FALL/WINTER
2018-2019

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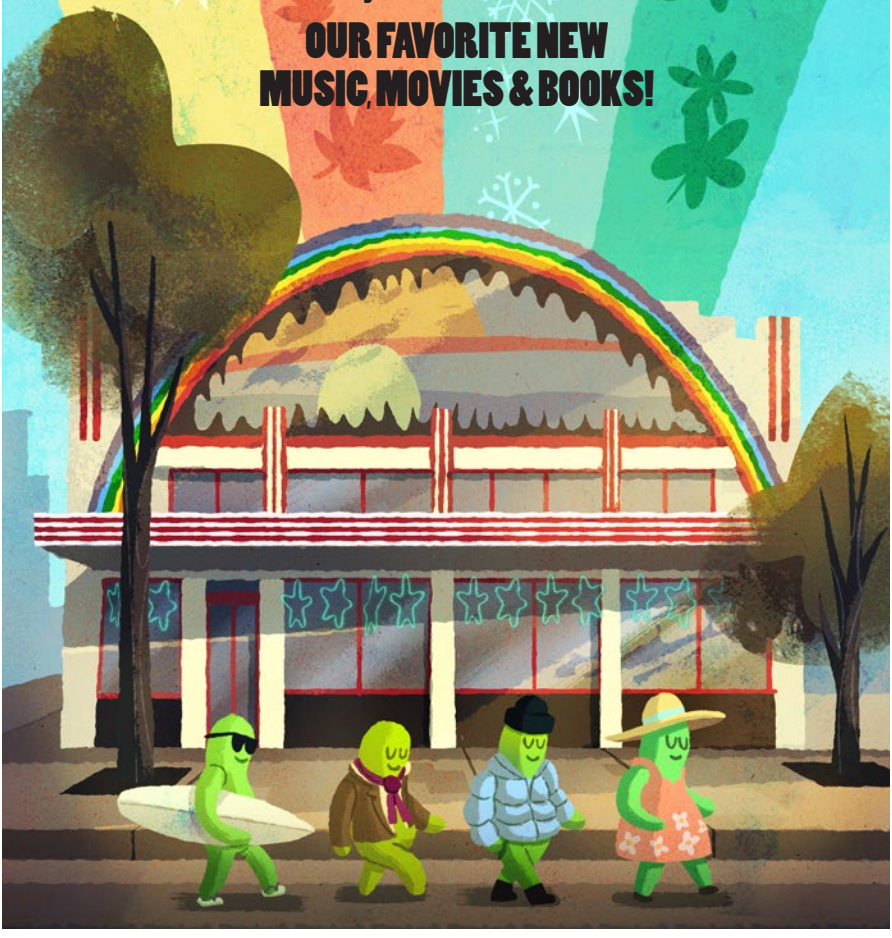

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MOVIES WE LIKE!

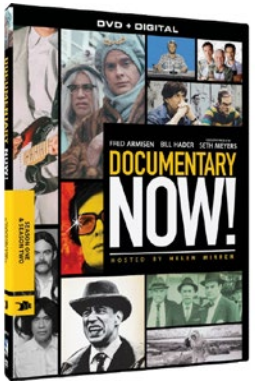
Danny Trejo returns as the ruthless bookie, Goldberg, in the wildest, bloodiest, *Death Race* ever.

Experience the epic action and nonstop adventure in all five chapters of the legendary action fantasy saga; starring wrestling star, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.

An unabashedly violent, surprisingly powerful, B-movie, like director John Carpenter used to make, but with moments that resonate with real life.

Occasionally uplifting and sometimes heartbreaking, it is nothing less than sublime. One of the best films of 2018; an absolute gem.

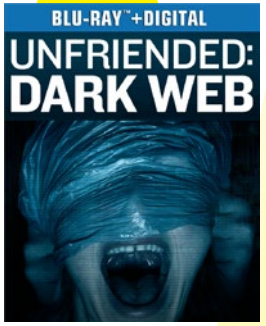
Delivering on its promise, this new era has come up with ways to surprise, terrify, and inspire.



Clever "mockumentary " series that emulates the themes & styles of great documentaries and applies them to fanciful (nonsensical) people and events.

Full of some amazing set-pieces and some serious "jump in your seat" moments, this action drama rides capably on the back of "The Rock," Dwayne Johnson.

This disco classic will make you want to put on your boogie shoes and dance all night long! Soundtrack features the Queen of Disco, Donna Summer.



Nasty in its narrative and nifty in its aesthetic, Stephen Susco's new film is a solid argument against doing anything remotely illicit online.

While transporting a valuable antique out of Shanghai, a private security agent [Orlando Bloom] is ambushed and must battle to reclaim this prized possession.

Blending excellent reporting and strong storytelling, this is a disturbing film, truly stranger than fiction. One of the best documentaries—and films—of 2018.

Directed by Ol Parker [*Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*], this riotous, feel good, toe-tapping wonder will leave you uplifted and wanting to dance.

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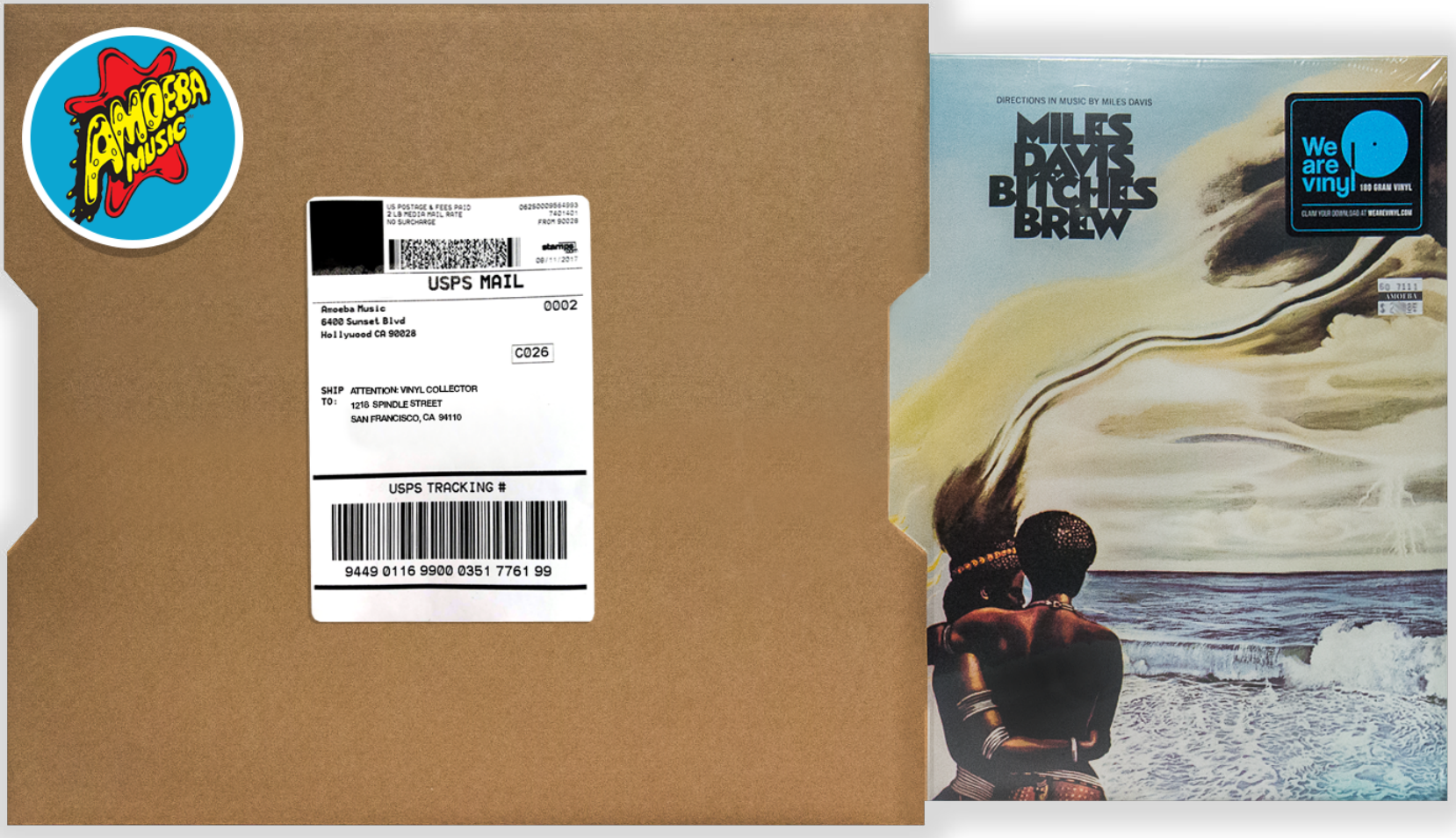

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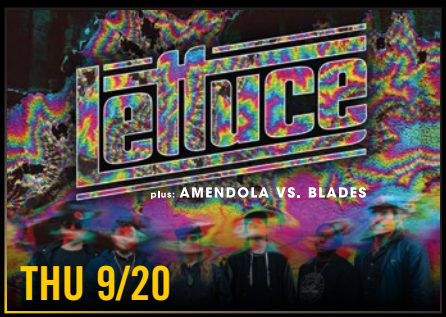

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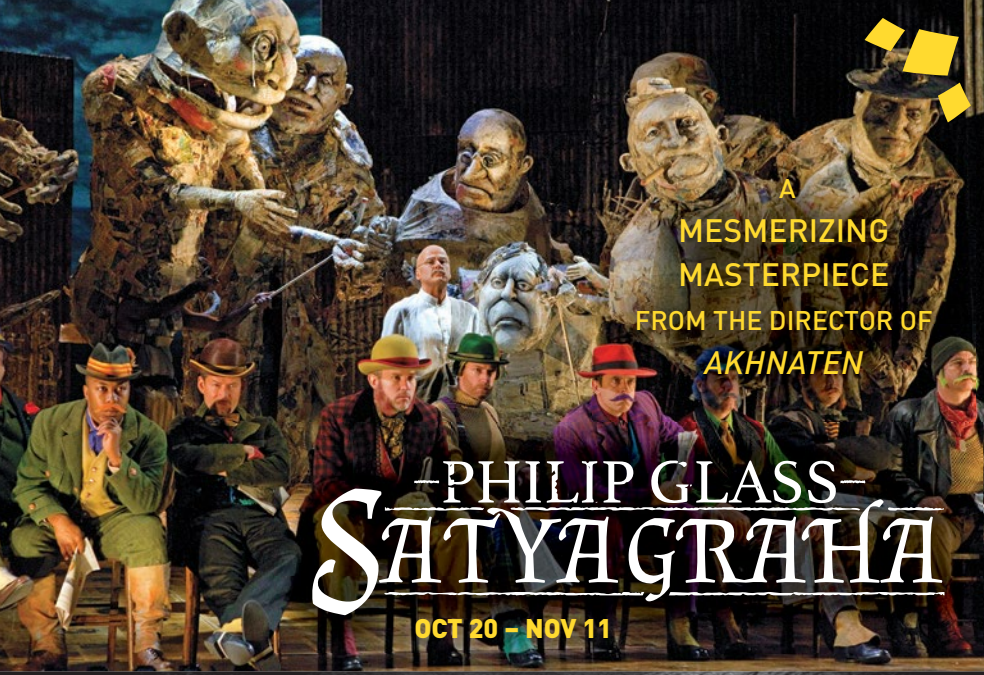

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OUR FAVORITE NEW MUSIC MOVIES & BOOKS!

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Fall/Winter 2018-2019

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.

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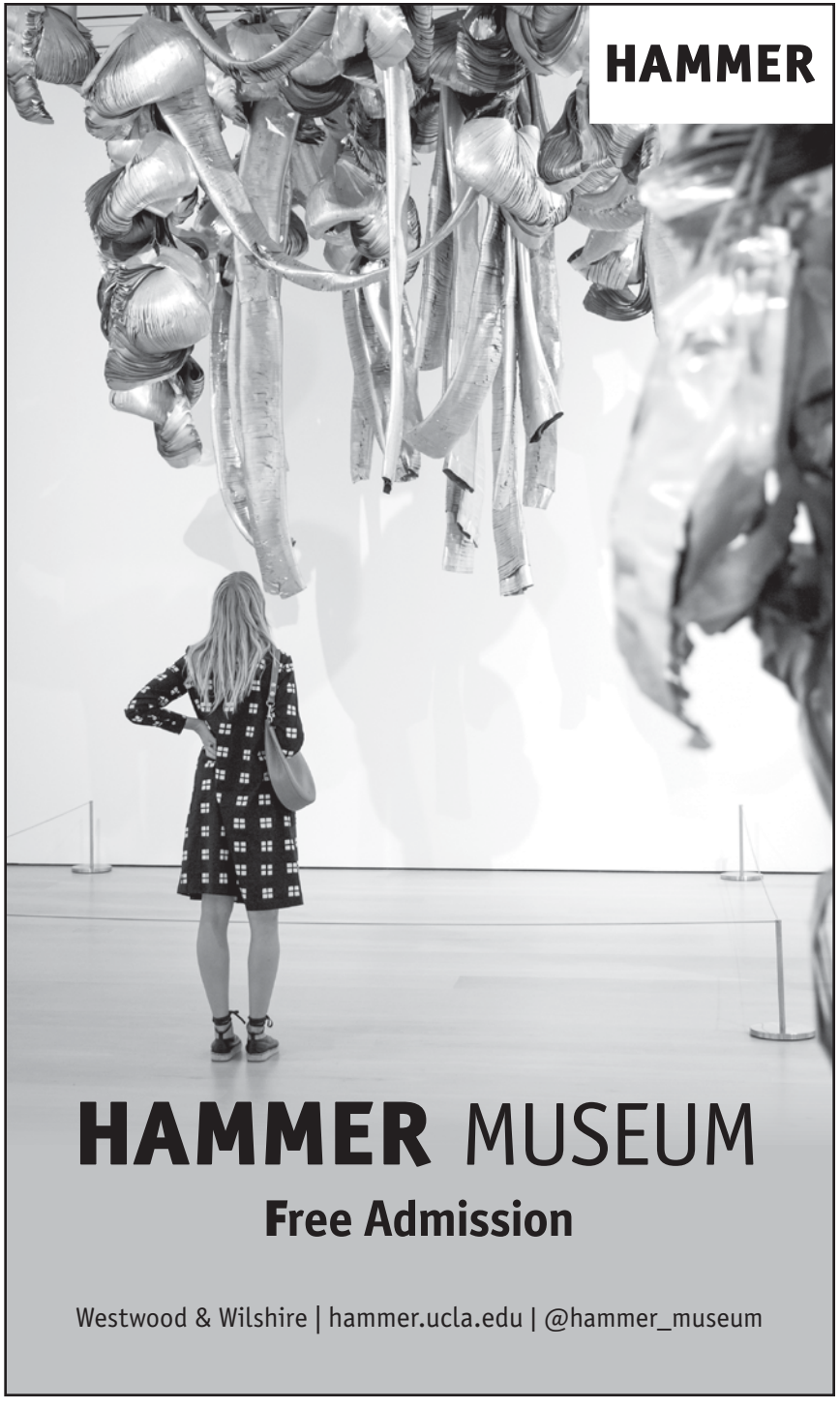

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EDITOR'S NOTE:
When I was in college I made mixtapes that were all about weather or seasons but they were thematically linked not by content or title but by the mood they gave me and how it correlated. I had Sunday morning music, and blustery day music and I'm sure I'm certainly not unique in this. This "Seasons" edition of MWL celebrates how we all go through Seasons in life and how music can take you so directly into a moment of time–as directly and emotionally as scent can. Things change and evolve and sometimes when things all seem dead and barren, we need to be reminded that spring will come again. Trust Music and Movies and Books and Art to take you there. Hope you find some inspiration in this book!

Be sure to let us know if you find something you love!
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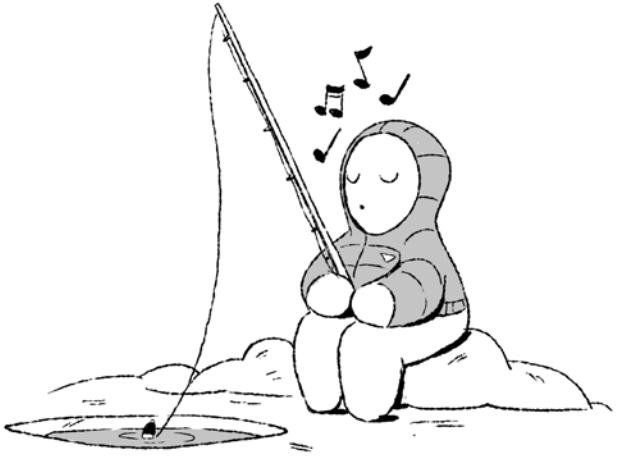

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Neko Case – ***Furnace Room Lullaby/Tigers Have Spoken*** (ANTI-)

Alice Coltrane – ***Lord Of Lords*** (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Julee Cruise – ***The Voice Of Love/Three Demos*** (SACRED BONES)

Depeche Mode – ***Speak & Spell/A Broken Frame*** (WARNER BROS.)

Gang Of Four – ***A Brief History Of The Twentieth Century*** (RHINO)

Gorillaz – ***Demon Days*** (WARNER BROS.)

Guns N' Roses – ***Appetite For Destruction*** (GEFFEN)

Richard Hell & The Voivods – ***Blank Generation*** (RHINO)

The Posies – ***Frosting On The Beater*** (OMNIVORE)

Siouxsie & The Banshees – ***Join Hands/Juju/Through The Looking Glass/Tinderbox*** (GEFFEN)

Sunn O))) – *White #1/White #2* (SOUTHERN LORD)

The Time – ***Ice Cream Castle*** (RHINO)

U2 – ***Achtung Baby/ Zooropa/The Best Of 1980-1990*** (ISLAND)

Various Artists – ***East Side Story, Vol. 1-3*** (EAST SIDE)

Gillian Welch – ***Soul Journey*** (ACONY)

Zero 7 – ***Simple Things*** (NEW STATE MUSIC)

SOUL

Kadhja Bonet – ***Childqueen*** (FAT POSSUM)

Leon Bridges – ***Good Thing*** (SONY)

Brownout – ***Fear of a Brown Planet*** (FATBEATS)

Dennis Coffey – ***One Night at Morey's: 1968*** (OMNIVORE)

Macy Gray – ***Ruby*** (MACK AVENUE)

Jackson Sisters – ***Jackson Sisters*** (MR. BONGO)

Janelle Monae – ***Dirty Computer*** (BAD BOY)

Jeffrey Osborne – ***Worth It All*** (ARTISTRY)

Sudan Archives – ***Sink*** (STONES THROW)

The Suffers – ***Everything Here*** (SHANACHIE)

Tinashe – ***Joyride*** (RCA)

Tower of Power – ***Soul Side of Town*** (ARTISTRY)

Kali Uchis – ***Isolation*** (INTERSCOPE)

Various Artists – ***Westbound Disco*** (ACE)

The Weeknd – ***My Dear Melancholy*** (REPUBLIC)

Adrian Younge & Ali Shaheed Muhammad – ***The Midnight Hour*** (LINEAR LABS)

JAZZ

Idris Ackamoor & The Pyramids – ***An Angel Fell*** (STUNT)

JD Allen – ***Love Stone*** (SAVANT)

Kenny Barron Quintet – ***Concentric Circles*** (BLUE NOTE)

Nik Bärtsch's Ronin – ***Awase*** (ECM)

Nat Birchall – ***Cosmic Language*** (JAZZMAN)

The Nels Cline 4 – ***Currents, Constellations*** (BLUE NOTE)

John Coltrane – ***Both Directions at Once: The Lost Album*** (¡MPULSE! / VERVE)

Bill Frisell – ***Music IS*** (SONY MASTERWORKS)

Tia Fuller – ***Diamond Cut*** (MACK AVENUE)

Grant Green – ***Funk in France: From Paris to Antibes (1969-1970)*** (RESONANCE)

Mary Halvorson (with Bill Frisell) – ***The Maid with the Flaxen Hair - A Tribute to Johnny Smith*** (TZADIK)

Dave Holland/Evan Parker/ Craig Taborn/Ches Smith – ***Uncharted Territories*** (DARE2)

Dave Koz & Friends – ***Summer Horns II: From A to Z*** (CONCORD)

Mast – ***Thelonious Sphere Monk*** (WORLD GALAXY / ALPHA PUP)

PangPang – ***KissKiss PangPang*** (LOSEN)

Joshua Redman – ***Still Dreaming*** (NONESUCH)

R+R=NOW – ***Collagically Speaking*** (BLUE NOTE)

Cécile McLorin Salvant – ***The Window*** (MACK AVENUE)

Various Artists – ***J-Jazz: Deep Modern Jazz From Japan 1969-1984*** (BBE)

Buster Williams – ***Audacity*** (SMOKE SESSIONS)

Zig Zag Power Trio – ***Woodstock Sessions Volume 9*** (WOODSTOCK SESSIONS)

ROCK

AJR – ***The Click*** **[Deluxe]** (AJR PRODUCTIONS)

Laurie Anderson & Kronos Quartet – ***Landfall*** (NONESUCH)

Arctic Monkeys – ***Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino*** (DOMINO)

Beach House – ***7*** (SUB POP)

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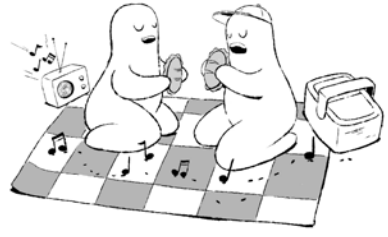

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Belly – *Dove* (BELLY TOURING LLC)

Blood Orange – *Negro Swan* (DOMINO)

Brian Jonestown Massacre – *Something Else* (A RECORDS)

Bishop Briggs – *Church of Scars* (ISLAND/DEF JAM)

Chvrches – *Love Is Dead* (GLASSNOTE)

Elvis Costello & The Imposters – *Look Now* (CONCORD)

decker. – *Born To Wake Up* (ROYAL POTATO FAMILY / MRI ENTERTAINMENT)

Everlast – *Whitey Ford's House of Pain* (MARTYR INC.)

Exitmusic – *The Recognitions* (FELTE)

Father John Misty – *God's Favorite Customer* (SUB POP)

Florence + The Machine – *High As Hope* (REPUBLIC)

Eleanor Friedberger – *Rebound* (FRENCH KISS)

Frights – *Hypochondriac* (EPITAPH)

Future Generations – *Landscape* (FRENCHKISS)

Billy F. Gibbons – *Big Bad Blues* (CONCORD)

Chilly Gonzales – *Solo Piano III* [Limited Edition] (FONTANA NORTH)

Good Charlotte – *Generation Rx* (BMG RIGHTS MGMT)

Cursive – *Vitriola* (15 PASSENGER)

Ariana Grande – *Sweetener* (REPUBLIC)

Milo Green – *Adult Contemporary* (NETTWERK)

Dave Grohl – *Play* [LP only] (RCA)

Hail The Sun – *Mental Knife* (EQUAL VISION)

Ben Harper & Charlie Musselwhite – *No Mercy In This Land* (ANTI-)

Indigo Girls – *Live With The University Of Colorado Symphony Orchestra* (ROUNDER)

Interpol – *Marauder* (MATADOR)

Lord Huron – *Vide Noir* (REPUBLIC)

Lorde – *Melodrama* (REPUBLIC)

Madeline Kenney – *Perfect Shapes* (CARPARK)

Khruangbin – *Con Todo El Mundo* (DEAD OCEANS)

Marcus King Band – *Rock* (FANTASY)

Lenny Kravitz – *Raise Vibration* (BMG RIGHTS MGMT)

King Krule – *The Ooz* (TRUE PANTHER SOUNDS)

La Luz – *Floating Features* (HARDLY ART)

Mark Lanegan & Duke Garwood – *With Animals* (PIAS AMERICA)

The Lemon Twigs – *Go To School* (4AD)

Lithics – *Mating Surfaces* (KILL ROCK STARS)

The Love-Birds – *In The Lover's Corner* (TROUBLE IN MIND)

Low – *Double Negative* (SUB POP)

Melody's Echo Chamber – *Bon Voyage* (FAT POSSUM)

Melvins – *Pinkus Abortion Technician* (IPECAC)

Shawn Mendes – *Shawn Mendes* (ISLAND)

Milk Carton Kids – *All The Things I Did* (EPITAPH)

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!* (ROUGH TRADE)

Steve Perry – *Traces* (FANTASY)

Phosphorescent – *C'est La Vie* (DEAD OCEANS)

Plain White T's – *Parallel Universe* (FEARLESS)

Cat Power – *Wanderer* (DOMINO)

The Record Company – *All Of This Life* (CONCORD)

Revivalists – *Take Good Care* (LOMA VISTA)

Boz Scaggs – *Out Of The Blues* (CONCORD)

Sea & Cake – *Any Day* (THRILL JOCKEY)

Shannon Shaw – *Shannon In Nashville* (NONESUCH)

Sleep – *The Sciences* (THIRD MAN)

Slightly Stoopid – *Everyday Life, Everyday People* (STOOPID)

Slothrust – *The Pact* (DANGERBIRD)

Snail Mail – *Lush* (MATADOR)

Snow Patrol – *Wildness* (REPUBLIC)

Soccer Mommy – *Clean* (FAT POSSUM)

Spiritualized – *And Nothing Hurt* (FAT POSSUM)

St. Vincent – *Masseduction* (LOMA VISTA)

State Champs – *Living Proof* (PNE)

The Story So Far – *Proper Dose* (PURE NOISE)

Suuns – *Felt* (SECRETLY CANADIAN)

Teenage Wrist – *Chrome Neon Jesus* (EPITAPH)

Thee Oh Sees – *Smote Reverser* (CASTLE FACE)

This Wild Life – *Petaluma* (EPITAPH)

Tracey Thorn – *Record* (MERGE)

Thrice – *Palms* (EPITAPH)

Tomberlin – *At Weddings* (SADDLE CREEK)

KT Tunstall – *Wax* (ROSTRUM)

Greta Van Fleet – *Black Smoke Rising* (REPUBLIC)

Kurt Vile – *Bottle It In*
(MATADOR)

Vive La Void – *Vive La Void*
(SACRED BONES)

Wax Chattels – *Wax Chattels*
(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Waxahatchee – *Great Thunder* EP (MERGE)

We Were Promised Jetpacks – *The More I Sleep The Less I Dream*
(WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS)

Wild Nothing – *Indigo*
(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Wooden Shjips – *V.*
(THRILL JOCKEY)

HIP-HOP

Atmosphere – *Mi Vida Local*
(RHYMESAYERS)

Blu x Shafiq Husayn – *Blueprint* (NATURE SOUNDS)

Kev Brown – *Homework*
(REDEFINTION)

The Carters – *Everything is Love* (ROC NATION)

Childish Gambino – *Awaken My Love* (GLASSNOTE)

J. Cole – *KOD*
(INTERSCOPE)

Denzel Curry – *TA1300*
(LOMA VISTA)

Dr. Octagon – *Moosebumps: An Exploration Into Modern Day Horripilation*
(BULK RECORDINGS)

Kids See Ghosts & Kanye West & Kid Cudi – *Kids See Ghosts* (DEF JAM)

J.I.D. – The *Never Story*
(DREAMVILLE)

MIKE – *Black Soap*
(LEX RECORDS)

Phonte – *No News Is Good News*
(FOREIGN EXCHANGE)

Princess Nokia – *A Girl Cried Red*
(ROUGH TRADE)

Jay Rock – *Redemption*
(INTERSCOPE)

Kanye West – *Ye* (DEF JAM)

Young Fathers – *Cocoa Sugar* (NINJA TUNE)

ELECTRONIC

Aphex Twin – *Collapse* EP
(WARP)

Autechre – *NTS Sessions*
(WARP)

Bassnectar – *Reflective (Part 3)* (AMOROPHOUS MUSIC)

Bezier – *Parler Muszique*
(DARK ENTRIES)

Dabrye – *Three/Three*
(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

DJ Richard – *Dies Iræ Xerox* (DIAL)

Jungle – *For Ever* (XL)

Martyn – *Voids*
(OSTGUT TON)

Mr. Fingers – *Cerebral Hemispheres*
(ALLEVIATED)

Tin Man – *Acid Acid Acid*
(ACID TEST)

VARG – *Nordic Flora Series Pt. 5: Crush* (POSH ISOLATION)

Louie Vega – *NYC Disco*
(NERVOUS)

Leon Vynehall – *Nothing Is Still*
(NINJA TUNE)

COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS

The Brothers Comatose – *Ink, Dust & Luck* (SWAMP JAM)

Buck Owens – *The Complete Capitol Singles: 1967-1970* (OMNIVORE)

Dierks Bentley – *The Mountain* (CAPITOL NASHVILLE)

Neko Case – *Hell-On*
(EPITAPH)

Kasey Chambers & the Fireside Disciples – *Campfire* (ESSENCE GROUP)

Eric Church – *Desperate Man*
(CAPITOL NASHVILLE)

Joe Goldmark – *Blue Steel*
(LO-BALL)

Hot Rize – *Hot Rize's 40th Anniversary Bash*
(TEN IN HAND)

Ruston Kelly – *Dying Star*
(ROUNDER)

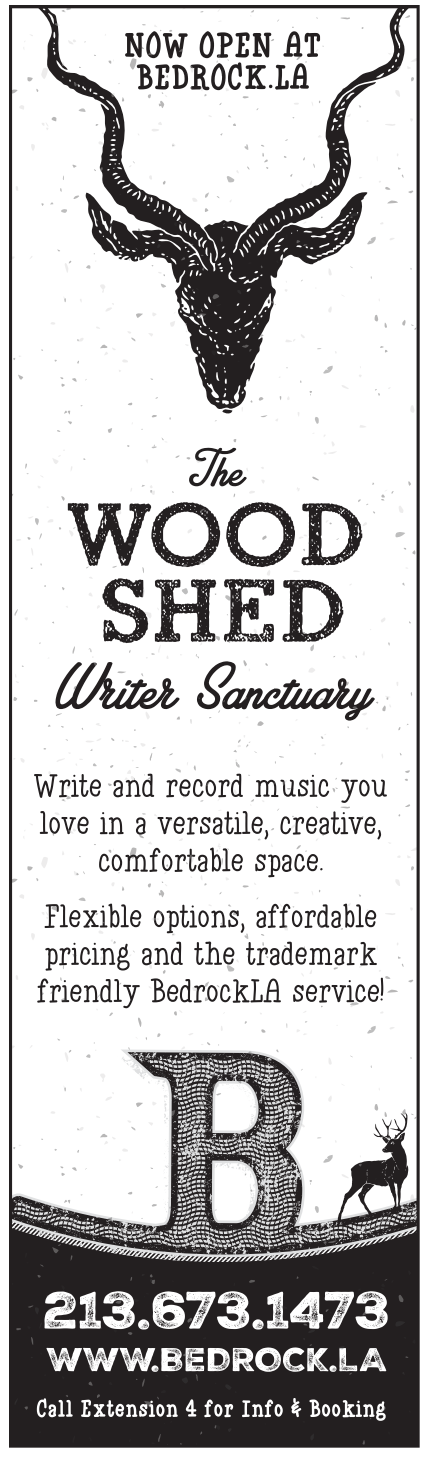
Jim Lauderdale – *Time Flies* (YEP ROC)

Ashley McBryde – *Girl Going Nowhere*
(WARNER MUSIC NASHVILLE)

Kacey Musgraves – *Golden Hour* (MCA NASHVILLE)

Willie Nelson – *Last Man Standing*
(SONY LEGACY)

Old Crow Medicine Show – *Volunteer*
(SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE)



Lindi Ortega –
Liberty (SOUNDLY MUSIC, LLC)

Shooter Jennings –
Shooter (LOW COUNTRY SOUND)

Carrie Underwood – *Cry Pretty*
(CAPITOL NASHVILLE)

Kelly Willis – *Back Being Blue*
(PREMIUM)

FOLK

Marisa Anderson –
Cloud Corner (THRILL JOCKEY)

Anna & Elizabeth –
The Invisible Comes to Us
(SMITHSONIAN / FOLKWAYS)

Daniel Bachman –
The Morning Star
(THREE LOBED)

Joan Baez – *Whistle Down The Wind* (RAZOR & TIE)

Duck Baker –
Les Blues Du Richmond: Demos & Outtakes, 1973-1979
(TOMPKINS SQUARE)

Olivia Chaney –
Shelter (NONESUCH)

Fairport Convention –
What We Did On Our Saturday
(MATTY GROOVES)

Gregory Alan Isakov –
Evening Machines (DUALTONE)

John Prine –
The Tree of Forgiveness
(OH BOY)

