal projects. This one is memorable, if also for the open space it uses as an instrument. The LP includes Max Richter's opening and closing string theme.

## Chris Thile – *Bach: Sonatas & Partitas, Vol. 1* (NONESUCH)

**Find it in:** BLUEGRASS

Gosh, Thile just whips through these Bach sonatas and partitas ON A MANDOLIN as if it's "Chopsticks." Like he sits on the porch with a sweating lemonade, rocking in an old hickory, just playing BACH ON A MANDOLIN. I know, the mando has been used in classical music before. They even make sheet music of Mozart for the mandolin. Thile's been a bluegrass champion since, like, 11 years old, and now he's the new manager of Lake Wobegon 'cuz the other guy retired. He's a great player, no doubt about it, and I like a lot of his concepts (and playing). This cat has about five bands he's in, decent voice, too, plus many solo records, but boy, can he play BACH ON A MANDOLIN.

## The Caretaker – *Everywhere At The End Of Time*

(HISTORY ALWAYS FAVOURS THE WINNERS)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

A very fitting continuation of a project begun six or seven years ago in that *The Caretaker* (self-named by Brit Leyland Kirby after Jack Nicholson's job in *The Shining*) finds unique and recognizable melodies from classical and pop 78-RPM records from the early 1900s and reverberates, slows down and recomposes looped passages from these vintage source materials (it would appear). Utterly charming and mood affecting, well done and so unique, quite possibly a mimic of the ballroom vibe in *The Shining*, or not. Who cares? It's good! Shine on, Mr. Caretaker.

## John Abercrombie Quartet – *Up And Coming* (ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

John's jazz guitar and composing has naturally progressed to this point, a totally personal style. Precise and swinging but not flashy or "shredding," Marc Copland's piano is so touching and impressive, with the quartet's support lifting the piano and guitar into a melodic bliss, with embellishments only adding icing on this tasty cake. A natural extension of John's last one, *39 Steps*, this is a gem of contemporary jazz. The older dudes do it again.

## Bing & Ruth – *No Home Of The Mind* (4AD)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Bing & Ruth, the ensemble led by David Moore, continue their explorations of the lines between classical new-music, experimental and ambient musics with this, their 4AD major label premiere. Waves of liquid chordal flux wash over the cinematic soundworld, minute changes in the arrangements forming the feeling of movement between the blocks of tonality and harmonic timbre. Mr. Moore is onto something special, a music living within our souls without our knowing.

## Terje Rypdal, Miroslav Vitous, Jack DeJohnette – *To Be Continued* (ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

ECM Records is actively pressing their back catalog on audiophile wax, a cause for celebration itself. What were once very special German (and Japanese) LPs are now Norwegian. Electric guitarist Terje Rypdal has a sound all his own. Searing but not shattering, loose but situated, broiling yet icy guitar

leads with whammy bar flying over synth pads, jostling with bassist Miroslav, whose personal style I've adored since the first Weather Report album. And always highlighting the inimitable drumming of Sir DeJohnette on this improvisation-heavy 1981 session that is one for the ages, now on heavy audiophile vinyl mastered direct from the analogue tape.

## Daniel Bachman – *Daniel Bachman*

(THREE LOBED)

**Find it in:** FOLK

I'm thrilled when young folk look sideways to the "old" traditional, then make their own sense of it while being so creative in any genre. But, Bachman's bag begs aromatic, post-Fahey acoustic guitar picking simplicity that's progressing along with each album into something better than the last. Young Bachman hits a homer again here, with such a breezy, minimal but rich fingerpicked steel sound on the 6 & 12, sometimes with a slide and a couple with his electronic drone. Something about his style is so charming and subdued for such a technical player, every note counting, statements made, purpose in his ideas. The sound of each guitar is up front, with a good mic. Topping this off is a gem of an ancient painting on the cover. He has many stylistically diverse records, and I'm looking forward to new stuff. You'll have to enjoy his website's must-see bedroom-window-zen video, too at [danielbachman.com](http://danielbachman.com)

## Theo Bleckmann – *Elegy*

(ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Alto singer Theo Bleckmann, he of many projects has a classical quality to his voice, a variety of interests (he's done Kate Bush and Charles Ives cover projects) and here a very European- jazz concept, terrifically recorded by ECM Records. Swoops and swoons of technically-fueled emotion reign, with pianist "Shai Maestro" leading the instrumental group distinctly playing WITH Bleckmann, not behind him, ebbing and flowing like breath. Very original chamber jazz with wondrous songwriting and impeccable sound.

## Richard Skelton – *Verse of Birds* (CORBEL STONE PRESS)

**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

Composer and publisher Richard Skelton's fascinating, minimalist composition sounds like bowed violins and cellos skittering sul Ponticello, when in actuality it is field recordings from the west coast of Ireland through three

seasons. What he's doing with this material is captivating. Non-melodies become Skelton's own chilling, harmonic style. 2-CD set.

## Rizan Said – *King Of Keyboard* (ANNIHAYA/DISCREPANT)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Rizan is the one-man-band behind the Syrian singer Omar Souleyman, now with his own solo keyboard album in decent worldwide distribution. If you know Omar's sound, you'll know the searing synthesizer scorching, keys slightly detuned to some microtonal Arabic modality, like a Syrian Jan Hammer just burning up his Korg pitch wheels with a maniacal, fiery excitement. He's usually working some awe-inspiring sampling into his MIDI rig, such as dumbeks and durbakke, mijwiz, tar, arghuls and tons of shit sounding like five people, but there's only one guy cordially working it. Rizan molds it into some whack rhythms, some irresistible grooves and always his singular talent.

## Erik Griswold – *Ecstatic Descent* (COLD BLUE)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Griswold takes a piano and "prepares" each string with a bolt, screw, rubber, paper, etc., and creates a sort of gamelan-sounding thing which he plays with technical prowess at lightning speed in cascading layers and textures. The effect is a pleasing, eye-opening audio trip. Really unusual approach, and one that delivers on its promise on the exquisite Cold Blue label.

## Ralph Towner – *My Foolish Heart* (ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

As you may know, Ralph is probably my favorite classical & acoustic 12-string guitarist. This album proves it, most probably his best solo record ever. Dissonant but gorgeous harmonic beauty, compositions now reflecting his entire musical career, and swinging or pensive chops that are so impressive. Towner, of the group Oregon and many of his own groups, is perhaps called a chamber jazz classicist, i.e., he does what he wants. A must-have CD, especially essential if you've never heard him.

## Olafur Arnalds & Alice Sara Ott – *The Chopin Project* (MERCURY CLASSICS)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

Quite respectfully and skillfully, Ms. Ott and Mr. Arnalds pay homage to Frederic Chopin by recomposing and then performing his works, perhaps 10 or 11 exquisite-sounding versions of





their own based on the original works. It doesn't sound like Chopin, either, as the arrangements take the pieces into the artist's personal sound worlds, with Ott's lovely cello intonation and Arnalds' piano sound and technique blending perfectly here, in this inventive conception of inspiring beauty. Try it!

**Tip:**

Listen to my radio broadcast, "roots music and BEYOND," every second Saturday, 6-8 a.m. and streaming later on the mighty KPFF, 90.7 FM in Los Angeles, [kpff.org](http://kpff.org), a place for many truths, and hear my mix of ancient to modern music, connected by tradition and imagination, perfect for early morning exploration.

## ROMYO

Virgo tea enthusiast.  
And I make music.

### Sun Ra – Singles (STRUT)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

There's never been a more apt time to want to leave planet earth. Well now you can with this collection of early Sun Ra singles collected from 1952-1961. Forward thinking space bop and intergalactic interpretations of jazz by the prolific king of cosmic.

### The Shaggs – Philosophy Of The World [Reissue]

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A reissue of the first album by the all-girl teen rock group, originally released in 1969. These real life sisters made the perfect imperfect record of outsider rock. Everything about it is super punk, from the "sloppy" lack of virtuoso playing and the aesthetic, to the lo-fi recording — all before punk even existed.

