

FALL/WINTER 2019-2020

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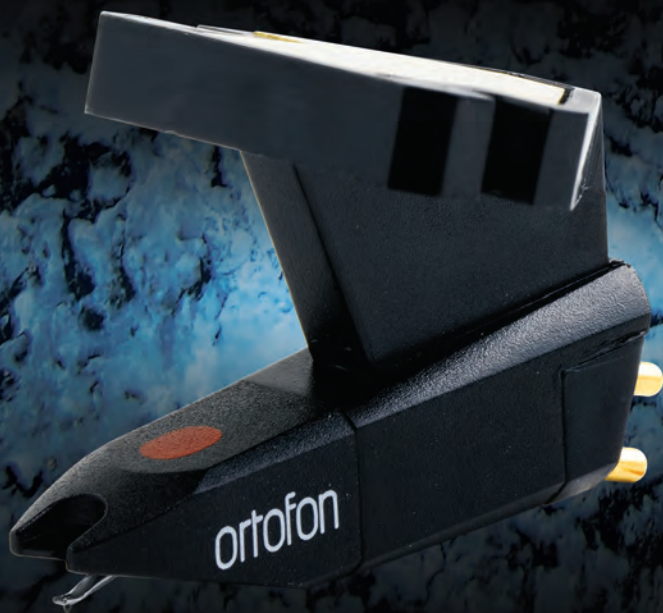


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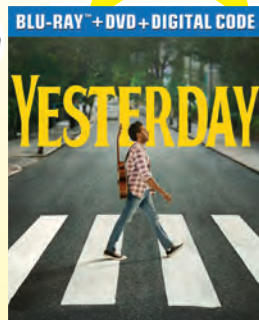
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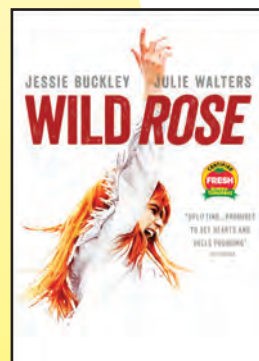
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Considered to be mankind's greatest discovery, an ancient portal is actually a gateway from hell. An explosive, terrifying thrill ride based on the video game. (with DVD)



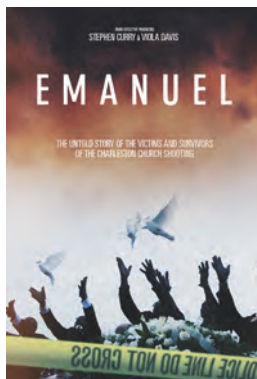
Yesterday, everyone knew The Beatles. Today, only Jack remembers. He's about to become a very big deal. A rock-n-roll comedy about music, dreams, & friendship. (2 pack with DVD)



Jessie Buckley delivers an unforgettable performance as a rebellious country singer who dreams of trading the working-class streets of Glasgow for the Grand Ole Opry.



A lonely, unstable gas station attendant, tired of being overshadowed by her co-worker, takes matters into her own hands, when held at gunpoint.



A poignant story of justice and faith, love and hate, that powerfully weaves the history of race relations in Charleston and impact of Mother Emanuel Church



A suspenseful heist thriller starring Aml Ameen (*The Maze Runner*) and Rhea Seehorn (*Better Call Saul*) that will keep you guessing until the very end.



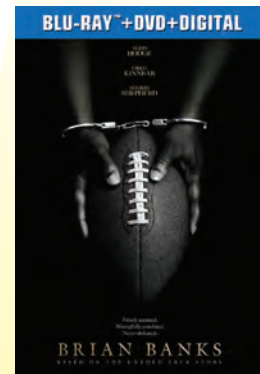
Pushes the boundaries of wuxia action, masterfully painting a canvas of inky blacks and greys punctuated with bursts of color from the blood of the defeated.



A gripping and powerful story packed with hard-hitting action; a squad of Marines risk their own lives in the hopes of saving an ally they've never met.



In this offbeat comedy, it's now or never for an amateur metal band when a heavy metal festival promoter comes to their small town in Finland.



Inspirational true story of an All-American high school football star who finds his life upended when he is wrongly convicted of a crime he didn't commit. (with DVD)



Turbo-charged caper starring Jason Sudeikis and Lee Pace. A charismatic hustler schemes with the FBI to entrap maverick car maker, John DeLorean.

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Dwayne Johnson and Jason Statham return as Hobbs and Shaw in this action-packed feature from the blockbuster *Fast & Furious* franchise!



An irreverent and quirky retelling of Emily Dickinson's story; informed by a new look at Dickinson's archives as well as the testimony of her niece.



Audacious and offbeat, *The Art of Self-Defense* is an original dark comedy that takes toxic masculinity to absurd extremes.



Haunted by dark memories of childhood abuse, Evan (Seann William Scott), social worker and first-time dad, struggles to keep his need for revenge in check.



On Halloween, friends encounter an "extreme" haunted house. Feeding on their darkest fears, the night turns deadly as they realize that some nightmares are real.



Stacked with amazing performances and adapted from JC Lee's acclaimed play, *LUCE* is a smart psychological thriller that will leave audiences breathless.

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sharing what they found
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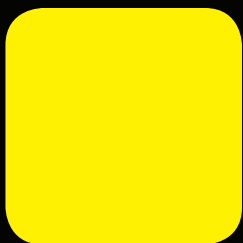
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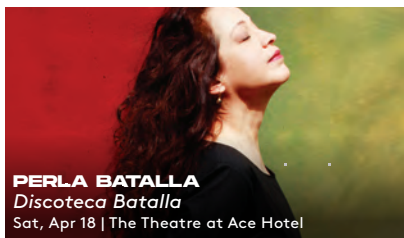


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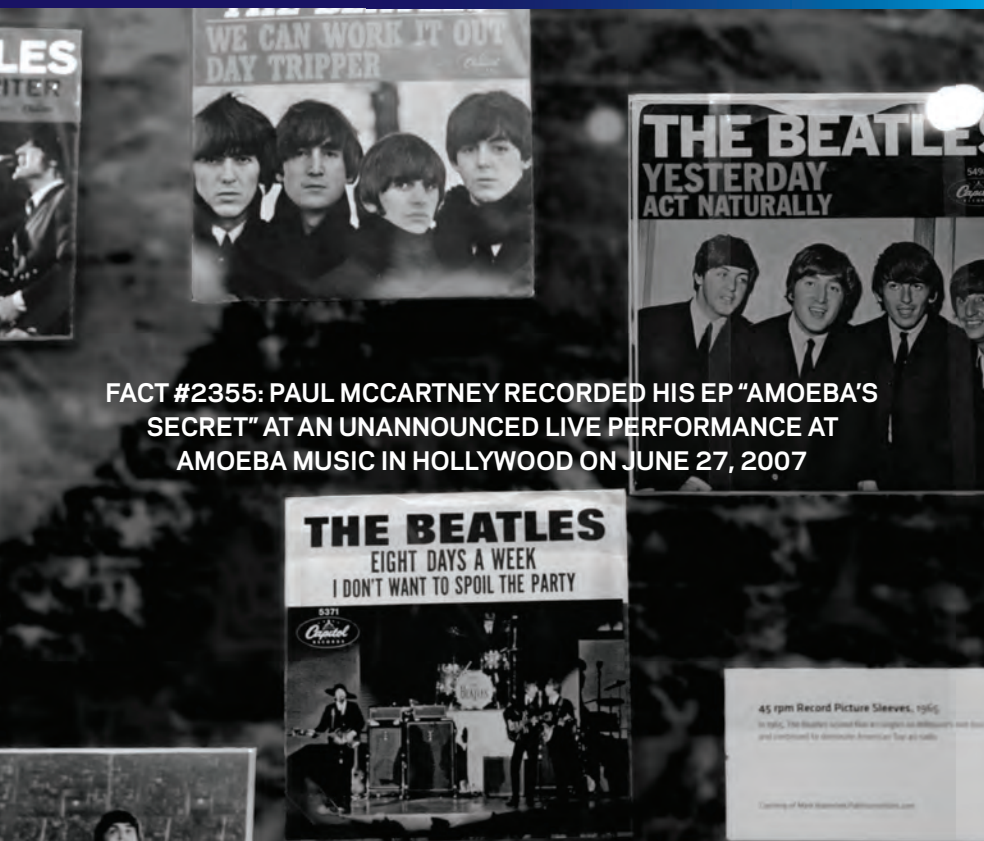


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CONTENTS

Fall/Winter 2019-2020

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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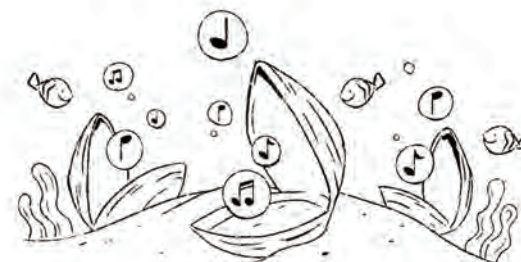
Music We Like comes around just about when I need it. A little kick in the pants to get me out there digging in to find new music and movies which set me on the path to even more new music and movies. These recommendations are the cornerstone to exploration and I hope MWL helps you make them too. I've heard the ocean called "Earth's last frontier" and it's kind of true. There's so much we don't know about going on in our planet's watery depths. So much depending on us taking care of them. So let this "Underwater" issue help you strike out into the great unknown and find wonders you've never dreamed of.

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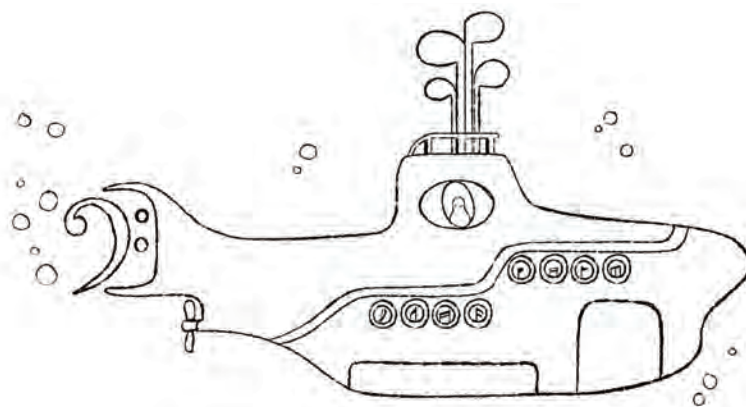


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A SAMPLING OF OUR FAVORITES BY GENRE



VINYL REISSUES

Belle and Sebastian –
If You're Feeling Sinister
[Red Vinyl] (MATADOR)

**Bikini Kill – Pussy Whipped/
Reject All American** (BIKINI KILL)

Crass – Catalog
(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Everything But The Girl –
Amplified Heart (BUZZIN' FLY)

Janet Jackson – Catalog
(VIRGIN)

Joy Division –
Unknown Pleasures
(WARNER MUSIC)

Paul McCartney –
Amoeba Gig (CAPITOL)

The Modern Lovers –
Modern Lovers (MUSIC ON VINYL)

Pink Floyd – The Division Bell
(SONY)

Sigur Rós – Ágætis Byrjun:
A Good Beginning (KRUNK)

Stereolab – Catalog
(WARP)

Travis – The Man Who
(CRAFT RECORDINGS)

Various Artists –
East Side Story (EAST SIDE)

The Verve – Urban Hymns
(VIRGIN)

SOUL

Budos Band – V (DAPTONE)

Chaka Khan – Hello Happiness
(ISLAND)

Lee Fields & The Expressions
– It Rains Love (BIG CROWN)

Marvin Gaye – You're the Man
(MOTOWN)

Seba Kaapstad – Thina
(MELLO MUSIC)



Steve Lacy – Apollo XXI

(3QTR)

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Los Coast – Samsara

(NEW WEST)

Georgia Anne Muldrow –

VWETO II (MELLO MUSIC)

Prince – Originals

(WARNER BROS.)

Various Artists –

East Side Story Vols. I-II

(EAST SIDE STORY)

Jamila Woods –

Legacy! Legacy!

(JAGJAGUWAR)

JAZZ

Arild Andersen / Clive Bell

/ Mark Wastell –

Tales of Hackney (CONFRONT)

The Art Ensemble of Chicago

– We Are On The Edge:

A 50th Anniversary Celebration

(PI)

George Benson – Walking to

New Orleans (PROVOGUE)

Paul Bley / Gary Peacock /

Paul Motian – When Will the

Blues Leave (ECM)

Anthony Braxton – Quartet

(New Haven) 2014 (FIREHOUSE 12)

Rob Burger – The Grid

(WESTERN VINYL)

Chick Corea & the Spanish

Heart Band – Antidote

(CONCORD)

Karl Denson's Tiny Universe –

Gnomes and Badgers (MRI)

Dave Douglas / Uri Caine /

Anrew Cyrille – Devotion

(GREENLEAF)

The Stan Getz Quartet –

Getz at the Gate (VERVE)

Abdullah Ibrahim –

The Balance (GEARBOX)

Amirtha Kidambi &

Elder Ones – From Untruth

(NORTHERN SPY)

Damon Locks /

Black Monument Ensemble –

Where Future Unfolds

(INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM RECORDING CO.)

Matt Mitchell – Phalanx

Ambassadors (PI)

Nérija – Blume (DOMINO)

Sean Noonan Pavees Dance –

Tan Man's Hat (RARENOISE)

Cecile McLorin Salvant –

The Window (MACK AVENUE)

David Sanchez – Carib

(ROPEADOPE)

Jenny Scheinman &

Allison Miller's Parlour Game

– Parlour Game

(THE ROYAL POTATO FAMILY)

Matthew Shipp Trio Invites

Nicole Mitchell – All Things Are

(ROUGHEART)

Esperanza Spalding –

12 Little Spells (CONCORD)

Mary Stallings –

Songs Were Made to Sing

(SMOKE SESSIONS)

Dwight Trible –

Mothership (GEARBOX)

Nate Wooley –

Columbia Icefield

(NORTHERN SPY)

ROCK

Barrie – Happy To Be Here

(WINSPEAR)

Bastille – Doom Days (CAPITOL)

Bat For Lashes – Lost Girls

(BAT FOR LASHES)

Natasha Bedingfield –

Roll With Me (WE ARE HEAR MUSIC)

Big Thief – U.F.O.F. (4AD)

Bleached – Don't You Think

You've Had Enough?

(DEAD OCEANS)

Blood Orange – Angel's Pulse

(DOMINO)

Calexico / Iron & Wine –

Years To Burn (SUB POP)

Lewis Capaldi –

Divinely Uninspired To A

Hellish Extent (VIRGIN)

Catfish And The Bottlemen –

The Balance (CAPITOL)

Stef Chura – Midnight

(SADDLE CREEK)

Cold Showers – Motionless

(DAIS)

Bruce Cockburn –

Crowing Ignites (TRUE NORTH)

Daughters – You Won't Get

What You Want (IPECAC)

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**Earth – Full Upon Her
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Will Be Lost Part I**
(WARNER BROS.)

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(MERGE)

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Krzysztof Penderecki –
Henryk Górecki: Symphony
No. 3 (Symphony Of
Sorrowful Songs)**
(DOMINO)

**Glorious Sons –
A War On Everything** (BMG)

Andy Grammer – Naïve
(S-CURVE)

Noah Gundersen – Lover
(COOKING VINYL)

Hand Habits – Placeholder
(SADDLE CREEK)

**Aldous Harding –
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Beth Hart – War In My Mind
(PROVOGUE)

Hollywood Vampires – Rise
(EAR MUSIC)

**Idles – Joy As An Act Of
Resistance** (PARTISAN)

Iggy Pop – Free (LOMA VISTA)

**Imperial Teen –
Now We Are Timeless** (MERGE)

Khruangbin – Hasta El Cielo
(DEAD OCEANS)

Cate Le Bon – Reward
(MEXICAN SUMMER)

**Mandolin Orange –
Tides Of A Teardrop**
(YEP ROC)

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(MEGAFORCE)

Mekons – Deserted (BLOODSHOT)

**Mercury Rev – Bobbie Gentry's
The Delta Sweete Revisited**
(PARTISAN)

Kevin Morby – Oh My God
(DEAD OCEANS)

**The Mountain Goats –
In League With Dragons**
(MERGE)

Muna – Saves The World (RCA)

**The National –
I Am Easy To Find** (4AD)

**New Pornographers –
In The Morse Code Of
Brake Lights** (CONCORD)

Oh Sees – Face Stabber
(CASTLEFACE)

Angel Olsen – All Mirrors
(JAGJAGUAR)

Outer Spaces – Gazing Globe
(WESTERN VINYL)

**Mike Patton / Jean-Claude
Vannier – Corpse Flower**
(IPECAC)

Orville Peck – Pony
(SUB POP)

Pixies – Beneath the Eyrie
(INFECTIOUS MUSIC)

Pond – Tasmania (INTERSCOPE)

Raconteurs – Help Us Stranger
(THIRD MAN)

Redd Kross – Beyond the Door
(MERGE)

**Ritual Howls –
Rendered Armor** (FELTE)

Rituals of Mine – Sleeper Hold
(CARPARK)

**Chris Robinson –
Servants Of The Sun**
(SILVER ARROW)

**Maggie Rogers – Heard It In
A Past Life** (CAPITOL)

**Rolling Stones –
Rock And Roll Circus** (ABKCO)

The Rubinoos – From Home
(YEP ROC)

Molly Sarle – Karaoke Angel
(PARTISAN)

**She Past Away –
Disko Anksiyete** (METROPOLIS)

**Sleater-Kinney –
The Center Won't Hold**
(MOM & POP)

**Sleeping With Sirens –
How It Feels To Be Lost**
(SUMERIAN)

**Spoon – Everything Hits
At Once** (MATADOR)

Starset – Divisions (FEARLESS)

**Surf Curse –
Heaven Surrounds You**
(DANGER COLLECTIVE)

**Titus Andronicus –
An Obelisk** (MERGE)

Toro Y Moi – Outer Peace
(CARPARK)

**Vampire Weekend –
Father Of The Bride** (SONY)

**Violent Femmes –
Hotel Last Resort** (PIAS AMERICA)

**Weyes Blood –
Titanic Rising** (SUB POP)

**Whitney – Forever Turned
Around** (SECRETLY CANADIAN)

Wilco – Ode To Joy (DBPM)

**Chelsea Wolfe – Birth of
Violence** (SARGENT HOUSE)

Thom Yorke – Anima
(XL RECORDINGS)

HIP-HOP

**Freddie Gibbs x Madlib –
Bandana** (RCA)

**Benny The Butcher –
The Plugs I Met** (NEXT)

Common – Let Love (LOMA VISTA)

**DJ Muggs x Mach Hommy –
Tuez-les Tous** (SOUL ASSASSINS)

E-40 – Practice Makes Paper
(HEAVY ON GRIND)

Injury Reserve – Injury Reserve
(LOMA VISTA)

Nas – The Lost Tapes Vol. II
(MASS APPEAL)

**Pete Rock – Return Of
The SP1200** (TRU SOUL)

**Slowthai – Nothing Great
About Britain** (METHOD)

Ta-Ku – 25 Nights For Nujabes
(JAKARTA)

**Your Old Droog –
It Wasn't Even Close**
(JOYFUL NOISE)





ELECTRONIC

Pye Corner Audio – Hollow Earth (GHOST BOX)

Apparat – LP5 (MUTE)

Beautiful Swimmers – The Sound Of Love International #002 (LOVE INTERNATIONAL)

Bonobo – Fabric Presents Bonobo (FABRIC)

The Chemical Brothers – No Geography (ASTRALWERKS)

Cinematic Orchestra – To Believe (NINJA TUNE)

Jay Daniel – Tala (WATUSI HIGH)

Floating Points – Late Night Tales (LATE NIGHT TALES)

Flying Lotus – Flamagra (WARP)

Peggy Gou – DJ-Kicks (K7)

Holy Ghost – Work (WEST END)

The Juan Mclean – The Brighter The Light (DFA)

L'Impératrice – Matahari (MICROCLIMA)

Modeselektor – Who Else (MONKEYTOWN GERMANY)

Nightmares On Wax – Back To Mine (BACK TO MINE)

Operators – Radiant Dawn (LAST GANG)

Plaid – Polymer (WARP)

Prins Thomas – Ambitions (SMALLTOWN SUPERSOUND)

Skee Mask – Compro (ILIAN TAPE GERMANY)

Sound Stream – Love Remedy (SOUND STREAM)

UNKLE – The Road: Part II (SONGS FOR THE DEF)

Various Artists – Powder In Space (BEATS IN SPACE)

Leon Vynehall – DJ-Kicks (K7)

COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS

Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves – Allison de Groot & Tatiana Hargreaves (FREE DIRT)

Billy Ray Cyrus – The SnakeDoctor Circus (BROKEN BOW)

Buck Owens and the Buckaroos – The Complete Capitol Singles: 1971-1975 (OMNIVORE)

Buddy & Julie Miller – Breakdown on 20th Ave South (NEW WEST)

Chris Gantry – Nashlantis (DRAG CITY)

Chuck Mead – Close to Home (PLOWBOY)

Dale Watson – Live Deluxe... Plus (RED RIVER)

Della Mae – The Butcher Shoppe EP (ROUNDER)

Doug Seegers – A Story I Got To Tell (BMG)

Eric Church – Desperate Man (EMI NASHVILLE)

George Strait – Honky Tonk Time Machine (MCA NASHVILLE)

Glen Campbell – The Legacy (1961-2017) (CAPITOL NASHVILLE)

Jim Lauderdale – From Another World (YEP ROC)

John Hartford – Backroads, Rivers & Memories – The Rare and Unreleased (REAL GONE)

Justin Townes Earle – The Saint of Lost Causes (NEW WEST)

Lillie Mae – Other Girls (THIRD MAN)

Lukas Nelson & The Promise of the Real – Turn Off the News (Build a Garden) (FANTASY)

Maren Morris – Girl (SONY NASHVILLE)

Molly Tuttle – When You're Ready (COMPASS)

Steve Earle & the Dukes – Guy (NEW WEST)

Tanya Tucker – While I'm Livin' (FANTASY)

The Infamous Stringdusters – Rise Sun (TAOE TIME)

The Seldom Scene – Changes (ROUNDER)

Trisha Yearwood – Every Girl (GWENDOLYN)

Various Artists – Cold War Countdown: Country Music Goes to War (1952-1972) (IRON MOUNTAIN ANALOGUE RESEARCH)

Various Artists – Hillbillies in Hell: Country Music's Tormented Testament (1952-1974) Vol. 9 (IRON MOUNTAIN ANALOGUE RESEARCH)

Whiskey Myers – Whiskey Myers (WIGGY THUMP)

Willie Nelson – Ride Me Back Home (SONY LEGACY)

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FOLK

Anne Briggs – Anne Briggs
(Topic Treasures Series)
(TOPIC)

Daughter of Swords – Dawnbreaker
(NONESUCH)

House & Land – Across the Field
(THRILL JOCKEY)

Jake Xerxes Fussell – Out of Sight (PARADISE BACHELORS)

Jamestown Revival – San Isabel (JAMESTOWN REVIVAL)

June Tabor – Airs and Graces
(TOPIC)

Kacy & Clayton – Carrying On (NEW WEST)

Marry Waterson & Emily Barker – A Window to Other Ways (2019) (ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Our Native Daughters – Songs Of Our Native Daughters (SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS)

Pete Seeger – Pete Seeger: The Smithsonian Folkways Collection (SMITHSONIAN/FOLKWAYS)

Rhiannon Giddens – There Is No Other (NONESUCH)

The Delines – The Imperial
(EL CORTEZ)

The Unthanks – Lines: Parts One, Two & Three
(CADIZ MUSIC)

Various Artists – Vision & Revision - The First 80 Years Of Topic Records (TOPIC)

Various Artists – The Social Power of Music
(SMITHSONIAN/FOLKWAYS)

Will Beeley – Highways & Heart Attacks
(TOMPKINS SQUARE)

BLUES AND NEW ORLEANS

Joe Bonamassa – Redemption (J & R ADVENTURES)

Aaron Neville – Love Letters: The Allen Toussaint Sessions
(SUNSET BLVD)

Christone “Kingfish” Ingram – Kingfish (ALLIGATOR)

Keb’ Mo’ – Oklahoma (CONCORD)

Leo Bud Welch – The Angels in Heaven Done Signed My Name
(EASY EYE SOUND)

Reese Wynans & Friends – Sweet Release (J&R ADVENTURES)

Tank & The Bangas – Green Balloon
(VERVE)

Various Artists – Jazz Fest: The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival
(SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS)

Various Artists – Rhythm ’n’ Bluesin’ By The Bayou: Bop Cat Stomp
(ACE)

Various Artists – Ann Arbor Blues Festival 1969
(THIRD MAN)

WORLD

Riad Abdel-Gawad – Words of Peace
(MEDAN ELMUSICA)

Marc Anthony – Opus
(SONY MUSIC LATIN)

Lucas Arruda – Onda Nova
(FAVORITE RECORDINGS)

A-Wa – Bayti Fi Rasi (S-CURVE)

Azymüth – Demos (1973-75) Vol. 1 & 2 (FAR OUT)

Rubén Blades – Presents Paraiso Road Gang
(RUBÉN BLADES PRODUCTIONS)

Combo Chimbita – Ahomale
(EPITAPH)

Moulay Ahmed El Hassani – Atlas Electric (HIVE MIND)

Maria Farantouri / Cihan Türkoğlu – Beyond the Borders
(ECM)

Luis Fonsi – Vida
(UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINA)

Helado Negro – This Is How You Smile (RVNG INTL)

Juan Luis Guerra 4.40 – Literal (UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINA)

Ifriqiyya Electrique – Laylet El Booree (GLITTERBEAT)

Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan – Live at WOMAD 1985 (REAL WORLD)

Angélique Kidjo – Celia (VERVE)

Kronos Quartet – Placeless
(VALLEY)

Maluma – 11:11
(RCA INTERNATIONAL)

The Mighty Sparrow – The Slave (MODERN HARMONIC)

Mdou Moctar – Ilana (The Creator) (SAHEL SOUNDS)

Northern Cree – When It’s Cold - Cree Round Dance Songs
(CANYON)

Rodrigo Y Gabriela – Mettavalution (ATO)

Poncho Sanchez – Trane’s Delight (CONCORD PICANTE)

Kyriakos Sfetsas – Greek Fusion Orchestra Vol. 2
(TERANGA BEAT)

Anoushka Shankar – Reflections (DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Various Artists – Brazil USA 70: Brazilian Music In The USA In The 1970s (SOUL JAZZ)

Various Artists – Cumbia Beat Vol. 3: 21 Peruvian Tropical Gems
(VAMPI SOUL)

Various Artists – Digital Kabar: Electronic Maloya From La Reunion Since 1980 (INFINE)

Various Artists – Mr Bongo Record Club Vol. 3 (MR BONGO)

Various Artists – Outro Tempo II: Electronic And Contemporary Music From Brazil, 1984-1996
(MUSIC FROM MEMORY)

Various Artists – Pacific Breeze: Japanese City Pop, AOR & Boogie, 1976-1986
(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)



Various Artists – Too Slow To Disco Neo: En France

(HOW DO YOU ARE)

Akiko Yano – Iroha Ni Konpeitou

(WEWANTSOUNDS)

CLASSICAL

Vitor Araújo – Levaguiá Teré

(NUTRIOT)

Ellen Arkbro – Chords

(SUBTEXT)

Anthony Burr & Charles Curtis – Chamber Music: Alvin Lucier & Morton Feldman (IMPORTANT)

Alvin Curran – Endangered Species (NEW WORLD)

Julius Eastman – The Nigger Series (BLUME)

Morton Feldman / Aki Takahashi – Edition 13 - For Bunita Marcus (MODE)

Hilary Hahn – 6 Partitas by García Abril (DECCA)

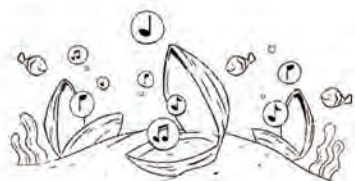
Alvin Lucier – Orpheus Variations (IMPORTANT)

Horatiu Radulescu – Works for Organ & For Cello (MODE)

Steve Reich – Berkeley November 7, 1970 (ALTERNATIVE FOX)

Terry Riley & Gyan Riley – Way Out Yonder (ORG MUSIC)

David Rosenboom –



Brainwave Music (BLACK TRUFFLE)

Kaija Saariaho – True Fire - Trans - Ciel D'hiver (ONDINE)

Michel Samson / Rebecca Samson – The Claviorganum & The Violin (RECITAL)

Andres Segovia – Andres Segovia Plays Fernando Sor (IDIS)

Nadia Shpachenko – The Poetry of Places (REFERENCE)

James Tenney – Changes: 64 Studies For 6 Harps (NEW WORLD)

Daniel Wohl – État (NONESUCH)

Christian Wolff / Peter Thomas – Preludes, Variations, Studies and Incidental Music (SUB ROSA)

Isang Yun – Chamber Music (CAPRICCIO)

EXPERIMENTAL

Alberich – Quantized Angel (HOSPITAL PRODUCTIONS)

Maryanne Amacher – Petra (BLANK FORMS)

William Basinski – On Time Out of Time (TEMPORARY RESIDENCE LTD.)

Biosphere – The Senja Recordings (BIOPHON)

Fennesz – Agora (TOUCH)

Charles Hayward – Begin Anywhere (KLANGGALERIE)

Tim Hecker – Anoyo (KRANKY)

Helm – Chemical Flowers (PAN)



Dean Hurley – Anthology Resource Vol. II (SACRED BONES)

Linekraft – Engineering Analysis Of Inner Death (HOSPITAL PROD.)

Matmos – Plastic Anniversary (THRILL JOCKEY)

Nivhek – After Its Own Death/ walking In A Spiral Towards The House (W 25TH)

Jim O'Rourke & CM von Hausswolf – In, Demons, In! (IDEAL RECORDINGS)

Puce Mary – The Drought (PAN)

Masayuki Takayanagi – New Direction Unit – April Is the Cruellest Month (BLANK FORMS)

METAL

Amon Amarth – Berserker (METAL BLADE)

Craft – Fuck the Universe (SEASON OF MIST)

Darkthrone – Old Star (PEACEVILLE)

Dead to a Dying World – Elegy (PROFOUND LORE)

Devil Master – Satan Spits on Children of Light (RELAPSE)

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Fetid – Steeping Corporeal Mess (20 BUCK SPIN)

Inter Arma – Sulphur English (RELAPSE)

Killswitch Engage – Atonement (METAL BLADE)

Krypts – Cadaver Circulation (DARK DESCENT)

Pissgrave – Posthumous Humiliation (PROFOUND LORE)

Ride For Revenge – Ageless Powers Arise (HELLS HEADBANGERS)

Saint Vitus – Saint Vitus (SEASON OF MIST)

Tomb Mold – Planetary Clairvoyance (20 BUCK SPIN)

Vanum – Ageless Fire (PROFOUND LORE)

OLDIES

Apple – An Apple A Day... (TRADING PLACES)

Chocolate Watch Band – This is My Voice (DIRTY WATER)

Chubby Checker – The Chubby Checker Collection (ACROBAT)

Dana Gillespie – What Memories We Make – The Complete Mainman Recordings 1971-1974 (CHERRY RED)

Power of Zeus – The Gospel According to Zeus (MR. BONGO)

The Champs – “Go, Champs, Go!” (SUNDAZED MUSIC)

Various Artists – Lullabies for Catatonics- A Journey Through the British Avant-Pop/Art Rock Scene 1967-74 (GRAPEFRUIT)

Various Artists – Let the Good Times In: Sunshine, Soft & Studio Pop 1966-1972 (TEENSVILLE)

Various Artists – Girls in the Garage Vol. 7 (PAST & PRESENT)

Various Artists – Jon Savage’s 1965-1968: The High Sixties on 45 (ACE)

Various Artists – Would She Do That For You?! – Girl Group Sounds USA 1964-1968 (ACE)

Various Artists – Cyclone! Gallic Guitars A-Go-Go 1962-66 (ACE)

REGGAE / SKA

Bitty McLean & Sly & Robbie – Love Restart (TABOUI)

King Tubby & Riley All Stars – Concrete Jungle Dub (DUBSTORE)

Various Artists – Style & Fashion: A-Class Top Notch Hi Fi Sounds in Fine Style (SOUL JAZZ)

Various Artists – Africa Iron Gate Showcase (DUBSTORE)

PUNK

Amyl & The Sniffers – Amyl & The Sniffers (ATO)

Bad Religion – Age Of Unreason (EPITAPH)

Defeater – Defeater (EPITAPH)

Full Of Hell – Weeping Choir (RELAPSE)

Institute – Re-Adjusting The Locks (SACRED BONES)

COMEDY

D.L. Hughley – Contrarian (NETFLIX)

David Cross – Oh, Come On (COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Gabriel Iglesias – One Show Fits All (NETFLIX)

Jeff Ross & Dave Attell – Bumping Mics With Jeff Ross & Dave Attell (NETFLIX)

Jim Gaffigan – Quality Time (COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Katherine Ryan – Glitter Room (NETFLIX)

Ken Jeong – You Complete Me, Ho (NETFLIX)

Ralphie May – The Beret Conspiracy (800 POUND GORILLA)

Regan and Watkins – Regan And Watkins (COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Russell Brand – Re:Birth (NETFLIX)

SOUNDTRACKS

Ain’t Too Proud: The Life And Times Of The Temptations [Original Broadway Cast Recording] – Various Artists (UME)

Avengers: Endgame – Alan Silvestri (HOLLYWOOD)



Blinded By The Light – Various Artists (SONY LEGACY)

Colette – Thomas Adés (LAKESHORE)

Company (2018 London Cast Recording) – Stephen Sondheim (ARTS MUSIC)

Echo in the Canyon – Various Artists (BMG RIGHTS MANAGEMENT)

Godzilla: King of Monsters – Bear McCreary (WATERTOWER MUSIC_)

High Life – Stuart Staples (MILAN)

Hotel Mumbai – Volker Bertelmann (VARESE SARABANDE)

The Lion King – Various Artists (WALT DISNEY)

Midsummer – Bobby Krlic (MILAN)

Once Upon A Time In Hollywood – Various Artists (COLUMBIA)

Pavarotti – Luciano Pavarotti (DECCA)



Rent [Original Soundtrack of the Fox Live Televised Event] – Various Artists

(MASTERWORKS BROADWAY)

Rocketman – Elton John

(INTERSCOPE)

Songs from Lerner & Loewe's My Fair Lady – Laura Benanti

(BROADWAY)

Too Old To Die Young – Cliff Martinez

(MILAN)

Toy Story 4 – Randy Newman

(WALT DISNEY)

Turn On, Tune In, Drop Out – Dr. Timothy Leary

(REAL GONE)

Yesterday – Himesh Patel

(CAPITOL)

DVDS & BLU-RAY

MUSIC DVDS

Aretha Franklin – Amazing Grace

(UNIVERSAL STUDIOS)

Johnny Thunders – Madrid Memory

(CLEOPATRA)

Stiv Bator – Stiv: No Compromise No Regrets (MYD)

The Police – Everyone Stares

(EAGLE ROCK)

The Rolling Stones – Rock & Roll Circus

(ABKCO)

DOCUMENTARY

Apollo 11

Biggest Little Farm

Hail Satan?