Gwenifer Raymond –
You Were Never Much of a Dancer (TOMPKINS SQUARE)

John Renbourn –
Live In Kyoto 1978 (DRAG CITY)

Tom Rush – *Voices*
(APPLESEED)

Various Artists –
The Thousand Incarnations of the Rose: American Primitive Guitar & Banjo 1963-1974 (CRAFT)

Ryley Walker –
Deafman Glance (DEAD OCEANS)

Norma Waterson & Eliza Carthy with the Gift Band – *Anchor*
(TOPIC)

BLUES AND NEW ORLEANS

Todd Albright –
Detroit Twelve String Blues & Rags (THIRD MAN)

Joe Bonamassa – *Redemption / Live At The Greek Theater / British Blues Explosion Live*
(J&R ADVENTURES)

Fantastic Negrito –
Please Don't Be Dead
(COOKING VINYL)

Buddy Guy –
The Blues is Alive & Well
(SILVERTONE)

C.W. Stoneking –
Gon' Boogaloo (KING HOKUM)

Johnny Tucker –
Seven Day Blues
(HIGH JOHN)

Various Artists –
Louisiana Swamp Blues 2, 1945-1963 (JSP)

WORLD

3MA – *Anarouz* (SIX DEGREES)

Ammar 808 – *Maghreb United*
(GLITTERBEAT)

J Balvin – *Vibras*
(UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO)

Celia – *Celia* (MR. BONGO)

Chancha Via Circuito –
Bienaventuranza
(WONDERWHEEL)

Willie Colon – *Wanted By FBI* (GET ON DOWN)

Fatoumata Diawara –
Fenfo (Something to Say)
(SHANACHIE)

Bernard Estardy –
Bernard Estardy's Space Oddities, 1970-1982
(BORN BAD)

Françoise Hardy –
Personne d'Autre
(AMS/ARTS MUSIC)

Hugh Masekela – *'66-'76*
(WRASSE)

Mon Laferte – *La Trenza* [Deluxe Edition] (REBELEON)

Maria Monti – *Il Bestiario*
(UNSEEN MUSIC)

Luis Perez – *Ipan in Xiktli Metztli* (MR. BONGO)

Hugh Tracey –
Listen All Around: The Golden Age of Central and East African Music
(DUST-TO-DIGITAL)

Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar –
Ragas Abhogi & Vardhani
(IDEOLOGICAL ORGAN)

Various Artists –
Disques Debs International Vol.1 (AFROSTRUT)

Various Artists –
African Scream Contest 2
(ANALOG AFRICA)

Various Artists –
Turkish Ladies: Female Singers from Turkey 1974-1988
(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Various Artists –
The Original Sound of Burkina Faso (MR. BONGO)

CLASSICAL

Olafur Arnalds – *Re:member*
(MERCURY KX)

Stephen Hough –
Stephen Hough's Dream Album
(HYPERION / HARMONIA MUNDI)

Kukuruz Quartet / Julius Eastman –
Piano Interpretations (INTAKT)

Arvo Pärt –
Pärt: The Symphonies (ECM)

Steve Reich – *Drumming*
(SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Resina – *Traces*
(FAT CAT)

James Tenney / Scordatura Ensemble – *Harmonium*
(NEW WORLD)

EXPERIMENTAL

Derek Bailey – *Aida: Solo Guitar Improvisations*
(HONEST JOHN'S)

Derek Bailey / Jamie Muir – *Dart Drug*
(HONEST JOHN'S)

Sarah Davachi – *Let Night Come On Bells End The Day*
(RECITAL)

Elph vs Coil –
Worship the Glitch (DAIS)

Simone Forti – *Al Di La*
(SALTERN)

Grouper – *Grid of Points*
(KRANKY)

Heldon – *6: Interface*
(SOUFFLE CONTINU)

Nurse With Wound –
Sinister Whimsy For The Wretched (DIRTER)

Sissy Spacek –
Pitched Intervention
(HELICOPTER)

Mika Vainio –
Lydspor One & Two
(MOOG)

METAL

At the Gates –
To Drink From the Night Itself
(CENTURY MEDIA)

Aura Noir – *Aura Noire*
(INDIE RECORDINGS)

Convulse – *World Without God*
(SVART)

Deathgrave –
So Real It's Now
(TANKCRIMES)

Dimmu Borgir – *Eonian*
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Ghost – *Prequelle*
(LOMA VISTA)

Lurker of Chalice –
Lurker of Chalice
(NUCLEAR WAR NOW)

Mortuous – *Through Wilderness* (TANKCRIMES)

Mourneful Congregation –
The Incubus of Karma
(20 BACK SPIN)

Obscura – *Diluvium*
(RELAPSE)

Septic Tank –
Rotting Civilisation (RISE ABOVE)

Tomb Mold –
Manor of Infinite Forms
(20 BACK SPIN)

YOB – *Our Raw Heart*
(RELAPSE)

OLDIES

Jan Berry – *Second Wave - 20th Anniversary Edition*
(WOUNDED BIRD)

Shirley Ellis – *Three Six Nine! - The Best Of Shirley Ellis* (ACE)

Mickey & Sylvia –
Love is Strange - All the Hit Singles A's & B's 1950-1962
(JASMINE)

Roy Orbison –
The Complete Sun, RCA, & Monument Releases 1956-1962 (ACROBAT)

Elvis Presley –
Elvis Presley: The Searcher
(SONY LEGACY)

Scott Walker –
Meet Scott Engel: The Humble Beginnings 1958-1962 (CORNBREAD)

The Shadows of Knight –
Alive in '65! (SUNDAZED)

Various Artists –
Runaround Who? 30 Songs Influenced by Dion DiMucci
(TEENSVILLE)

REGGAE / SKA

Alborosie –
Unbreakable: Alborosie Meets The Wailers United (VP)

Akae Beka –
Nurtured Frequency
(HAZE ST STUDIO)

Johnny Clarke –
Creation Rebel (VP)

The Gladiators –
Presenting The Gladiators
(SOUL JAZZ)

Interrupters –
Fight The Good Fight
(HELLCAT/EPITAPH)

Ziggy Marley – *Rebellion Rises*
(TUFF GONG)

Protoje – *A Matter Of Time*
(EASY STAR)

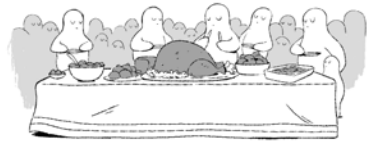
Rebelution – *Free Rein*
(EASY STAR)

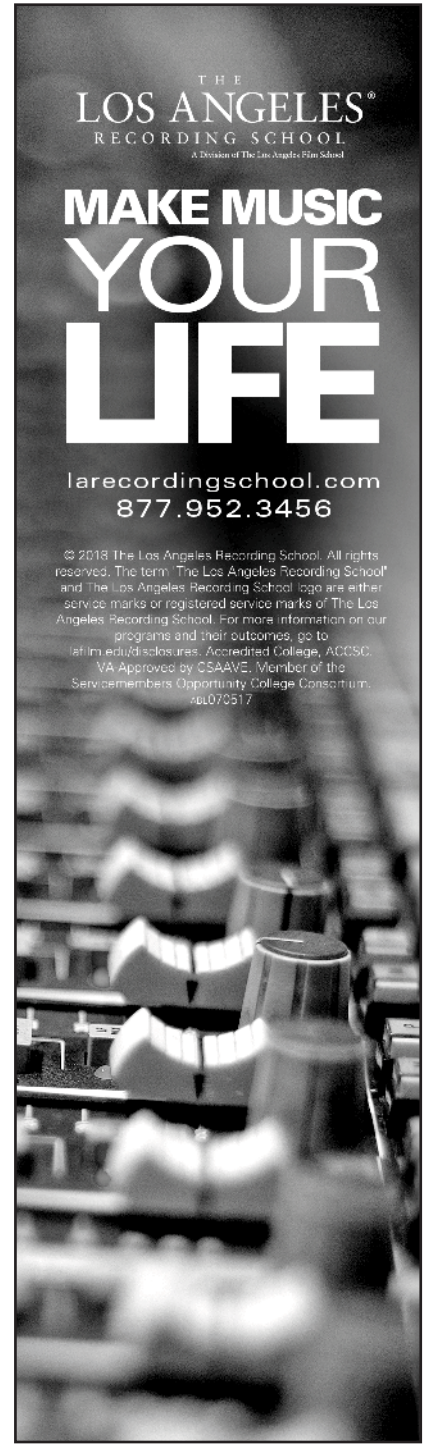
Various Artists –
Black Man's Pride 2: Righteous Are the Sons and Daughters of Jah
(SOUL JAZZ)

Various Artists –
Trojan 50th Aniiversary Box Set (TROJAN)

Various Artists –
Midnight To Six Man... First Time From Jamaica
(KINGSTON SOUNDS)

Various Artists –
Reggae Gold 2018 25th Anniversary (VP)





PUNK

Alice Bag – *Blueprint* (DON GIOVANNI)

Culture Abuse – *Bay Dream* (EPITAPH)

The Damned – *Evil Spirits* (SPINEFARM)

Pianos Become Teeth – *Wait For Love* (EPITAPH)

The Queers – *Punk Rock Confidential Revisited* (HOPELESS)

Red Hare – *Little Acts Of Destruction* (DISCHORD)

Vein – *Errorzone* (CLOSED CASKET)

Zeke – *Hellbender* (RELAPSE)

COMEDY

Debra Digiovanni – *Lady Jazz* (ASPECIALTHING)

Jim Gaffigan – *Noble Ape* (COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Jim Jeffries – *Freedumb* (800 POUND GORILLA)

George Lopez – *The Wall* (800 POUND GORILLA)

Demetri Martin – *Live* (*at the time)* (800 POUND GORILLA)

SOUNDTRACKS

Marco Beltrami – *A Quiet Place* (MILAN)

Nick Cave / Warren Ellis – *Kings* (MILAN)

Disasterpeace – *Under the Silver Lake* (MILAN)

Jonny Greenwood – *You Were Never Really Here* (LAKESHORE)

Mike Patton – *1922* (IPECAC)

Colin Stetson – *Hereditary* (MILAN)

Garth Stevenson – *Chappaquiddick* (VARÈSE SARABANDE)

Various Artists – *13 Reasons Why Season 2* (INTERSCOPE)

Various Artists – *Call Me By Your Name* (SONY MUSIC/NAXOS)

Various Artists – *Deadpool 2* (COLUMBIA)

Various Artists – *Isle of Dogs* (ABKCO)

Various Artists – *Spider-Jazz: KPM Cues Used In The Amazing Animated Series* (TRUNK)

Various Artists – *Uncle Drew* (RCA)

Various Artists – *2001: A Space Odyssey* (WATERTOWER)

Brocker Way – *Wild Wild Country* [Original Score] (WESTERN VINYL)

DVDS & BLU-RAY

MUSIC DVDS

Anthrax – *Kings Among Scotland* (MEGAFORCE)

Jeff Beck – *Still On The Run* (EAGLE ROCK)

Eric Clapton – *Life In 12 Bars* (EAGLE ROCK)

Chrissie Hynde – *Alone With Chrissie Hynde* (EAGLE ROCK)

Grace Jones – *Bloodlight and Bami* (KINO LORBER)

Rolling Stones – *From The Vault: No Security San Jose '99* (EAGLE ROCK)

The Slits – *Here To Be Heard: The Story Of The Slits* (MVD)

Various Artists – *Turn It Around: The Story Of East Bay Punk* (1-2-3-4 GO!)

DOCUMENTARY

***Bowling For Columbine* [Criterion]**

Evil Genius: The True Story of America's Most Diabolical Bank Heist

Faces Places (Agnès Varda)

McQueen

RBG

Three Identical Strangers

Whitney

Wild Wild Country

Won't You Be My Neighbor? (Mr. Rogers)

TV

The Americans: Season 6

The Crown: Season 2

Happy Endings: The Complete Series

The Looming Tower

Mosaic

The Terror: Season 1

This Is Us: Season 2

The Walking Dead: Season 8

ACTION / MYSTERY

Avengers: Infinity War

Deadpool 2

Revenge

Upgrade

You Were Never Really Here

DRAMA / COMEDY

American Animals

Blindspotting

First Reformed

Leave No Trace

Sorry To Bother You

Super Troopers 2

***The Tree Of Life* [Criterion]**

Tully

SCI-FI / FANTASY / HORROR

***Brain Dead* (1990)**

***The Day After* (1983)**

***The Evil* (1978)**

Hereditary

Ready Player One

***Return Of The Living Dead Part 2* (1988)**

***Scream For Help* (1984)**

Solo: A Star Wars Story

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Double Lover

In The Fade

The Other Side Of Hope

***Scenes From A Marriage* [Criterion]**

ANIMATION / KIDS

Early Man

The Incredibles 2

Isle Of Dogs

Wrinkle In Time

4K ULTRA HD

***2001: A Space Odyssey* (out 10/30)**

Die Hard

Game of Thrones: Season 1

The Incredibles

The Matrix

Predator: 3-Movie Collection

CULT FILMS ON BLU-RAY

***Female Trouble* [Criterion]**

Greaser's Palace

***Smithereens* [Criterion]**

***Straight To Hell* (1987)**

***Strait-Jacket* (1964)**

Super Fly

Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song

BOOKS

LITERATURE / GRAPHIC NOVELS

***Call Me By Your Name* by Andre Aciman**
(HOLTZBRINCK PUBLISHERS)

***Less* by Andrew Sean Greer**
(BACK BAY BOOKS)

***Milk and Honey* by Rupi Kaur**
(ANDREWS MCMEEL PUBLISHING)

***There There* by Tommy Orange** (KNOPF)

***Adjustment Day* by Chuck Palahniuk**
(W.W. NORTON & COMPANY)

***Calypso* by David Sedaris**
(LITTLE, BROWN & COMPANY)

***Saga: Volume 8* by Brian K. Vaughan**
(IMAGE COMICS)

FILM & TV BOOKS

***Goblin: Seven Notes In Red* by Fabio Capuzzo**
(AJNA)

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

***Room To Dream* by David Lynch**
(RANDOM HOUSE)

***Beyond Terror: The Films Of Lucio Fulci* by Stephen Thrower**
(FAB PRESS)

MUSIC BOOKS

***To Throw Away Unopened* by Viv Albertine**
(FABER & FABER)

***Welcome To Venice* by Ric Clayton**
(GINGKO PRESS)

***Memphis Rent Party* by Robert Gordon**
(BLOOMSBURY)

***Robin* by Dave Itzkoff**
(HENRY HOLT & CO)

***Creative Quest* by Questlove**
(ECCO)

***Fare Thee Well* by Joel Selvin**
(DA CAPO PRESS)

***A Spy In The House of Loud* by Chris Stamey**
(UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS)

NON-FICTION

***Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* by Irin Carmon & Shana Knizhnik**
(DEY STREET BOOKS)

***Kidnapped: The Tragic Life of J. Paul Getty III* by Charles Fox**
(PICADOR)

***Not That Bad* by Roxanne Gay**
(HARPER PERENNIAL)

***I'll Be Gone In The Dark* by Michelle McNamara**
(HARPER)

ESSENTIAL READING

***Kitchen Confidential* by Anthony Bourdain**
(ECCO)

***How Music Works* by David Byrne**
(THREE RIVERS PRESS)

***American Gods* by Neil Gaiman**
(WILLIAM MORROW)

***Zodiac* by Robert Graysmith**
(BERKLEY)

***Devotion* by Patti Smith**
(YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS)

STANYAN PARK HOTEL

Registered with the National Register of Historic Places, The Stanyan Park Hotel is a turn of the century victorian hotel located directly across from Golden Gate Park one block south of the intersection of Haight and Stanyan Streets in an iconic part of San Francisco, right around the corner from Amoeba Records.

The Stanyan Park Hotel is a fantastic place to stay for visting San Francisco for friends, for family, or to treat yourself.

Rooms starting from $189.

(415) 751 - 1000
www.stanyanpark.com

SONGS FOR THE SEASONS

By Brent James

"And I'm lost, behind
The words I'll never find
And I'm left behind
As seasons roll on by"
~ Chris Cornell

As we shift through the seasons of our own lives, we're constantly reminded of the influence music has had not only on us and our ever-changing desires for rebirth and new experiences, but how it also shapes things we sometimes take for granted such as Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall.

"We had joy, we had fun
We had seasons in the sun.
But the hills that we climbed
Were just seasons out of time"
~ Terry Jacks

Whether you realize it or not, life has a soundtrack. Think about the music you listened to when you were younger, or in your "Spring" years. It may not be in your current rotation now, but it sure shaped you then, and is guaranteed to be bringing somebody SOMEWHERE to the brink of their realizations now. You pass on what you learn, and hope to gain knowledge of fresh conditions along the way.

"The nights draw in
There's a silky moon up in the sky,
yeah
Children are fantasizing
Grown-ups are standing by
What a super feeling
Am I dreaming?"
~ Queen

Music plays an important seasonal role in so many ways, especially in today's hectic and often tense climate. Who doesn't spin Vince Guaraldi during their Holiday and Christmas get-togethers with family? Hanukkah, New Year's Eve, even Mardi Gras each have their own treasure troves of tunes written especially for them—and Halloween is basically its own musical genre, proving that music is the heartbeat of life.

"Forever seems so far away
There's time for love and for play
You dream about today
Feeling slips away
The winds that blow they go away
And seasons change"
~ Expose

Find someone in their "Autumn" or "Winter" years and ask them about the music of their youth. Just listen to them and perhaps learn something new about yourself. Be that person to someone later on and the cycle will repeat itself without even trying.

Create your soundtrack. Remember it can be as little or as massive as you'd like. Try and catalog the musical moments that have shaped your current passions, and be amazed at how far you've come. Use music to guide you through your seasons, whether basking in the Summer sun or watching the Autumn leaves fall to the ground.

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

WINTER:

"Hazy Shade of Winter"
– The Bangles

"Winter Song"
– Nico

"Baby, It's Cold Outside"
– Dean Martin

"Christmastime Is Here"
– Vince Guaraldi

"Summer Me, Winter Me"
– Barbra Streisand

SUMMER:

"School's Out"
– Alice Cooper

"Summer In The City"
– The Lovin' Spoonful

"Summertime Sadness"
– Lana Del Rey

"Summer Nights"
– Olivia Newton John/John Travolta

"Summer Breeze"
– Type O Negative

SPRING:

"Some Other Spring"
– Billie Holiday

"Spring Haze"
– Tori Amos

"April In Paris"
– Louis Armstrong

"Sometimes It Snows In April"
– Prince & The Revolution

"Spring Rain"
– Pat Boone

FALL:

"Autumn Leaves"
– Paula Cole

"This Is Halloween"
– Marilyn Manson

"October"
– U2

"Season of the Witch"
– Donovan

"Chill Of An Early Fall"
– George Strait

ISAO TAKAHATA

A Tribute to Studio Ghibli Co-founder (RIP)

By Kelly Sweeney Osato

Famed Animation juggernaut Studio Ghibli is best known for the work of its co-founders, Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata. Both masters of the medium, the two legendary auteurs seem to have challenged and inspired each other's creative impulses for a nearly lifetime going back to their early days working at Toei Animation in the 1960s. Whether casual viewers find difficulty in separating one director's output from the other, or armchair critics soak in the satisfaction of debating their contrasting aesthetics and work ethics, I would wager most folks would agree that were they to live forever, Miyazaki and Takahata's collective works would continue to tastefully and gracefully trounce the increasingly unimaginative box office bloaters floated by big budget movie-mongers nowadays by continually slow-churning out the kind of timeless, enduring classics Studio Ghibli has become internationally renowned for, one painstakingly hand-painted frame at a time.

But no one lives forever. On April 5th, 2018, Isao Takahata died of lung cancer in a Tokyo hospital at the age of 82, devastating the animation industry and sending Miyazaki, his former apprentice and close friend of 55 years, into a state of shock. For fans, the loss of such a brilliant talent has thrown into renewed relief how shamefully underappreciated Takahata's elegantly crafted and often devastatingly moving works are outside of Japan, especially when compared to Miyazaki's own robust filmography and apparently willful hobnobbery. Personally speaking, what more could I possibly say other than the simple truth: movies are the best, and those touched by the hand of Takahata are so fully enchanting and emotionally potent that it's easy to catch a profound existential high while watching them.

READ ON FOR A LIST OF TAKAHATA'S FILMS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.

***Grave of the Fireflies* (1988)**
If you're unfamiliar with Takahata's films this might not be the best place to start, but it is certainly his most universally critically acclaimed work, and with good reason. Often listed as one of the greatest movies of all time, Chicago *Sun-Times* critic Roger Ebert deemed it to be one of the best and most powerful war films, calling it "an emotional experience so powerful that it forces a rethinking of animation." The story follows a teenage boy struggling to keep himself and his little sister alive during the chaotic final months of World War II in Japan, focusing the kind of tragic personal history often sidelined in war stories, eschewing the usual depiction of glory and heroics in favor of underlining why war itself signifies societal collapse. So yeah, maybe not the best place to start, but definitely the most hauntingly depressing film in the Studio Ghibli vault—in a good way.

***Pom Poko* (1994)**
This film is definitely more light-hearted than *Grave of the Fireflies*, but that doesn't mean it isn't served with a side of seriousness. *Pom Poko* explores the everyday struggles tanuki (Japanese raccoons, or "raccoon dogs") face as urban development efforts encroach upon the forests of their mountain homeland. But, oh you wanted a twist? Tanuki, in Japanese folklore, are famous for their shape-shifting abilities, due to their prominent testicles (referred to as "raccoon pouches" in the English dubbed version). With human construction sites inching ever closer to their natural sanctuaries, the wily tanuki embrace their almost forgotten morphability to frighten humans and reclaim their territory via eco-terrorism, media blitzes, and other staged tactics, including a wonderfully bizarre "ghost" parade. In the end, one question remains: if you can't beat them, join them?

***The Tale of the Princess Kaguya* (2013)**
Takahata's exquisite final film showcases his epic take on the classic Japanese folktale "The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter," wherein a poor old man discovers a miniature girl inside a glowing bamboo shoot. Believing her to be a divine being, he takes the girl home to his wife to raise as their daughter/princess where she grows at an unnatural rate, wowing everyone who comes to know her. Wealth, regret, joy, revenge, love, grief, and cosmic transitions ensue, playing out in varying textures and hues like watching a pencil-edged watercolor singing, weeping, and bleed its heart out.

***Panda! Go, Panda!* (1972)**
Considered by some to be a precursor of Miyazaki's *My Neighbor Totoro,* this film is intended for a very young audience, or anyone that can relate to the impulse of instantly making friends with a random baby panda and subsequently adopting its panda family. Thematically, there is nothing too heavy to unpack here and the story flows along swimmingly with little emotional effort beyond "awwwwww." If you're craving a cute, action-packed sort of little kid adventure film the whole family can enjoy, and you prefer anime to animated features, this here's your joint.

***My Neighbors the Yamadas* (1999)**
A stylized departure from traditional anime styles, this goofy-looking-at-a-glance comedy presents deep dives into the many complicated relationships inherent to everyday family life depicted with the cunning use of humorous vignettes that achieve a sort of animated comic strip effect. The strength, frustrations, and love these drawn characters exude are surprisingly believable at times, making for poignant filmmaking that yet again underlines Takahata's impressive talents as a writer and director.

***Only Yesterday* (1991)**
This was the first film that, as an adult, made me forget I was watching a film drawn and painted by humans, and the first film that flipped the script as far as what I thought was possible subject matter for an animated feature film. A realistic drama written for an adult audience, specifically women, *Only Yesterday*'s storytelling mechanisms operate within two worlds combined as experienced by main character Takeo: the first being the escape of agri-tourism as she leaves her big city professional life behind on vacation to the countryside to harvest safflowers and, the second, a series of fuzzy nostalgia trips back to her 5th grade childhood that, for some strange reason, accompany her along her journey. These pre-teen scenes are some of the most quietly powerful in the film, detailing adolescent hallmarks like first love, menstruation, and erratic emotional episodes with moving realism. Spoiler alert: this hindsight, combined with the current affairs of her adult life and the distractions of a country living worth drinking in, eventually leads to Takeo's realization of who she is and, more importantly, who she wants to be. And it's so, so good.

***The Kingdom of Dreams and Madness* (2013)**
If you want a closer look into the inner workings of Studio Ghibli, particularly what the everyday life of animator Hayao Miyazaki entails (and the cats that populate the premises), I recommend checking out this documentary. Though Isao Takahata barely makes an appearance at all, I feel it necessary to include it here because, well, it seems his absence is his presence in a way, and Miyazaki talks about Takahata a lot. Plus, it captures some of the chaotic magic that one might expect to quietly thrive in a painstakingly artistic powerhouse such as Studio Ghibli HQ. Truly a must-see for any Ghibli fans, and a solid suggestion for anyone into footage of cats lounging around zen-like spaces.

HAVING A MOVIE MOMENT

Highlights from Jon Longhi's monthly Amoeblag featuring new Blu-ray and DVD releases

By Jon Longhi

The Outer Limits: 1963-1964 Season One (KINO LORBER)

When I was a child, *The Outer Limits* traumatized me. Certain episodes I've never been able to forget. When I watched "The Mutant," it kept me awake for days. Every time I closed my eyes I saw the horrifying gigantic popping eyes of the main character; they haunted my nightmares for years. Other episodes pack a similar punch. "The Zanti Misfits" with it's huge human-faced stop motion insects is another set of images you won't soon forget. This episode is one of my favorite science fiction scripts from the '60s. The show was a gold mine of '60s stars and writing.

The series has been released in many formats over the years but now at long last it's finally come out on Blu-ray and this is the way a box set should be done. It is beautifully designed with nice graphics that highlight *The Outer Limits* wave signal logo. The gatefold design opens to reveal seven discs that are firmly held in secure spindles. This is important because lots of box sets are so crappily designed these days that discs shake loose and get scratched while they are being shipped, which is a real pain in the ass if you are getting something big and expensive like this. The set is packed with commentaries and other extras but what really makes it worth the steep price of admission is the incredible re-mastered quality of the episodes themselves. They look flawless, no dust, grain, or scratches. You almost feel like you are watching reality through an open window instead of an old film on a TV screen. The special effects scenes look especially pristine, and there are details about the monsters and models that you've never been able to see before. Even though the special effects were primitive by today's CGI standards, one thing that is glaringly apparent in these new hi-def masters is that what they lacked in digital technology is more than made up for by the artistry of the special effects crew. In the hands of Jim Danforth and the rest of the crew at Project Unlimited, every alien world, spaceship, and monster just looks so '50s sci-fi badass cool that you'll want to watch these episodes over an over again. The sound is equally improved, with the dialog crystal clear, and the wonderful background theme music has never sounded better. This show—along with *The Twilight Zone* and *Star Trek*—set the gold standard for the science fiction shows of their era. If you don't trust me, Stephen King says basically the same thing in a quote on the back of the box. There were other shows from the '60s like *Lost In Space* and *Voyage To The Bottom of The Sea* that were just goofy fun, but *The Outer Limits* was actually a quality show with real literary value. The scripts are marvelous, filled with great characters and thought-provoking plots that frequently played off some of the major political themes of the time. This series was filmed in the depths of the cold war so there is an almost palpable dread of nuclear Armageddon that hangs over many of the episodes. The black and white color palette of the show makes these dark themes resonate even more strongly.

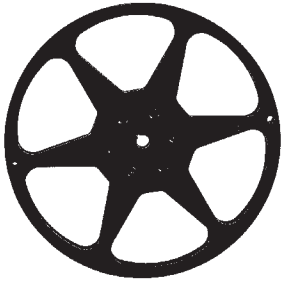
One of the most common themes in the show is that man's own inner failings will always be his worst enemies and even his advanced technology will not be enough to save him from himself. No episode illustrates this better than "The Architects of Fear," in which a group of scientists tries to transform one of their own members into an actual alien so that he can fake an invasion that will hopefully scare the nations of earth into uniting against an interstellar threat and not destroy each other with nuclear weapons. Their alien is horrifyingly successful, but, once again, human failings lead to an unexpected outcome. This episode is particularly sad and tragic, which is saying a lot since many of these episodes have dark endings. That was one of the things that made *The Outer Limits* stand out. In an era where every TV show had a happy, feel-good ending, *The Outer Limits* was not afraid to go where the plot led even if that was a sad, horrifying, or utterly pessimistic place. Joseph Stefano, the writer-producer of the series, didn't pull punches and, as a result, many of these episodes will linger in your thoughts long after you've watched them.

Endless Poetry

Directed by Alejandro Jodorowsky

(ENDLESS POETRY, ABKCO)

Alejandro Jodorowsky is in his late-'80s but he's still making movies. Cinema's arguably greatest maverick is not going quietly into that good night. In fact, this is the second film he's put out in the past five years. Both films have been biographical in nature although, like the rest of Jodorosky's films, reality is often just a launch pad for his surrealist flights of fantasy. Just like Federico Fellini, in Jodorowsky's movies it's hard to tell where reality ends and fantasy begins. In fact, this movie has some obvious nods to Fellini films such as *8 1/2* and *Juliette of The Spirits*. But make no mistake, this movie is pure Jodorosky and goes to places Fellini could never imagine. Just like the rest of his films, there are things in this movie you'll never be able to unsee. One scene depicts a performance art piece where an armless man enlists audience participation to help him caress and make love to his wife,and it is one of the more disturbing things I've seen in years. Let's make a check list for this film: Random disemboweling? Check. Love triangle with a dwarf? Check. A mother whose only way to communicate is by singing opera? Check. A parade of skeletons? Check. Weird Freudian sex? Check. Strange orgies of psychedelic art? Check. In fact, this checklist could go on almost forever, because on one level this is a mere biography and on another this is a movie about life, the universe, and everything. This film and its predecessor are the works of an artist at the end of his life trying to teach us the lessons he has learned and what it all means. On a certain level, this is one of the drawbacks of the film. *Endless Poetry* is not as good as *The Holy Mountain, El Topo,* and *Santa Sangre* because those films were delirious searches for the truth, whereas this film is made by a man who has his answers and wants to explain them to us. It's a calmer more controlled work. That difference in tone makes this a more, dare we say, "traditional" film than Jodorosky's early deranged masterpieces. But that is no slight against this picture; the only one Jodorosky is in competition with is the earlier version of himself. This is probably the most crazed and surreal movie that will be released this year. Jodorosky is still in a category unto himself.



The Projected Man

Directed by Ian Curteis and John Croydon

(SHOUT FACTORY)

When I was a kid this movie used to play on TV all the time. But then I didn't see it for decades until it reached the point where this film became an almost dreamlike, dimly-remembered childhood memory. It never came out on video or DVD or any format in the U.S. until now. Since Shout Factory is the company that puts out the movies of your childhood dreams, they are of course the ones who finally released *The Projected Man.* The story is about the horrible side effects of matter teleportation and in many ways this movie is like a remake of *The Fly* starring Vincent Price. The plots of the two films are essentially the same but after the mad scientists suffer their accidents, the films go in different directions. The main character of *The Fly* seeks a cure and redemption, but the scientist in *The Projected Man* mainly wants revenge. Revenge is easy for him because his accident has left him with the ability to kill with a single touch of his hand. So the scientist/victim in *The Projected Man* starts killing both his enemies and innocent bystanders. The last

hour of this film is a creepy fun ride. With his horribly disfigured face and lethal touch, the Projected Man is a classic monster, the stuff of Saturday matinee nightmares. This movie totally lived up to my memories. Shout Factory's transfer of the film is immaculately perfect. The flawless picture and sound, and tons of bonus materials, make watching this a sumptuous guilty pleasure.

Thor: Ragnarok
Directed by Taika Waititi
(MARVEL STUDIOS)
What a great movie! It's pure entertainment of the type that Marvel excels at. This movie works on many levels; it's great science fiction, action, drama, and even comedy all simultaneously. It's got a great story, good acting and pacing, and wonderful sets, costumes, and special effects. Like every recent Marvel movie, the story feeds into the *Avengers: Infinity War* plot line, but it also succeeds quite well on its own. My daughter and I have been watching all the Marvel shows and movies and know how every related plot thread connects together, but my wife hasn't watched any of that stuff and she enjoyed this movie just as much as me when we watched it together. That's quite a feat, because the Marvel universe has gotten really complicated these days, so it takes great skill to make a new Marvel movie that doesn't need a guidebook for one to understand it.