### Kleenex/LiLiPUT – First Songs

(KILL ROCK STARS)

**Find it in:** PUNK

A very necessary collection of the Swiss all-girl post-punk group's radical output from 1978-1982. Catchy, jolly, riotous music made with a sweet abandon. At times lopsided and whimsical, at others, minimal and matter-of-fact. The musical equivalent to Fluxus art with splashes of experimental pop, but first and foremost, post-punk. Love love love!

### A Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here...Thank You 4 Your Service

(EPIC)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Ahhh thank you! After 18 years, A Tribe Called Quest return, with perfect timing, to get us through this political mish mash mess. A Tribe deliver us narrations of modern times over their signature classic breezy head-nod beats bursting with bottom-end warmth. A perfect combination of newness and nostalgia. An important vibe that world needs right now.

### Various Artists – The Microcosm: Visionary Music of Continental Europe 1970-1986

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** NEW AGE

The European sister compilation to one of my favourite releases of last year, the gorgeous collection of American new age music *I Am The Center*. Spirit music that channels bits of prog, kraut, ambient and experimental music by some heavy hitters and also some lesser known folk.

### Tenebrae (1982) – Directed by Dario Argento

My favourite Dario Argento film. Maybe it's for the soundtrack, the funny dog or maybe it's because of the lesbian undertones. It's probably for the latter.

### Dekalog (1989) – Directed by Krzysztof Kieślowski

Kieślowski's most acclaimed work, a 10-part series that explores the 10 commandments, made in 1989. It explores one or several moral or ethical issues faced by characters living in an austere apartment block in modern Poland. Essential viewing for anyone interested in classic cinema and its master auteurs.

**Tip:**

Instagram: [romyohh](https://www.instagram.com/romyohh)

## SIMONE SIREN

Turning Violet singer

### Bootblacks – Veins

(MANIC DEPRESSION)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Excellent post-punk and darkwave songs with deep vocals.

### Patience – The Pressure (single) 7"

(NIGHT SCHOOL)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Gorgeous new wave-y song with plaintive vocals.

### A Perfect Day (2016) – Directed by Fernando León de Aranoa

Mostly funny, occasionally gritty story of aid workers in the Balkans in the '90s, starring Benecio del Toro and Tim Robbins. Awesome punk and rock soundtrack.

### Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel

(VINTAGE)

Totally absorbing, character-driven tale set in a world where more than half of the population has been wiped out by an epidemic. It flashes back and forth between before and after, and centers around a traveling group of actor/musicians who look out for each other in a dangerous world of survivors.

### Breaking Glass (1980) – Directed by Brian Gibson

Featuring an excellent soundtrack, it tells the story of new wave singer/songwriter Kate as she puts together a band, falls in love with her manager and struggles to stay true to herself as fame and the music industry take over.

### Womps – Our Fertile Forever

(DISPLACED/THE ORCHARD)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Grunge-y college-rock sound with emo touches and interesting lyrics

**Tip:**

La Cueva (Little Cave) in Highland Park



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# What is Spanish to you?

# #SpanishIs



## SPENCER HOWARD BELDEN

*I love you and there isn't anything  
you can do about it.  
Let's boogie again -*

### Hamilton Leithauser + Rostam – *I Had A Dream That You Were Mine* (GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

*I Had A Dream That You Were Mine* is a record that reaches and reaches and reaches in the warmest of ways, leaving you with a pure experience rather than a chore. Full of lush beauty and grabby emotions, Rostam (of Vampire Weekend) and Hamilton Leithauser (of The Walkmen) make for a truly lovely pair that soar with this love letter to many beautiful forms of music. Side note: Rostam is wrong about *La La Land*.

### Nao – *For All We Know* (LITTLE TOKYO)

**Find it in:** SOUL

The fact is that it's undeniable. Try and reach the chorus to "Bad Blood" and stop yourself from succumbing to its rhythm. How could one do such a thing? Nao has crafted a record that simply displays what an exciting place synth-pop/soul is with performers like her. Purely grooving, pulsing with intoxication, and just so damn confident that it moves your body without you knowing it. Yes happy thank you more please.

### Pinegrove – *Cardinal*

(RUN FOR COVER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Pinegrove feel like people that you know. At least they do to me. That's what makes *Cardinal* so successful. These moments and stories are expressed in such a way that you were there with them, you're just hearing it again maybe for their comfort, or maybe yours. The churning rhythms of these indie guitars have a simmer of southern tinge accumulating in a dynamic, thick sound tapered off by Evan Stephens Hall's vulnerable voice. Find them and let them in.

### Noname – *Telefone*

(SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

I saw Noname once at an event. I didn't get the opportunity, but I really wanted to approach her and tell her how sincerely great her mixtape *Telefone* is, how relevant and powerful it is without being obnoxious. Drawing on the many difficult circumstances that 2016 continued to provide, Noname uses her unstoppable delivery and lyrical prowess to frame subjects such as racial tensions and police brutality in an unflinching way. The most impressive trick is that she does so while still crafting songs that will sink their fingers into your brain without letting go for a while, with continuously great features and addictive rhythms. Darkness keep you well.

### Whitney – *Light Upon the Lake*

(SECRETLY CANADIAN)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Whitney's *Light Upon the Lake* plays like a really sentimental, old, dusty memory. The strings and horns sweep across each track while the falsetto vocals give each song a sort of distant glow, as if all of these songs have just been waiting for you to find them. It is very lovely, so feel free to put some of the songs on and fall in love with the person you are looking at as it starts. You'll grow old, dance together, argue about trivial things and put this record back on to remember how things were so good.

### Don't Think Twice (2016) – Directed by Mike Birbiglia

Unfortunately, you are always told that all of the best films come at the end of a year. The last three months are flooded with prestige films to compete for the awards circuit, but the previous nine months are pretty firmly forgotten. This is my point: Each time I have been asked what my favorite movie of 2016 was, my gut reaction is always *Don't Think Twice*. I don't know how much closer you can get to really feeling what people

are going through or willing to go through to get to their dream. Let's not forget not getting to that dream at all or making the decision to see that maybe you are just one of those people who won't make it. Think *Inside Llewyn Davis* for modern day improv. It's heartbreaking and funny and sweet and human, and if Mike Birbiglia stops making things, we'll be less for it.

### Swiss Army Man (2016) – Directed by Daniel Kwan and Daniel Sheinert

Yes, they use an erection as a compass. Yes, farts are a major part of the plot. But don't you think that even though those things are true, the fact that I am still sitting here recommending it to you should mean there is so much more to see and hear? There is, by the way. Using all facets of us as people, gross and not, Daniels gives us a movie that is way more emotionally potent than it has any right to be for a movie about a farting corpse. It is sincere, Daniel Radcliffe is truly great, that score though, and vibrant direction make it unforgettable, whether you like it or not.

### The Nice Guys (2016) – Directed by Shane Black

Criminally underlooked, *The Nice Guys*, if there is any justice in the world, should become an equally essential gem like Black's previous buddy crime movie, *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*. Putting Ryan Gosling (continuing to prove he can be and do everything better than most everyone) and Russell Crowe (playing the humor really well without overdoing it) in '70s duds and throwing cars and guns at them should have been a complete hit with how purely fun it is. Why would anyone not want to see that?

### Hunt for the Wilderpeople (2016) – Directed by Taika Waititi

Has there been a more charming movie? No, I mean ever. Has there been a more charming movie ever made? If there has, I would venture to guess it still isn't nearly as heartwarming and legitimately well crafted as *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*. All it's about is a really frustrated foster child and an old man who doesn't know how to care for him on the run in the New Zealand wilderness. With car chases. And cops. Also, the greatest birthday song ever written. But, honestly, it's really, truly, fully exactly just a whole lot of heart. It earns each and every reaction it gets from you, and that is in no way an easy task.

## CIGGY BOP

### Allah-Las – *Calico Review*

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A very CA record that sounds breezy, easy, warm.

### The Brian Jonestown Massacre – *Third World Pyramid* ('A' RECORDS)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Another addition to an already expansive catalog, maybe one day they will take over the world AND provide the soundtrack.

### Bob Dylan – *The 1966 Live Recordings* (SONY LEGACY)

**Find it in:** ROCK

Every live show, acoustic and electric, from the man, band and tour that would change popular music.

### Lee Hazelwood – *Cowboy In Sweden* (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

**Find it in:** OLDIES

You can almost hear his mustache crooning to you.