They Shall Not Grow Old

When They See Us

TV

Bojack Horseman – Season 1 & 2

Deadly Class – Season 1

Killing Eve: Season 2

Space: 1999 – Complete Series

Strike Back – Season 6

The Americans – Complete Series

This Is Us: Season 3

ACTION / SUPERHERO / MYSTERY / THRILLER

Avengers: Endgame

Body At Brighton Rock

Captain Marvel

Klute [Criterion]

Under The Silver Lake

DRAMA / COMEDY

Beach Bum

Charlie Says

Destroyer

Her Smell

Lords Of Chaos

The Mustang

SCI-FI / FANTASY / HORROR

Alice, Sweet Alice

Entity

High Life

Knife + Heart

Night Of The Creeps

Us

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Alphaville

Bob le Flambeur

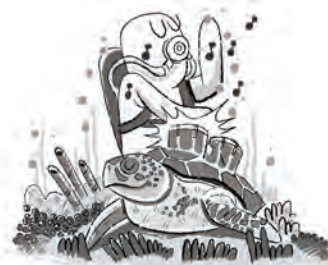
Dogman

Europa Europa [Criterion]

Le Doulos

Touchez Pas au Grisbi

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CLASSICS / MUSICALS

A Star Is Born [Encore Edition]

Hedwig & The Angry Inch
[Criterion]

Rocketman

*The Extraordinary World
of Charley Bowers:*
17 Short Films 1918-1941

ANIMATION / KIDS

Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers

How To Train Your Dragon:
The Hidden World

Popeye the Sailor:
Volume 2 1938-1940

The Big Bad Fox & Other Tales
Thundercats

BLU-RAY / 4K

Alien (1979) 4K

Angel At My Table (1990)
[Criterion]

Blue Velvet (1986)
[Criterion]

Do The Right Thing (1989)
[Criterion]

Hard Ticket To Hawaii (1987)

Lost Highway (1997)

Pacific Heights (1990)

Polyester (1981)
[Criterion]

The Thin Man (1934)

Troop Beverly Hills (1989)

Tuff Turf (1985)

Waterworld (1995) 4K

Weird Science: Special Edition
(1985)

BOOKS

LITERATURE / GRAPHIC NOVELS

The Book of Weirdo:
A Retrospective of
R. Crumb's Legendary
Humor Comics Anthology
by Jon B. Cooke
(LAST GASP)

Exhalation: Stories
by Ted Chiang (KNOPF)

Is This How You See Me?
by Jaime Hernandez
(FANTAGRAPHICS)

*Between The Water &
The Woods*
by Simone Snaith
(HOLIDAY HOUSE)

Orange World & Other Stories
by Karen Russell
(KNOPF)

MUSIC BOOKS

More Fun In The New World
by John Doe & Tom DeSavia
(DA CAPO PRESS)

Spotify Teardown:
Inside the Black Box
of Streaming Music
by Maria Eriksson
(MIT PRESS)

The Individualist —
Digressions, Dreams &
Dissertations
by Todd Rundgren
(CLEOPATRA)

My Thoughts Exactly
by Lily Allen
(BLINK PUBLISHING)

Begin The Begin:
R.E.M.'s Early Years
by Robert Dean Lurie
(VERSE CHORUS PRESS)

This Searing Light,
the Sun & Everything Else:
Joy Division: The Oral History
by Jon Savage
(FABER & FABER)

FILM BOOKS

Empire Of Monsters
by Bill Schelly &
James Warren
(FANTAGRAPHICS)

Alfred Hitchcock:
The Complete Films
by Paul Duncan
(TASCHEN)

Teen Movie Hell
by Mike McPadden
(BAZILLION POINTS)

Miyazakiworld
by Susan Napier
(YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS)

NON-FICTION

Wild L.A.
by Lila Higgins
(TIMBER PRESS)

Stay Sexy & Don't Get
Murdered
by Karen Kilgariff &
Georgia Hardstark
(FORGE BOOKS)

We Are Everywhere: Protest,
Power & Pride In The History
Of Queer Liberation
by Matthew Riemer &
Leighton Brown
(TEN SPEED PRESS)

Mr. Know-It-All: The Tarnished
Wisdom Of A Filth Elder
by John Waters
(FARRAR, STRAUS & GIROUX)

High Magik
by Damien Echols
(SOUNDS TRUE)

ESSENTIAL READING

Zodiac
by Robert Graysmith
(BERKLEY)

On Writing
by Stephen King (SCRIBNER)

Set The Boy Free
by Johnny Marr (DEY STREET BOOKS)

The Watchmen
by Alan Moore
(DC COMICS)





SUBMERSIVE CINEMA

It's time to mine the depths of Submersive Cinema. The following movies have the distinction of being in, under and around the water. Be aware this is by no means an exhaustive list. But, let's explore earth's final frontier and encounter giant sharks, submarines, mermaids, sea monsters, and more...

By Gabriel Wheeler

THE CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON (1954)

Set in a time when our planet still seemed full of the fantastical and unknown. This classic Universal horror picture is a story of two worlds colliding. Creature sees woman. Creature steals woman. White dudes destroy creature. While the pacing may be slow by today's standards, it still holds up as a great fish-man horror film. Complete with mauling, kidnapping, and excellent underwater sets and costumes. Originally shot in 3D by Gabriel Figueroa. His cinematography is top-notch and, if you have the means, see it in 3D, for it will truly be a revelation.

JAWS (1975)

Stephen Spielberg's breakout blockbuster changed the course of American film. A great white shark is feasting on the beachgoers of Amity Island in Martha's Vineyard. Police Chief Brody (Roy Scheider) and oceanographer Matt Hooper (Richard Dreyfus) are convinced it's a BIG ole shark. However, Amity's Mayor believes a tiger shark that has been recently

captured is the the culprit. Only when a holiday reveler is killed by a Shark and Brody's own son is put in jeopardy does the mayor close the beach. Brody and Hooper team up with local shark hunter Quint (Robert Shaw) and set out for the voyage of a lifetime to put an end to Jaw's all-you-can-eat shenanigans. John Williams' iconic score and Spielberg's less-is-more approach to the shark make *Jaws* a timeless fish tale.

THE SPY WHO LOVED ME (1977)

Roger Moore's third time out as 007 is one of underwater intrigue. Russian and British subs are disappearing, and 007 must team with Agent TripleX, his Russian counterpart. TripleX is Anya Amasova played by Barbara Bach (*Caveman*, *Black Belly of the Tarantula*, *Short Night of Glass Dolls*). Bond and TripleX quickly form a sensual connection and plunge the depths of diplomatic relations. It turns out Stomberg is stealing subs for their missies. He wants to start WWII because he will survive aboard his awesome oceanic vessel, Atlantis. *The Spy Who Loved Me* has usual thrills and gadgets you're used to. But highlights include:

a Lotus Esprit SI that transforms into a submarine, an awesome aquatic base, and even a bad guy named "Jaws."

PIRANHA (1978)

Legendary indie producer Roger Corman knows a winning formula when he sees (sic) one. Ready to collect on the success of *Jaws*, Corman quickly produced the John Sayles-scripted *Piranha*. And with young director Joe Dante (*Gremlins*, *The Howling*, *Innerspace*, *Small Soldiers*) at its helm, *Piranha* was a smashing success. Two teen-aged vandals break into a secret government facility and quickly meet their death in a blood-filled pool of militarized experimental piranha. Maggie Mckowen and listless Paul Grogan discover the base and, while searching for the missing boys, accidentally release the lethal flesh-eating fish into the local river. Death and chaos ensue as our heroes(?) try to warn the water park downstream of the oncoming onslaught. No one heeds their warning, and the piranha have an all-you-can-eat feast on the hapless water park victims. Funny and gory, Joe Dante expertly makes the most of this low budget spectacle.

TOP SECRET (1983)

The folks that brought you *Airplane!* team up to bring you this hilarious movie. Starring a young Val Kilmer, *Top Secret* is an obvious parody of WWII and Elvis movies. Val Kilmer plays Nick Rivers, an Elvis-esque pop star visiting East Germany on tour. He becomes entangled with the French Resistance and is thrown into a ridiculous world of espionage and guerrilla warfare. Why is this movie included on this list? Because, it contains the greatest underwater saloon fight of all time. It is definitely one of the most creative underwater combat sequences ever put to celluloid and deserves to be included in this list of submersibles.

THE ABYSS (1989)

1989 was a grand year for underwater monster movies with the release of *The Evil Below*, *Leviathan*, *Lords of the Deep*, *The Rift*, *DeepStar Six*, and James Cameron's epic *The*

Abyss. *The Abyss* focuses on a race between the U.S. and Russia to recover a sunken U.S. submarine. Team America recruits a nearby drilling station "Deep Core" as a base for Navy SEALs led by *The Terminator's* Michael Biehn. Much drama unfolds as the SEALs make demands on the privately owned Deep Core crew leading to an underwater catastrophe, which leaves the survivors stranded in a trench deep in the ocean. To make matters worse, strange life forms are found to be investigating the rig. Tense underwater drama combined with Cameron's exquisite special effects and action sequences make this underwater sci-fi submersible unmissable.

DEEPSTAR SIX (1989)

The second notable film of 1989's underwater creature feature is this low budget sci-fi horror that delivers the goods. Greg Evigan (*Stripped to Kill*, *My Two Dads*, *B.J. and the Bear*) plays McBride a submarine pilot working on DeepStar Six. DeepStar Six is an experimental underwater military base trying to set up some missiles and investigate life at the bottom of the sea. The crew discover a hidden cavern that messes with the timetable for getting the missiles set. Under pressure to meet the deadline, an executive decision is made to blow up the cavern. Of course, blowing up the cavern inadvertently releases a giant sea monster. Oops. Although the acting can be a little stiff and the creature is a little silly, DeepStar Six is a solid underwater creature feature. Look for Miguel Ferrer (*RoboCop*, *Twin Peaks*) as the wisecracking facilities manager. He is as awesome as ever.

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER (1990)

This Cold War-era film finds Russian Captain Ramius, Sean Connery (*Dr. No*, *Entrapment*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, *Zardoz*), tasked with the command of a first strike sonar evading nuclear sub, Red October. After Captain Ramius goes rogue both Russia and the U.S. search for this evasive sub. Will they find it before starting WWII? Alec Baldwin plays Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan character who is tasked by the U.S. to find Red October. This exciting sunken thriller is a must sea (sic) for

fans of underwater intrigue and those interested in a cinematic tête-à-tête between Baldwin and Connery.

WATERWORLD (1995)

Yes! *Road Warrior* meets *Aqua Man*. In the future, the polar ice caps of Earth have melted creating a landless planet renamed Waterworld. Resources are scarce and humans barter for sand, desalinated water, and lost treasures from a time gone by. Our heroic misanthrope, "The Mariner," is played by Kevin Costner (*Dances With Wolves*, *No Way Out*). An evil gang called the Smokers is lead by "The Deacon," played by Dennis Hopper (*Blue Velvet*, *Easy Rider*, *Super Mario Brothers*). The Smokers attack a human colony while the Mariner attempts to trade some sand for water and other goods. Chaos ensues and the Mariner forced to team with Helen, played by Jeanne Tripplehorn (*Basic Instinct*, *Reality Bites*) and her young ward Enola. It turns out the Enola has a map to where dry land can be found on her back, and the Deacon wants that map! Awesome aquatic action, great costumes, and decent drama makes this a rough water thrill ride worthy of your time.

DEEP BLUE SEA (1999)

Yay, sharks are back. But this time they are smart and hangry. Scientists are studying sharks in order to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. They've built this awesome underwater research facility—but, wouldn't you know the sharks escape and try to eat everyone. Featuring an all-star cast: Saffron Burrows, Thomas Jane, Samuel L. Jackson, Michael Rapaport and L.L. Cool J as the cook. This super fun shark attack movie should not be missed.

THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU (2004)

This black comedy follows a burned out oceanographer Steve Zissou as he races to complete his current documentary. Bill

Murray plays narcissistic Zissou brilliantly. Zissou and his eclectic crew team up with, Ned Plimpton, his maybe son who invests a considerable sum in Zissou's current film. The new documentary is a search for the never seen/perhaps non-existent "Jaguar Shark" that ate Zissou's best friend Esteban off camera in Zissou's previous documentary. Zissou has sworn to kill the jaguar shark and nothing will come between him and his mission. Beautiful dollhouse sets, amazing cinematography and funny as hell, *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* is must see subversive cinema. The soundtrack is killer too. Seu Jorge plays many David Bowie songs acoustically and sings in Portuguese. Add a score from Devo's Mark Mothersbaugh and you have one hell of a picture.

THE LURE (2015)

If you see only one Polish mermaid-horror-musical, let it be Agnieszka Smoczyńska's film *The Lure*. A cabaret rock band discovers two mermaids and quickly incorporate them into their night club act. All seems well until love, betrayal, and sacrifice weave their way into everyone's life. *The Lure* is a visual and auditory feast unlike anything you have ever seen. It is both unconventional and dangerous. Do not miss this film.

THE MEG (2018)

Our last shark attack on the list is the BIG ONE. Jason Statham is Jonas Taylor, a washed-up rescue diver who is called out of retirement to rescue his ex-wife, Lori, from a submarine accident in the Mariana Trench. Lori and her crew have submerged into a thermocline where they find unseen floral and fauna. Taylor rescues Lori and inadvertently releases a Megalodon (a giant prehistoric shark). The shark attacks and eats lots of people, and Taylor must find a way to save as many of them as possible. Don't be afraid to sink your teeth into this highly entertaining shartackular.



Waterlogged

A glance at ten favorite songs about water.

By Shona Mauro-Sachs

HAMZA EL AL DIN, "ESCALAY (THE WATER WHEEL)"

The Egyptian oud master's most well-known masterpiece. Hypnotic and spare, like watching water go round.

HOWLIN' WOLF "I ASKED FOR WATER (SHE GAVE ME GASOLINE)"

Sometimes you're all ready to cool off, settle down, and she up and leaves. Pour gasoline on a burning love and see what happens. Howlin' Wolf's gravelly howl makes you think that woman mighta actually poured gasoline on him and lit a match.

PARLIAMENT "AQUA BOOGIE"

Parliament brings the funk every time, and this time you're thinking, "Is there anything funkier than water?!" But you gotta learn how to swim. Keep it on the one.

This is the kind of thing record store people do all day. We trade hours naming off favorite songs about truck driving at night, underrated jazz pianists, and albums featuring the Farfisa. Here I'm throwing out songs I love with water in them. In these songs water serves as a poetic motif, metaphor, heartbreak, danger and tragedy, life-affirming renewal and rebirth. This kind of list could go on forever and I left off favorites (like Bruce Springsteen's "The River," Fela Kuti's "Water No Get Enemy," and Irma Thomas's "It's Raining.") These ten are just drops in the ocean.

JAMES CARR "POURING WATER ON A DROWNING MAN"

The title of this song tells it all. A deep soul classic from the rich voice behind such classics as "Dark End Of The Street" and "These Ain't Raindrops." All three of these southern soul gems are on James Carr's essential 1967 album, *You Got My Mind Messed Up*.



JOE HENDERSON "WATER"

The jazz tenor player was pushing his boundaries on the 1970 Milestone album, *Elements*, with Alice Coltrane on piano and harp, among others. It's a bit outside, perhaps fusiony, but this transcendental jazz will carry you along.

RANDY NEWMAN "LOUISIANA 1927"

A song about the flooding in St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes, and President Coolidge's cold response in the face of that disaster. Later beautifully covered by Aaron Neville, this song took on new poignancy after Hurricane Katrina.

ELIS REGINA "ÁGUAS DE MARÇO"

A lovely early-'70s bossa nova tune by Antonio Carlos Jobim. The rainy season can make you feel introspective, and this song is evocative with its poetic stream of consciousness. Many consider the wonderful, playful duet version by Jobim and Elis Regina on the 1974 album *Elis & Tom* to be definitive. I am partial to Elis's intimate solo version from her first self-titled album, *Elis* (1972).

LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE "TRES VECES MOJADO"

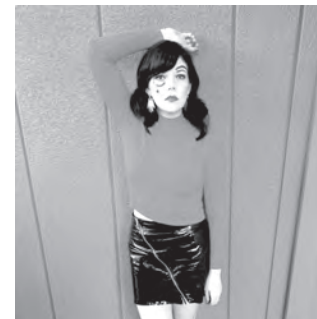
Los Tigres Del Norte's hit about crossing multiple borders from Central America to escape violence and oppression, only to feel unwelcome in the U.S. This song was big when it was first released on their classic album *La Banda Del Carro Rojo* in 1975, and 44 years later it's still topical.

ARETHA FRANKLIN "DROWN IN MY OWN TEARS"

A classic on the Queen of Soul's essential Atlantic album, *I Never Loved A Man*. A song about a heartbreak so deep, you don't know if you can come back from it. Aretha is singing it for all of us here.

MEMPHIS MINNIE & KANSAS JOE MCCOY "WHEN THE LEEVE BREAKS"

A 1929 country blues song about the Mississippi flood of 1927. It's pretty bleak when you lose your house to the water, and your woman too. Yes, this is the original that Led Zeppelin liberally appropriated from, and influenced generations of bands and rock fans thereafter. You need to hear it.



UNQUIET AND FEMALE-FRONTED

An interview with Erin Eyesore of Ribbon Around a Bomb
By Kells

Radio: who wants it, who needs it, what has it done for you lately? For me, any Wednesday I can tune in to catch *Ribbon Around a Bomb* from 8 to 10pm on Radio Valencia works like a restorative and empowering sonic tonic. Curated and contextualized by host Erin Eyesore, I've come to rely on the show as a source for discovering obscure and often new-to-me oddities, a celebratory exhibition of bygone voices, and ultimately a testament to womanpower expressed through music. Here's an interview with Erin discussing all things *Ribbon Around a Bomb* and then some...

WHAT CAN PEOPLE EXPECT TO HEAR WHEN THEY LISTEN TO RIBBON AROUND A BOMB?

Ribbon Around a Bomb is a radio program that showcases rare, freaky, (un)funky, post-punk, new wave, pogo-pop, DIY, deathrock, synthcrap, and experimental music of the '70s and '80s. Every single track I play is female-fronted. The vast majority of the songs were recorded between 1976-1986. It's a very international show, and it is also a gender non-binary and trans-inclusive show. I play a lot of music just for the sake of surfacing

odd and obscure long-lost gems, including those which are cheesy as hell. On a typical night a listener might hear: Model Citizens, The Belle Stars, Appliances, Hagar the Womb, Mercenárias, Phranc, Mizutama Shobodan, Die Hausfrauen, Los Microwaves, Ixna, Tokow Boys, and Essential Logic. Sometimes I like to say that the show's tagline is: this.

WHAT IS RIBBON AROUND A BOMB'S ORIGIN STORY?

Ribbon Around a Bomb evolved out of a radio show I created in college from 2005-2008 called *The Aleph*. It broadcast on KCSB. FM and basically featured post-punk and no wave. I had steeped myself in that crap as a teenager (devouring every obscure Lydia Lunch film, John Peel archives, footage of Peter Dinklage's New Wave Theater and Glenn O'Brien's TV Party, not to mention the then-new books on Punk and No Wave... you get it.)

One night in Santa Barbara, when I was 19 years old, I was playing a song by Lizzy Mercier Descloux featuring vocals by Patti Smith on *The Aleph*. I got a call at the station, and someone said "What are you



doing playing this song?" I said, "I know, it's strange. I'll play something catchy next." The voice then revealed this: "No... I love this song. I just only know a handful of people who have even heard of it. My name is Lenny, and I play guitar for Patti. Have since the '70s. Anyway nice to meet you and thanks for bringing me back." Turned out it was Lenny Kaye, who became a dedicated fan of my program. That was a very sweet moment for young me.

So after a couple years of living on the Navajo Nation and not doing radio post-college, I moved to SF and in 2012, I started Ribbon Around a Bomb with my best friend and former co-host Ais (pronounced "Ash"), a.k.a. DJ Aistray. It was similar to The Aleph, but with a focus on female and genderqueer artists. The title of the show comes from a phrase that André Breton used to describe the work of Frida Kahlo.

HAS THE BASIS OF THE SHOW ALWAYS BEEN SHOWCASING RARE, FEMALE-FRONTED POST-PUNK, NEW WAVE, DIY, EXPERIMENTAL, ETC. FROM THE LATE-'70S AND EARLY-'80S?

Pretty much, yeah! When it first started, the show in general was a bit more punk, and it has evolved to include more mega-rare noise/new wave/oddbits from around the globe. I've also been doing more interviews, including this one with Cozey Fanni Tutti.

WHEN DID THE MUSIC/DECADES YOU FOCUS ON IN YOUR SHOW FIRST APPEAL TO YOU PERSONALLY? WERE THERE ANY PARTICULAR GATEWAY BANDS OR ARTISTS?

The first time I heard The Waitresses "I Know What Boys Like" on the radio as a child was transformative. In some ways, I've spent my entire adult life chasing that feeling. Even as a kid, I knew it was hilarious. Fun. Odd. So dumb it's brilliant. So dry it's hot.

Lydia Lunch totally blew my high-school mind. A lot of her material had gave me that same sense of, "this is so base that it's evolved," but just in a darker way than the kitschy new wave groups I loved. As a teenager, I spent a good couple of years eschewing all music outside of New York No Wave. Full disclosure: I was born in 1987, so I completely missed all of this stuff coming out. For what it's worth, the first concert I ever attended was Bryan Ferry of Roxy Music (thanks Mom!). That made young me feel SOME THINGS.

THE FOCUS OF THE SHOW STAYS PRETTY HONED IN ON MOSTLY OBSCURE MUSIC MADE BY WOMEN DURING 1970S/80S, —DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU'VE HEARD ALL THERE IS?

People have often asked me about Ribbon Around a Bomb, "Why don't you play newer stuff? Why do you even have a gender distinction?" In my mind, it's pretty simple:



there is so, so, so much incredible material from non-dude artists from that era, and I'm into celebrating it. So much of it remains underappreciated, if not entirely unearthed (undoubtedly due to the historic marginalization and erasure of women's achievements in general) so my work constantly feels worthwhile.

There is also a tendency for radio DJs to be like, "I play whatever *I* find interesting, I'm not limiting myself to any genre!" And then you tune in to their show, and it's basically the same not-quite-underground-not-quite-mainstream white guy indie rock, with the occasional white guy classic rock or psychedelic rock track thrown in. This phenomenon is like the "I like everything except rap or country" of radio shows. I was never interested in that surface level shit. I'm interested in deep dives. And in many ways, setting parameters for yourself as a DJ facilitates the deepest of dives, as Ribbon Around a Bomb has for me, for seven years now. I'm still doing it precisely because I haven't reached the bottom yet.

WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE UNUSUAL DISCOVERIES MADE WHILE SOURCING FOR YOUR SHOW?

My favorite thing that I ever found in the \$1 bin at a record store is a single by a little-known group called Digette—their 1984 cover of this 1981 German track, "Fred Vom Jupiter" is a total delight.

Admittedly, the "discoveries" that truly excite me the most these days are videos. There is material I've heard and loved for so long, and when I finally see a live version or music video for it, it's so special. Take for instance, this great French T.V. version of Lizzy Mercier Descloux's "Fire," a song that I blasted well before YouTube existed. Seeing those life-affirming dance moves just added a new dimension. The aesthetic choices that go into a visual representation of a song absolutely fascinate me. The choreography, the set design, the theatricality, the makeup, the stage presence, and of course... the style. Seeing Choluta's 1987 cover of Flans' 1981 song "No Controles" was super interesting. This car-horn version of "The Star-Spangled Banner" is great. Pure '80s cheese makes me happy. My interest extends into T.V., performance art and comedy, like the extraordinary visual treat that was Just Say Julie:

COULD YOU SHARE SOME REVELATIONS RIBBON AROUND A BOMB HAS BROUGHT YOU?

Well, right now I'm really into this phenomenon of new wave groups that functioned more like art collectives—groups with loose (even joke-y), experimental, and multidisciplinary approaches to music-making, and a diverse roster of members. All-female groups like New York's Pulsallama and LA's Castration Squad. Dadaist collectives that blended jazz or spoken word traditions with punk rock sensibilities. Groups from Europe like Family



Fodder, Rip Rig + Panic, Lucrate Milk, even, you know, Chumbawamba. I'm interested in the possibilities that these models can offer us as a society in general. Possibilities for play, for creation and for community outside of just music-making.

This should go without saying but since a lot of people still don't recognize: artists of color make the best punk, new wave and '80s rock music. ESG, hello. Then you've got Neneh Cherry, Poly Styrene, Grace Jones, OBVIOUSLY. Ska groups like The Bodysnatchers with Rhoda Dakar and The Selecter with Pauline Black. Good God, Betty Davis. VAGINAL DAVIS. There are tons of lesser known WOC who made these scenes all over the world rad and special, who I hope people get to know: Vanessa Richards of Bolero Lava, Gail Ann Dorsey who played with Bowie, Yvonne Ducksworth of Combat Not Conform, and Anne-Marie and Sharon of Amazulu, and Lorita Grahame of Colourbox. So many more.

I think it's interesting how the music you play sometimes speaks to women's issues of today with surprisingly pointed relevance despite the dated sound/quality of the music itself, do you think these songs remain overlooked in part because they're made by women and/or steeped in womanhood?

The first time I heard Yoko Ono's "Woman Power" (1973), it absolutely floored me. I think everyone should listen to it today. It's radical as fuck, but also these lyrics still feel completely

reasonable to me: "You've heard of natural selection? / That's how we're gonna do it, baby. / We allow men who wanna join us / The rest can just stay by themselves." I remember playing it a lot after the Bad Election of 2016 and just angry-crying when Yoko sang, "I wanna make one thing clear, I'm the President, you hear?" Of course, Yoko is the classic example of a woman being dismissed as an artist and as a human as a result of mostly men defining her by her partner. Her sort of femininity is unconventional and I think it scares a lot of men. Yoko for President.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS KICKED OFF YOUR SHOW WITH GINNY ARNELL'S SELF-DEPRECATING 1963 HIT "DUMB HEAD"? IS THERE A STORY BEHIND WHY IT'S THE SHOW OPENER?

Ah, "Dumb Head." I actually had a different opener for the first couple years of the show. It was another docile anti-banger: Patience and Prudence, "A Smile and a Ribbon" from 1956. I later switched to the more iconic "Dumb Head." I used to imagine these intro songs as sort of palate cleansers, something simple and childish and dumb to kick off the show. I genuinely love the songs, though. It's not an ironic thing. I don't know, maybe I have musical Stockholm Syndrome because I've spent so much time with them.

*Tune into Ribbon Around a Bomb,
Wednesdays from 8-10pm on Radio Valencia.
www.radiovalencia.fm*



DR. JOHN

Favorites from the New Orleans Music Icon
by Bill Jam

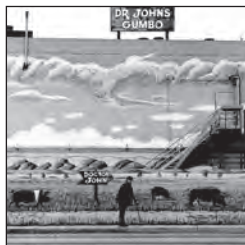
On June 6th, 2019 New Orleans music icon Dr. John died at age 77, following several years of ill health. The following day the beloved Big Easy musician was warmly honored in his hometown when hundreds of Dr. John fans took to the streets for a traditional second line parade in his honor. Later that night hometown funk DJ Shane Love's monthly NOLO funk dance party Hook & Sling featured a Dr. John themed playlist.

The New Orleans singer/pianist/guitarist was born Malcolm John Rebennack Jr. and grew up in the city's 3rd Ward (also home to such notables as Louis Armstrong, Big Freedia, Master P and Birdman). Initially a guitar playing singer, in his formative music years he shifted his focus away from stringed instrument to take up what would become his trademark boogie woogie styled piano accompaniment. By the late-'60s he had carved his unique identity by adapting the spiritual folkways New Orleans Voodoo derived persona of Dr. John The Night Tripper. He cemented this image with the release of his 1968 debut album *Gris-Gris* (Atco), whose title came from

the African/Wolof derived Voodoo terminology gris-gris meaning voodoo spell. Such later releases as the album *Voodoo Hex* would continue the Dr. John as voodoo witch doctor character mystique.

As "Dr. John The Night Tripper" Mac Rebennack further defined his Big Easy rooted image by dressing in traditional creole costume, on and sometimes off stage. Image aside, however, Dr. John became widely known and loved for gravelly-voiced raspy singing and a genuine passion for his native city's rich musical heritage, as uniquely interpreted by him via such releases as his aforementioned debut *Gris-Gris* (recently reissued on mono green vinyl) and his landmark 1972 album *Dr. John's Gumbo*. While this album is typically filed under New Orleans music, Dr. John incorporated many musical styles from his early era rock'n'roll stylings to rhythm & blues and jazz.

The most recent Dr. John title to arrive into Amoeba was the 2019 Orange Music Records released *Dr. John Recorded Live in*



Tokyo. Depending on where you look up his music, you're likely to find Dr. John filed under a myriad of categories including R&B, rock, blues, jazz, boogie-woogie, funk and even psychedelic rock/New Orleans.

Technically Dr. John's music can also be filed under hip-hop due to the number of times his back catalog has been sampled by such artists as Ice Cube, Beastie Boys, Vinnie Paz, Dudley Perkins, and KRS-One to name but a handful. Some Dr. John fans were first introduced to him via his guest spot singing "Such a Night" in Martin Scorsese's 1977 film *The Last Waltz*.

Beyond the must-have *Gris-Gris* and *Dr. John's Gumbo*, other recommended listening from Dr. John's deep back catalog include the mostly non-vocal/instrumental *Dr. John Plays Mac Rebennack* ("Mac's Boogie" is included here). However for those just now getting into the artist's work a recommended starting point are the numerous collections of his most memorable works; issued by various labels over the years on both CD and vinyl. Examples include the greatest hits packed *An Introduction to Dr. John* (latest 2019 edition features recently remastered versions of its ten tracks).

An even better introduction is the 30-track, double CD set *Dr. John The Definitive Pop Collection* that includes "Gris-Gris Gumbo Ya Ya," "Mama Roux," "Right Place, Wrong Time," "Such a Night," "Wash Mama Wash," "I Walk On Gilded Splinters," and "Black Widow Spider." Also included on this excellent artist collection are several tracks from the artist's fifth (and most famous) album; his musical tribute to famous music from his beloved city of New Orleans; *Dr. John's Gumbo*.

Tracks from the Jerry Wexler and Harold Battiste produced 1972 landmark album for Dr. John include interpretations of such New Orleans classics as "Iko Iko," Professor Longhair's "Tipitina," "Junko Partner," "Mess Around" and his own song (Mac Rebennack) "Somebody Changed The Lock." Featured on all of these Dr. John best-of collections is the song "Right Place Wrong Time" that originally appeared on his 1973 album *In The Right Place* on which he was backed by hometown soul/funk heroes The Meters with production by Allen Toussaint. "Such a Night" was another well known Dr. John track feature on that album.

Rest In Peace Dr. John.

BERKELEY

JAKOB

Bangor ME 1989

"Blue" Gene Tyranny – Out of the Blue

(UNSEEN WORLDS)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

Though "Blue" Gene Tyranny might be best known for working with total avant weirdo composer Robert Ashley, one doesn't need to know anything of those collaborations to be able to enjoy this LP's warped, melancholy, cartoonish beauty. A close friend turned me on to this recently during a midnight drive home across Berkeley, and I was immediately struck by how haunting and strange these songs are, somewhere between easy breezy pop and art music, with passages of ambient synthesizer and slapstick tempo and metre changes. They feel like contemporary composition experiments disguised as lost radio hits from some zone out of time, warping and bending inward on themselves before your very ears, equal parts alien and warmly familiar. The opening track, "Next Time Might Be Your Time," threatens to break my heart every time, but just as I get lost in its swirling, sparkly downer charm it clips into a cracked double time complete with whacky horn hits and reminds me how transcendent it is to hear a song that can almost make you cry and then giggle in the same breath.

Gehennah – Hardrocker [Reissue]

(CRITICAL MASS)

Find it in: METAL

Reissue of this thrash/speed metal scorchers from obscure Swedish beasts Gehenna. Fast beyond belief, caked in stinky beer crust and draped in studded denim, it howls and loosely screams down the rails, threatening to fall apart at nearly every instant. It's like if you got the classic lineup of Motörhead together, hit 'em all in the head with a baseball bat and made them shotgun a six-pack each, then had them play various permutations of the outro of "Overkill" for a whole record. Wild, insane, gross, and deeply fun. Shred on, shredders. Listen to this and imagine doing a wallie off Mr. Hand's face on your OG Santa Cruz fishtail deck.



JIM NASTIC

Amyl And The Sniffers – Amyl And The Sniffers

(ROUGH TRADE/ATO/FLIGHTLESS)

Find it in: PUNK

Institute – Readjusting The Locks

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: PUNK

The Fall – Live At The Witch Trials / Dragnet [Reissue]

Find it in: ROCK

Algebra Mothers – Strawberry Cheesecake 7"

(THIRD MAN)

Find it in: PUNK

Crass – The Feeding Of The 5000/ Stations Of The Crass / Penis Envy

(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Find it in: ROCK

Sparks – No. 1 In Heaven [40 Year Anniversary]

(LIL' BEETHOVEN RECORDS)

Find it in: ROCK

■ **The Beach Bum (2019) – Directed by Harmony Korine**

A sun-bleached feel good film from Harmony Korine full of the bizarre left-turns and trash-as-divinity moments the faithful have come to expect from the director. Many of my favorite moments in this film found their brilliance in Korine's powerfully genuine and unexpected use of what I'll call extremely familiar middle American radio refuse songs. There's Matthew McConaughey blissfully staggering around the Florida Keys to Jimmy Buffett's "A Pirate Looks at Forty" with a seemingly endless supply of PBR tallboys in hand; bleary-eyed scenes of partying in a dive bar set to Waylon Jennings' "Luckenbach Texas"; and still later on Gerry Rafferty's "Right Down the Line" and Eddie Money's "Two Tickets to Paradise." The real kicker is that McConaughey's character Moondog, a perpetually stoned and happily lost soul poet with the wardrobe of a schizoid parrot head, is constantly writing and reciting poems throughout the film that are largely lifted and abstracted from the works of Richard Brautigan. That is precisely the nigh-holy fusion of low and high that I have come to expect and adore from Mr. Korine. Plus, watching McConaughey, Snoop Dogg, and Jimmy Buffett himself mellowing out in a hot tub together was absolutely priceless.

■ **Funny Games (1997) [Criterion] – Directed by Michael Haneke**

A lovely Criterion reissue of this unbelievably frigged home invasion classic. Haneke gives the audience all the violence of your average slasher flick, except he delivers it in a detached and grimly matter-of-fact fashion that is—almost unbelievably—hilariously sardonic for those of strong stomach and weird mind. I feel bad that I like this one, but it has a sharpness and daring that has (judge me how you will) kept me coming back for more than one viewing.

■ **Cannibal Corpse – Hammer Smashed Face 12"**

(METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL

Limited edition 12" reissue of Cannibal Corpse's first single on Metal Blade records from wayyyy back in 1993, sporting their most famous song on the front ("Hammer Smashed Face") and two fantastic covers on the back (Bay legends Possessed's "The Exorcist" and rippers-only Sabbath obscurity "Zero the Hero"). Somewhere in heaven there's a rec room where infinite reruns of *Beavis and Butthead* play on the TV, fast food flows in an endless and guilt-free

trough from out of a pipeline running through the elysian meadow next door, the denim is tight, the sneakers are huge and cumbersome, Sega Genesis and SNES are still the hottest systems on the block, and the older bad kids still blast Cannibal Corpse, Obituary, and the like on their Walkmans on the bus to school. When I die, you can find my inner child rampaging through that room forever while this 12" plays at maximum volume.

■ **Kacey Musgraves – Golden Hour** (MCA NASHVILLE)

Find it in: COUNTRY

A lovely, kaleidoscopically produced album of razor sharp contemporary country-pop songs with both enough twang to satisfy the establishment and enough extracurricular frills to appeal to the crossover audience. I don't think this album exactly reinvents the wheel like some people do, but it is an undeniably masterful record that is an absolute joy to play front to back and feels like a sunny breath of fresh air. Slightly LSD-addled at the edges (according to the artist herself) in a way that really shows with repeated listens. My favorites here are "Velvet Elvis" (what a lyric, with fantastically post-modern art history attacks barbed in there and some excellent innuendos that feel delightfully Gainsbourgian) and "Space Cowboy" (there's a beer in my tear.) This was a real treat, and I'll be looking forward very much to what she does on her next one as well...

■ **J.J. Cale – Stay Around**

(BECAUSE MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

One posthumous last one from my guy J.J. Snail. J.J. was always a total oddball production-wise, with weird whispers in the fringes of the stereo field and tiny cartoon drum sounds and some of the most subtly bizarre guitar sounds I've ever heard, but to hear him bitcrush almost an entire song on here was absolutely bonkers.

■ **Keiji Haino – Watashi Dake?**

(BLACK EDITIONS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

■ **Mozzy – Internal Affairs** (EMPIRE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

■ **Townes Van Zandt – Sky Blue**

(FAT POSSUM)

Find it in: COUNTRY

Some of these posthumous rarities sound dubiously sourced (MP3 compression artifacts anyone?), but there are excellent versions of

"Rex's Blues" and "Pancho & Lefty" included, and some of the more obscure pieces on here are interesting to dig through in a fly-on-the-wall sort of way. It's sort of like an uncovered session that Townes could have recorded on his iPhone if he had lived long enough to own one. R.I.P.

■ **Conny Plank: The Potential of Noise (2017) – Directed by Reto Caduff & Stephan Plank**

A deeply personal exploration of the life and times of one of Germany's most famous producers, the ceaselessly visionary Conny Plank, told through face to face interviews between his son and the artists with which he made his name. The cast of interviewees will have left-field music nerds drooling, from Krautrock legends Michael Rother and Hans-Joachim Roedelius through Gerald Casale, DAF's Gabi Delgado-López and Robert Görl, Underworld's Karl Hyde and much, much more. It's an arresting and detail-rich portrait of an artist whose work touched many odd corners of the music world (from The Scorpions to Brooklyn rappers Whodini), and whose influence can still be felt strongly today.

■ **Chief Keef / Zaytoven – Glotoven (RBC)**

Find it in: HIP HOP

■ **Alex Cameron – Live in San Francisco** (CASTLEFACE)

Find it in: ROCK

■ **Falls of Rauros – Patterns In Mythology** (GILEAD MEDIA)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

■ **Prince – Originals** (NPG)

Find it in: SOUL

SASSY BROWN

DJ Pupshaw on KALX Berkeley 90.7 FM!

■ **Marissa Nadler & Stephen Brodsky – Droneflower** (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: FOLK

I know she's not actually doing this to me personally, but anyway, I like the idea that this album is actually Marissa Nadler singing me



lullabies before I go to bed. (This sounds weird right? Oh god, it does sound weird.) Anyways, this record is beautiful. Brodsky's fuzzy, lo-fi instrumentation surprisingly compliments that melancholy folk sound Marissa is known for. Also, there's a Guns 'N' Roses cover on here! Granted it's almost unrecognizable, but hey, gotta court that coveted "drone covers of 80s butt rock" fan demographic, right?

Diät – Positive Disintegration

(IRON LUNG)

Find it in: PUNK

There's a lot of albums out there that sound like they were recorded in a weathered, abandoned building somewhere in Berlin on an overcast and blisteringly cold afternoon. But I have yet to hear one that sounds like the building itself. This is what your reclusive older brother who dresses like Ian Curtis plays on the turntable when he locks the door to his bedroom and lights up a spliff. Politically charged vocals that sound like they were recorded underneath a train tunnel with the reverb knob turned all the way up are shouted over distorted guitar and driving synth rhythms. I'd be an idiot if I said Diät aren't borrowing heavily from the post-punk idols of the past, but despite all that this truly sounds like something made in contemporary times as opposed to the Joy Division worship of lesser acts.