This is the third Thor movie but it is almost equally a sequel and a prequel to the recent Avengers movies. It picks up with Thor wandering the universe performing his usual godlike deeds of heroism. He is imprisoned by the fire demon Surtur who tells him that the realm of the gods itself will soon be destroyed in a cosmic armaggedon known as Ragnarok. After dispatching Surtur and a really cool dragon, Thor returns home to find that his evil brother, Loki, has stolen the throne by disguising himself as Odin. Thor takes Loki to earth to locate Odin with the help of Doctor Strange. Odin is dying, and his death releases his first born daughter, Hela, who destroys Thor's hammer, conquers Asgard, and casts Thor and Loki into space. They land on a junkyard planet ruled by Jeff Goldblum who forces Thor to fight the Incredible Hulk in an arena. Do Thor, the Hulk, and Loki escape? Is Asgard saved? I'm not going to give away any more spoilers, but let's just say that answering these two questions is tons of fun and pure Marvel entertainment.

All I'll say about the ending is that it is quite spectacular and perfectly dovetails into the new Avengers movie. It seems that Marvel can do no wrong these days and this movie is one of my favorites from the franchise. As usual, the best parts of this film came from the original comics it was based on. Thor was the creation of Jack Kirby and Stan Lee, and a lot of their original visions and story lines make it into this picture. All the major characters except Jeff Goldblum's come straight from them. The same is true of the major plot points. The whole Surtur/ Hela/Ragnarok story is straight from Lee and Kirby's "Tales Of Asgard" series. Even the guest-starring Hulk is another Lee/ Kirby creation. Stan Lee and Jack Kirby were the two greatest creators in the history of comics and the filmmakers were smart to stay close to their original vision. There are good reasons why the Marvel franchise is the most valuable in world history. Underneath all the special effects and million dollar budgets, there is a solid foundation of great characters and stories. Kirby's marvelous cosmic visions have also made it into all the recent films. It's too bad he didn't live long enough to see any of these movies. He would have loved them.

Blade Runner 2049
Directed by Denis Villeneuve
(WARNER BROS.)
This was a really polarizing movie. Everyone I asked about it either loved or hated it. Either they thought it was the new intellectual and stylistic future of science fiction cinema or they thought it was just confusing, slow, and boring. Some people went so far as to call it, "the best science fiction movie ever made." I watched it with my wife and, while she thought it was well made, she found the pace too plodding. "It's like you can see where the plot is going but it takes the movie 20 minutes to get there when they could easily have done it in five," she said. But you know who would have really loved this movie? Philip K. Dick, who wrote the original novel *Do Androids Dream Of Electric Sheep?* I've read most of Dick's short stories and more than ten of his novels, and one of his main themes was that the more we make our technology resemble ourselves, the more that tech will actually be like us. In novels like *We Can Build You*, he asks the question: once we develop androids and robots that are exactly like us, how can they not actually be human? It's kind of like that old argument, if it looks like a duck, and acts like a duck... except in Dick's world you replace the word "duck" with "human." *Blade Runner 2049* examines similar ideas better than any movie I have ever seen. The main character has an artificial intelligence program similar to Siri on our iPhones. Over the course of the film, this AI program becomes as human and likable as any of the actual humans in the movie. And many times in this film it's hard to tell who the "real" humans are because androids, who are indistinguishable from them, are hiding throughout society. The new film picks up 30 years after the events of the last one (Ridley Scott's 1982 sci-fi masterpiece). Ryan Gosling portrays one of the new generation of "blade runners" who are bounty hunters tasked with hunting down renegade androids on the run and hidden in human society. The twist to this new movie is that Gosling and the other blade runners are themselves androids, although they lack the free will of the renegade models they are hunting down. But Gosling's character starts to develop free will as he's drawn into a complex mystery surrounding an android who may have actually given birth. This beautifully made movie completely deserved its Oscars for best cinematography and visual effects. The dystopian California of the future the film portrays is a completely realized place. But the film's real ace in the hole is Harrison Ford. Just as in *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, he seems to be the silver lining in everything he appears in. If you are a lover of science fiction, you have to see this movie. It might not be the best science fiction movie ever made but Philip K. Dick himself would have definitely given it the thumbs up.

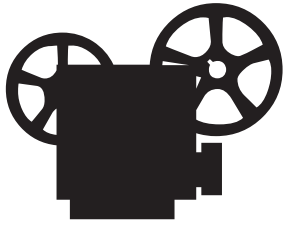
Open Water 3: Cage Dive
Directed by Gerald Rascionado
(LIONSGATE)
It's a shark movie. So let's face it, when it comes to jumps and scares, this is like shooting fish in a barrel. But sharks are such a primordial fear for all of us that this movie is still quite effective. Unlike the rest of Hollywood's CGI monsters, sharks are real and all of us know in the backs of our heads that at sometime in our lives we will be on or over the ocean and something like this could happen to us. That's why by the time people end up in the water we're rooting for them no matter how unlikable they are, because there but for the grace of god. The first half hour of the movie is insufferable because the main characters are totally annoying people from Laguna Beach. This is one of the tiresome chores of shark movies: you have to spend the first part of the movie getting to know the bait. Finally they ended up on a shark dive boat off the coast of Australia and the ball got rolling. And it got rolling fast. First there's some exciting shark cage footage and then everything goes bat shit crazy as the boat is hit by a rogue wave, and it capsizes and sinks. Then all the passengers and crew are in the water bobbing around with a bunch of blood, bait, and hungry great whites. That's when the fun starts and the scares and thrills never let up until the grim ending. This

movie is essentially a remake of the first one except that instead of a married couple in the water, it's a three person love triangle. It's a simple formula but an effective one. At times, all the hand held video cam footage can make this feel like the *Blair Witch Project* gets eaten by sharks, but what the hell—it's scary and fast moving and the great white scenes are quite realistic and effective.

The Devil's Rain
Directed by Robert Fuest

(SEVERIN FILMS)

This '70s horror classic is one of the best devil-worshipper movies ever made. There is so much scenery chewing going on in this film that by the end there's basically nothing left behind the characters. *The Devil's Rain* is a real Hollywood who's who. You have Ernest Borgnine who is brilliant as the head of the devil-worshipping cult, William Shatner as one of the main heroes, Eddie Albert, and even John Travolta in his first film role. The film starts with the supernatural death of a family patriarch during a torrential rainstorm. The man literally melts into a puddle. So his son (Shatner) goes to confront the man who killed him (Borgnine) in a nearby ghost town in the middle of the desert. What ensues is a war between Shatner's family and Borgnine's devil-worshipping cult of evil. The script is tight and snappy and the cinematography is beautiful. The ending of this movie is legendary and it's lost none of its epic punch since this first came out in 1975. If anything, it looks even more breathtaking re-mastered in high-def. Severin Films does their usual excellent job with this release. The Blu-ray picture looks flawless, with every drop of melting flesh rendered in perfect detail. There's loads of extras including some coverage of Anton LaVey, the head of the Church of Satan, who worked as a creative consultant on the film.



The Lost Worlds of Gerry Anderson (MPI HOME VIDEO)

What a great DVD set, especially for fans of Anderson's unique miniaturized world of science fiction. Most of these are the lost pilot episodes that never got greenlighted. All of them have the incredibly cool, groovy look that permeated everything Gerry Anderson did. Some of these were misfires like the stop motion animation *Dick Spanner*, which is a smutty comedy that's definitely not for kids. It's busy and bawdy, and almost reminds one of the Little Annie Fanny comics Harvey Kurtzman did for *Playboy*. There's also *The Investigator*, the last kids show produced with the original puppet crew who worked on his '60s children's masterpieces like *Thunderbirds* and *Stingray*. Live action shows like *Space Patrol* and *The Day After Tomorrow* also appear. In fact, these two pilots are worth the price of this set alone because they are as good as anything Anderson ever did. The miniatures work is especially amazing. Every spaceship, space station, or vehicle in these movies is so neat looking that you just want to run out and buy a model or a toy of them. My favorite of these lost episodes is *The Day After Tomorrow*, which was created by the same people who worked on *Space 1999*. Although *The Day After Tomorrow* was the show that didn't make the cut, one can't help but think of what might have been. *The Day After Tomorrow* is fast-paced action adventure sci-fi, which quickly moves from one cliffhanger to the next. The pace is so fast you almost can't find a place to pause it if you want to stop and use the bathroom or get a snack. The two-disc set clocks in at just shy of six hours and it's an embarrassment of riches. Roughly four hours of that are the lost pilot episodes and then there are a couple of hours of bonus features, which include raw footage, test cuts, and other goodies.

BERKELEY

DOUBLE AY

@dub_ay

serpentwithfeet – *Soil*
(SECRETLY CANADIAN / TRI ANGLE)
Find it in: *SOUL*

SOPHIE – *Oil Of Every Pearl's Un-Insides*
(MSMSMSM)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Lil Uzi Vert – *The Perfect LUV Tape*
(ATLANTIC / GENERATION NOW)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Young Thug – *Beautiful Thugger Girls*
(ATLANTIC / 300)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Rico Nasty – *Nasty* (ATLANTIC)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Serge Gainsbourg – *Théâtre Des Capucines 1963*
(JEANNE DIELMAN)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

NAZEEH.

future icon

JPEGMAFIA – *Veteran*
(DEATHBOMB ARC)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
he's not for everyone but if you like your noise rap comically unhinged with bombastic production that has the musical sequencing of an eric andre skit then JEPEGMAFIA's *Veteran* might be the project for you. shouts out to the morrissey track i've never felt more understood.

🎬 *The Insult* (2017) – Directed by Ziad Doueiri
if you have any interest in the nuances of the fundamental issues and hypocrisies of the modern middle eastern male ego/hubris documented in the current political world climate with excellent performances by the entire cast with a script that could be torn right out of my childhood then *The Insult* might be for you. the loquacious little lawyer with the napoleon complex in the film is literally one of my uncles.

🎬 *The Death of Stalin* (2017) – Directed by Armando Iannucci
who doesn't want to watch a bunch of incompetent man children grovel for power in the spirit of pathological vanity with accents that don't even bother to try being russian? fans of *veep* will be right at home with the humor and the wit. the cast is phenomenal, every single one of them; however steve buscemi is an american treasure and frankly he needs to start being treated as one. at the time of writing this it's the best movie i've seen all year.

🎬 *The Color of Pomegranates* (1969) – Directed by Sergei Parajanov
tarkovsky had nothing but admiration for this man's work which is all that really needs to be said. if you haven't seen any tarkovsky fix that immediately. anyways just let the film's delectable imagery wash over you, don't bother with the mental gymnastics it's a matter of experience and sensory revelation there's nothing else quite like it.

SOPHIE – *Oil of Every Pearl's Un-Insides* (MSMSMSM)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
i can't stop thinking about how not even 25 years ago we couldn't even have an artist like SOPHIE, at least not at the prominence they're currently at. think of all the lost talent that never surfaced. electronic music with the color and beauty of an unabashed human being. what a privilege.

NESTORKNOWS

The Crescendo of Hollywood.

Arctic Monkeys – *Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino* (DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Melodramatic Dracula contemplates his timelessness. Four stars out of five.

The Weeknd – *My Dear Melancholy,* (XO)
Find it in: *SOUL*
Fantastic production team on this one.

Various Artists – *Fabric 97: Tale of Us* (FABRIC MUSIC)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
This album is only way I can describe a midnight drive on the 10 east coming from Los Angeles.

Various Artists – *LateNightTales: Agnes Obel* (LATENIGHTTALES)
Find it in: *ROCK*
An existential experience. Magnificently absolute.

Francoise Hardy – *Personne d'autre* (PARLOPHONE/ WARNER MUSIC)
Find it in: *WORLD*

JAKOB

Bangor, ME 1989

Everything Is Terrible – *The Great Satan* (2018)
RICH BARTON, 15: "I went up to Aztakea three hours earlier, with Rick and Jim. We tried to make a fire, but we couldn't. It was wet. And then we tried to get out of the woods, but we couldn't. There was no moon and there's a lot of paths up there, and we had the tunes cranking – Sabbath, Ozzy, Judas Priest. When we got out of the woods, I said, 'I'm going home, trip out by myself.'
We followed the dreamer through the purple hazy clouds
He could control our sense of time
We thought we were lost but no matter how we tried
Everyone was in peace of mind"
~ Judas Priest, "Dreamer Deceiver"

Mayhem – *Live in Leipzig* (PEACEVILLE)
Find it in: *BLACK METAL*
When it's cold and when it's dark the freezing moon can obsess you.

***Garfield's Halloween Adventure* (1985) – Directed by Phil Roman**
When it's cold and when it's dark the frozen lasagna can obsess you.

***Beuys* (2017) – Directed by Andres Veiel**
Beuys fans: jump on youtube and have a beautiful, tuneful chuckle to "Sonne Statt Reagan" for me.

SASSY BROWN

DJ Pupshaw on KALX Berkeley!

***Annihilation* (2018) – Directed by Alex Garland**
If you ever wanted to know what would happen if Andrei Tarkovsky directed a Björk music video or if David Cronenberg made a Studio Ghibli movie, check this one out. Hands down the best film I've seen this year so far.

Drinks – *Hippo Lite* (DRAG CITY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Cate Le Bon is a musician that I've honestly not given much of a listen, but I found myself really enjoying this side project of hers with Tim Presley on their first album and the second time is no different. A fun little exercise in imitating the lo-fi DIY post-punk sound from 3+ decades ago that I'm almost surprised this wasn't just released as a limited edition of 50 cassettes on a label somebody runs out of their studio apartment in London circa 1979.

Various Artists – *Deutsche Elektronische Musik Vol. 1* [Reissue] (SOUL JAZZ)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Soul Jazz truly does the lord's work when it comes to their compilations of obscure genres and music scenes. This one had been out of print for a while too. It's got the well-known players like Can and Neu! but also plenty of obscurities, so you'll be guaranteed to have a Krautrockin' time.

Janelle Monáe – *Dirty Computer* (BAD BOY)
Find it in: *SOUL*
It took us two years but I don't think there's going to be any better tribute to Prince than making Actual Certified Banger "Make Me Feel."

Wire – *Pink Flag / Chairs Missing* [Reissues] (PINKFLAG)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I'm not going to go much into the original albums themselves. Their status as punk classics are well-deserved. Especially *Pink Flag*, which personally holds a spot as "one of those albums that changed your life in middle school" for me. These reissues include a whole slew of demo versions, which got obsessively traded as bootlegs for years but is the first time they're officially available. If you're already a fan they are a nice treat because it's cool to listen to what stuck from their beginnings as these tinny and kind of sparse recordings into what ended up on the finished albums. A lot of them actually didn't change all that much! If there's one thing I love Wire for, it's that they always know exactly what they want to do.

The Breeders – *All Nerve* (4AD)
Find it in: *ROCK*
You can argue that they played it a little too safe for their comeback, and *maaaaaybe* you might have a point. But I guess I'm just too much of a

fangirl to truly cast this aside. It still has everything I loved about their old stuff: the oh so '90s detached casual approach to songwriting, catchiness, Kim Deal, laid-back irrelevance, Kim Deal, excellent guitar hooks, Kim Deal, etc. One track is even an Amon Düül II cover! Who doesn't love an Amon Düül II cover? People really need to cover them more.

OTHER COOL STUFF (NEW RELEASES)

Zola Jesus – *Okovi: Additions* 12" (SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*

A Place To Bury Strangers – *Pinned* (DEAD OCEAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Dylan Carlson – *Conquistador* (SARGENT HOUSE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Boy Harsher – *Pain II* 12" (NUDE CLUB)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Grouper – *Grid of Points* (KRANKY)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Brian Eno – *Music For Installations* (OPAL)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Iceage – *Beyondless* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Beach House – *7* (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Klaus Schulze – *Silhouettes* (SPV)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise* (NUMERO)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*

Dr. Octagon – *Moosebumps: An Exploration Into Modern Day Horripilation* (BULK)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Sleep – *The Sciences* (THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *METAL*

Vive La Void – *Vive La Void* (SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Various Artists – *Typical Girls Vol. 3 + 4* (EMOTIONAL RESPONSE)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Czarface & MF DOOM – *Czarface Meets Metal Face* (SILVER AGE)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Tim Heidecker – *Too Dumb for Suicide: Tim Heidecker's Trump Songs* (JAGJAGUWAR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

OTHER COOL STUFF (REISSUES)

Liz Phair – *Exile In Guyville / Girly-Sound To Guyville* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Spacemen 3 – *Dreamweapon* (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Breeders – *Pod / Last Splash* (4AD)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Jonny Greenwood – *Bodysong* (XL)
Find it in: *SOUNDTRACKS*

VAUGHN

Roxy Music – *Roxy Music 45th Anniversay Box Set* (VIRGIN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Van Morrison and Joey Defrancesco – *You're Driving Me Crazy* (LEGACY)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Neil Young – *Roxy: Tonight's The Night Live* (REPRISE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Miles Davis & John Coltrane – *Final Tour Bootleg Series Vol. 6* (COLUMBIA LEGACY)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Father John Misty – *God's Favorite Customer* (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Nicki Bluhm – *To Rise You Gotta Fall* (COMPASS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Joshua Hedley – *Mr. Jukebox* (THIRD MAN RECORDS)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*

Phil Pratt – *The War Is On Dub Style* (PRESSURE SOUNDS)
Find it in: *REGGAE*

Various Artists – *Natural High: The Bongo Man Collection* (STUDIO ONE)
Find it in: *REGGAE*

Van Morrison – *In Concert* (BBC MUSIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

BABY-BOY KEV

Messengers Incorporated – *Soulful Proclamation* (GUESTROOM)
Find it in: *SOUL*
This one was released on Record Store Day, and we still somehow did not sell out of it. Miraculous! Super-rare funk/soul from Oklahoma City, privately pressed, blah blah blah. It has all the traits of an amazing funk record that just went unnoticed. Hit our legendary Soul section for this and tons of fantastic new & used LPs.

Apple & The Three Oranges – *Free & Easy* (NOW-AGAIN)
Find it in: *SOUL*
Yet ANOTHER sweet funk/soul collection. This one is a collection of 45s from a great funk group I had never heard before. It was playing in the store one day, and I loved it at first listen.

Shina Williams – *African Dances* (MR. BONGO)
Find it in: *WORLD*
WOW! Super groovy Afrobeat/funk. There are so many records in this genre being reissued these days that one could really spend all their time & money on just this stuff! It is a little daunting to get into, especially not being familiar with names & considering the price tags on 'em. This LP contains only three songs, and grooves the ENTIRE way through!! Git it!

Idris Ackamoor & The Pyramids – *An Angel Fell* (STRUT)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
Spiritual Jazz. And done right. This one is impressive & unique in a time and genre where it sometimes feels like everything has already been done. Beautiful songs & beautiful playing. Highly enjoyed this. Check out the old Pyramids music too.

Delvon Lamarr Organ Trio – *Close But No Cigar* (COLEMINE)

Find it in: *SOUL*

Great new Soul/Jazz release on Colemine. This is for fans of Jimmy Smith & Jimmy McGriff types. Classy, funky & fun. Was happy to hear a new release of this style. I usually have to dig way back to the early '70s & '60s for this type of music.

Orgōne – *Undercover Mixtape*

(COLEMINE)

Find it in: *SOUL*

I LOVE this record. All covers & all killers!! The songs on this double LP are more common soul titles like "Think" & "Melting Pot" & "Look Ka Py-Py", however this band SLAYS these tunes, bringing a totally new feel to these classics. It does have the signature old school feel that a lot of the Colemine releases have, but it sounds totally fresh!!!

FELIX

Robert Schumann – *Symphonies Nos. 1-4* (SFS MEDIA)

Find it in: *CLASSICAL*

Featuring: Michael Tilson Thomas / San Francisco Symphony

Out of all the major warhorse composers who delved into the world of writing symphonies (Mozart, Beethoven, Sibelius, Schubert, Brahms, Bruckner, Dvorak, Mahler, et al) it's the symphonies of Schumann which conductors seem to have the most trouble with. The Swiss composer/conductor Heinz Holliger adequately states in a recent *Gramophone* magazine article that: "He [Schumann] does not write out everything; he doesn't tell you which voice is the principal and which accompanies; nor whether one instrument should have a diminuendo while the others crescendo. To make a Schumann symphony sound light and transparent, as he intended, takes a lot of rehearsal. Each player needs to know whether they're playing part of only the harmony, or whether they are involved in the counterpoint. Schumann was a great writer of words too, and you need to understand how close the phrasing is to speech. But many conductors are not so interested in this background; they just play what they read." And from this, Holliger adds, "...the conductors realized that you cannot try to sight-read Schumann; if you do, the music is completely grey." So yes, readings of Schumann's symphonies have often been criticized as sounding muddled and disconnected. Nonetheless, in this recording of Schumann's symphonies with Michael Tilson Thomas leading the San Francisco Symphony, the sound of the orchestra is bursting with colors and textures as these symphonies are brought to a picturesque glow.

Listening to a Schumann symphony, to me at least, is similar to picking up a quality novel as the author diligently paints the setting for the reader to become engaged in. The difficult part for the listener is to try and push aside all of ones daily distractions/thoughts one normally obtains throughout the day and set them aside so as to focus on the dramatists vision. Schumann's vision is nimble and quick as phrases waft and glide throughout the air with very little (or no) traction. Without pronounced diminuendos and crescendos the music (as well as one's focus) becomes lost. The San Francisco Symphony does a beautiful job of arousing lavish tones and cadences/inflections. Maestro Thomas has unquestionably taken a great deal of inspection and study of these four symphonies so as to bring about an extensive amount of tones/shades from the score and implement them into the sound of his orchestra. As a master communicator, Tilson Thomas understands what to emphasize/accent in Schumann's many different phrases within each symphony. Sometimes these different phrases can seem to sound separated from the main score but that's more of a Schumann trait. Mr. Thomas' focus is emphasizing modulations and changes within each idiosyncratic phrase while transporting the focused listener to places far, far away, well beyond what you thought was conceivable. These are truly remarkable readings of symphonies from a very imaginative composer.

Unfortunately this set will co$t you as the recordings (SACD Hybrid) are of the highest quality and performed by an extremely talented group of musicians as The San Francisco Symphony truly are. Thanks to maestro Michael Tilson Thomas, the S.F Symphony is now known as one of the most highly regarded symphonies in the world. So yes, this lavish 2-CD (SACD Hybrid) set is VERY highly recommended.indeed.

Béla Bartók – *Violin Concertos Nos. 1 & 2* (ERATO)

Find it in: *CLASSICAL*

Featuring: Renaud Capuçon / François-Xavier Roth / London Symphony Orchestra

Hungarian composer Béla Bartók wrote his first violin concerto when he was at the youthful age of only 26 and hopelessly in love with the Hungarian violinist Stefi Geyer who

never reciprocated his advances. The touching first movement of the first concerto is beautifully performed by the French violinist, Renaud Capuçon which seems to closely echo the longing Bartók must have felt in his young heart. I've heard multiple recordings of different violinists perform this movement before but never as warm and moving as Capuçon does here.

As this first violin concerto is not a part of the traditional three movement standard repertoire, the second and final movement presents the listener with a sharp difference from the romantic and engaging previous opening passage. Capuçon's playing is more angular & tempestuous creating a more boisterous image of Bartók's darling. There are abrupt upheavals from the orchestra (most likely mirroring Geyer's unrequited response) as Capuçon's playing has a contentious battle to subdue his loves untoward response. This first concerto was most definitely written from the core of Bartók's being.

The second violin concerto, written 30 years later, is a clear departure from his romantic first. Composed during a pre-war Hungary time of great political stress (1937) Bartók must have experienced quite an unsettling period of a much different nature than the romantic kind. Despite the dissonant phrases which both the orchestra and the violin brawl over, the tone of Capuçon's violin is still rich with passion and warmth. No matter how discordant the music might proceed I find it amazing how engaging & appealing the sound is of Mr. Capuçon's violin.

There is also a vast richness of great shifts/variations in both the orchestration and lead violin throughout the three movements detailing and pronouncing the extraordinary freedom and flexibility of Bartók's complicated composition which is simplified due to masterful playing by both Capuçon himself along with the wonderful London Symphony Orchestra. Unequivocally these are the most engaging and warmest sounding recordings of Bartók's violin concertos out on the market to date. Renaud Capuçon with François-Xavier Roth leading the LSO has accomplished a truly jaw-dropping performance. If you ever felt that Bartók's music seemed too frigid, academic and dry for your taste I strongly urge you to give this recording a try. One listen should transform your thinking.

Béla Bartók / Francis Poulenc / Maurice Ravel – *DEUX*

(ALPHA CLASSICS)

Find it in: *CLASSICAL*

Featuring: Patricia Kopatchinskaja / Polina Leschenko

The opening phrase of Poulenc's only Violin Sonata launches off this dynamic disc as the Moldovan violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja and Russian pianist Polina Leschenko speed ahead with explosive runs from their respective instruments. As compelling as the first movement of Poulenc's Violin Sonata truly is there are strong hints, in some of the many passages, of American jazz which Miss Kopatchinskaja aptly fulfills. These are quick and speedy locutions that suddenly evaporate into a Gershwin-like melody that Kopatchinskaja's violin adopts. Notably a few of the many melodic runs recall not only Gershwin but even Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin."

The touching 2nd movement recalls images of the Belle Époque era as Kopatchinskaja's violin alongside Miss Leschenko's piano blend charmingly into salon-like images. Poulenc dedicated this sonata to the memory of the Spanish poet, Federico Garcia Lorca who died several years before this piece was composed as the 3rd movement develops, at times, into more violent flurries. But the underlining feature throughout this performance is the ease of how both ladies vary the tone of their respected instruments with interesting bends and distortions. Both the piano and violin snake and slither in and around each other knowing exactly at what point each instrumentalist should begin to color/distort their notes. VERY impressive and entertaining.

Polina Leschenko's solo piano of Dohnanyi's piano arrangement of a waltz from the ballet, Coppelia, by Delibes is rather charming with it's ornamented cluster of notes that are very delicately played. But the following piece is an odd surprise; Bartók's 2nd violin sontata, a dissonant two movement piece that begins

with an improvisational Romanian melody. A sort of loose dialogue between both the violin and piano which join together for an eccentric dance. There are short but violent bursts of rage in both movements. How both women execute such an abstract piece of music is quite remarkable as the volatility of a whole host of accents are astonishing to hear.

This multifaceted disc ends with Ravel's "Tzigane," a french name stemmed from the term for "gypsy." Here we have a dreamy stylized kaleidoscope of impressionistic colors which move in and out of focus yet never lose the sense of excitement and stimulation. This is the perfect piece for a highly talented violinist to show off their talents. Patricia Kopatchinskaja succeeds with flying colors. If you're looking for stimulation with unexpected twists and turns I highly recommend you give "Deux" a listen to. In just under 53 minutes of music the listener will hear the most musically talented duo in existence today.

Claude Debussy – *Estampes - Images - Children's Corner*

(HYPERION)
Find it in: *CLASSICAL*
Featuring: Stephen Hough
As this year marks the 100th anniversary of Claude Debussy's death (1918) I felt it would be fitting to include a recent recording of this marvelous composers work since a great deal of new recordings have lately surfaced. The British pianist (composer, writer, painter, professor, clergyman) Stephen Hough wears many hats so well that the *Economist* magazine dubbed him one of the top 20 living polymaths in the world. Not that any of us should keep tabs on this sort of thing but it does show us how disciplined this man truly is. And especially as a pianist Mr. Hough is quite a force to behold as he has recorded well over 50 CDs from many warhorse composers to even championing lesser known ones as well. But this latest one of Debussy's is a real keeper.

All of the pieces in this recording (Estampes; Images I & II; Children's Corner) have been played countless times. And a great deal of the pianists who have made Debussy's piano work a part of their repertoire are wonderful interpreters. Hough is no different. His precision in handling the opening "Estampes" is impressive. Both the left and right hand are each playing a different cluster of notes simultaneously with breathtaking balance. Again, there are numerous pianists who are no different from Mr. Hough's playing yet still it's notable coming from a pianist who tackles so many different composers, both known and unknown. His diverse dexterity, to me, simply becomes more pronounced.

"Children's Corner" is an eye-opener not just because of the expertise in Mr. Hough's playing but more from his happy-go-lucky and relaxed manner and how he can perform this piece with such calmness. It's the unruffled delicacy to his playing that has captivated my attention. For me, one of the true measures of determining true talent in any field, is the ease in which the performer performs. If one can make a difficult task look easy to accomplish then that right there is a crucial indication that one is witnessing a great talent. Hough is the epitome of such an attribute. He's an artist worth looking into so why not start here?

MICHAEL H

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

Arp – *Zebra* (MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: *ROCK*
An excellent album that blends elements of electronic music, ambient, new age, jazz, Krautrock, and more into one enjoyably diverse stew. It sounds like it shouldn't work with all of those styles floating around, but it all really gels together and makes for a fun ride.

Aukai – *Branches of Sun*

(AUKAIMUSIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Another lovely album of gorgeous cinematic from this German producer. Fans of Max Richter, Nils Frahm, Gustavo Santaolalla, and Rachel's will certainly enjoy this.

Benoit Pioulard – *Lignin Poise*

(BEACON SOUND)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Lush, gorgeous, tape-saturated ambience from this Seattle musician. Clouds of blissful synths swirl into exquisite impressionist audio paintings. Sounds like an audio cocoon made of velvet.

Beach House – *7* (SUB POP)

Find it in: *ROCK*
Aptly named seventh album from this dream pop duo finds them doing their thing again, keeping this one interesting while maintaining their trademark sound. It's still growing on me, as all their records do, and I would already rank it among their three best albums to date. Definitely fair to say that Beach House haven't lost it… rather, they simply continue to find it in new and interesting ways.

Chris Carter – *Chemistry Lessons, Vol. 1* (MUTE)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Over an hour of subterranean, nocturnal electronic music from Carter, former member of Throbbing Gristle and Chris & Cosey. The mood is dark and perhaps a bit dystopian at times, but definitely a captivating listen. Excellent late night vibes, for those who are drawn to that sort of thing…

De Leon – *De Leon* (MANA)

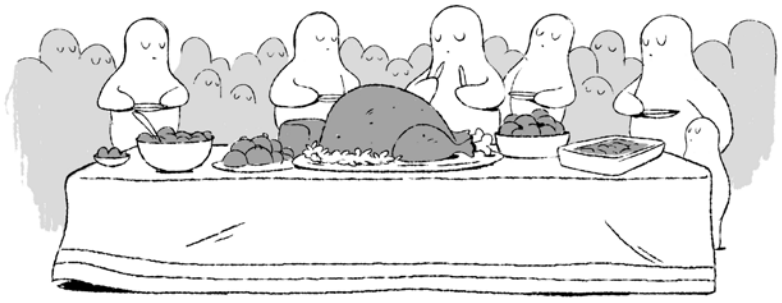
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Amazing fusion of Gamelan, capoeira, and dubby electronic music… need I say more? Truly innovative music from this mysterious collective, who were also behind the Aught label releases a few years back.

Brian Eno – *Music For Installations* (OPAL)

Find it in: *ROCK*
New 6-CD/9-LP set of music Eno made for various art installations around the world, some dating back to 1895, collected here in one easy package. I really like almost all of these tracks, which, like most of Eno's work, reward patient listening. If you're new to Eno, this definitely isn't the place to start, but for fans of his seminal ambient work, this is a real treat. Enjoy!

Entourage – *Ceremony Of Dreams: Studio Sessions & Outtakes, 1972-1977*

(TOMPKINS SQUARE)
Find it in: *FOLK*
Fantastic archival release from this innovative collective whose work straddled genres



(and mediums). Their work is truly impossible to classify, incorporating elements of folk, jazz, classical, and various traditional styles of music from around the world. There's a single LP version available, but the real gem is the three CD version, with tons of unearthed unreleased material from the vaults of the one remaining living member. Paired with some excellent liner notes and photographs, this is a real coup for Tompkins Square. Wow!

Jon Hassell – *Listening To Pictures (Pentimento Volume One)* (NDEYA)

Find it in: *WORLD*

A fine return to form! Nine years since his last release, this might even be Hassell's strongest work yet. He's spent decades making music that is ahead of the times, and his "Fourth World Music" continues to inspire modern musicians even now. Perhaps everyone else still hasn't quite caught up with him, as this album of ever-changing rhythms and textures also sounds futuristic, even amidst the dense digital revolution that is electronic music in 2018.

Kaoru Inoue – *Em Paz*

(GROOVEMENT ORGANIC)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Wonderful and warm record that is true to the label that released it… lots of organic grooves here, along with a bunch of really pleasant textures. Everything from synths, guitars, and drums, to tablas and violins. This music puts me in a good mood and makes me feel like the world is okay.

Mary Lattimore – *Hundreds of Days* (GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Beautiful work from harpist Lattimore, who stretches her sound even further on this new album, incorporating wordless vocals, electric guitar, synths, and more into her dreamy, ethereal sound. This album feels like a breakthrough for her, and I wholeheartedly recommend it for anyone who digs the harp and even those who don't.