### Childish Gambino – *Awaken, My Love!* (GLASSNOTE)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

A lot of this sounds like it could be outtakes from classic Funkadelic and that's all right with me.

### Ramones – *Ramones [40th Anniversary Box]* (RHINO)

**Find it in:** PUNK

Hey! Ho! Bop 'til You Drop! Remastered, demos and MORE!

### Sun Ra – *Singles* (STRUT/ART YARD)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

It's hard to think of Sun Ra as a "singles" artist, but this is a great collection that culls from this supernova's catalog.

### The Molochs – *America's Velvet Glory* (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

A local band that I like very very much.



## The Growlers – *City Club* (CULT)

**Find it in:** ROCK

They continue to move forward, reshaping their sound and evolving as artists.

### TIP:

Listen to the *Cigarette Burns* album *Sidewalkin'*

# VIOLA

*Passionate about world music*

## Various Artists – *Bobo Yeye* (NUMERO)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Well worth it because this is a combination 3-CD/LP + book: Rare music from the golden period of African music as well as studio photography by Sory Sanle from Burkina Faso (once called Upper Volta) at an incredible price.

## Various Artists – *Togo Soul* (HOT CASA)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Hard to come by anything from Togo/West Africa, and here it is: amazing voices from the '70s, for example the incredible Akofa Akoussah...Videos of this one on YouTube.

## When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi (RANDOM HOUSE)

This is a serious and poetic book about life and death, written by a brilliant neurosurgeon as he was dying of cancer — in his thirties.

## Nemanja Radulovic – *Journey East* (DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

If you like music from the Balkans, you might be enticed by this young Serbian violinist to get into classical music.

## Olafur Arnalds & Alice Sara Ott – *The Chopin Project* (MERCURY CLASSICS)

**Find it in:** CLASSICAL

A meeting of Icelandic composer and German-Japanese pianist: vintage pianos and electronic/ambient soundscapes make the Chopin source material sound fresh and mysterious.

## Awa Poulo – *Poulo Warali* (AWESOME TAPES FROM AFRICA)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Years after Baaba Maal's first releases, Peul (or Fulani) music from northern Senegal/ Mali near the Mauritanian border has been missing lately, due to the many Tuareg releases. This release may get more people interested: Rollicking flute, calabash, sweet female voice (no griot style!), guitar—great traveling music. Recorded in Mali.

## Various Artists – *Calabar-Itu Road: Groovy Sounds From South Eastern Nigeria (1972-82)* (COMB & RAZOR)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Different rhythms from a region in Nigeria that has not been explored so much but influenced Afro-Cuban music via the slave trade.

## Various Artists – *More Early Pakistani Dance Music From Original 7" Vinyl 1965-1978* (OVULAR)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Exotic "cocktail music" and more from the 1970s when dancing in Pakistan must have been fun... Mostly instrumentals, featuring wild surf guitars, Santana-like riffs and some crazy female vocals.

## Various Artists – *Gilles Peterson Presents Havana Cultura: Anthology* (BROWNSWOOD)

**Find it in:** WORLD

British DJ Gilles Peterson's project with newer and upcoming Cuban artists, featuring Danay Suarez, Roberto Fonseca and many others, as well as various styles of music, with quite some added electronica.

## Colin Vallon / Patrice Moret / Julian Sartorius – *Danse* (ECM)

**Find it in:** JAZZ

Swiss trio not known here: Swiss pianist Colin Vallon writes beautiful minimal music and is accompanied here by Patrice Moret on double bass and Julian Sartorius on drums.

## Roberto Fonseca – *ABUC* (IMPULSE!)

**Find it in:** WORLD

Cuban jazz pianist of the younger generation updating Cuban music. "ABUC" = Cuba backwards.

### TIP:

Check Florent Mazzoleni's book on African music/ in French but covers all rare stuff... KUSC, of course!

# WYATT

## Bölzer – *Hero* (IRON BONEHEAD)

**Find it in:** BLACK METAL

## Deathspell Omega – *The Synarchy Of Molten Bones* (SEASON OF MIST)

**Find it in:** BLACK METAL

## Kate Bush – *Before The Dawn* (CONCORD/FISH PEOPLE)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## Nidigr – *The High Heat Licks Against Heaven* (SEASON OF MIST)

**Find it in:** BLACK METAL

## A Winged Victory For The Sullen – *Iris [Original Soundtrack]* (ERASED TAPES)

**Find it in:** ROCK

## The Death Archives: Mayhem 1984-94 by Jørn "Necrobutcher" Stubberud (ECSTATIC PEACE LIBRARY)

## Mayhem – *De Mysteriis Dom Sathanas Alive* (SELF-RELEASED)

**Find it in:** BLACK METAL

# XANDER

*DJ/Producer/Music Fanatic*

## Bonobo – *Migration* (NINJA TUNE)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

A masterpiece of an album with a wide variety of sounds within it. Absolutely Beautiful.

## Justin Martin – *Hello Clouds* (DIRTYBIRD)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

An amazing album for house music lovers, packed with everything from partied-out bangers to ambient-esque house tracks.

## Barclay Crenshaw – *Barclay Crenshaw* (DIRTYBIRD)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

A great debut album from Barclay Crenshaw (AKA Claude Vonstroke), consisting of old-school hip hop elements as well as modern experimental/electronic sounds.

## Run The Jewels – *Run the Jewels 3* (RUN THE JEWELS, INC.)

**Find it in:** HIP HOP

Killer third album from El-P & Killer Mike's project, Run the Jewels. Straight bangers on this one.

## Crystal Castles – *Amnesty (I)* (FICTION)

**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

Spooky electronic tunes from Crystal Castles, their first release since Alice Glass left the group. Incredible record.



# ZACHARY BOUVION

*Metro Blue Line Death Train Survivor*

**Croatian Amor – Love Means Taking Action** (POSH ISOLATION)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Myrkur – Mausoleum** (RELAPSE)

*Find it in:* METAL

**Phurpa / Shibalba – Teachings of Eastern Traditions** (COLD SPRING)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**White Zombie – It Came From NYC [Box Set]** (NUMERO)

*Find it in:* ROCK

**Gianfranco Reverbi – Riti Magie Nere E Segrente Orge Nel Trecento [Original Soundtrack]** (CINEDELIC)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Bruno Nicolai – Case of The Scorpion's Tale [Original Soundtrack]**

(DEATH WALTZ)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Trepaneringsiritalen – Deathward To The Womb**

(COLD SPRING)

*Find it in:* GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

**John Cameron & Frog – Psychomania [Original Soundtrack]** (TRUNK)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Delia Derbyshire / Elsa Stansfield - Circle of Light** (TRUNK)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Egisto Macchi – Violenza**

(CINEDELIC)

*Find it in:* EXPERIMENTAL

**Fabio Frizzi – Shark (Rosso Nell'Oceano) [Original Soundtrack]** (BEAT)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Stelvio Cipriani – Rabid Dogs [Original Soundtrack]**

(CHRIS' SOUNDTRACK CORNER)

*Find it in:* SOUNDTRACKS

**Dylan Carlson (as Coleman Grey) – Falling With A Thousand Stars and Other Wonders From The House Of Albion**

(SELF-RELEASED)

*Find it in:* FOLK

🎬 **Sacrifice! (1972) – Directed by Umberto Lenzi**

☐ **11.22.63 Mini-Series (2016)**

– Adapted by Bridget Carpenter

**Tip:**

*Read: Laird Barron / Listen: Daughters of Darkness Podcast*

## MONALISA

*Dublab DJ, selector, music lover,  
soul sista, funk freak, hip hop junkie,  
world music aficionado, jazzy lady,  
rock 'n' roll gangsta, etc.*

### ELECTRONICA

**Sampha – Process** (YOUNG TURKS)

**Thundercat – Drunk** (BRAINFEEDER)

### JAZZ

**Yussef Kamaal – Black Focus** (BROWNSWOOD)

**Josef Leimberg – Astral Progressions**

(WORLD GALAXY)

**Ronald Bruner Jr. – Triumph**

### SOUL

**Solange – A Seat At The Table**

(COLUMBIA/SAINT)