Kompromat – Traum Und

Existenz (CLIVAGE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I judge all techno according to how much I enjoyed listening to it riding the train home at night. Based on this criteria, this record is fantastic. Next time you catch the late train give this a listen.

Holly Herndon – PROTO (4AD)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

It's definitely easy to get lost in the "concept" behind this album (i.e. that most of the compositions were generated by a custom AI program) and not pay attention to the actual music. Hell, it would have been easy for the whole thing to sound way less interesting than said concept and end up sounding too gimmicky for its own good. And yes, it does sound very gimmicky, but what a gimmick it is! The results of this production process are indescribable. Saying that it's "pop music, but by aliens" doesn't do it justice; just put this on and be awed by all the wild stuff that Herndon came up with. Recommended for people who like to put images of Karlheinz Stockhausen through DeepDream.

OTHER COOL STUFF:

TR/ST – The Destroyer - I

(HOUSE ARREST)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Priests – The Seduction of

Kansas (SISTER POLYGON)

Find it in: PUNK

Alberich – Quantized Angel

(HOSPITAL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

The World – Reddish (LUMPY)

Find it in: PUNK

Rakta – Falha Comum

(NADA NADA DISCOS)

Find it in: PUNK

VAUGHN

Foxygen – Seeing Other People

(JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: ROCK

Bryan Ferry – Bitter-Sweet

(BMG)

Find it in: ROCK

Neil Young & The Stray Gators

– Tuscaloosa (REPRISE)

Find it in: ROCK

Grateful Dead – Aoxomoxoa

(RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

J.J. Cale – Stay Around (BECAUSE)

Find it in: ROCK

Van Morrison – Astral Weeks

Alternative 10" (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: ROCK

Marvin Gaye – You're The Man

(MOTOWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Lee Fields – It Rains Love

(BIG CROWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Sharon Van Etten – Remind Me Tomorrow

(JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: ROCK

Cornell Campbell – I Man A

The Stal-A-Watt (VP)

Find it in: REGGAE

Gregory Isaacs – Mr. Isaacs

(MICRON/VP)

Find it in: REGGAE

KEVIN

Don Cherry – Brown Rice (A&M)

Find it in: JAZZ

Spiritual, groovy, atmospheric classic from a true explorer of jazz music. Beautiful reissue in a gatefold package.

Norma Tanega – Walkin' My Cat Named Dog

(REAL GONE)

Find it in: FOLK

This is a folk gem to look out for, with some incredible songs done by a truly gifted Bay Area native. She has a super interesting history but is relatively unknown to most.

Leon Russell – Live At Gilley's

(VARESE SARABANDE)

Find it in: ROCK

A RSD title that was slept on from the late Leon Russell. This is an early-'80s live recording. The recording itself is a bit compressed & wonky, but the band is SO HOT that it really doesn't matter. A bluegrass burner featuring Newgrass Revival and a couple other percussion players that are unusual for this setting but just kill it.

Lee Moses – How Much Longer Must I Wait **(Singles & Rarities 1965-1972)**

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Lee Moses is an underappreciated soul singer. This is the follow-up of the masterpiece *Time & Place*, which just came back into circulation and is a must-have. Some of the recordings are not great on this, but it's all about his voice. He never sounds less than stunning.

The Sylvers – The Sylvers

(MR. BONGO)

Find it in: SOUL

First album by the family soul band brought to us by the proprietors of great reissues, Mr. Bongo. I wrote a long blurb in the last MWL about their second album, which again, is a funk/soul essential. Buy it. This one is more on the soul groove tip, less funky, more melancholy, no filler. Classic, must have for soul collectors!

Azymuth – Demos (1973-1975)

(FAR OUT)

Find it in: WORLD

Early demos from the Brazilian crowned kings of Jazz/Fusion. Straight FIRE!!! Pretty raw in comparison to what came after but not to their fault. Don't be deterred by the word "demos". These are some of the best "demos" I have ever heard. Five stars!!!!

The Comet Is Coming – Trust In The Lifeforce of The Deep Mystery (IMPULSE)

Find it in: JAZZ

I haven't been so stoked on a new band in a long time! Saw this English trio play recently, and their live show blew me away. To me their songs are synth driven jazz-rock with spaced-out parts between. They create soundscape that will make you feel like you're walking on the moon and then the comet comes and annihilates your brain. To confine them to one genre would not do them justice. But pieces of jazz, electronic, world, rock and experimental come together to make a great result that, to me, is something totally fresh. Features the sax player from jazz band Sons of Kemet, who are equally (if not more) interesting.





FELIX

Hector Berlioz – *La Damnation de Faust*

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

Featuring: Igor Markevitch / Richard Verreau / Michel Roux / Consuelo Rubio / Orchestre Lamoureux / Chœurs Elisabeth Brasseur

Inspired by one of the greatest works of German literature, Hector Berlioz became infatuated with Goethe's play when the composer was just 25 years young. Seventeen years later Berlioz composed "La Damnation de Faust" which developed into such a colossal piece that Berlioz himself admitted the impossibility of staging this mammoth work of two choruses, large orchestra with four solo voices (160 chorus members and a 90 piece orchestra). But Berlioz admitted this only after he first staged "Faust" in 1846 at the Opéra-Comique in Paris. The Paris audience was not receptive to Berlioz's staged production due to its fragmentary nature. If it was not meant to be an opera then what exactly was it? Berlioz finally coined his work as a "légende dramatique" and conceded the impossibility of presenting it to the public. Luckily for us, "La Damnation de Faust" has ultimately been transformed into becoming not only his most cherished composition but has been embraced by the greatest orchestras and singers throughout the world. This 1959 recording from Paris, conducted by Igor Markevitch with the Orchestre Lamoureux has been thankfully resurrected and remastered by the classical label Deutsche Grammophon so as to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Hector Berlioz's death in 1869. The performance and audio quality of this attractive set (especially the Blu-ray audio) are truly astounding.

First off, what really drives this performance into revered territory is the sheer resilience of the orchestra for the structure of "La Damnation de Faust" is perpetually transformed into varied shapes of melodies and harmonies. A marvelous bite-sized example of this is in the third track entitled "March hongrois" where the might and muscle of the orchestra is not without a sense of charm and allure. The Orchestre Lamoureux is driven with an amazing level of uniformity and balance thanks to Markevitch's wonderful sense of self-control and restraint at the podium. The listener hears exactly what Berlioz intended without any newly devised input from the conductor. The real challenge for Markevitch is to keep the action behind the music so as to bring the dramatic line of the orchestra to the forefront. And I love the dramatic pacing of Markevitch's execution. To add to its dramatic quality there's even a sense of graininess to the finished sound of the orchestra jettisoning any sense of a lacquered or varnished coating.

The French-Canadian tenor, Richard Verreau, makes for an ideal Faust. One gets an early glimpse of Verreau's velvety delivery just after a brief opening phrase from the orchestra. And what a voice as the diaphanous orchestral phrasing lovingly leads Faust towards aspiring heights. Mr. Verreau's warm tone is marvelously displayed here producing an unabashed charm to his delivery. Verreau's comportment throughout this episodic tragedy reveals a credulous bent to his character which seems to be what Goethe had in mind when developing Faust's temperament.

Méphistophélès, sung by the French baritone Michel Roux, makes a timely entrance (about 25 minutes in) exuding a cautious delivery but well contained tone with crafty intentions. His evilness is intentionally concealed so as to enhance his deceit. And the Spanish mezzo Consuelo Rubio singing the role of Marguerite (who becomes Faust's innamorata) asserts a marvelous "Autrefois un roi de Thulé" within 10 minutes into the second disc. Miss Rubio exhibits a low, deep throatiness to her delivery implementing purpose to her narrative. Her lustrous voice in "Autrefois un roi de Thulé" coupled with the closeness of the lead violin is quite fetching. Goosebumps are in order. Also there is a wonderful duet between both Miss Rubio & Mr. Verreau where the oboes lead us inside a magical space of beautiful singing where very little is held back.

But the winning aria goes to "D'amour l'ardente flamme" sung by Marguerite (Miss Rubio) about 31 minutes into the second disc. The leading

oboe sets the romantic pace to one of the most captivating and fine lines Berlioz ever wrote. And I say ONE of the most for Maestro Berlioz has written so many of them. What's so wonderful about this particular aria is that the mezzo or soprano can really showcase their tone/colors in a genuine fashion for this is where Miss Rubio's timbre is disclosed.

It's important to note that this 1959 recording was truncated, most likely so as to fit two LPs when it was initially released 60 years ago. Also the tempo, compared to other "Faust" recordings, is much faster. So, because of these important adjustments, the listener gets to the heart of this fabulous masterpiece in record time yet amazingly it does not diminish its effectiveness. In fact I find that it adds appeal and charm to the music. Deutsche Grammophon has done a marvelous job of packaging this gorgeous set by adding two CDs with the single Blu-ray audio disc. The listener now has the option of playing a high quality disc (Blu-ray audio) in his/her own home stereo system with the convenience of transporting the separate two CDs to your work or car. Or lend them to a friend. Smart packaging and an excellent choice of recording from one of the most highly regarded and respected classical labels on the market.

HIGHLY recommended!

Jean Sibelius – *Symphony No. 1 / En Saga* (ALPHA)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

Featuring: Santtu-Matias Rouvali / Gothenburg Symphony

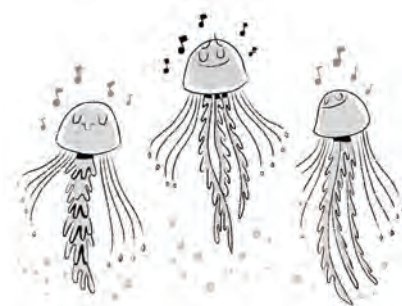
Think of panoramic views where distant majestic mountains appear awe-inspiring not only due to their awesome size but more so because the sky, despite the immensity of the mountains, rules and controls the scenery. The enormous distance between just two separate peaks are truly a wonder to behold. I've imagined this scenario dozens of times in the past while listening to Sibelius' first symphony. It's an imagery that makes the most sense to me when describing this breath-taking work by Sibelius who finished composing it when he was just 33 in Helsinki. And so it's fitting that exactly 120 years later, another 33-year-old Finnish musician, Santtu-Matias Rouvali, the newly appointed conductor of Sweden's own Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, has conducted and recorded this same symphony with striking results.

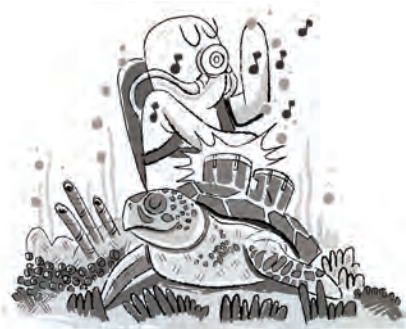
This particular reading is bold & lustrous with plenty of tangible and sensory experiences in regards to some notable details which

Mr. Rouvali is capable of underscoring. Even the clarinet solo which opens the first movement carries enough weight to guide the listener towards the inspiring release of a multitude of strings and woodwinds. Sonorous and sweet are the effects of the strings with a shimmering rumble of percussion. When all goes suddenly quiet the listener can clearly hear the execution of strings playing pizzicato then back to the soaring sounds of the orchestra. The back and forth pace is capable of lulling one towards the unknown depths of the imagination without a care in the world. And the isolated fluttering sound of the flute, three minutes and 40 seconds into the Andante movement, sounds alive and breathing; almost as if one could grab it with one's own hand.

This is inspired playing from the GSO and it shouldn't be surprising why Rouvali has been appointed principal guest conductor to various symphonies throughout the world. I also find it no wonder why he can develop tangible effects from his orchestra, for Mr. Rouvali was trained as a percussionist from a very early age. Glistening and lustrous sounds are heard throughout the four movements by a wide variety of clustered tones and colors of the woodwinds, strings, and percussion with booming clarity. A perfect example of this is heard throughout the "Finale" (4th movement) where a wide variety of colors are represented in wonderful relief. Nine minutes in, the listener will hear a gorgeous sound of the strings soaring to dizzying elevations. Ethereal and heavenly are the perfect words to describe the feeling we ascend to.

This inspired recording concludes with Sibelius' tone poem; "En Saga" (A Fairy Tale); a perfect example of venturesome and courageous music composed when he was just 27. Within these 19 minutes one hears bits and pieces of folkloric phrasing which reach towards mythic implications.





It's a piece I desire to hear more of simply because of its mysterious nature. Sibelius himself was asked about its meaning and here he states, "'En Saga' is psychologically one of my most profound works. I could almost say that the whole of my youth is contained within it. It is an expression of a state of mind."

Since this is not the first time I've selected a Santtu-Matias Rouvali recording for a MWL review I'm now motivated to be on the lookout for others with him at the helm. If you're pining for striking picturesque landscapes with illusions of magnificence and vastness then search no more. It's right here. Buy now.

Berlioz / Liszt / Wagner – Sirènes (HARMONIA MUNDI)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

**Featuring: Stéphanie d'Oustrac /
Pascal Jourdain**

Here we have poignant interpretations of art songs for voice and piano where French mezzo soprano Stéphanie d'Oustrac and long-time collaborator and pianist Pascal Jourdain team-up to tackle distinguished and well-known songs from the Romantic composers—Franz Liszt; Hector Berlioz and Richard Wagner. The six individual songs composed by Liszt as well as the song cycle by Berlioz were written by prominent poets and writers of the time with yearning and desire as their chosen themes. The song cycle by Wagner which concludes the program was inspired by a secret lover of Wagner's who wrote a number of poems to him while being married to a man who had recently helped Wagner out financially. So it's logical to assume all of these songs address the matters of blind love; a love that is short-lived and not without perilous consequences.

The opening song is entitled "Die Loreley," written by the German lyric poet Heinrich Heine and composed by Liszt himself. A simply

gorgeous song concerning the peculiarities of a steep rock on the River Rhine in Germany which, throughout the many years, has created and inspired numerous tales. Miss d'Oustrac sings ever so meticulously here as she is precise in her diction but not without an appealing sense of color. There are shades of dusky dark tones as well as flawless clarity. Pascal Jourdain accompanies these varied tones of color with a scrupulous and ever so careful sprinkling of notes. An interesting fact concerning the opening piano notes which starts the song are the exact same notes Wagner uses (steals!) to open the opera "Tristan und Isolde" and is considered to be the most famous single chord in the history of music. There are actually whole books written concerning "the Tristan chord," but I digress.

Of the six Liszt songs presented here, four were written by the famous German writer Goethe and two by Heine. All of these songs are poignantly touching and extremely fragile in both meaning and in execution. And the same goes for the following song cycle by Berlioz; "Les nuits d'été" (Summer nights); six poems of Théophile Gautier concerning the painful progression of love.

Originally written for voice and piano (as performed here) was later revised for orchestra. The charm and beauty of these six songs makes this one of the greatest song cycles ever composed.

Again, Miss d'Oustrac does a splendid job of varying her timbre, establishing her as a unique contributor to a well trodden composition for there are a ton out there to choose from.

But the more interesting part of the program belongs to the concluding song cycle by Richard Wagner, "Wesendonck-Lieder," which—knowing Miss d'Oustrac's repertoire of French songs—comes as a bit of a surprise. The flow here is not as fluid as the songs before for her intonations are more forceful (including Jourdain's piano). Nevertheless d'Oustrac's singing is quite remarkable given the varied shadings and trills that is required in German lieder. Her contributions towards these songs of Wagner's are truly distinct from the typical Wagnerian voices I've heard in the past. Miss d'Oustrac's delivery seems to be more fragile yet with intimate degrees of tones. There is an closeness and familiarity toward these songs that sound refreshing. Almost as if she were privately addressing a person directly in front of her. Impressive singing to say the least.

The 75+ minutes of music on this disc is quite a lot to take in. But if you're willing to tackle a number of highly regarded art songs from the 19th century repertoire and hear them being sung with a high degree of intimacy then you're in for a real treat. Take your sweet precious time with this one and most of all, enjoy the music!

Thomas Adès – The Exterminating Angel

(ERATO / WARNER CLASSICS)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

**Featuring: Thomas Adès /
The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra
and Chorus**

Based on the 1962 Luis Buñuel film under the same name about high society dinner guests being inexplicably trapped inside a luxurious drawing room, unable to leave due to unseen forces. This nightmare has notably shaken these hedonistic guests into what they always really were; self-centered poseurs. But the proceedings leading up to their traumatic ordeal are not only eerie and dreadful but also quite humorous and a lot of fun to watch. British composer Thomas Adès join forces with Irish producer/librettist Tom Cairns to create an unusual and highly bizarre—if not challenging—opera that is filled with unexpected jolts and surprises that simply becomes surreal. A fascinating opera that is strangely on par with the awkward times we presently live in.

The Exterminating Angel is far from what one would typically call, an opera. With the exception of just one brief but weirdly beautiful love duet, most of the words are transformed into highly stylized singing with highly contrasting vocal types stressing each individual's different personality. Most of the vocal notes that Adès writes have specific pitches that are very challenging to sing and so what the listener gets are a kaleidoscope of closely knit voices, each demanding to be heard despite the fact that some of the words can be difficult to decipher. Adès cares more about exaggerating the vocal line to expose the character's (singer's) expressive yet fragile nature. Even though it's sung in English, one might need to click the subtitle button in order to understand what exactly is being said. This is especially the case when the guest of honor, Leticia Maynar's singing voice (soprano Audrey Luna) briefly hits the A above the high C every time she wants to be heard. When Miss Luna reaches this backbreaking high note her mannerisms become highly animated as she strains to reach the higher note while still remaining in her role (her character is an opera star as well as the guest of honor). She's quite amusing to witness.

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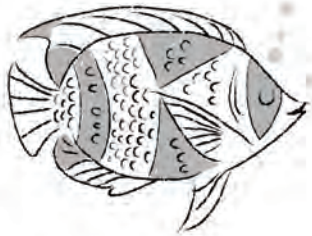
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The only dinner guest who possesses any sense of reason is Doctor Carlos Conde (English bass, Sir John Tomlinson) who attempts to establish some order of discipline while everyone else around him are beginning to go literally insane. You see, all 15 guests, many days later, have yet to leave the parlor and are suddenly without food and water. Phobias begin to develop and weirdness starts to take shape. While all this is happening, Adès (who also serves as conductor) leads the MET Orchestra with diaphanous and fragile phrasing that leans toward the atmospheric. This creates an eerie effect which serves to heighten the moodiness and desperate nature of what's occurring in the room. In order to elevate the strangeness, Adès adds an early electronic instrument, the ondes Martenot (played by Cynthia Millar) during the interludes, establishing a science fiction-like aura. There's even an occasion where Adès suddenly unveils a multitude of toy violins all at once with hair-raising effect.

Visually what I love about this production is the clever use of lighting which I find alluring but melancholic. The lighting designer, Jon Clark, uses stark isolated spots of lighting to create lush and sumptuous shadows while increasing the dramatic intensity of the characters. Costume and set designer, Hildegard Bechtler, does a spectacular job of incorporating an array of low key colors not meant to clash or create tension since a great deal of that is already happening. And choreographer Amir Hosseinpour makes a rather challenging and complicated job look remarkably entertaining, as the body language of each character speak volumes and becomes crucial to the opera's success. Just observing the characters alone preening around the stage is quite entertaining.

But there are a great deal more characters (several more) in this opera that deserve more recognition—including how they each handle adversity. There were at least a dozen different scenarios occurring side by side leading all the way to the final curtain (which happily, ends on a positive note!). This train or flow of tragedies

are a crucial part of the seduction that oddly string the viewer along as a lot of these incidents can be a bit alarming. It eventually becomes obvious that Adès is very interested in Buñuel's sense of surrealism and how Adès chooses to incorporate this into his ideas of expressionism. Eccentricity, abnormality, primitivism, hallucination and absurdity are parts and pieces that Adès has joined together into creating a very difficult work. A work that he has apparently chiseled at for nearly 20 years and finally finished. This is a wonderful accomplishment that deserves to be known. The faint of heart types out there steer clear of this one. Only the brave folk should really consider buying this. This opera is wickedly fun while it strangely feels as though we are all presently experiencing similar vulgarities within our own society. The timeliness of this opera is rather peculiar. I dare you to check this one out; you'll never forget what you are about to witness.

MICHAEL H

*International specialist, vinyl lover,
cassette enthusiast, DJ Megasoup on
KALX, one half of Skyminds
(<https://skyminds.bandcamp.com>)
and solo sound artist / producer
aka Selaroda ~
<https://selaroda.bandcamp.com>*

Amma Ateria – Vague Pure Affection [Cassette] (BIMODAL PRESS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Bay Area label Bimodal Press follows up the lovely John Davis LP with this cassette & digital release from Hong Kong-born and Oakland-based artist Jeanie Aprille Tang, aka Amma Ateria. It's all instrumental and experimental but never gets extreme. Over the course of the album, she blends a number of unusual textures which slowly coalesce into some really remarkable electroacoustic sound art. Field recordings and various machine sounds abound, with occasional low throbs and clicking bits, all laced with what feels like a hundred subtly different gradations of radio static. These pieces have an organic ebb and flow, never getting too dense or too noisy, and always maintaining interest as they continually evolve, expand, and contract. A truly deep album that rewards patient listening, and grows on you over time. One of my favorite albums of 2019 so far, and an incredible work of art!

Thomas Carnacki – The Museum of Lost Species

(ALETHIOMETER)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Following up on a handful of CD releases, a split LP with Vulcanus 68, and their excellent debut 7-inch last year, this is the first full-length vinyl release from Thomas Carnacki, the local ensemble of sonic adventurers led by Gregory Scharpen. This album features their finest work to date, continuing their tradition of creating multilayered instrumental works that are filled with lots of interesting textural interplay. Here, we find three lengthy audio adventures that brim with a curiously compelling strangeness. "Dark ambient," "light industrial," simply "experimental" or "avant-garde"... whatever you call it, it is a worthwhile voyage, filling your mind with fascinating imagery as you try to figure out exactly what is creating all these bizarre sounds (short answer: everything!). Lots of ominous, brooding soundscapes, some cloudy drones and controlled squalls, as well as a few passages of understated beauty. As with several past releases, this outing features the talents of a number of long-time TC collaborators who perform live with the group, including local experimental mainstays Cheryl Leonard, Sheila Bosco, and Gregory Hagan. Also featured (on tracks A1 and B2) is Jim Kaiser, the longtime Bay Area experimentalist and Amoeba Berkeley employee who ran the Petit Mal label, and whose trademark instrument was a bowed bicycle wheel. This record is dedicated to him after his unexpected passing in early 2018, and one couldn't ask for a finer tribute to a man who was both an uncompromising musician and also a wonderful human being. Rest in peace Jim, and viva Thomas Carnacki!

Dax Pierson – Live In Oakland [Cassette] (RATSKIN)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Many years in the making, this fantastic album from former (and forever) Amoeba Berkeley family member Dax Pierson is a joy to hear. After an accident in 2005, he has been paralyzed from the waist down, with only limited use of his arms. As technology has evolved to allow him greater access to music-making software and hardware that can work with his disability, he has been able to create this eclectic album of futuristic electronic music. Every track is excellent, and the music here runs the gamut stylistically... polyrhythmic percussive patterns in odd times signatures, cavernous ambient drones, post-Dilla hip hop grooves, classic electro-funk dance jams, experimental electronica and IDM,

along with some psychedelic sound collages featuring various field recordings, sampled and manipulated voices, extraterrestrial synths, and much more. An epic journey packed with very inspiring music by one of the nicest people I've ever had the pleasure to know. I am so thankful and happy that local label Ratskin helped to make this album a reality. Very highly recommended!

Orquesta Akokan – Orquesta Akokan

(DAPTONE)

Find it in: WORLD

I can't believe I didn't review this last time around, but I'll make up for that now. I absolutely adore this album, which is a loving homage to the classic Cuban big band and mambo sound of the 1940s and '50s. You can really hear the similarities to artists such as Beny Moré and Perez Prado, especially in the incredible arrangements by pianist Mike Eckroth. Cuban-born singer Jose "Pepito" Gomez has one of those remarkable voices with great range and passion, not unlike Beny Moré or even the legendary Hector Lavoe. Seeing them live was pretty amazing, and I'm still feeling buzzed off the good vibes from the show. It's rare treat to see any 13-piece band, let alone one as tight and talented as these guys are. What a fantastic group, and I urge you to buy this and see them live if you get the chance. I was excited to hear that there are plans to make a follow up record at some point too.

Various Artists – Unusual Sounds

(ANTHOLOGY)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Wonderful collection of classic library music released on this sub-label of Mexican Summer. Nearly every cut here is a winner, and this is one of those really well-curated comps that flows well as an album too. It starts with lots of (mostly instrumental and mostly mid-tempo) soulful funky groovers and then moves on to some more mellow spacy ambient pieces during the final handful of tracks. Features many of the biggest names in Italian library music, along with some German and various Eastern European legends. The tracks here date from 1971 to 1985, with all but two or three coming from 1973-1980. Not especially deep (lots of these are well-known within library music circles), but compiling them all in one place makes this essential, especially for those relatively new to the genre. Fans of the retro-style grooves featured on labels like Daptone, Colemine, Soul Jazz, and Soundway should enjoy this.

Paul Spheeris /
Chris Voudouris – Passage
(EMOTIONAL RESCUE / MOUNTAINS IN THE SEA)
Find it in: NEW AGE

Great reissue of this beautiful album of warm, organic ambient music that was originally released in 1982. All three long tracks are gorgeous, especially the sidelong title track. I put this album on one night recently when I was feeling stressed and the tension just melted away as it played. Fittingly enough, this record was originally made to be used for therapeutic purposes in a clinical setting by a biofeedback company, and used to help patients suffering from nervous disorders. The good news is that it still works and it is now available on vinyl again. Plus, it's a fantastic pressing which sounds great, with no surface noise at all. Top-notch!

Channelers – Entrance To
The Next [Cassette]

(INNER ISLANDS)
Find it in: NEW AGE
Another lovely album from local Oakland artist Sean Conrad (aka Ashan), released as a cassette on his own Inner Islands imprint. This album finds him utilizing some synths and flute, along with a lot of hammered dulcimer, which seems to be the primary instrument here. With this mostly simple palette, he creates beautiful cascading melodies that evoke epic natural landscapes and serene nature scenes. All instrumental, highly organic ambient / new age music that's very relaxing and meditative. There are lots of other excellent albums in a similar vein on Inner Islands as well, so if you dig this, check out their Bandcamp page for more great stuff!

Jacob Newman – Biospherica
(CARPE SONUM)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
A wonderful album of lovely organic ambient electronic music from this Denver musician. It's easy to get lost inside these gorgeous soundscapes, which feature lots of synths along with some piano and field recordings / nature sounds. Some subtle rhythmic elements appear on

about half of the tracks, but no heavy drums or beats, and lots of purely ambient space-music. Parts of this reminds me of some of Eno's best work (*Ambient 4* in particular), with a really nice, warm vibe and lots of intricate textural details. A couple tracks go for a sort of mellower version of what Gas or Segue do, a very subdued minimal dub-techno style groove. Very nice release overall, perfect for getting (or staying) mellow.

Laurie Spiegel –
The Expanding Universe
(UNSEEN WORLDS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Still sounds groundbreaking, even almost 40 years since it was originally released. She's worked with analog synths since 1969, wrote interactive compositional software at Bell Labs throughout the 1970s, finally putting out this debut in 1980. It takes you on an incredible sonic journey through uncharted spacescapes that sound like little else did back then and now sounds like a template for a lot of modern electronic and ambient music. A 2012 deluxe double CD version had a ton of bonus tracks that no previous single LP version has had until this new 3-LP version, which has almost all of them. Glorious!

N. Chambers – Air Example
(LOVE ALL DAY)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Another excellent album of shimmering bubbly electronic goodness from this Seattle synth wizard aka Panabrite. This one feels less retro and more modern than some of the Panabrite stuff, with lots of subtle psychedelic details and panning. I like this one more than most or perhaps even all of his previous work, and speaking as a huge fan of his work, that's really saying something. Also check out his album *Science of the Sea*, produced under the alias Jurgen Muller, some superb aquatic synthesizer soundscapes on that one.

Black Merlin – Kosua
(ISLAND OF THE GODS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Amazing unclassifiable double LP from this UK artist whose usual fare is beat oriented electronic music. Here, he travels to the island nation of Papua New Guinea and crafts a sprawling record laced with locally made field recordings from his trip. Sonically, it veers from experimental zones and ambient drones to ethno-electronica and even some classical sounding strings. A couple of tracks are pure field recordings of native traditions and

cultures of PNG, and these in particular are truly moving. Overall, an incredible album that takes you on a spiritual journey to a faraway land, placing you up front and personal with an ancient way of life though sound. Simply beautiful.

Malphino – Visit Malphino
(LEX)

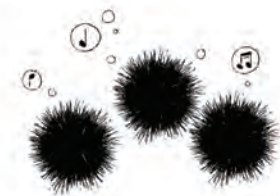
Find it in: WORLD
A modern album with classic flavor from a UK group doing Colombian music... you might think it wouldn't work, but honestly this is one of my favorite "world music" albums in recent memory. Fun, upbeat Cumbia jams played by some pros with great chops, plus some trippy production tricks and a whole lot of groove... If you like Cumbia AT ALL, you should hear this. My personal taste leans toward mostly classic Cumbia and not much of the modern (digital) stuff, and this captures the old vibe while still sounding very fresh, and it really hits the spot.

VVD WNDWS –
Blue Landscape
[Cassette] (GOLD DAGGER)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Local Oakland duo finally drops their proper debut cassette after years of playing house shows and small intimate gatherings. A mixture of body oriented dance music and brain oriented head music, these five tracks make you move, think, and feel. Imagine Laurie Anderson making house/techno influenced beats (and singing more), with a super catchy pop sensibility (all of these tunes are under three-and-a-half minutes). Obviously there's more to it than just that, so check it out and support great local artists... Highly recommended!

Cochemea – All My Relations
(DAPTONE)

Find it in: SOUL
After recording and touring with Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings for almost 15 years, Cochemea finally made his own record of soulful, funky grooves. It's got the Daptone seal of approval, so you know it's good. The album deftly fuses elements of spiritual jazz, earthy funk, New Orleans soul, Brazilian Samba drumming, and Native American traditions (he's got Yaqui and Mescalero Apache Indian ancestry). Cochemea's tuneful and spiritual sax playing plus lots of drums and percussion are the highlights for me here, but there are also bass, keys, flute, and occasional vocals. Catch a groove and dig it...



Amon Tobin –
Fear In A Handful Of Dust
(NINJA TUNE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Going deeper and deeper into the soundscape dimension, this new album follows on from the last couple of records (*ISAN* in particular) in a couple of ways. First, much of it sounds more like a film score than a modern electronic music album. Secondly, the sounds themselves are again very curated in a way that simply sound like him. I heard a track from this without knowing what it was, and immediately thought "this sounds like Amon Tobin" and indeed it was. So yeah, it's nice to see that his work continues to evolve while maintaining his sonic signature. I'm onboard for this one, and hoping for another tour that is even half as ambitious as the one for *ISAN* was. If you saw any of those incredible audiovisual shows, then you know what I mean.

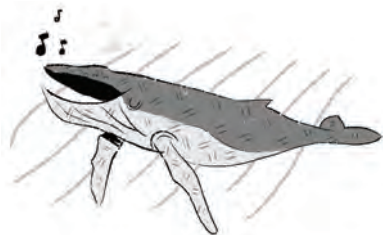
Canalon De Timbiquí –
De Mar Y Rio (LLORONA)

Find it in: WORLD
Vibrant album of folkloric Colombian drum and marimba music, with passionate call and response vocals led by Nidia Góngora, who has collaborated with Quantic on a few projects lately. This is a double LP from a large group spanning three generations of musicians from a couple of musical families, so it's about as authentic as you can get for a project like this. If you're a fan of the style (or marimbas / Afro-Latin drum and chant music in general), check this out.

Benoit Pioulard &
Sean Curtis Patrick –
Avocationals (BEACON SOUND)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Another fine release of melancholy, tape saturated ambient guitar jams from Benoit Pioulard, who has been making consistently great music of this nature for many years now. This collaboration is no exception, and it doesn't sound much different than his solo work overall, so if you dig that you should enjoy this one as well. This





album is inspired by and dedicated to various shipwrecks of the Great Lakes area throughout the 20th century. I can hear hints of the concept coming through in some of the sounds utilized, and knowing that adds another interesting layer of context to an already engaging album.

Inwards – Diesel (SMALL POND)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Once any genre has been created, it will never truly die, but ebbs and flows in popularity and visibility are natural as music as a whole continues to evolve and grow over time. It feels like there's been a revival of sorts lately for IDM (Intelligent Dance Music), with lots of newer electronic musicians being influenced by / inspired to make records that take up the mantle of the classic '90s era sound. Inwards (aka UK artist Kristian Shelley) uses modular synths to expand the IDM universe outward, and this album is his strongest work yet.

Matmos – Plastic Anniversary

(THRILL JOCKEY)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Another triumph on both the conceptual and musical levels for this former SF duo who now reside in Baltimore. This whole album was created with sounds made from plastic objects of all kinds. You might think those limitations would lead to a homogeneous album, but it actually feels very eclectic and goes to a lot of places while remaining very "Matmos" in both overall sound and also the diversity and complexity of rhythms. Their intent was to bring attention to our overuse of plastics and remind folks to consider how to reduce consumption. And as is expected from any new album by them at this point, it's really good!

Jamila Woods – Legacy Legacy

(JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: SOUL

Chicago vocalist and songwriter's excellent follow up to her solid debut from a couple years ago. *Legacy Legacy* is a soulful homage to 13 iconic POC artists made by a young woman who is quickly learning to fully embrace her

own creativity and showcase her talents. A very relevant album with a lot to say. Nice production from Slot-A as well.

Meitei – Komachi (METRON)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

A cool dozen magnificent abstract electronic excursions from this talented Japanese musician. Imagine a high level beat tape wizard who casts a spell and discovers an underwater alien planet that has a new kind of sound listening environment where you experience music with your entire body? Yeah, maybe something like that...

Altın Gün – Gece (ATO)

Find it in: WORLD

Excellent second album from this Turkish/Anatolian psych-rock style band from the Netherlands. Several tracks on the album sound almost exactly like the classic 1970s work from artists like Erkin Koray, Baris Manço, Selda Bagcan, and Ersen. But there are also a few more modern sounding tracks that use drum machines and synthesizers to great effect. Overall a fun, upbeat party album with a lot of great grooves and some cool spacy elements too.

Claude Fontaine –

Claude Fontaine (INNOVATIVE LEISURE)

Find it in: REGGAE

Side A features five laid back reggae / rocksteady originals, and the B sides has the same number of Brazilian Bossa Nova jams. The music is light and groovy, and her voice is soft and lovely, like a sonic pillow to rest your weary head upon. Her love for these two genres is apparent, and the production is top-notch, capturing the essence of them both with just the right amount of everything in the mix.

Emily A. Sprague – Water Memory / Mount Vision

(RVNG)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Double LP release of excellent ambient soundscapes from this powerful synthesizer sorceress. She self-released the two tapes that RVNG compiled here, and you can hear why they were such a success with listeners even before the NYC label picked them up. Excited to see where she goes next!

Toki Fuko – Spring Ray

(SILENT SEASON)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Canadian label Silent Season is consistently one of the best labels around for mellow organic ambient electronic and dub-techno style releases, and just like the superb albums they

have released the last few years by Wanderwelle and Segue, this double 12" is fantastic. Also includes two digital bonus tracks that are about half an hour each, and those are really good too.

Utopia Cloak – Marina Garden

(FILM)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Another fine album of organic IDM music from the Film roster (also see Brainwaltzera). The melodies on this one really shimmer and shine, while the beats are solid and groovy. I expect to hear more good stuff from this young cat in the future.

Tim Rutili – (arroyo) Abstractions

(DANGERBIRD)

Find it in: ROCK

The head honcho from Califone does an instrumental album under his own name, and it's an interesting mix of ambient textures and mildly weird sounds that seems very strongly suited for being a soundtrack to an arty film. Great stuff!

Arivo – Quasi (MANANA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Based in the UK, this ensemble features an Iranian producer, two Cuban percussionists, and a Cuban trumpet player. Together, they make some amazing mixture music that doesn't really sound like anything else out there right now, a hybrid of cultures and textures that is very post-modern in a really good way.

Sofie Birch – Planetes

(SEIL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Lovely subtle details of an almost microscopic degree make this synthesizer-centric release a real pleasure. For music that is so minimal, there is a lot going on here, and it's quite easy to sink into this little universe she has created and drift away.

Lo Kindre – Private Worlds / Chlorophytum 12"

(BYRDOUT / 12TH ISLE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Two great EPs from this Scottish producer... hazy, laid back, dubby electronic grooves with slinky drum machine patterns and shimmering keys melodies. In addition to the fine tunes, the one on 12th Isle has incredible artwork (as usual for the Glasgow label), but you can't go wrong with either of these releases

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Komodo Kolektif – *Sundada*

(INVISIBLE INC)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Ritual gamelan electronica? Sign me up! I love this unusual blend of heavy percussive grooves, gamelan instrumentation, and electronic synth zones. Can't wait for more from this Glaswegian trio.

Sunda Arc – *Flicker 12"*

(GONDWANA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Two brothers from UK jazz ensemble Mammal Hands made this great EP that fuses contemporary electronic beats with organic piano and sax elements. For fans of Nils Frahm, Max Richter, and Floating Points.