Steven Legget – *Bathhouse*

(FIRECRACKER)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Beautiful, lush, organic ambient music that I can't get enough of… easily a contender for my favorite album of the year so far, and one that I know I will be listening to for years. It already feels timeless, and is perfect for listening to when you just want to tune it all out and get deeply relaxed. Highly recommended!

Sound Voyage – *En Route To Thailand* (FREESOUL)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Sample-based electronic music with a groovy East Asian flavor, this German producer's debut release is quite excellent. I'm already excited to hear more, and this one was only released recently. It's perhaps too bad that this wasn't made by someone from Thailand or another Asian country, but at least it's very well done.

Various Artists – *Pop Ambient 2018* (KOMPAKT)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Has Kompakt really been putting these comps out annually for nearly 20 years now? It's true, another year brings another great collection of ambient music of all stripes, from old stalwarts the Orb and T.Raumschmiere, to lesser known names such as Yui Onodera and local Oakland guitar virtuoso Chuck Johnson, whose 2017 album *Balsams* was easily one of the best ambient albums released last year.

Various Artists – *Seçaõ Rítmica - Instrumental Funk From '70s Brazil* (ATEMOYA)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Let's face it, Brazilian music is usually great either with or without vocals, but this collection of instrumental tracks from the golden age of funk is simply superb. One thing to note: the CD version has almost twice as many tracks as the LP version.

Zazz – *Soft Harbinger*

(INNER ISLANDS)

Find it in: *NEW AGE*

Lovely ambient music from this duo on their debut. There's a warmth and a prettiness to the two side-long tracks here, along with a bit of melancholy. Great artwork and design too, which makes it that much sweeter.

Poppy Ackroyd – *Resolve*

(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Orchestral, symphonic neoclassical music from this talented UK pianist and violinist. She's signed to Björk's label, and this new record is really nice. It features some guests playing cello, flute, clarinets, and hang drum, wonderfully complementing the arrangements she builds with her two instruments.

TAYLOR

Keep on chooglin

Bark Psychosis – *Codename: Dustsucker* (FIRE)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Criminally overlooked "post rock" originators' sophomore album gets the reissue treatment. This short lived, '90s British act's moody, glowing, late-night opuses unfold gorgeously enough to (almost) distract from the strangeness of its bass-driven arrangements and unpredictable song structures.

Nik Bärtsch's Ronin – *Awase*

(ECM)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

Carrying the torch of ECM's ice cold, spacious production values, but refusing to settle for that label's high-strung lifestyle brand, Ronin tangles prepared piano, bass clarinet, bass, & drums for rhythmic interplay that borders on obsession, and displays serious chops, while foregoing wanky "virtuosity."

Alice Coltrane – *Lord of Lords*

(SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

Pummeling, visceral orchestral music, as suggested by its inclusion of a Stravinsky tribute. If Alice Coltrane's recently reissued ashram tapes channeled spiritual bliss, this is the sound of reckoning with a vast, indifferent universe.

Gang Gang Dance – *Kazuashita*

(4AD)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Flourescent, interstellar fare as per usual from Gang Gang Dance, but less frenetic and more at ease with itself than we're used to. Like a leisurely walk through a neon garden.

Jon Hassell – *Listening to Pictures (Pentimento Volume I)*

(NDEYA)

Find it in: *NEW AGE*

Even at 81 years old, Jon Hassell shows no intention of easing into a late-career legacy period. His ear for off-kilter electronic soundscapes remains incredibly fine tuned, his breathy, airy approach to the trumpet is still unmistakable, and his "fourth world" musical vision still maintains a pan-global reach without lapsing into clueless appropriation.

Laraaji – *Vision Songs, Vol. I*

(NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Addictively calming, undeniably silly private press vocal mantras from the dulcimer wizard, akin to the sound of David Liebe Hart busting your chakras open.

Mary Lattimore – *Hundreds of Days*

(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Ambient, harp-based music, full of sunlight and open space. "Uplifting," "sentimental," and crucially devoid of the stock-photo anonymity that plagues so many albums in the same vein.

Steve Reich – *Pulse / Quartet*

(NONESUCH)

Find it in: *CLASSICAL*

Featuring: International Contemporary Ensemble; Colin Currie Group

All the stubborn, propulsive hallmarks of classic Reich, but with enough new developments to keep things interesting. "Pulse" foregrounds stringed instruments and explores floaty,

impressionistic dynamics recalling Debussy or Ravel, while "Quartet" loads its vibraphones and pianos with jazzy, harmonic ambiguity.

Sleep – *The Sciences* (THIRD MAN)

Find it in: *METAL*

For all that's excessive about these doom metal ogres on the surface, Sleep are masters of balance. The extraterrestrial weed-epic lyrics are sublimely self-aware (what's a CBDeacon, anyway?), the heady, punishing grooves always find new ways to develop, and Matt Pike's guitar solos never fly too high for their own good. Worth the 15-year wait, and the botched 4/20 rollout date only adds to the charm.

Leon Vynehall – *Nothing is Still*

(NINJA TUNE)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

The buildups, breakdowns, and four-on-the-floor thump are mostly gone this time around, but Vynehall's latest still possesses the DNA of house music. His use of a strings and horns is especially captivating, and shows more versatility than we could've reasonably expected.

Neil Young – *Roxy: Tonight's The Night Live* (REPRISE)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Archival live document from Neil's "ditch" era, which mirrors the absurd, sinister tone of *Time Fades Away* by pitting songs of druggy anguish against the cheery encouragement of a live audience.

Tip:
Register to vote, ya dingus!

E. LIT

Super Dope KALX Homies

Henry Canyons – *Cool Side of the Pillow* (BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Some of the finest jazzy boom bap hip hop of 2018. Henry flexes his playful, in-the-pocket rap flows over some very tasteful production from his longtime collaborator, Matt "Bones" Bowen. Songs that will get you nodding your head and smiling throughout, with little to no filler. Great guest spots from Homeboy Sandman, Billy Woods, and Googie. Also got to send extra props to these guys for sampling one of my favorite pieces of "Twin Peaks" dialog on their cut "Easy Come, Easy Go." Highly recommended.

Cut Chemist – *Die Cut*

(A STABLE SOUND)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

This first official release from Cut Chemist in 12 years boldly defies expectations and plays like a truly cohesive album should. Cut Chemist ditches the funky breaks and instead channels a powerful mix of rugged psych rock, electronic beats and hip hop that excites and amazes throughout. With collaborators ranging from Deantoni Parks to Edan, and an extra old school appearance from the one and only Biz Markie, this is an ambitious body of work that stands as the strongest Cut Chemist release to date.

Longshot & Lazerbeak – *Parades* (DOOMTREE)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Killer collaboration between the always underrated MC Longshot and Doomtree producer Lazerbeak. Repping Minnesota by way of Chicago, Longshot has long been a slept-on talent, with many solid albums under his belt including collaborations with the Molemen and Copperpot out of Chicago. This release pits Longshot's deep voice and personal lyrics over Lazerbeak's high quality production. Busy beats loaded with hype horns, abrasive samples, and layers upon layers of sounds. Great album with next to no promotion behind it, so don't sleep!

Dillon & Batsauce – *On Their Way* (FULL PLATE)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Funky cross-continental hip hop collaboration between Florida rapper Dillon and Berlin-based producer Batsauce. Dillon's laid-back delivery and personality shine over Batsauce's soulful beats. These two exhibit a solid chemistry rooted in the lo-fi warmth of old school hip hop, with ill guest features from Sadat X, Count Bass D, Qwazaar, Willie Evans Jr., Paten Locke, Supa Dave West and Greg Nice. The beat for the song "Come On" is one of the nicest hip hop beats I've heard in a minute, with a great harpsichord flip and really nice propulsive flutes. This album took me on a trip that never left me asking "are we there yet?" Available on vinyl at retail locations, with a limited edition lunchbox format also available on their Bandcamp.

Greg Grease – *Down So Long*

(SOUND VERITE)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

One of the most soulful voices of Minnesota hip hop returns with another solid full-length. Greg Grease has an extra smooth delivery and a great voice that will appeal to fans of Blu or ScienZe. He handles the majority of his own production on this project, and has a very good feel for the kind of mellow sound that works with his natural flow. Greg is also part of the MN soul collective Astralblak (fka Zuluzuluu), and his work with the group is reflected in the maturity of the sound on this project. Available exclusively on limited edition double LP.

Kristoff Krane – *Kairos Pt. 2*

(F I X)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

This conclusive volume of Kristoff Krane's "Kairos" project continues the brilliance presented on *Pt. 1* and brings it to a stunning close. Produced entirely by the super talented Graham O'Brien, the album's spacey sound ventures into adventurous and unexpected territories, ranging from harsh industrial clamor to Native American Indian chanting. Kristoff brings his creative flows to the table and keeps you guessing what style he'll explore next, with lyrics centered around the Earth, Sky, Ocean and Spirit. The whole project feels like it was created in a purgatorial state between our world and some higher dimension. Some of the purest art rap out there.

Tip:
RIP Scotty Sixo and Alias. Two talents gone far too soon.

RAMO

Hide Your Doggos
Memeothy Von Memerton III

Pax – *Wildflower* (PAXICO)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

A slow starter with soft, rock-y, folk-y guitars which then opens up into something really beautiful and meditative. Melodic and chill dreamy beats to accompany the ride on the back of your pet griffin through the clouds. LP only. Highly recommend.

The Nonce – *1990*

(FAMILY GROOVE)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Underground heads (especially L.A./Good Life/Project Blowed acolytes) REJOICE! Like unearthing lost scrolls of cultural import, this previously unreleased double album from Nouka Basetype aka Sach and Yusef Afloat (R.I.P.) gives you that classic sounding early '90s production and time machine rhymes seasoned with a bit of De La Soul, The Pharcyde, and L.A. cassette culture. 1990. When hip hop on both coasts and beyond was midway through its growing and changing and solidifying into its Golden Era state. This is a must-have for any hip hop collection. Available on LP, CD and cassette. Highest recommendation.

God.Damn.Chan – *Slush*

(ALPHA PUP)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Everything is apt. You'll say the artist's name to yourself as each new track takes hold, slushing its way through your nervous system, making you feel like you're being stretched and compressed at the same time. Like you're floating, but barely off the ground, belly scraping blades of grass while you high-five passing doggos. Like being high. To quote the Nigerian wizard, Bem, "It's like trying to catch smoke... like trying to catch smoke with your bare hands."

DJ Platurn – *Breaking The Ice*

(NEEDLE TO THE GROOVE)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Though you will most likely find this release in our Hip Hop section it is not a hip hop mix. It is a fresh and unique mix of soul, funk, disco, and groove compiled from Icelandic wax. Bay Area DJ hero, Platurn, drops a 2-CD set of Nordic scorchers for those icy nights, complete with extended liner notes. You may recognize some riffs and rhythms here and there as American tunes but variation and twists set them apart from those familiar bites. You'll likely never hear anything like this anywhere. CD and limited edition cassette. Highly recommend.

Dillon & Batsauce – *On Their Way* (FULL PLATE)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
What I like about Batsauce's production is that he always keeps it interesting. Delivering groovy, head-nodding beats that weave between vibes like a Wonka factory. Soulful samples morph into sinister and dramatic then mellow and relaxing giving way to nostalgic Blaxploitation or an '80s TV soundscape. And shoulder to shoulder is Dillon's suave, Muggsy rap style blowing dank smoke in your face with a dare in his eye. Solid rap ish. LP only. Highly recommend.

Factor Chandelier – *Wisdom Teeth*
(FAKE FOUR INC./SIDE ROAD/
STONE COLD PARTY ROCKERS)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Factor's signature planet-hopping production where beats sound larger than life, epic with just enough bravado, humble but confident, concert hall boom bap. Much like his other releases, it's a journey through different lands in different times seen through different eyes. Team Factor rap cats include Ceschi, Myka 9, Astronautalis, Kirby Dominant, and more. LP and CD. Highly recommend.

Lojii – *Lofeye*
(YOUNGBLOODS)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Cloud city concrete jungle. Blunt-smoke-filled funhouse. Alleyway 40oz. book club. Lowrider limo service to the streets. These are the kinds of phrases that pop into my head when I listen to this. Lojii's rap style is hard to pin down. It's laid back, yes, but it's much more than that. There's an intangible factor that's part 404 error, part Black Dynamite, part syrup, part sip o' whiskey or cigarette drag. And it folds neatly within the similarly described production. Like bright darkness.

Eligh – *Last House On The Block* (EMPIRE/CARAVAN)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
The underlying theme to this album is addiction - naming it, confronting it, struggling with it, overcoming it, living with it. If you've listened to Eligh's music over the years you'll know how personal most of his discography is, and you probably grew along with him through the years. Without being preachy, *LHOTB* knocks hard while addressing these issues in his own way. Sick Eligh production and rhyme chops with guest spots from Evidence, The Grouch, Zion I, and more. LP w/ DL code and CD. Recommended.

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

Doppelgangaz – *Aaaaggghh*
(GROGGY PACK ENT.)

Latyrx – *The Muzapper's Mixes* [LP Reissue] (REAL PEOPLE/MOBIL HOME RECORDINGS/QUANNUM PROJECTS)

Ali Shaheed Muhammad & Adrian Younge – *The Midnight Hour* (LINEAR LABS)

Adrian Younge – *Voices of Gemma* (LINEAR LABS)

Armand Hammer – *Paraffin*
(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Longshot & Lazerbeak – *Parades* (DOOMTREE)

9th Wonder – *Zion II* (EMPIRE)

Young Fathers – *Cocoa Sugar* (NINJA TUNE)

Living Legends – *Almost Famous* [LP Reissue]
(LEGENDARY MUSIC)

Scallops Hotel – *Sovereign Nose of (Y)our Arrogant Face* [1st LP version] (RUBY YACHT)

milo – *Things That Happen At Day / Things That Happen At Night* [1st LP version]
(RUBY YACHT)

Greg Grease – *Down So Long*
(SOUND VERITE)

Malphino – *Visit Malphino*
(LEX)

Sango – *In The Comfort Of*
(LAST GANG)

Moodie Black – *Lucas Acid*
(FAKE FOUR INC.)

Black Milk – *Fever*
(MASS APPEAL)

Henry Canyons – *Cool Side of the Pillow*
(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Chikaramanga – *Doronko Beats* (TRES)

Jean Grae & Quelle Chris – *Everything's Fine*
(MELLO MUSIC GROUP)

The Grouch – *Don't Talk To Me* [1st LP Version] (HHV.DE)

The Grouch – *Nothing Changes* [1st LP Version] (HHV.DE)

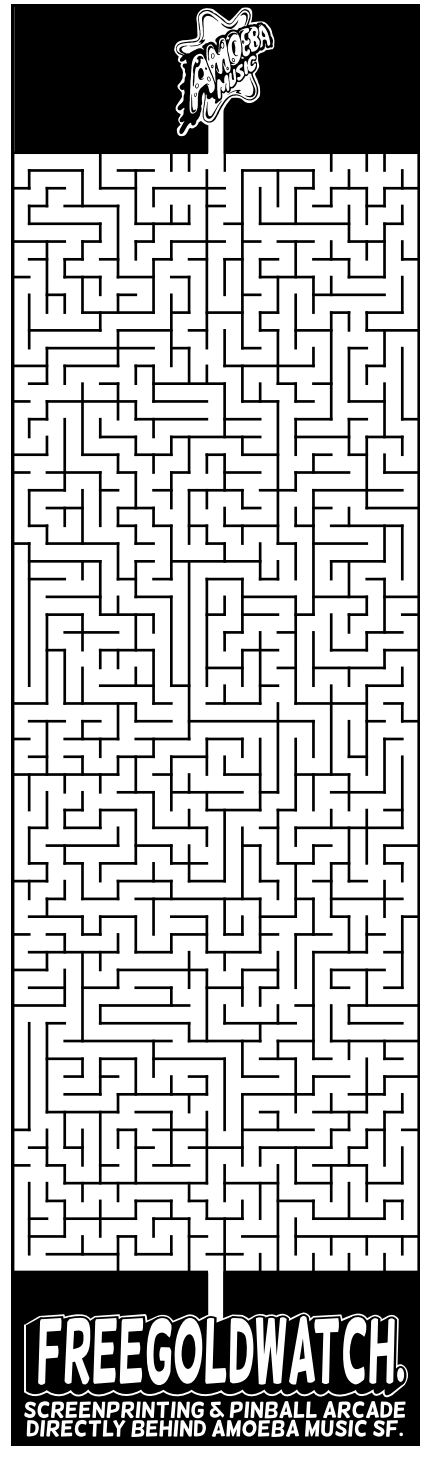
The Grouch – *Success Is Destiny* [LP Reissue] (HHV.DE)

The Grouch – *F*ck The Dumb* [1st LP Version] (HHV.DE)

Various Artists – *Signal Path*
(CONTENT (L)ABEL/STYGE RECORDINGS)

Various Artists – *African Scream Contest 2*
(ANALOG AFRICA)

Tip:
RIP Glen Porter, Sixo, Alias, and Anthony Bourdain. Thanks for sharing your creativity and humanity.



GAIL TODD

Laraaji – *Vision Songs Vol. 1*
(NUMERO)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Wire – *Chairs Missing* [Deluxe] (PINK FLAG)
Find it in: *ROCK*

🎬*An Actor's Revenge* [Criterion] (1963) – Directed by Kon Ichikawa

Betty Lavette – *Things Have Changed* (VERVE)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Various Artists – *Westbound Disco* (ACE)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Prof. Harold Boggs (and Lula Reed) – *Lord Give Me Strength (Early Recordings 1952-1964)*
(GOSPEL FRIEND)
Find it in: *GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN*

KURT

Angantyr – *Ulykke*
(NORTHERN SILENCE PRODUCTIONS)
Find it in: *METAL*
It took Ynleborgaz six years to deliver this powerful and frosty black metal album. It was well worth the wait.

Baptists – *Beacon Of Faith*
(SOUTHERN LORD)
Find it in: *METAL*
Baptists delivers another solid release. Amps that go to elven, a thick ass wall of heavier than an elephant walking drums, with vocals that are pissed off at everything. Did I mention that Kurt Ballou recorded this. Stop reading already and immediately go get this.

Del The Funky Homosapien + Amp Live – *Gate 13* (IOT)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
This album is funky, has great lyrics and smokes harder than a Californian wildfire.

Drudkh – *Їм часто снитЬся каніж (They Often See Dreams About the Spring)*
(SEASONS OF MIST)
Find it in: *METAL*
I can't help but be transported to the magical time of fall right before it snows whenever I listen to Drudkh. They seem to understand the craft of atmosphere and the right amount of riffs. I have to admit I was very skeptical about this release but rest assured, Drudkh have taken their time to release a quality album and you will not be disappointed.

Enslaved – *Hordanes Land* [Reissue] (NORSE MUSIC)
Find it in: *METAL*
Once upon a time, I was up very late developing photographs in my schools darkroom. I always listened to a lot of metal whenever I worked late at night. On this particular night I happened to be listening to *Hordanes Land*. I lost track of time. At some point I decided to wrap things up and leave the darkroom. When I came out it was snowing and the wind was blowing. No one was out. I decided to walk around the campus and out into the surrounding nieghborhood. I remember how quiet it was, how beautiful the snow looked upon the trees and bushes, even how the lights reflected off of everything. It was hypnotic and potentially dangerous. I made my way back to campus and went to sleep, dreaming of a better world. Whenever I listen to this particular release I experience a strong nostalgia of this event. Enslaved created a wonderful and essential piece of black metal with *Hordanes Land*. If you do not own this already, go get yourself a copy of this reissue.

EPMD – *Strictly Business*
(CAPITOL)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
1) Dudes with matching shirts, check.
2) A rapper that sounds like he had too much cough syrup, check
3) Samples like ants that found the sugar jar, check.
4) Fun, funky and innovative, check.
5) A classic album that deserves to be reissued and in your collection, check

King Diamond – *Fatal Portrait* [Reissue]
(METAL BLADE)
Find it in: *METAL*
Fatal Portrait, Abigail and *Them* have been out of print on LP for a bit now. Beautiful picture discs that are worthy of your collection. I am sure most of you are familiar with King Diamond in one way or another, and either love or hate his vocal delivery. I love it and Andy LaRocque's playing is equally amazing. *Fatal Portrait* is an excellent first album from a group of dudes who played some serious music that was steeped in satanism to a band that would focus on stories and thematic idea's. Essential listening for fans of metal.

Otis Redding – *Dock Of The Bay Sessions*
(RHINO)
Find it in: *SOUL*
I am not sure what to say or if i can even add to anything that has been written about Otis Redding. Except to say that I am so happy to have more Otis in my collection. Just get this one, okay. Your life will be richer for it.

Winterfylleth – *The Hallowing Of Heirdom*
(CANDLELIGHT)
Find it in: *METAL*
The wind is cool, reminding me that the season is changing. But the sun touches my skin and wraps me up in it's warm embrace. My hands touch the tall grass that is still soft but will soon be buried under the snow. I am walking up a hill towards my destination, eagerly awaiting the refreshing water I will drink and the apple that will satisfy my hunger. I hear the birds, I see the color of the trees, and breathe in the air all around me. I am lost in the moment and I am content. *The Hallowing Of Heirdom* reminds me of this memory. This is a beautiful and heartfelt album that is very welcome in my collection. I hope it will find its way into your life, too.

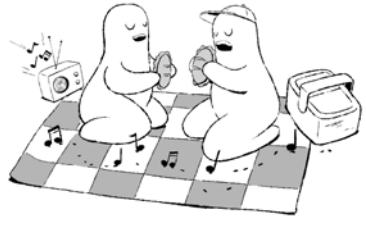
Brownout – *Fear Of A Brown Planet* (FAT BEATS)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Brownout deliver a wonderful and serious reinterpretation of Public Enemy's *Fear Of A Black Planet*. It is filtered through their lens of Latin, salsa, funk and breaks. This is great don't sleep on it.

Electric Wizard – *Witchcult Today* (RISE ABOVE)
Find it in: *METAL*
I love this album. I know, I know, Dopethrone is just as awesome, but for me this is the bees knees. Doom, and a dark atmosphere saturate this slab of wax, it is heavy and creepy crawly that permeates your ears and gets under your skin. Again, Rise Above does a great reissue and is well worth forking over your money for.

Bolt Thrower – *Realm Of Chaos* (EARACHE)
Find it in: *METAL*
ETERNAL WAR!!!! This is so heavy, it is heavier than lead in a bucket of water. *Realm Of Chaos* is the perfect follow up to *In Battle There Is No Law*. Influential, thematic, timeless, are just a few of the words that come to mind when listening to this album. I am very glad to see this reissued. If you don't own this or have never heard this album, stop reading this review. Go get this immediately. Welcome to the nightmare that is the realm of chaos.

Control Denied – *The Fragile Art Of Existence* [Reissue] (RELAPSE)
Find it in: *METAL*
The genius of Chuck Schuldiner is all over this album. But Chuck is only a piece of the whole. The rest of the band is excellent and they deliver a wonderful album. I highly recommend this reissue.

Tip:
Please check out all the great reissues and be sure to do a little digging for great priced used items \m/



NOTES:

What did they find at Amoeba?
Flatbush Zombies
Wajatta
Kimbra
New episodes weekly on Amoeba.com!
Jason Mantzoukas
The XX
What's in my Bag?
Watch on Amoeba.com

SAN FRANCISCO

SKWRLY D

The Temptations – *Sky's The Limit* (ELEMENTAL MUSIC)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Chris Squire – *Fish Out Of Water* [Deluxe Edition] (ESOTERIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

King Crimson – *Sailors' Tale* (DISCIPLINE GLOBAL MOBILE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Residents – *The W*** B*** Album* [Record Store Day]** (NEW RALPH)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Snakefinger's Vestal Virgins – *Night Of Desirable Objects* (AIM)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Jonathan Wilson – *Rare Birds* (BELLA UNION/AKA WING)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Yes – *Fly From Here - Return Trip* (PLEDGEMUSIC)
Find it in: *SKA*
Probably the best Yes album of the last 30 years gets a do-over from it's original producer, Trevor Horn, who also recorded new lead vocals as a tribute to his late bandmate Chris Squire, cementing *Fly From Here* as a natural companion to *Drama*.

Grateful Dead – *Pacific Northwest '73–'74: Believe It If You Need It* (GRATEFUL DEAD/RHINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*

BRIAN COUSINS

I want to play bass in a New Order cover band

Video Age – *Pop Therapy* LP (JOYFUL NOISE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
New Orleans duo Video Age craft an authentic, infectious ode to '80s pop on their second album, *Pop Therapy*. For fans of Phil Collins, Prince, and analog synths.

Beach House – 7 (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Beach House's seventh album, aptly titled 7, is their best yet. Filled with rich, swirling synths and gorgeous melodies, it's got all the makings of your classic dream pop that the duo do so well. For fans of Slowdive, Cocteau Twins, and hypnosis.

Patrick Cowley – *Afternooners* (DARK ENTRIES)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Earlier this year, Dark Entries released *Afternooners*, the final installment in a series of gay porn soundtrack reissues from the late electronica musician Patrick Cowley. This record is nonstop synth grooves and sex music. For fans of Giorgio Moroder, Honey Soundsystem, and Arthur Russell.

Jorja Smith – Lost & Found (FAMM LIMITED)
Find it in: *SOUL*
Jorja Smith released her debut album on the heels of one hell of a year, appearing on projects from Drake, Kendrick, and Kali Uchis. *Lost & Found* delivers on the promise set forth in Jorja's early work—a stunning collection of smooth and inspired ballads. For fans of Amy Winehouse, Daniel Caesar, and IAMDDB.

Father John Misty – *God's Favorite Customer* (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Pitchfork and all the aging hipsters in Los Angeles make me want to hate Josh Tillman, but the guy keeps on putting out classics. His 4th LP, *God's Favorite Customer*, is a bit of a return to form, a slight retreat from the oh-so self-indulgent "masterpiece" *Pure Comedy*. For fans of Kevin Morby, Leonard Cohen, and pretension.

Nas – *Nasir* (DEF JAM)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
A personal favorite of mine from the recent string of Kanye-produced albums coming out of his Wyoming hideaway. With Blueprint-era beats, Nasir makes you wonder what could have been had Ye produced for Nas instead of Jay in the early 2000s. Is this the hip hop version of the Berlin Trilogy? Probs not. For fans of Jay Z, '90s hip hop, the old Kanye.

SQUINTO

Learning through the ears, Growing through the eyes

Courtney Barnett – *The Double EP: A Sea Of Split Peas* (MOM & POP MUSIC)
Find it In: *ROCK*
A smooth debut of great vocals accompanied by retrospective lyrics about life. Avant- Gardner, the third track sets up a melody that infects your body into dancing and singing along.

King Gizzard And The Lizard Wizards – *Gumboot Soup* (ATO)
Find it In: *ROCK*
2017 solidified King Gizzards place in the ether, but a splash of cold water hit my brain when I heard "Beginners Luck," a great intro song to a vast and eclectic album.

Various Artists – *Deadpool 2* [OST] (SONY LEGACY)
Find it In: *SOUNDTRACKS*
Well enough of that wet towel! You're friendly neighborhood Deadpool here to interrupt this review to recommend a soundtrack that will blow your shorts away! Did I mention we have a Canadian God featured?! *psst* It's Celine Dion

EDGARDO

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

Dungen & Woods – *Myths 003* (MEXICAN SUMMER)
Find it In: *ROCK*
This third installment in Mexican Summer's the Marfa Myths series features a Dungen & Woods collaboration that results in excellent folk-world-psych-rock. Fans of either group will find much to like as their styles are quite complementary and the sound is seamless and exactly what one would expect. Recommended, for sure!! (Available on LP & CD)

Minami Deutsch – *With Dim Light* (GURUGURU BRAIN)
Find it In: *ROCK*
Neo-psychedelic krautrock from Japan? Yes, please! This band is prime and simply fun to listen to. Their self-titled first album was relatively straightforward but this follow-up sees them venture with a little more psych and a touch of funk and swing. Addicting indeed! (Available on LP & CD) (*Suggestion: Check out their label mates, Kikagaku Moyo, another great Japanese psych band!)

Shoji Yokouchi Trio plus Yuri Tashiro – *Greensleeves* (IMPEX)
Find it In: *JAZZ*
Originally released by Three Blind Mice and long out-of-print, this remastered vinyl reissue by Impex is a real gem. Jazz guitar trio with hammond organ doing tasty soulful renditions

of standards and originals. Super high quality production produces an LP of superb sonics. Absolutely recommended! (A limited-edition release so get it while you can.)

Danish String Quartet – *Last Leaf* (ECM)
Find it In: *CLASSICAL*
A delightful collection of Nordic folk music and inspired originals arranged for string quartet. This impressive ensemble plays in a modern classical style but with a sensitivity to the traditional roots of the music to create an album of understated beauty. A true musical listen. Recommended? You bet! (Available on CD & LP)

🎞 *A Teströl És Lélekröl (On Body And Soul)* (2018) – Directed by Ildikó Enyedi
An unconventional romantic film by Hungarian director Ildikó Enyedi about a man (Morcsányi Géza) and a woman (Alexandra Borbély) who by chance discover that they share very similar recurring dreams. After learning of this strange coincidence, they come together to share and realize their dreams. An original and intriguing, intimate and darkly humorous film that is appealingly different and enjoyable.

Tip:
Meditate! It's good for you.

TUNDRA

Archaeologist, Balloon Artist, C.T.O.

Lithics – *Mating Surfaces*
(KILL ROCK STARS)
Find it in: *PUNK*
good name, catchy band

Les Stratocastors – *Living Under The Johnny Vacances* (DEGELITE)
Find it in: *PUNK*
if you couldn't guess by the "les," they're French

No Trend – *You Deserve Your Life*
(DIGITAL REGRESS)
Find it in: *PUNK*
rarities of a swell band

Sediment Club – *Stucco Thieves* (WHARF CAT)
Find it in: *PUNK*
it's good, and all that

Landline – *Landline*
(DISCONTINUOUS INNOVATION INC.)
Find it in: *PUNK*
listen to it if you know what's good for yah

Combo – *Combo* [Cassette]
(DISCONTINUOUS INNOVATION INC.)
Find it in: *PUNK*
it's drums, and keyboards, and it's good

SHTEVESF

Receivin' Shtev'n, keepin' it real in the Lava Cave.

Les Baxter, His Orchestra and Chorus – *Voices In Rhythm*
(REPRISE)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
Elevator music at its finest. Jazzy pop wth fabulous choral vocals.

Modern Action – *Molotov Solution* (MODERN ACTION)
Find it in: *PUNK*
Super-catchy power pop punk. Similar to The Briefs.

Nico Gomez & His Orchestra – *Bossa Nova* (FORCED EXPOSURE)
Find it in: *WORLD*
More of that Bossa Nova music I can't get enough of. This music will drag me out of the darkest moods and get my foot tappin' in no time.

Swell Maps – *Trip To Marineville*
(SECRETLY CANADIAN)
Find it in: *PUNK*
Catchy rock/punk music with sometimes controversial lyrics, but it's all about those guitar hooks.

Teenage Confidential – *After School Rendezvous*
(SCREAMING APPLE)
Find it in: *PUNK*
Lightning-fast Japanese power punk. They sing in English with lyrics reminiscent of '50s or '60s teen pop but with screaming guitars and thundering drums.

Les Baxter & 101 Strings – *Lady Love* (FOCUS)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
Those wacky elevator music instrumentals of songs we all know from the '50s and '60s.

RYAN

Sri Syadasti

Frank Zappa – *The Roxy Performances*
(ZAPPA RECORDS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Seven CD box set of live material from December 1973. Amazing band at its height on its home turf. A must have for Zappa fans and a fine place to start for the curious.

Brian Eno – *Music For Installations* (UMC)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Six CD box set with 64-page booklet. Each disc represents recordings done for specific art installations around the globe. The music included as part of the overall show however stands up great on its own. A must have for fans of ambient music.

Alice Coltrane – *Carnegie Hall '71* (HI HAT)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
A live performance of "Africa" from a benefit concert held for the Satchidananda Yoga Institute. 1971 is the same year *Journey In Satchidananda* was released and keeps with the all out Free/Spiritual jazz vibe.

Burnt Friedman – *Anthology 1980-2017* (NON PLACE)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
More well known for his collaborative work with Drome, Flanger, Nine Horses, Cyclopean and Secret Rhythms Project with CAN'S Jaki Liebczeit (RIP)-Burnt's also been busy with solo material, 37 years covered in 17 tracks—electronic/percussive heavy-Riyl Krautrock, electrexperimental.