**Tall Black Guy – Let's Take A Trip** (FIRST WORD)

**Syd – Fin** (COLUMBIA)

**Chameleon – Chameleon**

(BIG BREAK)

**Kehlani – SweetSexySavage**

(ATLANTIC)

### HIP HOP

**P-Original – Regeneration**

(VINYL TAPES)

**Stro Elliot – Stro Elliot**

(STREET CORNER)

👏 **Jake One – #PrayerHandsEmoji**

(STREET CORNER MUSIC)

**Swarvy – Elderberry** (LEAVING)

**Hodgy – Fireplace: TheNotThe OtherSide**

(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

**The Lox – Filthy America... It's Beautiful** (ROC NATION)

**Seige Monstracity – Seige Monstracity** (STREET CORNER)

**Childish Gambino – Awaken, My Love!** (GLASSNOTE)

**Chanes – Chanes**

(STREET CORNER)

**Oh No – Ultimate Breaks & Beats** (STONES THROW)

**Roc Marciano – Rosebudd's Revenge** (MARCI ENTERPRISES)

**Karriem Riggins – Headnod Suite** (STONES THROW)

### WORLD

**Frankie Reyes – Boleros Valses y Mas** (STONES THROW/FAT BEATS)

**Tip:**

*Feeling musically adventurous? Shop the miscellaneous alphabet sections under your favorite genres. There are lots of overlooked & underappreciated titles there!*

# TERRY SMITH

*Father of 3. Pop Pop of 2.*

*Daddy to a few. What a life.*

*I took Aiden to see the Globetrotters*

*& he loved it. He talked about*

*it all the way home.*

*It was fun!!!*

🎬 **Fences (2016) – Directed by Denzel Washington**

I took everyone in the family to see *Fences* on Christmas and was not disappointed. Denzel Washington hit a home run, as all of the cast did. A must-see movie. I hear the play was better.

🎬 **La La Land (2016) – Directed by Damien Chazelle**

I went and saw *La La Land* and was shocked how good it was. You have to forget that it's labeled a musical and see *La La Land*.

🎬 **Loving (2016) – Directed by Jeff Nichols**

It's about a mixed couple who get married in a town that did not permit it. I remember when my wife and I were dating. We used to hear crap on both sides. We got married and had three kids. I'm glad we were living in a city where it was OK: L.A., Calif. Heard stuff, but didn't go through nothing like in *Loving*. Wow, what a flick. I had a few fights. That's cool.

🎬 **The LEGO Batman Movie (2017) – Directed by Chris McKay**

*LEGO Batman* was very funny. I thought a little advanced for kids, but Aiden told me what he got out of it and we enjoyed it. Erin, my daughter, crashed out. Usually it's me.



# CHRIS MATTHEWS

**Ghoul – Dungeon Bastards**  
(TANKCRIMES)

**Discharge – End Of Days**  
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

**Angel Olsen – My Woman**  
(JAGJAGUWAR)

**The Regrettes – Feel Your Feelings, Fool** (WARNER BROS.)

**Badbadnotgood – IV**  
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

## LORD CLERRK

(SGF)

Select underground cassette releases of substance from 2016 by Los Angeles Area artists on Los Angeles-based labels. All of these releases were/are/should be available at Amoeba Music Hollywood. Do your research. Support your local underground musical scene — **FUCK THE MAINSTREAM.** Don't be just another victim of cultural castration. It's not a good look.

In no particular order:

**Drainage – Drainage EP** (TRAPE)  
Incredibly savage & punishing instrumental industrial sludge debut. Seek it out for a positively merciless pummel. Like Unsane jamming Godflesh songs. Just more mean. Really.

**Blazing Eye – 2013-2016**  
(GRAVE MISTAKE)  
14 blazing tracks collected (from their previous EPs) on a one-sided tape from likely the best active punk band in L.A. Make sure to catch them in a live setting - see you in the pit.

**Jason Christopher Watkins – Crepuscular** (VIDEO NASTIES)  
The label simply describes this heady work as "power ambient" – I do not dare to disagree. Exceptionally epic, complex and layered compositions.

**LFA – LFA Reinshagen-Technik 1985** (NOSTILEVO)  
Latest episode of dehumanized proto-industrial bleak rhythmic punishment, one of my undisputed faves — Imagine Esplendor Geometrico put thru a fucked-up sonic blender...

**Pod Blotz – The Voltaic Eye**  
(NOSTILEVO)  
The latest release from one of the greatest multi-disciplinary visionary artists currently active in L.A. A must-see, genius-level visual artist and live performer.

**Black Hoods – Nausea/Disrupt**  
(ANTHEM AESTHETICA)  
**Black Hoods – Sad Prince Of Disorder**  
(ANTHEM AESTHETICA)  
Two releases from this up-and-coming L.A. outsider techno wizard, both unique stylistically, both recommended. The live performance I witnessed was even more impressive than the already excellent recorded material — keep an eye and ear out for this act!

**Lost Lands – Never Began EP**  
(SELF-RELEASED)  
Debut four-track release from this incredibly brutal new hardcore band, in the vein of Tragedy/His Hero Is Gone, but with extremely severe vocals. Excited to see them live sometime soon!

**HHL – Thrall**  
(MONORAIL TRESPASSING)  
One of the best active True Noise solo artists in L.A. — seamlessly transitioning from walls of distortion to thickly layered dense, caustic metallic cacophony — these sounds are best experienced in a damn loud live setting.

**Circuit Wound – Succumbing To The Inevitable**  
(MONORAIL TRESPASSING)  
Latest from one of the most consistently excellent local solo noise artists of the past decade. This is one of the artists that truly make Masterful Noise MUSIC.

**Smokey Emery – Every Bitter Thing Sweet**  
(SELF SABOTAGE)  
Very new release from this Texas-transplant solo artist, beautifully layered enveloping drone pieces, thoroughly enjoyable and transcendental (largely) tape music.

**R.R. Barabdas – Wet Hair EP**  
(SELF-RELEASED)  
An excellent debut by this cohesive new duo-unit, somber yet soulful, layered and diverse, yet danceable production (what do I know) with a standout female voice. A captivating live act.

**Granite Mask – Streams**  
(NOSTILEVO)  
Exceptional dark industrial L.A. electronix, all releases are very very good. Can't go wrong. Just give any of his works a try, world class material.

**J. De Sosa – The Stage Extends Beyond The Plague**  
(NIGHT GAUNT)  
Ripping, dark, brooding industrial techno from a young(er) talent in the scene.

**Head Dress – Rose**  
(SPRING BREAK TAPES!)  
One of the contemporary local masters of dynamic, thoughtful experimental electronics. Diverse, consistently quality output and performances — highly recommended material.

**Moment Trigger – FG013 EP** (FATT GRABBERS)  
One of the sickest, harshest techno bands in L.A. — this duo is also absolutely must-see live, they destroy and deliver punishment every damn time.

## ILENE

**Justice – Woman**  
(BECAUSE/ED BANGER)

**Julian Cope – Drunken Songs**  
(HEAD HERITAGE)

**Moon Duo – Occult Architecture Vol. 1** (SACRED BONES)

**Tosca – Going Going Going** (!K7)

**Bert Jansch – Living in the Shadows** (EARTH)

**Thievery Corporation – Temple of I & I** (ESL MUSIC)

**Arthur Russell – Instrumentals**  
(BANQUET RECORDS)

# CHRIS CARMENA

## FAVORITE ALBUMS OF 2016

**The Caretaker – Everywhere At The End of Time**  
(HISTORY ALWAYS FAVOURS THE WINNERS)  
Leyland Kirby announces the end of The Caretaker project with the first in a series of six albums that take the listener through an experience that mimics the onset of dementia. Using a mixture of ballroom music, vinyl noise and effects, Kirby delicately explores themes of memory loss, melancholia, nostalgia and reverie. Haunting and achingly beautiful.

**Deru – 1979 [Reissue]**  
(FRIENDS OF FRIENDS)  
Reissue of the year. Originally released in 2014, Deru's ambient masterpiece is finally available again on vinyl. This is a mesmerizing album of beautiful, evocative music and an absolute must for fans of dark and moody electronica.