Plants Army Revolver –

Yguana 12" (AVIAN)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Nice EP of ambient techno grooves from this Italian duo. The energy and tempo builds track by track throughout these five pieces, and it all kind of sounds like it was recorded inside a massive cave (in a good way).

Josiah Steinbrick – *Meeting Of Waters*

(HANDS IN THE DARK)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Very interesting album of pieces made from a bunch of eclectic instruments and lots of synthesizers... a nice mixture of "modern composition" and "new age" vibes, and a pretty unique album overall. After being a tape on LA's excellent Leaving Records in 2017, this French label treats us to a vinyl version.

ASC – *The Waves* (SILENT SEASON)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Gorgeous mellow ambient zones for late night chilling... or try it in the morning to get into a super grounded headspace. Like I said earlier, Silent Season rules, and there's so much slow, delicate beauty here on this release.

Kassel Jaeger –

Le Lisse et le Strié (LATENCY)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

From the current artistic director at the legendary Studio GRM in France, this LP exists somewhere between avant-classical musique concrete and textural ambient experimentalism. It gets to some deep zones that are rife with continuously evolving sonic interplay, which makes for a fascinating listen.

Nicola Cruz – *Siku* (ZZK)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Very cool album that draws on various traditional South American folkloric styles and fuses them with modern electronic rhythms and textures. If you dig Chancha Via Circuito or El Buho, this is along the same lines, with perhaps even more interesting drums/programming than either of those.

Holly Herndon – *PROTO*

(4AD)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Groundbreaking experiments in creating and collaborating with an AI version of herself, by this Bay Area local. She's always ahead of the curve, and listening to this album is a bit like seeing the future through your ears.

Brainwartzera – *Epi-Log EP*

(FILM)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Another fine EP of Braindance / IDM perfection from this enigmatic producer. Sure, I'm curious who this mysterious artist is, but mostly I just want them to keep making awesome music. So far, so good.

Anthené – *Weightless*

(HOME NORMAL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Warm ambient shimmer and glow from this Canadian musician. Super mellow and pretty, so nice.

TAYLOR

Big Lunch, on KALX Berkeley 90.7fm

Joshua Abrams & Natural Information Society – *Mandatory Reality* (EREMITE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Somewhere in between the assembly-line rigidity of Indonesian gamelan or 20th century classical minimalism, the free-flowing possibilities of modal jazz, and the rich atmospherics of new age, lies *Mandatory Reality*: a record as stubbornly resistant to categorization as it is serenely at ease with itself. Those who decry genre boundaries, who might wish the record store were laid out in a simple A-Z format, should find a lot to enjoy here. Featuring Abrams on flute and guimbri (a North African variant of the bass guitar), and an ensemble of eight other musicians on gongs, clarinets, autoharp, tablas,

and beyond, this music is rich with exploration and curiosity, without falling victim to clueless appropriation or schlocky "world-fusion" tropes. One of the most effortlessly listenable, yet boundlessly interesting, albums I've heard in some time. Plus, the individually screen-printed covers justify the hefty price tag.

These New Puritans –

Inside the Rose (INFECTIOUS MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Ever since their previous record – *Field of Reeds* – drew more than a few comparisons to late-period Talk Talk, These New Puritans' brand of art-rock has felt fundamentally out of step with the current musical economy. Naturally, *Inside the Rose* sounds like one of those lush, ambitious vanity projects the major labels of the '80s and '90s would've bankrolled, back when they had a bottomless pit of money to throw at projects with little to no promise of a return on investment. This time around, the UK duo channels the moody, seductive pop of Tears for Fears, '80s Scott Walker, and Kate Bush, tying the whole package together with layered instrumentation, smart, angular melodies, and production values that sound downright expensive. Speaking of which, they've acquired Graham Sutton of Bark Psychosis at the production helm; while it's a bit unbelievable they've managed to bring him out of hiding, it makes perfect sense These New Puritans would be the ones to inspire him back into creativity.

Alice Coltrane –

The Warner Bros. Albums

(Transfiguration,

Transcendence, Radha-Krsna

Nama Sankirtana, Eternity)

(ANTARCTICA STARTS HERE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Alice Coltrane's tenure on Warner Bros. presents an overlooked period within the (until recently) overlooked musician's discography. Following her Impulse! releases, which established her as an innovative harpist, a visionary arranger of spiritual jazz music, and far, far more than just "John Coltrane's wife," the four records in this series portray Coltrane in a transitional period which expanded her musical vocabulary far beyond any trappings of "jazz" music. Here, she plays the organ with the same iconoclastic fury she brought to the harp (not to mention liberal, chaotic use of the modulation knob), forges string arrangements with a Stravinskian flair for existential reckoning, and weaves a hybrid of American gospel spirituals and Hindu devotional music through her compositions,

paving the way towards the legendary "Ashram tapes" that would emerge from her monastery outside LA in the '80s. While *Journey in Satchidananda* is understandably celebrated as Coltrane's single most iconic album, these four entries in her catalog are hugely rewarding in their own right, and shouldn't be ignored. Start with *Transfiguration*: a 1978 concert recording that places her relentlessly creative approach to the keyboard front and center.

Various Artists –

Kankyo Ongaku: Japanese Ambient, Environmental, & New Age Music 1980-1990

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: NEW AGE

For those adventurous listeners who regularly follow YouTube's algorithms into various elusive corners of the music world, only to embark on Discogs searches that turn up \$300 physical copies of near-unobtainable source material, Light in the Attic's *Kankyo Ongaku* is a godsend of a compilation. Collecting 25 tracks of Japanese ambient music that haven't been licensed stateside until now, this set is an eye-opening and downright beautiful addition to a canon populated heavily by Americans and Brits, a la Brian Eno. While crossover icons like Ryuichi Sakamoto and Haruomi Hosono are included, lesser known names like Yoshio Ojima, Shiho Yabuki, and Akira Ito are finally made accessible here, revealing a rich community of "environmental music" artists who deserve to be recognized outside Japan. Spencer Doran of Visible Cloaks has done a wonderful job of curating this set, and Light in the Attic has outdone themselves once again; could a string of full-length Japanese ambient LP reissues be next?



📺 **The Beach Bum (2019) – Directed by Harmony Korine**

The most fun I've had at the movies in god knows how long. Yes, Harmony Korine has assembled a downright bonkers cast list (Matthew McConaughey! Zac Efron!! Snoop Dogg!!! Jimmy Buffet!!!) and captures the Florida Keys' contrast of gaudy wealth and scuzzy trashiness down to the last muggy detail. And yes, the soundtrack is a proverbial Florida Man's dream come true. What hasn't gotten enough attention, though, is the sublime, rapturous, even wistful mood Korine strikes, here—the feeling that's only achieved when a filmmaker sidelines plot development in favor of pure atmosphere, and throws interesting characters in front of the camera just to see what happens. *The Beach Bum* packs the skybound ecstasy of Malick or Altman, and subverts it for the bottom-feeder in all of us. A hangout movie of the highest order.

BAILS

bye :)

Rakta – Falha Comum

(IRON LUNG)

Find it in: PUNK

Kate Bush – Cloud bursting [Picture Disk] 12" (FISH PEOPLE)

Find it in: ROCK

Amyl and the Sniffers – Amyl and the Sniffers (ATO)

Find it in: PUNK

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Amanda Palmer – There Will Be No Intermission

(COOKING VINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

📺 **The Favourite (2018) – Directed by Yorgos Lanthimos**

📺 **Night on Earth (1991) – Directed by Jim Jarmusch**

📺 **Shoplifters (2018) – Directed by Hirokazu Koreeda**

ISAÍA

FUCK ICE

Triad God – 黑社會 Triad

(PRESTO!?)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

The most luscious and well rounded record I have heard all year. *Triad* feels like one big love story, one chapter on to the next, a shoegaze-like trance of emotion. The mystique of Triad God is akin to the likes of Dean Blunt or collaborator James Ferraro, and his second full-length release, the first of which debuting on *Hippos in Tanks*, is a record that makes 2012 sense but feels appropriately 2019. Cinematic, focused, to-the-point, Triad God will (hopefully) continue to sporadically add to the stream of what was, for years to come.

The Caretaker – Everywhere, An Empty Bliss

(HISTORY ALWAYS FAVOURS THE WINNERS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

The accompanying release to The Caretaker's final release, *Stage 6 of Everywhere At the End of Time, An Empty Bliss* is like a post-war celebration. As haunting as its previous six counterparts, this stage is a rapid mix of the ambience that Leyland Kirby evokes throughout this project, sped up and disoriented. Concepts aside, this final cherry from Kirby is just as strong if not stronger than anything from the *Everywhere* series. Like a 1920s Gummo on the 4th of July, the sampling and arrangements are a lucid mask of eerie distortion and uneasiness. Fantastic finale.

DJ Duke – Uingizaji Hewa

(NYEGE NYEGE TAPES)

Find it in: WORLD

Underground Singeli is like the new African punk and it is intense as fuck. Literal 300 bpm drums, DJ's shouting, air horns, and samples seeping in sprinkled through the chaos. Although it is a little unfair to dub Singeli as chaos IMO because it is generally extremely precise and consistent; it is RELENTLESS nonetheless. Veiled behind the relentlessness is a vocal melody and beautiful sentiment. Duke and other Singeli producers are feeding out demand for an accelerated society: to where, who knows, but we're going *faaaast*.

Helm – Chemical Flowers (PAN)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I've always been drawn to the contradictions in Helm's music. To me Helm operates within a form of sonic narrative that has always had great

depth; ostensibly' swirls and loops that grow into chaos but eventually finding a path to an enlightening resolution. Although, it's been quite interesting seeing the growth of Luke Younger, even from his last Pan full-length, *Olympic Mess*, he seems to be unabashedly barreling further into a world of his own that pulls you deep. *Chemical Flowers* displays Younger's growth as a sampler while unearthing still the brilliance of electronic production I've heard from him in years past. I look forward to following the progression of Helm as a sound innovator and experimenter.

Spelling – Mazy Fly

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: SOUL

Absolutely beautiful and mesmerizing journey. Bay Area show some support! What an accomplishment of a release; to those not familiar.. please go see her perform. Can't rave enough about the production, the vocal performances, songwriting, artwork, etc. Can't wait to hear this with a live band on a huge stage someday...

Grupo Jejeje – Grupo Jejeje

(DISCOS ROLAS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

The most perfect 2019 cumbia record. I first heard Turbo on the *Club Chai* comp and was blown away, and not being as familiar with Arrabolo before Jejeje, I can't help but respect the cohesion in this collaboration. Both producers in this San Jose group astoundingly dive into the tradition of Mexican cumbia and also what makes them unique as modern electronic producers individually; the ode to the Mexican sound system culture truly shines in the production throughout each track. It's a genre of music that will continue to evolve, not die, as long as the culture continues to exist, and so we celebrate with Jejeje for now deep in Cyber Aztlan. I love it.

E. LIT

I got a lotta playlists on my iTunes

Billy Woods & Kenny Segal – Hiding Places (BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Billy Woods is arguably the most interesting MC working in hip hop today, and this latest offering is another gem in his impressive discography. Billy Woods' unique, off-kilter delivery highlights his distinctive writing style, which is second to none in the rap game. His dense verses are

loaded with dark humor and original concepts, and continuously reward repeated listens. The song "bedtime" is a great example of Woods' writing in top form, with metaphorical tales of wrongfully murdered women rising from the dead and a world in which all adults have vanished. Motifs of hidden anxiety and shameful secrets run through the album, and wolves in disguise seem to be creeping around every corner. Kenny Segal's oddball production is refreshing and compliments Woods' style to a science, with lots of warped samples and strange psychedelic vibes. Masterful stuff.

Ceschi – Sad, Fat Luck

(FAKE FOUR INC.)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Ceschi's music occupies a unique space in the hip hop world. His style embraces experimentation and the blurring of genre barriers, with elements of rap, folk, indie rock and punk all playing important roles in his work. His liner notes cite influences such as Company Flow, My Bloody Valentine, Boot Camp Click and Bad Brains, but it's hard to pinpoint a comparable musician, which is a testament to Ceschi's originality. His songs hop between genres with reckless abandon in exciting and unpredictable ways, and his honest lyrics never get lost in the shuffle. Indie folk vignettes are juxtaposed with strange spoken word pieces, and speed rap anthems are placed next to spacey indie rock covers. Factor Chandelier does a terrific job tying the whole thing together with his beautiful psychedelic production. The first in a final trilogy of Ceschi projects. Amoeba Music is cited as an important part of Ceschi's upbringing in Berkeley, so here's an appreciative nod in return.

Choosey & Exile – Black Beans

(DIRTY SCIENCE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Soulful hip hop done right. Choosey's laid back voice and smooth delivery sound natural as hell, and his lyrics explore his Afro-Chicano identity with reflections on his culture and upbringing. Guests such as Ana Tijoux, Aloe Blacc, Blu and Fashawn join Choosey for the ride. Exile re-establishes his spot among the best producers doing it with this project, flipping killer soul and oldies cuts and chopping them into some truly flavorful beats. The first time I bumped through this album I was driving across the Bay bridge to SF, and I seriously considered pulling over to process how dope the production on this thing was. Strong enough to melt the hearts of even the pickiest of hip hop purists. Be on the lookout for more new Dirty Science bangers from Dag Savage and Cashus King as well.



DJ Muggs & Mach-Hommy – Tuez-Les Tous (SOUL ASSASSINS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Mach-Hommy is a bit of an enigma in the world of modern rap. He releases projects on the fly and charges completely random exorbitant prices for them, which results in them being widely circulated as bootlegs on the internet. His rare interviews tend to fall down philosophical rabbit holes that are hard to make heads or tails of, but he's a former Griselda affiliate and receives a generous amount of hype. His unconventional ways of flowing around a beat remind me of a cross between the gutters of New York and the styles of LA's Project Blowed collective. DJ Muggs has been having a career renaissance as of late, delivering solid projects with Roc Marciano, Meyhem Lauren and Eto amongst others. His sinister production works great with Mach-Hommy's cold voice and original flows. Supposedly the first in a series of albums these two have coming out together, which leaves me eagerly anticipating the next Soul Assassins release.

Da Buze Bruvaz – Drinkin' Beer Wit Prostitutez (GRILCHY PARTY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you the filthiest album to ever make an E. Lit *Music We Like*. Straight up ignorant debauchery out of Philly from rappers Him-Lo and Clever I. Both of these guys are part of the Lo Life crew made infamous by Thirstin Howl III, and by the sound of their voices they've been around the block for a minute. The album title says it all, with plenty of drunken tales of prostitution alongside songs about stealing clothes and beating people within an inch of their lives. These guys spit their bars with conviction over gritty lo-fi production that even includes a beat from the late Ras_G on this joint. They also have an admirable work ethic, with both rappers already dropping pretty solid solo albums with producer Giallo

Point since the release of this album. They're at their grimmest when they're spitting side by side though. You might need a shower after listening to this one... Conscious hip hop heads should probably steer clear!

Tip:

I got a lotta playlists on iTunes... don't screw'em up Apple

RAMO

Half Man / Half Download Code

DIBIA\$E – Bonus Levels

(10THIRTY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

DIBIA\$E has consistently released beat albums that stand out from the crowded landscape of beatmakers, having a style and sensibility of ear that keeps the head on a swivel. *Bonus Levels* is no different. A kung-fu grip of steadfast DIBIA\$E flavor sprinkled with nostalgic video game samples that mesh perfectly without sounding corny or overdone. Whether live or on wax, dude always raises the bar. No quarters necessary. Pressed on what I'm calling "Fruity Pebbles Splatter" vinyl.

Mndsgn – Snaxx (STONESTHROW)

Find it in: HIP HOP

A variety of instrumentals ranging from Boom Bap-light to Lounge-y head noddies, with a couple guest vocals. Provides a solid backdrop for that vibin' out session. Pressed on pretty-in-pink vinyl.

Big Tone & House Shoes –

Big Shoes (STREET CORNER)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Producer and SCM label owner, House Shoes, teams up with fellow Detroit native, Big Tone, for a huge dose of facial rap-slaps. With beats produced between 1998 and 2014, and still sounding Summer-2019-hot, Big Tone melts into them with gusto. Guests include Quelle Chris, Blu, Denmark Vessey, Jimetta Rose, and more.

Abstract Orchestra –

Madvillain Vol. 2 (ATA)

Find it in: HIP HOP

UK-based Hip Hop Big Band drops a follow-up to their 2018 homage *Madvillain Vol. 1*, employing horn-heavy renditions of Madlib's production from his and MF Doom's collab projects. Great live instrumental stuff for fans of either.

Ohbliv – Give Thanks (FAT BEATS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

A collection of laid back beats laced with Soul, Funk, and R & B flavors. Sexy and gritty.

Choosey & Exile –

Black Beans (DIRTY SCIENCE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

One of the BEST albums to come out in 2019. Exile's production blends classic "Oldies But Goodies" (shout out Art Laboe) with his modern Hip Hop aesthetic. The term "Black Beans" comes with a lot of layers, and swells with meaning. The meeting of two cultures, two races, becoming one within the beats and the raps. The fact that this album exists means a lot to me, and if you've ever spent time with your feet in two different worlds, it may mean a lot to you as well. Give it your time.

Rob Sonic – Defriender

(SKYPIMPS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Dark, subterranean, and psychedelic-layered production travels along defunct train lines, captained by the open-book enigma that is Rob Sonic. The perfect soundtrack for jumping turnstiles, bus mobbing, or back alley parkour.

Billy Woods & Kenny Segal – Hiding Places

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Billy Woods is one of the hardest emcees to describe to somebody, in a great way. That means there's nobody to compare him to, even to just give a potential listener a vibe or style. That's what I love about him. He's lyrically dense af, giving you more with every listening session. Teaming up with L.A. beat scene vet just puts more Sriracha on the whole project. Challenging Hip Hop for many, boundary-pushing for most, Billy Woods stays in his own lane.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Ras G – Down 2 Earth Vol. 3

(GHETTO SCI-FI)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Ras G – Down 2 Earth Vol. 4 (Ghetto Sci-Fi)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Blu & Exile – True & Livin' (EP)

(DIRTY SCIENCE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Jamila Woods –

Legacy! Legacy! (JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: SOUL

Flying Lotus – Flamagra (WARP)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Connie Price & The Keystones – Lucas High

(A MAN CALLED HORSE RECORDS)

Find it in: ELECTRONIC

Anderson .Paak – Ventura

(AFTERMATH ENT.)

Find it in: SOUL

Tip:

If you're worried about your favorite store closing, make sure you're supporting them with your patronage so that will be less likely to happen.

KURT

Samael – Worship Him

(OSMOSE)

Find it in: METAL

This is an essential reissue of black metal from Samael, the music is atmospheric and raw. For those of you only familiar with their album *Ceremony Of Opposites* this is a different Samael. I really enjoy this album at night, it is very easy to get lost in the riffs and mood of this record.

Pissgrave – Posthumous Humiliation

(PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: METAL

Many, many moons ago, my sibling and I were attending a party. I am not sure how my friends ended up with a crate of Jolt cola but they did. They also had a keg of beer. My sibling did not drink booze at that time, but thought it would be a great bet to match one Jolt cola bottle for every beer our friend would drink. I am not sure





who quit first but I am 100% positive my sibling drank at least two dozen jolt cola bottles in less than two hours. I am sure her heart sounded just like this album does.

Vanum – Ageless Fire

(PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: METAL

Vanum made an excellent record. I hate to keep using the word atmosphere but this has breath where it needs it, screams when it needs to and so on. An excellent second album, I can't wait for the next.

Billy Woods & Kenny Segal – Hiding Places

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

I know it is a cliché, but Billy Woods & Kenny Segal's *Hiding Places* moved me. This hit me right square in the heart and gut. This is dark and bleak. It also has a sense of humor and perhaps even some hope. Easily one of my top ten for the year. This is a masterpiece and will be on regular rotation.

Cave In – Final Transmission

(HYDRA HEAD)

Find it in: METAL

R.I.P. Caleb. Thank you for all the great music and memories. Cave In always gave a great show and followed whatever muse they wanted to. One of my favorite times seeing Cave In was at Newbury Comics. It was a super small show of about 25 peeps crowded into a corner. The amps cranked to 11, Caleb screaming in my face and Stephen standing less than a foot away. AWESOME!!! *Final Transmission* is worth your hard earned cash and a great eulogy for a great band.

Mayhem – Ordo Ad Chao [Reissue]

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Ordo Ad Chao is a very uncomfortable album full of madness and despair. Gloomy, deconstructed, doom, murky, eerie are just a few words to describe this hellish performance. I really didn't expect much when this came out. However, Attila, Blasphemer and Hellhammer actually delivered an impressive album worthy of the band name Mayhem. This reissue sounds great and I am happy to finally have this in my collection on LP.

Full Of Hell – Weeping Choir

(RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

Way back in the day I was trying to learn how to jump off stairs on my skateboard. This particular set of stairs was giving me trouble. Don't ask me how I could nose slide off the edge of them and land it, but for some dumb fuck reason I could not just ollie off them. The board would either slide out, flip up and around or my legs went all over the place like a cartoon character.

Anyway...After about the 1000th time I landed it. Nailed it. So thinking I mastered this stair case I had to do it one more time. I took my bloody and bruised body and off we went. I slammed, and the damn board hit me square in the ass, I fell on top of it breaking it and not only managed to bruise my butt, my right leg and back of the knee I had serious road rash on my back, behind and legs as I skidded to a stop. Full Of Hell's new album sounds just like this.

Botanist – EP2: Hammer Of Botany + Oplopanax Horridus

(FAVONIAN / AURAL MUSIC)

Find it in: METAL

Unique and interesting, hypnotic and forward thinking. I never thought a hammered dulcimer could sound black metal but Botanist makes it so. If you are in the mood for something that is a bit experimental, a bit melodic and beautiful but still metal you really need to give this a listen. Two horns up.

Fontaines D.C. – Dogrel

(PARTISAN)

Find it in: ROCK

I am glad that these lads understand and can play great rock n roll. This is good.

Black Magic – Wizard's Spell

(DARK ESSENCE)

Find it in: METAL

Ah yes, Black Magic from Norway, where do we begin? Do You like 1986-87 thrash and speed metal production? Do crave NWOBHM, How about some Slayer or Mercyful Fate? *Wizard's Spell* is just what you need (funny enough this is actually a reissue—ha ha ha). Black Magic may wear their influences on their sleeves but rest assured this is not a fake retro band but a complete love letter to and for metal. Freaking awesome!

Fórn – Rites Of Despair

(GILEAD MEDIA)

Find it in: METAL

This is an excellent album of sludge/doom metal. You will not regret buying this.

Blue Velvet (1986) [Criterion] – Directed by David Lynch

This is perhaps one of the hardest reviews for me to write. What can I really add to the lexicon of *Blue Velvet*, or even the genius that is David Lynch? So I will keep it short. This is one of those films that changed how I view what a movie is and could be. Just like the first time I saw a Kubrick film (but that is for another review). I have been waiting for ages for Criterion to give this masterpiece their touch. I was not disappointed.

Night On Earth (1991) [Criterion] – Directed by Jim Jarmusch

Another beautiful film from Jim Jarmusch. Finally on Blu-ray.



Inter Arma – Sulphur English

(RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

Inter Arma has managed to create a record that is 100% suffocating while also paying tribute to two fallen metal comrades. Doom and despair permeate this album. There is loss and grief. It is buried under the hypnotic heavy riffs and excellent drumming. Again I cannot stress enough how this album feels like drowning or doing some insane cardio in the middle of a forest fire. This is a great album and one I will be listening to for many years to come.

Hooded Menace – Ossuarium Silhouettes Unhallowed

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Hooded Menace continues to put out quality metal. They didn't reinvent the wheel but why bother. After all you can make a wheel from a variety of materials, a variety of sizes and even for a variety of purposes. Yet it still is a circle and a wheel. Hooded Menace continues to perfect their wheel. *Ossuarium Silhouettes Unhallowed* is a solid album that is built upon their past efforts while honing their art. Two horns up \m/.

Gaahls Wyrð – Gastir- Ghosts Invited

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

This is a solid black metal album. I can see this aging like fine wine.

Darkthrone – Old Star

(PEACEVILLE)

Find it in: METAL

OH YEAH! This is awesome. Darkthrone never lets me down, even if I don't fully get it or appreciate their work upon first listen. This was a great next step in their ever evolving sound and will definitely become a classic that will be studied and copied. Thank you for making this and sharing it with us mortals.

Paysage D'Hiver – Kerker

(KUNSTHALL PRODUCKTIONEN)

Find it in: METAL

Paysage D'Hiver have been one of my favorite black metal bands since coming across them on the almighty but now defunct Cosmic Hearse blog (thank you for turning me on to so much great music). This is atmospheric black metal. Kerker is bleak, it is cold, it is not friendly but it is great art. I would highly recommend buying any and all of the Paysage D'Hiver reissues. You will be a better person for it.

Generacion Suicida – *Reflejos*

(GOING UNDERGROUND)

Find it in: PUNK

I really like this! You will too, excellent punk for the punx.

Lee Moses – *How Much Longer Must I Wait? Singles & Rarities 1965-1972*

(FUTURE DAYS)

Find it in: SOUL

This is incredible soul music. I am super happy to have all these tracks on one album. This has been on regular rotation since I bought this.

Shit Coffins – *Termination 12"*

(IRON LUNG)

Find it in: PUNK

Hardcore is still some of my favorite music when it is done right. Shit Coffins does it right.

Kendrick Scott – *A Wall Becomes A Bridge*

(BLUE NOTE)

Find it in: JAZZ

This is beautiful music. It is layered, painful, hopeful, and insightful. Kendrick Scott lays out his vision for the album in his artistic statement:

"Walls are easier to build than bridges. We are often quicker to stack bricks built of fear than we are to weave a cable of empathy and reach across a divide. Where I see walls, then, I see an admission of our fundamental fragility — of vulnerability. So the question that I began to ask myself was how I personally, and we collectively, can use those vulnerabilities not as points of separation, but as points of convergence?"

I realized that my life's purpose is to become an instrument of peace; to bridge divides through my music. Yet, in pursuing this I found my path stagnated by my internal walls of fear and insecurity. As I worked to explore and understand these fears in myself, I came to see my personal journey as parallel with our collective social consciousness.

This project is, therefore, a response to a personal struggle that is also a collective one: how we are more connected than ever, but also more separated; and the opportunities that lie before us within that awareness."

These ideas defiantly come through. In these very troubling times I am very inspired by art like this. All of us need inspiration, peace and love. I and am so glad Kendrick Scott stepped out of his comfort zone so that we have this wonderful album.

Monstrosity – *The Passage Of*

Existence (METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL

Florida death metal. No really, Monstrosity actually deliver us a solid well thought out death metal album full of blast beats, great riffs and interesting solos. They have enough going on I will listen to this one over and over.

Cannibal Corpse – *Hammer Smashed Face EP 12"*

(METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL

I almost didn't write about this particular release, not because it sucks. But I assumed that people wouldn't be interested in it. That is until I had a conversation about this EP with a co-worker. I knew I had to share my thoughts about what I consider to be an indispensable work in the canon of Cannibal Corpse. I know it is hard to believe but back when I was a youngster Cannibal Corpse albums were often censored or had completely different artwork. Often record stores wouldn't even sell Cannibal Corpse albums. This made the band larger than life for me, and created a desire to seek out anything I could find of Cannibal Corpse. This EP just happened to come into my possession at the same time I bought a used copy of *Tomb Of The Mutilated* (I was lucky enough to get the uncensored cover!). I went home and transferred them to a cassette tape right away. For about a month I listened to nothing else on my Walkman but *Tomb* and *Hammer Smashed Face*. I can feel the heat of summer and the sweat collecting on my back while I skated to this. I can still smell my old desk and recall the glow of the lamp as I labored over my drawings. So...should you get this gem of death metal? YES!

The Comet Is Coming – *Trust In The Life Force Of The Deep Mystery*

(IMPULSE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Dig this hep kats and kittens, this is the bomb. Forward thinking, intense, jazzy, beats. All blended together in the way only the English can do. I believe that others will try to copy this sound—for it is the sound of the future. I must give a shout out to my buddy Dan for turning me on to *The Comet Is Coming*, and taking a group of us to the Independent to see them live. *The Comet Is Coming* simply blew my mind. This particular LP is a great representation of the group and a must have in your collection.

NOTES:



SAN FRANCISCO



SKWRLY D

Ding Dong!
If you dance to the music,
you got to pay to the piper...
Ask yo mama!

■ **Noir Archive [Blu-ray]**

(MILL CREEK)

Good bang for your buck. Nine films sourced from studio prints on Blu-ray for the first time. Not all strictly noir, but interesting nonetheless.

The Residents – Eskimo

(pREserved Edition) (CHERRY RED)

Find it in: ROCK

This latest (last?) round of Residents reissues have been a bonanza of bonus material, the bulk of it previously unreleased. Buy or die!

The Undisputed Truth – Cosmic Truth/Higher Than High

(KENT)

Find it in: SOUL

The fifth and sixth albums from producer Norman Whitfield pet project finally make their CD debut! Psychedelic Soul for what ails you! Check out their cover of Neil Young's "Down By The River"!

■ **The Body Snatcher (1945)**

[Blu-ray] – Directed by Robert Wise

Boris Karloff's greatest performance gets the upgrade it deserves, with informative commentary, 4K scan and a documentary about the man responsible, Val Lewton

Rare Earth – Midnight Lady

(LMLR)

Find it in: SOUL

More Norman Whitfield produced rock/soul from the late '70s. Criminally overlooked, until now(?) check it!

Tangerine Dream –

In Search Of Hades: The Virgin Recordings 1973-1979 (UNIVERSAL)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Pioneering synthesists' Virgin Years remastered, remixed (in a few cases) with 8 CDs of previously unreleased material! The Dream comes true! If you are unfamiliar with this music, the new edition of *Ricochet* is a good place to start.

Jerry Garcia Band –

Electric On The Eel (ROUND)

Find it in: ROCK

I was fortunate enough to attend two of these three shows and they stand out as a highwater mark for me as far as solo Jerry goes. 1989 in particular, as Garcia had regained full command of his playing after 1986's near death experience.

■ **Q, The Winged Serpent**

(1982) [Blu-ray] –

Directed by Larry Cohen

R.I.P. Larry Cohen. This bat shit crazy murder/hybrid flick will live on...

ELIA

He doesn't even work here

Club Night – What Life

(TINY ENGINES)

Find it in: ROCK

Club Night is the project of Oakland musician Josh Bertram, who makes adrenaline-pumping, emo indie rock. His first record for label Tiny Engines is an eight-song journey that makes you wonder what it would be like if Animal Collective was a Warped Tour band. For fans of American Football, Deerhoof, and shrieks.

Cehryl – Slow Motion (AWAL)

Find it in: SOUL

LA singer/songwriter Cehryl (pronounced "Cheryl") wrote, recorded, and produced this incredible debut album all on her lonesome and

the result is an immersive collection of personal songs. With amazing production quality and an arsenal of intriguing sounds, cehryl creates her own world in these tracks, and invites you to live in it for 40 minutes. For fans of John Mayer, Jhene Aiko, and staring longingly in the mirror.

Flying Lotus – Flamagra (WARP)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

FlyLo is back at it with this year's opus, *Flamagra*. My personal favorite of his since *Until The Quiet Comes* (2012), this 24-track head trip has a stellar list of features including Solange, Tierra Whack (whose shoe is untied for most of her appearance), Toro y Moi, Anderson .Paak, and many more. For fans of Thundercat, fire, and concept albums that don't make sense to you.

Vampire Weekend –

Father of the Bride (SONY MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Vampire Weekend stans unite! Ezra, Baio, and CT are back and (arguably) better than ever with their long awaited fourth LP, *Father of The Bride*. Their first piece of new music in six years, and first since the departure of key member Rostam, *Father of the Bride* is Ezra's dad record — a sunny collection of California rock that sheds many of the preconceptions of the band's preppy, world-music-influenced sound. For fans of the Grateful Dead, HAIM, and the tasteful palette of '70s rock.

Mort Garson – Mother Earth's

Plantasia (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

In 1976, composer Mort Garson released an early Moog record with the aim of plant enjoyment. The result is a swirling, dreamy, psychedelically smooth synth record that both humans and hydrangeas can love. Said album was included in various promotional efforts including mattress bundles at Sears and giveaways at a local Los Angeles plant shop. The record went unnoticed and out of print early on, but this cult-classic-turned-YouTube-treasure has been reissued for the first time on Sacred Bones, making record nerds everywhere jump for joy. For fans of YouTube lounge (s/o Nick Oka), synths, and plants.

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Lizzo has achieved full pop star status with this one and I could not be happier. This feel good, in-your-face record gives me an ear to ear grin, no matter how sugary some of these pop tracks are. For fans of Missy Elliott, pop music, and being a bad bitch.

Uranium Club –

The Cosmo Cleaners (STATIC SHOCK)

Find it in: PUNK

Uranium Club's third record is far and away my favorite from the Minneapolis art punks. Featuring their signature fast-paced, anxiety-inducing, shrieking songs, it's the most exciting punk record I've heard this year. For fans of Wipers, Coneheads, and chaos.

Tip:

Follow @throwinbossf on instagram or else...

SHTEVE

I'm the receiver at Amoeba SF

Bananarama – In Stereo

(RED)

Find it in: ROCK

The return of the bananas! It had been ten years since their last studio album and here they sound better than ever. Current yet retro.

The Briefs – Platinum Rats

(RED)

Find it in: PUNK

Their first album in well over a decade. They don't do ballads so every song is lightning fast and brief (hence their name)

Stray Cats – 40 (SURFDOG)

Find it in: ROCKABILLY

Still with their original lineup, they still have their trademark sound that will please fans old and new. The LP version is on clear vinyl with pink and blue splatter.

RYAN

Various Artists –

Unusual Sounds

(ANTHOLOGY)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

Roger Sterling mix tape, acid casual, now sound, library music compilation. Very easy to lose track of time listening to this one. The majority of tracks aim at a more late night early morning atmosphere, audio landscape. Not action, crime jazz, car chase etc. For the word crowd this is the companion music to the David Hollander book on Library music "same title" also easy to recommend.

Mort Garson – Mother Earth’s Plantasia (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

Originally released in 1976 with very limited distribution but it’s a long time cult “moog” classic among moog and exotica fans. To me probably the most listenable. Not sure how much plants dig it but for an electronic piece the mid-’70s easygoing California vibe is present.

Muriel Grossmann – Golden Rule (RR GEMS)

Find it in: JAZZ

European saxophonist with bass, drums and guitar. I love the ghost of Atlantic-era Coltrane even when it’s shiny and new.

Sarathy Korwar and the Upaj Collective – My East is Your West (GEARBOX)

Find it in: JAZZ

Live in concert with a ten plus member ensemble that’s heavy on Indian instrumentation. More of a constrained scholarly approach than freeform all out “find God” thing but well done. The song selection is as if they let me choose, weird right. Songs by Amancio D’Silva, Don Cherry, Alice Coltrane, Joe Henderson, Ravi Shankar. Highly recommended to Indo-Jazz, Spiritual Jazz fans. Korwar also makes great Indo percussive electronic music, so check it out.

Andre Popp – Le Coeur En Fete (WAH WAH)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

A far out easy listening record from 1972. Sitar, electric guitar, flute. “Pour Celui Qui Viendra” the stand out track. Sort of Ash Ra Tempel circa 1973 but French easy listening. Popp’s most well known space age cocktail jam is 1958’s “Delirium in Hi Fi” but he made lots of intriguing music. I recommend anything you find by him including this reissue.

Anthroposcenic – Burnt Friedmann – Musical Traditions in Central Europe (NONPLACE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Electronic, Nu Jazz, Dub and percussive centric. You may know some of his collaborative work with Jaki Liebezit, Atom Heart, David Sylvian, Steve Jansen and Irmin Schmidt. An interest in those artists may interest you in this.

Tip:

Snoopa Loompa action figures!



JUAN

Plague Vendor – By Night (EPITAPH)

Find it in: ROCK

Much like their older stuff. It has the same theme as *Free to Eat*, experimenting with effects and 808s and still has the powerful screaming vocals from Brandon.

King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard – Fishing For Fishies (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Finally! One year after *Gumboot Soup* and they’ve come back with this blues-influenced record talking about us hunting for fish and how damaging it is to the environment and all the plastic we leave in our oceans leaving the fishes food “wrapped” up in their dinner. It’s a great listen and can’t wait for more from them.

Billie Eilish – When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go? (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

It amazes me that at 17 years old, Billie makes a freaking banger of an album. Her melancholic voice and the dark tone of the entire album makes the listening experience kind of frightening.

Death Valley Girls – Darkness Rains (SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

Find it in: ROCK

Dirty, loud- what more can you ask for?

Be Like Max – Save Us All (DIY)

Find it in: PUNK/SKA

The punk/ska group from Las Vegas comes with a hard hitting, horn blasting album that seems like it’s the beginning of a ska revival.

JAMES

The Bally Table King

Charli XCX – Charli (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Lee “Scratch” Perry – Rainford (ON-U SOUND)

Find it in: REGGAE

Om Kalsoum –

Alf Leila Wa Leila (SOUMA)

Find it in: WORLD

Tiny Tim – Live at Royal

Albert Hall (RUN OUT GROOVE)

Find it in: ROCK

📺 The Extraordinary World of Charley Bowers: 17 Short Films 1917-1940 – Directed by Charley Bowers

The Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926) – Directed by Lotte Reiniger, Carl Koch

📺 Popeye Cartoon Collection Vol. 2 – Famous Studios Era

📺 The Thin Man (1934) [Blu-ray] – Directed by W.S. Van Dyke
Now on Blu-ray!