Basil Kirchin – *I Start Counting*
(TRUNK)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
Experimental sound collage artist and library music maker also had some fine soundtrack credits. "I Start Counting" is perfect acid casual meets cuddle core spooky for fans of '60s EZ Listening or more pop oldies, "Priscilla Paris" etc.

CREG C

Have a great time in S.F.

Sleep – *The Sciences*
(THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Sleep is one of my all-time favorite bands. After dissolving due to record label stupidity eventually the band reunited because of popular demand. These guys really love their fans (as witnessed at their latest Warfield show). Sort of shambling and intriguing is the way I would describe the sound; kinda like a "what is that large furry creature with eight legs over there in the shadows?" sorta vibe. Keep your 20-sided die handy for the saving throw. Found in Rock, even though it is pretty good metal.

The Jam – *1977* [Box Set]
(POLYDOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
When I was in high school, I was lucky enough to make friends with a Mod guy. He rode a Lambretta, wore an Air Force parka and his favorite band was The Jam. Really, The Jam is all about Paul Weller doing his best Modfather routine during the Mod revival of the late '70s. Imagine punk rock attitude, only coming from English kids wearing fitted retro clothes and listening to loud R&B-based guitar rock. This box set focuses strictly on the year 1977 with the band's first two releases included, plus numerous live cuts spread over 4 CDs and a DVD.

Del Tha Funkee Homosapien / AMP Live – *Gate 13* (IOT)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

I've been a fan of Del since *3rd Eye Vision* from Hieroglyphics and even some *Mistadobalina* days. The thing I always like is Del's smooth delivery which is complimented by AMP Live (of Zion I) on production. Lots of Electro-Funk and smooth hip hop beats to be found on this release. Plus, you gotta represent Oakland.

King Gizzard And The Lizard Wizard – *Gumboot Soup*

(FLIGHTLESS)

Find it in: *ROCK*

This Australian band is one hard-working outfit. Somehow they managed to crank out five albums in 2017 all with different flavours, but still with the great Alternative Rock/Psychedelic Rock/Garage Rock/Surf sound. *Gumboot* is a nice mellow and trippy listen, but you could pick up any of their releases for natural enjoyment. PLUS, it is mostly impossible to find used product from this band here at Amoeba, so you have to know it is worthy.

Zeke – *Hellbender* (RELAPSE)

Find it in: *PUNK*

DAMN YES! A new Zeke record. Not having released anything since 2004, Blind Marky Felchtone and his rotating cast of Punk'N'Roll activists play hard and fast. Somehow they manage to fit 15 songs into 21 minutes on this release. Still plenty of room for shouty vocals and blistering guitar solos. If you are having a bad day, put this record on at MAXIMUM VOLUME and scream your blues away. Found in the Punk section here at Amoeba.

JAMES DILLON

33 + 45 = 78

Paul Whiteman – *King of Jazz* [Criterion]

King of Jazz is a 1930 American Pre-code two color Technicolor film starring Paul Whiteman and his orchestra. There is no story, just a series of dreamlike musical numbers. It has to be seen to be believed and even then you won't believe it. Featuring a new 4K digital restoration by Universal Pictures and many special features including two Oswald the Lucky Rabbit cartoons from 1930.

U-Roy – *Talking Roots*

(ARIWA SOUNDS LTD.)

Find it in: *REGGAE*

Wake the town and tell the people about this musical sound coming your way! A new U-Roy album is here and it is all killer, no filler. Produced by the man called Mad Professor and featuring many of Jamaica's heavy hitters. It will put a smile on your face that you can never erase.

The Apartment [Deluxe] (1960) – Directed by Billy Wilder

This is one of my favorite films. Directed by Billy Wilder and starring Jack Lemmon, Shirley MacLaine and Fred MacMurray. it won five Academy Awards, including Best Picture. Arrow Video has just produced a deluxe edition Blu-ray featuring 150-page hardcover book illustrated with rare stills and behind the scenes photographs. Limited to 3000 copies.

Cold Beat – *A Simple Reflection*

(DARK ENTRIES)

Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Atmospheric electronic post punk covers of early Eurythmics songs and B-sides from this amazing Bay Area musical group. They got the goods!

Kamasi Washington – *The Epic* (BRAINFEEDER)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

This is a jazz album that is hard to describe, the title *The Epic* kind of says it all. It is three records of swirling sounds that remind me of John Coltrane. It's that good. Give it a listen and you will be surprised.

45 RPM RECORDS

Amoeba Music has a lot of stuff to look through but do you know what we have the most of? 45 rpm records, they're just waiting for you! Thousands of them! They're actually making new ones, but imagine owning that record you had as a child or a teenager. Yes, we probably have that too. A lot of times we get dead stock records that have never been played, from all eras of the 45. It is an amazing treasure trove that is often overlooked at the store. Some are higher priced collectibles, but there are many that are affordable and some are downright bargains. And if you need something to play them on, we also sell turntables. So now you have no excuse. I think there is no better way to listen to music.

Tip:

Play Pinball around the corner from Amoeba Music at Free Gold Watch!

JEFF

The Du-Rites – *Gamma Ray Funk/Fish Sammich* 7"

(OLD MAID ENTERTAINMENT)

Find it in: *SOUL*

Ghoul/Ill Bill – *Pentagram/ Thrash Damage* 7" (TANKCRIMES)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

The Arsonists – *As The World Burns/ Lost In The Fire* (BELOW SYSTEM)

Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Dave Chappelle – *The Age of Spin/Deep In The Heart of Texas* (NETFLIX)

Find it in: *COMEDY*

Sarah Silverman – *A Speck of Dust* (NETFLIX)

Find it in: *COMEDY*

Poison Ivy (The Cramps) – *Peter Gunn Twist* (GET HIP)

Find it in: *ROCK*

End Time – *End Time*

(FULLY INTERCOASTAL)

Find it in: *PUNK*

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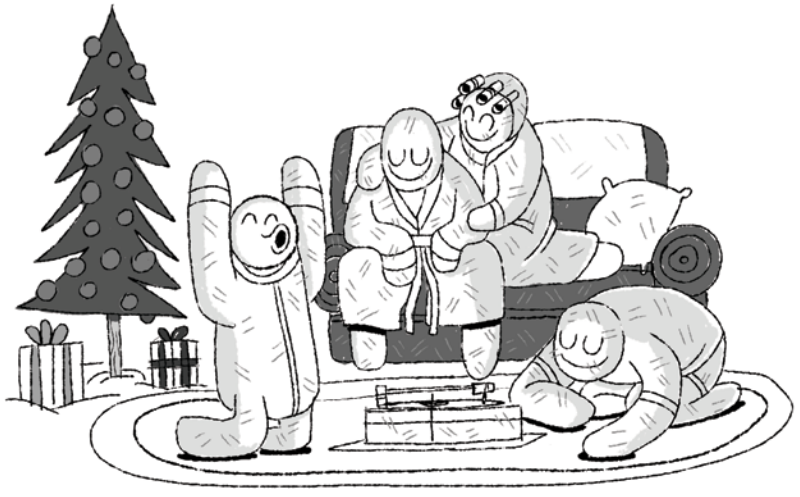


Guns N' Roses –
Appetite For Destruction - Locked & Loaded 30th Anniversary Edition
(GEFFEN)
Find it in: *ROCK*
73 tracks (49 unreleased!). 25 unreleased recordings from the original sessions and a ton of other shit! ROCK N' FUCKING ROLL!

VINNIE

www.djvinnie.net

Thee Lakesiders –
***Si Me Faltaras Tu/Parachute* 7"** (BIG CROWN)
Find it in: *SOUL*
Absolutely devastating lowrider soul from these newcomers. Essential.

Abelardo Carbono & Quantic – *La Piña Madura* 7"
(NAMES YOU CAN TRUST)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Super slammin' Latin Funk guaranteed to bring the house down. So tasty.

Pointer Sisters –
***Send Him Back* 7"**
Find it in: *SOUL*
Blistering Northern Soul dancer from 1972. Original Atlantic Records single with set you back a pretty penny. Killer!

Various Artists – *W2NG*
(NUMERO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Nice selection of obscure Yacht Rock for your sailing pleasure.

Cornell Campbell – *Boxing*
(KINGSTON SOUNDS)
Find it in: *REGGAE*
Stellar 1982 album from this legendary artist. The Curtis Mayfield of Jamaica, in my opinion.

ROOTS MUSIC MAVEN

Jerry Byrd –
Byrd's Expedition (RWA)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*
Jerry Byrd was known as the "Master of Touch & Tone," and was considered the greatest non-pedal steel guitarist. Richard Weize, the former head of Bear Family Records, has assembled a 30 tune single CD plus a comprehensive booklet which outlines Jerry's early Mercury recording output from 1949-1954. At the time, Jerry was the top studio steel guitarist in Nashville and played on many Hank Williams cuts, among others. If you're a fan of steel guitar, this compilation is a must.

Idiot Grins – *State of Health*
(SNUG HARBOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Idiot Grins is an Oakland studio band, lead by Randy Strauss. Their latest album is chock full of catchy tunes and has had some chart success. Singer John Hanson gives the band its unique edge, along with TOP styled horns and backup vocals by Oakland's acclaimed Byrd Sisters. Full disclosure, I play some pedal steel on the album.

Various Artists –
Jesus Rocked the Jukebox: Small Group Black Gospel (1951-1965)
(CRAFT)
Find it in: *GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN*
This is a great compilation featuring 40 small group black gospel tunes from 1951-'65, most that you probably haven't heard. There's some rare stuff, as some of the groups only put out a few singles and no albums.

Tip:
Check out my all vinyl website, VinylBeat.com, for cool record collecting eye candy.

DUNCAN

i buy movies.

🎬 *The Great Silence* (1968) – Directed by Sergio Corbucci
my favorite spaghetti western—bleak and beautiful—finally gets the remaster it deserves. kinski at his wicked best!

🎬 *The Phantom Thread* (2017) – Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson
paul thomas anderson proves, once again, that no matter the subject, everything he makes is required viewing for those who appreciate great filmmaking.

🎬 *Batman Ninja* (2018) – Directed by Junpei Mizusaki
the slickest animation batman has ever seen! from the creative talents behind *gurren lagann, kill la kill* and *afro samurai*; this is a balls-to-the-wall mashup of classic anime tropes. WITNESS THE AWESOME POWER OF THE MONKEYS!!!

❑ *Mad Foxes* (1981) – Directed by Paul Grau
this one grinds the house into the ground—then rips its d**k off and feeds it to it!

❑ *Henri-Georges Clouzot's Inferno* (2009) – Directed by Henri-Georges Clouzot
this fascinating documentary contains some of the most rapturous visuals ever put on film. clouzot, at a point in his career when he, seemingly, feels outmoded professionally and personally by the sexualized and psychedelic styles of the '60s, attempts to make a thriller which, at its heart, is about just that, but is crushed under the weight of his own artistic freedom and an unlimited budget employed in countless experiments seeking imagery unlike anything seen before.

Tip:
in the waistband.

TONY

Micky D's fries R.I.P.

Wooden Shjips – *V.*
(THRILLJOCKEY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Came in late on these guys but this record is a droning aural massage that's seeped into my psyche...I've dug Ripley Johnson's side project Moon Duo for awhile, but always spaced on these guys...but no longer!

Various Artists – *Wild Things*
(MISSISSIPPI)
Find it in: *OLDIES*
Rockin' combo platter reissue (on one LP) of a slew of songs from the OOP *Wild Things 1 & 2* comps of Kiwi '60s punk...with a coupla tracks not on either of those releases! Larry's Rebels, the La De Da's & The Chicks contribute some killer tracks, but the real classic is "Social End Product" by the Bluestars...hats off to local NZ legend John Baker for uncovering these gems!

Grant Green – *Funk In France: From Paris to Antibes (1969-1970)* (RESONANCE)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
Great sounding and super-groovy first time issue of unreleased 1969/70 concert stuff...long workouts and great playing from all.

Fantastic Negrito – *Please Don't Be Dead* (COOKING VINYL)
Find it in: *BLUES*
Wow! The last record was a pretty cool R&B workout, but this one is a big loud bitch of an LP... opening song "Plastic Hamburgers" is a hard act to follow but the LP is filled with more great songs and unexpected rawk dynamics...blew me away when I heard it in the store on new release day!

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!* (ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
More supertight riffage and snotty vocals from these New Yorkers... I'm still living with this, maybe not as immediate as the previous *Human Performance* LP, but the record is a grower... love the title song!

Tip:
Joan Didion's "Play It As It Lays"—available now at Amoeba SF!—is my new favorite book!

BRENT JAMES

Solo: A Star Wars Story Official Guide by Pablo Hidalgo (DK PUBLISHING)
Another amazing companion book for the lastest SW spinoff. A MUST for any fan, and chock full of spacey goodness.

The Motels – *The Last Few Beautiful Days* (SUNSET BLVD.)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Kicking off with "Punchline," the latest album from The Motels fits right in with their back catalog. This record shines through and through with brilliant songwriting and lush vocals from Martha Davis, as usual. They even pull off a full-on Waltz number with the title track! Delish.

Andrew W.K. – *You're Not Alone* (RED/SONY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Party. If AWK doesn't get you off, you're non-offgettable...

Gaktuse – *Gaktuse* (SELF-RELEASED)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Local faves Gaktuse have captured the "San Francisco Sound," and by the looks of it have no intentions of ever letting it go. Blending funk, metal, soul and just about anything else you can think of, this is a band of young hungry hustlers that take no prisoners at their live shows and always leave you wanting more. No filler all killer.

Nicki Bluhm – *To Rise You Gotta Fall* (COMPASS RECORDS GROUP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Having followed Nicki's career over the years, I can honestly say that THIS is her defining record. Instantly familiar and totally contagious. The melodies appear in your brain before the songs even begin. Bravo.

The Love-Birds – *In The Lover's Corner* (TROUBLE IN MIND)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Another local band making waves nationally and all over the world. Jangle all the way...

Cold Beat – *A Simple Reflection* (DARK ENTRIES)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Atmospheric electronic Post-Punk covers of seven early Eurythmics songs and B-Sides from Bay Area quartet Cold Beat. Sexy and on complete fire...

Tip:
Insta: @WhereTheToysAre

ALLEN LEONG

How about a comic book?

Sabrina by Nick Drnaso (Drawn & Quarterly)
Slowly, quietly, Drnaso tells a tale about a mysterious murder/disappearance that depicts the paranoia and misinformation of our times with frightening clarity. His simple, clear drawing style and muted colors are reminiscent of Chris Ware, and in a similar way he uses his appealing images to dig at universal fears and recognition of menace. Burrowing into this story and coming out the other side is like experiencing a fever dream of national angst that leaves a lot to think about.

Renee Rosnes – *Beloved of the Sky* (SMOKE SESSIONS)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
Rosnes's writing is dense, complex, I know... but the overall vibe is inviting, not forbidding. It encourages you to listen again, and not because of any pyrotechnics. It's well-played and all, but she seems more intent on putting across a musical phrase rather than impressing you with her considerable chops. She leaves the fireworks to her sidemen, especially saxophonist Chris Potter. Rosnes has a ton of ideas and I'm just grateful she's had occasion to express them.

Orquesta Akokán – *Orquesta Akokán* (DAPTONE)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Fantastic charts of Cuban son and montuno, played with elan and dead accuracy. Not much more, or less, than that.

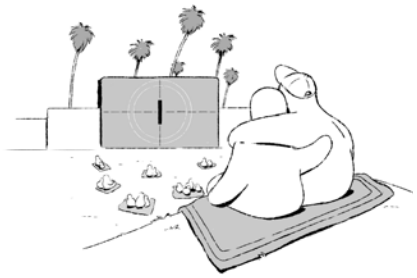
Patton Oswalt – *Annihilation* (NETFLIX)
Find it in: *COMEDY*
Oswalt is hinting that this might be his stand-up swan song. Let's hope not, because he's still one of the best at it, even when he's reviewing his own tragedy. His take on Trump as David Lee Roth is priceless. We need his verbal acuity now more than ever.

JON LONGHI

Jon Longhi is the author of four books of fiction including
The Rise And Fall Of Third Leg *and*
Wake Up And Smell The Beer.
He regularly writes concert reviews for NBC BayArea.com.

Funkadelic – *Funkadelic Live Meadowbrook, Rochester, Michigan 12th September 1971* (WESTBOUND)
Find it in: *SOUL*
If you're a Funkadelic fan this piece of essential listening belongs in your collection. It may not be the definitive document of the Funkadelic live experience but there's still a lot to like here. One of my co-workers claims that this is "too meandering" for his tastes and there is some truth to that. The versions of "I Call My Baby Pussycat" and "All Your Goodies Are Gone" go on for way too long and have too much useless banter with the audience, but other parts of this show are positively driving with amazing heavy psychedelic guitar work by Eddie Hazel. "Alice In My Fantasies" for example gets the album started like a runaway freight train. There's a hilarious typo on the back cover where it claims that "Maggot Brain" is only four minutes long. "How can they play 'Maggot Brain' in less than five minutes?" I asked myself when I saw that. Answer: They can't. The track actually clocks in at around 15 minutes and is a wonderful epic raging version. George Clinton is about to retire from touring so now is a great time to pick up this disc so that you can still immerse yourself in the monster he made. Live Funkadelic was like a potent force of nature and discs like this are valuable archives of one of the best live bands in the history of music.

***Night Of The Living Dead* (1963) [Criterion] – Directed by George Romero**
This is one of the best movies ever made. Period. It would make any Top Five Horror Movie List and should make it into the Top Ten of any critic's 10 Best Movies Ever Made List. George Romero said that Orson Wells was his favorite director and that he tried to shoot this film in Wells' style. Well, he succeeded because this is the *Citizen Kane* of horror movies. Romero ran a company in Pittsburgh that made TV commercials for local businesses and shot this movie in



his spare time using his equipment from work. The film was shot on a shoestring budget but went on to become hugely successful and eventually became one of the most well known movies ever made. It changed the course of horror cinema and created the entire modern zombie genre. The plot is fairly simple: a group of strangers find themselves barricaded in a lonely farmhouse while a horde of undead zombies tries to break in and eat them. At times the violence inside the house mirrors that on the outside. In Romero's hands, this simple story becomes a metaphor for not just contemporary America, but all of mankind. The story comes roaring out of the starting gate and doesn't let up until the grim horrifying ending. It's one of the darkest visions ever committed to film and has lost none of its punch over the years, if anything, it's more relevant today than ever. There have been many versions of this released over the years, but this Criterion Collection Blu-ray is by far the best. The picture and sound are immaculate and there are hours of bonus features which even include an alternate version of the film. This belongs in any movie lover's collection.

The Lost World (1925) – Special effects by Willis O'Brien

The Lost World: Flicker Alley/ Blackhawk Films: Blu-ray: This silent movie is the first masterpiece created by Willis O'Brien who went on to make *King Kong*. It's the first humans verses dinosaurs film ever made and one of the all time classics of world cinema. The story follows Professor Challenger as he leads an expedition to a South American plateau where dinosaurs still live. After a series of adventures atop the plateau, a brontosaurus plunges off a cliff into a swamp and Professor Challenger takes the dinosaur to London where it escapes. Bedlam ensues. This is a great sci-fi movie and Spielberg's remakes have nothing on the original. The stop motion effects are not as smooth as those in *King Kong* but they're still pretty impressive. This is one of the best silent film restorations ever created. Flicker Alley scoured the world for any collector's prints and combined them into this new edition which is the most complete cut ever assembled. It is far longer than any other version that has ever been released. They also did huge amounts of restoration work on the film itself. The end result looks amazing for a movie that is almost a hundred years old. The disc is also loaded with bonus features including a number of short animated films by Willis O'Brien that have never been seen before.

The Residents – *Duck Stab/ Buster And Glen* [2-CD Preserved Edition]

(CRYPTIC CORPORATION)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
This special edition celebrates and creates the definitive document of some of The Residents' very best work. In my humble opinion, *Duck Stab* is their best album and a distillation of everything that makes them so wonderful, beautiful and strange. Tunes like "Blue Rosebuds" and "Hello Skinny" are the epitome of their whole aesthetic. The skeletons of these tunes may be traditional pop and rock and roll but the flesh on these bones are heavy slabs of Art Brut, dissonant noise, and a kind of dark sonic surrealism. These two EPs have been released many times over the years but this is the best version so far. The original EPs have been lovingly remastered and have the best sound quality they have ever had. The Residents have also raided their vaults and loaded up this release with possibly the most generous helping of bonus tracks I've ever seen on a re-issue. There are twenty six, count 'em, TWENTY SIX bonus tracks on this. All the extra tracks from the original recording sessions and live shows of that era appear to be here. There are also various live interpretations of the songs that have been played over the ensuing decades. Any Residents fan should definitely repurchase this, the band has made it more than worth your while. It's worth it just for the inclusion of the ultra rare track "Santa Dog '78," the best and most horrifying Christmas song ever recorded.

The Complete Crumb by R. Crumb

(FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS)
Robert Crumb produced some of the best art in the underground comics movement. *Zap, Weirdo, Mr. Natural*, his comics are legendary. It was lowbrow cartooning, but Crumb managed to inject even the most base material with a kind of fine art cosmic hippy higher consciousness that elevated everything to another level. Some of his strips like "People, You Gotta Love 'Em" are the best that the comics medium ever produced. Characters like Mr. Natural and Fritz The Cat have become indelible icons of American culture. Crumb's strips run the entire gamut from serious biographies of blues musicians to X-rated animal sex romps. He is one of the most unique, funny, and thought-provoking artists in the history of comics. Fantagraphics has put out 16 volumes in this series. The ball really gets rolling in Volume 3 when Fritz The Cat shows up. The next three or four volumes contain his most well known '60s work. But Crumb's comics have been a constant evolution and the strips just get better and better right up through the last volume.

TOM

Archie & The Bunkers – *The Traveler/Lookin' 7"*

(NORTON)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Killer teenage 21st Century garage rock from this organ and drum duo. Brothers in real life, too.

Beaver And The Trappers – *Happiness Is Havin'/ In Misery 7"* (SUNDAZED)

Find it in: *OLDIES*
Jerry Mathers and his buddy Rich Correll cut a teen punk anthem in 1966. TV's goofy little brother, who'd a thunk it?

The Damned – *Evil Spirits*

(SPINEFARM/SEARCH & DESTROY)
Find it in: *PUNK*
Great to hear Dave & The Captain again. Produced by Tony Visconti. I feel heartened that these blokes still want to be noisy heroes after all these years.

New York Dolls – *Butterflyin'* (EASY ACTION)

Find it in: *ROCK*
Live radio broadcasts of The Dolls' in 1974, at their trashiest best.

Various Artists – *Baby I've Got It! More Motown Girls* (ACE)

Find it in: *SOUL*
Hard to find and unreleased gems from the known and unknown ladies of Motown. Track #1, Thelma Brown "Cookie Boy' is so, so, so FINE!!

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Lemon Jail: On the Road with the Replacements by Bill Sullivan

(UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESS)
Bill Sullivan's first-hand account of the chaos and genius of The Replacements when he drove the van and set up the guitars and bought the drugs.

MARS

Bitchin Bajas – *Bajas Fresh*

(DRAG CITY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Jazzy ambient electronic.

BÊNNÍ – *I & II* (GONER)

Find it in: *ROCK*
A journey through the cosmos with lots of synth and vocoder.

Peter Zummo – *Frame Loop* [Reissue] (FOOM)

Find it in: *NEW AGE*
Re-issue of 1984 album by composer Peter Zummo. Features Arthur Russell on cello!

Sun Ra – *The Cymbals/ Symbols Sessions* (SUNDAZED)

Find it in: *JAZZ*
Unreleased 1973 album. Everyone's playing pretty chill on this one.

Neil Young – *Roxy: Tonight's The Night Live at the Roxy*

(REPRISE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
One of my top 3 favorite Neil albums LIVE!

SEAN

Irish drinker, Jewish thinker

Sleep – *The Sciences*

(THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *METAL*
The riff-lords have returned! Matt, Al & Co. more than deliver on this slab of sonic sludge. Behold the heaviness!

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!*

(ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
As far as contemporary rock bands go, these guys are one of my faves. They continue to pump out fuzzy, quirky, Pavement/VU-inspired jams. Good times.

Spacemen 3 – LP Reissues

(SUPERIOR VIADUCT)
Find it in: *ROCK*
At long last, *Dreamweapon, For All The Fucked-Up Children Of The World,* and *Taking Drugs to Make Music to Take Drugs To* are ALL available on pristine 180 gram vinyl. Definitive albums from the Gods of Shoegaze!

Hereditary (2018) – Directed by Ari Aster

One of the most disturbing films I've seen in years. First-time director Ari Aster nails it tone-wise, creating a feeling of tension and unease from the very first frame. Toni Collette is amazing and better yet, NO JUMP SCARES!

Won't You Be My Neighbor (2018) – Directed by Morgan Neville

This wonderful film highlights the amazing accomplishments of Fred Rogers, the greatest producer of Children's Television who ever lived. Unbelievably touching and heart-warming. I cried during the trailer, for God's sake.

CAMRY

1112466478

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise: Rhum Rhapsodies & Other Exotic Delights* (NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
WOW! Very relaxing mix of Exotica and Lounge. Very nice!

Erik Nervous – *Assorted Anieties*

(NECK CHOP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Wow, a greatest hits LP of Shipshewana, Indiana's most talented individual: Erik Nervous. WOW!

Wonder Bread – *Complete Solid Gold Hits 7"*

(DIGITAL REGRESS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Wow, Bay Area's worst act, Wonder Bread, is available on vinyl! Nice! Buy!

Neo Neos – *Get The Neo Neos*

(NECK CHOP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Nice! Full-length LP from the Neo Neos. Wow, it's loud. Hurts your ears! Ouch!

Landline – *Landline*

(P.I. INC./DIGITAL REGRESS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Sheesh, very good music. '80s New Wave in 2018. Nice!

GUILLERMO

Helio Matheus – *Helio Matheus* [Reissue]

(ATHENS OF THE NORTH)
Find it in: *WORLD*
A much needed reissue of the very rare (and expensive) solo album from Brazilian artist Helio Matheus. If you dig Arthur Verocai, Marcos Valle or Jorge Ben, this is for you.

Guru – *Jazzmatazz Vol. 1* - [Deluxe Edition]

(UNIVERSAL / URBAN LEGENDS)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Really, what more can I say about this legendary hip hop record from the late Guru of Gangstarr? Really though, I want to talk about the packaging. It's one of the first from the new Urban Legends series of releases from Universal. Urban Legends is being headed by Andre Torres of *Wax Poetics* magazine and he brought W.P.'s art director Freddy Anzures with him to this project. It's a gorgeous 3-LP set, featuring the full album, instrumentals and an LP of rare, unreleased b-sides and remixes. Also included is a 12-page book featuring unseen photos and liner notes. It's good to see packages like this for hip hop. It's been done for rock and other genres for years but rarely for hip hops legendary albums.

Kamaal Williams – *The Return*

(BLACK FOCUS)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Filed in electronica but sounding hella jazzy. Kamaal Williams (aka 1/2 of Yussef Kamaal, aka Henry Wu) is in fine form here producing some truly funky music. The jazz heads may turn up their noses at this record but this dancers will definitely turn their heads to the booth when this hits the speakers. Recommended if you like 4hero, Kamasi Washington, Josef Leimberg or Thundercat.

Tip:
Don't trust anyone who eats a taco out of a bowl.

Stop by Freddy Anzures' gallery FAMILY AFFAIR in Lower Haight to see what's on the walls.

MARK

Wait, what?

The Love-Birds – *In The Lover's Corner*
(TROUBLE IN MIND)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Great local band, jangle galore.

Juliana Hatfield – *Juliana Hatfield Sings Olivia Newton-John*
(AMERICAN LAUNDROMAT)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Awesome covers of great pop songs, originally done by Olivia Newton-John!

🎬 *The Rider* (2017) – Directed by Chloé Zhao
Sublime story of a rodeo rider who can no longer ride.

🎬 *Beast* (2017) – Directed by Michael Pearce
U.K. film, creepy atmosphere, strange relationships, beautifully shot.

THOMAS

Dear Nora – *Skulls Example*
(ORINDAL)
Find it in: *ROCK*
A meticulously crafted record of razor-sharp sophisticated pop songs from one of today's finest songwriters, Katy Davidson. Her first record in more than a decade brings in a heavy synth and drum machine presence, but finds Davidson's earnest writing in top form. Also, her guitar playing on the utterly perfect leadoff track, "White Fur" is a revelation—what a ripper! A beautiful and pensive record that comes highly recommended.

Flasher – *Constant Image*
(DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This debut LP from DC's Flasher immediately calls to mind some of my favorite American new wave inflected power pop bands of the '80s like Game Theory and The dB's, with production that sounds like the work of Mitch Easter (though it's not). Electronic drum and synthesizer stabs punctuate the record and give the skillful, intricate pop songwriting a sense of texture and propulsion that make albums like Game Theory's *Lolita Nation* such stirring listens. An all-around great record from an exciting new band!

Nap Eyes – *I'm Bad Now*
(PARADISE OF BACHELORS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This band out of Nova Scotia is my favorite discovery so far this year and their third LP is a modest masterpiece of contemplative guitar pop. Led by songwriter Nigel Chapman, Nap Eyes play a Loaded-era Velvet Underground indebted class of restrained yet melodic rock with fantastic, vertigo inducing self-reflective lyrics. The real hook of this record is the little flourishes the band decorates their songs with. Beautiful vocal runs and surprising riffs are peppered throughout the record and make it an insanely satisfying album to dissect through repeated listens. An incredibly solid and fulfilling record that is poised to be one of my favorites of the year.

Teenage Fanclub – *Grand Prix* [Reissue]
(PLAIN RECORDINGS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I feel obliged to include this long-overdue reissue of one of my all-time favorite records by my favorite band on here. A perfect collection of power pop classics and the record where the Fannies perfected their collaborative approach—all three songwriters are firing on all cylinders and the group harmonies are nothing short of sublime. This is a must-have for fans of Big Star, The Byrds and Badfinger, and now you don't have to spend a stupid amount of money tracking down an original like I did.

Connections – *Foreign Affairs*
(TROUBLE IN MIND)
Find it in: *ROCK*
On their fifth album, Columbus' Connections continue to prove that Ohio produces some of the world's finest rock 'n' roll. Following in the tradition of Buckeye State heroes such as Guided By Voices, Mike Rep and Thomas Jefferson Slave Apartments, Connections craft raucous and crazy infectious songs that will please fans of both the pop and noisier ends of the state's musical legacy. Also, if you ever get a chance, make sure you see these guys live—some of the most fun I've had seeing a band in forever.

SHAHAN

I Finally listened to new music this year.

Yo La Tengo – *There's A Riot Going On* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Yo La Tengo's latest record comes across as a spiritual successor to 2000's *And Then Nothing Turned Itself Inside-Out*. That similarity alone is enough to make this my favorite album of the year to date.

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!* (ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Wide Awake! explores a variety of musical genres and styles but never feels far flung. Message and musicianship stitch this album together and make it my favorite Parquet Courts album to date.

MGMT – *Little Dark Age*
(COLUMBIA)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I didn't think an MGMT album would ever make any best of list of mine yet here we are. This album romps through songs like "She Works Out Too Much" and churns stomachs with tense tracks like "When You Die."

Bonny Doon – *Longwave*
(WOODSIST)
Find it in: *ROCK*
If Silver Jews had put an album out this year then it would be here. As things stand this is the next best thing. This album comes across as the product of a singular musical effort. Cohesive and unpolished, earnest songcraft make this album a welcome reprieve from this nightmare existence.

Nap Eyes – *I'm Bad Now*
(PARADISE OF BACHELORS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Most mornings I wake up with a song from this album stuck in my head. It's a melancholic reflection on self doubt, introspection and personal growth. Also Nigel Chapman's voice sounds equal parts Lou Reed and Donovan.

Thin Lizzy – *We Will Be Strong / Sweetheart 7"* (WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Purchase this single immediately for total immunity to the grim nihilism of this new and depressing reality. Put it on your shelf next to your *Jailbreak / Boys Are Back In Town* single that you bought after reading my recommendations from the last edition of Music We Like.

Tip:
Soylent sponsors free shipping for purchases from Amoeba.com. It is also an incredible hangover cure.

TOKER (AKA YOUNG TOKER)

Check out Earthdogs on Instagram, Bandcamp and Facebook. "SCUM SECT MCMVI" & "Outside Of Society" cassettes available at Amoeba San Francisco.

Sleep – *The Sciences*
(THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *METAL*
After about 15 years of no new music, Sleep returned with a record so good, I almost can't believe it's real. Glorious guitar tones, crushing bass, total mastery of feel on the drums... It's all there, and they sound as vibrant as they ever have. This record (and the proceeding single) are just as good as anything that came before, if not better.