**Jose Rico – Dubvolution**  
(INTO THE DEEP)  
Spanish artist Jose Rico serves up four expertly crafted tracks of gentle, glistening, ambient dub.

**Carla Dal Forno – You Know What It's Like**  
(BLACKEST EVER BLACK)  
Carla Dal Forno creates hazy, minimal synth music for lonely, late-night hours. Warm and cold all at once, her voice rolls through the songs like a ghost crawling through fog. *You Know What It's Like* is a captivating debut album of sad, soothing songs.

**Fluxion – Vibrant Forms III**  
(SUBWAX BCN)  
I'll admit I was nervous when I heard dub techno legend Fluxion was reviving the *Vibrant Forms* series. The first two installments are classics, amongst the most important in the genre, and a failed attempt to live up to their standards seemed like a huge risk to take. Thankfully, there's nothing to worry about here. *Vibrant Forms III* is an album of timeless deep techno that, like its predecessors, will still sound like music from the future a decade from now.

# MARYANN

❑ **Grace and Frankie: Season 2**  
– Created by Marta Kauffman,  
Howard J. Morris

❑ **Soundbreaking: :  
Stories from the Cutting Edge  
of Recorded Music**

**Ryan Adams – Prisoner**  
(PAX AM/BLUE NOTE)

☞ **Troublemaker: Surviving Hol-  
lywood and Scientology**  
by Leah Remini (RANDOM HOUSE)

☞ **Mrs. Kennedy and Me:  
An Intimate Memoir**  
by Clint Hill (GALLERY BOOKS)

# DANIEL TURES

*Floor manager, armadillo aficionado*

**Andres Landero – Yo Amaneci**  
(VAMPISOUL)  
Vampisoul brings you a double-disc set of classic party cumbia from the King. What a snazzy dresser too — check out that ensemble!

**The Molochs – America’s Velvet  
Glory** (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)  
Local, Only Ones-style garage-wave that shim-  
mers with guitar jangle and wonderful tunes.

**Yishak Banjaw – Love Songs  
Vol. 2** (TERANGA BEAT)  
Spacey, delirious Ethiopian farfisa noodling —  
one listen and you’re hooked!

**The Other People Place –  
Lifestyles of the Laptop Café**  
(WARP)  
Minimal, moody Detroit electro from Drexciya  
affiliate.

**Foxygen – Hang** (JAGJAGUWAR)  
They keep saying this local band is Rundgren-  
esque, but guess what — this one really is  
Rundgren-esque! Jing jang jinglin yat ta ta tacha  
style ’70s rock glory.

**Cherry Glazerr – Apocalypstick**  
(SECRETLY CANADIAN)  
This local combo led by young wailer Clemen-  
tine Creevy has hit their stride with a record  
full of blazing guitar attack, tough tunes and a  
serious Sinead-tastic howl. Get on the stick!

**A Tribe Called Quest – We Got  
it From Here... Thank You 4  
Your Service** (EPIC)  
Late-breaking ATCQ reunion album is improb-  
ably fun, funky and freaky, on a par with their  
finest. Nobody does it like Q-Tip and Phife.

**Pylon – Pylon Live** (CHUNKLET)  
This live 1983 soundboard mix from one of  
Pylon’s final shows in their original incarnation  
shows why they’re still so influential today —  
with taut, muscular, minimal new wave grooves  
like Wire in a party mood, and the commanding,  
frenetic yelp of the indomitable Vanessa Briscoe-  
Hay, they still sound ahead of their time.

**Savant – Artificial Dance**  
(RVNG INTL.)  
RVNG continues their excellent reissue series  
of the work of overlooked Seattle avant-ambient  
auteur K. Leimer with Savant, his electro-tribal  
studio project. Like *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts*,  
it’s spiky, serpentine world groove, pulsing with  
hypnotic tape loops and samples.

**EZTV – High in Place**  
(CAPTURED TRACKS)  
Brooklyn power-pop jangle on the great  
Captured Tracks label, full of summery riffs,  
catchy hooks and nostalgic harmonies.

**The Microcosm – Visionary  
Music of Continental Europe  
1970-1986** (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)  
Light in the Attic’s follow-up to their amazing  
Douglas McGowan-curated new age set *I Am  
the Center*, this features the European side  
of the cosmos — ambient spacetime sound-  
scapes and avant explorations from Ash Ra  
Tempel and PopolVuh as well as lesser-knowns  
like Bernard Xolotl, Robert Julian Horky and  
Enno Velthuys.

**Steve Gunn – Eyes on the Lines**  
(MATADOR)  
Kurt Vile guitarist Gunn gives us his best one  
yet, a gentle, wandering set of rainy-day guitar  
choogle and yearning AM radio koans.

**Gurdjieff / Tsaabropoulos –  
Chants, Hymns and Dances** (ECM)  
Pianist Tsaabropoulos and cellist Anja Lechner  
play a lovely set of Gurdjieff / De Hartmann  
compositions as well as a few like-minded origi-  
nals. Haunting and melancholic but glowing with  
mystic light.

# FURN

XXX

**Culture Abuse – Peach**  
(6131)

**Nails – You Will Never Be One  
of Us** (NUCLEAR BLAST)

**Super Unison – Auto**  
(DEATHWISH)

**Arms Race – New Wave of  
British Hardcore** (LA VIDA ES UN MUS)

**Martyrdoc – List** (SOUTHERN LORD)

**Sheer Mag – Compilaton**  
(WILSUNS)

**Death Index – Death Index**  
(DEATHWISH)

**Nomads – Love it or Leave It**  
(MELOTOV)

**Creative Adult – Fear of Life**  
(RUN FOR COVER)

**Vanity - Don’t Be Shy**  
(KATORGA WORKS)

**The Repos – Poser** (YOUTH ATTACK)

**Gag – America’s Greatest Hits**  
(IRON LUNG)

**Omegas – Power to Exist**  
(BEACH IMPEDIMENT)

**Dress Code – Perception**  
(XPRESSIONS)

**Lock – The Cycle**  
(IRON LUNG)

# PATRICK

**Angel Olsen – “Shut Up Kiss  
Me” (from the album *My  
Woman*)** (JAGJAGUWAR)

I know this was released last year, but I still play  
it repeatedly; it’s just such a perfect single. This  
track has it all: pumpin’ compression, slapback  
echo, earnest longing, sexy rockabilly vocals,  
vintage guitars, unexpected rhythmic twists, a  
spooky bridge crescendo and the catchiest of  
choruses. Flip it like a 45. The rest of the record  
is great as well, but that song just slays me.

**Big Star – Complete Third  
[3-CD Box Set]** (OMNIVORE)

If you’re really into the Third Big Star album  
(which was never officially released, aside  
from various bootlegged interpretations), here’s  
a collection of every recording session that  
survived on tape. Lots of solo acoustic demo  
versions, alternate mixes by both engineers  
(John Fry and Jim Dickinson), random covers,  
unreleased mayhem and remastered “final”  
tracks were salvaged from the original tapes,  
giving us an insight into Alex Chilton’s process,  
as well as his fragile (and sometimes inebriated)  
state at the time.

**The Lemon Twigs –  
Do Hollywood** (4AD)

Everyone seems to dig this band instantly.  
Made by a coupla teenage brothers who trade  
off instruments, vocals and songwriting, and  
somehow excel at all of them. Combining all  
the best elements of (mostly) ’60s and ’70s pop  
and rock, they summon a vast array of familiar  
sounds while creating something entirely new.  
They’re familiar with Beach Boys/Zombies-  
esque vocals, Nilsson melodies and Keith  
Moon’s sloppy precision, and they show a real  
attention to detail when it comes to the craft of  
songwriting. Plus they can pull it all off live with  
the help of exceptional band members: bassist

Megan Zeankowski and keyboardist/background vocalist Danny Ayala. Future classic.

See the Lemon Twigs play the Amoeba stage @ YouTube.com/Amoeba

### **The Velvet Underground – The Velvet Underground [45th Anniversary Super Deluxe Edition]** (POLYGRAM)

This exhaustive reissue of my favorite VU album is like a treasure trove for fans. With three different remastered versions of the album (stereo, promo mono mix and Lou Reed's oft-bootlegged "Closet Mix"), plus two discs of unreleased live material and an expanded 1969 Sessions disc (much of which became Reed's first solo album), all contained in a beautifully designed hardcover book of essays and rare photos.