Fairuz – Good Friday: Eastern Sacred Songs

(RIGHT TRACK)

Find it in: WORLD

Anything by this influential singer.

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Tip:

We have the greatest selection of enamel pins and badges and buttons! You CAN buy happiness. These beauties provide subjects for pleasant jokes and amusing conversation and thus smooths the way to a more familiar acquaintance and cordial friendship. Just wear one and watch the effect.



JEFF

Rodrigo Y Gabriela – Mettavolution (RUBYWORKS)

Find it in: WORLD

Bill Hicks – Revelations: Variations

(COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Find it in: COMEDY

The Specials – The Best Of The Specials

(2 TONE)

Find it in: ROCK/SKA

Buzzcocks – Love Bites

(DOMINO)

Find it in: PUNK

Fela Kuti & Roy Ayers – Music of Many Colors

(KNITTING FACTORY)

Find it in: JAZZ/WORD

VINNIE

www.djvinnie.net

Los Destellos – Sicodélicos (VAMPI SOUL)

Find it in: WORLD

Brilliant collection of the best to ever do Peruvian Chicha. Fans of cumbia and tropical music take note.

Mariposas Del Alma – I Love You For All Seasons 7”

(DISCOS RESACA)

Find it in: WORLD

Lovely cumbia cover of the Fuzz classic from this Oakland outfit.



Azymuth – Demos Vol. 1 & 2

(FAR OUT)

Find it in: WORLD

Superb collection of '70s demos from this seminal Brazilian group. Essential.

Roots Radics –

12-Inches of Dub (GREENSLEEVES)

Find it in: REGGAE

Killer unreleased Scientist dub album from 1980 produced by Junjo Lawes. No lightweight stuff.

Sunny & The Sunliners –

Smile Now... Cry Later 7"

(BIG CROWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Essential Lowrider classic. B-side is a brilliant cover of "I Only Have Eyes For You" that slays.

FRANKIE PARASITE

*I love long wains in the park
and punk rock energy*

Bikini Kill – Pussy Whipped

(BIKINI KILL)

Find it in: PUNK/RIOT GIRRL

Noisy in your face punk. Perfect record!

Teengenerate – Live At Shelter

(UGLY POP REC)

Find it in: PUNK

Teengenerate is a great energetic band from Japan. This album, *Live At Shelter* is a perfect example of this band's chaotic live shows.

Rosegarden Funeral Party –

The Chopping Block

(MOONSOUNDS)

Find it in: POST PUNK

From Dallas, Texas. Rosegarden Funeral Party pulls you in with droning melodies then attack with fierce raw power!

RBL Posse – Ruthless By Law

(CITY HALL)

Find it in: HIP HOP

A spot on depiction of SF Bay Area life in the hood. One of the hardest records of all time, has you reachin for your nine.

Blank Spots – Not My

President 7" (GREEN)

Find it in: PUNK

Blank Spots keeps SF punk on the map with this musical call to arms.

Pixies – Doolittle

(ELEKTRA)

Find it in: ROCK

The Pixies doing what they do best—making amazing music. "Mr. Grieves" is a song you wish never ends.

HATE STREET CREEP

sleazing around the cemetery

Darkthrone – Old Star

(PEACEVILLE)

Find it in: METAL

Norway's Kings of true return with their 18th studio LP. Continues in the 2006 *The Cult is Alive* style. Great Stuff!

Saint Vitus – Saint Vitus

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL/DOOM

American Doom pioneers are back with original vocalist Scott Reagers. Excellent return to form.

Eärthdögs –

Outside of Society [Cassette]

(DISTORED STATIC ADDICTS)

Find it in: DARK ARTS/NOISE/PUNK/METAL

Second cassette by these Haight Street dirtbags. Hellhammer, Masonna, Gism, and Killing Joke influences. Includes a GG Allin cover.

Friendship – Undercurrent

(DAYMARE/SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: METAL

Straight brutality from the Land of the Rising Sun. Unrelenting.

Merzbow/Genesis Breyer

P-orridge – A Perfect Pain

(COLD SPRING)

Find it in: NOISE/EXP/DARK ARTS

Just what I would want from the pairing of two icons. Suffer!

Depressor – Hell Storms Over

Earth (SENTIENT RUIN)

Find it in: METAL

The last of Depressor's dusty vault excavation. My personal favorite compilation by these O.G. crusters.

ROOTS MUSIC MAVEN

FOUR ESSENTIAL DR. JOHN ALBUMS

"Four Essential Dr. John Albums" was originally posted a few years back. With the passing of the "funkiest white man ever" I think it's appropriate to run this again.

Dr. John – Gris-Gris

(ATCO)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

This is Dr. John's masterpiece and it still sounds fresh and unique today. When this album came out in 1968, it was played on underground rock radio and sounded otherworldly. With tunes like "I Walk On Guilted Splinters," "Mama Roux" and "Jump Sturdy," you can imagine how alien it sounded from a West Coast perspective. In retrospect, some of the production credit has to go to Harold Battiste, the legendary New Orleans horn player and producer.

Dr. John – Dr. John's Gumbo

(ATCO)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

This album is fun and grooves like a mofo. Dr. John kills almost every cool New Orleans standard. The album starts with "Iko Iko," and includes "Let the Good Times Roll" and "Tipitina." There's lots of amazing Professor



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buy counter hours.**

Longhair-style piano and deep funky grooves. This is how rock and roll was meant to be played.

Dr. John – In The Right Place (ATCO)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

This is Dr. John's most commercial and successful album. He even had a hit with the title tune. The Meters are the backup band and Allen Toussaint produces, need I say more? OK, I will...funky, funky, funky!

Dr. John – Goin' Back To New Orleans (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

Dr. John got the genie back in the bottle for this album. It's truly amazing. I've listened to the opening track "Litanie Des Saints" over and over, and love the whole album. The good Dr. starts way back with street parade jazz, and grooves like crazy up to the present. It might take a couple of listens to truly appreciate all that's going on.

Tip:

Check out my website VinylBeat.com for record collecting 101.

TONY G

Good shirts are important!

Guided By Voices – Warp And Woof (GBV INC.)

Find it in: ROCK

Inexplicably the most memorable GBV release in ages... really consistent and sorta reminiscent of the sound of records like *Alien Lanes*... suppress that yawn and check this out!

Lee Fields & The Expressions – It Rains Love (BIG CROWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Effortlessly soulful and satisfying LP from this better late than never artist... gets better with every listen!

Budos Band – V (DAPTONE)

Find it in: SOUL

Bigger, chunkier & groovier than their other LPs... their in-store at Amoeba SF was the best in a long time! Play loud, of course...

Sonny & The Sunsets – Hairdressers From Heaven

(ROCKS IN YOUR HEAD)

Find it in: ROCK

More together than the last couple of LPs from the band, this is a fab distillation of their '60s-pop meets Jonathan Richman vibe... check out "Another Life Another Body" for one of their grooviest since "Loving On An Older Gal"... a real SF original!

Stereolab – Transient Random-Noise Bursts With Announcements (WARP)

Find it in: ROCK

There's been a bunch of Stereolab reissues (expanded & remastered) of late, but this is the one that really captures their motorik ambient groove... it sounds great & songs like "Jenny Ondioline" capture the essence of this stealthily groundbreaking band... but really, the whole Stereolab catalog is worth checking out!

Tip:

New Redd Kross LP in a few months!!! Yes!!

ELIC

*Delicious music, spicy, sweet, savory,
I could eat it all*

Junior Thomas & The Volcanos – Rockstone

(COLELINE)

Find it in: REGGAE

Soulful '60s Reggae/Rocksteady. Shut up and eat. Nice, Wow, Cool, Great!



Various Artists – Style & Fashion (SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: REGGAE/JUNGLE

A collection of Lovers Rock, Dancehall, & Jungle from London's Fashion Records. Lemme get a bite.

Bobby Oroza – This Love

(BIG CROWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Sweet Finnish soul food. Yum Yum Good. Let's go cruising and get some burgers.

Bronski Beat – Age of Consent [Reissue]

(LONDON RECORDS)

Find it in: ROCK/DANCE

BANGERS! Serve me up a plate of Dance. I'm hungry as hell. Sweet reissue.

Various Artists – East Side Story (EAST SIDE)

Find it in: SOUL/OLDIES

Every record in this series is good. Let's split the check.

John Holt – Like A Bolt

(TREASURE ISLE)

Find it in: REGGAE

Holt up, wait a minute, let me put some food up in it. Killer tunes from a Master; eat up.

LEN DEL RIO

I Am Damo Suzuki – by Damo Suzuki and Paul Woods

(OMNIBUS PRESS)

Autobiography of the former vocalist for the iconic German rock band, Can. Damo discusses his life and his 40-year musical career with contributions from family members, lifelong friends, musical collaborators.

Gary Crowley – Gary Crowley's Punk and New Wave Box Set

(EDSEL)

Find it in: PUNK

Gary Crowley is an English broadcaster, TV presenter and DJ. He has compiled 77 tracks of Punk, New Wave, Post Punk, Power Pop and Mod Revival originally released between 1977-1982 including many for the first time on CD.

Quatermass And The Pit (1967) [Shout! Factory] – Directed by Roy Ward Baker

This excellent 1967 British science fiction horror film from Hammer Film Productions gets the Blu-ray treatment including many bonus features.

Hawkwind – The "1999" Party (Live At The Chicago Auditorium, March 21 1974) (PARLOPHONE)

Find it in: ROCK

First time on vinyl, Hawkwind recorded live at the Chicago Auditorium, March 21 1974. Mastered at Abbey Road Studios, London. Record Store Day 2019 release, limited to 5500 copies worldwide.

David Bowie – Welcome To The Blackout (Live London '78)

(PARLOPHONE)

Find it in: ROCK

One of the best live Bowie recordings ever featuring his "classic" backing musicians: Adrian Belew, Roger Powell, Simon House, Carlos Alomar, Dennis Davis, George Murray, and Sean Mayes.

DAVID JAMES

Aretha Franklin – Amazing Grace

Find it in: GOSPEL/SOUL

I've put the notion forward for a long time now: If Aretha Franklin is America's greatest vocalist, and this album is her best vocal performance, then, well, you can do the math. But seeing these performances LIVE in their actual setting, and with all the actual spirit movement visible, well that just makes this the musical event of the year.

Rickie Lee Jones – Kicks (OTHER SIDE OF DESIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

Every few years, RLJ does these albums of covers. Every time, I dig 'em.

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Hella fun! And sometimes I need that.



Prince – *Originals* (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: SOUL

I never heard the Martika song, nor the Taja Seville, nor the Kenny Rogers (!!!) so I don't know how different they may be than the versions here. But Holy Smokes! "Holly Rock"? I have to go back and see if the Sheila E. version is as ridiculously funky as this! Some of these, even even when compared (ahem) with their "definitive" versions, are so complete that it's hard to consider them "demos." Like "Jungle Love" seems to be the same track as The Time's version, but with Prince singing. I mean, what's not to like? This is Prince in all his funky, cartoon-y, shape-shifting glory.

JON LONGHI

Jon Longhi is the author of four books of fiction: The Rise And Fall Of Third Leg,

Flashbacks And Premonitions,

Bricks And Anchors, and

Wake Up And Smell The Beer.

He regularly writes concert reviews for NBC BayArea.com

■ *Uninvited* (1988) – Directed by Greydon Clark

Uninvited, Vinegar Syndrome, Blu-ray: This is the best movie I've ever seen about a serial killer house cat. It's also the only movie I've ever seen about a serial killer house cat. But I have to give the producers of this film credit: they had a vision and they did a good job of making it real. To get people to suspend their disbelief for an hour and a half over a plot so ridiculous is quite a feat and the makers of this movie do it in style.

Adding to the fun is the fact that this is one of those films where old seventies TV stars went to die. Seriously, this movie is like an elephants' graveyard of washed up stars hoping to cash one last paycheck in an era when there was no IMDB to expose crimes like this film. You get to see seasoned veterans like George Kennedy, Alex Cord, and Clu Gulager stagger (hopefully drunk) through this career ending piece of schlock. That being said, this was a really fun little piece of stinky cheese. I was thoroughly entertained by it. During the murder scenes you don't know whether to be horrified or burst out laughing and that ambiguity is half the fun of this film. The central character of the movie is a house cat who is a test subject at a biochemical laboratory. Inside the cat's body is a psychopathic mutant that only emerges when the creature kills. After the cat escapes from the lab it ends up on a luxury yacht filled with teenagers and criminals—you know, the perfect victims for a monster movie. Will anyone escape the bad kitty bloodbath? Will they ever get another acting job? Vinegar Syndrome polishes this lost turd with a stunning 4K remaster that makes it look better than most of the classics of world cinema. It's the perfect movie to watch on the couch with your cat or before you slip into your next *Garfield* marathon.

■ *The Land Unknown* (1957) – Directed by Virgil W. Vogel

The Land Unknown, Kino Lorber, Blu-Ray: This is a great classic '50s sci-fi monster movie. A navy expedition sails to Antarctica to explore a mysterious warm water area. Once there, a helicopter crew starts to explore the region but is forced to the ground by a fierce storm. They land in a hidden valley perpetually enshrouded by thick clouds. The valley turns out to be volcanic and they are shocked to find tropical temperatures and a lush jungle at the bottom of it! Not only that, but the valley is filled with dinosaurs because it has been isolated since the Mesozoic era! The rest of the film is basically them struggling to survive and escape. This is a fun little romp of a movie and at 78 minutes there's little room for it to drag. The movie has great set designs and the shots of the prehistoric valley are some of the coolest sci-fi images to come out of the era. The monsters are really fun too in that man in a rubber suit kind of way. What really makes this release stand out is the quality of the picture. It's just flawless and is one of the best restorations I've ever seen of a black and white film. Kino Lorber does their usual excellent job on this release. Besides the immaculate print of the movie, there's a commentary by Tom Weaver, still galleries, and trailers for both this film and a few other '50s sci-fi movies.

Dan Melchior – *Outside In*

(MIDNIGHT CRUISER)

Find it in: ROCK

This is a great grungy little piece of low-fi psychedelia. There's an almost 4-track tape sound to this that gives it a warm intimate feel. These are mainly traditional rock songs with nice soaring psychedelic flights of fancy worked into each track. Dan really knows how to put together a fuzzy feedback wall of guitars and every song on this album has a heavy crunchy sound to it. He works with a full band on this and the group cooks their way through every song. The album comes roaring out of the starting gate with a loud rocker called: "Pheasant Plucker." After Dan gets the vocals out of the way he really takes this for a ride with some great raging guitar solos. This is followed by the more introspective and spacey "Chinese Wine." Throughout the album the big slabs of guitar noise are punctuated by Dan's growly vocals and some touches of spacey synth. There's an almost roots rock feel to tunes like "Rye Whiskey" and in fact the album ends with a loud rocking cover of: "Your Mind Is On Vacation." Nothing on the album overstays its welcome and all the songs clock in at the three to five minute range. There's humor in songs like "Courtesy Flush" and pathos in tunes like "In A Tunnel," but the real selling point of this album is the lush sonic soundscapes Melchior creates. He's a hugely prolific artist who has recorded over 35 records during a career where he has collaborated with the likes of Billy Childish. If you've never checked out his work before this is as good a place as any to start.

■ *Tarantula* (1955) – Directed by Jack Arnold

Tarantula, Shout Factory, Blu-ray: This movie about a tarantula grown to giant size by a mad scientist is arguably the best "bug eyed monster" movie of the '50s. Jack Arnold directed the greatest science fiction movies of this era and this is one of his very best. The plot is quite simple: a scientist is working on a growth serum to fight world hunger. When a human test subject mutates and goes insane he smashes up the laboratory and sets it aflame. All the animal test subjects die in the fire except for a tarantula that escapes into the nearby desert. The arachnid soon grows to stupendous size and begins eating anything that crosses its path as it makes its way to the nearby town of Desert Rock, Arizona. John Agar stars as a local doctor who is the first to discover the creature. He and his girlfriend race against time to warn the town and destroy the monster. This classic matinee movie is tons of fun and at 81 minutes it never really drags and is over before you know it. Shout Factory's new Blu-ray boasts an excellent

print of the movie and some nice bonus features including the trailer, still and poster galleries, and a commentary by film historian Tom Weaver.

■ *Fantastic Planet* (1973) [Criterion] – Directed by René Laloux

Whenever anyone comes into the DVD room and asks, "Do you have a really great animated movie?" I hand them this. *Fantastic Planet* would definitely make it into any top ten animation list. This fantasy/ science fiction film is beautiful, surreal and marvelously illustrated. The movie was produced in France and Czechoslovakia by amazingly talented artists and the end result looks more like the psychedelic '60s than the '70s. No other film looks like this. The alien world depicted in the movie is a masterpiece of strangeness and sublime beauty. The story takes place in the distant future on the planet Ygam where the giant blue humanoid Draags keep humans as pets. The Draags are a technologically and spiritually advanced race who view the humans as lesser beings who they consider as either pets or vermin. But the Draags are wrong to view the humans as inferior. Over the course of the film tensions between the Draags and humans increase until they explode in open warfare. The story may seem simple but the visual nuances of the film give *Fantastic Planet* a beauty and depth that make it utterly unique in the history of cinema. In the animators' skilled hands this strangest of places is made completely real and even familiar. The images in this film are so dense you will need to watch it three or four times just to soak them all up. Criterion's flawless remaster of the movie puts all previous versions to shame and reveals details and nuances in the drawings that were never discernible before. This is right up there with the greatest works of Disney or Pixar and belongs in the hands of anyone who collects cartoons or animation.





TOM LYNCH

The Specials – *Encore* (ISLAND) Find it in: ROCK

As I write this, the puppet in the White House has been for the last month looking to scrap with Iran. At their recent Oakland gig The Specials opened with “Man at C&A,” from their 1980 LP, *More Specials*. The second verse: “The Mickey Mouse badge told the Ayatollah at his feet, you drink your oil you schmucks, we’ll eat our heads of wheat!” Here we go again. Hard right swings in governments across the globe, racist and religious maniacs in the streets everywhere. The only upside is that Horace Panter, Lynval Golding, and Terry Hall took all those bad things, as they had done 40 years ago, and did something good with it all. Instead of a Rude Boy/Mod/Punk/Skinhead nostalgia trip, The Specials have done what they always did writing about urban strife, alienation, narcissistic consumerism, and the specter of international conflict. I guess the “nostalgia trip” is courtesy of global leaders longing for a world of 1981... and in that case things have got so bad that a tempestuous band like The Specials reforms and delivers the goods. Adding to the band’s lineage and associations is the inclusion of guest vocalist and songwriter, Saffiyah Khan, who came to the attention of The Specials when a photo of the then 19 year old coolly confronting British White Nationalists in the streets whilst wearing her Specials t-shirt. From viral internet sensation to being included as a member of The Specials, Ms. Khan takes aim at the 1965 Prince Buster hit, “Ten Commandments,” and puts Buster’s sexist message on its

head. SKA-crilege, you say?! The girls are no longer the “candy on your arm” down at the Nite Klub, Rudy. Included among the eight new titles are covers of Hall and Golding’s (and the absent Nevil Staples) post-Specials group, The Fun Boy Three’s completely apropos “The Lunatics (Have Taken Over The Asylum)” as well as The Valentines 1967 Rocksteady classic “Blam Blam Fever (Gunfever),” sure to liven up any NRA fundraiser. Musically and topically this Specials line-up picks up where the original line-up leaves off, Jamaican sounds, soul, cabaret and music hall stylings, themes of equality, respect, and humanity. Along with Misty’s Panter, Golding, Hall, and Ms. Khan, the line-up includes Steve Cradock on guitar, Kenrick Rowe on drums, Nikolaj Tors Larsen on keys, and bringing back the sound of Rico Rodriguez and Dick Cuthell, Tim Smart, and Pablo Mendelssohn on trombone and trumpet. As an old fan I thank you, Specials, I was surprised and thrilled. It’s a comfort in these foul days to hear from old friends like you who give a damn.

Andre Williams – *Fortune of Hits* (NIGHT TRAIN) Find it in: ROCK/OLDIES

This 35-track double CD (with FANTASTIC interview liner notes by George Paulus) is back in “circa-lation” on the sad occasion of the passing of MR. RHYTHM, Andre Williams, at age 82. Performer, writer, arranger, producer, A&R man, Andre Williams’ career spanned the glory years of Doo Wop, R&B, Soul, and in his later years took to the world he helped spawn in the murky realm of Detroit’s “garage rock” and country rock auteur. Andre came to the attention of the legendary eccentric label, Fortune Records, in Detroit in 1955 and churned out over the next six years—with and without The Five Dollars and The Don Juans—some of the greatest stand out, unhinged, greasy R&B and Doo Wop. “I never said I was Nat ‘King’ Cole or The Platters... I’m Andre Williams!” Fighting tooth and nail with label matron, Devora Brown, Andre managed to record and release hair-raising singles that pushed the Eisenhower era envelope that defied the boundaries of acceptable subject matter. Songs like “Jail Bait,” “Pulling Time,” “Put A Chain On It,” “Jailhouse Blues,” “Going Down To Tia Juana,” salacious sides of vice and sin! “Is It True,” you ask? With Andre Williams most definitely so! Not born with the traditionally acceptable voice, Andre, like Howlin’ Wolf, used what he had vocally and visually to hold a crowd. He learned it every step of the way from his first talent show: “I knew I had to kill that audience to win that prize money. I went out and sang ‘Falling By Degrees,’ an Andrew Tibbs’ number. I was down on bended

knee, pleadin’, moanin’, rollin’ on the stage, doing splits, and I brought the house down.” Advice he would give decades later to Dallas Good of The Sadies: “Always perform like there’s a crowd of three thousand people even if it’s only thirty people in a room.” Andre would write and record two “dance” numbers that may or may not have caused a crazed from coast to coast, but once heard, never forgotten, “The Greasy Chicken,” and “Bacon Fat.” Legend among record collectors and favored by discerning performers, Andre’s “dance” numbers were on the spot goofs set to hip swinging hip thrusting R&B. “Bacon Fat” was picked up by Epic Records and became synonymous with Andre, and sometimes to his irritation. I was working at Car City Records just over the 8 mile line in suburban Detroit, Friday October 9, 1997. I met Detroit soul legend Emanuel Laskey who was looking for a copy of his Thelma label 45, “Welfare Cheese” (flipside of “The Monkey”). I mentioned to Mr. Laskey I had just recorded with Andre Williams on his In The Red Records release, *Silky*. “You know Bacon Fat? Could you give him my phone number?” I said I just happened to be going to a party in his honor hosted by Tony Fusco and I’d be delighted to give Andre your number tonight. MUCH LATER that night, I was sitting with Andre and fish out Emanuel Laskey’s phone number, “Hey man, Emanuel Laskey gave me his number to give to you, he said he’d sure love to talk to Bacon Fat again!” Suddenly a sour scowl puckered on Andre’s face, shaking his head a little: “Bacon Fat... I HATE IT when mother fuckers call me ‘Bacon Fat’!!! Gimmie that God Damn number!!!” And Emanuel Laskey got a late night dirty phone message from Andre Williams at about 3AM Eastern Standard Time. Ten months later I was working at Amoeba Music in San Francisco (I have no idea how I got here...) and Andre Williams was one of our first in-store performances. It was great to catch up with Andre, to talk about Detroit and some of the folks back home. Andre was being backed up by the LA band The Countdowns and were appearing later at The Bottom of the Hill. The LP, *Silky* was cut for cut an x-rated affair, and management at the store was anxious about how blue Andre would get. Andre heard the store’s concerns and when on stage told the crowd that maybe discretion would be best, but maybe he should do his set and be free? And with that Andre and The Countdowns went into “Let Me Slip It In.” Andre Williams and his music loomed large over me and four record stores I worked at. I never thought that a bumpkin like me from the suburbs would ever cross paths with a bonafide legend such as Andre Williams, a man who worked with Berry Gordy, Jr., Marvin Gaye, Syl Johnson, Alvin Cash, Isaac Hayes &



David Porter, and Ike Turner, who would inspire The Cramps and work with me and my band The Dirtbombs. The last time I connected with Andre he was with saxophonist Steve Mackay and we all warmly embraced and said, "What the fuck?"

Andre Williams – Don't Touch! EP 7" (KOKO MOJO)

Find it in: OLDIES 45S

Prime rockin' R&B by the Fabulous Mr. Rhythm, Andre Williams! All cut in the storied Fortune Records studio in Detroit, this platter is a party pleaser to put you over as host with the most, Eugene Poindexter! "Hey Country Girl!" "Goin' Down to Tia Juana!" "Just Want A Little Lovin'! Four eviction-likely numbers to get you kicked out of your joint!

The Four Shades Of Rhythm – Bartender, Knock Me A Zombie Parts 1 & 2 7" (SENSATION)

Find it in: OLDIES/BLUES

The Four Shades of Rhythm lush it up with a two sider ode to the highly potent tropical libation with a haunting name of voodoo possession. The cats croon and play cool a la Slim Gaillard and T-Bone Walker, no sloppy drunks here! A great forgotten Blues & Booze reissue. Get a double, and don't drive!

Various Artists – Rhythm 'N' Bluesin' By The Bayou: Bob Cat Stomp (ACE)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

For those of you not counting this is the 21st in the *Boppin' By The Bayou* series and the 7th in the series dedicated to R&B and Blues. Got that? Talk about your sweet confusion under the moonlight... Ok, dedicated diehards, if you have the rest of the other 20 CDs we pick things up in Lake Charles, Louisiana, on to Crowley, Ville Platte, Baton Rouge, and Port Arthur, Texas for this 28 track party on digital disc. And what a party it is cousins! These 45s and tape outtakes and never released songs ooze the cut loose and wild abandon of kudzu draped road houses in the small towns and bayous of Southwest Louisiana and Southeast Texas on the weekends. Guitar killers and bad piano men rough house with the gut bucket pickers and slop drummers to concoct romping, foot stompin slabs of pure get down sounds. Culled from the vaults of the indie labels Goldband, Montell, Zynn, Hollywood, Jln, and Tear Drop Records, the small local labels who trolled the backwater ways in search of that rare creature of the deep, a breakout local hit. Labels run by characters like Eddie

Shuler, J.D. Miller, Floyd Soileau, and the infamous Huey Meaux. These guys ran studios and sometimes multiple labels looking for gold, sometimes striking it rich (Dale & Grace "Leaving It Up To You," Sir Douglas Quintet "She's About A Mover," Barbara Lynn "You'll Lose A Good Thing"), sometimes just letting the tape roll and doing nothing with what was just recorded. Then there is the glad and greasy tracks presented here, and that's what gets and keeps the party rollin'! From the opener "Everybody Wants To Know" by Lester Robertson, "I feel this way until I die, I don't know why?" sounds like a bunch of Bourbon Street club musicians that just left the strip joint to cut this at Cosimo Matta's Studio; it's got that NOLA R&B shuffle and a screamin' sax solo, 1:52 of glorious rockin' blues. Track 2: "I Found My Baby (By The Drivin Show)" by Unknown! Taking his rhythm cues from Baton Rouge, blues man Slim Harpo, Unknown moans on about his baby and the state she seems to be in outside of the drive-in theater. Cookie & The Cupcakes offer up the sax driven "Crazy Rock" while Jay Nelson & His Jumpers dirty it up with "Raise Some San," gritty groovin' guitars and dirty talkin' sax raise the hair on this groove heavy hard rockin' number. And on it goes, from the out-there version of Jerry Butler's "For Your Precious Love" in the hands of Sonny Martin (how much is too much plate reverb? Buy this and find out!) King Charles and His Orchestra's barnstorming "Bop Cat Stomp" to Guitar Gable & King Karl's "Good Bye Whiskey," a straight up street parade boogie mambo sayin' so long to hooch (yeah, right!). Another killer comp from John Broven, who I will apologize here in print for taking his seat at Ponderosa Stomp #10 2011 during Lazy Lester's acoustic set. Sorry, man.



ZACK

From St. Louie to Frisco

Faux Ferocious – Pretty Groovy (BURGER)

Find it in: ROCK

One of Nashville's best bands deliver a new slab of heady, punk-tinged krautrock. Actually ferocious.

Steve Reid – Nova

(SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: JAZZ

At the time of this recording Steve Reid was fresh out of prison for dodging the draft. A blazing hot set!

Cate Le Bon – Reward

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

She does it again!

Lloyd McNeill – Treasures

(SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: JAZZ

A bit of funky spiritual jazz perfect for a stroll through the city.

Various Artists – Cloud One: Spaced Out (P&P)

Find it in: SOUL

Deep late night party vibes

SHONA

Sho 'nuff

Choosey & Exile – Black Beans (DIRTY SCIENCE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Ok, I'm Bay Area all day, but I'll take some Black Beans for dinner. I'm feeling this Choosey and Exile joint outta Southern CA. Choosey is breaking it down about growing up black and brown, with some tight lowrider souldies samples in the mix.

Lloyd McNeill – Treasures

(SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: JAZZ

A gem of a '70s spiritual jazz album, replete with flute treats.

Townes Van Zandt –

Sky Blue (FAT POSSUM)

Find it in: COUNTRY

A spare, beautiful, previously unreleased 1973 recording that sounds like you're at the kitchen table with Van Zandt. Includes one of my all time favorite covers of "Last Thing On My Mind."

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

We all love Lizzo, cuz Lizzo is the baddest bitch, we ain't lyin'.

Tank & The Bangas –

Green Balloon (VERVE)

Find it in: NEW ORLEANS

Fun and off-kilter, maybe a little goofy, even, but this is a serious band, and some serious singing. Throw in the rhymes and beats, on top of all them jazzy chops, and if you're listenin' there's some serious themes and social commentary here, too. As usual some of the best stuff comes from New Orleans. They are great live!

Aretha Franklin –

Amazing Grace

(UNIVERSAL)

Find it in: GOSPEL/SOUL

I waited decades for the Sydney Pollack footage from the recording of this album to be made into a movie. Turns out the footage is a bit raw, a bit messy, and, yes, I've heard the record probably hundreds of times in my life. Didn't matter, this movie was so powerful. First I was flattened, then I had chills, then I began to weep. One of the greatest albums by one of the greatest singers of all time is now one of the greatest "concert" films of all time. Watch it with the volume turned way up. AMEN.

GRAHAM

What's a guy gotta do around here to get a good music recommendation?!

King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard – Fishing For Fishies

(ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Get this record! King Gizzard's 14th studio album slaps with quirky melodies, fuzzy guitar riffs, and spazzy synths.

(FAT POSSUM)

Townes Van Zandt's estate delivers an unheard collection of intimate recordings from 1973. Recorded in the Atlanta, Georgia home of a close friend, Townes runs through the classics of his catalog with nothing but his voice and a guitar.

Find it in: ROCK

Steve Lacy's debut album is finally here! Filled to the brim with hard beats, poppin' bass lines, jangly guitar, and swelling vocal harmonies.

(AFTERMATH)

Anderson .Paak shows out with his third full-length studio album demonstrating his ability to meld funk, soul, and hip-hop all while holding it down on the drum set and delivering district and quirky vocals.

(SUBPOP)

Natalie Mering (AKA Weyes Blood) delivers with her latest full-length LP in an assortment of heartfelt meaningful songs. Her voice soars over the wide and airy soundscapes, which are accented by guitars, synths, and pianos



*I'm not buying another water bottle,
I know mine's around here somewhere...*

(SEPULCHRAL VOICE/AINA OFFENSIVE)

This record dropped in February and is already being hailed as the best metal record of the year by many a blog or otherwise reputable publication and rightly so. *Achatius* tells the story of St. Agathius, a Roman centurion who was martyred for refusing to renounce his Christian faith, but shifts the narrative to center on the folly of martyrdom. Fans of sole member Bestial Devotion's earlier output as Funereal Presence, or his other project Negative Plane, will know what to expect in terms of instrumentation and production. Church organ, bell chimes, and other unorthodox sounds (do I hear a glockenspiel?) wind their way into each of the four 10-plus minute tracks quite seamlessly and impressively. A must listen for those interested in veering off the beaten black metal track.

(DARK DESCENT)

Awesome metal of death from Ireland! For their debut full length, Vircolac dispense with the “groovier” (read: borderline nu-metal) passages of their earlier EPs and emerge with a record cementing them at the forefront of the small but formidable Irish scene alongside modern heavyweights Malthusian and ZOM. If you're getting tired of waiting for a new Grave Miasma record, this should tide you over for a while.

(DARK ESSENCE)

One of Norway's most underrated (stateside anyway) black/thrash bands finally reissued on fiery orange wax!! Side A boasts some of the finest evil speed metal to be released this side of 1984, while Side B consists of the band's impressive *Reap of Evil Demo* from 2010, which is much more akin to the blackened thrash stylings in line with the recent crop of Norwegian '80's revivalists Deathhammer, Nekromantheon, Condor, etc. Play loud and bang yr fucken head!!



(IRON BONEHEAD)

BLACK TWILIGHT REIGNS SUPREME!! The latest offering from LA's Huizilopochtli war metal cult is easily their best to date. Sporting a level of production more in line with their recent split with fellow Black Twilight Circle member Kallathon, the record keeps the heavy vocal delay featured so prominently on the rest of the band's oeuvre, giving it an almost psychedelic quality while sacrificing nothing in intensity and ferocity. This is already in its second pressing, if you missed out on getting your copy when it dropped, now's your chance!

(EDGED CIRCLE)

More killer evil thrash from Norway! I saw these guys a couple years ago for their sole West Coast appearance with Obliteration and Reptilian (which features two members of Inculter, and I think three for that gig) and they stole the show. You read that right. They stole the show. From Obliteration. Mean riffs, killer solos, thoroughly heroic drumming, and songcraft that expertly weaves black metal overtones and death metal song structures into the aesthetic of '80s thrash à la early Sepultura, Infernal Majesty, Sacrifice, etc., make this a must listen for anyone with an ear for the old school. Buy or DDDIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII EEEEEEEEEE
EUEUUUGGGHHH!!

(SEASON OF MIST)

JESUS H. CHRIST!! Some of the heaviest, most dissonant black/death of recent times hailing from... Basque country? Alright! Altarage drops the chugging breakdowns that marred their previous efforts and replaces them with more

of the unrelenting, tuned down to Z, disharmonic fury that has been their hallmark. Have I mentioned that this record is heavy? It's really fucking heavy and it'll scare the bejeezus outta your roommates/parents/coworkers. Or at least make them mildly uncomfortable. Highly recommended!!

Irish drinker, Jewish thinker

(HOUSE OF ANANSI PRESS)

The authorized biography of The Kids In The Hall, my all-time fave sketch comedy group, told by a guy who was there to see it all in real time, Mike Myers' younger brother, Paul. A must for fans of the troupe.

Hi Dee Ho Murderinos! For fans of their podcast, this book is everything you hoped it would be. As for those of you who aren't *My Favorite Murder Fans*, what the fuck are you doing with your lives!!? Get on that shit!

Brie Larson crushes it in this Marvel flashback to Carol Danvers' origin story, which ends up being the perfect lead-in to *Endgame*. Great action sequences and this movie's got jokes people!

As someone who is obsessed with the Gemini and Apollo programs of the '60s, this doc is an absolute godsend. Features never before seen footage of the mission that was one giant leap for mankind.

Find it in: SOUL/R&B

This record is awesome! Hearing Andre 3000 on the first track just made my day. (Where u been Outkast?) First *Venice*, then *Malibu*, followed by *Oxnard*, and now *Ventura*, where will he go next? Coming in 2021, Anderson .Paak's *Fontana*?

RORY

Not a Roxy Music tribute act.

Alex Chilton – Songs From Robin Hood Lane (BAR/NONE)

Find it in: ROCK

Fascinating compilation of jazz/pop standards. 7 tracks never on a previous Chilton album.

Alex Chilton – From Memphis To New Orleans (BAR/NONE)

Find it in: ROCK

Alex's solo recordings are often hard to find. This is a nice place-holder in your collection until you find the original albums. An excellent compilation in its own right but, truthfully, you need it all.

Chip Taylor – Whiskey Salesman / Fix Your Words (TRAIN WRECK)

Find it in: COUNTRY

These two most recent Chip Taylor releases feel like an old friend leaning forward & quietly telling you what's on his mind. Sparse accompaniment and a lived-in, half spoken vocal delivery make these some of the most intimate and human recordings you'll find in the Country (or any other) section.



ESCAPED APE MANN

Door knobs, rock salt, vinyl, film reels,
axel grease, collectables, CDs...
they all taste better than zoo food.

Street Fighter Collection – Starring Sonny Chiba [Shout! Select Blu-ray]

If you want a dirtier, meaner, more raw Bruce Lee, with less polished, cheesier, bloodier violence, then look no further! *The Street Fighter Collection* has everything you've ever wanted. You can't get this anywhere else!

Wakaliwood Supa Action Volume 1: Who Killed Captain Alex? + Bad Black – Directed by Isaac Godfrey Geoffrey

The internet movie crowd became obsessed with the film *Who Killed Captain Alex?* for a while, and for good reason. This low-budget Ugandan film has more heart, imagination, and passion than anything to come out of Hollywood in the past 10 years. And now it's available for the first time on this meticulous Blu-ray release!