The Garden – *Mirror Might Steal Your Charm* (EPITAPH)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
A crazy, original mix of punk, garage rock, electronic and Steely Dan-esque melodic passages that give The Garden their bizarre swagger. VV!

A Perfect Circle – *Eat The Elephant*
(WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Much more mellow than most of their previous work, APC embrace their age in an honest, contemplative, diverse and beautiful way. MJK's voice is on fire, as always.

Death Grips – *Year Of The Snitch*
(THIRD WORLD)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
A slight departure from their earlier, more hard hitting tracks; altogether wildly unique. They conjure up seriously desolate vibes on this one. A MUST listen.

Turnstile – *Time & Space* (ROADRUNNER)
Find it in: *ROCK*
No one can (or has) blended pure hardcore with rock and melody like Turnstile. The hooks are beyond most in their root genre alone. A modern masterpiece.

Pusha T – *Daytona*
(GOOD MUSIC / DEF JAM)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Easily Pusha's best outing (and shortest). Every track features unbelievable beats from Kanye, and vicious bars from Push. OG stylee with a modern twist. Unbeatable.

Ghost – *Prequelle*
(RISE ABOVE/LOMA VISTA)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Ghost take a far more grand and diverse approach on this outing, and it makes for one of, if not their most stunning efforts. Consistent but diverse, and catchy as Hell.

MEOWGAN!

Heyo Hiyo. Meyo Miyo.
Here's my bio.

Chris Bell – *I Am The Cosmos/ You And Your Sister 7"*
(OMNIVORE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Reissue, remastered. Record Store Day 7" featuring two songs off of his legendary *I Am The Cosmos* record.

🎬*A Quiet Place* (2018) – Directed by John Krasinski
Cool plot idea. Pretty spooky. Jim Halpert killed it.

Drinks – *Hippo Lite* (DRAG CITY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
An iconic duo—Kate Le Bon and Tim Presley. Playfully weird, pychedelic post-punk. Really good stuff.

Ty Segall – *Freedom's Goblin*
(DRAG CITY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This record really blew me away. Surprisingly glammy, funky, beautiful, and just all over the place—but in a good, thoughtful way.

The Love-Birds – *In The Lover's Corner*
(TROUBLE IN MIND)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Really pretty, melodic and genuine guitar pop based out of SF.

Lithics – *Mating Surfaces*
(KILL ROCK STARS)
Find it in: *ROCK*
These guys from Portland really know how to rock! A technical and really well-executed album. My favorite so far of 2018.

Tip:
you can't rollerskate in a buffalo heard

LUCIANO TALPINI AITA

Lithics – *Mating Surfaces*
(KILL ROCK STARS)
Find it in: *PUNK*
Jagged guitar riffs, dominant basslines, minimal drums. Affectless female vocals work together work together to create a fresh take on classic Post-Punk.

Curve – *Cuckoo* [Reissue]
(CHERRY RED)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Reissue. Curve's sound takes elements of dream pop and fuses it with a far darker, heavier sound. The electronic nature of their music allowed for multiple remixes.

Gas – *Rausch* (KOMPAKT)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Deep, organic, symphonic, luxurious and unsettling ambient music.

Larry Heard – *Cerebral Hemispheres*
(ALLEVIATED)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Larry Heard's first album as Mr. Fingers since 1994.

Flasher – *Constant Image*
(DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Both minimalist and rich, percussive textures meet traces of shoegaze, new wave and '80s college rock.

JOHN.T

Nadah El Shazly – *Ahwar*
(NAWA)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Nadah El Shazly is a Cairo-based producer, composer and performer. Her debut record is one of the more interesting blends of experimental, electronic and "world" music I've heard in quite some time. Moody, a bit spooky at times and always pretty. Released by a very interesting and non-prolific London based label that specializes in kick-ass new Egyptian music.

Various Artists – *Diggin' In The Carts, A Collection Of Pioneering Japanese Video Game Music*
(HYPERDUB)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
I am not normally the kind of person that puts on albums of video game music but this compilation has been quite the exception. For one thing, I had never heard of the vast majority of these games. Many are Japanese-only Game Boy, NES, PC-Engine and Arcade tracks from games such as Hisou Kihei X-Serd, Xak II, Chatty and Genpei Touma. Maybe those are familiar names to you... but they sure aren't to me. However, the guys who put this compilation together really had a good ear for 8 & 16 bit game music. These 34 tracks are all killer and no filler. Currently found in our Video Game soundtracks section with the games in the video room.

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Various Artists –
Interferencias Vol. 1 - Spanish Synth Wave 1980-1989
(MUNSTER)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Really fun comp of light industrial and synth pop from Spain via my favorite Spanish label, Munster Records.

Kink Gong –
Tibetan Buddhism Trip (AKUPHONE)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Kink Gong is the alias for Laurent Jeanneau, a hyper prolific field recorder of rural musicians of south western China, Laos and Vietnam. In addition to countless CD-R's of straight field recordings, he occasionally puts out albums where he mixes and matches various sounds and sometimes adds a little of his own embellishments. *Tibetan Buddhism Trip* is probably my favorite that I have heard so far. A real nice mix of Buddhist chants and bells and whatnot. This is actually a 2017 release, but we are also carrying his newest 2018 release, *Dian Long*, a double LP released by Discrepant that I found to be a bit more experimental, incorporating more broadcast recordings he made while in China. Think Sublime Frequencies.

Daniel Schmidt &
The Berkeley Gamelan –
In My Arms, Many Flowers
(RECITAL)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
This 2016 release from Recital is receiving its third pressing and comes highly recommended. Schmidt is an American Gamelan instrument builder who currently teaches at Mills College. This album includes studio and live recordings of his work with the Berkeley Gamelan Ensemble from 1978-1982. Some of the prettiest and sparse Gamelan music out there.

Sweet Valley –
Eternal Champ II (GHOST RAMP)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Blown out beats, 8-bit melodies, commercial jingle lines and a bit of a hip-hop sensibility makes for one super fun record. About time too as the album has been out digitally for a fair number of months. It came out this summer on some pretty purple vinyl.

Deutsch Amerikanische Freundschaft –
Die Kleinen Und Die Bösen
(GRÖNLAND)
Find it in: *ROCK*
German label Grönland Records has just reissued my favorite Neue Deutsche Welle album. Lo-fi looped synths, noisy guitar and unhinged German vocals. I listened to my tape of this on late night drives home from SF to Davis when I was in High School. It helped keep me awake back then and 22 years later it's still a winner.

🎬*Before We Vanish* (2017) – Directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa
Kiyoshi Kurosawa returns to his light and humorous side last seen in films like *Doppelganger*...and well...I guess just *Doppelganger*. The story of an alien invasion is given an absurdist treatment, but with the usual Kurosawa acting style and pacing. Maybe this isn't the best jumping off point for newcomers to his work, but if you're a fan, don't listen to those sourpusses out there, this one's a winner. Definitely on par with last years aptly named *Creepy*. DVD only.

🎬*The Color of Pomegranates* (1969) – Directed by Sergei Parajanov
For years I heard about these beautiful poetic films from Soviet Armenia, but I think I always held out hope that I would get to see them in the theater and therefore sat on the old DVD releases. The new Criterion Blu-ray is certainly the next best thing to seeing them projected (and based on stories of poor print quality, maybe even a better viewing experience). A 'biography' of the Armenian troubadour Sayat Nova (*King of Song*), the film reveals the poet's life more through his poetry (often in visual form) than a conventional narration of important events in his life. I am certainly not a huge fan of poetry, and I am usually more fond of narrative film than experimental, but there is just so much visually happening in this film that it kept my eyes glued to the TV. One of the most visually striking films I've seen. I personally loved the filmic tableaux style. The Criterion disc is also chock full of supplements which go a long way to fill in any gaps of knowledge one will certainly have on the subject matter.

AB WELLS

a fruit pie salesman with a whoopee cushion living in Wichita Falls

🎬*Paddington* 2 (2018) – Directed by Paul King
This movie is charming and delightful and one of the few movies that could be considered a perfect film. I don't care that it's a kid's movie; everyone should see it. The Hugh Grant musical number is a thing of beauty and joy.

🎬*The Florida Project* (2017) – Directed by Sean Baker
A beautiful and devastating look on what life is like for the 99%, and it never veers off into poverty porn. The mixture of amateur and professional actors adds a nice realism to the film, and it's wonderful to see Willem Dafoe play a nice guy for once. We all know Hollywood is a joke, but this movie really should have been up for more awards.

📚*The Sisters Brothers* by Patrick deWitt (ECCO)
Read it before the film is released this fall! (With Joaquin Phoenix and John C. Reilly, no less.) An oddball Western dark comedy that shows how much life and vitality is left in the genre.

Liz Phair – *Girly-Sound to Guyville: The 25th Anniversary Box Set* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
A really wonderful reissue of a defining album of the '90s. I remember when I first heard *Exile in Guyville*, and how I was simultaneously terrified and empowered by Phair's exceptional lyrics. Extensive liner notes and three CDs of early demos and releases. This is a necessary addition to any music collection.

Various Artists – *Silhouettes & Statues: Gothic Revolution 1978-1986* (CHERRY RED)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*
This has a terrible cover design, but don't let it fool you! One of the best goth compilations I've ever come across, with an impressive collection of well-known and underground goth gems. There are deep cuts (Tabathas Nightmare!), unexpected choices (Adam and the Ants!), as well as the tried and true stalwarts of the genre (Bauhaus!). A detailed booklet is included, and brief interviews with several of the artists are included. Make anyone who doubts the varied and complex nature of goth listen to this compilation.

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise: Rhum Rhapsodies & Other Exotic Delights* (NUMERO)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
Numero knocks it out of the park with another fab collection. This is an extremely unique Exotica compilation, one which focuses on the more obscure slices of Exotica. "Quiet Village" and the other classics are all represented here, but the time and dedication the producers must have put into finding some of these more bizarre artists is truly laudable. Like every Numero Group, both the LP and CD versions come housed in great packaging and include liner notes and booklets of Exotica ephemera.

📚*The War Nerd Iliad* – Adapted by John Dolan
(FERAL HOUSE)
John Dolan's (AKA "The War Nerd") modern adaption of *The Iliad* is a kick in the pants. As Dolan explains in the intro, he believes that *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* are meant to be enjoyed by people in their contemporary language. Dolan strips away what some may have felt was intimidating in high school and gets to the true heart of the myth of the Trojan War, and the beauty and terror of a story that has been retold and remembered countless times.

Phantom Thread (2018) – Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson

Overheard in the restroom after the screening was let out: "Well, that was extremely disturbing." So, you need to see this movie. Everything you think about this movie is wrong. Paul Thomas Anderson manages to subvert the "older gentleman/genius with young woman/ingénue" trope on its head, and smacks the audience upside the head in the final 10 minutes of the film.

The Company of Wolves (1984) – Directed by Neil Jordan

Maybe the only film adaptation of Angela Carter's work that is able to capture the mad beauty of her stories? I think this is what Hollywood keeps trying to do with their "dark" fairytale movies, but they don't have the nerve to push the envelope the way Carter and Jordan do here.

AUDRA WOLFMANN

Marketer of Amoebas. Meaning junkie. Master of disguise. Friend to animals. AKA Odessa Lil of Speakeasily.

I, Tonya (2018) – Directed by Craig Gillespie

This is my favorite movie of 2018 so far, and I find it hard to believe that anything will surpass it in the remaining months. This fourth wall-busting bio pic gives the insane story of figure skater Tonya Harding the post-modern treatment it deserves. As one of the first scandals descended upon by the 24-hour news cycle, we all have vague and inaccurate ideas of who Harding was and what went down with Nancy Kerrigan. Prepare to have your misconceptions and expectations turned upside down. No prior experience with ice skating needed to be riveted by this hilarious, cruel, and raw look into class, gender, media, and dysfunctional families.

The Shape Of Water (2017) – Directed by Guillermo del Toro

My joke review for this is, "Amelie f---s a fish." But seriously, it's a beautiful movie with amazing special effects, music, characters. and writing. Everything good you hear about this film is true. It's a fairy tale injected with problems of the real world. And yeah, she totally gets it on with a fish.

Tip:
Check out the Speakeasily Hour Minute Podcast: Speakeasily.tv

RYWO

Neil Young – *Roxy: Tonight's The Night Live* (REPRISE)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Fresh off of recording *Tonight's the Night*, Young and his Santa Monica Flyers played the opening night of the Roxy Theater. Originally *Tonight's the Night* was weirder, with drunken ramblings in between songs and a switched up track list, but that's all preserved in this live record. It's a high def snapshot into one of the most interesting and prolific periods in Young's career.

Drinks – *Hippo Lite* (DRAG CITY)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Most beautiful album of the year right here. 10/10 eggs.

Xylouris White – *Mother* (BELLA UNION)

Find it in: *ROCK*

A shredding record that only contains long necked lute, drums, and voice. The production is stark and bare, making a natural and intense listen.

Dick Stusso – *In Heaven* (HARDLY ART)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Imagine a cowboy huffing paint and trading his horse for an electric guitar. That's what we got here.

Sunwatchers – *II* (TROUBLE IN MIND)

Find it in: *ROCK*

A punk/free jazz/psychedelic powerhouse of an album. The lineup includes drums, bass, guitar, sax,and an electric phin, a traditional Thai harp. The places this record takes you...

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HOLLYWOOD

AARON A.

🎬*The Awful Truth* [Criterion] (1937) – Directed by Leo McCarey
Can Cary Grant and Irene Dunne stay committed to divorce? Not if they keep sabotaging each other's new relationships! Grant and Dunne are equally charming and equally hilarious in this Leo McCarey directed screwball, and the chemistry between the two makes this film one of the greatest romantic comedies of the 1930s. In fact, it's my favorite!

Hot Snakes – *Jericho Sirens*
(SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I had never actually listened to Hot Snakes before this "reunion" record came out, but regardless of how this stacks up against their older material, *Jericho Sirens* delivers with frantic rhythms, searing, from the gut vocals, and guitar riffs like melodic shrapnel. One can't help but marvel at the precision of their attack, yet the heavy music is never hunkered down by technique or posturing, keeping things punchy and effortless throughout.

Albert Hammond Jr. – *Francis Trouble* (RED BULL)
Whatever your opinion of The Strokes (instant-lover, instant-hater, gradual appreciator), it'd be hard to argue that the sound of Albert Hammond Jr.'s rhythm guitar wasn't one of the most iconic of the 21st century. And while the band's evolving sound has tended to surprise or even confuse some fans, Hammond Jr. has been quietly putting out solid garage rock records that hearken back to the feel of the band's first albums. This is probably his best yet, with tracks like "SceaMER," a T-Rex by-way-of Guided by Voices dance-y, rocker, and "Set To Attack," which, with its punchy, angular guitar harmonies, heartfelt vocals, and melodically crunchy guitar lead, evokes an emotional presence not always associated with The Strokes' downtown cool.

TONY B

i work in the dungeon.
i'm a leo.

Actress x London Contemporary Orchestra – *Lageos* (NINJA TUNE)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Chromatics – *Black Walls* EP
(ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)
Find it in: *ROCK*

TT – *LoveLaws* (CAROLINE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Oneohtrix Point Never – *Age Of* (WARP)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Nine Inch Nails – *Bad Witch* (CAPITOL)
Find it in: *ROCK*

HOWARD

Arctic Monkeys – *Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino*
(DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Arctic Monkeys have mellowed out in the past few years but luckily that hasn't affected the quality of the music they put out. *Tranquility Base Hotel & Casino* is another example of the amazing musicianship and writing prowess of these boys from the UK. Great melodies, classic guitar tones, and an all around good listening experience.

Chai – *Pink* (BURGER)
Find it in: *ROCK*
These girls from Japan played a show at Amoeba and I can't remember the last time I had so much fun watching a band play. They were energetic, happy, and damn good musicians. The smile on my face didn't leave the entire time I was watching them. The bass lines on this album are dope and even though I don't understand a word they say, that doesn't hinder me from enjoying their sound and performance.

M.A

❑*The Sinner – Season 1*

❑*Schitt's Creek – Season 4*

🎬*Love, Simon* (2018) – Directed by Greg Berlanti
I hope every school has a Ms. Albright.

❑*Will & Grace (The Revival) – Season 1*

Arctic Monkeys – *Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino* (DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Kacey Musgraves – *Golden Hour* (MCA NASHVILLE)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*

James Bay – *Electric Light*
(REPUBLIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Ray Lamontagne – *Part of the Light* (RCA)
Find it in: *ROCK*

❑*Riverdale – Season 2*

Brandi Carlile – *By the Way, I Forgive You* (ELEKTRA)
Find it in: *ROCK*

ILENE

Prefuse 73 – *Sacrifices*
(LEX)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

The Rolling Stones – *From The Vault: No Security San Jose '99*
(EAGLE ROCK ENT.)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Stevie Wonder – *Signed, Sealed & Delivered*
(MOTOWN)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Various Artists – *Soul Jazz Records Presents - Nigeria Fuji Machine*
(SOUL JAZZ)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Max Richter – *The Blue Notebooks* [Super Deluxe Issue]
(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)
Find it in: *CLASSICAL*

MARK B.

Will only answer to
"Chief," "Boss," or "Bro."

Amen Dunes – *Freedom*
(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I've been following Damon McMahon's moniker of Amen Dunes since their 2011 release *Through Donkey Jaw*, a brilliant slab of folky-weirdo-psychedelia that I still return to over and over. 2014's *Love* album was a huge jump in focus and songwriting skill. Spare and emotionally charged, it was certainly in my top five of the year. *Freedom* ups the ante by another leap. Measured vocals with a tendency to slur and bend the vowels, grind and chatter the consonants, all couched in subtle layers of texture as deceivingly complex as *Avalon*-era Roxy Music. Within two weeks of release I had easily listened to this whole album a dozen times.

Lucrecia Dalt – *Anticlines*
(RVNG INTL.)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
Columbian experimental ambient composer and former geotechnical engineer, Dalt gives us ambient story songs that might remind one of a modern take on Laurie Anderson with a South American accent. The ambient textures are often pushing the line of comfortability, sometimes like electronic bees speeding back to the hive, sometimes like the metal legs of furniture being repositioned in a hangar space, as her vocals are most often manipulated into cold, electronic tones. As off-putting as those descriptions might sound on paper, they are surprisingly welcoming as a listen. "Analogue Mountains" is likely the most immediately accessible track, with it's modular rhythms leaning as close to a dance as the album provides, then it all dives away beneath a pulsing cloud of hum. Impressive entry, and headphones are highly recommended.

Car Seat Headrest –
Twin Fantasy (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Will Toledo has it. Somehow integrating punk attack and pretty pop songwriting with a good dose of sprawling Neil Young-ish jamming, their recent appearance at Amoeba was easily one of the most impressive performances to grace our little stage-beneath-the-pyramid. I worry that the strain he puts on his vocals won't carry him into full adulthood, but until such time...Will Toledo has it.

Wye Oak – *The Louder I Call, The Faster It Runs* (MERGE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I've been stuck on Wye Oak since 2011's *Civilian*, a near-perfect blend of personal songwriting and guitar attack. In the years since, bandmates Jenn Wasner and Andy Stack have crumpled their formula, added more electronics, then less electronics, less guitar, then a little bit more guitar until this slab of goodness strode confidently from the lab, limping a little just for effect. Nothing else really sounds like Wye Oak.

Neil Young –
Roxy: Tonight's The Night Live
(REPRISE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Live. 1973. Neil Young. All you need to know.

Tip:
Music is awesome, Silence is awesomer.

ZACHARY BOUVION

Trepaneringsritualen –
Kainskult (TESCO ORGANISATION)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*
More crushing Ritual Industrial from this Swedish project. Lurches between clanking percussion, howling distorted vocals and dark ambient electronic textures.

Ivar Bjørnson & Einar Selvik –
Hugsjá (BY NORSE MUSIC)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
Darkly ominous Nordic folk-rock album by members of Enslaved & Wardruna. Nice fiddles, hand-drums, field recorded nature sounds of the fjords. For fans of Warduna, Nytt Land, Forndom, etc.

Corrupted –
Felicific Algorithim (COLD SPRING)
Find it in: *BLACK METAL*

Dylan Carlson – *Conquistador*
(SARGENT HOUSE)
Find it in: *METAL*

Lingua Ignota – *All Bitches Die*
(PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*

Hide – *Castration Anxiety* (DAIS)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*

The Nazgûl –
The Nazgûl
(MENTAL EXPERIENCE)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
A real chronological curve-ball from a creator straddling the late Krautrock/Kosmiche era & the burgeoning dark ambiance of the proto-Industrial movement. Not far off from some or the abstract Italo-scores of Fabio Frizzi, or even some of J.P. Massiera's more sinister works. Bonus points for Tolkien reference—potential score for your next dungeon crawl.

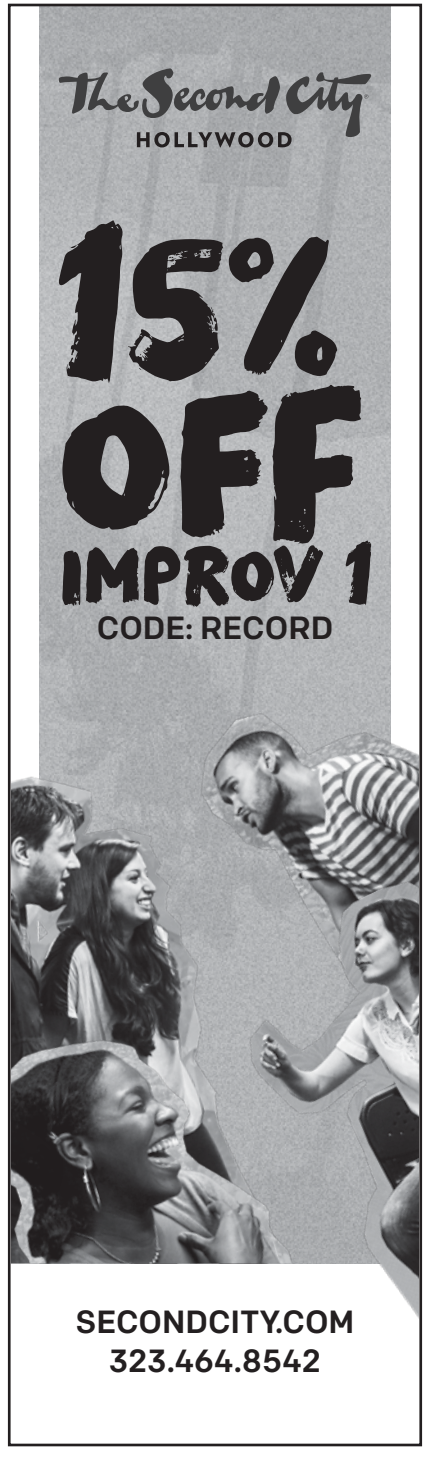
The Nightcrawlers –
The Biophonic Boombox Recordings (ANTHOLOGY)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

Controlled Bleeding –
Headcrack (ARTOFFACT)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*

Sunn 0))) – *Downtown LA Rehearsal / Rifftape March 1998* (SOUTHERN LORD)
Find it in: *BLACK METAL*
Archival excavation of Doom Lords in their most primordial state. 20 Fucking Years of brutality. It's not too late to join...

Ursula K. Le Guin & Todd Barton –
Music and Poetry Of The Kesh
(FREEDOM TO SPEND)
Find it in: *SPOKEN WORD*
First ever vinyl release for this 1985 cassette oddity. Visionary Sci-Fi author Le Guin (1929-2018) teamed with Musicologist & Sound Designer Todd Barton to produce this collection of "field recordings" of Alien race, The Kesh. Tribal music sounds & deeply moving poetry performed in an original language, and on 'traditional' handmade instruments. Fans of Native American percussion, Folkways-esque Ethnomusicology, and New Age-y sounds in general should check this out. Gorgeous letterpressed notes & other ephemera included in early pressing.

The Body – *I Have Fought Against It, But I Can't Any Longer.* (THRILL JOCKEY)
Find it in: *METAL*
Another wildly diverse studio foray from this super-productive crew, all anchored around their signature vocal banshee wail. Winner of



most unexpected Eek-A-Mouse sample. Great contributions from Lingua Ignota, whose album is also on this list, and relentless.

🎬*They Remain* (2017) – Directed by Philip Gelatt
A very unique psychological thriller with pronounced Horror/SciFi notes. Claustrophobic and paranoid in the most engrossing way, beautiful cinematography, innovative and presumably cost-effective set design, and one really standout acting performance from William Jackson Harper. Based on a short story by Lovecraft-indebted modern Horror/Weird Fiction master, Laird Barron, from his collection *Occultation*—which is a great place to start if you want to check out his stuff. Would make a perfect stylistic/thematic pairing with Benson & Moorhead's equally great and surprising *The Endless* (2017).

🎬*Night of the Seagulls* (1975) – Directed by Amando de Ossorio
Listen: Bone and Sickle Podcast / Read: *Worse Things Waiting* by Manly Wade Wellman / Watch: *Picnic at Hanging Rock* (2018) / Shop: FrazettaGirls.com

Mz.412 – *Ulvens Broder* 10"
(COLD SPRING)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*

PEGGY

Camp Cope – *How to Socialise & Make Friends*
(RUN FOR COVER)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Sidekicks – *Happiness Hours* (EPITAPH)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Flatliners – *Mass Candescence* 7"
(DINE ALONE)
Find it in: *PUNK*

The Lawrence Arms – *We Are the Champions of the World: The Best Of*
(FAT WRECK CHORDS)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Hop Along – *Bark Your Head Off, Dog*
(SADDLE CREEK)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Fireburn – *Don't Stop the Youth*
(CLOSED CASKET ACTIVITIES)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Alex Lahey – *I Love You Like a Brother*
(DEAD OCEANS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

SCOTT CARLSON

Metal Buyer/World Buyer, Keyboard Typer

Rahim AlHaj Trio – *One Sky*
(SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Amarok – *Devoured*
(TRANSLATION LOSS)
Find it in: *METAL*

At The Gates – *To Drink From the Night Itself* (CENTURY MEDIA)
Find it in: *METAL*

Daniel Carter/ William Parker/Matthew Shipp – *Seraphic Light (Live at Tufts University)*
(AUM FIDELITY)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Che-Shizu – *A Journey*
(BLACK EDITIONS)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

The Nels Cline 4 – *Currents/Constellations*
(BLUE NOTE)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

John Coltrane – *Both Directions at Once: The Lost Album* (VERVE)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

High Rise – *II* (BLACK EDITIONS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Dave Holland/Evan Parker/ Craig Taborn/Ches Smith – *Uncharted Territories* (DARE2)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Portal – *Ion* (PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: *BLACK METAL*

Thou – *Inconsolable*
(COMMUNITY)
Find it in: *METAL*

Henry Threadgill – *Double Up, Plays Double Up Plus* (PI)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Ustad Zia Mohuiddin Dagar – *Raga Yaman* (IDEOLOGIC ORGAN)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Various Artists – *Voices of Mississippi: Artists and Musicians Documented by William Ferris*
(DUST-TO-DIGITAL)
Find it in: *BLUES*

Roscoe Mitchell/ Matthew Shipp – *Accelerated Projection*
(ROGUEART)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Various Artists – *The Original Sound of Burkina Faso* (MR. BONGO)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Mary Halvorson – *Code Girl*
(FIREHOUSE 12)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Yob – *Our Raw Heart*
(RELAPSE)
Find it in: *METAL*

🎬Seijun Suzuki – *Seijun Suzuki The Early Years Vol. 1- Seijun Rising: The Youth Movies* (1958-67)

🎬Seijun Suzuki – *Seijun Suzuki The Early Years Vol. 2-Border Crossings: The Crime and Action Movies* (1957-1961)

DAVE C

Converge – *The Dusk In Us*
(EPITAPH)
Find it in: *PUNK*

She Sir – *Go Guitars*
(SHELF LIFE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Tears Run Rings – *Always, Sometimes, Seldom, Never*
(CLAIRECORDS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Meeting Places – *Find Yourself Along the Way*
(WORDS ON MUSIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Beach Fossils – *Clash the Truth*
(CAPTURED TRACKS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

BRIAN DAVIS

https://youtu.be/c0m1Zodduew

Snail Mail – *Lush* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Moaning – *Moaning* (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Gaz Coombes – *World's Strongest Man*
(HOT FRUIT)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Charlie Rich – *Too Many Teardrops: The Complete Groove & RCA Recordings* (ACE)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*

La Luz – *Floating Features*
(HARDLY ART)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Denny Doherty – *Of All The Things: The Complete ABC/ Dunhill Masters* (REAL GONE)
Find it in: *OLDIES*

JEBBE

Innocent midwesterner that rocks and rolls.

Protomartyr – *Consolation* EP
(DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Short and sweet post-punk EP. For fans of Nick Cave/The Fall. If you like this one, definitely check out their most recent full-length album, *Relatives in Descent.*

Uniform & The Body – *Mental Wounds Not Healing*
(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*
I keep an eye out for all things Sacred Bones. While I was familiar with the metal band Uniform, I had never heard The Body. After getting my face torn clean off while listening to this album, I will definitely be checking them out. Loud, heavy, rock and roll. Not for the faint of heart.

Courtney Barnett – *Tell Me How You Really Feel*
(MOM & POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Another beautiful record from Aussie Courtney Barnett. '90s indie/alternative rock for fans of Liz Phair and PJ Harvey. Much like her debut LP *Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit,* her lyrics are fun and clever, reminding me of Stephen Malkmus. Speaking of…

Stephen Malkmus and The Jicks – *Sparkle Hard*
(MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
As a registered Malkmus fanboy, I had to include *Sparkle Hard.* That being said, this is yet another solid album by him with his band The Jicks. I find myself hoping for a Pavement album every time I hear one of his new albums and it takes me awhile to settle into his solo style, but not this time. My one complaint, for the love of god, no more autotune, anywhere.

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!* (ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Somewhere in the realm of post-punk, punk, and indie. This was surprisingly produced by Danger Mouse which I feel makes this album more accessible while not compromising their unique sound. I could recommend any one of their albums but this one's definitely not a bad place to start.

DRINKS – *Hippo Lite*
(DRAG CITY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This is a side project of Cate Le Bon and Tim Presley (of White Fence). This is a great album all around but what really shines is Le Bon's unique voice and style of singing. Le Bon and Presley compliment each other both lyrically and musically. For fans of post-punk, lo-fi, moody indie rock and roll.

Dr. Octagon – *Moosebumps: An Exploration Into Modern Day Horripilation* (BULK)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
And now for something a little different… This album did not disappoint. If you're not familiar with Dr. Octagon, it is a Kool Keith project with Dan The Automator, (producer of albums like Gorillaz first self-titled album, *Handsome Boy Modeling, Deltron 3030*, plus many more) and DJ Qbert on the turntables. This is the original line-up from their debut *Dr. Octagonecologyst.*

INXS – *Kick: 30th Anniversary Reissue* (ATLANTIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*
One of the greatest '80s pop-rock albums, with hits like "Guns In The Sky," "Devil Inside," and "Mystify." The 3-disc deluxe edition includes the remastered album, Demos, Remixes, Live Tracks, B-sides and more, plus a Blu-ray audio version of the album with a surround sound mix and music videos.

Daniele Luppi/Parquet Courts – *MILANO* (COLUMBIA)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This is something especially unique. Italian composer Daniele Luppi got together with Parquet Courts and Karen O (Yeah Yeah Yeahs) to make an album that pays tribute to 1980's Milan, Italy. Both Parquet Courts and Karen O are left to do what they do best, post-punk rawness with lyrics by both Courts and Karen O while Luppi lays down an Italian style (Morricone) production. Check it out!

RICK FRYSTAK

42 years in this lovely business; 18 years at a most delightful Amoeba Music Hollywood.

Jon Hassell – *Listening To Pictures (pentimento to Vol. One)* (NDEYA)
Find it in: *NEW AGE*
First new album in nine years by a musical visionary and hugely influential figure in new music. Continuing his lifelong exploration of the possibilities of the studio, fragments of performance are sampled, looped, overdubbed and re-arranged into beguiling unexpected shapes. Hassell applies the painterly technique of pentimento to the arrangements, teasing out texture by the careful overlaying of sound, or a carefully timed reveal of the delicate bones pinning

the frame of a track together. Smeared, gauzy, gorgeous atmospherics to perfectly soundtrack a vertical listening experience. (Editorial Review) Took the words right out of my spirit.

Nik Bärtsch's Ronin – *Awase* (ECM)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

Ensemble playing of a high order. Syncopated chamber jazz taking emotive turns here and there, as "tight as a crab's ass." So, OK, and the melodies are delicious. Keep up with it.