Also check out the *White Light/White Heat* box set that includes a great lost VU song "I'm Not A Young Man Anymore." It's like discovering a brilliant new single from 45 years ago.

### **The Clientele – Strange Geometry [Reissue]** (MERGE)

The 10th anniversary remaster of this 2005 masterpiece only expands The Clientele's stellar ethereal pop sound. Take another walk in the English rain... See also: *Suburban Light* (Vinyl reissue)



### **The Rolling Stones – The Marquee Club (Live 1971) [Blu-Ray+CD]** (EAGLE ROCK)

Top form in a small club. This show, performed a month before *Sticky Fingers* was released, showed off a few of their new tunes (like "I Got the Blues," which they rarely play). This beautifully remastered document shows the Stones in their finest glory. Mick Taylor was on guitar. There's a horn section. Anyone who's anyone was there. Keith's even harmonizing like a madman. On key. Maybe my favorite Rolling Stones show ever. Make it loud. Ain't no joke.

## CAROL

### **Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings – Miss Sharon Jones! [Soundtrack]** (DAPTONE)

### **Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings – Miss Sharon Jones** (DAPTONE)

### **The Cramps – Songs The Lord Taught US** (DRASTIC PLASTIC) on colored [red] vinyl & on 200 gram black vinyl

### **The Cramps – Psychedelic Jungle** (DRASTIC PLASTIC) on colored [green] vinyl & on 200 gram black vinyl

### **The Cramps – Bad Music For Bad People** (DRASTIC PLASTIC) on colored [yellow] vinyl & 200 gram black vinyl

### **Deap Vally – Femijism** (NEVADO)

### **Dex Romweber – Carrboro** (BLOODSHOT RECORDS)

### **Hanni El Khatib – Savage Times** (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

### **The Stooges – Gimme Danger [Original Soundtrack]** (ATLANTIC RECORDS)

### **Warpaint – Heads Up** (ROUGH TRADE)

## REBECCA

Chooses Love

### **Hell or High Water (2016) – Directed by David Mackenzie**

I went on and on about this film for three days after I saw it. Usually, I freak out watching what I call "spiral movies" — you know the ones? Things start out okay and then bad decision follows bad luck and everything spirals out of control. I thought this was going to go there, and I was super tense, but... I love the way everything turned out in this story of brothers driven by a particular circumstance to rob banks in West Texas. Great acting, great dialogue, and a story that ties together just right.

### **Penny Dreadful – Created by John Logan**

There are some flaws here, but also some fine acting and just the right kind of weirdness... I am also a sucker for costume dramas, though, in this case, I kept thinking the dudes from *Ripper Street* were going to saunter through at any moment. Alas, it never happened.

### **Star Wars Rebels – Created by Dave Filoni**

Darth Maul. I will always be thankful for how they treated him, here and in *Clone Wars*.

### **Atari: Game Over (2014) – Directed by Zak Penn**

I had the E.T. Atari game, and it struck me less as the "worst game of all time" as it did an introduction into a pit-heavy purgatory. This doc is fascinating, digging up the thousands of cartridges that were buried in Alamogordo in 1983, as well as the story behind Atari and the game itself.

## KAREN.

### **FIRST AND FOREMOST...**

### **Tribe Called Quest – We Got It From Here... Thank You 4 Your Service** (EPIC)

A masterpiece fitting for the times. maybe that's why we had to wait almost twenty years? slidin' the real into yer ear canals. the bottom bass funky to INFINITY and BEYOND... the final ride takes you along and drops you right in the zone.

### **AND THEN...**

### **ROCK:**

### **Austra – Future Politics** (DOMINO)

**Dungen – Häxan** (MEXICAN SUMMER)  
illuminating, intoxicating, perfect.

### **SPOON – Hot Thoughts** (MATADOR) completely addictive.

### **ANOHN! – Paradise EP** (SECRETLY CANADIAN)

### **GonjaSufi – Callus** (WARP)

### **Valerie June – The Order of Time** (CONCORD)

### **Elbow – Little Fictions** (CONCORD)

### **Hurray For The Riff Raff – The Navigator** (ATO)

### **Senator – Tiny Monsters** (SELF-RELEASED)



**Strand of Oaks – Hard Love**  
(DEAD OCEANS)

**Black Joe Lewis &  
The Honeybears – Backlash**  
(BLACK JOE LEWIS)

**Korey Dane – Chamber Girls**  
soulful hazy sun-drenched Americana.

**Weyes Blood –  
Front Row Seat to Earth**  
(MEXICAN SUMMER)  
had no idea about her until i saw her Green  
Room Session. Beautiful.

**Car Seat Headrest –  
Teens of Denial** (MATADOR)

**The Buttermilktones –  
Gravedigging** (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

**LP – Death Valley**  
(VAGRANT)  
out 6/17

**HIP HOP:**  
**Danny Brown – Atrocity  
Exhibition** (WARP)  
raw. emotional. a true original.

**Joey Bada\$\$ –  
All-Amerikkkan Bada\$\$**  
(CINEMATIC)

**Liana Bank\$ – Insubordinate**  
(REBIRTH/MARCH)

**ELECTRONICA:**  
**Nicolas Jaar – Sirens**  
(OTHER PEOPLE)

**Thundercat – Drunk**  
(BRAINFEEDER)

**Kaytranada – 99.9%** (XL)

**Midori Takada –  
Through The Looking Glass**  
(WE RELEASE WHATEVER)

**SOUL:**  
**Syd – Fin** (COLUMBIA)

**Kehlani – SweetSexySavage**  
(ATLANTIC)

**FOLK:**  
**Leonard Cohen – You Want it  
Darker** (COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

**COUNTRY:**  
**Sturgill Simpson –  
A Sailor's Guide to Earth**  
(ATLANTIC)

**WORLD:**  
**Chicano Batman –  
Freedom Is Free** (ATO)

**Various Artists – Nigeria Soul  
Fever** (SOUL JAZZ)

**EXPERIMENTAL:**  
**Tim Hecker – Love Streams**  
(4AD)

**BLUES:**  
**Gary Clark Jr. –  
Live/North America 2016**  
(WARNER BROS.)

**BOOKS:**  
📖 **Swing Time**  
by Zadie Smith  
(PENGUIN)  
📖 **South and West: From  
a Notebook by Joan Didion**  
(RANDOM HOUSE)  
📖 **The Vegetarian: A Novel**  
by Han Kang (RANDOM HOUSE)

📖 **The Mothers: A Novel**  
by Brit Bennett (PENGUIN)

## NOTES:

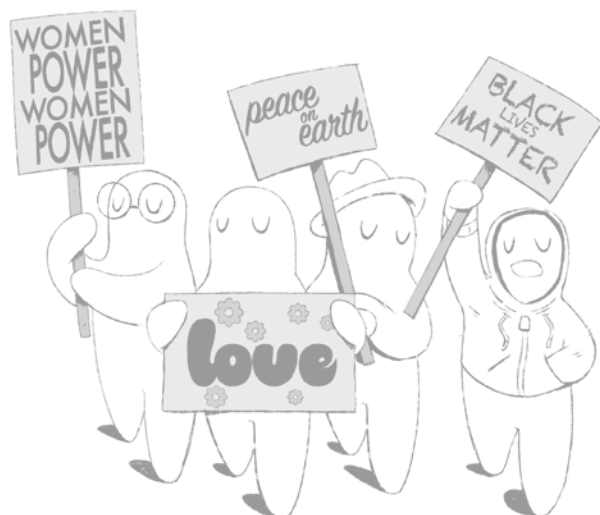


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## 300 Essential Records You Need on Vinyl

Looking to start your record collection or fill out the one you have? Here's a place to start. We tried to include albums that are readily available on vinyl for \$50 bucks or under, nothing too rare or out of print. We also tried to avoid greatest hits records and focus on studio albums. Here is our list, in alphabetical order. Start collecting!

**AC/DC**  
*Highway to Hell* (1979)

**THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND**  
*At Fillmore East* (1971)

**ANIMAL COLLECTIVE**  
*Merriweather Post Pavilion* (2009)

**APHEX TWIN**  
*Selected Ambient Works 85-92* (1992)

**ARCADE FIRE**  
*Funeral* (2004)

**THE B-52'S**  
*The B-52's* (1979)

**THE BAND**  
*The Band* (1969)  
*Music From Big Pink* (1968)

**THE BEACH BOYS**  
*Pet Sounds* (1966)  
*Today!* (1965)  
*The Smile Sessions* (2011)

**BEACH HOUSE**  
*Teen Dream* (2010)

**BEASTIE BOYS**  
*License to Ill* (1986)  
*Paul's Boutique* (1989)

**THE BEATLES**  
*Abbey Road* (1970)  
*Let It Be* (1970)  
*Meet the Beatles!* (1964)  
*Revolver* (1966)  
*Rubber Soul* (1965)  
*Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (1967)  
*The White Album* (1968)

**BELLE & SEBASTIAN**  
*If You're Feeling Sinister* (1997)

**CHUCK BERRY**  
*The Great Twenty-Eight* (1982)

**BIG STAR**  
*#1 Record* (1972)  
*Radio City* (1974)  
*Third/Sister Lovers* (1978)

**BJORK**  
*Homogenic* (1997)  
*Post* (1995)

**BLACK FLAG**  
*Damaged* (1981)

**BLACK STAR**  
*Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star* (1998)

**BLACK SABBATH**  
*Black Sabbath* (1970)  
*Paranoid* (1970)

**MARY J. BLIGE**  
*What's the 411?* (1992)

**BLONDIE**  
*Parallel Lines* (1978)

**BLUR**  
*Parklife* (1994)

**BOARDS OF CANADA**  
*Music Has the Right to Children* (1998)

**DAVID BOWIE**  
*Hunky Dory* (1971)  
*The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* (1972)  
*Blackstar* (2016)

**THE BREEDERS**  
*Last Splash* (1993)

**JAMES BROWN**  
*Live at the Apollo* (1963)

**THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET**  
*Time Out* (1959)

**JEFF BUCKLEY**  
*Grace* (1994)

**BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB**  
*Buena Vista Social Club* (1997)

**KATE BUSH**  
*Hounds of Love* (1985)

**THE BYRDS**  
*Mr. Tambourine Man* (1965)  
*Sweetheart of the Rodeo* (1968)

## FROM THE AMOEBLOG

### CAN

*Ege Bamyasi* (1972)  
*Tago Mago* (1971)

### THE CARPENTERS

*Close to You* (1970)

### THE CARS

*The Cars* (1978)

### JOHNNY CASH

*At Folsom Prison* (1968)

### CAPTAIN BEEFHEART

*Trout Mask Replica* (1969)

### NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS

*Let Love In* (1994)

### RAY CHARLES

*The Genius of Ray Charles* (1959)  
*Modern Sounds in Country And Western Music* (1962)

### THE CLASH

*The Clash* (1977)  
*London Calling* (1979)

### COCTEAU TWINS

*Heaven or Las Vegas* (1990)

### LEONARD COHEN

*Songs of Leonard Cohen* (1967)

### ORNETTE COLEMAN

*The Shape of Jazz to Come* (1959)

### JOHN COLTRANE

*A Love Supreme* (1964)

### ELVIS COSTELLO

*My Aim Is True* (1976)  
*This Year's Model* (1978)

### CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL

*Green River* (1969)

### THE CURE

*Disintegration*  
(1989)

### D'ANGELO

*Voodoo* (2000)

### DAFT PUNK

*Discovery* (2001)

### MILES DAVIS

*Kind of Blue* (1959)  
*Bitches Brew* (1969)  
*In a Silent Way* (1969)

### DE LA SOUL

*3 Feet High and Rising* (1989)

### DEERHUNTER

*Microcastle* (2008)

### DEPECHE MODE

*Violator* (1990)

### DJ SHADOW

*Entroducing...* (1996)

### THE DOORS

*The Doors* (1966)

### DR. DRE

*The Chronic* (1992)

### NICK DRAKE

*Five Leaves Left* (1969)  
*Pink Moon* (1972)

### BOB DYLAN

*Blonde on Blonde* (1966)  
*Blood on the Tracks* (1975)  
*Bringing it All Back Home* (1965)  
*The Freewheeling Bob Dylan* (1963)  
*Highway 61 Revisited* (1965)  
*The Times They Are A-Changin'* (1964)

### THE EAGLES

*Hotel California* (1976)

### BRYAN ENO & DAVID BYRNE

*My Life in the Bush of Ghosts* (1981)

### BRIAN ENO

*Here Come the Warm Jets* (1973)

### THE FALL

*This Nation's Saving Grace* (1985)

### ELLA FITZGERALD

*Sings The Cole Porter Song Book* (1956)

### FKA TWIGS

*LPI* (2014)

### THE FLAMING LIPS

*The Soft Bulletin* (1999)

### FLEET FOXES

*Fleet Foxes* (2008)

### FLEETWOOD MAC

*Rumours* (1976)

### ARETHA FRANKLIN

*I Never Loved a Man the Way I Love You*  
(1967)

### FUNKADELIC

*Maggot Brain* (1971)

### SERGE GAINSBOURG

*Histoire de Melody Nelson* (1971)

### MARVIN GAYE

*What's Going On* (1971)

### GALAXIE 500

*On Fire* (1989)

### GANG OF FOUR

*Solid Gold* (1981)  
*Entertainment* (1979)

### STAN GETZ / JOÃO GILBERTO

*Getz / Gilberto* (1964)

### AL GREEN

*I'm Still in Love With You* (1972)  
*Let's Stay Together* (1972)

### GREEN DAY

*Dookie* (1994)

### GRIMES

*Art Angels* (2015)

### GUIDED BY VOICES

*Bee Thousand* (1994)

### GUNS N' ROSES

*Appetite for Destruction* (1987)

### GEORGE HARRISON

*All Things Must Pass* (1970)

### GENIUS/GZA

*Liquid Swords* (1995)

### THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE

*Are You Experienced?* (1967)

### JIMI HENDRIX

*Electric Ladyland* (1968)

### BILLIE HOLIDAY

*Lady in Satin* (1958)

### WHITNEY HOUSTON

*Whitney Houston* (1985)

### LAURYN HILL

*The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* (1998)

### HUSKER DU

*Zen Arcade* (1984)

### IGGY & THE STOOGES

*Raw Power* (1973)

### INTERPOL

*Turn on the Bright Lights* (2002)

### JANET JACKSON

*Control* (1986)

### MICHAEL JACKSON

*Off the Wall* (1979)  
*Thriller* (1982)

## FROM THE AMOEBLOG

### ETTA JAMES

*At Last!* (1960)

### JAY-Z

*The Blueprint* (2001)  
*Reasonable Doubt* (1996)

### JEFFERSON AIRPLANE

*Surrealistic Pillow* (1967)

### THE JESUS & MARY CHAIN

*Psychocandy* (1985)

### ELTON JOHN

*Goodbye Yellow Brick Road* (1973)

### ROBERT JOHNSON

*King of the Delta Blues Singers* (1961)

### JANIS JOPLIN

*Pearl* (1971)

### JOY DIVISION

*Unknown Pleasures* (1979)  
*Closer* (1980)

### KING CRIMSON

*In the Court of King Crimson* (1969)

### CAROLE KING

*Tapestry* (1971)

### THE KINKS

*Something Else By The Kinks* (1967)  
*The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society* (1968)

### KRAFTWERK

*Computer World* (1981)  
*Trans-Europe Express* (1977)

### FELA KUTI

*Zombie* (1977)  
(Can be found on Box Set #3,  
curated by Brian Eno)

### KENDRICK LAMAR

*To Pimp a Butterfly* (2015)

### LED ZEPPELIN

*I* (1969)  
*II* (1969)  
*III* (1970)  
*IV* (1971)  
*Houses of the Holy* (1973)  
*Physical Graffiti* (1975)

### JOHN LENNON

*John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band* (1970)  
*Imagine* (1971)

### MADONNA

*Like a Prayer* (1989)



## FROM THE AMOEBLOG

### THE MAMAS & THE PAPAS

*If You Can Believe Your Eyes and Ears* (1966)

### BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS

*Catch a Fire* (1973)

### MASSIVE ATTACK

*Mezzanine* (1998)

### MADVILLAIN

*Madvillainy* (2004)

### CURTIS MAYFIELD

*Superfly* (1972)

### M83

*Hurry Up, We're Dreaming* (2011)

### METALLICA

*Master of Puppets* (1986)  
*Ride the Lightning* (1984)

### MF DOOM

*Mm...Food* (2004)

### CHARLES MINGUS

*Mingus Ah Um* (1959)

### JONI MITCHELL

*Blue* (1971)

### MODEST MOUSE

*The Moon and Antarctica* (2000)

### ENNIO MORRICONE

*The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* [OST] (1966)

### VAN MORRISON

*Astral Weeks* (1968)  
*Moondance* (1970)

### THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION

*Freak Out!* (1966)

### MY BLOODY VALENTINE

*Loveless* (1991)  
*Isn't Anything* (1988)

### NAS

*Illmatic* (1994)

### NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL

*In the Aeroplane Over the Sea* (1998)

### NEU!

*Neu!* (1972)

### NEW ORDER

*Power, Corruption & Lies* (1983)

### NIRVANA

*In Utero* (1993)  
*Nevermind* (1991)  
*MTV Unplugged in New York* (1994)

### NOTORIOUS B.I.G.

*Ready to Die* (1994)  
*Life After Death* (1997)

*Nuggets: Original Artyfacts from the First Psychedelic Era, 1965–1968* (1972)

### N.W.A.

*Straight Outta Compton* (1988)

### OASIS

*(What's the Story) Morning Glory?* (1995)

### OS MUTANTES

*Os Mutantes* (1968)

### OUTKAST

*Stankonia* (2000)  
*Aquemini* (1998)

### PANDA BEAR

*Person Pitch* (2007)

### DOLLY PARTON

*Coat of Many Colors* (1971)

### PAVEMENT

*Slanted and Enchanted* (1992)

### THE PRETENDERS

*The Pretenders* (1979)

### PINK FLOYD

*Animals* (1977)  
*Dark Side of the Moon* (1973)  
*The Wall* (1979)  
*Wish You Were Here* (1975)

### THE PIXIES

*Doolittle* (1989)  
*Surfer Rosa* (1988)

### PJ HARVEY

*To Bring You My Love* (1995)

### THE POLICE

*Synchronicity* (1983)

### IGGY POP

*The Idiot* (1977)

### PORTISHEAD

*Dummy* (1994)  
*Third* (2008)

### ELVIS PRESLEY

*Elvis Presley* (1956)  
*The Sun Sessions* (1976)

### PRIMAL SCREAM

*Screamadelica* (1991)

### PRINCE

*1999* (1982)  
*Purple Rain* (1984)

### PUBLIC ENEMY

*Fear of a Black Planet* (1990)  
*It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back* (1988)

### PUBLIC IMAGE, LTD.

*Second Edition* (1980)

### QUEEN

*A Night at the Opera* (1975)

### RADIOHEAD

*The Bends* (1995)  
*In Rainbows* (2007)  
*Kid A* (2000)  
*OK Computer* (1997)

### RAEKWON

*Only Built 4 Cuban Linx...* (1995)

### THE RAMONES

*The Ramones* (1976)

### LOU REED

*Transformer* (1972)

### R.E.M.

*Reckoning* (1984)  
*Murmur* (1983)

### THE REPLACEMENTS

*Let It Be* (1984)

### LITTLE RICHARD

*Here's Little Richard* (1957)

### RIDE

*Nowhere* (1990)

### OTIS REDDING

*Otis Blue/Otis Redding Sings Soul* (1965)

### THE ROLLING STONES

*Aftermath* (1966)  
*Beggars Banquet* (1968)  
*Exile on Main Street* (1972)  
*Let It Bleed* (1969)  
*Sticky Fingers* (1971)

### THE RONETTES

*Presenting the Fabulous Ronettes*  
*Featuring Veronica* (1964)

### ROXY MUSIC

*Avalon* (1982)  
*For Your Pleasure* (1973)

### THIS HEAT

*Deceit* (1981)

## FROM THE AMOEBLOG

*Saturday Night Fever* (1977)

### SEX PISTOLS

*Never Mind the Bullocks, Here's the Sex Pistols* (1977)

### SIGUR ROS

*Ágætis Byrjun* (1999)

### SLEATER-KINNEY

*The Woods* (2005)

### SLINT

*Spiderland* (1991)

### SLY & THE FAMILY STONE

*Stand!* (1969)  
*There's a Riot Goin' On* (1971)

### NINA SIMONE

*Nina Simone Sings the Blues* (1967)

### SIMON & GARFUNKEL

*Bridge Over Troubled Water* (1970)

### PAUL SIMON

*Graceland* (1986)

### FRANK SINATRA

*In the Wee Small Hours* (1955)

### SLOWDIVE

*Souvlaki* (1993)

### SONIC YOUTH

*Daydream Nation* (1988)  
*Murray Street* (2002)  
*Sister* (1987)

### PHIL SPECTOR

*A Christmas Gift For You* (1963)

### BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

*Born to Run* (1975)  
*Darkness on the Edge of Town* (1978)  
*Nebraska* (1982)  
*The River* (1980)

### SMASHING PUMPKINS

*Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* (1995)  
*Siamese Dream* (1993)

### ELLIOTT SMITH

*Either/Or* (1997)

### PATTI SMITH

*Horses* (1975)

### THE SMITHS

*The Queen Is Dead* (1986)  
*The Smiths* (1983)

### SNOOP DOGG

*Doggystyle* (1993)



# FROM THE AMOEBOLOG

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## SPIRITUALIZED

*Ladies & Gentlemen We Are Floating in Space* (1997)

## DUSTY SPRINGFIELD

*Dusty in Memphis* (1969)

## STEELY DAN

*Aja* (1977)

## THE STONE ROSES

*The Stone Roses* (1989)

## THE STOOGES

*Funhouse* (1970)

## THE STROKES

*Is This It?* (2001)

## SUICIDE

*Suicide* (1977)

*The Sun Records Story*  
(2001)

## TALKING HEADS

*More Songs About Buildings and Food*  
(1978)  
*77* (1977)  
*Remain in Light* (1980)

## TALK TALK

*Spirit of Eden* (1988)

## TAME IMPALA

*Currents* (2015)

## TELEVISION

*Marquee Moon* (1977)

## THROBBING GRISTLE

*20 Jazz Funk Greats* (1979)

## T. REX

*Electric Warrior* (1971)

## A TRIBE CALLED QUEST

*The Low End Theory* (1991)

## U2

*The Joshua Tree* (1987)

## THE VELVET UNDERGROUND

*Loaded* (1971)  
*The Velvet Underground* (1969)  
*The Velvet Underground & Nico* (1967)  
*White Light/White Heat* (1968)

## VIOLENT FEMMES

*Violent Femmes* (1983)

## TOM WAITS

*Swordfishtrombones* (1983)  
*Rain Dogs* (1985)

## WEEZER

*The Blue Album* (1994)  
*Pinkerton* (1996)

## KANYE WEST

*Late Registration* (2005)  
*My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* (2010)

## THE WHO

*Quadrophenia* (1973)  
*Who's Next* (1971)

## THE WHITE STRIPES

*Elephant* (2003)  
*White Blood Cells* (2003)

## WILCO

*Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (2002)

## HANK WILLIAMS

*Ramblin' Man* (1955)

## LUCINDA WILLIAMS

*Car Wheels on a Gravel Road* (1998)

## STEVIE WONDER

*Innervisions* (1973)  
*Songs in the Key of Life* (1976)  
*Talking Book* (1972)

## WU-TANG CLAN

*Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)* (1993)

## XTC

*Skylarking* (1986)

## YO LA TENGO

*I Can Hear the Heart Beating as One*  
(1997)

## NEIL YOUNG

*After the Gold Rush* (1970)  
*Everybody Knows This Is Nowhere* (1969)  
*Harvest* (1972)

## THE ZOMBIES

*Odyssey & Oracle* (1968)