The Venture Bros. – Season 7 – Created by Christopher McCulloch

With this Blu-ray release you guys know Season 8 is only like a year-and-a-half away. This season has even more pop culture references, dumb comic nerd jokes, and existential explorations of what it means to be alive and have hopes and dreams than the last one! Go Team Venture!

Us (2019) – Directed by Jordan Peele

West Coast fans should enjoy this vacation down to Santa Cruz, complete with commentary on social class, intelligent tension, a beach trip, and more gory scissor stabbings than you can shake your doppelgänger's finger at. If you liked *Get Out*, you'll love this.

Perfect Blue (1997) [Shout! Factory Blu-ray] – Directed by Satoshi Kon

One of the contemporary classics of Japanese Animation, now available for the first time in 20 years on Blu-ray.

CAMRY

22222222

Uranium Club – The Cosmo Cleaners

(FASHIONABLE IDIOTS)

Find it in: ROCK

Wow! More jerky rock from the Minneapolis Uranium Club Band. Nice!

Marion Brown – Three For Shepp (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Find it in: JAZZ

Wow! A 1966 Classic! Grachan Moncur III! Dave Burrell? Gee! Amazing!

Erik Nervous & The Beta Blockers – LP (SELF-RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK

The most talented man from Shipshewana delivers some nice nervous new wave! Nice!

Preening – Gang Laughter

(DIGITAL REGRESS)

Find it in: ROCK

Nice! Saxophone, bass, and drum kit. Wow! Tight Drumming, staccato bass, and blaring sax. Great!

QQQL – QQQL (ANOTHER LABEL)

Find it in: PUNK

Another Minneapolis based band? Wow! What's in the water? Nice blazing hardcore music. Great!

EMILY

I'm really into *Final Fantasy 8*
and ceramics.

Khotin – Beautiful You

(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

Find it in: ELECTRONIC

Magic synth good time.

Chris Cohen – Chris Cohen

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Find it in: ROCK

If you have a complicated relationship with your father, this album might be for you.

Wand – Laughing Matter

(DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

AMOEBAS SELLS T-SHIRTS!

ROCK & MUSIC TEES



FILM & POP CULTURE TEES AND MORE!

Jessica Pratt – *Quiet Signs*

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: FOLK

Cocteau Twins – *Milk & Kisses* [Reissue]

(FONTANA)

Find it in: ROCK

Hey, you know about the Cocteau Twins, or maybe you don't, but with track names like "Calfskin Smack," what's not to love?

SLUSHYLAWN

Denzel Curry – *ZUU*

(LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Denzel Curry's *ZUU* is an all killer no filler follow up to his critically acclaimed *Ta1300*. *ZUU* displays his artistic grit, writing talents, and is 100% BARS.

Flying Lotus – *Flamagra*

(WARP)

Find it in: ELECTRONIC

Flylo took years to release his newest project, and his new sound goes back to roots of Los Angeles neo-electronic dance floor vibrations. Tons of great features.

Flume – *Hi This is Flume*

(FUTURE CLASSIC)

Find it in: ELECTRONIC

Hi This Is Flume is a mixtape from the festival favorite DJ that encompasses sounds from his personal favorite musicians and turns them into experimental dopeness and dance jams.

Steve Lacy – *Apollo XXI*

(3QTR)

Find it in: ROCK

Steve Lacy is at the very beginning of his career and he already displays poise to deliver funky and introspective jams.

Grateful Dead – *Aoxomoxoa* [50th anniversary]

(GRATEFUL DEAD/RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Late-'60s / early-'70s Dead is one of my personal favorites. The mixes of "China Cat Sunflower" and "We Bid You Goodnight" are beautiful.

Earl Sweatshirt – *Some Rap Songs* (SONY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Esteemed rapper, founding member of Odd Future, talented lyricist. Earl Sweatshirt walks the walk when it comes to boundary pushing music. *SRS* is a classic.

THOMAS

Robert Forster – *Inferno* (TAPETE)

Find it in: ROCK

Great new collection of songs from one half of The Go-Betweens songwriting duo. *Inferno* finds Forster in top form, penning infectious and poignant pop songs with clever, insightful lyrics. What else could be expected from the genius behind songs like "Spring Rain" and "Love Goes On"?

Prefab Sprout – *I Trawl The Megahertz* [Reissue]

(SONY MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Totally surprising reissue of a Prefab Sprout record I'd never heard before. I fell in love with this band through the slick, sophisticated pop tracks they're more well known for but was seriously caught off guard by the predominantly instrumental, highly orchestrated compositions on *I Trawl The Megahertz*. Though truly a departure from their classic albums like *Steve McQueen*, this lush and melancholic record definitely carries the melodic songwriting DNA of band leader Paddy McAloon. Any fan of Prefab Sprout—or beautiful pop music in general—should do themselves a favor and listen to this LP.

Television Personalities – *Some Kind Of Happening* (Singles 1978-1989) / *Some Kind Of Trip* (Singles 1990-1994) (FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

ESSENTIAL set of collections compiling the TVPs' single and EP tracks from 1978 through 1994. A fantastic showcase of the brilliance of Dan Treacy—one of pop music's unparalleled greats. Now I don't have to spend all my money tracking down the original issues of these songs. I still might though...

The Jazz Butcher – *A Scandal In Bohemia* [Reissue] (FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

Reissue of The Jazz Butcher's classic 1984 LP. As to be expected from this band, *A Scandal*

in *Bohemia* is an eclectic and tuneful collection of tracks delivered with a cheeky British sense of humor. Standout songs, such as the brilliant "Southern Mark Smith (Big Return)" show off the band pop chops and prove that Jazz Butcher records deserve a place in any indie-pop fan's record collection.

Cate Le Bon – *Reward*

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

Fifth studio album from Cate Le Bon and, no surprise, it's another winner. She truly seems incapable of making anything less than brilliantly original and infectious. Each song is built around layers of beguiling and surprising melodic turns that are as uncompromisingly idiosyncratic as they are beautifully surrealistic. Everything Le Bon touches from her solo compositions to her production work (as on the seriously underrated *Beat The Babbie* by Alex Dingley) is totally worthwhile. If you haven't explored her music yet, *Reward* is a great place to start.

SHAHAN

Frank Blackolyte

Mort Garson – *Mother Earth's Plantasia* (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

At this point, Mort Garson's *Plantasia* record borders on myth, but is receiving its first official reissue since its original pressing in 1976. This laid back record is perfect for enjoying on a lazy Sunday afternoon, surrounded by your favorite houseplants. Whatever kind of sonic horticulture is at work here apparently works just as well for people as it does plants, because "A Mellow Mood For Maidenhair" really gets me AND my ferns riled.

Kevin Morby – *Oh My God*

(DEAD OCEANS)

Find it in: ROCK

Kevin Morby takes the good Lord's name in vain on this double LP. The music draws on southern baptist devotional tunes, a deep love for the Velvet Underground, and follows the two sets of sandy footsteps left by Bob Dylan's *Slow Train Coming*. The album's production and instrumentation lean into these influences. Pianos and choirs ring out into a simulated studio space the size and shape of an old country chapel. Simultaneously reverential and irreverent, Morby populates his lyrics with religious and musical tropes, assembling them into missives of good omen.



Through repetition, he catabolizes their meaning and, instead of harnessing this energy, he allows it to funnel through speaker cable and become part of the ambient energy of whatever room its played in, nearly unnoticed. He redeploys the same expressions and images throughout the album, breaking them down like brittle sandstone until they're reduced to their most basic element: love. God means love and God means nothing and nothing is everything. Love is everything. Pretty good record!

Various Artists – *Pacific Breeze (Japanese City Pop, AOR & Boogie 1976-1986)*

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: WORLD

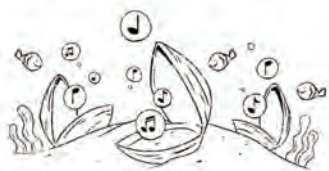
City Pop is so chill it makes me sick. If my teenage self caught me listening to what is essentially Steely Dan noshing cheeseburgers in paradise he'd no doubt throw punches. Weak punches, bro, grow up and kick back to some adult contemporary studio rock! RIYL Harry Hosono, YMO, Masayoshi Takanaka, Sony's Sound Image series, or YouTube videos of songs you can never find again.

Viagra Boys – *Street Worms*

(YEAR0001)

Find it in: ROCK

Oakland isn't the only place in the world where you can see a punk band with a saxophone! Viagra Boys could easily be written off as some other weird thing from the internet. They're



Swedish labelmates to Yung Lean and populate the same algorithmically generated tastemaking channels as The Chats and Fat White Family. But unlike these examples *Viagra Boys* don't fester in petty self-mockery. *Viagra Boys* are unafraid of humor, but nihilistic fatalism crowds the punchlines on songs like "Worms" and "Just Like You." Paranoia and menace seep into tracks like "Down In The Basement" and the relentless instrumental "Amphetanarchy." This sincerity makes *Street Worms* worth revisiting even after the novelty of lyrics like "Getting high in the morning/Not answering calls/Volleyball" has worn off.

Frank Black – *Frank Black* (4AD)
Find it in: ROCK

I will be a lifelong Frank Black acolyte. This album follows the thread of *Bossanova* and *Trompe Le Monde*. This album is about one thing at a time: geography, aliens, The Ramones, pulp fiction, esotericism and sometimes some bible stuff. This album taught me it's weird to care about things and that's why you should do it.

Thin Lizzy – *We Will Be Strong / Sweetheart 7"* (WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: ROCK

Pick up this single and, with your other hand, take up the sword of justice to plunge directly into the hearts of the fascists and the tyrants. They're vicious in their pursuit of power; and we too must be vicious in our rebuke of their attempts to pit us against each other. We will be strong when we band together. We'll find the solution to starvation, and all nations will be their own salvation once we shake loose the chains that restrain us and destroy the systems of oppression and maybe then we'll fall in love or something.

NOVA

Expanding force

The Blaze – *Territory EP*
(ANIMAL 63)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Eric Gale – *Ginseng Woman/ Multiplication*
(SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT 1977)
Find it in: JAZZ

Theophilus London – *Vibes*
(WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Solange – *When I Get Home*
(COLUMBIA)
Find it in: SOUL

Tyler The Creator – *IGOR*
(COLUMBIA)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Unknown Mortal Orchestra – *IC-01 Hanoi* (JAGJAGUWAR)
Find it in: ROCK

Noname – *Room 25* (NONAME)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Pharaoh Sanders – *Pharaoh*
(INDIA NAVIGATION)
Find it in: JAZZ

Momoko Goto (Powder) – *Powder in Space* (BEATS IN SPACE)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Lonnie Liston Smith and The Cosmic Echoes – *Visions of A New World* (ACE)
Find it in: JAZZ

MEOWGAN

Fan of frogs. Bad at writing bios.

Cate Le Bon – *Reward*
(MEXICAN SUMMER)
Find it in: ROCK
This record is winding, chiming and hypnotizing! A more sophisticated side of Cate's songwriting. Truly beautiful!

Seablite – *Grass Stains & Novocaine* (EMOTIONAL RESPONSE)
Find it in: ROCK
Excellent band and record! Bay Area infectious indie pop tunes that'll knock your socks off!

Robert Forster – *Inferno* (TAPETE)
Find it in: ROCK
Wonderful pop songs from The Go-Betweens frontman. One of the best songwriters of all time!

Jeanines – *Jeanines* (SLUMBERLAND)
Find it in: ROCK
Ooh! I love this record. Nice, melodic harmonies & jangly guitars. Highly recommended to fans of twee, C86, and whatnot!

Various Artists – *Hot Sick Vile & Fun!*
(ROCKS IN YOUR HEAD)
Find it in: ROCK
Lots of great bands on this compilation based out of SF. *Rocks In Your Head* is a new record label in the city, you should really check it out!

LUCIANO

Bernard XOLOTL – *Last Wave*
[Reissue] (BUREAU B)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Reissue of Bernard XOLOTL's fifth album *Last Wave* originally released only on cassette in 1982. French electronic music recorded in San Francisco.

Charles Ditto – *In Human Terms*
(TELEPHONE EXPLOSION)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Ambient pop with subtle rhythmic shifts, retro futuristic textures and sparsely melodic character recorded and originally released in 1987.



Tor Lundvall – *A Strangeness In Motion: Early Pop Recordings 1989-1999* (DAIS)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Rescued from old DAT tapes *A Strangeness In Motion: Early Pop Recordings 1989-1999* are some of Tor Lundvall's earliest completed synth pop works which have remained unreleased until now.

Insides – *Euphoria*
[Reissue] (BEACON SOUND)
Find it in: ROCK

Reissue of the 4AD 1993 left-field electronic pop album that incorporates programmed beats, elements of neoclassical minimalism and beautiful female vocals.

Various Artists – *Kankyo Ongaku: Japanese Ambient, Environmental and New Age Music 1980-1990*
(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)
Find it in: NEW AGE

This is a collection of calm, spacious, and slightly chilly tunes from different Japanese artists

JOHN T

Pilar Zeta – *Moments of Reality* (ULTRAMAJIC)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Debut record from creative art director Pilar Zeta. An exquisite 45rpm double gatefold record of outsider electronic music. A distinct MIDI sound is employed that at times made me think of faux futuristic advertising jingles. Breathless wordless vocals add extra magic to my favorite tracks "Moments of Reality," "Corporate Feng Shui" and "Say Hay." Fans of Art of Noise will certainly enjoy the playfulness exhibited here.

Various Artists – *Outro Tempo II: Electronic And Contemporary Music From Brazil, 1984-1996*
(MUSIC FROM MEMORY)
Find it in: WORLD

Highly anticipated follow-up to my favorite compilation of 2017. This time focusing on experimental sounds of '80s and '90s Brazilian avant-garde pop. "It presents another uncompromising and magnetic reinterpretation of the limits of Brazilian music."



Sora – Re.Sort (WRWTFWW)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

WRWTFWW records continues to be one of my favorite re-issue labels, and they've done it again. A one-off record from Japanese producer Takeshi Kurosawa previously released on CD only in 2003. Whimsical sample based electronica with a light summery tropical feel. Lots of xylophone patches and turn of the century digital textures.

Benjamin Lew – Le Personnage Principal Est Un Peuple Isole (STROOM)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Lew created several albums for Belgian label Crammed Discs in the 1980s. This is a lovely new compilation of his cinematic ditties and fourth world experiments frequently featuring Steven Brown of Tuxedomoon.

Various Artists – Kankyō Ongaku: Japanese Ambient, Environmental & New Age Music 1980-1990 (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Light in the Attic has compiled an admirable selection of ambient music from 1980s Japan. An excellent gateway to a magical world.

Purple Mountains – Purple Mountains (DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

David Berman is back! (Well, by the time you read this he will be.) The Silver Jews *Natural Bridge* is probably my favorite album of all time and it has now been over 10 years since their last release. Those last few Silver Jews albums were a tad lackluster, to say the least, but I am happy to say that the two songs so far released are a positive sign for what is to come.

My Scientology Movie (2015) – Directed by Louis Theroux

While not my favorite Louis Theroux documentary, it is very exciting to actually have a physical release of his work come out in America. Theroux is one of the best documentarians on the lives of extra and unextraordinary people. A bold and necessary attack on the "cult" that is Scientology.

Khrustalyov, My Car! (1998) – Directed by Aleksey German

Aleksey German's (*Hard To Be A God*) 1998 film revolving around the 1953 Doctor's Plot, an anti-Semitic political campaign organized by Stalin to round up supposed dissident doctors. Like *Hard To Be A God* this film is DENSE. The camera constantly moving along the swarms of activity, picking up and dropping off protagonists like a Kafkaesque version of Linklater's *Slacker*. While certainly enjoyable, filled with gorgeous black and white cinematography, disorienting, paranoid visions of a bleak Stalin-era Moscow, it is great to have the copious special features included on the Blu-ray to orient the viewer. One of the movies where you feel like you've been through something mildly traumatic when it ends... but in a good way.

DYLAN TIDYMAN- JONES

Cate Le Bon – Reward (MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

Continuing to broaden her sonic pallet, Le Bon's arrangements are less and less anchored to their post punk foundation, but with a sprouting battery of toys, timbers, horns, and keys, her melodic ID remains singular. What surprises about *Reward* more than its idiosyncratic playfulness, is how romantic it feels at times, how social. If by chance we happen to find ourselves in some dystopic setting, at least we have each other, for the moment.

Jessica Pratt – Quiet Signs (MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

A healing balm for your beleaguered brow, it'll make you feel ok for at least the duration of its two sides. Spare and minimal, utterly sumptuous,

appropriately titled, oddly familiar, a portal out through inner space. Her previous albums were wonderful—this one is paradise.

Weyes Blood – Titanic Rising

(SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

This is more referential and emotionally direct than previous albums (is that a twang among the synths?). Earcandy-laden heartsongs of love, loss, nostalgia, regret, and self-doubt. Superb popcraft.

Spelling – Mazy Fly (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

It's rare that a record offers much surprise these days, but this one does. Layered, captivating vocals, eerie electric soundscapes, arcane pleasures, here and there an infectious beat...

Tor Lundvall – A Strangeness In Motion: Early Pop Recordings 1989-1999 (DAIS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Beautiful collection of magisterial synth pop, for fans of the dark side of the wave.

MEAN BEANS

Cold Brew, Hot Sauce, Punk & Anarchy

Törsö – Build and Break 7"

(REVELATION)

Find it in: PUNK

Punk done in the most fundamental way! An Oakland gem inspired by Finnish and Swedish Hardcore, they are on their way to being legends.

Full Of Hell – Weeping Choir

(RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

A blessed subjective of cathartic visceral orchestra of anxiety and obliteration. Levels are on overdrive without a dead end. For fans of Napalm Death, Nails, and Mammoth Grinder.

ScHoolboy Q – Crash Talk

(TOP DAWG)

Find it in: HIP HOP

On the edge of withdrawal for abrasive Hip Hop, ScHoolboy Q manifests another title which pushes the context of blazing, and the nostalgia of Ice Cube. Listen to "Floating," "Drunk," and "Water."

Thursday – Full Collapse

(VICTORY)

Find it in: PUNK

Listen to "Paris In Flames," "How Long Is The Night?" Understanding the term "post" could satisfy the urgency of an abstract sound documenting this album by Thursday. This album shifted the paradigms of abrasiveness & melody! For fans of Fugazi, and The Refused.

Dead Kennedys – DK40

(MANIFESTO)

Find it in: PUNK

The architects of satire, soap opera, and potential SF mayor. With DK punk pivoted from European fashion, to a gritty outlook of art and genuine music. Monumental achievement for an album of 40 years!

Ana Tijoux – La Bala

(NACIONAL)

Find it in: HIP HOP/LATIN POP

A body of work where the artist explores the matters of violence: domestic, of the occupation, and also within the art movement. Ana Tijoux is an embodiment of power and sensitivity. For fans of Julieta Venegas, Lauryn Hill, and cumbia.

BROTHER GABRIEL

Video maker and beertender

Hard Ticket To Hawaii (1987) – Directed by Andy Sidaris

Early on in *Hard Ticket to Hawaii* our heroine Donna (Dona Speir) declares: "We need to figure out what happened? Let's unload and hit the jacuzzi. I do my best thinking there." And off we go with the bikinis and our main story line. The Agency vs. the smugglers. On the agency side you have playboy playmates, soap stars and martial artists. On the smuggler side you'll find: skaters with blow up dolls, a dude named Shades that loves to "throw" (play frisbee), and a transvestite double agent. When these adversaries clash Sidaris' serves up ample helpings of flesh, guns, explosions and a giant venomous snake! If any of this sounds appealing head for the exotic islands today. Also, be sure to check out Andy Sidaris' other great films: *Seven*, *Malibu Express*, *Savage Beach*, *Picasso Trigger*, *Guns and Fit to Kill*. All available on Blu-ray.

■ **Wacko (1982)** – **Directed by Greydon Clark**

Before *Scary Movie* there was 1982's *Wacko*. A horror version of *Airplane* directed by drive-in cinema impresario Greydon Clark (*Joy Sticks*, *Satan's Cheerleaders*). *Wacko* sports an all-star cast including: Joe Don Baker (*Walking Tall*, *Mitchell*, *Golden Eye*), E.G. Daily (*Streets of Fire*, *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure*, *Valley Girls*), Stella Stevens (*The Ballad of Cable Hogue*, *Las Vegas Lady*, *Slaughter*), George Kennedy (*Cool Hand Luke*, *The Naked Gun* series, *Before Dawn*), Julia Duffy (*Newhart*, *Butcher Baker Nightmare Maker*) and an unforgettable performance by a young Andrew "Dice" Clay as Tony Schlongini. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll kiss 90 minutes goodbye!

■ **Waterworld (1995)** – **Directed by Kevin Reynolds**

I must admit I hated *Waterworld* when it came out in 1995. But, time has been kind to this overblown flop, and it seems more poignant today. Set in a dystopian future in which the polar ice caps have melted and the world is now solely covered with water as humans scavenge for resources and fight scurvy. It's basically *Mad Max* on water. Chock full of amazing action sequences, decent drama, spectacular costumes, and a fantastic performance by Dennis Hopper as the Deacon. It even has a titular line shouted out in the first ten minutes: "Nothing's free in water world." Arrow's latest Blu-ray edition is a must have for fans of this landless actioner. All film elements were scanned in 4K and this set includes: the theatrical cut, the TV cut (40 mins more!) and the fan edit "Ulysses Cut" which combines the theatrical cut and the tv cut for a three-hour extravaganza! Don't delay, dive in today!

■ **The Seduction (1982)** – **Directed by David Schmoeller**

If you like creepy stalker movies edited in the style of an '80s TV movie then check out this dramatic exploitation thriller. *The Seduction* stars Morgan Fairchild in her first leading role as Jaime Douglas, a prime time news anchor who is terrorized by obsessed photographer, Derek, played by Andrew Stevens (*Dallas*, *The Fury*, *Night Eyes IV*). Derek first stalks Jaime from afar by photographing her as she skinny dips. He quickly ups the ante with harassing phone calls, office visits and even assaults her at home by barging through the front door and relentlessly photographing her. Derek pushes Jaime over the edge and she is forced to protect herself with her charm, good looks and a shotgun. All this backed by Mac Ahlberg (*My Tutor*, *Ghoulies*, *The*

Second Coming of Eva) beautiful cinematography and a solid score by Lalo Schiffrin (*Mission Impossible*, *Dirty Harry* and *Enter The Dragon*). Look for a young Colleen Camp (*Valley Girl*, *Apocalypse Now*, and *Clue*) And pay extra attention the the interior of Jaime's house as it was Rita Moreno's home at the time of filming.

■ **The Street Fighter Collection, The Sister Street Fighter Collection (1974-76)** – **Directed by Shigehiro Ozawa, Kazuhiko Yamaguchi**

If you are fan of *True Romance* you can now program your own *Street Fighter* triple feature with these two great collections brought to you by the folks at Shout Factory and Arrow Video. Shout! Factory's *Street Fighter Collection* includes: *Street Fighter*, *Return of the Street Fighter* and *The Street Fighter's Last Revenge*. See why Sonny Chiba is one of Quentin Tarantino's favorite '70s martial badasses. "He's not so much a good guy, as he is a bad motherfucker who gets paid to fuck people up." ~*True Romance*.

Arrow's *Sister Street Fighter Collection* stars Etsuko Shihomi in four bloody masterpieces: *Sister Street Fighter*, *Sister Street Fighter: Hanging By A Thread*, *Return of Sister Street Fighter* and *Sister Street Fighter 5th Level Fist*! Sonny Chiba returns for the first installment before leaving it in the capable arms of his protégé Shihomi. Bloody, bruised, and bombastic—treat yourself to the melee of some of the best in 1970s exploitation cinema.

AUDRA WOLFMANN

Meaning junkie. Master of disguise.
Marketer of Amoebas.
Speakeasily. Odessa Lil.

Twin Temple – Twin Temple **Bring You Their Signature** **Sound... Satanic Doo-Wop** (RISE ABOVE LIMITED)

Find it in: ROCK

Satanic Doo-Wop, you ask? I see that you are dubious about that as a genre, but once you hear Twin Temple or see their ritualistic and highly entertaining stage act, you'll be shouting "Hail Satan" while you do the mashed potato. Twin Temple are more than just good shtick, but

their shtick is seriously good! Buy this album for the tight, original retro melodies and lead singer Alexandra James's soulful voice. Songs like "Satan Is a Woman" and "Sex Magick" are somehow all at once danceable, swoon-worthy, and revolutionary.

■ **A Dark Song (2017)** – **Directed by Liam Gavin**

This is how a horror film should be done, in my opinion. Forget the bluster of *Hereditary*; this film leverages references to actual occult rituals from the Western esoteric tradition and the characters have a palpable, authentic sense of sorrow and obsession that saturates the story in believability. Now that's scary. It's also filmed beautifully and the plot keeps you guessing throughout the whole movie.

■ **Stay Sexy & Don't Get Murdered: The Definitive How-To Guide** – **by Karen Kilgariff & Georgia Hardstark**

(FORGE BOOKS)

This book will only be of interest to fans of the riveting podcast, *My Favorite Murder*, so get listening! Comedy writer Karen Kilgariff and actor Georgia Hardstark have struck gold by mining an overlooked niche—that of the female true crime fans. But their show, and this book, isn't just for creepy girls. All creepy genders are welcomed. Give it a try.

□ **Flowers: Series 2 (2018)** – **Created by Will Sharpe**

At this point the DVD has only been released in England (PAL region), but this is a MUST for all Julian Barratt (*Mighty Boosh*) fans. The funniest drama about depression and suicide that I've ever encountered. Plus, Olivia Colman is a goddamned international treasure. Trigger warning: it's full of triggers and I think that can be very therapeutic.

■ **Blue Velvet (1986)** **[Criterion] – Directed by David Lynch**

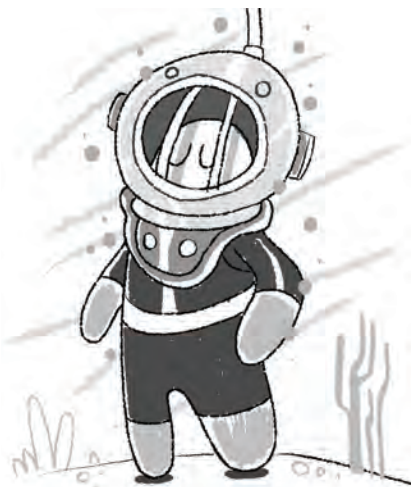
One of my favorite disterbo Lynch classics gets the Criterion treatment with loads of extras. You know what a love letter is? It's a bullet from a f@#king gun, f@#ker!

Tip:

Listen to my show - *The Speakeasily Hour Minute Podcast: Speakeasily.TV*

NOTES:





AARON A.

Lee Fields & The Expressions
– *It Rains Love* (BIG CROWN)

Find it in: SOUL

■ **Le Doulos (1963)** – Directed
by Jean-Pierre Melville

This classic from the master of stylish, cool, French crime films is finally back in print and on Blu-ray.

■ **Bob Le Flambeur (1956)** –
Directed by Jean-Pierre
Melville

This pre-French New Wave take on American crime/noir would set the tone for Melville's run of cooler than cool gangster flicks.

■ **Touchez Pas au Grisbi (1954)**
– Directed by Jacques Becker

Jean Gabin exudes class and elegance, while maintaining a hard-boiled presence in a way not often shown in American crime films. Becker's influential film is most interesting in the details of the gangster's lifestyle, i.e. a secret hideout apartment stocked with fresh pajamas, new toothbrushes, wine and pâté.

Amyl & the Sniffers –
Amyl & the Sniffers

(ATO)

Find it in: PUNK

All-thriller-no-filler barn burner of a debut from maybe the most exciting young band ever exported from down undah. They are always on tour, do NOT miss their next show in your town (unless you prefer to be mocked, of course). RIYL: Motörhead, Acca/Dacca, Judas Priest, Dolly Parton.

MARK B

*Don't let your mouth write checks
that your butt can't cash.*

Visible Cloaks, Yoshio Ojima
& Satsuki Shibano –
Serenitatem: FRKWYS Vol. 15

(RVNG INTL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

If you haven't yet made contact with the FRKWYS series yet, it's a project of the RVNG label in which they pair a current (typically young) sound artist with one or more veteran artists that have had some influence on their own viewpoint. I really enjoyed *FRKWYS Vol. 12*, in which ROBERT AIKI AUBREY LOWE teamed up with French electronic pioneer ARIEL KALMA, and *FRKWYS Vol. 13*, featuring electronic legend SUZANNE CIANI working with KAITLYN AURELIA SMITH.

This latest issue showcases VISIBLE CLOAKS'S SPENCER DORAN, who curated this last year's compilation of '80s Japanese Ambient recordings for the Light In The Attic imprint called KANKYO ONGAKU. Doran is here collaborating with two of the artists from that collection.

Throughout the collaboration the spirit of '80s ambient/New Age exploration is dominant. There are environmental recordings (or digital recreations of such) emerging in numerous spaces throughout the album, and lots of space. It's one of the strongest "meditation" musics I've heard in a very long time. Nothing is rushed, light breath-like drones meet carefully placed acoustic notes

from piano, clarinet and marimba. There are elements that would be considered typical of spa musics, but the intention is so directed and clear that all is elevated to the clarity of fine art. This is a stunning contribution to the form.

Robag Wruhme – Venq Tolep

(PAMPA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Venq Tolep is one of two VERY contrasting electronica releases that I really loved this year. For the other, read my SHLOHMO review below. WRUHME has created one of the prettiest ambient/dance electronica albums I've ever heard. It has a very suppressed beat, so maybe calling it "dance" in any way is a stretch, but beats do hold sway on numerous tracks.

Venq Tolep bristles with enthusiasm and innocence and joy. The spirit of Japanese animation soundtrack is present, as if Totoro is playing just with you in a huge space filled with all the best toys, all of them brand new and glittering in the sunlight. All of the tones seem fresh out of the box, even the bass hums are as big and slippery and clean as blue whales.

TR/ST – The Destroyer (GROUCH)

Find it in: ROCK

AMOEBEA stocks this in ROCK, but ROBERT ALFONS' third full-length under the TR/ST moniker is equally darkwave dancefloor electronica. I won't say it's as strong as the eponymous debut, but TR/ST has a sound and viewpoint unlike anyone else.

Deep beats, sinisterly nasal vocals and bubbling electronica are the formula, and *The Destroyer* delivers it in an even darker, more emotionally present package than they've done before. The tracks are never as immediate as on the first two albums, but they grow (or rather soak in) over repeated listens. Lot to dig here, from solid bangers like "Bicep" to the dark industrial beat experiments of "Poorly Coward."

Shlohmo – The End

(FRIENDS OF FRIENDS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

The many reviews of the new SHLOHMO release pulled me in, but I feel that I was misled. Granted, in interviews, HENRY LAUFER (SHLOHMO) describes the album as being influenced, partially, by the "end of the world." And I can hear it. However, there's something always lifting up from the ashes and the doom and the jaggedness of the tones that the album is built of.

The opening track, "Rock Music," has heavy metal guitars and mid-tempo drum machine smacks that are jarring, but at the same time, a melody of koto-like notes drifts over the top like a soothing breeze.

Warped notes, scratchy beats and smeared melodies dominate, but the sheer energy invested in their orchestration sounds much more like a beginning than anything resembling an end.

The Comet Is Coming –
Trust In The Life Force Of
The Deep Mystery (IMPULSE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Something is happening in the UK.

Something is happening in Jazz.

Something is happening in Electronica.

Shabaka Hutchings is an emerging force and should be recognized. Saxophonist leader of SONS OF KEMET, collaborator with ANGELIQUE KIDJO, the SUN RA ARKESTRA, the HELIOCENTRICS and JONNY GREENWOOD (The Master ost), has helped birth a stunning meld of spiritual jazz and electronics, both lyrical and aggressive and often at the same time.

I always felt that the jazz/rock/electronics of '70s MILES DAVIS, HERBIE HANCOCK and SUN RA were treated as embarrassing anomalies by jazz fans once cocaine appeared in the recording studios and artists realized the money that could be raked in by churning out quiet storm instrumental R&B schlock.

But maybe we've begun coming to our senses. Energy music is reappearing and THE COMET IS COMING are delivering it in churning waves.

Aldous Harding – Designer (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Don't quite know how ALDOUS HARDING's name landed in my world, but the first taste I got was her video for a track called "The Barrel" from the new album. I was immediately entranced, troubled, slightly weirded out by her presentation, her strangely affected body gestures and the song sank deep into my psyche. I woke up with it running through my mind on multiple mornings. As I dug deeper, I started to get a little obsessed.

Folky, whimsical, a little witchy in the vein of MARISSA NADLER, but with her own take on enunciation and the stretching and abbreviating of vowels. She writes really strong songs and is

helped in the playing and producing by long-time P.J. HARVEY associate, JOHN PARISH. Go on, get a little weirded out.

John Surman – *Where Fortune Smiles* [Reissue] (TIGER BAY)

Find it in: JAZZ

1971 masterpiece reissued for Record Store Day as a gorgeous picture disc. The original artwork was beautiful, and seeing it on the glossy pic disc is the reason picture discs were invented in the first place.

This is a HEAVY session, featuring a crew of young upstarts who would later become masters of the form (John McLaughlin, Dave Holland, Karl Berger and Stu Martin). It was Surman's session, but every player is essential and many of them playing with an abandon that they never reached again. Essential!

Sonny Sharrock – *Ask The Ages* [Reissue] (HIVE MIND)

Find it in: JAZZ

Issued for the very first time on double 45-rpm vinyl, this 1991 BILL LASWELL-produced session, is, in my estimation, the greatest single session of '80s/'90s Jazz. The perfect storm quartet of blistering guitarist SHARROCK, former Coltrane sidemen, ELVIN JONES and PHAROAH SANDERS and young journeyman bassist, CHARNETT MOFFETT delivers a set of deep, otherworldly communication.

I'm so glad they put this on vinyl and so glad that it's being paid attention to, again. It still gives me goosebumps after countless listens.

The vinyl is limited, but if you come across a CD copy, grab it!

Tip:

podcasts: two very short episode series are worth a listen: *BECOMING WISE* and *MEMORY PALACE*. *TOTAL COMBINED WEIGHT* might very well be on of the funniest podcasts I listen to regularly, just three dudes talking about movies, wrestlers, junk food and meat.



MARYANN

☞ *So Here's The Thing...* – by Alyssa Mastromonaco (TWELVE)

☞ *No Walls and the Recurring Dream* – by Ani DiFranco (VIKING)

Jenny Lewis – *On The Line* (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: ROCK

Beirut – *Gallipoli* (4AD) **Find it in:** ROCK

☞ *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* (2018) – Directed by Marielle Heller

Kishi Bashi – *Omoiyari* (JOYFUL NOISE) **Find it in:** ROCK

☞ *If Beale Street Could Talk* (2018) – Directed by Barry Jenkins

CHRIS B

Twin Temple – *Twin Temple Bring You Their Signature Sound... Satanic Doo-Wop* (RISE ABOVE LIMITED)

Find it in: ROCK

Have a soft spot for the golden era Doo-Wop sounds reminiscent of the 1950s and '60s, horror movies, and hailing the Dark Lord? Check out Twin Temple. The hypnotic, sultry, duo from L.A. may have you deceptively believing your ears will endure songs full of pummeling blast beats and searing high gain tremolo picked guitar judging by their blood soaked graphic album cover. Instead you're treated to lush, melodic, enchanting tunes, that harken back to your grandparents' golden age of music. And it works. Beautifully. Though with themes of Satanic lust and soul baring, your grandparents may not appreciate too much. Throw this on for an all Hallow's Eve party and it's guaranteed to fit the mood. Or anytime of year. Be sure to check this group out.



DYLAN B.

VO actor at your service!

☞ *Us* (2019) – Directed by Jordan Peele

Some of the shots in this movie I didn't even know could be done. Such a good time.

Anaïs Mitchell – *Hadestown* (SING IT AGAIN)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Not to brag, but I have been following this musical since 2012. The original concept album was released in 2010 and now, about a decade later, it's a Tony award-winning play. Essentially it's a retelling of Orpheus and Eurydice set to folk music and y'all the music is so colorful and lively. Even though the show is about ten years old, themes from the some of the numbers are even more prevalent today which is awesome and scary at the same time. Also. PATRICK PAGE'S VOICE YOU GUYS. IT GETS SO DEEP! HOW? HOW CAN YOU DO THAT? Ugh, and Andre de Shields? Beautiful. Don't sleep on this one y'all.

Lizzo – *Cuz I Love You* (ATLANTIC) **Find it in:** HIP HOP

Health – *Vol. 4 :: Slaves of Fear* (LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: ROCK

You know. It's definitely not the HEALTH I grew up with but I liked this album. You might be surprised, too.

Amanda Palmer – *There Will Be No Intermission* (8FT. RECORDS)

Find it in: ROCK

I cried, okay?! I don't care who knows.

Tip:

I got twopod casts for ya. *Critical Role* and *This Land*. Check em out!

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WYATT

Departure Chandelier – Antichrist Rise to Power

(NUCLEAR WAR NOW! PRODUCTIONS)
Find it in: BLACK METAL

Visigoth – Bells Of Awakening 7” (METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL

Unanimated – In The Forest Of Dreaming Dead [Reissue]

(CENTURY MEDIA)
Find it in: METAL

Unanimated – Ancient God Of Evil [Reissue]

(CENTURY MEDIA)
Find it in: METAL

Black Earth – Path Of The Immortal (SAVAGE MESSIAH)

Find it in: METAL

Current 93 – Invocations Of Almost (THE SPHERES)

Find it in: ROCK

Demons & Wizards – Demons & Wizards [Reissue]

(CENTURY MEDIA)
Find it in: METAL

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Twilight Force – Dawn Of The Dragonstar

(NUCLEAR BLAST)
Find it in: METAL

Vargrav – Reign In Supreme

Darkness (WEREWOLF)
Find it in: BLACK METAL

Warmoon Lord – Burning Banners of the Funereal War

(WOLFSPELL)
Find it in: BLACK METAL

Anthem – Nucleus (NUCLEAR BLAST)

Find it in: METAL

ZACHARY BOUVION

Sutekh Hexen – Sutekh Hexen

(CYCLIC LAW / SENTIENT RUIN)
Find it in: BLACK METAL

New double album of blackened electronic whines and clanks, with some blown out guitar buzz and buried black metal howling for good measure. After years of splits/collabs/EPs this is technically a full-length debut, and definitely sounds like a culmination of all of their morphing line-ups/styles. Their label dubbed it Power Ambient, and while it's got some atmospheric bits, I'd say there's too much abrasion to get an Ambient tag.

Controlled Death – Journey Through A Dead Body / Deathwish Tapes 1-3

[Box Set] (URASHIMA, ITALY)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Wildly decadent, and super limited box set featuring LP/CD/Cassette dispatches from Maso Yamazaki (Masonna). Design aesthetics and packaging seem pretty important to this new guise, but don't think for a minute that crushing tones and mind-warping sonic assault is not the centerpiece. Not as devastatingly abusive as Masonna, but certainly more martial than his zonked-out Space Machine stuff, this is really a pretty mature display from a real master of Noise. Also be sure to check out the gorgeous Flexi-Disc release that superb LA label Oxen put out recently.

Clavicvla – Sermons (SENTIENT RUIN)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Finally tracked down an LP of this 2018 opus from the Italian one-man Ritual Industrial project. Guttural vocal invocations, fluttering electronic washes, and ringing percussion crashes. Dark Ambient hell-scapes for fans of Trepaneringsritualen, Nordvargr, and their ilk. Excited to hear there's a new one on the way.

Les Rallizes Denudes – There's No Heaven Like Hell

(ALTERNATIVE FOX)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Expanded and re-edited release of some 1975 sessions from these mercurial Japanese sonic-terrorists. Their discography is just as mercurial as the outfit's biography—you should just buy it all. Post-Psychedelic jamming that'll punch hippies right in the face.

Sunn 0))) – Life Metal

(SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Splashing down on Record Store Day, then subsequently spreading further, *Life Metal* is an expertly recorded/mixed (by Steve Albini) new testament from the Lords of Doom. The real impact of Sunn's modus is shown in collaboration, and the opening track with Hildur Gudnadottir's vocals/strings fit right in amongst their best. Long may they reign.

Ennio Morricone & Bruno Nicolai – L'Anticristo 7” [OST]

(DAGORED)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

This year's RSD offering from Italian mainstay Dagored, is a replica 7” from this 1974 Exorcist-ploitation. These two hyper-dramatic cuts are all that were ever released from this hard-to-track down Italo-horror.

Zdeněk Liška – IKARIE XB-1 [OST]

(FINDERS KEEPERS)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Puce Mary – The Drought

(PAN)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Physical formats finally surface for one of my most played records of late 2018. Great follow-up to 2016's *The Spiral* (Posh Isolation). Richly textured Industrial, Power Electronic, and Musique Concrète techniques on display, complete with Antonioni homage.

Hagazussa (2019) –

Directed by Lukas Feigefeld

Rivalling *The Witch* in its grim austerity and folkloric underpinnings, but dissimilar in that the most horrific elements are not supernaturally driven, but purely the unbridled evil of mankind brought to bear. The last ten minutes would leave Black Phillip cowering in the barn.

Strip Nude for Your Killer (1975) – Directed by

Andrea Bianchi

Edwige Fenech! Kinky Giallo! Typically over-the-top presentation from Arrow Video, "The Criterion of Shitty Movies."* (*coined by me.)

Moral Order – Freedom Locked

(TESCO ORGANISATION)

Find it in: GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

Alberich – Quantized Angel

(HOSPITAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

O Saala Sakraal – Etmaal

(CYCLIC LAW)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Luc Ferrari – Luc Ferrari – Music Promenade / Unheimlich Schön

(RECOLLECTIONS GRM)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

Tip:

WATCH: Name of The Rose (2019) / **READ:** The Place Called Dagon (1927) by Herbert Gorman / **LISTEN:** NTS Radio (my bucket-list DJ dream)

PEGGY

Marvin Gaye – You're The Man

(MOTOWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Pup – Morbid Stuff (RISE)

Find it in: ROCK

Dave Rawlings Machine – Nashville Obsolete (ACONY)

Find it in: COUNTRY

Finally on vinyl!

Durand Jones & The Indications – American Love Call (DEAD OCEANS)
Find it in: SOUL

Menzingers – No Penance / The Cemetery's Garden 7" (EPITAPH)
Find it in: PUNK

Carly Rae Jepsen – Dedicated (INTERSCOPE)
Find it in: ROCK

Exhalation: Stories – by Ted Chiang (KNOPF)

SCOTT CARLSON

Metal Buyer/World Buyer, other stuff

Les Rallizes DeNudes + Be – There's No Heaven Like Hell (ALTERNATIVE FOX)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Andrew Cyrille/Wadada Leo Smith/Bill Frisell – Lebroba (ECM)
Find it in: JAZZ

Eric Dolphy – Musical Prophet: The Expanded 1963 New York Studio Sessions (RESONANCE)
Find it in: JAZZ



Masayuki Takayanagi New Direction Unit – April is the Cruellest Month (BLANK FORMS)
Find it in: JAZZ

Inter Arma – Sulphur English (RELAPSE)
Find it in: METAL

Horrors of Malformed Men (1969) – Directed by Teruo Ishii

Harry Bertoia – Experimental I/Mechanical I (SONAMBIENT)
Find it in: CLASSICAL

CIGGY BOP

The Brian Jonestown Massacre – The Brian Jonestown Massacre (A RECORDS)
Find it in: ROCK
Their 18th album and going strong!

The Coathangers – The Devil You Know (SUICIDE SQUEEZE)
Find it in: ROCK
A party with your favorite punks!

The Mystery Lights – Too Much Tension (WICK)
Find it in: ROCK
Retro, psych, garage rock, oh my!

Kevin Morby – Oh My God (DEAD OCEANS)
Find it in: ROCK
Tender tunes!

Prince – Originals (WARNER BROS.)
Find it in: SOUL
Songs originally written by Prince and recorded by other artists but here performed/recorded by the purple majesty himself!



Sadgirl – Water (SUICIDE SQUEEZE)
Find it in: ROCK
Fresh throwback oldies garage tunes!

Hedwig And The Angry Inch (2001) – Directed by John Cameron Mitchell
Re-release of this rock opera masterpiece!

RANISIA

Make Crenshaw Great Again

Flying Lotus – Flamagra (WARP)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Choice Track: "Burning Down The House" (featuring George Clinton)

Marvin Gaye – You're The Man (UNIVERSAL MOTOWN)
Find it in: SOUL
Choice Track: "Piece Of Clay"

Shafiq Husayn – The Loop (NATURE SOUNDS/FAT BEATS)
Find it in: SOUL
Choice Track: "May I Assume" (featuring Jimetta Rose & Fatima)

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)
Find it in: HIP HOP
Choice Track: "Tempo" (featuring Missy Elliott)

Nipsey Hussle – Victory Lap (ATLANTIC)
Find it in: HIP HOP
Choice Track: "Hussle & Motivate"

Steve Lacy – Apollo XXI (3QTR)
Find it in: SOUL
Choice Track: "Playground"

Tyler The Creator – IGOR (A BOY IS A GUN/COLUMBIA)
Find it in: HIP HOP
Choice Track: "New Magic Wand"

Anderson .Paak – Ventura (12 TONE/AFTERMATH)
Find it in: SOUL
Choice Track: "Reachin' 2 Much" (featuring Lalah Hathaway)

Freddie Gibbs & Madlib – Bandana (RCA)
Find it in: HIP HOP
Choice Tracks: "Crime Pays" and "Education" (featuring Black Thought & Yasiin Bey)

BRIAN DAVIS

ya dummy, the answer is ipswich clams!

Deerhunter – Why Hasn't Everything Already Disappeared? (4AD)
Find it in: ROCK

The Goon Sax – We're Not Talking (WICHITA)
Find it in: ROCK

Julia Jacklin – Crushing (POLYVINYL)
Find it in: ROCK

The Love Language – Baby Grand (MERGE)
Find it in: ROCK

SOAK – Grim Town (ROUGH TRADE)
Find it in: ROCK

Steve Gunn – The Unseen In Between (MATADOR)
Find it in: ROCK



Various Artists – Big Gold Dreams: A Story Of Scottish Independent Music 1977-1989

(CHERRY RED)
Find it in: ROCK

PRISMESS BEAM

stay PRISMatic!

Spelling – Mazy Fly

(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Doom experimentations

Earthater – Irisiri (PAN)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
Noise anthems

Blood Orange – Negro Swan

(DOMINO)
Find it in: ROCK
Soft colors claiming space

Björk – Homogenic [Reissue]

(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Future feminine awareness bangers

Yves Tumor – Safe in the

Hands of Love (WARP)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL
A tender and distored vision

JASON FLAX

Cave In – Final Transmission

(HYDRA HEAD)
Find it in: ROCK

Maríe Sioux – Grief in Exile

(NIGHT BLOOM)
Find it in: FOLK

Benny The Butcher – The Plugs I Met

(GRISelda)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Crumb – Jinx

(SELF RELEASED)
Find it in: ROCK

Noisem – Cease To Exist

(20 BUCK SPIN)
Find it in: METAL

Aldous Harding – Designer

(4 AD)
Find it in: Rock

Ana Roxanne –

Ana Roxanne (LEAVING)
Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Bedouine – Bird Songs of a Killjoy

(SPACEBOMB)
Find it in: ROCK

J. Lamotta – Suzume

(JAKARTA)
Find it in: SOUL

Solange – When I Get Home

(COLUMBIA/LEGACY)
Find it in: SOUL

Living Hour – Softer Faces

(KANINE)
Find it in: ROCK

RICK FRYSTAK

Tough Bastard.

Musically, takes no prisoners.

Is it a tough one? Throw it my way.

Bennie Maupin – The Jewel In The Lotus (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ
ECM continues their *Touchstone* series of rare titles on CD in mini-LP format. This is one for the books, a singular, chamber jazz masterpiece of ebbing, flowing dreamy riffs, runs and compositions echoing Bennie's original style, comprising stupendous (like most of the *Touchstone* Series) creative originality. Watery, episodic fusion of classical and jazz with its own style of heaviness. These blew our minds when they came out, so grab 'em on CD now. They've been *realllllllly* hard to find on CD...till last week.

Areni Agbabian – Bloom (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ
Dreamy, delicious, Armenian vocals, piano and percussion. Quiet in its volume, but heavy in its subtlety. Areni has a wondrous voice and uses it here in a quiet ode to the patience, mother, the Water Bride and other fluffy stuff. Like a Grouper made of jazz music. Mellow and easy.

William Ryan Fritch – Deceptive Cadence: Music for Film Vol I & II (LOST TRIBE SOUND)

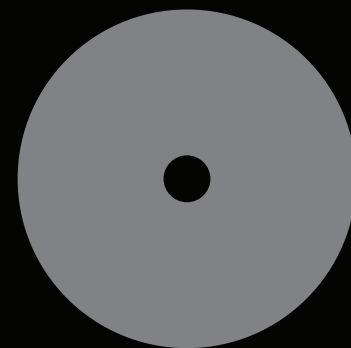
Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS
Pan-genre film trip, gorgeous 2-CD oversize digipack-in-a-book-type fold-open play-over and over and over. Fritch has upped his game to make a wonderful, Peter Gabriel-like excursion into multi-musics that is a success, hardly any vocals, blending together everything he's done in the past ten years to put this thing together. A great collection I've played over and over and over, and you will too. I think it's excellent!

Lavinia Meijer – The Glass Effect (SONY)

Find it in: CLASSICAL
Spectacular 2-CD set not so much for the Glass pieces, but for the extra CD of other composer's works she's inspired or regularly plays in concert on the HARP. Folks like, Muhly, Arnolds, Frahm, Dessner and Glass. It's enchanting and heavenly, delicious and I don't know anybody who's heard it and says they don't like it. I mean, it's the harp fer chrissakes!.

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Mats Eilertsen – *And Then Comes The Night* (ECM)

Find it in: LOCAL

Mats is a double bass artist, who writes wonderful pieces that have their own free time and just feel super. He is technically a great player, but it's the ensemble work on this disc that make it work, like maybe what Bill Evans would be doing had he lived this late. Piano trios are a joy to Manfred, ECM producer and president extraordinaire... or maybe just the piano.

Deaf Center – *Low Distance*

(SONIC PIECES)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Deaf Center have three or four albums out now, and some say this ain't their best but it can still be a great album and this is what's happenin' here. It's a superb record I dig. Not unlike their other platters it takes you away. I put it on to dream the time away and each play delivers sounds I've never heard before. Even my dog likes it, but I have a very cool dog. It's experimental, not songs as you may know them, just "organized sound" (Tod Dockstader) that hits the sweet spot each time. Try something new if you've never heard them, and check it out if you like them. It's really a nice production.

Michele Rabbia, Gianluca Petrella, Eivind Aarset – *Lost River* (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ

Trombone, electronics, electronic guitar, percussion, electronics. A field day for progressive exploration and experimentation. Lush, wondrous liquid playing, with the 'bone popping through the guitar every once in a while. Lots of 120-volt stuff shattering any preconceived acoustic concepts here. Glassine hip paraders doing their thing and it's marvelous, quaking and soothing the soul of memory. It's a real, good one.

Chuck Johnson – *Balsams* (VDSG)

Find it in: FOLK

Unsinkable, floating sound from Johnson and his steel guitar. Moods galore with this ultra-processed steel axe, just the way I like it. Makes you want to ask him to "keep doing it!" If you had the truck. Echo Canyon and much more! Can't you just hear it, feel it?

Tip:

My radio show, Roots Music and Beyond, every second Saturday on KPFF 90.7 FM or KPFF.org streaming worldwide 6-8am or anytime for two weeks.

VIOLA

World music and more

Rhiannon Giddens (with Francesco Turrisi) – *There is No Other* (NONESUCH)

Find it in: FOLK

Rhiannon has always been exquisite, and on this recording she easily transcends the folk genre, moving into more exotic territories, thanks to the musical abilities of her Italian multi-instrumentalist partner. Stunning!

Our Native Daughters – *Songs of Our Native Daughters* (SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS)

Find it in: FOLK

A supergroup of four black female banjo players (Rhiannon Giddens, Leyla McCalla, Allison Russell and Amythyst Kiah) recording songs about racism, slavery, suffering in a breathtakingly beautiful way. Must hear!

Mahsa & Marjan Vahdat, Kronos Quartet – *Placeless*

(VALLEY ENTERTAINMENT)

Find it in: WORLD

It's a Kronos Quartet Persian album, produced in Europe. Timeless and timely songs by Persian poets Hafez and Rumi, as well as a contemporary female poet, Forough Farrokhzad, interpreted by the Vahdat sisters. Sparse and intensely beautiful.

Ludovico Einaudi – *Seven Days Walking (Day One)*

(DECCA)

Find it in: WORLD

As always, it's hard to say what category of music this is... Einaudi is Italian and produces very atmospheric music, like the soundtrack of someone's life. Twelve quiet tracks featuring piano, violin, viola, and cello.

Deben Bhattacharya – *Music on the Desert Road* [Reissue] (FANTOME PHONOGRAPHIQUE)

Find it in: WORLD

A reissue of a recording that Frank Zappa supposedly liked... Music from Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, as recorded in the 1950s by travelling Indian musicologist. Also check his book/CD *Paris to Calcutta: Men And Music on the Desert Road*.

Blick Bassy – *1958*

(NO FORMAT!)

Find it in: WORLD

Subtle music from Cameroon on the French label that supports music that is often hard to categorize. Blick Bassy is a singer-songwriter in the style of Lokua Kanza, poetic but more political, with a very distinctive voice, and using unusual instrumentation. On this recording he sings about the forgotten heroes in the fight against African colonization. See his videos.

Tosh: *Growing Up in Wallace Berman's World* – by Tosh Berman (CITY LIGHTS)

I first met Tosh as the publisher of Tam Tam Books (Serge Gainsbourg! Boris Vian!), and just bought his own memoir. Familiar with his unique personality I know I might miss a couple of days' work—it's about this very interesting period of artistic life in LA, starting with the Beat years... He grew up with all these people we have only heard about! Google more about this family.

DAVIS JONZ

*Art Is The Only Good Thing
In Our Current World*

Paul Zaza – *Prom Night (1980)*

[OST] (PERSEVERANCE)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

At long last the entire *Prom Night* soundtrack from the classic 1980 horror movie starring Jamie Lee Curtis. There have been a few bootlegs out there for years but nothing as complete as this. Vinyl wise, there was an import that incorporated dialogue from the movie before each track that was rather cool. The best part of this particular release are the Disco tracks made for the movie. In the liner notes it explains that using already hit disco records was too expensive therefore prompting them to make their own music made to sound like songs you've heard before. They do quite well honestly. The songs are catchy and fun, despite foretelling the fate of certain characters in the movie. This release is a must have for any horror fan or soundtrack collector. I've been looking forward to this release forever. Pick it up! It's selling fast!

Andrew Bird – *My Finest Work Yet* (LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: ROCK

"Where the hell have I been?" was my first

response when I heard Andrew Bird's new release. Actually, this was the very first time I had heard Andrew Bird at all. Man, what a powerful entry to his catalog that I had no idea existed until now. Hook laden and easy on the ears, *My Finest Work Yet* is solid from beginning to end. Some killer tracks are "Sisyphus," "Olympians" and "Manifest," if I HAVE to choose songs as the best. Super sad that I missed the Amoeba in-store.

Between The Water And The Woods – by Simone Snaith / Sara Kipin (HOLIDAY HOUSE)

One of Amoeba's very own penned this fantasy piece and so I picked it up immediately. I love the world in which this story resides. The main character Emeline is instantly likable and you can't wait for her to take you on this magic journey. The writing and illustrations are downright amazing. While I am WAY older than a young adult, I find this story to be a great read for anyone who wants to venture outside our world if just for a few hours.

Us (2019) – Directed by Jordan Peele

In the world of cookie cutter Superhero, Drama, Action, Comedy, Horror fare that studios have been releasing lately, it was a pleasant (or not so pleasant) surprise to see *Us*. I had no idea where this movie was going but I enjoyed the ride. Excellent work by Lupita Nyong'o who was both sweet and frightening all at the same time. My only complaint would have to be the "comedy" thrown in mostly by the father character. It was unnecessary and was acted out like he was waiting for canned laughter after. Spooky stuff!



MIKE J

Pelican – *Nighttime Stories*

(SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: ROCK

Animals As Leaders –

Animals As Leaders (PROSTHETIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Periphery –

Periphery IV: Hail Stan (EI)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Interpol – *A Fine Mess EP*

(MATADOR)

Find it in: ROCK

Slick Rick – *The Great Adventures Of Slick Rick*

(DEF JAM)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Silversun Pickups – *Widow's*

Weeds (NEW MACHINE)

Find it in: ROCK

BENNETT

scalpygonzales.bandcamp.com

Alfred Panou – *Je Suis Un Sauvage 7"* (SOUFFLECONTINU)

Find it in: JAZZ

PAINFULLY beautiful single of French black power poetry backed by the Art Ensemble of Chicago. The horns cry, the vocals pop and spit, and everyone crashes into each other over serene grooves in what ends up being two totally approachable French pop songs.

Pastor T. L. Barrett & The Youth For Christ Choir – *Like a Ship (Without a Sail)*

(NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: GOSPEL / CHRISTIAN

Beautiful jazzy gospel with a wailing choir of kids, bells, reverby hand claps, and everything else you need to make a sound as big as a mountain. Truly momentous, a sound that keeps expanding. Equal parts painful and uplifting.

Mo-Dettes – *The Story So Far...*

(DECCA)

Find it in: ROCK

One of the best post punk groups reissued for Record Store Day 2019. Featuring members of The Slits & Kleenex—what more could you ask for?? Perfect pop songs, danceable and sneering with clever lyrics and great covers of the Stones and Edith Piaf.

Sun Ra – *My Favorite Things - October 14, 1977* (COOL CULT)

Find it in: JAZZ

Incredible playing by John Gilmore and the whole crew, mastered beautifully on this 2019 release.

The Algebra Mothers – *A Moms = Algebra Mothers*

(THIRD MAN)

Find it in: ROCK

Snarky and absurdly catchy Detroit synth punk. Stabbing keyboards, jagged guitars, obnoxious vocals, dirty recordings. An unhidden gem.

MEGGIE

Amyl and the Sniffers – *Amyl and the Sniffers*

(ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: PUNK

Best new band! Fast, fun, and loud!

Le Butcherettes – *bi/MENTAL*

(RISE)

Find it in: ROCK

Catchy, raw, and powerful! Teri Gender Bender is a force to be reckoned with!

L7 – *Scatter the Rats*

(BLACKHEART)

Find it in: ROCK

Check out their first studio album in 20 years!

Bustié – *Birds of Paradise*

(CLIMAX)

Find it in: ROCK

LA native Pogo Pope's debut as Bustié! Dark, sexy, and dancy!

Romy – *Celluloid Self* (CLIMAX)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Poppy, dark, and melodic!



Chai – *Punk*

(BURGER)

Find it in: ROCK

Cutest band in the world! You'll never see a live band as happy as Chai! You just won't!

Tip:

Check me out with DJ Fancy Sinatra every other second Monday at La Cueva spinning girl group greats!

JON

Magic Circle – *Departed Souls*

(20 BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

City Hunter – *Deep Blood*

(YOUTH ATTACK)

Find it in: PUNK

Battle Ruins – *Glorious Dead*

(ROCK N ROLL DISGRACE)

Find it in: PUNK

Saint Vitus – *Saint Vitus*

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Crimeapple x DJ Skizz – *Wet Dirt* (DAUPE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

DJ Muggs x Mach-Hommy – *Tuez-Les Tous* (SOUL ASSASSINS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Blu & Exile – *True & Livin 12"*

(DIRTY SCIENCE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

DJ Skizz – *High Powered*

(TUFF KONG)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Tha God Fahim x Mach-Hommy – *Saturday Night Lights 1 & 2*

(MACH-HOMMY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

D.O.A. – *1978* (SUDDEN DEATH)

Find it in: PUNK

Reagan Youth – *It's A Beautiful Day...*

For A Matinee! (NEW RED ARCHIVES)

Find it in: PUNK

Spirit Adrift – *Divided By Darkness* (20 BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

LISA

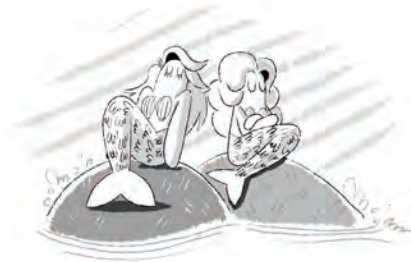
Beyonce – *Homecoming* [Netflix documentary]

Stunning on multiple levels. This woman and her whole crew wiped the floor with Coachella. She owned it completely. The level of discipline, vision, and execution is a masterclass in how to manifest success. The personal energy and connection she gave to everyone involved while demanding the best from all parties was some next level creation. I was absolutely blown away. You cannot deny the artistry and the legacy that she tapped into and perpetuated. And if you do- it is truly your loss. Amidst concerned posturing about the need for a "conversation about race," excellence abounds and gives zero fucks. A must see.

The National – *I Am Easy To Find* (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Ah, The National. By far consistently my favorite band for over a decade. Every time they release something, I get excited because I know I'll have a soundtrack for the next couple of months of my life. I just put it on repeat and let it permeate. I love the addition of the female vocals to their musical textures, especially Gail Ann Dorsey. Such a rich, beautiful voice. For me, the standout track is "The Pull of You." It encapsulates the unique random quirks of a couple's



personal dynamic, while articulating the ultimate consequence of any meaningful relationship: a connection that never truly ends.

Prince – *Originals* (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: SOUL

Will there be a point where I stop being stunned by how talented this man was? Probably not.

Chrissie Hynde at the Hollywood Bowl

Such a badass. I don't think I realized quite how amazing her voice is. And it's perfectly suited for the standards that she's exploring right now. Almost 70 and killing it. Almost enough to make me want to be a vegetarian... almost.

DOOMDEATH (PETE MAJORS)

Proud Cat Dad

Ulver – *Drone Activity*

(HOUSE OF MYTHOLOGY)

Find it in: BLACK METAL
listen to more NOISE!

Darkthrone – *Old Star*

(PEACEVILLE)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Craig Leon – *The Canon - Anthology of Interplanetary Folk Music Vol. 2* (RVNG INTL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Steve Moore – *Beloved Exile*

(TEMPORARY RESIDENCE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Orville Peck – *Pony* (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Diät – *Positive Disintegration*

(IRON LUNG)

Find it in: PUNK

Alberich – *Quantized Angel*

(HOSPITAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Marissa Nadler & Stephen Brodsky – *Droneflower*

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

Saint Vitus – *Saint Vitus*

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Nivhek – *After Its Own Death / Walking In A Spiral Towards The House* (YELLOW ELECTRIC)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Teen Movie Hell – by Mike “McBeardo” McPadden (BAZILLION POINTS)

Smokey Emery – *Endtimes Forever* [Cassette]

(CHONDRITIC SOUND)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Bethlehem – *Lebe Dich Leer*

(PROPHECY)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

INTRCPTR – *I & II* (BRUTAL PANDA)

Find it in: METAL

Sunn O))) – *Life Metal*

(SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: ROCK

Wilshire Corridor – *The Fig & The Wasp* [Cassette]

(DUNE ALTAR)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Clay Rendering – *California Black Vows* (HOSPITAL)

Find it in: ROCK

R.E.L

Vagabond of Noise

Pup – *Morbid Stuff* (RISE)

Find it in: ROCK

Canadian rock band Pup has heartfelt lyrics with a raw, not-so-perfect delivery. Catchy choruses with a line or two to sing along with and fun guitar riffs that teleport the listener to a D.I.Y. basement show.

Amanda Palmer – *There Will Be No Intermission*

(8FT. RECORDS)

Find it in: ROCK

Bad Religion – *Age of Unreason* (EPITAPH)

Find it in: PUNK

Tip:

Check out my musical adventures: *GLENNEYRE*, *Xtine* and *The Reckless Hearts*, and *Turning Violet*.

(SONGS BY) THOM

I Rock Vinyl / Price CDs by Day

& Write / Record

as Songs by Thom at Night ...

Sebadoh – *Act Surprised*

(DANGERBIRD)

Find it in: ROCK

Sebadoh were one of my favourite bands as a shy teenage NYC indie rocker. Their early lo-fi home recorded tapes inspired me greatly. Thirty years later they've cleaned up their act considerably. I'm not surprised by how much they've matured. Lou still writes the heartfelt sad / upbeat songs. And Jason still churns out the rock. This is a slick operation but still great songs!

Bill Callahan – *Shepherd in a Sheepskin Vest* (DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

Bill Callahan writes about the kinds of things most people wouldn't dare to think. As Smog his lyrics were buried under noise & tape hiss, but eventually they became the most prominent part of his songs. While he has matured into a

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sort of modern Willie Nelson—he is still very much Bill. This album requires multiple listens, preferably on vinyl.

Stereolab with Announcements and Mars Audiac Quintet—Transient Random-Noise Bursts [Deluxe] (DUOPHONIC ULTRA HIGH

FREQUENCY DISKS / WARP)

Find it in: ROCK

These two Stereolab albums are easily my favourites! Now they have been given the deluxe treatment (2xCD / 3xLP) and remastered with demos / alternate versions. Like all Stereolab albums the artwork & packaging is amazing (especially on LP). Act fast as they are numbered limited editions. Far out!

Duster – Capsule Losing Contact [Box Set] (NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: ROCK

Duster were a trio of lo-fi home recording enthusiasts from San Jose, CA. Their music hummed quietly under the radar in the mid-to-late-'90s. I was lucky enough to come across it then before vinyl prices skyrocketed into the hundreds. Now you can get it all in one neat little box. This compiles both of their LPs *Stratosphere* and *Contemporary Movement* (which have both been separately reissued too!) plus their EPs *Transmission*, *Flux* and *1975*, etc. Perfect calming space rock for nervous plane rides & long road trips.

Rat Fancy – Stay Cool

(HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME RECORDS / SOLIDARITY CLUB)

Find it in: ROCK

Rat Fancy formed in late 2016 as a duo comprised of sweethearts Diana Barraza and Gregory Johnson. *Stay Cool* is their first LP following up the 2017 *Suck A Lemon* EP. Diana (formerly of Sweater Girls) has the voice of an angel! Both she and Greg play most of the instruments on these ten catchy indie pop tunes! Live they rock out as a four-piece with bass and drums. Check them out!!!

Tip:

Check out: songsbythom.com

JEFF P.

Frank Iero & The Future Violents – Barriers (UNFD)

Find it in: ROCK

Fury – Failed Entertainment

(RUN FOR COVER)

Find it in: PUNK

The Old Firm Casuals – Holger Danske (PIRATES PRESS)

Find it in: PUNK

Crowhurst – III (PROPHECY)

Find it in: METAL

Boy Harsher – Careful

(NUDE CLUB)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Low Dose – Low Dose

(BRUTAL PANDA)

Find it in: PUNK

The Get Up Kids – Problems

(POLYVINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

Venom Prison – Samsara

(PROSTHETIC)

Find it in: METAL

Gouge Away – Burnt Sugar

(DEATHWISH)

Find it in: ROCK

Lingua Ignota – Caligula

(PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: ROCK

Silver Snakes – Death and The Moon

(EVIL INK)

Find it in: ROCK

Bouncing Souls – Crucial Moments (RISE)

Find it in: PUNK

HEALTH –

Vol. 4: Slaves of Fear (LOMA LISTA)

Find it in: ROCK

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Jenny Lewis – On The Line

(WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: ROCK

American Football – American Football (LP3) (POLYVINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

Author & Punisher – Beastland (RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

Wound Man / Regional Justice Center – Wound Man / Regional Justice Center (7" split) (ATOMIC ACTION)

Find it in: PUNK

GREGG

L.A. Witch – Octubre

(SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

Find it in: ROCK

Three weird sisters. Hail!

Conjure up a psyche-pop haze.

For a charm of powerful trouble.

Sade Sanchez's pleasing vocals are so entrancing... A kindred soul to Hope Sandoval. Blessed be.

Anna Von Hausswolff –

Dead Magic (CITY SLANG)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Swedish artist blends haunting organ compositions, ethereal vocals and layers of Swans-like droning chords. Dark, sinister and cathartic.

The Coathangers – Devil You Know (SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

Find it in: ROCK

Trio of ladies from Atlanta, GA create energetic rock with a caustic punk-like attitude. Fun stuff.

Tamaryn – Dreaming the Dark

(DERO ARCADE)

Find it in: ROCK

New Zealand native sings and writes swirling, hypnotic and lush dream pop. Melancholia personified.

Death Valley Girls – Darkness Rains

(SUICIDE SQUEEZE)

Find it in: ROCK

This band is twisted... May attest to the genius of their work.

Charlie Says (2019) – Directed by Mary Harron

Drama based on the three Manson Girls in prison and their recount of how they ended up there. May be the most honest telling of the unfortunate saga I've encountered. Director Mary Harron pushes the limits in this film. It sadly made me feel that the mass marketing of public fear is the reason these ladies are still incarcerated.

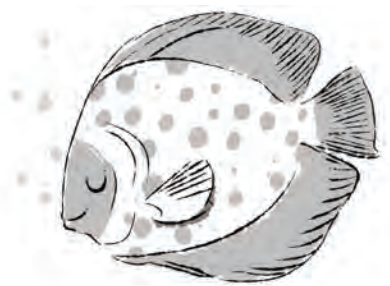
Orange World and Other Stories – by Karen Russell

(PENGUIN BOOKS)

This is the third book of short stories from author Karen Russell. It may be the best collection yet. The thing that amazes me about all her writing is her brilliant imagination. Original stories that are strange, surreal and haunting. She has also written one novel, *Swamplandia!* It too is remarkably imaginative and bewitching.

TIP:

Witch Jail from Portland, OR. "Should You Meet A Ghost" video. Plus, check out their stuff on Soundcloud. Much like an Italian horror film score. Someone needs to give them a record deal.



WINXPOT

Death Bells – Echoes / Move Through Me 7"

(BURNING ROSE / FUNERAL PARTY)
Find it in: ROCK

Angel Du\$t – Pretty Buff

(ROADRUNNER)
Find it in: PUNK

Spellling – Mazy Fly

(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: ROCK

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Lust For Youth –

Lust for Youth (SACRED BONES)
Find it in: ROCK

Freddie Gibbs & Madlib –

Bandana (RCA)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Drab Majesty – Modern Mirror

(DAIS)
Find it in: ROCK

Hatchie – Keepsake

(DOUBLE DOUBLE WHAMMY / HEAVENLY RECORDINGS)
Find it in: ROCK

Men I Trust – Men I Trust

(RETURN TO ANALOG)
Find it in: ROCK

ALWYN, SON OF JACINTO

*Guitarist, swordsman, wannabe boxer,
non-lyrical assassin.*

*Enjoys long walks on the beach,
candlelight dinners,
Monty's Good Burger, and war.*

Emma Ruth Rundle –

On Dark Horses (SARGENT HOUSE)

Find it in: ROCK

My favorite new album of this past year. This LA native falls under the Chelsea Wolfe umbrella of metal-not-metal chanteuses, but definitely has her own style and voice. I think it's her best solo album so far. Check out her previous bands, especially Marriages. Also check out her episode of "What's In My Bag?"

High Life (2019) –

Directed by Claire Denis

I never saw any *Twilight* movies cause why? ...so I didn't have any reservations with the lead actor. I hope this trend of Hollywood financing interesting science fiction films like this (and *Arrival*, *Annihilation*, even *Blade Runner 2049*) continues. Story of a crew of death row and life-sentence-serving convicts flying a suicide mission to a black hole in service of humanity. This was pretty Tarkovsky-esque in feel and atmosphere (thankfully not in length), and that ending... this is a fucking beautiful film.

Miami Vice (2006) –

Directed by Michael Mann

I saw this in the theater when it was released. I loved the show as a kid. People hated this film when it came out 13 years ago, and they're all fucking idiots. It was a time when parodies of old shows were rampant, and people were expecting more of that shit with this film. No '80s nostalgia here. When the ending credits started rolling my thought was that I just watched a long Season 3 episode, but with different actors and set in the present day. Gong Li is the heart of this film; she had to learn her lines phonetically cause she barely spoke English, and she still killed it. Some of the music hasn't aged well (the bad cover of "In The Air Tonight") but most of it is pretty amazing (Mogwai's "Auto Rock"). Avoid

the Director's Cut... this is one of those rare instances where the original theatrical release is superior. An unfairly reviled and overlooked Michael Mann masterpiece.

Karen O/Danger Mouse –

Lux Prima (BMG)

Find it in: ROCK

Karen O is a sick vocalist, but I especially love when she's not just screaming the whole time. This album feels like they were going for their *Dark Side Of The Moon* by way of Serge Gainsbourg's *Goodbye Emmanuelle* and Air's *Moon Safari*. The official make-out album of 2019.

Game Of Thrones

(HBO FOR THE PAST 8 YEARS OR WHATEVER)

The magnum opus television event of ours and every generation to come after us. If you've been living under a rock, then...

JUST KIDDING! FUCK THIS SHOW! PLAY THE BOARD GAME, THO... IT'S STILL FUN! MAYBE READ THE BOOKS IF YOU WANT! I WAITED ALMOST 20 YEARS TO FUCKING FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED AND THEY DID THAT!!!!!! WHATEVER... BUY THE BOOKS!!!!!! READ MORE BOOKS!!!! I'M CURRENTLY READING *THE POWER OF THE DOG* BY DON WINSLOW AND *CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHTING* BY JACK DEMPSEY! WHO WOULD WIN IN A FIGHT, BRUCE LEE OR MIKE TYSON!!!!!! MUH-QUEEN! MUH-QUEEN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Jimi Hendrix –

Band Of Gypsies/Live At The Fillmore East/Live At Berkeley

(CAPITOL/MCA)

Find it in: ROCK

For a wanker lead guitarist people find it surprising that I never went through a Hendrix phase. But now in my middle age I've finally come around to really listening to Hendrix,



with the three albums listed here with his Band Of Gypsies (though the Berkeley set has Mitch Mitchell back on drums) being on constant rotation. Crazy live and ferocious. I wanna be like him when I grow up, except for the dead at 27 part (I'm too old for that anyway), and the existence of a plaster cast of my penis.

STEFFANY

Cashier (LA)

Pulp Fiction (1994) –

Directed by Quentin Tarantino

25th Hour (2002) –

Directed by Spike Lee

Blue Velvet (1986) –

Directed by David Lynch

The Virgin Suicides (1996) –

Directed by Sofia Coppola

Closer (2004) –

Directed by Mike Nichols

Hell or High Water (2016) –

Directed by David Mackenzie

Band of Brothers (2001)

Heat (1995) –

Directed by Michael Mann

The Princess Bride (1987) –

Directed by Rob Reiner

BRI-RO

Sonic Reducer

Shawty Pimp –

Still Comin' Real [Reissue]

(GYPTOLOGY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Forgotten and overlooked southern rap pioneer. Shawty is OG Memphis, TN rap Tape hustler circa 1995. The original cassette was nearly impossible to find is now reissued on vinyl

for the first time. The eleven woozy slow and syrupy lo-fi tracks rest somewhere between L.A. G-funk and jazzy East Coast rap of the period.

**Various Artists –
Noise Reduction System
Formative European Electronica
1974-1984** (CHERRY RED)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Four-CD set of DIY electronic music mostly taken from underground cassette releases. This is a fascinating journey from improvised noise to precise electro-pop.

**Rowland S. Howard –
Six Strings That Drew Blood**

(LIBERATION MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

This collection opens with a 1999 live version of “Shivers,” a song Rowland wrote when he was 16 for the his pre-Birthday Party band Boys Next Door. The collection proceeds chronologically from Boys Next Door, Birthday Party, Crime & The City Solution, These Immortal Souls ending up with solo work which also includes collaborations with Nikki Sudden among others. Rowland doesn't really do pretty. From the frenzy of chaos and electricity he whips out of his guitar are beyond replication. This release gives listeners a chance to hear a fraction of what wonderful noise Rowland has left behind.

Sarah Davachi – Pale Bloom

(W.25TH)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

I am often drawn to recordings like these sparse radiant minimalist melodic drones of piano, organ and strings pitched together and held like a breath, waiting to be exhaled. Each song unfolds a fold within a fold, a wave within a wave, evaporated and left to crystalize into the vastness.

**The 13th Floor Elevators –
The Psychedelic Sounds of
the 13th Floor Elevators** (CHARLY)

Find it in: ROCK

What makes *The Psychedelic Sounds* essential 40 years later is its true psychedelic sound. The 13th Floor Elevators were a remarkable band: Roky Erickson's wild-man vocals, Stacy Sutherland's piercing guitar, Tommy Hall's LSD fueled lyrics and electric Jug, all while drummer John Ike Walton tied it all together. With last May's passing of Roky Erickson I pulled out my 13th Floor Elevator's LPs and remembered how essential their music was to me, as vibrant as

when it was released. I also was reminded how many of my favorite bands were influenced by their music as well.

**The Mekons – The Quality Of
Mercy Is Not Strnen**

(SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Find it in: ROCK

It's easy to underestimate The Mekons music now after years of endless experimentation with American roots music, but back in 1979 along with fellow Leeds art-punk groups Gang of Four and Delta 5, The Mekons created a catchy, angular, riffs take on culture, art and politics. This is the first time it has been released in the U.S.

BRAD

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Crumb – Jinx (CRUMB)

Find it in: ROCK

Lust For Youth –

Lust For Youth (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

Weyes Blood – Titanic Rising

(SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Patience – Dizzy Spells

(WINONA)

Find it in: ROCK

BEN S.

Upstocking Blu-Rays,
pricing DVDs, and chock-a-block
full 'o movie recommendations

**Police Story (1985) /
Police Story 2 (1988)**

[Criterion] –

Directed by Jackie Chan

Maximum mayhem, maximum “how did they ever survive that?” stuntwork from Jackie Chan. As star AND director, he's constantly pulling off

physically impossible feats while also shifting between radically different tones of hard action and absurd slapstick. Restoration by Janus Films and the Criterion Collection has got these movies looking great!

**Spider-Man: Into the
Spider-Verse (2018) –
The Epic Spider-Verse
Animation Team**

I couldn't feel my face, much less believe my eyes... possibly because the portion of my brain that would have allowed me to do either had melted into a jelly and dribbled out of my ears. Visually gobsmacking from beginning to end—though always at the service of its engaging story—this is maybe the most over-stimulating movie-watching experience I've ever had. And I just want MORE!

**The Tarnished Angels (1957) –
Directed by Douglas Sirk**

Often overlooked next to Sirk's accepted Technicolor masterpieces, this one fits just as much melodrama into its amazing black & white widescreen frames. Set against a backdrop of death-defying aviation competitions, Rock Hudson, Dorothy Malone, and Robert Stack all navigate multiple love triangles that are on a fast-track toward tragedy. Bless Kino Lorber for getting great classics like this out on good looking discs.

**Alien (1979) –
Directed by Ridley Scott**

This movie is lit and lensed so meticulously that 40 years on, it still looks better than most stuff in theaters today, and here it gets the 4K treatment. If you've got the set up for it, this is no-brainer. (Sorry Brett! Too soon? “Riiiiight.”)

**Various Artists –
Kankyo Ongaku: Japanese Am-
bient, Environmental &
New Age Music 1980-1990**

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Following in the grand tradition of Light in the Attic's American and European New Age boxed sets, Kankyo Ongaku provides a fantastic survey of yet another realm's foray into “furniture music.” Complete with beautiful packaging and thoughtfully written liner notes that outline Japan's amazing nation-wide obsession with Erik Satie.



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~ SeamusSmithArt.com

■ **Mid90s (2018)** –

Directed by Jonah Hill

Actor Jonah Hill shows his skills behind the camera in this wonderful coming of age story inspired by his Southern California upbringing.

■ **Spider-Man: Into the**

Spider-Verse (2018) –

Directed by Peter Ramsey, Bob Persichetti, Rodney Rothman

Well deserved winner of the Academy Award for animation: visually inspiring with great humor and dynamic action.

■ **You Were Never Really Here**

(2017) – Directed by Lynne Ramsay

Dark and brooding tale of revenge starring Joaquin Phoenix as a man hired to rescue kidnapped children at any bloody cost.

■ **The Sisters Brothers (2018)** –

Directed by Jacques Audiard

Unique character study about two sibling guns-for-hire learning about themselves and the harsh realities of life in the Old West.

SIMONE SIREN

Author & Turning Violet Frontwoman

□ **Dark Matter (2015-2017)** –
Created by Joseph Mallozzi and Paul Mullie

Dark Matter is a Canadian sci-fi show that ran for three seasons on the SyFy Channel. Based on a graphic novel series of the same name, it has likeable characters and great storylines that spring from a unique premise: What if a spaceship's crew wakes up from a long-term sleep with no memory of who they are and what their mission is?

☞ **A Boy and His Dog at The End of The World** –
By C.A. Fletcher (ORBIT)

A riveting story about a sensitive, charismatic young man in a sparsely-peopled, post-apocalyptic world who leaves the safety of his island to rescue his dog from a traveling con artist.

☞ **The Watchmaker of Filigree Street** – **By Natasha Pulley**
(BLOOMSBURY)

In this charming, unpredictable novel set in Victorian England, telegraphist Thaniel's bleak life is upended when he meets the quirky and magical clockmaker Keita Mori, who seems to have the ability to see the future.

The Get Up Kids – Problems
(POLYVINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

This new album from the original emo kids made me dig out my copy of *Four Minute Mile* to enjoy again. From the opening track, "Satellite," the energy is strong and the melodies infectious, with plenty of the old, raw fuzz.

ELEANORE

Publisher (Afterword Books),
Photographer,
Music Lover & Movie Buff

☞ **Crouch Recursion** –
By Blake Crouch (CROWN)

Crouch's obsession with quantum physics and potential alternate realities was previously introduced with his 2016 bestseller *Dark Matter*, but his latest clearly solidifies it. The theory on his mind this time: what if it were possible to rewrite the timeline of everyone's lives by an individual using a newly created device to reenter a preexisting memory, in order to relive their lives over again from that starting point? Sure, maybe you can call it time travel, but it comes with its own set of rules, and constantly evolving (often terrifying) consequences. What if their prior consciousness traveled back with them? How would it affect those around them? How would it affect memory? What would it do to reality as we know it? Should it even exist, and if not, once it's in use, how can you have any hope of stopping it? Crouch delivers some potential answers in yet another absorbing, mind-bending thriller just as difficult to put down as his last.

Janet Jackson – Control
[Reissue] (A&M)

Find it in: SOUL

"Gimme a beat!" Though technically her third album, it was her true introduction to the world as a solo artist, and as a force to be reckoned with. Miss Jackson (if ya nasty) exploded onto the music scene with a record so stacked with timeless hits—and iconic music videos to match several of them—no vinyl collection is complete without a copy. This reissue has been a long time coming, serves as a much-needed reminder that the Queen of Pop's crown remains firmly settled atop her head, and shows how overdue her recent induction to the Rock Hall really was. Her legendary collaborations with Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis began here, as did a still-unmatched 65-week run of charting singles on the Billboard Hot 100.

Angelo Badalamenti, David Lynch – Twin Peaks: Season Two Music & More

(RHINO)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Twin Peaks fans, rejoice! The past two years have been a veritable treasure trove of goodies, and luckily for anyone who missed out on the Record Store Day exclusive release, there's a standard issue CD and vinyl release now as well of the previously very hard to find soundtrack album to *Season Two*, once only available through a limited CD release through Lynch's own label, long since out of print and scarce. Featuring more of his haunting and familiar collaborations with Angelo Badalamenti, and a duplicate (for the CD) of the original photo stills booklet, this will be a must-snag for any *Twin Peaks* lover. Brew up some coffee, serve up some cherry pie, and sit back and enjoy this one awhile.

■ **Lost Highway (1997)**
[Kino Lorber] – Directed by David Lynch

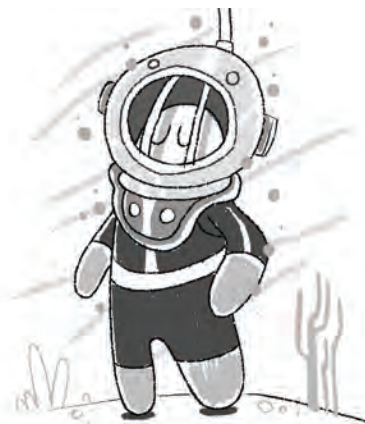
Lynch trades pretty much exclusively in the absurd, uncanny, and disturbing—there's an argument to be made that the core inside every Lynch film is a horror film—but *Lost Highway* remains his scariest. Sex, murder, brutality, confusion, morphing identities, doppelgängers (a deeply Lynchian staple), nighttime roads winding into darkness, frenetic jazz, fever dream haze, and an overall creeping feeling of reality slipping sideways or falling out from under you entirely, unsettling everything: it's all here. Featuring a knockout soundtrack on top of all that, this Blu-ray remaster has been eagerly anticipated for years.

■ **The Man Who Laughs (1928)**
[Flicker Alley] – Directed by Paul Leni

Though not often discussed or well-known outside film buff circles, Paul Leni's 1928 silent masterpiece and its titular grinning character have influenced much that came long after it, most notably Batman's nemesis The Joker. Adapted from Victor Hugo's 1869 novel of the same name, this beautifully realized production features a stellar, heart-rending performance by Conrad Veidt, who plays Gwynplaine, vengefully disfigured as a child to bear a face frozen forever in a grimacing smile. He joins a traveling circus and becomes enamored of two different women, though is always at war with himself, hoping to find some way to either hide or live with his haunting appearance—his sideshow life affords him the ability to survive, but at what cost to his humanity? The new restoration replaces a long hard-to-find DVD release, and brings a 90-year-old film back to life more vividly than ever before.

■ **Perfect Blue (1997)**
[Shout! Factory] – Directed by Satoshi Kon

At (very) long last Satoshi Kon's masterpiece of paranoia, obsession, and autonomy has arrived on Blu-ray. Don't let the probable familiarity of many of its images and themes fool you: hailing from 1997, this anime classic—often fairly unsung in the West—has influenced countless productions since, with Darren Aronofsky in particular straight-up cribbing shots, story beats, and cutting styles from it for decades. Appearing on our Blu-ray bestseller list for twelve straight weeks since its release, and deservedly so, it demands further recognition, study, and appreciation. Centered around pop idol Mima, who is attempting to break



through from her girl pop singing trio into a more respectable acting career, she suddenly begins to experience incidents that seem to involve a stalker, online identity theft on the early Internet, a growing string of murders involving members of her inner circle, and a looming presence with frightening knowledge of all her actions and innermost thoughts. As the line between her time spent awake and asleep begins to blur, Mima wonders which of her experiences are dreams, which might be hallucinations, which are possibly, horribly, her reality; regardless where those delineations belong, the sum of their parts descends into an utter nightmare. Does she have an obsessed and disapproving super-fan following and attempting to control her, or is she somehow destroying her own life from within? A dark and beautifully animated masterclass in editing and horror that will leave you as unsure as she until the final moments as to what is real. Forget the "anime" label; this is an absolute must-see for any film fan.

CODY T.

I love blues, jazz, and buffalo wings.

Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real – Turn Off the News (Build A Garden) (FANTASY)

Find it in: ROCK

Coming on the heels of their appearance in *A Star is Born*, Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real offer up a record that reflects what they've been doing the ten years they've been around. With shades of Tom Petty, Neil Young, and of course Willie, this record is great driving music. *Turn Off the News (Build a Garden)* is a plea through and for positivity.

Rory Gallagher – Blues (CHESS)

Find it in: ROCK

Mostly unreleased material, this collection shows Rory in his element. There are studio, live, acoustic, and electric tracks that showcase what a talent he was. When you add in appearances by folks like Jack Bruce and Muddy Waters, you begin to understand how respected Rory Gallagher was among his peers. Rory is a top-tier guitarist, and this collection of mostly deeper cuts makes a strong argument for him as an all-timer.

Tip:

Anarbagh in Los Feliz is a great spot for Indian food.



SCARLET

*The one with red hair,
Probably at a show*

Karen O and Danger Mouse – Lux Prima (BMG)

Find it in: ROCK

A dreamy collaboration, Karen O and Danger Mouse have created an irresistible album full of synth harmonies, mystic chord changes, and of course, flawless vocals. Both have had notable collaborations, Danger Mouse with Daniele Luppi in the album *Rome* and Karen O also with Daniele Luppi and Parquet Courts in one of my all time favorite albums *Milano* (worth the listen), among some of the biggest names in the music industry. These star-crossed geniuses have put their thinking caps on have created an album that encapsulates a journey of heart triumph and the desire to tell exes to f*ck off. Super funky, super fresh.

La Dispute – Panorama (EPITAPH)

Find it in: PUNK

Back with a new album after five years, this midwest band has not lost the charm they created in 2008 with their debut album *Somewhere at the Bottom of the River Between Vega and Altair*. Heart-heavy, sincere, and not to mention emotional, La Dispute has combined elements of heavy rock, punk, electronic, hardcore with the utmost heart-trenching lyrics. The raw nature of La Dispute has not been lost over the years, if anything has twisted and turned into something even more beautiful. The album covers grief, heartbreak, as well the expectations of a broadening horizon. "Rhodonite and Grief" is my personal favorite song off the album for its jazz influenced harmony and for those weary, emo horns we love to hear.

Amyl and The Sniffers – Amyl and The Sniffers (ATO)

Find it in: PUNK

We all expected a new Amyl and the Sniffers album to be head-jolting, blood pumping, wall shaking, and energy pulsing but we got so much more than we deserve. Melbourne punks Amy Taylor, Bryce Wilson, Dec Martens, and Gus Romer have shaken the meaning of Australian punk music with an innovative and girl-powered sound. This album is much more than getting angry and throwing whatever's in sight, and much more about the very real problems of being a young person in this modern age. The inability to pay for food or rent as a result of a troubled economy and the utter chaos of living in this digital age has created a whirlwind of anger. Releasing these tensions through intense guitar riffs and swear words have given the band and their fans a safe place to let loose and let it out.

Plague Vendor – By Night (EPITAPH)

Find it in: ROCK

Straight out of Whittier, Plague Vendor has released their third studio album *By Night*. This is unlike anything that they have put out before but carries all the individual goodness that this band is known for. California Punk Rock carries over a long way and makes room for some synth, some pop rock, and some spoken rap. This is definitely an album you want to play to hype yourself up before a night out and the one you listen to when you get home.

STEVE WATSON

New Order – ∑(No, I 2k, Lg, I 7Mif): Live at Manchester International Festival (MUTE)

Find it in: ROCK

Seablite – Grass Stains and Novocaine

(EMOTIONAL RESPONSE)

Find it in: ROCK

Black Midi – Schlagenheim

(ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: ROCK

Hot Chip – A Bath Full of Ecstasy

(DOMINO)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Hatchie – Keepsake

(HEAVENLY RECORDINGS)

Find it in: ROCK

Stella Donnelly – Beware Of The Dogs

(SECRETLY CANADIAN)

Find it in: ROCK

New Order – Power, Corruption & Lies [Definitive Edition] (RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Box Set of LP/2CD/2DVD

Charly Bliss – Young Enough

(BARSUK)

Find it in: ROCK

Joy Division – Unknown Pleasures [40th Anniversary Edition Red Vinyl] (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: ROCK

Las Nubes – SMVT (SWEAT)

Find it in: ROCK

TR/ST – The Destroyer - Part I

(GROUCH)

Find it in: ROCK

The Chemical Brothers – No Geography (ASTRALWERKS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Underworld – Drift Songs

(CAROLINE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Steve Watson

Crowded House – The Very Very Best Of Crowded House (CAPITOL)

Find it in: ROCK

Thom Yorke – Anima (XL)

Find it in: ROCK



TERRY SMITH

*Security. Father of 3, Pop Pop of 3.
If I'm not at Amoeba, I'm at the
Elbow Room watching sports
or at Aiden's games.*

■ **Stuber (2019) – Directed by Michael Dowse**

One of the funniest movies I've seen in a while. Quick wit, back and forth, fun time.

■ **Once Upon A Time In Hollywood (2019) – Directed by Quentin Tarantino**

It was worth the wait in my opinion. Funny, a little violent, and a lot of fun. Shows a lot of old Hollywood. That was very cool.

■ **Yesterday (2019) – Directed by Danny Boyle** ■ **Rocketman (2019) – Directed by Dexter Fletcher**

Two music movies. Great music and shows life as a rock star is hard to live after a while.

■ **Crawl (2019) – Directed by Alexandre Aja**

Suspenseful and eerie. Something that really makes you think, "what if..." and "what would I do..." It has you jumping around the whole movie. Wild movie!!!

■ **Spider-Man: Far from Home (2019) – Directed by Jon Watts**

It was OK. It didn't set the world on fire but it was a fun movie. Spidey loves and lives.

REBECCA

Chooses Love

■ **Can You Ever Forgive Me? (2018) – Directed by Marielle Heller**

This movie about a writer who turns to forging letters from other more famous writers to make ends meet manages to endear you to a generally unlikeable character and convey her actual talent, both hard to do in cinema. An unexpected pleasure to watch.

□ **Sex Education (2019) – Created by Laurie Nunn**

A loveable, quirky short series with characters that feel fully developed and real. Better than the description ("A teenage boy with a sex therapist mother teams up with a high school classmate to set up an underground sex therapy clinic at school.") would have you think. (Plus Gillian Anderson, who gets more amazing by the year.)

■ **Fleishman Is In Trouble – By Taffy Brodesser-Akner (RANDOM HOUSE)**

This fiction debut by Taffy Brodesser-Akner (a staff writer for *The New York Times Magazine*) starts out as one thing but is secretly something else (at least in my reading). Ostensibly the story of the end of one marriage (Fleishman's) told from his point of view (and yet not really) it covers a lot of ground about the betrayal and confusion felt by a certain generation (mine?) of professional married mothers, without making you feel like things are hopeless. Really enjoyable read.

■ **Ready Player One – By Ernest Cline (CROWN)**

My daughter ate this up so I decided to read and was engrossed by this dystopian future/puzzle book. All the '80s references don't hurt it. Read the book, skip the Spielberg movie which changes a lot of essential stuff and inexplicably blunts the message of how human interaction remains vital in an increasingly digital world.

■ **The Fifth Season – By N.K. Jemisin (ORBIT)**

I heard all the praise for this book and it lived up to its billing. There is nothing like science fiction to point out the flaws in our present world, and Jemisin does it without it feeling heavy-handed or preachy, with the best sort of lived-in—but completely unique—worldbuilding. Bravo.

□ **Gravity Falls (2012) – Created by Alex Hirsch**

This animated show is a real oddity that I can't really explain the appeal of. It's just fun to watch with moments of unexpected hilarity and a deep sense of the importance of family and "belonging." One of those rare shows that can be enjoyed by kids (of varying ages) and parents at the same time.

TR/ST – **Destroyer - Part I (GROUCH)**

Find it in: ROCK

Everything everyone says about this album in this book is true. I've found my new running playlist all in one album.

KAREN.

*just a list this time.
the music speaks for itself.*

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: ROCK

The National – I Am Easy To Find (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Brittany Howard – Jaime (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Steve Lacy – Apollo XXII (3QTR)

Find it in: SOUL

Seratonas – Power (NEW WEST)

Find it in: ROCK

J.S. Ondara – Tales of America (VERVE)

Find it in: ROCK

Bustié – Birds of Paradise (CLIMAX)

Find it in: ROCK

The Black Keys – Let's Rock (NONESUCH)

Find it in: ROCK

The Teskey Brothers – Run Home Slow (GLASSNOTE)

Find it in: ROCK

Joseph – Stay Awake EP (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Tyler Childers – Country Squire (RCA)

Find it in: COUNTRY

Christone "Kingfish" Ingram – Kingfish (ALLIGATOR)

Find it in: BLUES

Mayer Hawthorne – Tuxedo III (FUNK ON SIGHT)

Find it in: SOUL

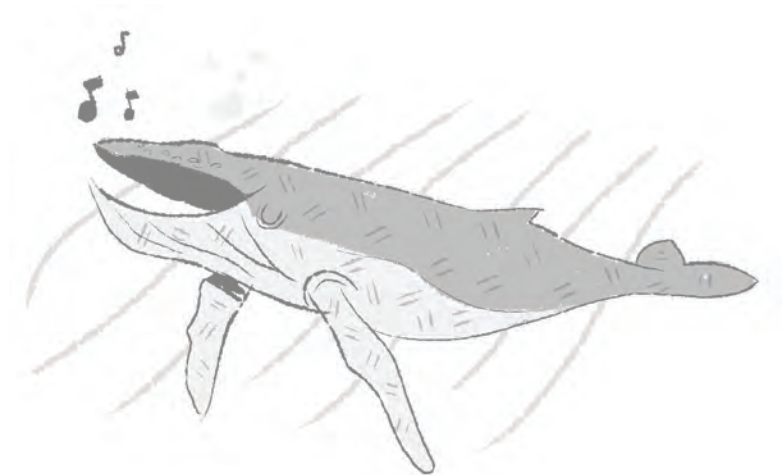
Black Pumas – Black Pumas (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

■ **The Last Black Man in San Francisco (2019) – Directed by Joe Talbot**



NOTES:



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Unmasking The Phantom Surfers

By Kai Wada Roath

Ambassador of Confusion Hill and host of the Super Shangri-La Show

"I have always wanted to travel to Antarctica, to see the giant tent in the middle of the frozen wasteland.

There, inside this tent is a single banquet table; on the table is a single silver platter; and on the platter is a human head...or so I have read."

~ MICHAEL "DADDY LOVE" LUCAS
BASS

Of all the bands I have seen over my existence, there are perhaps none more witnessed onstage than The Phantom Surfers. When I find out they are playing near me, I gain the same inner childhood excitement as receiving an "All-You-Can-Eat Shrimp" coupon from Sizzler in the mailbox. With album themes from slot car racing to x-rated parties, this band has truly taken instrumental music one step beyond, far into the the deep unknown (much like a Japanese bank or canned coffee commercial starring Tommy Lee Jones).

But who are these masked men of reverb, you ask yourself?

Maz, a Gemini and lover of all vegetables, has been playing drums for the band since he was a young lad of 20. Learning to play the trumpet is still a dream for Maz, a man with whom I have had the pleasure of sharing a romantic sunrise while we sold our hoardings together at the swap meet. If a miniature toy train with sushi on board was going around a Japanese restaurant, Maz will always pick the Saba (mackerel) first, however his favorite meal is still a Pollo Asada Torta with extra jalapeños at El Farolito (which I still call I Fart-A-Lot-O). I will never forget the bizarre show in Ventura where The Phantom Surfers played with Fugazi (perhaps the strangest yin to yang I have seen), and afterwards going to the Hong Kong Inn for some scorpion bowls and watching Maz do the hula on stage with their Polynesian revue.

Johnny "Big Hand" Bartlett's musical weapon of choice is his trusty 1962 Fender Jazzmaster.



A man of many talents on stage and in the kitchen, Johnny prides himself on the paella he creates with wonder on his Weber grill. His favorite paella is the traditional rabbit and chicken. When I ask him which album he has listened to a zillion times and could listen to a gazillion times more, he told me, "Mickey Baker's *The Wildest Guitar*. That platter is flawless!" Johnny still dreams of visiting the state of Maine, the land of blueberries and lobster.

Although Russell is often blowing a tin sandwich on his lips, his favorite meal is actually huaraches de maíz azules con frijoles y al pastor. When he is not digging in his garage for a warped copy of Billy and the Kids' *Say You Love Me*, he is out in the wild, searching like Allan Quatermain, for the one record he still does not yet possess...Jimmy White With The Relations' *Diamond-Coasted Banana Bush*.

After a psychedelic journey in his Spinemelter 2000, Mel "Frostbite" Bergman often relaxes

reading about Napoleonic Naval history in it. A disbeliever in the Chinese zodiac, it is a little known fact that Mel dreads most forms of travel and the future option of time travel as well. But let it be known to all, he does love the cheese tacos at Tito's Tacos in Culver City! (Perhaps the best hard-shell tacos in existence on this Earthly realm, and my Aunt Grace and Auntie Diane's favorite too.)

Not only have I watched Michael "Daddy Love" Lucas fall through a suspension bridge into the frozen underground river of the Shoshone Ice Caves, I have extracted a fried cricket leg from the roof of his mouth in Mexico City and slurped the barbecue drippings off the warm oval plates of Dr. Hogly Wogly's with him. Michael's dream pizza? No question, a Meatball from John's on Bleecker St. in New York. Preferring green apples to red, Michael also believes Los Incas Modernos (who were also the first rock band in Peru to put out an LP) are one of the most underrated surf bands of all time.

A MOVIE MOMENT

Kung Fu Vampires & Medieval Christians

By Jon Loghi

THE LEGEND OF THE SEVEN GOLDEN VAMPIRES

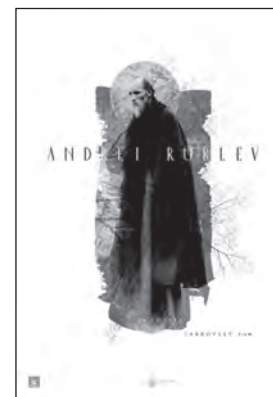
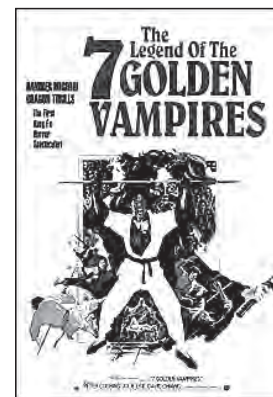
(SHOUT FACTORY/SCREAM FACTORY)

This was the only time that the mighty Hammer Studios teamed up with the Shaw Brothers, but they should have made a habit of it. This delirious 1974 kung fu vampire zombie film is one of the most entertaining movies either studio produced. It kind of combines what both studios did best. On the Hammer side, you have actors like Peter Cushing playing distinguished aristocrats and the studio's beautiful gothic neon technicolor cinematography. On the Shaw Brothers side of things, you have hideous monsters, surreal flourishes in the story and images, and some of the best kung fu fighting you'll ever see. When you mix them together it's like a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup of pure horror movie fun. The film starts with a Chinese villain traveling to Transylvania to enlist Count Dracula's help in reincarnating the legendary seven golden vampires in his homeland. Dracula instead steals his identity and travels himself to China to become the new ruler of these vampires of the Far East. Meanwhile, Doctor Van Helsing (played by Peter Cushing) is giving a lecture tour in China, trying to warn the country's scientists of the vampire scourge. He tells them that he has heard legends of a town terrorized by a group of seven vampires. He's pretty much laughed off the stage by everyone except for one man who knows the doctor is telling the truth. The man's name is Hsi Ching and he's from the town the seven golden vampires have recently returned to. He and his seven brothers enlist the aid of Van Helsing, and, with the help of a

traveling dilettante heiress who underwrites the expedition, they all take off to defeat the monsters. What follows is a series of adventures that plays like an Indiana Jones movie infested with vampires and zombies. The film is filled with action scenes that are like a form of kung fu ballet. The vampires have a literal army of zombies and the fight scenes are nonstop.

The Shaw Brothers' interpretations of the vampires are quite different from the western versions of the undead. From Tod Browning's original *Dracula* to Hammer's own vampire films, the bloodsuckers are always portrayed as attractive creatures who can use their sexual appeal to lure their victims. This is not the case in this movie. Here you will see some of the most butt ugly vampires in cinema history. They are truly hideous and frightening—a nice alternative to the suave and debonair vamps we are used to.

Shout! Factory's new Blu-ray edition is the best looking version of the film so far, but it's not flawless. Some of the scenes look blurry or soft. Since other scenes in the film look sharp and perfect, I can only assume that these rough-looking scenes were due to shortcomings in the original film elements. It's not a deal-breaker but certain scenes here and there do look pretty crappy. You get two versions of the film on this, Hammer's original uncut release and then the much shorter U.S. version. I prefer Hammer's original cut; it has more detail and nuance, and the story just flows more smoothly. Both films have



been remastered in high definition and you get some nice bonus materials like trailers, a commentary track, and an interview with a film historian who gives a detailed history of the production of the movie. If you've never seen a Hammer film before, this is as good a place as any to start.

ANDREI RUBLEV (CRITERION COLLECTION)

I've often fantasized about living in other time periods in history. I've never wanted to live in the Middle Ages though and movies like this really drive that home. This 1966 film shows what an endless patch of misery, illness, and cruelty the Dark Ages were. Against a bleak landscape of poverty, famine, and superstition, groups like the Tartars, Christians, Pagans, and peasants constantly battle each other for domination of a traumatized population that is just trying to survive. This is the world that *Andrei Rublev* lives in. Andrei is a talented and devout Christian painter who wants nothing more than to paint images of God in a world where it increasingly appears that he does not exist. Christianity is in almost every scene of this movie but I'm not quite sure what director Andrei Tarkovsky's take on the religion is. Throughout the three hours of this film, devout Christians are constantly crying out for God's mercy but their lord never shows his face and just keeps piling on misery after misery. There is no redemption, no miracle, and despite its constant religious overtones, Tarkovsky's movie seems relentlessly existential in its bleakness. There is no

lightness and no humor in this film, it's three merciless hours of pain and sadness. It's also quite slow and dull. In fact, at one point while we were watching this I turned to my wife and said, "I know this is a biography of a famous medieval painter, but it feels more like watching paint dry." At one point, there is a pagan fertility ritual filmed in such a formal and artistic way that even that becomes dull. "Did Tarkovsky just manage to make a mass orgy scene boring?" I thought to myself while watching it. That being said, there's no denying that this film is a masterpiece. Every five minutes you see a shot or scene that is so artistically beautiful that you'll end up freezing it or re-watching it just to soak in its beautiful construction and composition.

There are two versions of the film in this set, which clock in at three and three-and-a-half hours respectively, and even though getting through them is a long, hard slog, ultimately it is a rewarding journey. I learned a lot about Russian history by watching this film and got an actual visceral appreciation of what it was like to live in those god forsaken times. Great art isn't always easy or fun and *Andrei Rublev* is a good example of this. Criterion's new Blu-ray of this film is the best version so far. As I said before, you get two different edits of the film and the new restoration of Tarkovsky's preferred cut is flawless and stunning. There are many bonus features, including making-of documentaries and other essays. You even get a copy of Tarkovsky's first film, *The Steamroller And The Violin*, which he did as his graduate thesis at film school.



THE AMOEBBA 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?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AC/DC
<i>Highway to Hell</i> (1979) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE BEATLES
<i>Abbey Road</i> (1969) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADOLESCENTS
<i>Adolescents</i> (1981) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Let It Be</i> (1970) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND
<i>At Fillmore East</i> (1971) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Revolver</i> (1966) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANIMAL COLLECTIVE
<i>Merriweather Post Pavilion</i> (2009) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Rubber Soul</i> (1965) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APHEX TWIN
<i>Selected Ambient Works 85-92</i> (1992) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> (1967) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCADE FIRE
<i>Funeral</i> (2004) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The White Album</i> (1968) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE B-52'S
<i>The B-52's</i> (1979) | <input type="checkbox"/> BELLE & SEBASTIAN
<i>If You're Feeling Sinister</i> (1996) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Wild Planet</i> (1980) | <input type="checkbox"/> CHUCK BERRY
<i>The Great Twenty-Eight</i> (1982) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANGELO BADALAMENTI
<i>Twin Peaks [OST]</i> (1990) | <input type="checkbox"/> BIG STAR
<i>#1 Record</i> (1972) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BAND
<i>The Band</i> (1969) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Radio City</i> (1974) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music From Big Pink</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Third/Sister Lovers</i> (1978) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BAUHAUS
<i>In The Flat Field</i> (1980) | <input type="checkbox"/> BJORK
<i>Homogenic</i> (1997) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BEACH BOYS
<i>Pet Sounds</i> (1966) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Post</i> (1995) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Smile Sessions</i> (2011) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK FLAG
<i>Damaged</i> (1981) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BEACH HOUSE
<i>Teen Dream</i> (2010) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK STAR
<i>Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star</i> (1998) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BEASTIE BOYS
<i>Licensed to Ill</i> (1986) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK SABBATH
<i>Black Sabbath</i> (1970) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Paul's Boutique</i> (1989) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Paranoid</i> (1970) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> MARY J. BLIGE
<i>What's the 411?</i> (1992) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BLONDIE
<i>Parallel Lines</i> (1978) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BLUR
<i>Parklife</i> (1994) |

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOARDS OF CANADA
<i>Music Has the Right to Children</i> (1998) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE CLASH
<i>The Clash</i> (1977) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BON IVER
<i>For Emma, Forever Ago</i> (2007) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>London Calling</i> (1979) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DAVID BOWIE
<i>Hunky Dory</i> (1971) | <input type="checkbox"/> COCTEAU TWINS
<i>Head Over Heels</i> (1983) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars</i> (1972) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Heaven or Las Vegas</i> (1990) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BREEDERS
<i>Last Splash</i> (1993) | <input type="checkbox"/> LEONARD COHEN
<i>Songs of Leonard Cohen</i> (1967) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JAMES BROWN
<i>Live at the Apollo</i> (1963) | <input type="checkbox"/> ORNETTE COLEMAN
<i>The Shape of Jazz to Come</i> (1959) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET
<i>Time Out</i> (1959) | <input type="checkbox"/> JOHN COLTRANE
<i>A Love Supreme</i> (1965) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JEFF BUCKLEY
<i>Grace</i> (1994) | <input type="checkbox"/> ELVIS COSTELLO
<i>My Aim Is True</i> (1977) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB
<i>Buena Vista Social Club</i> (1997) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>This Year's Model</i> (1978) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KATE BUSH
<i>Hounds of Love</i> (1985) | <input type="checkbox"/> CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL
<i>Green River</i> (1969) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BYRDS
<i>Mr. Tambourine Man</i> (1965) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE CURE
<i>Disintegration</i> (1989) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sweetheart of the Rodeo</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> D'ANGELO
<i>Voodoo</i> (2000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAN
<i>Ege Bamyasi</i> (1972) | <input type="checkbox"/> DAFT PUNK
<i>Discovery</i> (2001) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tago Mago</i> (1971) | <input type="checkbox"/> MILES DAVIS
<i>Kind of Blue</i> (1959) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CARPENTERS
<i>Close to You</i> (1970) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Bitches Brew</i> (1969) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CARS
<i>The Cars</i> (1978) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEAD CAN DANCE
<i>Within The Realm Of A Dying Sun</i> (1987) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JOHNNY CASH
<i>At Folsom Prison</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> DE LA SOUL
<i>3 Feet High and Rising</i> (1989) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAPTAIN BEEFHEART
<i>Trout Mask Replica</i> (1969) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEERHUNTER
<i>Microcastle</i> (2008) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS
<i>Let Love In</i> (1994) | <input type="checkbox"/> MAC DEMARCO
<i>Salad Days</i> (2014) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHAMELEONS
<i>Script Of The Bridge</i> (1983) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEPECHE MODE
<i>Violator</i> (1990) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RAY CHARLES
<i>The Genius of Ray Charles</i> (1959) | <input type="checkbox"/> DJ SHADOW
<i>Endtroducing....</i> (1996) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music</i> (1962) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE DOORS
<i>The Doors</i> (1967) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTIAN DEATH
<i>Only Theatre Of Pain</i> (1982) | <input type="checkbox"/> DR. DRE
<i>The Chronic</i> (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

- ☐ *LPI* (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 Blackprint* (2001)
- ☐ *Reasonable Doubt* (1996)

JEFFERSON AIRPLANE

- ☐ *Surrealistic Pillow* (1967)

THE JESUS & MARY CHAIN

- ☐ *Psychocandy* (1985)

ELTON JOHN

- ☐ *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road* (1973)

ROBERT JOHNSON

- ☐ *King of the Delta Blues Singers* (1961)

JANIS JOPLIN

- ☐ *Pearl* (1971)

JOY DIVISION

- ☐ *Unknown Pleasures* (1979)
- ☐ *Closer* (1980)

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)

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)
- 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)



- 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)
- SHOXSIE & 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)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

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

- ☐ *Odyssey & Oracle* (1968)

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