Kristjan Randalu, Ben Monder, Markku Ounaskari – *Absence* (ECM)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

Great new discovery (for me) in pianist Kristjan Randalu, Estonian cooker and thinking keys man, Monder on guitar to tweak the tracks transcendingly, drums pump up the gig to something like Paul Motian's sound with his trios. Really nice writing and soloing from the leader. This is keeper, eh?

Jakob Bro – *Returnings* (ECM)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

ECM has had a strong first half of the year, and no better example than electric guitarist Bro's second album, this time featuring Palle Mikkelborg achieving the lovely flugelhorn solos and unison melodies with Bro's nuanced Telecastering and written excusions. And with Jon Christensen and Thomas Morgan it's another winner. Frozen aquavit anyone?

Johann Johannssen – *Englaborn & Variations* (DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

A huge loss for the music world, this is one of Johann's later projects: remix and remaster his *Englaborn* album, and ask others to do remixes of some tracks, many with Johann's assistance or collaboration. Lovely strings/piano/electronics with Johann's gift of moving the harmonies around to bend your ear. Subtle, floating feelings of openess and sensuality. Remixes keep the vibe in Johann's sphere.

Bobo Stenson Trio – *Contra la Indecisión* (ECM)

Find it in: *JAZZ*

Probably Bobo's best work, he takes command of the piano trio as if riding a horse. The man has a way with the instrument: his mate, his lover. This is beautiful music from beginning to end, a triumph in Bobo's history.

Tim Buckley – *Venice Mating Call* (MANIFESTO)

Find it in: *FOLK*

Two-CD set of amazing Tim Buckley vocal lessons; he plays his music with so much passion! It's a golden document of Tim's prominence in my view as the best male folk singer that ever done lived. He wails, he whispers, he pushes, he pulls, he rocks. A lot of my favorite songs of his here done live with just heart squeezing abandon, which makes his loss larger than the life he led. This is a true monument of vocal genius-he had it and he used it—as long as he could, for a few minutes into at the beginning of the set he quips, out of nowhere, "all we are saying...is give smack a chance." Sad.

Pierre Henry – *Malefices* [OST] (CACOPHONIC)

Find it in: *SOUNDTRACKS*

A bit of singing, backwards piano, echo canon, hpschd, F/X...you know the deal. When Pierre turned his gear on, new worlds were shaped and imagined, then shaped again. I don't know how Finders Keepers "finds" this stuff, but I kiss the tucus of the angel that hath brought them to thine tapes to issue herein gems unheard... or nice, clean originals. A fine, fine bit of '60's concrete musique!

Christina Vantzou – *No. 4* (KRANKY)

Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

Wondrous electronic symphony, taking me away with a marvellous feel; drones carved out in little movements, sound world inventions/creations make this her best record yet. Coming back to reality after the final "movement" was kind of a drag—let's play it again and again and...

Six Days At Ronnie Scott's: Billy Cobham On Jazz Fusion And The Act Of Creation by Billy Cobham/Brian K. Gruber (CREATESPACE)

Fantastic in-the-moment interviews and observations by Billy Cobham, who, for my money, is the greatest drummer that has ever lived. Billy and Brian walk through Billy's life and what it takes to continue performing at age 73. This all happens over the course of a six-night gig at Scott's jazz club in London, and how he plays there every year, with so much amazing information about his career; just mind blowing. Highly recommended.

Elina Duni – *Partir* (ECM)

Delicate, introspective vocal music, solo, with Elina playing accompaniment now and again in congress with her breathtaking voice, intoning melodies of longing and love from everywhere. Dig it for lovemaking and yearning when the breeze takes you to a soft, quiet music.

Tip:

Rick Frystak's "Roots Music AND BEYOND" every second Saturday on the KPFK-FM, 90.7, KPFK.org webwise 6-8am or stream anytime for 2 weeks.

VIOLA

World music

Ebo Taylor – *Yen Ara* (MR. BONGO)

Find it in: *WORLD*

The grandmaster of Ghanian music recorded something new, and it's great! The perfect summer album, combining the best sounds of the '70s with today's production values (thanks to Mr. Justin Adams). Great horns, drums, driving beat...Afrobeat, jazz, local rhythms, all is here. He is 81 years old and has been in the business for more than half a century!

3MA – *Anarouz* (SIX DEGREES)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Three African string masters playing instrumental music that's hard to classify because it sounds not necessarily African...Ballake Sissoko, from Mali, whom we know from many beautiful kora recordings. Rajery, from Madagascar, has been around forever but not gotten any attention lately, though there are many albums available someplace...Driss El Maloumi, from

Morocco, plays the oud, and has been heard a lot in Europe. These three musicians connect in miraculous ways on this killer instrumental album.

Elina Duni – *Partir* (ECM)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Elina Duni's recordings are categorized as jazz which she studied but here she's singing mostly music influenced by her Albanian roots. If you like the "saudade" feeling of fado, or French chanson, this will work for you.

Various Artists – *African Scream Contest 2* (ANALOG AFRICA)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Just as good as the first compilation on this label, featuring actual screams, the twist, Afrobeat, wah-wah guitars, voodoo influences—truly spicy music!

Fatoumata Diawara – *Fenfo (Something To Say)* (SHANACHIE)

Find it in: *WORLD*

There's a new African diva, and this is her: Fatoumata Diawara, actor and dancer from Mali, has matured into an incredible singer and songwriter. Afropop in the good sense! Watch her videos!

Orquesta Akokán – *Orquesta Akokán* (DAPTONE)

Find it in: *WORLD*

For your dancing pleasure: A new release that sounds like a record made in Cuba half a century ago: Big band salsa, mambo...heartfelt fun.

Rahim Alhaj Trio – *One Sky* (SMITHSONIAN)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Sourena Sefati from Iran (santur), and Issa Malluf, Palestinian-American, (percussion), join Rahim Alhaj, U.S. based oud virtuoso—originally from Iraq—on this recording, hoping to promote understanding and peace. Folkways/Smithsonian website features many other interesting recordings.

Various Artists – *Ethiopiques Box. 7" Vol. 2* [Box Set] (HEAVENLY SWEETNESS)

Find it in: *WORLD*

If you like the Ethiopiques series, this will work for you: A boxed collection of 7" singles, 14 tracks in all, imported from France, probably gone soon... https://ethiopiquesseries.bandcamp.com/

Various Artists – *Turkish Ladies: Female Singers From Turkey 1974-1988* (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: *WORLD*

Unique fusions from Turkey: Egyptian, traditional, psychedelic, disco—a nostalgic, exotic trip into the 1970/80s...

Tip:

Read about Kasse Mady Diabate, great singer from Mali, who passed away recently...www.afropop.org

DAVIS' SNACK SHACK

Manic Street Preachers – *Resistance Is Futile* (COLUMBIA)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Welcome back Manic Street Preachers! While Manic Street Preachers have put out albums prior to this amazing release I personally feel that they haven't been this solid since 1998's *This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours* release. December 2017's release of the the single "International Blue" (track 2) just blew me away and reminded me of some killer tracks from their debut record *Generation Terrorists* back in 1991. As a whole, the record is a pure alternative music at its best, through and through. "Hold Me Like A Heaven" is also a pretty solid track. A fan for life.

Børns – *Blue Madonna* (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Seriously what's not to like about this band ? The singer is cute and innocently charismatic, the band members are pretty AND their music has some instantly catchy hooks. Some key tracks for me remain "Faded Heart," "Sweet Dreams," "Iceberg" and "I Don't Want You Back." As a whole, the album is not as seamless as *Dopamine,* but it's a good sophomore effort. While listening to *Blue Madonna* I couldn't remember where I've heard this style of vocal and music before. Then it came to me. It's very reminiscent of Scissor Sisters.

MGMT – *Little Dark Age* (COLUMBIA)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Okay, first off I am not working for Columbia Records. It's purely coincidental. I had heard of the band MGMT but have never heard anything from them until this record. I was pleasantly surprised how much I liked it. The record is good Pop fun from beginning to end with my favorite track—"Me & Michael "—reminding me of mid '80s OMD. You won't be disappointed, I guarantee it.

Granger Smith – *When The Good Guys Win* (BMG)

Find it in: *COUNTRY*

With new country music seemingly all about the looks and glamour on the outside with little on the inside I was a bit skeptical about Granger Smith's new record, *When The Good Guys Win*. The first track "Gimmee Something " starts you off on a journey of some great hook laden tunes. Some sappy, some fun, but all pretty catchy. Oh, and it's a plus that he's also very easy on the eyes. B+

Father John Misty – *God's Favorite Customer* (SUB POP)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Wow! This record was my first introduction to this guy. Hearing track 3 "Just Dumb Enough To Try" on a random selection and I was hooked. The subject matter is personal and I appreciate his open book songwriting. Melodic, thought-provoking and soulful. Track 3 had me hearing a bit of early Elton. I can't get enough of this record. I'm all over the place on this one.

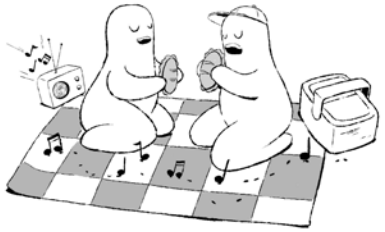
BRIAN G.

Disco Inferno – *D. I. Go Pop / Technicolour / The 5 EPs* [Vinyl Reissues] (ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Disco Inferno was a British post-rock trio that crafted three special albums and an assortment of EPs in their short existence. The 1991 debut, *Open Doors, Closed Windows* was a gray stroke of post-punk, indebted to forefathers Wire and

Joy Division. But it was with their sophomore release, the ironically-titled *D. I. Go Pop*, released in late February 1994, where the band went full-tilt sample-based post-rock (inspired by Massive Attack's *Blue Lines*, The Orb's *Adventures Beyond The Ultraworld*, My Bloody Valentine's *Loveless*, and the production techniques of Public Enemy and The Bomb Squad), building songs from audio samples of angry voices, car crashes, running water (opening highlight "In Sharky Water"), breaking glass, shuttering camera clicks ("Starbound: All Burnt Out & Nowhere To Go"), and myriad other found sounds. Ironically titled, *D. I. Go Pop* turned out to be the band's least-accessible album. But it just might be their crowning masterpiece as well: a busy, bold, and nihilistic album that's not completely impenetrable, and adorned with one of the most striking album covers of all time (with a photo of a rural English countryside emblazoned with D. I.'s sound waves logo, free of title or artist name). The band's third and final album, 1996's *Technicolour*, was actually Disco Inferno "going pop"—the trio took their sampling techniques and created a bright, joyful-sounding melange of kooky samples, resulting in some of their catchiest tunes ever (like the Iggy Pop "Lust For Life"-sampling "It's A Kid's World," the fireworks-exploding of "I'm Still In Love," or the downright sumptuous "Sleight Of Hand"). The band had already broken up by the time of the album's release, cruelly underrated and overlooked. A compilation entitled *The 5 EPs* was released in September 2011, gathering the five out-of-print extended-plays the band released during the fruitful sample-based era (1992's *Summer's Last Sound*, 1993's *A Rock To Cling To* and *The Last Dance*, and 1994's *Second Language* and *It's A Kid's World*). *The 5 EPs* perfectly displays both sides of the sample-based era's coin: the



undeniably catchy (the New Order-esque "The Last Dance" and its 12" extended version "The Long Dance," for example) and the overwrought (the haunting yet pretty "Love Stepping Out," among many others). One Little Indian Records have served up remastered 180-gram vinyl reissues of *D. I. Go Pop, Technicolour,* and the double album *The 5 EPs*, with stunning clarity and handsome packaging. The music sounds alive and punchy; the samples and nuances of the songs have never sounded better. One Little Indian did a tremendous job with these reissues.

GAS – *Rausch*

(KOMPAKT)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Discovering GAS last year (thank you, Christy) was a refreshing breath of air. Thumping house beats lurking hazily behind ominous, foreboding drones of ambience, lengthy compositions, eerily unsettling atmospheres abound... sounds good to me! Wolfgang Voigt, the man of a million monikers, taps a dark vein with his GAS alias, evoking the artist's memories of LSD trips through German forests. After a lengthy hiatus, he resurrected GAS last year with the beautiful, modern classical-leaning *Narkopop*, and now the quick follow-up record *Rausch*. Comprising one long composition (split into parts solely for navigational purposes), *Rausch* is Voigt's darkest release since 1997's *Zauberberg*. Despite my being late to the party with knowing GAS's music, I feel ultimately enriched and enlivened having heard it; and while I am at a loss for better descriptors other than "ambient," "haunting," and "eerie," the album is a brooding and mesmerizing hour to get immersed in.

Hilary Woods – *Colt*

(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Hilary Woods, Irish musician and former bassist for the short-lived alt-rock band JJ72, releases her first full-length album *Colt* on the famed Sacred Bones label. Across eight songs, Woods conjures haunting, darkly ethereal moods with minimal instrumentation. Her music is not quite folk, not quite experimental, not quite modern classical; somewhere in between chamber and ambient. *Colt* may appear delicate, but repeat listens will reveal a core that's deeper and heavier; world-weary sighs revealing lovelorn ache and longing. A fascinating debut.

Courtney Marie Andrews – *May Your Kindness Remain*

(FAT POSSUM/MAMA BIRD)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*
Courtney Marie Andrews' sixth album *May Your Kindness Remain* is a richly textured and moving album of lush, Americana-infused balladry and gently rollicking country. Lyrically, Andrews addresses modern depression, from the plight of the paycheck-to-paycheck workingman to the very-long-ago-death of the "American Dream." Vocally, she stuns like any of the timeless country crooners of the 1970s. Musically, Andrews is a talent out of time, straddling lines between heartland rock and downtrodden folk. I checked the album out on a whim without any preconceived knowledge of its contents, and I'm really glad I did. *May Your Kindness Remain* is a powerful and shimmering snapshot of modern times.

Belong – *October Language* [Reissue]

(CARPARK/SPECTRUM SPOOLS
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
Austria's Spectrum Spools recently reissued an excellent vinyl re-pressing of *October Language*, the debut album from obscure New Orleans-based duo Belong. The album, originally released in February 2006, is an ever-blossoming progression of drones and pure shoegazing noise, hazy and mysterious, building and building until it feels like all the sounds are going to collapse inwards on one another in a dense, glorious explosion. It's hard to separate the album's dark, sonic bombardment from the imagery of destruction and misery that resulted from Hurricane Katrina (much in the same way William Basinski's *The Disintegration Loops* invariably soundtracked the September 11 terrorist attacks), but *October Language* is a noise epic to behold.

Oren Ambarchi – *Grapes From The Estate* [Reissue]

(BLACK TRUFFLE)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
An excellent vinyl reissue of Australian experimental musician Oren Ambarchi's 2004 opus *Grapes From The Estate* recently emerged from Black Truffle Records. Containing four lengthy compositions across two LPs, some featuring no more than sparse multi-tracked electric guitar, while others are embellished with organ and drones. *Grapes* is an eerily moving album that's simultaneously quiet and disquieting in equal measure.

HILAND.

Gene Hobson – *Student Bodies*

(FOREVER MIDNIGHT)
Find it in: *SOUNDTRACKS*

Liz Phair – *Girly- Sound To Guyville* (MATADOR)

Find it in: *ROCK*

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise: Rhum Rhapsodies & Other Exotic Delights*

(NUMERO GROUP)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*

DERICH

Brawl In Cell Block 99 (2017) – Directed by S. Craig Zahler

In S. Craig Zahler's *Brawl In Cell Block 99*, Vince Vaughan portrays a burly ex-con who, through a monumentally unfortunate series of events, finds himself back in the slammer. It's a one-way trip into maximum-security hell. 130 minutes fly by like nothing. This is the real deal, man. I can't recommend it enough. Modern day exploitation doesn't get any better. Zahler is one of the best filmmakers we've got; he has a distinctive style, takes his time, lets his scenes breathe, and delivers virtually everything you could want in a cinematic experience. Top shelf stuff.

James Horner – *Commando* [OST]

(REAL GONE)
Find it in: *SOUNDTRACKS*
James Horner's score for *Commando* is like World War III in musical form. Synthesizer, guitar, saxophone, steel drum, electronic percussion, orchestral arrangements, metallic clangs, bongos, giant brass sections, it's pretty insane. If you haven't ever listened to this juiced-up cacophony apart from the film, you really should. It's incredibly entertaining music, 30 minutes that never rests, relentlessly bouncing from one motif to another.

The Burbs (1989) – Directed by Joe Dante

Joe Dante's *The Burbs* wasn't very well received upon its initial release; thankfully, the years have been kind to Dante's best and funniest film. It's aged remarkably well. Shout Factory's recent Blu-ray is a treasure trove for fans of this classic black comedy. The feature-length documentary contained within is indispensable.

FELIX A.K.A. SIGILS

https://www.instagram.com/sigils_sigils/

Glaare – *To Deaf And Day*

(DUNE ALTAR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Emotive and atmospheric Dark wave in the likes of post-punk bands The Chameleons, Cocteau Twins and Xmal Deutschland.

Raymond Scott – *Three Willow Park: Electronic Music From Inner Space, 1961–1971*

(BASTA)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
Collection of unreleased gems from the electronic music pioneer Raymond Scott composed on the Electronium synthesizer from 1953-69.

Venetian Snares x Daniel Lanois – *Venetian Snares x Daniel Lanois*
(PLANET MU)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Collaboration project melding of Daniel Lanois ambient soundscapes with Venetian Snares polyrhythmic IDM drum machines.

Kenneth James Gibson – *In The Fields Of Nothing*
(KOMPAKT)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Kenneth James Gibson meditative album for those into ambient music immersed in modern classical akin to *Stars Of The Lid*.

Arvo Pärt – *The Symphonies*
(ECM RECORDS)
Find it in: *CLASSICAL*
Featuring: Tõnu Kaljuste & NFM Wrocław Philharmonic
A symphonic musical journey by one of my favorites modern composers of the 20th century. Each one of the symphonies is a orchestral world unto itself.

MIKE J

Snoop Dog – *220 EP* (DQ47)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Melvins – *Pinkus Abortion Technician* (IPECAC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Sleep – *The Sciences* (THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Ministry – *Amerikkkant*
(NUCLEAR BLAST)
Find it in: *GOTH / INDUSTRIAL*

King Gizzard And The Lizard Wizard – *Polygondwanaland*
(SELF-RELEASED)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Femi Kuti – *One People One World* (KNITTING FACTORY)
Find it in: *WORLD*

JJ THE DAMAJA

Lover/Fighter

🎬*Susperia* (1977) [Blu-ray] – Directed by Dario Argento
This Blu-ray transfer is great. It only furthers my curiosity about the production of this strange and twisted movie. Bonus features are ace! Wear the Susperia t-shirt sold here at Amoeba while watching

Longmont Potion Castle – *LPC 15* (D.U.I.)
Find it in: *COMEDY*
The funniest human on the planet has been making absolutely genius prank phone calls since 1988. This latest release is as good and if not better than anything he has done yet.

Tip:
Follow his IG: uneasy_sleeper for prank texts

STUART X

Snail Mail – *Lush* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
The first full-length album from Snail Mail (Lindsey Jordon), this album feels extremely personal, but has no shortage of catchy tracks. It stays consistent with the well defined "shreddy" sound exhibited in her 2016 EP, *Habit*. Destined to be a contemporary indie classic, this is definitely worth checking out.

❑*Blue Planet II* (2017) – Produced by Mark Brownlow
Over 15 years after the initial BBC nature docu-series, *Blue Planet,* was released, this follow-up series will blow you away with new footage of all the ocean's complex ecosystems. The technology, science, and environmental focus have progressed considerably since the release of the original series, and it provides us with one of the best nature documentaries available on the natural world. Grab your wetsuit and dive into awesome ocean doc, with David Attenborough returning as narrator and host.

🎬*Phantom Thread* (2017) – Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson
This is the latest film from director P.T. Anderson, and Daniel Day-Lewis' final acting performance (supposedly). With a solid script, solid acting, solid direction, and an incredible score by Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood, this period film is sure to please anyone who is a fan of the Anderson's later works.

MEGGIE

CHAI – *Pink* (BURGER)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Hinds – *I Don't Run*
(MOM & POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Lily Allen – *No Shame*
(WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Regrettes – *Feel Your Feelings Fool!*
(WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: *ROCK*

U.S. Girls – *In A Poem Unlimited*
(4AD)
Find it in: *ROCK*

❑*Queer Eye Seasons 1 and 2*

🎬*I Feel Pretty* (2018) – Directed by Abby Kohn, Marc Silverstein

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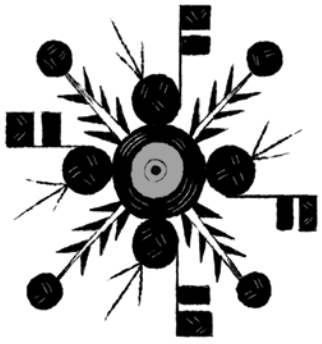


JON

Pete Rock / Deda – *Original Baby Pa Instrumentals*
(VINYLDIGITAL.DE)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Eric B & Rakim – *Don't Sweat the Technique* (GEFFEN)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Mike – *Black Soap* (LEX)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Friendship – *Hatred*
(SOUTHERN LORD)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Septic Tank – *Rotting Civilization*
(RISE ABOVE)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Anti Cimex – *Victims of a Bomb Raid*
(DISSONANCE PRODUCTIONS)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Ali Shaheed Muhammad/ Adrian Younge – *The Midnight Hour* (LINEAR LABS)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Khemmis – *Desolation*
(20 BUCK SPIN)
Find it in: *METAL*

Conjurer – *Mire* (HOLY ROAR)
Find it in: *METAL*

Witch Mountain – *Witch Mountain*
(PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: *METAL*

CHRCH – *Light Will Consume Us All* (NEUROT)
Find it in: *METAL*

Praise – *Return To Life* (TRIPLE B)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Red Hare – *Little Acts of Destruction* (DISCHORD)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Fiddlehead – *Springtime and Blind* (RUN FOR COVER)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Baby Huey – *The Baby Huey Story: The Living Legend*
(RUN OUT GROOVE)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Yob – *Our Raw Heart* (RELAPSE)
Find it in: *METAL*

Vaelmyst – *Earthly Wounds*
Find it in: *METAL*

Compton's Most Wanted – *Music to Driveby*
(GET ON DOWN)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

DOOMDEATH

live slow...die old

At The Gates – *To Drink From The Night Itself* (CENTURY MEDIA)
Find it in: *METAL*

Terekke – *Improvisational Loops*
(MUSIC FROM MEMORY)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

The Body – *I Have Fought Against It, But I Can't Any Longer.* (THRILL JOCKEY)
Find it in: *METAL*

GAS – *Rausch* (KOMPAKT)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Sleep – *The Sciences*
(THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise: Rhum Rhapsodies & Other Exotic Delights*
(NUMERO GROUP)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*

Nine Inch Nails – *Bad Witch*
(THE NULL CORPORATION)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Swans – *Die Tür Ist Zu*
(YOUNG GOD)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Dedekind Cut – *Tahoe*
(KRANKY)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Christina Vantzou – *No. 4*
(KRANKY)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

Rafael Anton Irisarri – *Sirimiri* [Cassette] (UMOR REX)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Croatian Amor & Varg – *Body Of Water* [Cassette]
(POSH ISOLATION)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Tip:
check out Qaalm the new doom band I participate in! for those who like their punishment slow & heavy

RYAN

Ask Me About Rollerblading Races

Juliana Hatfield – Sings Olivia Newton-John
(AMERICAN LAUNDROMAT)
Find it in: *ROCK*
The music of Olivia Newton-John is 99% perfect to begin with. Scientists worked on it for a long time. The missing element needed to bring it over 100%? The voice of *America's Sweetheart* and homeless ghost from *My So-Called Life*, Juliana Hatfield.

Neko Case – *Hell-On* (ANTI-)
Find it in: *ROCK*
She could just phone it in at this point and still have a good shot of one day making it onto a postage stamp. But lucky for all of us, she is not, and this is one of her finest records.

King Tuff – *The Other* (SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Quite possibly the perfect soundtrack for the last year or two. After a long party you wake up one morning and wonder "Oh crap, we're all gonna die aren't we?"

Tori Amos – *Y Kant Tori Read*
(RHINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
In an alternate universe, this recently reissued long-derided 1988 Tori Amos album could have been a smashing success. They would have made a video for "Cool On Your Island," we all would speak wistfully of our memories of it, and sing it often at karaoke. But that didn't happen. There could still be time for this to happen if we all buy it now.

🎬 *The Burbs* (1989) – Directed by Joe Dante
In another alternate universe, Rick Ducommun (RIP TO DA GAWD), Corey Feldman and Bruce Dern were all nominated for Best Supporting

Actor Oscars in 1989 for their work in this picture. Bruce Dern won and invited them all up on stage to share in the honor. In the current universe, this is the finest treatment this movie may ever receive on home video, and it is not a moment too soon. Finally out from Shout! Factory in a definitive edition in America.

Tip:
Blispy - Arcade bar in Koreatown near Western/Beverly. I don't know if anyone needed a jukebox that included Ciccone Youth's The Whitey Album, but I feel we as a society are now better for it.

JEFF P.

Nine Inch Nails – *Bad Witch* (CAPITOL)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Planning For Burial – *Matawan - Collected Works 2010-2014* (FLENSER)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Lingua Ignota – *All Bitches Die*
(PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*

Soft Kill – *Savior*
(PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Glaare – *To Deaf & Day*
(DUNE ALTAR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Last Gang – *Keep Them Counting*
(FAT WRECK CHORDS)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Vein – *Errorzone*
(CLOSED CASKET ACTIVITIES)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Brian Fallon – *Painkillers*
(ISLAND/DEF JAM)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Lucero – *Among the Ghosts*
(LIBERTY & LAMEN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Deafheaven – *Ordinary Corrupt Human Love*
(ANTI-)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Hilary Woods – *Colt*
(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Uniform – *The Long Walk*
(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: *ROCK*

L.A. Witch – *L.A. Witch*
(SUICIDE SQUEEZE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Paramore – *After Laughter*
(ATLANTIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Liza Anne – *Fine But Dying*
(ARTS & CRAFTS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Snail Mail – *Lush* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

GREGG

Buyer, books, avocado grower.

Skating Polly – *The Make It All Show* (EL CAMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
For some reason, their earlier LPs are scarce so I have been anticipating this release for a long time. Worth the wait...it rips! Two step-sisters from Oklahoma City have been playing loud punky pop since 2009.

Pinky Pinky – *Pinky Pinky* 7"
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
LA-based garage-rock-girl band playing on vintage gear. Super punchy plus always rad when a drummer can sing + play well.

Snail Mail – *Lush*
(MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Project by Baltimore-area singer/songwriter guitarist Lindsey Jordan. Mary Timony inspired guitar melodies & vocals that will make your ears feel good.

Dream Wife – *Dream Wife*
(LUCKY NUMBER)
Find it in: *ROCK*
London-based riot grrrl-pop-punk 3-piece with Iceland-born vocalist. Catchy & raw.

Courtney Barnett – *Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit* (MOM + POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Yet another solid effort by Ms. Barnett. Songs that rip plus a few jams.

PATRICK L PUCKETT

@patricklpuckett
@therideradioshow

Andrew W.K. – *You're Not Alone*
(SONY MUSIC)
Find it in: *METAL*
I'd never heard of Andrew W.K. before he did an event at the store. It was a joy to watch him meet his fans and hear their stories of how his music touched them. I asked someone what kind of music he played and they said "It's kind of a motivational death metal". That description didn't do it justice. Andrew W.K. shouldn't be considered "death metal" but instead "life metal." This new album played in the store during the event and by the time it was over I was not only a fan but I felt genuinely uplifted.

Murder On The *Orient Express* (2017) – Directed by Kenneth Branagh
This most recent interpretation of Agatha Christie's novel is by far my favorite. It's a masterpiece. The cinematography is breath taking. Each member of this All-Star cast gives a top-notch performance, especially Mr. Branagh who not only directed the film but stars as the famed detective Hercule Poirot. A must see for any mystery movie fan. (There was also a long running Poirot series on PBS—as well as the Agatha Christie books themselves. You remember books? Those bundles of words that told stories...? We sell them also)

Road Dog: *Life and Reflections from the Road as a Stand-up Comic* by Dov Davidoff
(ST. MARTIN'S PRESS)
Road Dog is comedian, actor, and writer, Dov Davidoff's unflinching memoir told through reflections of twelve months on the road. Davidoff travels across the country from college campuses to local theaters doing stand-up comedy. He is hilarious. But there's more to the road dog life than TV features and sold out comedy shows, there's a dark underbelly and Dov knows it well. His memoir chronicles the highs and often very low lows of life as a touring comedian. He's absolutely one of the best there is. See Dov live when he comes to your town. He's hilarious

Tip:
For good country music: https://dashradio.com/theranch/.

WINXPUT

Wound Man – *Prehistory*
(IRON LUNG)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Bib – *Moshpit 7”* (POP WIG)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Regional Justice Center – *World Of Inconvenience*
(SELF-RELEASED)
Find it in: *METAL*

DMA’s – *For Now*
(INFECTIOUS MUSIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Fiddlehead – *Springtime And Blind*
(RUN FOR COVER)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Death Bells – *Standing at the Edge of the World*
(BURNING ROSE / FUNERAL PARTY)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Young Guv – *2 Sad 2 Funk*
(NIGHT SCHOOL)
Find it in: *ROCK*

S.H.I.T. – *What Do You Stand For?* (IRON LUNG)
Find it in: *PUNK*

Vein – *Errorzone*
(CLOSED CASKET ACTIVITIES)
Find it in: *METAL*

BRI-RO

sonic reduction technician

John Coltrane – *Both Directions At Once: The Lost Album* [Deluxe Version] (IMPULSE / VERVE)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
The Saxophone and Jazz are inexorably linked, The Past and The Present in The Present.

Kamasi Washington – *Heaven And Earth* (YOUNG TURKS)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
The Saxophone and Jazz are inexorably linked, The Past and The Present in The Present.

Spacemen 3 – *Dreamweapon / Recurring /For All The Fucked-Up Children Of This World We Give You The Spacemen 3 / Taking Drugs To Make Music To Take Drugs To* [LP Reissues] (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Unorthodox expansionist Garage Psychedelia. Nicely done accurate reissues from a consistently good label.

Park Jiha – *Communion*
(GLITTERBEAT)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Intriguing instrumental minimalism from South Korea.

Marissa Nadler – *For My Crimes* (BELLA UNION)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Guilt Grey Smoke.

Gene Clark – *Gene Clark Sings For You* (OMNIVORE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Trace mystic inestimable influence Demo treasures “Till Tomorrow.”

Carla Bozulich – *Quieter*
(CONSTELLATION)
Find it in: *EXPERIMENTAL*
Lacerated screamed aching terror blurred erased, “Quieter.”

BRAD

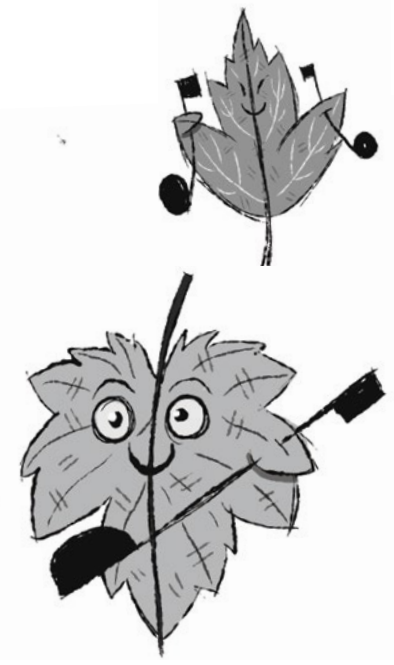
Shannon Shaw – *Shannon In Nashville*
(NONESUCH)
Find it in: *ROCK*

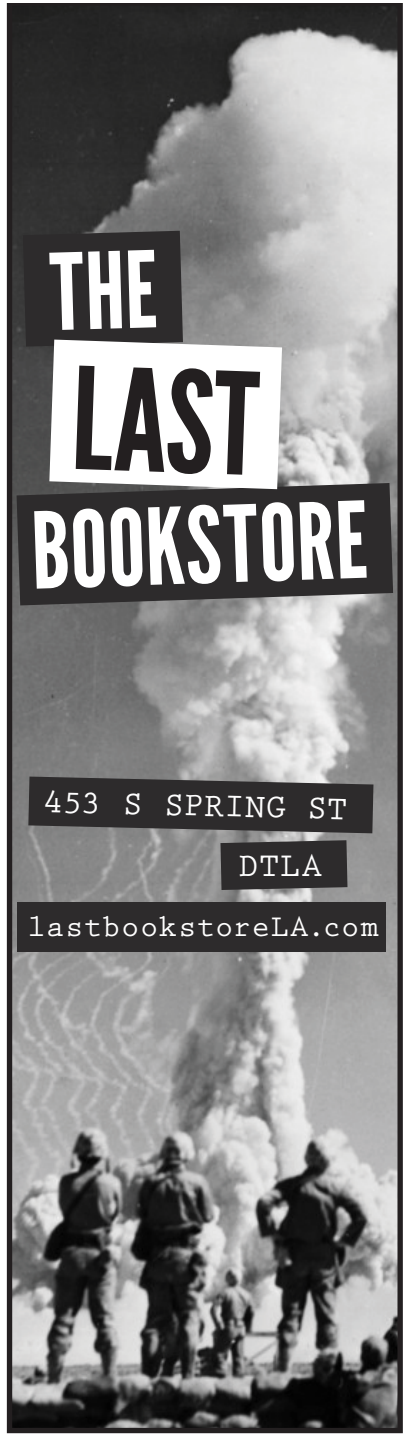
Snail Mail – *Lush* (MATADOR)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Wild Nothing – *Indigo*
(CAPTURED TRACKS)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Numb.er – *Goodbye* (FELTE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Kevin Krauter – *Toss Up*
(BAYONET)
Find it in: *ROCK*





SIMONE SIREN

Author & Turning Violet Singer

I Kill Giants (2017) – Directed by Anders Walter

The Cured (2017) – Directed by David Freyne

The Girl With All The Gifts by M.R. Carey (ORBIT BOOKS)

The Girl With All The Gifts (2016) – Directed by Colm McCarthy

Lady Bird (2017) – Directed by Greta Gerwig

A Flock of Seagulls – *A Flock of Seagulls* (JIVE)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Tears for Fears – *Songs From The Big Chair*
(MERCURY / FONTANA)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Cars – *The Cars*
(ELEKTRA)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Peter Murphy – *Cascade*
(ATLANTIC / BEGGARS BANQUET)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Tip:
https://www.kanopy.com/
(free movie streaming if you have a library card)

DANIEL TURES

Floor manager, dot enthusiast

Various Artists – *Technicolor Paradise: Rhum Rhapsodies & Other Exotic Delights*
(NUMERO GROUP)
Find it in: *EASY LISTENING*
The always amazing Numero Group turns its deep-digging expertise to the delightful but short-lived musical mode of exotica, which swirls together tropical textures, campy percussion, faux birdcalls and languid ambience into a fanciful imitation of the music of the South Seas. This bounty of unheard rarities & gems is divided into three discs—*Daquiri Dirges* (sleazy guitar instrumentals), *Rhum Rhapsodies* (boozy vocal numbers) and *Mai Tai Mambos* (shimmyable selections). I've gone to paradise…and I'm not coming back!

The Quick – *Mondo Deco*
(REAL GONE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Great 1976 L.A. power pop album out for the first time ever on CD! The Quick were truly the missing link between The Who, Cheap Trick, The Raspberries and Sparks. Despite dying on the vine rather than achieving the stadium success it could have, *Mondo Deco* inspired a whole generation of L.A. punks from The Dickies to Redd Kross. Produced by Earle Mankey (and recorded at the Beach Boys' Brother Studios), it's packed with slashing, soaring hooks and tunes that still blast off today.

Various Artists – *Gumba Fire: Bubblegum Soul & Synth-Boogie In 1980s South Africa* (SOUNDWAY)
Find it in: *WORLD*
Soundway does it again with another super Afro party comp—this one breaking us out of the ubiquitous funky '70s and into the gleaming nu-disco '80s. Track after track laced with freestyle synths built on percolating electro boogie backbeats, urgent, minimal and intoxicating. Gumba fire means a hot party so this is well titled!

Deetron – *DJ-Kicks* (K7)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Eminently tasteful blend of mid-tempo Detroit and Chicago sounds from accomplished Swiss selector Sam Geiser, who updates the style with plenty of interesting new edits and unusual contributors that fit the classic mood. A graceful, cerebral, well-paced expedition.

Parquet Courts – *Wide Awaaaaake!* (ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
This great NYC band continues their hot streak from 2016's *Human Performance* with another fine album of tense, bold, muscular art-wave trash, which takes an approach not unlike that of The Velvets, Talking Heads, or Modern Lovers: that is, warping basic '60s garage jangle inside out to make new rock structures that convey pricklier ideas. Compelling, unique stuff that rewards repeat listening. I dig these Courts!

Dr. Octagon – *Moosebumps: An Exploration Into Modern Day Horripilation* (BULK)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
Forget about 2006's terrible *The Return of Dr. Octagon*: this is the true sequel to 1996's *Dr. Octagonecologyst*, the stoned-out zoned-out boom-bap weirdo cousin to mainstream '90s hip hop. Kool Keith, QBert and Dan the Automator are back in fine form, with dusted funk, wicked scratch play and brain-damaged anti-rhymes aplenty. Yeah it breaks no new ground, but it's a welcome throwback to some fun and trippy times.

Mon Laferte – *La Trenza*
(REBELEON)
Find it in: *WORLD*
This Chilean beauty has been based in Mexico City for a decade or so, and she braids the multifarious strands of its pop scene into a moody record that ranges from bolero to Siouxsie-esque postpunk to rockabilly to cumbia. Like if Björk did a Wanda Jackson record en español. We'll be hearing more I'm sure!

Hiroshi Yoshimura – *Music For Nine Post Cards*
(EMPIRE OF SIGN)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
Japanese ambient pioneer Yoshimura made these Fender Rhodes miniatures in 1982 to be played at the Hara Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo's Shinagawa ward. Though ambient music is often insular and interior, these pieces are meant to engage with physical and natural environments, inspiring stillness and awareness in the everyday. They unfold quietly and playfully, and evoke a melancholy, timeless presence.

Hunee – *Hunchin' All Night*
(RUSH HOUR)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
South Korean-born but Berlin and L.A.-based DJ Hun Choi has a great ear and uses it to uplift us with 12 pristine selections, from fourth-world ambience to Afrodisco to deep house nuggets, spanning styles and decades in search of the perfect gathering. Emotional, layered and transformative.

TERRY SMITH

Security

The Equalizer 2 (2018) – Directed by Antoine Fuqua
I finally got to see it and I was very pleased. Denzel is a bad man in this movie as he teaches life lessons along the way. No. 3 is coming, I'm sure.

Mission Impossible: Fallout (2018) – Directed by Christopher McQuarrie
Mission Impossible is a thriller with non-stop action! If you don't pay attention, you will get lost for sure.

Uncle Drew (2018) – Directed by Charles Stone III
Very funny and great for basketball fans of old and new. A lot of fun seeing old-time players mixed with really old-time players. Reggie Miller, Shaq, Nate Robinson, Chris Webber, even Lisa Leslie!!!

Oceans Eight (2018) – Directed by Gary Ross
A fun twist with an all-girl cast. It's a lot of fun watching them outsmart people.

Power - all seasons – Created by Courtney Kemp Agboh
Start with the first and you will get addicted and can't stop watching. Time flies because there's a lot of action.

KAMARA ROBIDEAU

Bassist for Gold Koa & Oh Manitou
Instagram : kumahda
"If you really want something,
and really work hard,
and take advantage of opportunities,
and never give up, you will find a way...
Follow your Dreams."
~ Jane Goodall

John Wizards – *John Wizards Clap! Clap! - A Thousand Skies*
(BLACK ACRE)

Trevor Jones – *The Dark Crystal* [OST]
(NUMENOREAN)

Paul Simon – *Graceland*
(WARNER BROS.)

Johnny Clegg & Savuka – *Cruel, Crazy, Beautiful World*
(PARLOPHONE)
So good your heart will explode

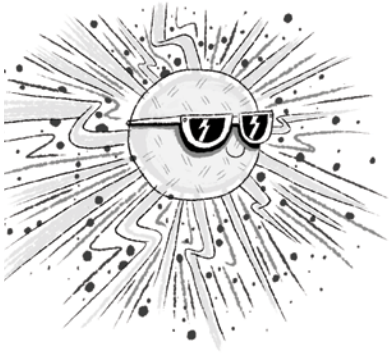
MONALISA

Dublab DJ, selecter, music lover,
soul sista, funk freak, hip hop junkie,
world music aficionado, jazzy lady,
rock 'n' roll gangsta, etc.

Maleet – *Mama Yakota/ Brotherhood 7"*
(SYMPHONIC DISTRIBUTION)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

The Internet – *Hive Mind*
(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Jorja Smith – *Lost & Found*
(FAMM LIMITED)
Find it in: *SOUL*



Kamasi Washington – *Heaven & Earth* (YOUNG TURKS)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Adrian Younge & Ali Shaheed Muhammad – *The Midnight Hour* (LINEAR LABS)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Meshell Ndegeocello – *Ventriloquism* (NAIVE)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Phonte – *No News Is Good News*
(FOREIGN EXCHANGE/FAT BEATS)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Los Psychedelic Low Riderz – *Conquistador* (EASTSIDE SOUL)
Find it in: *LATIN*

Célia – *Célia* (MR. BONGO)
Find it in: *WORLD*

J Cole – *KOD* (J COLE/DREAMVILLE)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

The Sylvers – *The Sylvers II*
(MR. BONGO)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Ernie Hines – *Electrified* (STAX)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Leroy Hutson – *Anthology*
(ACID JAZZ)
Find it in: *SOUL*

Rapsody – *The Idea of Beautiful* (EMPIRE)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*

Fantastic Negrito – *Please Don't Be Dead*
(COOKING VINYL)
Find it in: *BLUES*

MISS KIZMIAZ

Archie & The Bunkers – *The Traveler/Lookin'* (NORTON)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Buck Owens – *The Complete Capitol Singles: 1967-1970* (OMNIVORE)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*

Buddy Guy – *The Blues is Alive & Well* (SILVERTONE)
Find it in: *BLUES*

Fantastic Negrito – *Please Don't Be Dead*
(COOKING VINYL)
Find it in: *BLUES*

Fur Dixon & WTFUKUSHIMA – *Return 2 Sender*
(SELF-RELEASED)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Mickey & Sylvia Love is Strange – *All the Hit Singles A's & B's 1950-1962*
(JASMINE)
Find it in: *BLUES*

The Motels – *The Last Few Beautiful Days*
(SUNSET BLVD.)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Neko Case – *Hell-On*
(ANTI/EPITAPH)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Otis Redding – *Dock Of The Bay Sessions*
(RHINO)
Find it in: *SOUL*

The Record Company – *All Of This Life* (CONCORD)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Roy Orbison – *The Complete Sun, RCA, & Monument Releases 1956-62* (ACROBAT)
Find it in: *ROCK*

The Shadows of Knight – *Alive in '65!* (SUNDAZED)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Shark Inferno – *Terra Theia Baby Luna*
(CD BABY)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Sterling Roswell – *The Lonesome Death Of Johnny Ace* (TRASH WAX)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Wilko Johnson – *Blow Your Mind* (UME)
Find it in: *ROCK*

KAREN.

Sunny War – *With The Sun*
(ORIGINAL RECORDINGS GROUP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
like an apparition: something other-worldly. invoking reverend gary davis or elizabeth cotton or... john fahey. finger-picking like someone from another time. singing folk music like the sun-drenched seventies, belting the blues like robert johnson: while shouting punk anthems. from swaying to foot-stomping, this young person seems to have the voice. you know: the voice. that is: a poet AND a musician; a life-artist. one who channels the Spirit through her fingers and vocal chords. who touches us in that way. that way you can't describe. it just IS. a fresh voice. an honest voice. an outsider who taps into that outsider in us all.

Blood Orange – *Negro Swan*
(DOMINO)
Find it in: *ROCK*
Dev Hynes is Blood Orange. one of the most innovative and interesting musicians out there. this is the best work he has done. R&B with quirky catchy genre-busting music and lyrics. he is unapologetically himself. indie-hop, soul grooves, gospel infused. this is smoky and groovy. and wafts into you through and through.

Shannon Shaw – *Shannon in Nashville* (NONESUCH)
Find it in: *OCK*
solo record from the frontwoman of SHANNON and THE CLAMS. this is shannon in nashville. brian auerbach produced this force of a record.from the shadows of garage punk, shannon emerges with a collossal voice (like brittany murphy from alabama shakes), and just nails it. pure americana: reverb and shimmering instrumentation with a flawless belting voice that cuts through straight to your tender spots. this is the real deal.

The Internet – *Hive Mind*
(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)
Find it in: *SOUL*
the smooth slinky flows right alongside jazzy riffs and makes this record listenable and drinkable. homemade funk grooves give the stew some extra thick flavor.

Janelle Monáe – *Dirty Computer*
(BAD BOY)
FIND IT IN: *SOUL*
classic. profound. breathable. inhale deeply. seriously good.

Tony Joe White – *Bad Mouthin'* (YEP ROC)
Find it in: *BLUES*
the original swamp rocker is a national treasure. here he is again with the blues: raw and gritty like they should be. a few covers and some originals, this album is as haunting and "true" as anything he has ever done. pick it up. and then pick up his other albums. he is amazing.

Vicktor Taiwo – *Joy Comes In Spirit*
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*
soulful and surprising. a singer-songrwiter who challenges your notion of such things. another soulful stylish twist on the genre of lyrics-based music. this record has a frank ocean feel but more electronic, with some experimental delving. it is definitely compelling. pulsating and addictive.

DeJohnette/Granadier/ Medeski/Scofield – *Hudson* (MOTÉMA)
Find it in: *JAZZ*
the newest jazz supergroup? this quartet of superb musicians genuinely seem to enjoy each other. the music is energetic and adventurous without being all over the place. it is a masterclass in musicianship and collaboration. players who truly respect each other and intuitively know how to let each other shine without sacrificing the whole.

Deafheaven – *Ordinary Corrupt Human Love*
(ANTI-)
FIND IT IN: *ROCK*
love these guys! this record is as good as it gets.

Mondo Cozmo – *Plastic Soul*
(REPUBLIC)
Find it in: *ROCK*
a zesty little joynt. filled with catchy poppy melodies. infectious.

Father John Misty – *God's Favorite Customer*
(SUB POP)
Find it in: *ROCK*
so good. another collection of sharp, seething self-deprecating songs of redemption.

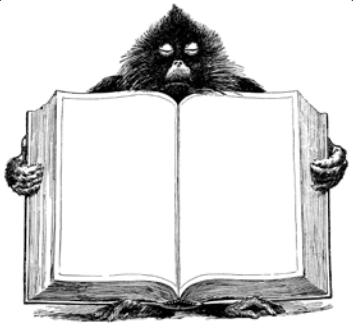
Ry Cooder – *The Prodigal Son*
(FANTASY)
Find it in: *ROCK*
still relevant. still bluesy. still haunting with his guitar. and still delivering a stinging comment on social issues ("you must unload," "jesus and woody") as well as simply delivering a beautiful ride through soundscapes and stories.

The Buttertones – *Midnight In A Moonless Dream*
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
swampy noir-rock. dark and strange and completely immersive. reminiscent of john zorn or... a mickey spillane novel: seductive and slightly dangerous. jump in and jump around!

Suzanne Santo – *Ruby Red*
(SOOZANTO)
Find it in: *COUNTRY*
butch walker produced this moody collection of alt. americana pop. i dig it.

Mint Field – *Pasar de las Luces*
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
shoegazey, but... not really. this is organic and spacious with a sprawling rhythmic layer. beautiful.

The Molochs – *Flowers In The Spring*
(INNOVATIVE LEISURE)
Find it in: *ROCK*
just a little nugget i stumbled on. kinda sixties, kinda dark, kinda psychedelic, kinda... simple (in a good way). a slightly guilty pleasure, but i like it. i think you will too.



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Shemekia Copeland –
America's Child
(ALLIGATOR)
Find it in: *BLUES*
strong blues voice with help from emmylou harris, mary gauthier, john prine and more. will kimbrough plays a mean guitar all through.

03 Greedo –
The Wolf of Grape Street
(ALAMO)
Find it in: *HIP HOP*
amidst controversy and run-ins with the law, "greedy" is now in prison and still making music. he epitomizes the newest West Coast Rap with raw, chaotic, true lyrics and catchy hooks.

The Lemon Twigs – *Go To School* (4AD)
Find it in: *ROCK*
these guys did it again. the new record is as fun and energetic as the first one. a concept album as a musical that stands on its own. good stuff.

Kadhja Bonet – *Childqueen*
(FAT POSSUM)
Find it in: *SOUL*
imaginative "psych-soul."

Arvo Pärt –
Pärt: The Symphonies (ECM)
Find it in: *CLASSICAL*
just gorgeous.

Dungen & Woods –
Myths 003 (MEXICAN SUMMER)
Find it in: *ROCK*
world psych rock at its best.

ALSO WORTH LISTENING:

Fantastic Negrito –
Please Don't Be Dead
(COOKING VINYL)
Find it in: *ROCK*

DJDS – *Big Wave More Fire*
(LOMA VISTA)
Find it in: *ELECTRONICA*

Sleep – *The Sciences*
(THIRD MAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Stella Donnelly –
***Thrush Metal* EP**
(SECRETLY CANADIAN)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Boz Scaggs –
Out Of The Blues (CONCORD)
Find it in: *ROCK*

Grant Green –
Funk In France: From Paris To Antibes (1969-1970)
(RESONANCE)
Find it in: *JAZZ*

Willie Colón – *Wanted By FBI / The Big Break - La Gran Fuga*
(GET ON DOWN)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Various Artists –
African Scream Contest 2
(ANALOG AFRICA)
Find it in: *WORLD*

Tip:
OAKLAND in the movies. don't miss SORRY TO BOTHER YOU *from our old friend Boots. and* BLINDSPOTTING *from Daveed and crew. both films are oakland through and through.*

REBECCA

Chooses Love

INXS – *Kick* LP
[30th Anniversary Edition]
(ATLANTIC)
So, we upgraded our turntable this year (from Amoeba!) and wow, what a difference. Listening to this album on vinyl again after all these years really rocked my world. It holds up so well.

❑*Shadowhunters:*
The Mortal Instruments
This show is lovingly diverse (Malec forever!) and surprisingly fun. I'll be sad to see it go. #SaveShadowhunters!

Less by Andrew Sean Greer
This lovely book somehow captures the nostalgic sadness you feel as you get older and only then realize what you've lost.

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THE AMOEBA COLLECTION CHECKLIST

Use this checklist of essential records to build your collection...
but, of course, leave room for new "must haves" as it continues to grow!

Our criteria: $50 bucks or under, nothing too rare or out of print,
no greatest hits records and mostly studio albums.
How many do you have? What are you missing?

AC/DC
- ❑ *Highway to Hell* (1979)

ADOLESCENTS
- ❑ *Adolescents* (1981)

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)
- ❑ *Wild Planet* (1980)

ANGELO BADALAMENTI
- ❑ *Twin Peaks* [OST] (1990)

THE BAND
- ❑ *The Band* (1969)
- ❑ *Music From Big Pink* (1968)

BAUHAUS
- ❑ *In The Flat Field* (1980)

THE BEACH BOYS
- ❑ *Pet Sounds* (1966)
- ❑ *The Smile Sessions* (2011)

BEACH HOUSE
- ❑ *Teen Dream* (2010)

BEASTIE BOYS
- ❑ *Licensed to Ill* (1986)
- ❑ *Paul's Boutique* (1989)

THE BEATLES
- ❑ *Abbey Road* (1969)
- ❑ *Let It Be* (1970)
- ❑ *Revolver* (1966)
- ❑ *Rubber Soul* (1965)
- ❑ *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (1967)
- ❑ *The White Album* (1968)

BELLE & SEBASTIAN
- ❑ *If You're Feeling Sinister* (1996)

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)

BON IVER
- ❑ *For Emma, Forever Ago* (2007)

DAVID BOWIE
- ❑ *Hunky Dory* (1971)
- ❑ *The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* (1972)

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)

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)

CHAMELEONS
- ❑ *Script Of The Bridge* (1983)

RAY CHARLES
- ❑ *The Genius of Ray Charles* (1959)
- ❑ *Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music* (1962)

CHRISTIAN DEATH
- ❑ *Only Theatre Of Pain* (1982)

THE CLASH
- ❑ *The Clash* (1977)
- ❑ *London Calling* (1979)

COCTEAU TWINS
- ❑ *Head Over Heels* (1983)
- ❑ *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* (1965)

ELVIS COSTELLO
- ❑ *My Aim Is True* (1977)
- ❑ *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)

DEAD CAN DANCE
- ❑ *Within The Realm Of A Dying Sun* (1987)

DE LA SOUL
- ❑ *3 Feet High and Rising* (1989)

DEERHUNTER
- ❑ *Microcastle* (2008)

MAC DEMARCO
- ❑ *Salad Days* (2014)

DEPECHE MODE
- ❑ *Violator* (1990)

DJ SHADOW
- ❑ *Endtroducing....* (1996)

THE DOORS
- ❑ *The Doors* (1967)

DR. DRE
- ❑ *The Chronic* (1992)

NICK DRAKE
- ❑ *Five Leaves Left* (1969)
- ❑ *Pink Moon* (1972)

DURAN DURAN
- ❑ *RIO* (1982)

BOB DYLAN
- ❑ *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan* (1963)
- ❑ *The Times They Are A-Changin'* (1964)
- ❑ *Bringing it All Back Home* (1965)
- ❑ *Highway 61 Revisited* (1965)
- ❑ *Blonde on Blonde* (1966)
- ❑ *Blood on the Tracks* (1975)

THE EAGLES
- ❑ *Hotel California* (1976)

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
- ❑ *LP1* (2014)

THE FLAMING LIPS
- ❑ *The Soft Bulletin* (1999)

FLEET FOXES
- ❑ *Fleet Foxes* (2008)

FLEETWOOD MAC
- ❑ *Rumours* (1977)

ARETHA FRANKLIN
- ❑ *I Never Loved a Man the Way I Love You* (1967)

FUGAZI
- ❑ *Repeater* (1990)

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)

GORILLAZ
- ❑ *Gorillaz* (2001)

AL GREEN
- ❑ *I'm Still in Love With You* (1972)
- ❑ *Let's Stay Together* (1972)

GREEN DAY
- ❑ *Dookie* (1994)

GRIMES
- ❑ *Visions* (2012)

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)

LAURYN HILL
- ❑ *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* (1998)

BILLIE HOLIDAY
- ❑ *Lady in Satin* (1958)

HÜSKER DÜ
- ❑ *Zen Arcade* (1984)

IGGY & THE STOOGES
- ❑ *Raw Power* (1973)

INTERPOL
- ❑ *Turn on the Bright Lights* (2002)

MICHAEL JACKSON
- ❑ *Off the Wall* (1979)
- ❑ *Thriller* (1982)

ETTA JAMES
- ❑ *At Last!* (1960)

JAY-Z
- ❑ *The Blueprint* (2001)
- ❑ *Reasonable Doubt* (1996)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

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)

KILLERS
- ❑ *Hot Fuss* (2004)

KING CRIMSON
- ❑ *In the Court of the King Crimson* (1969)

CAROLE KING
- ❑ *Tapestry* (1971)

THE KINKS
- ❑ *Something Else By The Kinks* (1967)
- ❑ *The Kinks Are the Village Green* (1968)
- ❑ *Preservation Society* (1968)

KRAFTWERK
- ❑ *Computer World* (1981)
- ❑ *Trans-Europe Express* (1977)

KENDRICK LAMAR
- ❑ *To Pimp a Butterfly* (2015)

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM
- ❑ *LCD Soundsystem* (2005)

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 Virgin* (1984)
- ❑ *Like a Prayer* (1989)

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)

COLLECTION CHECKLIST

M83
- ❑ *Hurry Up, We're Dreaming* (2011)

METALLICA
- ❑ *Master of Puppets* (1986)
- ❑ *Ride the Lightning* (1984)

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)

CHARLES MINGUS
- ❑ *Mingus Ah Um* (1959)

THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION
- ❑ *Freak Out!* (1966)

MY BLOODY VALENTINE
- ❑ *Loveless* (1991)
- ❑ *Isn't Anything* (1988)

NAS
- ❑ *Illmatic* (1994)

NATIONAL
- ❑ *Boxer* (2007)

NEU!
- ❑ *Neu!* (1972)

NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL
- ❑ *In the Aeroplane Over the Sea* (1998)

NEW ORDER
- ❑ *Power, Corruption & Lies* (1983)

NINE INCH NAILS
- ❑ *Pretty Hate Machine* (1989)
- ❑ *The Downward Spiral* (1994)

NIRVANA
- ❑ *Nevermind* (1991)
- ❑ *In Utero* (1993)
- ❑ *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
- ❑ *Aquemini* (1998)
- ❑ *Stankonia* (2000)

DOLLY PARTON
- ❑ *Coat of Many Colors* (1971)

PAVEMENT
- ❑ *Slanted and Enchanted* (1992)

PINK FLOYD
- ❑ *Dark Side of the Moon* (1973)
- ❑ *Wish You Were Here* (1975)
- ❑ *The Wall* (1979)

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)

THE PRETENDERS
- ❑ *The Pretenders* (1980)

PRIMAL SCREAM
- ❑ *Screamadelica* (1991)

PRINCE
- ❑ *1999* (1982)
- ❑ *Purple Rain* (1984)

PUBLIC ENEMY
- ❑ *It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us*
- ❑ *Back* (1988)
- ❑ *Fear of a Black Planet* (1990)

PUBLIC IMAGE, LTD.
- ❑ *Second Edition* (1979)

QUEEN
- ❑ *Sheer Heart Attack (1974)*
- ❑ *A Night at the Opera* (1975)

RADIOHEAD
- ❑ *The Bends* (1995)
- ❑ *OK Computer* (1997)
- ❑ *Kid A* (2000)
- ❑ *In Rainbows* (2007)

RAEKWON
- ❑ *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx...* (1995)

THE RAMONES
- ❑ *The Ramones* (1976)

LOU REED
- ❑ *Transformer* (1972)

R.E.M.
- ❑ *Murmur* (1983)
- ❑ *Reckoning* (1984)

COLLECTION CHECKLIST

THE REPLACEMENTS
- ❑ *Let It Be* (1984)

LITTLE RICHARD
- ❑ *Here's Little Richard* (1957)

OTIS REDDING
- ❑ *Otis Blue/Otis Redding Sings Soul* (1965)

THE ROLLING STONES
- ❑ *Beggars Banquet* (1968)
- ❑ *Let It Bleed* (1969)
- ❑ *Sticky Fingers* (1971)
- ❑ *Exile on Main Street* (1972)

THE RONETTES
- ❑ *Presenting the Fabulous Ronettes* (1964)

ROXY MUSIC
- ❑ *Avalon* (1982)
- ❑ *For Your Pleasure* (1973)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

SADE
- ❑ *Diamond Life* (1984)

- ❑ *Saturday Night Fever* [OST] (1977)

SELENA
- ❑ *Dreaming Of You* (1995)

SEX PISTOLS
- ❑ *Never Mind the Bollocks, Here's the Sex Pistols* (1977)

SIGUR ROS
- ❑ *Ágætis Byrjun* (1999)

SLEATER-KINNEY
- ❑ *Call the Doctor (1996)*
- ❑ *Dig Me Out (1997)*

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)

SIOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES
- ❑ *Juju* (1981)

SLAYER
- ❑ *Reign In Blood* (1986)

SLOWDIVE
- ❑ *Souvlaki* (1993)

SMASHING PUMPKINS
- ❑ *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* (1995)
- ❑ *Siamese Dream* (1993)

ELLIOTT SMITH
- ❑ *Elliott Smith* (1995)
- ❑ *Either/Or* (1997)

PATTI SMITH
- ❑ *Horses* (1975)

THE SMITHS
- ❑ *The Smiths* (1984)
- ❑ *The Queen Is Dead* (1986)

SNOOP DOGG
- ❑ *Doggystyle* (1993)

SOFT CELL
- ❑ *Non-Stop Erotic Cabaret* (1981)

SONIC YOUTH
- ❑ *Daydream Nation* (1988)
- ❑ *Goo* (1990)

PHIL SPECTOR
- ❑ *A Christmas Gift For You* (1963)

SPIRITUALIZED
- ❑ *Ladies & Gentlemen We Are Floating in Space* (1997)

DUSTY SPRINGFIELD
- ❑ *Dusty in Memphis* (1969)

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
- ❑ *Born to Run* (1975)
- ❑ *Darkness on the Edge of Town* (1978)
- ❑ *Nebraska* (1982)
- ❑ *The River* (1980)

STEELY DAN
- ❑ *Aja* (1977)

SUFJAN STEVENS
- ❑ *Illinois* (2005)

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)

2PAC
- ❑ *All Eyez On Me* (1996)

TALKING HEADS
- ❑ *77* (1977)
- ❑ *More Songs About Buildings and Food* (1978)
- ❑ *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)

VANGELIS
❑ *Blade Runner* [OST] (1982)

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND
❑ *The Velvet Underground & Nico* (1967)
❑ *White Light/White Heat* (1968)
❑ *The Velvet Underground* (1969)
❑ *Loaded* (1970)

VIOLENT FEMMES
❑ *Violent Femmes* (1983)

TOM WAITS
❑ *Blue Valentine (1978)*
❑ *Swordfishtrombones* (1983)

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
❑ *White Blood Cells* (2001)
❑ *Elephant* (2003)

WILCO
❑ *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (2002)

HANK WILLIAMS
❑ *Ramblin' Man* (1955)

LUCINDA WILLIAMS
❑ *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road* (1998)

AMY WINEHOUSE
❑ *Back To Black* (2006)

WIRE
❑ *Pink Flag* (1977)

STEVIE WONDER
❑ *Talking Book* (1972)
❑ *Innervisions* (1973)
❑ *Songs in the Key of Life* (1976)

WU–TANG CLAN
❑ *Enter the Wu–Tang (36 Chambers)* (1993)

XTC
❑ *Skylarking* (1986)

THE XX
❑ *The XX* (2009)

YEAH YEAH YEAHS
❑ *Fever To Tell* (2003)

YO LA TENGO
❑ *I Can Hear the Heart Beating as One* (1997)

NEIL YOUNG
❑ *After the Gold Rush* (1970)
❑ *Harvest* (1972)

THE ZOMBIES
❑ *Odessey & Oracle* (1968)

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COLLECTION CHECKLIST

Sophisticated Voodoo Jazz of the '50s

By Kai Wada Roath
Ambassador of Confusion Hill and host of the Super Shangri-La Show

So you just found a Mystic Skull board game with all the pieces at the swapmeet and you are having some friends coming over to play it before watching Val Lewton's 1943 classic, *I Walked with a Zombie*. You frustratingly find yourself digging through your vinyl vaults and cannot seem to find the right music to set the eerie atmosphere you desire. Let my red chicken foot charm point you the way to the records you seek...some for the music, others for their covers.

Robert Drasnin's 1959 album titled *Voodoo*, is truly superb. You can easily feel entranced from the music, luring your mind deep into a forbidden jungle while listening to "Chant of the Moon." If the stars are in alignment, you may be lucky enough to find this record on colored vinyl (I recently found a yellow one). Perhaps some of you may have even seen Robert Drasnin when he performed at the Tiki Oasis back in 2008.

Perez Prado's "Voodoo Suite" is the "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" of jungle jazz. From exotic drumming and primitive shouts and grunts to smooth jazz beats, this 23-minute piece makes you wish you were prowling on all fours like a tiger, hunting scantily clad prey in the Jungle Rock Room at the Madonna Inn. Listen to it in its entirety, and if you stumble across this record in the wild do not hesitate in buying it. Pounce on it! In my humble opinion, this composition is a masterpiece.

If you are a fan of the Yusef Lateef's jazz flute, but love Martin Denny-ish bird and animals calls, you will thoroughly enjoy *Provocatif: 9 Exotic Motifs* by **John McFarland**. Released in 1959, this album is a tad rare but can still be found in Jazz and Exotica sections time to time. After all, a treasure seeker must dig.

The 1956 album *Tanganyika*, composed by **Buddy Collette**, drifts my mind to memories of sitting at Specs' Twelve Adler Museum Café under the painting of Sonia Simmons, sipping a highball and playing a game of Fox & Geese on their tattered old checkerboard. There is something to be said about this mysteriously dark, yet smoooooth-sounding jazz album, which brings dreams of nostalgia.

Nicely snuggled between my **Chaino** and **Tak Shindo** records, these are just a few of the late-1950s jazz albums with voodoo theme covers that I have collected and enjoy. I hope you seek one or two of them out at your favorite music store and enjoy them as well.

NOTES: