

SPRING/SUMMER 2020

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SAT 4/11

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SNAIL MAIL



TUE 4/14

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ZION I

FRI 4/17

2020 Fest

Femi Kuti

positive force



SAT 6/06

4/10 AYL NEREO
PEIA • HANDMADE MOMENTS

4/11 THE CHATS
MEAN JEANS • THICK

4/14 SNAIL MAIL

4/11 LITTLE BROTHER
DILATED PEOPLES
ZION I

4/18 KOLOHE KAI

4/19 KOLOHE KAI

4/25 SPLEAN

5/15 DJAVAN

5/22 NATIRUTS
4TH & ORANGE

5/23 MANDOLIN ORANGE
MAPACHE

6/06 FEMI KUTI &
THE POSITIVE FORCE
DJ HARRY DUNCAN

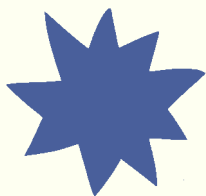
6/21 SIMPLE PLAN
NEW FOUND GLORY
KNUCKLE PUCK


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MOVIES WE LIKE!

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QUEEN & SLIM

A black man and woman, stopped by police, go on the run when the man kills the officer in self-defense.



IP MAN 4: THE FINALE

Out 4/21. Donnie Yen reprises his role as the legendary Wing Chun master in the grand finale of the revolutionary martial arts series.



PIRANHAS

Raw and dangerous; follows Nicola and his brother into a world of crime that threaten their innocence and safety of their family.



PLAYMOBIL: THE MOVIE

In this animated adventure, citizens from different lands have vanished. An unlikely trio go on a fantastic journey gathering clues.



DARK WATERS

Inspired by a shocking true story, a tenacious attorney uncovers a dark secret that connects a growing number of unexplained deaths.



GIVE ME LIBERTY

Draws you in with its moving performances and blasts of broad comedy. Completely, delightfully unpredictable from scene to scene.



BLACK CHRISTMAS

A timely take on a cult horror classic as a campus killer comes to face a formidable group of friends in sisterhood.



DOLITTLE

Robert Downey Jr. electrifies as the man who could talk to animals: Dolittle. Forced to set sail on an epic adventure when the queen falls gravely ill.



SHOOTING THE MAFIA

Paints a portrait of a remarkable woman, photographer Letizia Battaglia, who helped expose the Mafia's brutal crimes.



THE CURRENT WAR

Story of the 19th century race to light America & power the world, and the intense rivalry between Edison and Westinghouse.



CLEMENCY

Prison warden, Bernadine Williams, confronts psychological and emotional demons as she prepares to execute another inmate.



1917

Two British soldiers, in a race against time, must cross enemy territory to deliver a message that will stop a deadly attack.

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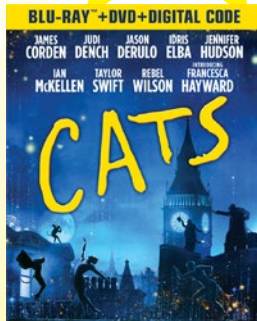


MOVIES WE LIKE!



THE JESUS ROLLS

Out 5/5. Hours after being released from prison, Jesus Quintana pairs up with fellow misfits embarking on a freewheeling joyride of petty crime and romance.



CATS

Oscar-winning director Tom Hooper reimagines Andrew Lloyd Webber's record-shattering musical with a world-class cast.



THE GENTLEMEN

Out 4/21. A businessman cashing out his profitable marijuana empire, triggers plots, schemes, bribery and blackmail in attempts to steal his domain.



THE TURNING

Out 4/21. A newly appointed nanny discovers that two disturbed orphans are harboring dark secrets and things may not be as they appear.



THE ASSISTANT

Out 4/28. A day in the life of an assistant to a powerful executive who grows increasingly aware of the abuse that colors every aspect of her workday.



THE LODGE

Out 5/5. A bone-chilling nightmare following a family isolated and alone, trapped by a blizzard, when they retreat to their winter cabin for the holidays.



EMMA

Jane Austen's beloved comedy about finding your equal and earning your happy ending, is reimagined in this delicious new film adaptation of *EMMA*.



THE PHOTOGRAPH

When a famed photographer dies, her estranged daughter, hurt, angry and full of questions, delves into her mother's life and an unexpected romance.



BRAHMS: THE BOY II

A family moves into a guest house on an estate where their young son makes a new friend, an eerily life-like doll he calls Brahm's.



ORDINARY LOVE

An everyday couple with a remarkable love, must find the humor and grace to survive a year of adversity when Joan is diagnosed with breast cancer.



ESCAPE FROM PRETORIA

The true story of an oppressed majority's struggle, and two ordinary men who stood-up to be counted in the pursuit of equality for all.

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FACT #2355: PAUL MCCARTNEY RECORDED HIS EP "AMOEBA'S SECRET" AT AN UNANNOUNCED LIVE PERFORMANCE AT AMOEBA MUSIC IN HOLLYWOOD ON JUNE 27, 2007



45 rpm Record Picture Sleeves, 1965

In 1965, The Beatles scored four singles on Billboard's Hot 100 and continued to dominate America's Top 40 radio.

Courtesy of Mark Nelson/MarkNelsonPhoto.com



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A black and white close-up portrait of a man with a beard and mustache, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The text is overlaid on the top left of the image.

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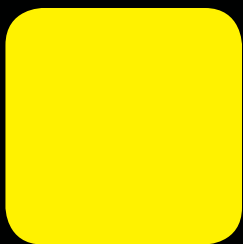
CLAIRO



HIGH ON FIRE



KIM GORDON



ORVILLE PECK



GWAR



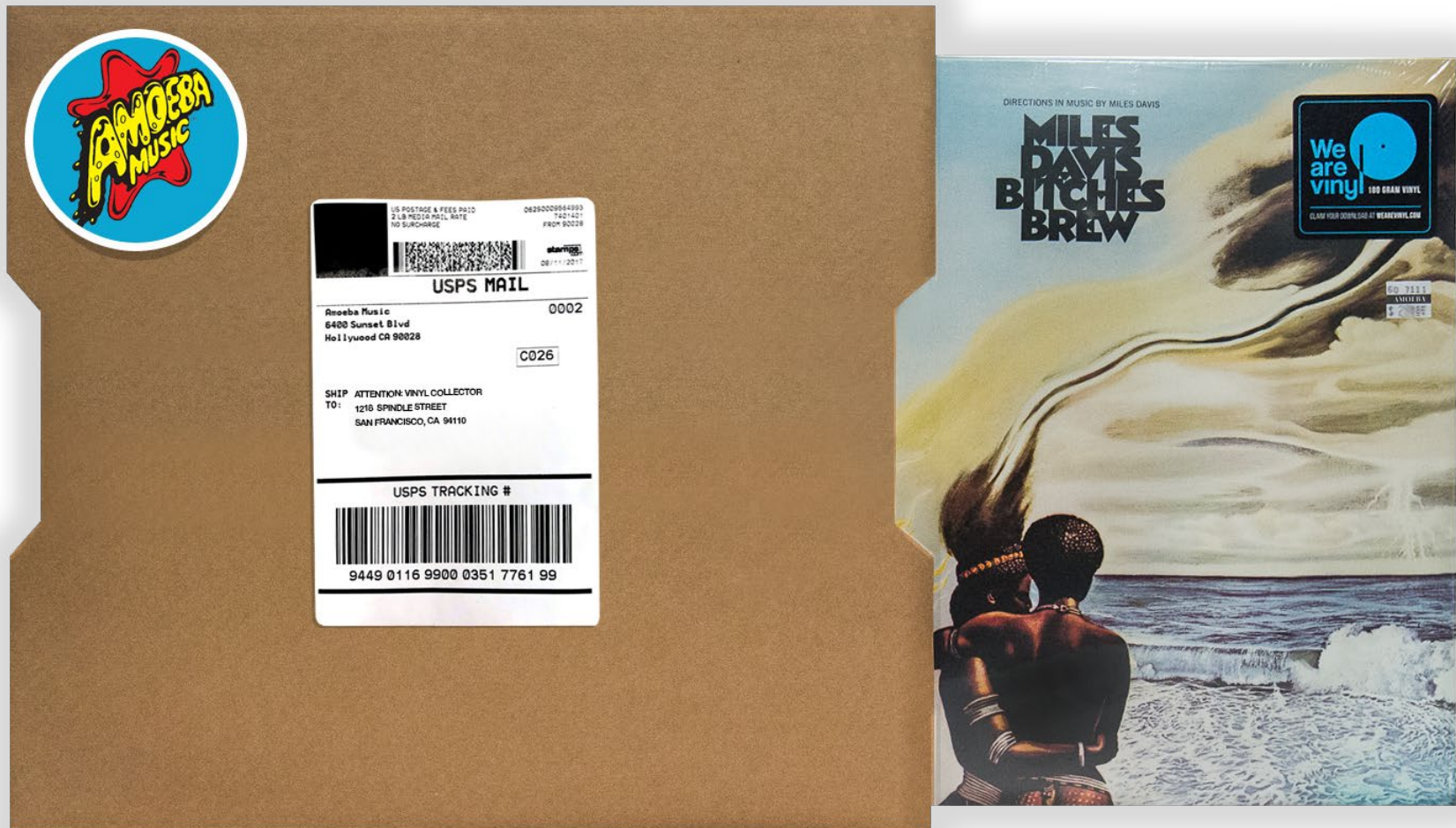
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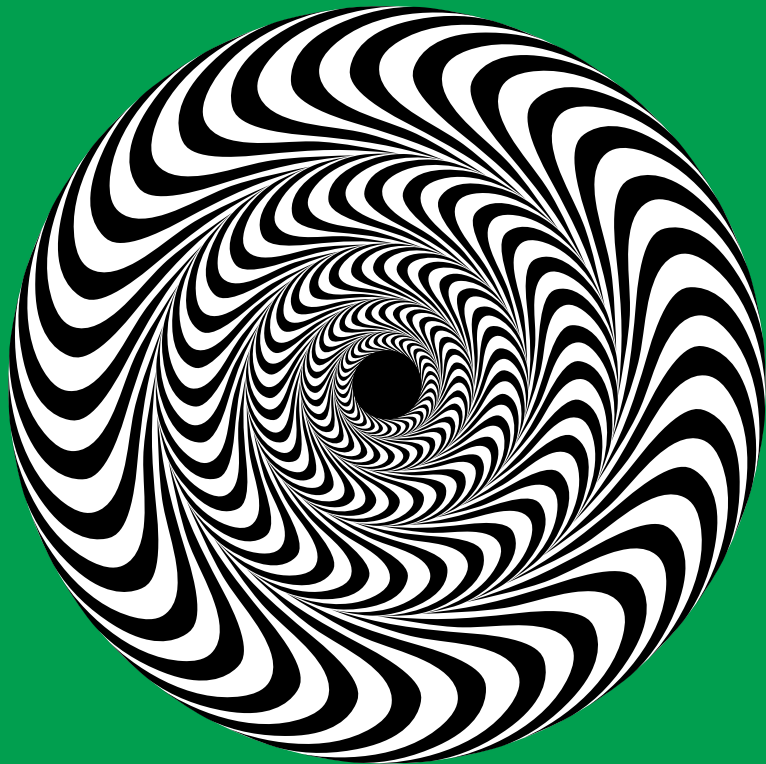
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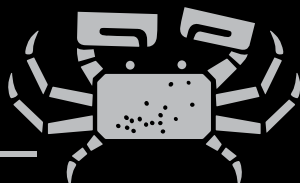
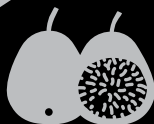
MUSIC WE LIKE[®]



Amoeba Music's discerning &
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CONTENTS

Spring/Summer 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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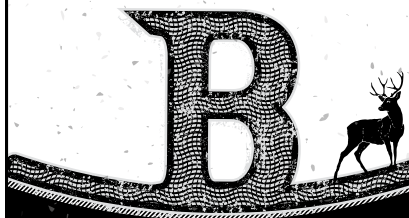
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EDITOR'S NOTE:

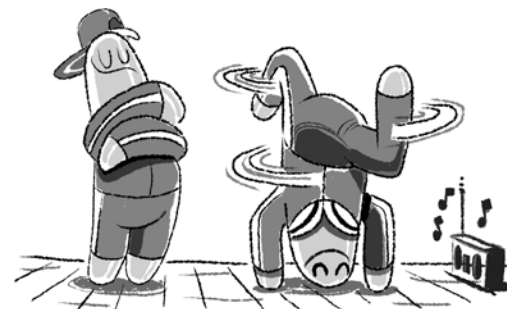
Friends, the theme of this issue is "celebrate" which is a hopeful thought of sorts. Sometimes you have to dig deep to figure out what there is out there to feel joy about. But to celebrate is also to honor and in tough moments, I hope you'll join me in honoring the essential things that make us human: supporting each other, joining together in song, making art out of our darkest thoughts and feelings. As I read the entries in this book I hear the voices of friends reminding me of all the good in the world. I hope you do, too. Party at Amoeba! See you there!

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

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Our **USED** selection is fully guaranteed to play perfectly. Buying used means you can get more for your money — plus many out-of-print and rare items that are **ONLY** available used!

NEW items are designated with a white price tag. **USED** items have yellow, green or red price tags. Red tags indicate clearance items. All genres have clearance areas at the end of their respective used sections. **CLEARANCE** items have an ongoing deal; buy three, get the fourth of least value for **FREE**!

Don't forget to look underneath the bins for extra bargains that may not be represented in the above corresponding bin. There are tons of nuggets hiding in pockets all over this store, so be sure to look all around!

HAPPY HUNTING!

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A SAMPLING OF OUR FAVORITES BY GENRE



VINYL REISSUES

Chris Bell – *I Am The Cosmos*
(OMNIVORE)

Big Star – *#1 Record/*
Radio City (CRAFT RECORDINGS)

Neneh Cherry – *Raw Like Sushi*
(VIRGIN)

Gene Clark – *No Other* (4AD)

Cocteau Twins – *Garlands/*
Victorialand (4AD)

Devo – *Freedom Of Choice/*
New Traditionalists (WARNER BROS.)

Donnas – *Gold Medal*
(REAL GONE)

Electronic – *Electronic*
(WARNER BROS.)

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

Growlers – *Gilded Pleasures/*
Hung At Heart (EVERLOVING)

NIN – *With Teeth* (NOTHING)

Gary Numan – *Pleasure*
Principle/Replicas
(BEGGARS BANQUET)

Pale Saints – *The Comforts*
Of Madness (4AD)

Queens Of The Stone Age –
Catalog (INTERSCOPE)

Replacements – *Don't Tell*
A Soul/Pleased To Meet Me
(WARNER BROS.)

Rolling Stones – *Let It Bleed*
(ABKCO)

Thin Lizzy – *Catalog* (POLYGRAM)

Various Artists – *Brady Bunch*
Movie [OST] (ENJOY THE RIDE)

Hans Zimmer – *True Romance*
[OST] (ENJOY THE RIDE)



SOUL

Anderson .Paak – Ventura (12 TONE)

James Brown – Live At Home With His Bad Self (POLYDOR)

José James – No Beginning No End 2 (RAINBOW BLONDE)

KAINA – Next To The Sun (SOOPER)

Ari Lennox – Shea Butter Baby (J. COLE/DREAMVILLE)

Prince – 1999 (Deluxe & Super Deluxe) (WARNER BROTHERS)

Raphael Saadiq – Jimmy Lee (COLUMBIA)

Sudan Archives – Athena (STONES THROW)

Tower of Power – Step Up (ARTISTRY)

Various Artists – East Side Story, Vol. 12 (EAST SIDE)

Summer Walker – Over It (LVRN)

JAZZ

Ahmad Jamal – Ballades (JAZZ VILLAGE)

Angel Bat Dawid – The Oracle (INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM)

Arto Lindsay / Joe McPhee / Ken Vandermark / Phil Sudderberg – Largest Afternoon (CORBETT VS. DEMPSEY)

Ben Goldberg – Good Day for Cloud Fishing (PYROCLASTIC)

Bill Frisell – Harmony (BLUE NOTE)

Carla Bley / Andy Sheppard / Steve Swallow – Life Goes On (ECM)

Carmen Lundy – Modern Ancestors (AFRASIA)

Charles Lloyd – 8: Kindred Spirits (Live from the Lobero) (BLUE NOTE)

Christian McBride Trio – The Movement Revisited (MACK AVE)

Dave Holland / Zakir Hussain / Chris Potter – Good Hope (EDITION)

Erroll Garner – Feeling Is Believing (MACK AVE)

Go: Organic Orchestra & Brooklyn Raga Massive – Ragmala: A Garland of Ragas (META)

Jaimie Branch – Fly or Die II: bird dogs of paradise (INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM)

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra – The Music of Wayne Shorter (BLUE ENGINE)

Jeff Parker – Suite for Max Brown (NONESUCH)

John Coltrane – Blue World (VERVE)

John McLaughlin / Shankar Mahadevan / Zakir Hussain – Is That So? (ABSTRACT LOGIX)

June Tyson – Saturnian Queen of the Sun Ra Arkestra (MODERN HARMONIC)

Junius Paul – Ism (INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM RECORDING CO.)

Keith Jarrett – Munich 2016 (ECM)

Kenny Barron / Dave Holland Trio (featuring Jonathan Blake) – Without Deception (DARE2)

Kirk Knuffke – Brightness: Live In Amsterdam (THE ROYAL POTATO FAMILY)

Kneebody – Chapters (EDITION)

Kris Davis – Diatom Ribbons (PYROCLASTIC)

Matthew Tavares & Leland Whitty – VISIONS (MR BONGO)

Michael Formanek Very Practical Trio – Even Better (INTAKT)

Pat Metheny – From This Place (NONESUCH)

Raul Midon – The Mirror (ARTISTRY)

Robert Glasper – Fuck Yo Feelings (LOMA VISTA)

Shabaka & the Ancestors – We Are Sent Here By History (IMPULSE!)

Sonar w/ David Torn – Tranceportation Vol. 1 (RARENOISE)

Terri Lynne Carrington & Social Science – Waiting Game (MOTEMA)

Tomeka Reid Quartet – Old New (CUNEIFORM)

Yazz Ahmed – Polyhymnia (ROPEADOPE)



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Aaron Diehl – *The Vagabound*
(MACK AVE)

Allah-las – *LAHS* (MEXICAN SUMMER)

Andy Shauf – *Neon Skyline*
(ANTI-)

August Burns Red – *Guardians*
(FEARLESS)

Beach Bunny – *Honeymoon*
(MOM & POP MUSIC)

Best Coast – *Always Tomorrow*
(CONCORD)

Big Thief – *Two Hands* (4AD)

Big Thief – *U.F.O.F.* (4AD)

Black Marble – *Bigger Than Life*
(SACRED BONES)

Bon Iver – *i,i* (JAGJAGUWAR)

BONES UK – *Bones UK*
(SUMERIAN)

Cass McCombs – *Tip Of The Sphere*
(EPITAPH)

Chris Robinson – *Brothers Of A Feather: Live At The Roxy*
(SILVER ARROW)

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

Cigarettes After Sex – *Cigarettes After Sex* (PARTISAN)

Cigarettes After Sex – *Cry*
(PTKF)

Collective Soul – *Blood*
(FUZZE-FLEX)

Corridor – *Junior* (SUB POP)

Crumb – *Jinx* (CRUMB)

DIIV – *Deceiver* (CAPTURED TRACKS)

Dream Syndicate – *These Times* (EPITAPH)

Fontaines D.C. – *Dogrel*
(PARTISAN)

Foxes In Fiction – *Trillium Killer* (ORCHID TAPES)

Frights – *Everything Seems Like Yesterday* (EPITAPH)

Grace Potter – *Daylight*
(FANTASY)

Grey Daze – *Amends*
(LOMA VISTA)

Growlers – *Natural Affair*
(BEACH GOTH)

Hazel English – *Wake Up!*
(POLYVINYLY)

Hamilton Leithauser – *The Loves Of Your Life*
(GLASSNOTE)

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

Jack Penate – *After You* (XL)

James Taylor – *American Standard* (FANTASY)

JARV IS.... – *Beyond The Pale*
(ROUGH TRADE)

Jay Som – *Anak Ko*
(POLYVINYLY)

Jenny Hval – *The Practice Of Love* (SACRED BONES)

Jonathan Wilson – *Dixie Blur*
(BMG)

Katie Pruitt – *Expectations*
(ROUNDER)

Keith Richards – *Talk is Cheap [Box Set]* (BMG)

Lana Del Rey – *NFR!*
(INTERSCOPE)

Lauv – *how I'm feeling* (LAUV)

Le Butcherettes – *bi/MENTAL*
(RISE)

Local Natives – *Violet Street*
(LOMA VISTA)

Logan Ledger – *Logan Ledger*
(ROUNDER)

Lumineers – *III* (DUALTONE)

M. Ward – *Migration Stories*
(ANTI-)

Mannequin Pussy – *Patience*
(EPITAPH)

Mark Lanegan Band – *Somebody's Knocking*
(PIAS AMERICA)

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

Moaning – *Uneasy Laughter*
(SUB POP)

Moon Duo – *Stars Are The Light* (SACRED BONES)

Morrissey – *I Am Not A Dog On A Chain* (BMG)

The Muffs – *No Holiday*
(OMNIVORE)

Nathaniel Rateliff – *And It's Still Alright* (FANTASY)



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

Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds – Ghosteen (GHOSTEEN LTD)

OM – BBC Radio 1 (DRAG CITY)

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

Ozzy Osbourne – Ordinary Man (EPIC)

Perfume Genius – Set My Heart On Fire Immediately (MATADOR)

Pet Shop Boys – Hotspot (X2)

Pinegrove – Marigold (ROUGH TRADE)

Poppy – I Disagree (SUMERIAN)

Pride & Glory – Pride & Glory (EI)

Purity Ring – Womb (4AD)

Purple Mountains – Purple Mountains (DRAG CITY)

Real Estate – The Main Thing (DOMINO)

Sea Wolf – Through A Dark Wood (DANGERBIRD)

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

Soccer Mommy – color theory (LOMA VISTA)

Son Little – Aloha (ANTI-)

Sparks – Past Tense: The Best of Sparks (BMG)

Sparta – Trust The River (DINE ALONE)

The Strokes – The New Abnormal (RCA)

Supergrass – Strange Ones (ECHO)

Swans – leaving meaning. (YOUNG GOD)

Tame Impala – The Slow Rush (INTERSCOPE)

Tennis – Swimmer (MUTUALLY DETRIMENTAL)

Tempers – Private Life (DAIS)

Tetema – Necroscape (IPECAC)

Thrice – Palms (EPITAPH)

Tiger Army – Retrofuture (RISE)

Tindersticks – No Treasure But Hope (CITY SLANG)

U.S. Girls – Heavy Light (4AD)

Vivian Girls – Memory (POLYVINYL)

Waxahatchee – Saint Cloud (MERGE)

Weyes Blood – Titanic Rising (SUB POP)

Wilco – Ode To Joy (DBPM)

Yves Tumor – Heaven To A Tortured Mind (WARP)

HIP-HOP

108 – Mission Infinite [Reissue] (ALL CITY)

Benny The Butcher – The Plugs I Met (GRISELDA)

Black Moon – Rise of Da Moon (DUCK DOWN)

Crimeapple – Viridi Panem (FAT BEATS)

Denzel Curry – Unlocked (LOMA VISTA)

Eminem – Music to Be Murdered By (INTERSCOPE)

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Jonathan Hay, Benny Reid, & Mike Smith – Eric B & Rakim – Follow The Leader: Reimagined As Jazz... (HAY REID & SMITH)

Knxwledge – 1988 (STONES THROW)

Lil Peep – Everybody's Everything (COLUMBIA)

Madlib/Oh No – Professionals (MADLIB INVAZION)

NNAMDİ – BRAT (SOOPER)

Pigeondust – Way Back When (COLD BUSTED)

Rich Brian – The Sailor (88RISING MUSIC/12TONE MUSIC)

Roc Marciano – Marcielago (FAT BEATS)

Royce da 5'9" – The Allegory (EI ENTERTAINMENT)

Sean Price/Lil Fame – Price Of Fame (DUCK DOWN)

Shabazz Palaces – The Don of Diamond Dreams (SUB POP)



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ELECTRONIC

Andy Stott – It Should Be Us
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(AUDIKA)

Caribou – Suddenly (MERGE)

Daniel Maunick – Macumba Quebrada (FAR OUT)

DJ Shadow – Our Pathetic Age
(MASS APPEAL)

FKA Twigs – Magdalene
(YOUNG TURKS)

Floating Points – Crush
(NINJA TUNE)

Georgia – Seeking Thrills
(DOMINO)

Låpsley – Through Water (XL)

Moor Mother – Analog Fluids of Sonic Black Holes (DON GIOVANNI)

Mura Masa – R.Y.C. (INTERSCOPE)

Patrick Cowley – Mechanical Fantasy Box
(DARK ENTRIES)

Psychemagik – I Feel How This Night Should Look (PSYCHEMAGIK)

Space Ghost – Aquarium Nightclub (TARTELET)

Thievery Corporation – Symphonik (ESL)

Thundercat – It Is What It Is
(BRAINFEEDER)

COUNTRY AND BLUEGRASS

Billy Strings – Home
(ROUNDER)

Charley Crockett – The Valley
(SON OF DAVY)

Crystal Gayle – You Don't Know Me (BFD)

David Grisman's Dawg Trio – Plays Tunes & Sings Songs
(ACOUSTIC DISC)

Della Mae – Headlight
(ROUNDER)

Dwight Yoakam – Blame the Vain [Reissue]
(NEW WEST)

Highwomen – Highwomen
(LOW COUNTRY SOUND)

Luke Combs – What You See is What You Get (SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE)

Margaret Lewis – Reconsider Me: The Ram Singles & More Southern Gems
(ACE)

Miranda Lambert – Wildcard (SONY MUSIC NASHVILLE)

Old Crow Medicine Show – Live at the Ryman
(OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW)

Rodney Crowell – Texas
(RODNEY CROWELL)

Sturgill Simpson – Sound & Fury (NEW ELEKTRA)

Terry Allen & the Panhandle Mystery Band – Just Like Moby Dick
(PARADISE OF BACHELORS)

The Mavericks – Play the Hits (MONO MUNDO)

Tyler Childers – Country Squire (RCA)

Various Artists – Strut My Stuff (MODERN HARMONIC)

Various Artists – The World is a Monster: Lonesome, Blue & Jump Jivin' Hillbillies from the Columbia Vault (1950-1958)
(IRON MOUNTAIN ANALOGUE RESEARCH)

Hank Williams – Pictures From Life's Other Side (BMG)

FOLK

Ashley Hutchings – Dylancentric (TALKING ELEPHANT)

Bonnie Bishop – The Walk (PLAN BB)

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(RED HOUSE)

Dom Flemons – Prospect Hill: The American Songster Omnibus (OMNIVORE)

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(FLEDG'LING)

Josephine Foster – All the Leaves Are Gone (FIRE)

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El Wali – Tiris

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Farafi – Calico Soul

(PIRHANA)

Gaby Moreno & Van Dyke Parks – ¡Spangled!

(NONESUCH)

J Balvin/Bad Bunny – Oasis

(UNIVERSAL LATINO)

José Luis Rodríguez – Agradecido

(SONY MUSIC LATIN)

Juanes – Más Futuro

Que Pasado (UNIVERSAL LATINO)

La Santa Cecilia – La Santa Cecilia

(UNIVERSAL LATINO)

Lina_Raül Refree – Lina_Raül Refree

(GLITTERBEAT)

Loreena McKennitt – Live at the Royal Albert Hall

(QUINLAN ROAD)

Mary Black – Mary Black Orchestrated

(BLIX STREET)

Milton Nascimento – Maria Maria

(FAR OUT)

Natacha Atlas – Strange Days

(WHIRLWIND)

Omar Souleyman – Shlon

(MAD DECENT)

Rachid Taha – Je Suis Africain

(NAÏVE)

Sérgio Mendes – In the Key of Joy

(CONCORD)

Souad Massi – Oumniya

(WRASSE)

Staff Benda Bilili – Effacer Le Tableau

(WAGRAM)

Tamikrest – Tamotait

(GLITTERBEAT)

Various Artists – América Invertida: Leftfield Pop & Experimental Folk from '80s Uruguay

(VAMPISOUL)

Various Artists – Congo Revolution: Revolutionary and Evolutionary Sounds From the Two Congos 1955-62

(SOUL JAZZ)

Various Artists – London Is The Place For Me 7 & 8

(HONEST JON'S)

Various Artists – Tarantismo: Odyssey Of An Italian Ritual

(FLEE)

Various Artists – Tuareg Music Of The Southern Sahara

(SMITHSONIAN FOLKWAYS)

Various Artists – Nigeria Soul Power 70

(SOUL JAZZ)

Willie Colon – The Hustler

(FANIA/CRAFT RECORDINGS)

Yann Tiersen – Portrait

(MUTE)

CLASSICAL

Anne-Sophie Mutter, John Williams – Across the Stars

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Ayman Fanous & Frances-Marie Uitti – Negoum

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(UNSEEN WORLDS)

Cecilia Bartoli – Farinelli

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**Andrea Parkins & Matthew
Ostrowski – Elective Affinities**
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**Bill Orcutt – Odds Against
Tomorrow** (PALILALIA)

**Brunhild Ferrari &
Jim O'Rourke –
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(BLACK TRUFFLE)

**David Toop, Paul Burwell –
Wounds [Reissue]** (SONG CYCLE)

Deathprod – Occulting Disk
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**Eugene Chadbourne –
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(FEEDING TUBE)

**Floating Spectrum –
A Point Between**
(TEMPORARY RESIDENCE)

**Fred Frith, Nicolas Humbert,
Marc Parisotto –
Cut Up The Border** (ROGUEART)

**Grouper – AIA: Alien Observer
& Dream Loss** (KRANKY)

**Ivar Grydeland &
Henry Kaiser –
In the Arctic Dreamtime**
(RUNE GRAMMOFON)

**Jim O'Rourke – To Magnetize
Money and Catch a Roving Eye**
(SONORIS)

Lingua Ignota – Caligula
(PROFOUND LORE)

Merzbow – Pulse Demon
(RELAPSE)

Negativland – True False
(SEELAND)

Pain Jerk – Mission Invisible
(HOSPITAL)

Pharmakon – Devour
(SACRED BONES)

**Tetuzi Akiyama /
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"Interpersonal Subjectivities"**
(ASTRAL SPIRITS)

**Throbbing Gristle –
Part Two: The Endless Not**
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METAL

**Blood Incantation – Hidden
History of the Human Race**
(DARK DESCENT)

Alcest – Spiritual Instinct
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Bölzer – Lese Majesty
(LIGHTNING & SONS)

Cult of Luna – A Dawn to Fear
(METAL BLADE)

**Departure Chandelier –
Antichrist Rise to Power**
(NUCLEAR WAR NOW)

Gatecreeper – Deserted
(RELAPSE)

Leviathan – Verräter [Reissue]
(PROFOUND LORE)

**Lord Mantis –
Universal Death Church**
(PROFOUND LORE)

Mayhem – Daemon
(CENTURY MEDIA)

Nile – Vile Nilotic Rites
(NUCLEAR BLAST)





Opeth – In Cauda Venenum
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Possessed – Seven Churches [Reissue] (NUCLEAR BLAST)

Teitanblood – The Baneful Choir
(NORMA EVANGELIUM DIABOLI)

Tomb Mold – Planetary Clairvoyance
(20 BUCK SPIN)

Toxic Holocaust – Primal Future (EI)

Vastum – Orifical Purge
(20 BUCK SPIN)

OLDIES

Don Shinn – Temples With Prophets
(SUNBEAM)

Various Artists – Garland Records – Pacific Northwest Fuzz Box
(BEAT ROCKET)

Lee Hazlewood – 400 Miles From L.A. 1955-56
(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

The Prime Movers Blues Band – The Prime Movers Blues Band
(MODERN HARMONIC)

The Mamas and The Papas – The Complete Singles
(REAL GONE MUSIC)

Jim Sullivan – If the Evening Were Dawn
(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Timi Yuro – Make the World Go Away (PLAYBACK)

Various Artists – Tasty Bubblegum Flavor: 12 Rare U.S. Bubblegum Pop Jewels 1968-1971
(NAUGHTY RHYTHM)

REGGAE / SKA

African Head Charge – Churchical Chant Of The Iyabinghi (ON-U SOUND)

The Interrupters – Fight The Good Fight (EPITAPH)

Jah9 – Note To Self (VP)

Linval Thompson & The Revolutionaries – Negrea Love Dub / Outlaw Dub: 2 Original Albums
(DOCTOR BIRD)

Prince Fatty – In the Viper's Shadow (EVERGREEN)

The Prophets – King Tubby's Prophecies Of Dub (PRESSURE SOUNDS)

The Specials – Specials: 40th Anniversary (CHRYSLIS)

Various Artists – Send I A Lion: A Nighthawk Reggae Joint (OMNIVORE)

Various Artists – Soul Jazz Records presents STUDIO ONE DJ Party
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Various Artists – Jamaica All Stars
(STUDIO ONE)

Various Artists – Jumping With Mr Lee: Reggae Classics From The Vault Of Bunny "Striker" Lee
(KINGSTON SOUNDS)

PUNK

Bad Religion – Age Of Unreason (EPITAPH)

Bouncing Souls – Crucial Moments (RISE)

Ceremony – In The Spirit World Now
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Defeater – Defeater (EPITAPH)

Hesitation Wounds – Chicanery
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Refused – War Music
(SPINEFARM)

The Menzingers – Hello Exile (EPITAPH)

Wolfbrigade – The Enemy: Reality
(SOUTHERN LORD)

COMEDY

Alice Wetterlund – My Mama is a Human & So Am I (COMEDY DYNAMICS)

Brian Posehn – Grandpa Metal (MEGAFORCE)

Dana Gould – I Know It's Wrong (STAND UP!)

Dave Chappelle – Sticks & Stones (NETFLIX)

David Cross – ...America...Great...
(STAND UP!)

Jo Koy – Comin' In Hot
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(OMNIVORE)

SOUNDTRACKS

**Alexandre Desplat –
Little Women**
(SONY MASTERWORKS)

**Anaïs Mitchell – Hadestown
[Cast Recording]**
(SING IT AGAIN)

**Dan the Automator –
Booksmart** (LAKESHORE)

**Daniel Lopatin –
Uncut Gems** (WARP)

**Daniel Pemberton –
Dark Crystal:
Age Of Resistance, Vol. 1**
(VARESE SARABANDE)

**Hildur Guðnadóttir –
Chernobyl**
(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Mark Korven – The Lighthouse
(MILAN)

**Mister Rogers –
It's Such A Good Feeling:
The Best Of Mister Rogers**
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Neil Young – Dead Man (VAPOR)

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Marriage Story** (LAKESHORE)

SQÜRL – The Dead Don't Die
(SACRED BONES)

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Harriet** (BACKLOT MUSIC)

Thomas Newman – 1917
(SONY)

**Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross –
Watchmen: Vol. 1, 2 & 3**
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Various Artists – Jojo Rabbit
(HOLLYWOOD)

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Queen & Slim** (MOTOWN)

**Various Artists –
Ford v Ferrari** (HOLLYWOOD)

**Various Artists –
Frozen II: The Songs**
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Various Artists – Rick & Morty
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My Name** (SONY PICTURES)

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DRAMA / COMEDY

A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood (2019) – Directed by Marielle Heller

Booksmart (2019) – Directed by Olivia Wilde

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Jojo Rabbit (2019) – Directed by Taika Waititi

Motherless Brooklyn (2019) – Directed by Edward Norton

Once Upon a Time In... Hollywood (2019) – Directed by Quentin Tarantino

The Lighthouse (2019) – Directed by Robert Eggers

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

All About My Mother (1999) [Criterion] – Directed by Pedro Almodóvar

Cold War (2018) [Criterion] – Directed by Pawel Pawlikowski

Pain & Glory (2019) – Directed by Pedro Almodóvar

Parasite (2019) – Directed by Bong Joon-ho

Roma (2018) [Criterion] – Directed by Alfonso Cuarón

Un Flic (1972) – Directed by Jean-Pierre Melville

CLASSICS / MUSICALS

All About Eve (1950) [Criterion] – Directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz

Fail Safe (1964) [Criterion] – Directed by Sidney Lumet

Fugitive Kind (1960) [Criterion] – Directed by Sidney Lumet

Judy (2019) – Directed by Rupert Goold

Now, Voyager (1942) [Criterion] – Directed by Irving Rapper

ANIMATION / KIDS

Abominable (2019) – Directed by Jill Culton

Addams Family (2019) – Directed by Conrad Vernon & Greg Tiernan

Frozen 2 (2019) – Directed by Jennifer Lee & Chris Buck

Missing Link (2019) – Directed by Chris Butler

Toy Story 4 (2019) – Directed by Josh Cooley

BLU-RAY / 4K

Big Trouble In Little China (1986) – Directed by John Carpenter

Brick (2005) – Directed by Rian Johnson

Cotton Club Encore (2019) – Directed by Francis Ford Coppola

Jungle Fever (1991) – Directed by Spike Lee

Let's Scare Jessica To Death (1991) – Directed by John D. Hancock

Mo' Better Blues (1990) – Directed by Spike Lee

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The Blob (1988) –
Directed by Chuck Russell

**Until The End of the World
(1991)** [Criterion] –
Directed by Wim Wenders

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LITERATURE / GRAPHIC NOVELS

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by Stephen Chbosky
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by Tom King (DC)

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(PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE)

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– by Tom Shone (INSIGHT EDITIONS)

NON-FICTION

**Angels & Archangels:
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– by Damien Echols
(SOUNDS TRUE)

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and a Conspiracy to Protect
Predators** – by Ronan Farrow
(LITTLE BROWN)

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Fictional Nonfiction** –
by Chuck Klosterman
(PENGUIN)

**Stay Sexy + Don't Get
Murdered** –
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Georgia Hardstark
(FORGE BOOKS)

ESSENTIAL READING

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– by Louisa May Alcott
(SIGNET)

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The Complete Headbanging
History of Heavy Metal** –
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IN APPRECIATION OF JOHN PRINE

By Mark Beaver

By all means of measurement, 1971 was a monster of a year:

Idi Amin took power in Uganda, US-backed South Viet Nam invaded Laos, huge protests against the Vietnam War were taking place across the world ramped up by the New York Times publishing of the Pentagon Papers. The “troubles” of Northern Ireland were in full burn and earthquakes beat the heck out of Turkey, just to name a few of the struggles that world citizens were facing.

At the same time, great ideas were afoot and some of the most defining music of the decade was being released:

Led Zeppelin IV, *Sticky Fingers* by The Rolling Stones, *All Day Music* by WAR, Black Sabbath's *Master of Reality*, The Who's *Who's Next*, *Electric Warrior* by T.REX, *Pearl* by Janis Joplin, Van Morrison's *Tupelo Honey*, *Tapestry* by Carole King, *Blue* by Joni Mitchell, Pink Floyd's *Meddle*, Paul McCartney's *Ram*, John Lennon's *Imagine*, George Harrison's *All Things Must Pass*, and outsider masterpieces bubbling below the charts from the likes of Nick Drake, Judee Sill, and Gil Scott-Heron.

We also first heard the term “kraut rock” thanks to CAN, Kraftwerk, and Amon Düül II.

Nestled in amongst all this to-do was John Prine's self-titled debut. Promoted by his friend Kris Kristofferson, the album cover features Prine in jeans, boots, and a blue chambray shirt sitting casually on some hay bales, his guitar leaning against the bales off to his right.

What you see is what you get.

Prine gave us thirteen stories, told so openly and sadly and hilariously and simply, that I often have to go back and listen again just to be SURE that he's not playing unaccompanied. Nope, he's got a full band of drums, keyboards, organ, fiddle, and multiple guitars, including the great Steve Goodman. But, the immediacy of his nasal twang and guitar picking certainly give the impression of a tale spinner alone in a room.

In 1971, Prine was thinking way ahead of the mid-western folk-country pack. Certainly there were already other outliers in the field: Kristofferson, Michael Hurley, Townes



Van Zandt, and in the next couple of years we'd hear a similar approach from Terry Allen.

John Prine's first album showed that he was skeptical of organized religion (“Your Flag Decal Won't Get You Into Heaven Anymore,” “Pretty Good”) government and its wars (“Sam Stone”) pop culture (“Spanish Pipedream”) the Western idea of progress (“Paradise”), and a bit threadbare regarding his feelings about lasting love (most of the album).

“Illegal Smile” is likely the most known of the album's tracks, having a ready-made chorus for casual weed users of all creeds, and carries the stamp of what Prine would build his long career on: masterfully wry stories of people facing hard situations, whether they be from abuse, lack of love, addiction, manipulation by government, religion and the media, or just the long grind of years.

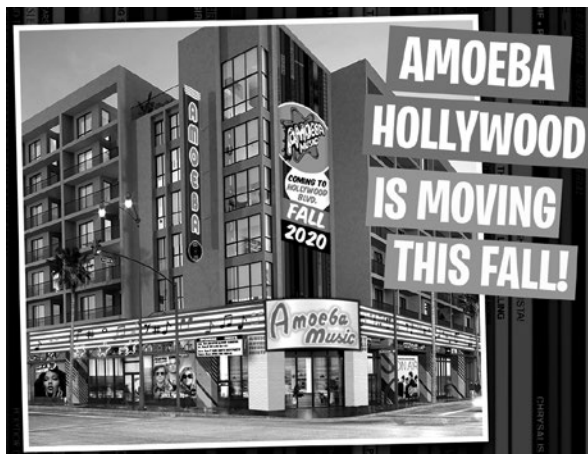
There is always humor, but in the funniest of his songs there is typically an undertone of pain and struggle. Or maybe I should say that there's always struggle, but in a John

Prine song there's always a trace of an illegal smile. Another 20 albums have followed on this stellar debut, most of them as insightful, sad, funny, and occasionally angry as he was, gathering the best singers and songwriters of the ensuing decades.

His songs have been performed by Johnny Cash, Bonnie Raitt, George Strait, Bette Midler, Bruce Springsteen, Paul Westerberg, and Dwight Yoakam among others, and his albums have featured Emmylou Harris, Joan Baez, Tom Petty, Lucinda Williams, Trisha Yearwood, Kacey Musgraves, Alison Krauss, Iris DeMent, and many, many more.

John Prine passed away April 7th from complications from the COVID-19 virus. I and the AMOEBA crew are saddened to lose another songwriting legend to this disease. I'm sure he's finding the humor in his situation, wherever it can be found.

Thanks for reading. I'm gonna go play “Let's Talk Dirty In Hawaiian” on my ukulele.



HOLLYWOOD STORE MOVE NEWS

Here's the where/when/how on plans for Amoeba's new home in Hollywood!

We are excited to announce the next home of Amoeba Hollywood will be at 6200 Hollywood Blvd!

We are humbled by the massive outpouring of support throughout this search from our customers and the LA community. We aim to do you proud and continue on as your supreme source for music, movies, and so much more. We will bring that familiar Amoeba energy into this new space and you can be sure it will provide the "true Amoeba experience" as we will carry the same breadth and depth of selection. We look forward to seeing you at our new home on the corner of Hollywood & Argyle this Fall, and have provided more details for you below. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

WHERE IS THE NEW LOCATION?

We're moving to 6200 Hollywood Blvd! We're going to take up a huge ground level space on the corner of Hollywood and Argyle in the new "El Centro" complex in downtown Hollywood. This is just two blocks east and two blocks north of our current location, and right next door to the Fonda Theatre so we'll be easy to find!

WHEN WILL THE NEW STORE OPEN?

Sometime after Labor Day 2020. We'll let everyone know the exact date as it gets closer.

IS IT AS BIG AS THE CURRENT SPACE?

It's a bit smaller, but not a whole lot... It's still a huge space that will house all the formats and goodies we carry now. We will remain a Hollywood institution.

HOW LONG WILL YOU BE CLOSED BEFORE THE NEW STORE OPENS?

We're not exactly sure, but as short a time as possible! We've got a lot of stuff to move and set up, but we'll know more about this as the date nears.

WILL THERE BE A NEW PHONE NUMBER?

No. You can still reach one of our friendly Amoebites at (323) 245-6400.

WILL OLD STORE CREDIT AND GIFT CERTIFICATES BE ACCEPTED AT THE NEW LOCATION?

Yes! Unredeemed store credit and gift certificates will be honored at the new location, just as they are now.

WILL YOU STILL HOST LIVE SHOWS?

Yes! We'll continue to have live shows, signings, DJ sets, and meet-and-greet events every week, as we do now.

WHERE SHOULD I PARK? WHAT'S THE COST?

The "El Centro" complex has a large, well-managed parking garage and we'll validate for the first 75 minutes with any in-store purchase.

IS THERE OTHER PARKING AVAILABLE IN THE AREA?

Yes, there are many parking meters on all three of the surrounding streets (Hollywood, Argyle, and El Centro), as well as a few public lots (Eastown, LA Fitness, W Hotel, The Fonda Theatre) within a short walk.

WHAT'S THE EASIEST WAY TO GET TO YOU BY CAR?

The new Amoeba is easily accessible! The 101 Freeway offers three convenient exits in the area, with the Gower exit being closest, followed by Hollywood Blvd. and Vine Street exits. From surface streets, you can access Amoeba via Hollywood Blvd. and cross streets (from the south) Argyle and El Centro, and (from the north) Argyle and Gower.

WHAT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS THE BEST TO GET TO YOU?

The new Amoeba will be just across the street from the Hollywood/Vine station on the Metro Red Line. The 217 bus stops one block west, on Hollywood between Argyle & Vine.

WILL YOU STILL BUY USED PRODUCT?

Yes! Our trade counter will be right up front, like it is now. There will also be a few short-term meters on Argyle for easy unloading.

ARE THERE OTHER NEIGHBORING BUSINESSES?

Yes! In the El Centro complex there will be great L.A.-based businesses such as Urban Radish Market & Healthy Spot as our neighbors. Next door is the always rockin' Fonda Theatre, and just across Hollywood Blvd. is the new Funko Pop store and Shake Shack, with the historic Pantages Theater and Frolic Room just west of us on Hollywood Blvd. Additionally, there are many eateries, coffee shops, retail shopping, and the huge W Hotel all within easy walking distance.

WILL AMOEBA.COM ORDERS BE INTERRUPTED?

We don't anticipate the move will have a major impact on online sales, though certain items may be restricted during the actual moving days. We will update as the moving date nears.

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO STAY UPDATED WITH ACTUAL OPENING DATE AND ANY BIG UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS?

Follow our social channels (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) and/or sign up for our weekly email newsletter in the space below. We'll also post updates online at amoeba.com/moveupdate.

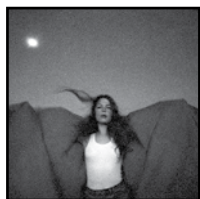
Watch the announcement video with Tyler the Creator to get a glimpse at the new space!
amoeba.com/moveupdate



TOP 20 COUNTDOWN!!

TOP 20 AMOEBBA BESTSELLERS FROM 2019

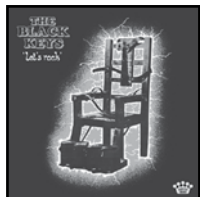
Here's a countdown of what flew off the shelves last year.
There's something for everyone here, so you may discover a new favorite
or see how your personal picks fared among your fellow music fans.



20.

MAGGIE ROGERS
Heard It in a Past Life

Nearly three years after her song "Alaska" became a viral sensation, Maggie Rogers released her carefully-crafted debut album, *Heard It in a Past Life*. The young artist deftly fuses folk, electronica, and dance-pop in a collection of songs that fully delivers on her early promise.



19.

THE BLACK KEYS
Let's Rock

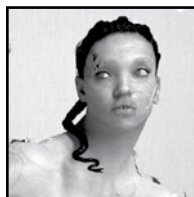
After a five-year break, The Black Keys are back and better than ever on this stripped down serving of rock 'n' roll goodness. The duo does it all with just drum and guitar, with a little extra sweetness in the form of backing vocals by Leisa Hans and Ashley Wilcoxson.



18.

PAUL McCARTNEY
Amoeba Gig

A must-have for McCartney fans and Beatles completists, *Amoeba Gig* is the first-ever full-length concert recording of McCartney's incredible June 27, 2007 live performance at Amoeba Hollywood. This magical set features 21 career-spanning songs and is finally available in its entirety.



17.

FKA TWIGS
Magdalene

Never one to shy away from experimentation, FKA twigs strikes out into bold, new territory on her excellent new album, *Magdalene*. The vibe is cinematic, with sweeping soundscapes, lush strings, and soaring church choir vocals.



16.

VAMPIRE WEEKEND
Father of the Bride

Father of the Bride was a triumphant return for Vampire Weekend; prior to the album's release, the band hadn't recorded a new full-length since 2013. It's also one of their most ambitious albums, fusing indie, hip-hop, and even jam band influences into one eclectic, energizing record.



15.

GARY CLARK JR.
This Land

This Land is a battle call, an anthem for anyone eager to combat the forces of bigotry and political cynicism. The ever-impressive Gary Clark Jr. has created an album rife with hope, ferocity, and emotional power while experimenting with genres as disparate as dub and country-rock.



14.

ORVILLE PECK
Pony

Who was that masked man who suddenly took the entire indie-sphere by storm? Why, it's the enigmatic Orville Peck, of course! Although his true identity's still a mystery, it should come as no surprise that so many people fell hard for his knowing fusion of classic country, shoegaze, and indie. We were lucky enough to chat with Orville Peck for a funny, entertaining, and educational *What's In My Bag?* episode this year, too. Watch it on Amoeba.com.



13.

THE BEATLES
Abbey Road
Anniversary Editions

Abbey Road got the 50th anniversary treatment with a slew of related reissues. No matter which format you choose, you can expect a vibrant 2019 stereo mix, captivating bonus tracks and alternate takes, and all kinds of goodies.



12.

TYLER, THE CREATOR
IGOR

Tyler, the Creator had a late summer masterpiece on his hands in the form of the outsider soul wonder *IGOR*. The Creator wrote, produced, and arranged all the tracks himself, and the whole listening experience is imbued with the vulnerability, experimentation, and excellence of that process.



11.

TOOL
Fear Inoculum

Tool fans have waited 13 impossibly long years for a new release from the alt metal gurus. Fortunately, *Fear Inoculum* delivered. Packed with trance-inducing, ultra-heavy, intelligent prog-metal jams, this one's meant to be turned up as loud as possible. Never satisfied with the expected, the band initially released the album only as a limited edition CD that included a 4" HD rechargeable screen, exclusive video footage, charging cable, and 36-page book. They've since released an expanded book edition without the screen and the video footage.



10.

FLYING LOTUS
Flamagra

Good things are worth waiting for, and after a five-year hiatus, Flying Lotus fans should find much to enjoy in the 27-track *Flamagra*. Featuring contributions from a star-studded list of contributors that includes David Lynch, Anderson .Paak, George Clinton, Solange, and so many more. We were also proud to release an Amoeba Exclusive version on opaque white vinyl.



9.

STURGILL SIMPSON
Sound & Fury

An adrenaline-fueled ride into outlaw country and heady rock 'n' roll, Sturgill Simpson has created a suitably ferocious album in the form of *Sound & Fury*. Catchy as hell and steeped in Southern mood and lyricism, this is Simpson at his most powerful.



8.

JENNY LEWIS
On the Line

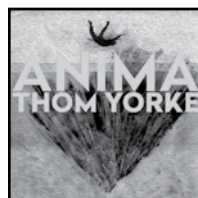
On the Line might just be one of Jenny Lewis' best records to date. With a dazzling cast of collaborators—including Beck and Ringo Starr—Lewis churns out moody ballads, Fleetwood Mac-inspired rollickers, and wistful Americana. She also gave a fantastic performance at Amoeba Hollywood on release date to celebrate the new album.



7.

SHARON VAN ETTEN
Remind Me Tomorrow

Sharon Van Etten spread her musical wings on the brilliant *Remind Me Tomorrow*, favoring rock 'n' roll ferocity and atmospheric synths over her renowned folk-meets-Americana sound. The result was one of the year's most gripping, emotionally devastating releases. We were thrilled to have an Amoeba Exclusive version of this standout album on limited edition translucent violet vinyl.



6.

THOM YORKE
Anima

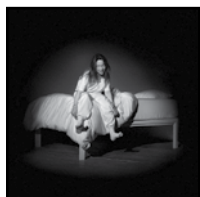
One of our most relentlessly innovative artists, Thom Yorke somehow managed to find even more uncharted territory to explore on his intriguing *Anima*. Heavier on the electronics than usual, Yorke lets his haunting vocals linger over massive washes of sound and cinematic synths. An envelope-pushing evolution.



5.

CUCO
Para Mi

Twenty-one-year-old bedroom producer makes an assured debut on *Para Mi*. Eclectic and boundary-pushing the album somehow manages to blend the aesthetics of Toro y Moi and Mac DeMarco into one singular collection of songs. Cuco captivated a huge crowd at Amoeba Hollywood with a special in-store performance during release week.



4.

BILLIE EILISH
When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?

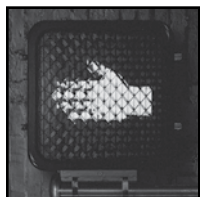
Now a legitimate star, Billie Eilish made her insanely-assured debut with the dark electropop of *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?* Angry, fierce, and cool-as-hell, Eilish broke the teen pop star mold with this one.



3.

LANA DEL REY
NFR!

NFR! was another winner for the glamorously tortured singer and songwriter. Lana Del Rey teamed up with producer Jack Antonoff (Bleachers, Fun.) to record this sublimely cinematic chronicle of drama and despair, resilience and romance.



2.

THE RACONTEURS
Help Us Stranger

Can it really have been a decade since the last record by The Raconteurs? *Help Us Stranger* proves Jack White, Brendan Benson, and co. are still at the top of their game, combining swirling psychedelia, dirty blues, and sweaty rock 'n' roll. The band played a sold out show at Amoeba Hollywood during release week, cementing their excellence in all of our minds.



1.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
Once Upon a Time in... Hollywood

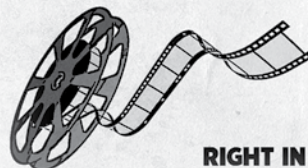
It should come as no surprise to longtime Quentin Tarantino fans that the soundtrack to his much-loved *Once Upon a Time in... Hollywood* is equally extraordinary. Recreating the experience of listening to a '60s-era radio show, this gem of a soundtrack features era-appropriate radio ads and banter interspersed with essential tracks by the likes of The Box Tops, Paul Revere & the Raiders, and Simon & Garfunkel.

THE TINIEST GGET IN THE WORLD

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COFFEE INTO
THE THEATER!



GO GET EM TIGER



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BERKELEY



JIM NASTIC

The Comes – No Side

(LA VIDA ES UN MUS)

Find it in: PUNK

Cement Shoes – Too (FEEL IT)

Find it in: PUNK

Delta 5 – Singles & Sessions

1979-81 (KILL ROCK STARS)

Find it in: ROCK

Avengers – The American

In Me 7" (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Find it in: PUNK

Echo & the Bunnymen –

The John Peel Sessions 1979-83

(RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Paralisis Permanente –

Los Singles (3 CIPRESES)

Find it in: PUNK

The Wipers – Land Of The Lost

(JACKPOT)

Find it in: PUNK

The Kinks – Arthur [Reissue]

(SANCTUARY)

Find it in: ROCK

Crime – San Francisco's First And Only Rock 'N' Roll Band:

Live 1978 (SUPERIOR VIADUCT)

Find it in: PUNK

Grauzone – Eisbær 12"

(WE RELEASE WHATEVER THE FUCK WE WANT)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

JAKOB

Bangor, ME

Pissgrave – Posthumous

Humiliation (PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: METAL

Sounds real gross. Yup yup yup. Sounds so gross I love it. Unrelenting and gross. Absolutely gross and then just when you least expect it at the very end all of a sudden the guitars go heyyyy Judas Priest for a minute or two and then blast you in the face with some more gross. Recommended if you like gross. Especially recommended if you like real gross.

Repulsion – Horrified

[Reissue] (RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

One of the best of all time. Just a nasty slap full of gross. Crucial reissue from Relapse of an album that never ever gets old. Total masterpiece of filthy prototypical Michigan grind. Blasts and more blasts, endless blasts. Boy howdy does this one stay rotten-fresh. Buy a copy for yourself, then buy one for your neighbor. I just can't get enough. Sounds like it was recorded inside a stinky pile of cobwebs.

Anti Cimex –

Official Recordings 1982-1986

(DIABLOS)

Find it in: PUNK

Yay! Woo-hoo! Yippee! Sounds like it was recorded in a stinky pile of Lingonberry mush.

Beherit – Drawing Down the Moon [Reissue] (KVLT)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Crucial reissue of satanic gross from a bunch of Finnish teens with the flu in the early 90s. Huge cartoon drums and evil whispered vocals mixed with evil pseudo-robotic vocals. The mix sounds all wrong and that's fun!!! Lord Nanna! The most evil immature gross! I like when they whisper the blasphemous stuff!

Falls of Rauros – Patterns in Mythology (GILEAD MEDIA)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Not gross at all! Crucial Maine slaps! Lithe, agile, svelt! Beautiful dual leads. Perfect for chugging Moxie in the woods in January while climbing a huge downeast Mountain. Proud of my guys from the pine tree state. Mamma mia!

Death Worship – End Times (NWN)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Super gross! Apocalyptically gross! Don't put this on unless you want your grandparents to disown you! Blechh! Crucial Canadian gross!

Midsummer (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster

They must have been consuming the stinky pile of Lingonberry mush when they made this talkie! Crucial Swedish gross! Ari Aster makes the best feel-good movie-films! What the heck?

Miscarriage – Imminent Horror (SENTIENT RUIN)

Find it in: METAL

Slow motion super gross! Makes my stomach feel weird! Good for parties! Your neighbor probably already has this on both formats! The whole neighborhood is feeling gross to this one!

Voice of the Eagle: The Enigma of Robbie Basho (2015) – Directed by Liam Barker

Very pleasant and adventurous acoustic mysticisms from a very decidedly un-gross Berkeley genius! A beautiful documentary about the life of one of the bay area's most enigmatic weirdo folk guys ever. This guy made things up! Huge, mysterious, beautiful things! He wore strange outfits too!

Sadistik Exekution – 30 Years of Agonizing the Dead! (NWN)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Crucial Australian gross! Sounds like it was recorded in a stinky jar of rotting vegemite! And that's a good thing! I need some water!

Tip:

Pat's Pizza in Orano, ME

SASSY BROWN

DJ Puphaw on KALX 90.7 FM!

The Raincoats – The Raincoats [40th Anniversary Reissue] (ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: ROCK

For a brief period in the late '70s-early '80s these ladies recorded music for absolutely nobody else besides themselves and because of that, this album is perfect. Their emotionally raw and earnest cover of "Lola," which somehow predicted the rise of pretty much the entire lo-fi college rock genre a decade later, is enough of a reason on its own to buy this.

Midsummer (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster

You'll never look at Coachella flower crowns the same way again.

Crass – Feeding Of The Five Thousand (Second Sitting) + Stations of the Crass + Penis Envy [Reissues] (ONE LITTLE INDIAN)

Find it in: PUNK

Fad Gadget – The Best Of (MUTE)

Find it in: ROCK

HIDE – Hell Is Here (DAIS)

Find it in: ROCK

The Comes – No Side (LA VIDA ES UN MUS)

Find it in: PUNK

Delta 5 – Singles & Sessions 1979-81 (KILL ROCK STARS)

Find it in: ROCK

Peter Ivers – Becoming Peter Ivers (RVNG INTL)

Find it in: ROCK

Klaus Nomi – Klaus Nomi (REAL GONE)

Find it in: ROCK

Various Artists – Mogadisco: Dancing Mogadishu – Somalia 1972-1991 (ANALOG AFRICA)

Find it in: WORLD

VAUGHN

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

Find it in: ROCK

Bryan Ferry – Live At The Royal Albert Hall 1974 (BMG)

Find it in: ROCK

Tyler Childers – Country Squire (RCA)

Find it in: COUNTRY

Sturgill Simpson – Sound & Fury (WEA)

Find it in: ROCK

Van Morrison – Three Chords & The Truth (CAROLINE)

Find it in: ROCK

Echo & The Bunnymen – The John Peel Sessions: 1979-83 (RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Bob Dylan – Travelin' Thru The Bootleg Series 15 Vol. 1967-1969 (COLUMBIA)

Find it in: ROCK

The Replacements – Dead Man's Pop (RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK



Bunny Lee, Prince Jammy & The Aggrovators – Dubbing In The Front Yard & Conflict Dub (PRESSURE SOUNDS)

Find it in: REGGAE

Wilco – Ode To Joy (DBPM)

Find it in: ROCK

KEVIN

House Guests – My Mind Set Me Free (SHAKE IT!)

Find it in: SOUL

A collection of funk burners, fronted by Bootsy Collins & Catfish Collins. Recorded between playing with James Brown and Funkadelic. If that doesn't say it all...

Ana Mazzotti – Ninguém Vai Me Segurar [Reissue] (FAR OUT)

Find it in: WORLD

A mid-'70s Brazilian nugget nicely reissued, very sought after and for good reason. Ana Mazzotti's wonderfully smooth voice paired with jazzy rhodes is a perfect fit. This one grooves so hard & always has that infectious samba rhythm bouncing along behind the funk. The band are members of the band Azymuth who also kicks ass. As per usual with Import reissues, the packaging is sparse, but the quality is good. HIGHLY recommend this.

Bill Frisell – Harmony (BLUE NOTE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Bill Frisell's first record on Blue Note is certainly a quality one. Pairing his effortlessly gorgeous playing with Petra Haden's welcoming and masterful voice for a nice mix of deep jazz and country/Americana type songs was a great idea.



A very deep & slower paced record, this is not a hard listen. And not what you may expect from Blue Note. Frisell & Haden love to experiment with all sorts of styles, and that shows on this one but could easily go unnoticed. No drums. If you're familiar with Bill Frisell, you know that he needs no accompaniment, but paired with the right players he can really make something special.

Sturgill Simpson – *Sound & Fury* (VWEA)

Find it in: COUNTRY

This is a pretty heavy record for alt-country heavy-hitter Sturgill Simpson. (Such a great name.) His previous albums are all quite good but pretty easy to call country. This one has more of a rock feel & cranks the distortion way up. Good to listen to while breaking the law.

Caesar Frasier – 75 [Reissue]

(BE WITH)

Find it in: JAZZ

Reissue of organ-fronted soul-jazz/ funk BOMB. Features the best of the best: Bernard Purdie, Wilbur Bascomb, Cornell Dupree, etc. A classic worth spending a little \$\$ on. Nice sounding reissue.

Nu Guinea – *Nuova Napoli*

(NG RECORDS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Don't let the electronic category fool you, this is a laid back disco groove record. But that's where we file it. Made by an Italian producer duo, they got together a bunch of musicians and made a dope record. Came out in 2018, so this review is a bit late, so good I had to sneak it in.

Marcos Valle – *Garra*

(ELEMENTAL MUSIC)

Find it in: WORLD

Limited edition, get on it!! Brazilian heat that you won't regret having in your collection!

FELIX

Brian Ferneyhough, Stephan Winkler, Oscar Bettison – *FALL*

(WERGO)

Featuring: Carl Rosman, Ensemble Musikfabrik

Find it in: CLASSICAL

In *Fall* we are presented with three living composers each with separate compositions that all deal with the likenesses of falling (crashing, decaying, etc.); hence the German label's (Wergo) proclaimed title to this keen and incisive CD, *Fall*. The listener can forget about drifting comfortably home for the variety of sounds to these pieces seem to exist only in the moment. The more one listens (no matter how many times) the more intrigued "at that point in time" we become. Each instrument (in the ensemble) exists independently of each other yet their contrasts and differences of astute technique clash brilliantly together. The whole point is to play each instrument in an unconventional way so as to produce unusual sounds of tonality & atonality. Tradition is therefore jettisoned in favor of unsettled and erratic phrases that seem, at times, to jump off the page. Effort is made so as to produce micro-tonal sounds (notes "between the cracks"), or that space that one can't really define. And the courageous music-making group, Ensemble Musikfabrik from Cologne, perform these VERY difficult pieces with amazing clarity & pinpoint precision.

The first piece kicks off with a Brian Ferneyhough (U.K.) composition entitled "La Chûte D'Icare" (Landscape with the Fall of Icarus) inspired from Pieter Bruegel's 1558 painting of the same title which depicts Icarus falling into the sea after tempting fate by flying too close to the sun causing it to burn his wings despite warnings from his father, Daedalus. In the painting the viewer witnesses a pleasant bucolic landscape with locals carrying on ordinary daily tasks. Near the bottom corner of the painting one sees Icarus' legs pathetically dangling just above the water, a millisecond before his body is completely consumed by the sea. But nobody (in the painting) notices; not even us, the viewer, who only acknowledges this after careful review. What Ferneyhough captures, is not the illustrative function of Bruegel's painting, but rather focuses on the gradual decline of what once was & what has now suddenly entered into perpetual decline.

The opening blast from "La Chûte D'Icare" is the Australian clarinetist Carl Rosman who seems to mimic a pair of fluttering wings which are aimlessly falling without what once was a purpose. The Ensemble Musikfabrik closely vibrates around the rudderless antics of the clarinet. What the listener gets is a disaggregation of instrumental sounds that are abruptly cut off from their previous purposeful function. The sound which the Ensemble produces is quite fascinating to hear despite the clutter & unrest. Harmony is rapidly waning of what once was yet at the same time the sound is fresh & new.

German composer Stephan Winkler's "Von der Gewissensnot der Insekten" (On the Moral Dilemma of Insects) occupies the following 2 tracks but with a different twist. Inspired from a novel by Eugen Egner concerning an intoxicated man who, while singing, falls out of a 3rd story window but is miraculously unharmed only because he was drunk from booze. There is more to the story but how this is clarified into this piece is eccentric. What immediately surfaces are developed phrases that continuously change & morph into weirdly stated expressions. There are parts to the piece that feel as though we are in a state of perpetual intoxication. This platform consistently feels unstable & erratic to us where control becomes a vague and hazy process. I know the feeling yet Winkler's composition becomes mysteriously attractive.

Tracks 4 thru 6 belong to the composer Oscar Bettison in "Livre Des Sauvages" which is inspired from the Abbé Emmanuel Domenech's manuscript who thought he had stumbled upon (while in the U.S.) an ethnological sensation back in 1860. What he thought was crudely drawn pictures from Native Americans (stick figures urinating, copulating, whipping each other, etc.) was actually corrected, after his manuscript was published, saying those drawn figures were most likely done by a young boy. In "Livre Des Sauvages" Bettison set in motion this historical hoax into his own narrative. And what an entertaining 30+ minute three movement piece this has become where the violins lead the rest of the ensemble to strange & bizarre sounds. I believe the attraction lies in its beguiling sounds from all sorts of interesting instruments (tuning forks, toy piano, "wrenchophone" made of ordinary wrenches, a conch shell, an orchestral hammer & more). Very weird but intriguing to say the least.

This past decade has definitely ended on an unpredictable yet bizarre note and this CD encapsulates this perception with astounding

precision. If you would like a true musical replica of the current times we live in then don't rely on normalcy; instead be honest and look for the bizarre. I suggest purchasing *Fall* and get REAL.

Caroline Shaw – *Orange*

(NONESUCH)

Featuring: Caroline Shaw, Attacca Quartet

Find it in: CLASSICAL

American violinist & composer Caroline Shaw several years ago (2013) became the youngest prize winner ever (31) to receive a Pulitzer Prize for Music with her composition "Partita for 8 Voices" performed by the vocal ensemble, Roomful of Teeth. A wordless, beautiful a cappella 4 movement; 25 minute piece which greatly angered certain & important Inuit throat singing artists for not acknowledging a certain katajjaq song which Roomful of Teeth had supposedly adopted in the 3rd movement of this award winning composition. Although Shaw acknowledged that Roomful of Teeth had studied with Inuit singers so as to adopt their skills, she believed those "patterns to be sufficiently distinct from katajjaq." My point for bringing this up, besides introducing Caroline Shaw to your attention, is that as a serious musician, Miss Shaw's right is not to target and steal other musicians' material (which she did not do) but rather to become influenced by what her trained hearing picks up. It's called creativity. And so it goes with this recent & impressive release simply entitled *Orange*. An imaginative and inspired set of various pieces which are easy & fun to know.

In the provided booklet, Miss Shaw states, "these new recipes contain traces of worlds that came before—Haydn, Mozart, Ravel, Bartok—and of those even earlier—Bach, Monteverdi, Josquin. Hints of past years' growth remain in the soil, and so the new growth has been partially shaped by the old." What intrigues me the most about each and every one of these pieces is their uplifting quality of bringing hope to one's thoughts. To me, these pieces remind me of anthems which seem to flower unexpectedly within the structure of the composition. The combinations of reverberation from one violin in addition to separate pizzicati & glissando from the surrounding quartet in "Valencia" crafts a carefully designed piece that is so beautifully delicate & graceful.

"The Ellipse" is yet another well crafted piece that exudes elegance but more importantly the quietness within the piece is rather therapeutic. Also the simple melody that the string quartet plays, arises charmingly like the morning



sun. Furthermore the plucking from the violins are so well placed amidst this fragile and well thought out piece.

Again, the variety of tones and textures which are displayed throughout this highly recommended release are what is so intriguing while at the same time; simplicity is very much of a factor. "The Beach Tree" is a great example of how gorgeous clarity can really become. The combination of strumming, plucking and then playing in just beautiful unison with breath-taking simplicity is quite special. I'm very happy to have purchased this moving release. You too, special reader, would be smart to follow suit.

Richard Wagner,
Richard Strauss –
Wagner / Strauss (DECCA)
Featuring: Lise Davidsen, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Philharmonia Orchestra
Find it in: CLASSICAL

For a debut recording on a major label, this has got to be the most serious & challenging repertoire that ever was. Since we are dealing here with very well-known Wagner & Strauss lieder (with three arias) tightly bundled with veteran song cycles which have been sung by ALL the greatest singers known in recording history; it's quite an audacious feat for the Norwegian soprano, Lise Davidsen to tackle, and all in just one release AND at such a young age: 32. If my research is accurate, I believe Miss Davidsen is one of the youngest singers to have recorded Strauss' "Four Last Songs" (the youngest, I believe, is the eminent German soprano, Gundula Janowitz at 31). Regardless, this CD is quite a find for fans of German lieder as Lise Davidsen could easily become the singer we will elect to follow. No doubt I will.

Right off the bat the courageous Miss Davidsen belts out two arias from Wagner's Tannhäuser. The opening "Dich, teure Halle" is upbeat and

immediately showcases a distinct quality in Davidsen's vocal timbre which is narrowed and focused yet not without a steady glow. This sharp gleam displays no signs of a fluttering flame which unfortunately is a common trait among Wagnerian wannabes. In the following track, "Allmächte Jungfrau," the tone is more serious and sombre as this is where Davidsen shines the most for her location is so clear and precise with bold colors that are placed within such a well controlled tension. It's simply amazing to hear as one can only assume the incredibly hard work it took for her to achieve such a performance.

The remaining 50+ minutes are exclusively devoted to Richard Strauss; one aria, two other songs and two very well-known song cycles. The Strauss aria from "Ariadne aus Naxos" features a part where Davidsen gathers forces so as to exude an emotional eruption but not without amazing control. Within these moments (there are many throughout this CD similar to this) one becomes amazed at the sheer sturdiness and durability which her singing presents to us. Amazingly enough there is still a great deal left in the tank for her control of what she allows us to hear is what makes Davidsen so darn special. There are other singers who might percolate a certain strength but it's not nearly as consistent and seamless as Davidsen's delivery.

It wouldn't be much of a stretch to call Miss Davidsen a mezzo-soprano (she, at one time, thought so) and especially hearing her sing the much loved and widely cherished song entitled, "Morgen." With the ever so enchanting & captivating lead violin (played superbly by Zolt-Tihamer Visontay) Davidsen's voice responds with humble intensity, paying the utmost respect for such a dignified moment: namely surrender. This is really when we can hear those mezzo-like qualities; up close and simply gorgeous. Wouldn't you, dear reader, wish for just a morsel of excellence? But this intensity continues with "Wiegenlied" where Miss Davidsen persists in pressing that melodramatic button, gleaming ever so steadily.

As impressive and earnest is the mood throughout this recording, it shouldn't be a surprise that Strauss' "Four Last Songs" occupies the finale. Arguably the greatest song cycle ever written, for I know certain devotees of classical music who never became endeared to Strauss' music yet agreed that "Four Last Songs" was, without a doubt, a masterpiece. There are times throughout our lives when faith, although in constant battle, feels it must overcome grace.

Most, if not all of us wants to expand our lot yet there will come a time when this becomes impossible, and this is what these songs are about: accepting the inevitable, surrendering yourself to grace. For in the end, grace always wins. And by this late point in the recording, it comes as no shock that Lise Davidsen sings these epic songs in the most noble way possible. Wonderful support from the Philharmonia Orchestra with Esa-Pekka Salonen directing his forces. If I were you, I'd snatch this one up in a second. At the very least, remember her name: Lise Davidsen, she just might turn out to be legendary.

Franz Liszt –
**Années de pèlerinage, Deux-
ième, Année – Italie, Légende I**
(ORFEO)

Featuring: Francesco Piemontesi
Find it in: CLASSICAL

Listening to an accomplished pianist play Liszt compositions that were written primarily for the piano, is like listening to one who is possessed. Even if the piece does not include a high amount of virtuosity, it seems there are always a certain run of notes within a Liszt piece that require a masterful pair of hands. The young Swiss pianist, Francesco Piemontesi, aptly fits this need. Yet MOST of the music presented in this beautiful performance deals with the many facets of a gentler nature other than theatrics & drama—namely elegance. In this recording, dear reader, you will not hear a more alluring and charming array of notes anywhere within the wonderful kingdom of music. That is until the very last piece, for that is when all hell breaks loose with the ever so demanding work, the "Dante Sonata."

The opening piece, "Sermon to the Birds," a dedication to one of Liszt's patron saints, St. Francis of Assisi, displays a rapid alternation of single notes that are so closely strung together, most likely imitating the voices of birds (St. Francis' special fondness for birds). This continues for over four minutes which changes to a stately, gorgeous anthem of clustered notes as the volume majestically rises. There is a sort of call and answer between the two concepts that are nothing but exquisite. Marvelously performed by Mr. Piemontesi who is very aware of how serious Liszt was in regard to pious beliefs. To me it's sad to know that a great deal of music lovers out there will instantly turn away whenever religion is mentioned, no matter how beautiful the music. The music does NOT sound religious but Liszt was definitely influenced by its philosophy.

During his mid-to-late twenties Franz Liszt traveled throughout Italy so as to discover its rich culture. He visited their museums, studied their literature and then composed a magnificent seven movement symphonic poem for the piano which occupies the remaining stretch of this recording. "Spasmo," the opening movement, is based on Raphael's painting, "The Marriage of the Virgin," a calm and reflective piece which Mr. Piemontesi carries out pleasingly with an amazing ability to alter his pace in the subtlest way possible.

"Il penseroso" is based on a statue by Michelangelo (Giuliano de Medici's tomb in Florence) and begins with a solemn C# minor chord, a classic funeral march progression which develops ever so cautiously throughout this movement. Piemontesi elicits very dark and heavy chords adding more seriousness to the piece. It acts as a proper interval toward the next, more uplifting march-like movement; "Canzonetta del Salvatore Rosa" which, at the time during Liszt's Italian travels, the narrative of painter-poet-actor-musician Salvatore Rosa was widely known.

Yes, this recording is chock-full of important references. Meanwhile, the next three tracks deal specifically with sonnets from Petrarch (poet from the Italian Renaissance) and are among the most beautiful pieces of music you will hear on this disc. Petrarch wrote over 300 sonnets and it's interesting that Liszt picked only three, for each of these selected sonnets deal with love. It's important to note that during his stay in Italy, Liszt experienced a slew of relationships which obviously had quite an effect on him. Liszt was no Lothario (he was more like a walking doormat!) yet due to his extremely sensitive nature, it begs to assume that he embodied these sonnets alongside his own recent experiences. The result is elegantly performed by Mr. Piemontesi for he understood the utter softness to these three movements. Performing these without sounding blatantly inauthentic proves how great a pianist Mr. Piemontesi truly is. One can almost feel the intimacy.

The transition from the last of the three Petrarch pieces into the Dante Sonata is sudden but welcomed. Based on Dante Alighieri's epic long Italian narrative poem (14c) concerned with the afterlife and its distinct stages. And so it's fitting to begin this almost 17 minute saga in hell. An almost off the cuff entrance does the chromatic scale make itself known in such a devilish manner. Since these high emotions allow room for interpretation, Mr. Piemon-

tesi doesn't add hyperbole to his reading. He's more concerned with the different subtleties of tone as well as tempo. For being one of the most difficult pieces to perform, it's remarkable how Piemontesi can perform such a complex composition with not only simplicity but much more importantly, clarity.

Do you still need convincing? How about a bonus DVD with Francesco Piemontesi actually performing the entirety of "Années de pèlerinage-Italie" in the studio, and amidst a background of digitally infused color patterns? But there's more! Inbetween each of the seven movements Piemontesi himself visits the places that Liszt actually visited. The scenes are short but capture the most charming sights of genuine Italy alongside mainstream musical excerpts of each piece. There is also an Italian narrative (Italian actor, Mario Cei) who recites each of the three Petrarch sonnets that Liszt chose. Just to hear Mr. Cei's dramatic pronunciation of Petrarch's original sonnets is quite a treat for us to actually hear. And yet, there is even more that comes with this DVD... a musicologist who delves into the background of Liszt's specific love interests during his time in Italy. This whole set (CD + DVD) is an attractive and rewarding musical experience to be had. Won't you? VERY HIGHLY recommended indeed.

MICHAEL H

~ DJ Megasoup on KALX, one half of duo Skyminds, and solo sound artist / producer as Selaroda ~

Alogte Oho & His Sounds of Joy – Mam Yinne Wa (PHILOPHON)

Find it in: WORLD

Awesome new album from this African ensemble based in Ghana. A very cool mix of grooves, from slinky West African funk to pulsating African reggae, all infused with impassioned call and response vocals. My favorite new "world music" release of 2019!

Amon Tobin – Long Stories (NOMARK)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Amon Tobin had a busy year in 2019, and his second album of the year was even better than the first. Top notch cinematic electronic soundscapes from a master of his craft. Always enjoyable in that dark dystopian sort of way

Ancestral Voices – Samhain 12" (FIFTH KINGDOM)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Incredible three track EP from this UK duo...one thunderous groover with a notable Gamelan influence, a cyclical midtempo arpeggiated-synth drifter, and a trippy textural sound collage finale. Fantastic psychedelic artwork and blue vinyl too, very nice!

Andrew Pekler – Sounds From Phantom Islands.

(FAITICHE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Underwater alien soundscapes that make you feel like you are in a foreign atmosphere... Lots of cool synth interplay, along with what sounds like processed field recordings. A neat record worth investigating if you like the quirkier side of ambient music.

Anne Muller – Heliopause (ERASED TAPES)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

Solo debut from this talented German cellist who has collaborated with Nils Frahm and several others. Her first album shows a confident artist with skills and poise, and her thoughtful composition guides these wonderful selections, which land somewhere between ambient and modern classical music. Lovely stuff!

Ariwo – Quasi (MANANA)

(MANANA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

UK-based ensemble led by a producer of Iranian descent, with a cast of Cuban latin jazz musicians on percussion and horns. This is their second full-length and it is a fascinating mixture of dubby electronic rhythms, Afro-Cuban drumming, and jazz. A wild blend that works way better than I can hope to describe here... top notch!

Ashan – Transfigurations [Cassette]

(INNER ISLANDS)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Another beautiful release of tranquil ambient/new-age music from this local Oakland artist and label. Due to that proximity, we are lucky enough to get a few copies of each of the Inner Islands tapes at the Berkeley store, so come on in and track down these limited titles while they are still available, since they all sell out eventually.

Aukai – Reminiscence

(AUKAIMUSIC.)

Find it in: FOLK

Colorado musician Markus Sieber crafts gorgeous cinematic pieces that feature over a dozen different acoustic instruments, notably the ronroco/charango, a South American 10-stringed lute that sounds a bit like a cross between a guitar and a mandolin. This gives his music a graceful and magical quality. With excellent compositions that could be classified as either folk or neo-classical, and coupled with some subtle electronic production touches, the overall sound is quite charming.

Benoit Pioulard – Sylva

(MORR MUSIC)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Another fine album of ambient bliss from this musician based in Portland, Oregon. His debut LP for Morr music is one of his best to date, filled with his trademark tape-saturated guitar drones, which emanate a special warmth that I find myself returning to regularly.

Channelers – For Being [Cassette] (NOT NOT FUN)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Lovely organic ambient zones courtesy of this local artist who is also behind the excellent aforementioned Ashan project. His release for NNF is great, possibly my favorite of all his work thus far. Highly recommended... meditative music that relaxes me and makes me take deeper breaths just by listening to it.

Chelique Sarabia – Revolución Electrónica En Música Venezolana [Reissue]

(PHARAWAY SOUNDS)

Find it in: WORLD

A fun reissue of an album I was not familiar with before it showed up at KALX last fall. A weird and wild adventure, with tons of trippy effects... essentially an album of psychedelic rock meets Venezuelan harp music, initially recorded in 1971. Wow!

Daniel Schmidt & The Berkeley Gamelan – Abies Firma (RECITAL PROGRAM)

Find it in: WORLD

Another magnificent collection of newly unearthed works from this Bay Area treasure. Resplendent Gamelan compositions that are closer to Javanese than Balinese in sound and style, but with a bit of "modern classical" to



them as well. It's LP only, but it also comes with a CD featuring three bonus cuts not on the LP, so it's a win win.

Dengue Dengue Dengue – Zenit & Nadir (ENCHUFADA)

Find it in: WORLD

A modern masterpiece that fuses various Latin American styles and rhythms with contemporary electronic sounds and production. One of those "you gotta hear it to know what I really mean" type of records, and I highly recommend checking this one out. It's got grooves for days, and fans of Nicola Cruz, Chancha Via Circuito, and El Búho should dig this one.

Elite Beat – Selected Rhythms

(RESEARCH)

Find it in: REGGAE

Portland has a small but notable underground dub culture (check out the spectacular Zam Zam Sounds and Khaliphonic labels for further evidence), and this PDX ensemble makes funky, dub and reggae influenced music that also incorporates the production styles that dub has spawned. This is a nice collection of pieces from their early tapes, re-worked and/or re-mixed and mastered for vinyl. Sounds great, with a nice combination of styles to keep you moving and grooving.

Félicia Atkinson – The Flower And The Vessel (SHELTER PRESS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Beautiful new album from this French artist, with lots of processed spoken and whispered vocal elements that occasionally remind me of ASMR. An intimate world of quietly spoken words and delicate sounds, with some sort of strange and sensuous shimmer coating everything in an added layer of mystery. Lovely!



Golden Ivy – Kläppen

(MALMÖ INRE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Incredible second album from this Swedish multi-instrumentalist, featuring a wonderful mixture of organic and electronic sounds. Prominent violin and keys, with various other instruments in the mix as well. A fascinating blend of ideas and styles which sounds like very little else, and is difficult to classify, though for me that's a very good thing. Definitely hints of Scandinavian folk traditions and touches of Fourth World exoticism, but also a certain kind of experimental minimalism... a unique and compelling release, with a very magical feel to it.

Günter Schlienz – Lissajous

(COSMIC WINNETOU)

Find it in: NEW AGE

One of a pair of recent LPs from this German ambient maestro, both of which are notable but I'm choosing this one since it has resonated with me even more than usual, and I'm a major fan. Really nice, warm ambient music, all made via a collection of modular synths that he made himself. Fantastic stuff.

Joshua Abrams & Natural Information Society – Mandatory Reality

(EREMITE)

Find it in: JAZZ

A lengthy album (double LP or long CD) packed with music that evades easy classification, with elements of world music, folk, jazz, avant classical, and experimental music, all tied together by intuitive improvisation from everyone involved. A masterpiece of genre-less modernity that continues to bring new joys, even after multiple listens.

Los Destellos – Sicodélicos

(VAMPI SOUL)

Find it in: WORLD

Funky psychedelic Cumbia collection featuring tracks from 1968-1978. It bounces like all the best Cumbia does, and has the proper amount of melodic lead guitar (lots!). Plus, it's a double LP so you get a good amount of bang for your pesos. One of the finest (and most consistently successful) Peruvian Cumbia acts of all time, and the selections here are really the best of the best.

Mary Lattimore & Mac McCaughan –

New Rain Duets

(THREE LOBED)

Find it in: ROCK

On the surface, this might seem like an odd collaboration, but it's one that ultimately works well. Lattimore is an extraordinary harpist, and McCaughan is... well, in Superchunk. Here, he eschews the indie-rock of his main concern and plays synthesizer in a subdued, mostly complimentary role. In that mode, he is a perfect foil for her graceful string patterns. Also, despite the fact that this was recorded live and in public, it doesn't suffer from fidelity issues or any other concerns that live albums occasionally have.

Michael Stearns –

Planetary Unfolding [Reissue]

(EMOTIONAL RESCUE)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Thoughtfully reissued by the folks at Emotional Rescue, this is Michael Stearns' best album. It's a true classic, a massive sonic tapestry of twinkling synths that mimic the stars fluttering throughout the universe. Sounds great on vinyl! too!

Minoru Muraoka – Bamboo

[Reissue] (MR. BONGO)

Find it in: JAZZ

This joyful album of worldly exotica meets jazz meets pop fusion from 1970 is a unique release. The flute-led covers of tracks like "Take Five" and "Scarborough Faire" are fun, but even better are the handful or more original sounding Japanese style tracks, which feature this Shakuhachi player extraordinaire at his finest. A neat curio of another time, brought back nearly 40 years later by the hard-working folks at Mr. Bongo.

Mort Garson – Mother Earth's Plantasia [Reissue]

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: EASY LISTENING

Now officially back in print on LP, and on CD for the first time, over 40 years after it was initially released in 1976. This synth-pop master-

piece finally gets the loving reissue treatment it deserves. If you haven't heard it, it's fantastic... bubbly little keyboard ditties in the spirit of and honoring various species of plants, with lovable percolating synthesizer melodies and just enough kitsch to make it extra fun.

Malibu – One Life

(JOYFUL NOISE)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Debut album from this French artist who reminds me a bit of Julianna Barwick. Calming, lush, ambient drift with synths and occasional vox. My only complaint is that the LP is too short (only 28 minutes), and I wish there were one or two more songs to extend the magical mood just a little bit longer... but I'm definitely a fan now, and will be keeping an eye out for her next release.

Oren Ambarchi, Mark Fell, Will Guthrie, Sam Shalabi – Oglog Day

(THIRTYTHREE THIRTYTHREE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

An epic jammer from this quartet of heavies. Two sidelong tracks that are definitely variations on the same theme, but take different approaches and utilize different instruments as well. Not even sure what to call this genre wise, but minimalist tribal electronic jazz-rock seems to at least get us in the right neighborhood. Experimental but also grooving. Repetitious in one way but also constantly shifting the rhythmic focus. Like a much weirder and less jazzy Tortoise, or a much more minimal, controlled late-period Boredoms? I could see folks who enjoy those artists digging this.

Popp – Laya

(SQUAMA)

Find it in: WORLD

A glorious blend of shimmering percussion and organic electronic touches, with some fascinatingly complex rhythms too. Definitely some eastern vibes in the sounds and styles (Gamelan in particular), and overall it's an interesting mix of groove and polyrhythmic complexity. I really dig this debut album and can't wait to hear more from this new artist.

Purple Mountains – Purple Mountains

(DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

Just when it seemed like a promising new beginning... One final songwriting salvo with numerous lessons for us all to absorb, from a master songsmith who unfortunately decided it was time to move on. We will miss David Berman's enormous wit and his triumphant turns of phrase, and this last album is rich with both.

Saariselka – The Ground Our Sky

(TEMPORARY RESIDENCE)

Find it in: ROCK

Local Oakland duo featuring Chuck Johnson and Marielle V Jakobsons, who also both make wonderful music on their own (seriously, check out the excellent Balsams and Star Core, respectively). On this collaborative effort, Marielle's patient synth and Fender Rhodes playing blends perfectly with Chuck's languid pedal steel ambiance, yielding a majestic album of mellow, gorgeous tunes that unfold at their own unhurried pace. There's a special magical healing quality to it all too, making it the perfect antidote for the crazy pace of modern life. Treat yourself to this "spa day" of an album, and enjoy hearing it slowly blossom as you drift inward...

Saba Alizâdeh – Scattered Memories

(KARLRECORDS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

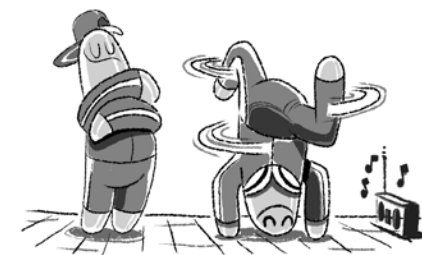
Contemplative and mystical album that fuses organic and electronic sounds from this modern Iranian artist and son of legendary Persian Classical master musician Hossein Alizâdeh. You can hear traces of the classical / Arabic influence in some tracks here, but there is also a potent element of contemporary cinematic soundscapes present, and it's a powerful album with some really deep resonances. Unique and underrated, and hopefully we will hear more from this new artist soon.

Red Axes – Trips #2: In Vietnam 12"

(K7)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

This Israeli electronic music duo head to Vietnam to collaborate with local musicians there, yielding a cool fusion of modern beats and traditional sounds. Some simple yet funky grooves powered by vox in Vietnamese and laced with some fluttering traditional Vietnamese string instruments and rhythmic jaw harp too. I dig this (*Trips #1: In Africa* is also great), and I hope they continue this series as they travel to other locations around the globe...





Robag Wruhme – Venq Tolep

(PAMPA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

A really nice album of warm, organic house music. Yeah, I know... that's not always my cup of tea either, but when it's done this well, I am forced to admit that it's a great release. I also dig that it takes you on a real journey, touching on a number of thoughtful and uplifting moods along the way. A couple of tracks even sound like they could be instrumental versions of some old favorites by Icelandic ensemble múm.

Shafiq Husayn – The Loop

(NATURE SOUNDS)

Find it in: SOUL

Funky modern soul jams from this founding member of Sa-Ra Creative Partners, now on his second full length solo album (and first in 10 years). Lots of guest spots, from Erykah Badu and Bilal to Robert Glasper and Hiatus Kaiyote, plus many more. Some nicely dense production and groovy post-modern rhythms that will make you nod your head.

Spacetime Continuum / Scanner / Ross 154 / Leo Anibaldi – DE:10.07 12"

(DE:TUNED)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Great split EP featuring four new tracks from four different artists, all in relatively different electronic styles. The crazy thing is that all four of these artists/projects released their

first work in either 1992 or 1993, so it's safe to say that they are all pretty much legends of the scene at this point. Honestly it's hard to pick a favorite, because they are all solid winners with great grooves, and each one fits a unique mood.

Sunny Balm – Eucalypt

(SACRED SUMMITS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

This quirky album of lopsided, clattering percussion and minimal keyboard melodies and textures is thoroughly beguiling. Kind of sounds like members of an ancient African tribe attempting to make techno music after only hearing it once... if that sounds intriguing to you, then please do investigate this one, as it rewards repeat listens.

SUSS – High Line

(NORTHERN SPY)

Find it in: ROCK

Second album from this NYC ambient-country supergroup. I know, that whole description probably sounds weird all around, but this is a great mix of slow, spacious ambient themes with some twangy country and folk vibes. Very soundtrack-y, and a cool mix of instruments too, from acoustic guitars, mandolin, and harmonica, to synthesizers and pedal steel. Both of their releases thus far are really good, so I hope more will be on the way soon.

Vanishing Twin – The Age of Immunology

(FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

A fantastic record that borrows a bit from styles ranging from Krautrock and funk to soundtrack and library music, and from artists such as Stereolab, Broadcast, Can, and Liquid Liquid. And yet, this global ensemble (based in the UK but with members that hail from Belgium, France, Italy, Japan, and the US, including a member of Floating Points) finds ways to transcend their influences and come up with their own take on it all. This should appeal to fans of the aforementioned artists and genres.

Various Artists – Sad About The Times

(ANTHOLOGY)

Find it in: ROCK

This might be the archival gem of the year for me... A fine selection of 20 (or 21 for the LP) "could have been hits" from 1970s North America. Stacked full of mostly unknown artists doing tunes that sound like they might have been

classics (at least in another parallel universe), yet have been sadly forgotten by the sands of time... until now. The curation for this release is really incredible, with a fantastic mixture of loner psych, introspective folk-rock and lo-fi bedroom pop. Nearly every cut here is charming in its own way, and several are truly special. Highly recommended!

Wolf Müller Meets The Nile Project – Wolf Müller Meets The Nile Project 12"

(NOUVELLE AMBIANCE)

Find it in: WORLD

An interesting collaboration between this German artist and some talented East African musicians. Organic and electronic grooves fuse the ancient and the modern, blending to create a mixture that I really dig. The traditional instruments and vocals perfectly compliment the mostly subtle programming and percussive playing of the producer himself.

Young Marco – Bahasa

(ISLAND OF THE GODS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Another excellent album on this Indonesian label that brings musicians over to the Indonesian islands to record and interact with local musicians and traditions. Young Marco's trip there back in 2014 finally yielded this great LP in 2019, a heady brew of placid Gamelan patterns mixed with breezy new age synths, with some well-utilized field recordings and a dash of island exotica for good measure. So nice!

Yutaka Hirose – Nova + 4 [Reissue] (WRWTFWW)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Ultra-chill, meditative new age music with environmental sounds, originally released in 1986 and now given the deluxe treatment with four bonus tracks. A wonderfully mellow soundworld with a quiet, reflective mood and some simple yet beautiful nature sounds blended in.

Tip:

Stand up to corporations who seek to control the corrupt political and economic systems in this country and beyond. Fight the injustices you see in the world, and strive to have a positive impact on the world each and every day. Live your dreams, share your gifts, and treat everyone with love and kindness. Take care of yourselves and each other, and our planet.

RICKY

"Part of the Weekend Never Dies"

Bicep – Bicep (NINJA TUNE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Imagine yourself in a field. The year is 1993 - the night is crisp and a light condensation glistens on your Umbro track jacket you've been raving for the past few hours and the sun is coming up. Nostalgia and emotion rush to your brain. You are tired but the music, the people, the party favors it's just too good to stop now. When listening to Bicep's self titled debut album it's easy to see where the Irish duo's roots and inspiration come from. Hailing from Belfast, Northern Ireland. The Bicep Boys (real names Andrew Ferguson and Matthew McBriar) explore their influences from Early Chicago House, Acid House, Techno, Trance, and Breaks and perfectly mesh it together to create a beautiful cohesive sound. Not every track on here is a peak hour club banger — it intertwines with beautiful synth pieces like "Vespa" and "Drift" or more dancefloor friendly tracks like "Rain" or "Spring" or my personal favorite Breaks influenced track "Glue." I recently went to a rene-gade with a bunch of friends in a field by the beach - it was a three day affair with DJs, food and booze. On the last day at 7AM, exhausted, hungover, and sleep deprived whilst zipping up my tent to go out to use the bathroom I heard my homie Bates play "Glue" and man did it hit differently.

KOKOKO! – Fongola

(PIAS AMERICA/TRANSGRESSIVE)

Find it in: WORLD

Using recycled parts and other repurposed items found on the streets of the Congolese capital of Kinshasa to build their instruments — KOKOKO! crafts an explosion of afro punk, electronic sounds that is uniquely their own. I can't find adequate words to explain how much I love this album - so I'll take the easy route and let one of the band members do the talking.

"You can trace the seeds of Fongola back to so many different places. It began in Kinshasa, in the Ngwaka neighbourhood where DIY experimental musical instruments are made, and the Lingwala neighbourhood where Makara Bianco sings every night on electronic loops with his dancers and where the band first met. We spent our tours across Europe dreaming about what we wanted to tell the world. It was recorded in makeshift studios we built out of ping pong tables and mattresses in Kinshasa and Brussels.



Finally, I spent months putting it all together in Abattoir, Anderlecht like a giant electronic puzzle with pieces that don't fit and no blueprint." — Débruit

Kaytranada – *BUBBA* (RCA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Kaytranada's sophomore album, *Bubba*, makes me think of house parties where all the furniture is moved to the corners of the living room and everyone - and I mean EVERYONE is getting down. After his debut 99.9% on XL Records made waves and received accolades and even a Polaris award in Canada. The blend of R&B, Hip Hop, Disco, House, and collaborations from the likes of Anderson.Paak, Little Dragon, Craig David, Vic Mensa, Badbadnotgood? made for the most played album of that year (I still bump this joint on the daily). Then as he was on top Kaytra slinked back into the relative quietness (having fans asking for more) producing for other artists and releasing new things here and there. Fast forward to 2020 and we have *Bubba* dropping in early Jan kicking off the new decade with a FUNKY beat (and MORE fire collabs to boot.)

Various Artists – *Radio Verde: Cape Verdean Dancefloor Magic (Compiled by Arp Frique and Américo Brito)* (COLORFUL WORLD/ RUSH HOUR)

Find it in: WORLD

There are so many things I love about this compilation. From the excellently designed cover art to the tactile feel of the album, it oozes sleek and funky audible joy. Needless to say when you let this bad boy spin you are in for a pleasant

surprise. This thing is filled with so many excellent disco, funk, grooves it is hard to stand still. It explores the sound of Cape Verdeans who immigrated to The Netherlands in the '70s and 80's who formed bands and played an amalgam of disco, funk, afro rhythms, and traditional Cape Verdean songs to their kin folk who missed their homeland in various small clubs and hotel bars. Compiled by the most popular musician of the scene at the time Américo Brito gives us a taste of these groups who over time have faced obscurity. Américo played in a band called Djarama and gained mass popularity amongst his Cape Verdean peers. He began to DJ a radio station in Rotterdam. Stand out tracks like "Mitamiyo" by Mendes & Mendes give us a full blissfully funky out track that will make anyone get up and get the hell down, followed up by the almost equally groove-tastic and synth heavy "Roncanbai" by Danny Carvalho this compilation makes it hard to choose a favorite track. Another notable thing about this LP is the killer liner notes by the man himself Américo Brito who had a close relation with all these groups on the compilation:

"There was this spot in Rotterdam where all foreign radio stations were housed, all these different nationalities together, Surinam, Cape Verdean, Hindustani... Guy Ramos and some of my other friends made radio in the '80s there. I got involved in their radio activities. Later on I started to work as a technician and eventually as producer and radio DJ for "Radio Voz De Cabo Verde." Radio became bigger and there were around 4 different Cape Verdean stations active at one point in Rotterdam. Instrumental in the development of this was the attic of a Dutch friend, where "Radio Babalu" came to life. Radio has always held a special place in my heart."

Various Artists – *Return To The Mothers' Garden (More Funky Sounds Of Female Africa 1971-1982)* (AFRICA SEVEN)

Find it in: WORLD

I know there's a theme going on here but what can I say? I can't deny a solid groove. Another stellar compilation showcasing the power of African female artists. Ranging from Nigerian powerhouse Theodora Ifudu who in her own right was a TV star and produced two studio albums and the relentlessly catchy and head nodding inducing stylings of Cameroonian singer Bebe Manga. This collection will even have the sturdiest fool throw some shapes on the floor and act a fool—to quote my favorite track on the album "Nobody Will Stop You" and that's for damned sure.

Various Artists – *Não Wave*

(MAN RECORDINGS/SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: WORLD

Try and picture your favorite post-punk band from the '80s took a tropical vacation down to Brazil and flirted with the local sounds of the Favela and the jazzy stylings of Copacabana beach and added synths and in your face lyrics about everything from politics and sex. You'd get this wonderfully punchy and up-beat collection of Brazilian Post Punk from the '80s. "Post Punk" a term that's usually thrown around loosely really takes a different form when it comes to this album. Stacked with 14 tracks in total, you see two worlds that wouldn't usually collide hold hands and cross the bridge together.

Who said goths didn't like to groove either?

Gatecreeper – *Sonoran Deprivation* (RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

I'm not really a metal guy—or even a DEATH metal guy but let me tell ya this band RIPS. *Sonoran Deprivation* is EXACTLY what the title sounds like and I wouldn't have it any other friggin way crack open some brews and play this LOUD.

TAYLOR

BIG LUNCH on KALX Berkeley 90.7FM

Oren Ambarchi – *Simian Angel* (EDITIONS MEGO)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Forget any associations with doom metal, free jazz, or "difficult listening"; *Simian Angel* is Oren Ambarchi at his most tuneful and inviting. Featuring Brazilian percussionist icon Cyro Baptista, and Ambarchi on electric guitars processed to the point of resembling the lushest synth patches imaginable, this record stands in stark contrast to the nervier, spikier improvisations that dominate the Australian musician's discography. To my ears, it feels distinctly like a love letter to the late-'70s output of Pat Metheny, Eberhard Weber, and other musicians who merged a jazz sensibility with the free-flowing possibilities of studio manipulation. Yet Ambarchi seems to approach this deep well of nostalgia with an almost clinical sense of detachment; it's as if he fed the early ECM back-catalogue into a neural network, and recorded whatever came out the other side. Rarely does music sound so removed, yet so expressive, in the same breath.

Barker – *Utility* (OSTGUT TON)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

German electronic musician Objekt described the music of Barker perfectly, upon featuring a track of his on a DJ mix entitled "No-Kick Rollers." On his stunning 2018 EP, *Debiasing*, and now on his debut full-length, the fellow Berliner has made his mark with driving, propulsive dance music that lets synths and sequencers do the heavy lifting, completely doing away with any recognizable percussion sounds, let alone a kick drum. *Utility* is one of those records that works intuitively on a surface level, only revealing its inherent strangeness upon further inspection; the fact that it walks and talks like house music, and achieves that four-on-the-floor thump without any "drums" to speak of, is a small miracle of deeply inspired, imaginative production. *Utility* is more or less a dance-floor-ready Berlin School record that cements Barker as a progressive force, deserving of any electronic music fan's attention.

Kali Malone – *The Sacrificial Code*

(IDEAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Tempting as it is to describe Swedish pipe organist Kali Malone's latest work as "ambient music," *The Sacrificial Code* commands our attention much too thoroughly to be relegated to the background. It's also the most compelling single-instrument recording I've heard in ages. The massive, swelling reverb so closely associated with the pipe organ's identity as a church instrument is completely stripped away here, leaving us with a dry recording that exposes characteristics I've never considered: whether it's keys clacking, pipes audibly moving air, or strange overtones, ranging from beautiful to downright queasy. Malone has taken an instrument absolutely central to Western music history and ripped it out of context, to the point where it might as well have been sent here from Mars. Despite the minimalist, rigid compositional structure she employs through these 2+ hours of music, Malone continually manages to surprise us and confound our expectations throughout.

People Like Us – *The Mirror* (DISCREPANT)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

At first listen, British sound-collagist Vicki Bennett's latest offering as People Like Us might seem like a kitschy grab-bag of pop vocal, easy-listening, and classic FM rock radio staples. After a while though, as the samples pile up and double back upon themselves, *The Mirror* gets



under your skin and reveals its true intentions. This record is all about context, and the way our perception and memory of deeply familiar pop songs can be destabilized when those familiar elements are shuffled, reorganized, and contrasted against one another. The satirical trickery of Negativland and the conceptual stubbornness of Matmos feel present in Bennett's line of inquiry, here. But she treats her source material so lovingly, and in such an approachable way, to the point of channeling the voracious crate-digging of The Avalanches in their sweetest, most reverent moments. *The Mirror* might slyly prey on our pop-cultural memory, but it does so benevolently and wistfully, like a rewiring of the collective consciousness that could have been.

Caroline Polachek – *Pang*

(PERPETUAL NOVICE)

Find it in: ROCK

When the wildly subversive—yet undeniably approachable—PC Music collective won hearts and minds in various weird corners of the Internet circa 2014, with their glossy, synthetic, vaporwave-meets-the-Spice-Girls presence on Soundcloud, few likely expected them to infiltrate the pop mainstream in any meaningful way. Since then, label figureheads A.G. Cook and Danny L. Harle have assumed production roles on material by Charli XCX, Carly Rae Jepsen, and even Madonna. While an album with former Chairlift frontperson Caroline Polachek is admittedly less of a coup than some of those past collaborations, *Pang* feels like the most fully realized alliance to date between PC Music's brand of very-online mystique, and a living, breathing musician from the real world.

This is a breakup record, first and foremost, showcasing Polachek's addictively hooky songwriting chops and vocal athleticism. Harle's

production imparts the vivid artificiality typical of the PC Music universe, but instead of driving these songs aesthetically, it takes an unusually restrained approach, providing lush, twinkly embellishments that gorgeously complement the singer/songwriter spirit running through this music's veins. *Pang*'s cover art is a perfect metaphor for the balance at play here. It's a photo of Polachek in borderline *Tomb Raider* cosplay mode, airbrushed to the point of evoking CGI, but not quite embodying it; this record thrives in that uncanny valley between virtual reality and lived-in humanity.

Manuel Göttsching – *Dream & Desire* [Reissue]

(MG.ART)

Find it in: ROCK

Ash Ra Tempel's freewheeling psych-rock might get all the accolades, but Manuel Göttsching's solo, multi-tracked albums of visionary guitar/synth/sequencer work released under his own name, as well as the Ashra moniker, are where the German musician's output gets truly special. Legend has it, *Dream & Desire* was recorded live in the late '70s at a radio station in Berlin by Göttsching alone, broadcasted only once, and immortalized by fans who taped the performance, making it the stuff of bootleg lore.

The album saw its first official release in 1991, only to be accompanied by a tonally awkward, stupidly designed cover—a borderline Clipart image of a couple getting into a steamy makeout session—that did a great injustice to the music within. This careless presentation and marketing might be a contributing factor to *Dream & Desire*'s relative lack of recognition within Göttsching's catalogue, which is a real shame, as it stands tall with his very best, most inspired musical output. One can hear the beautifully focused guitar virtuosity of *Blackouts*, the laid-back synthesizer bliss of *New Age of Earth*, and the longform, minimalist exploration of *E2-E4* all swirling within these three compositions. This album deserves to be mentioned in the same breath as those legendary recordings, and hopefully the reissue treatment will spark a reevaluation. Just don't let the godawful cover art deter you.

🎬 *Parasite* (2019) – Directed by Bong Joon Ho

Pitch-black comedy, brutal satire, pure psychological terror, and utterly Shakespearean tragedy. Bong Joon-Ho packs all these tropes and more into *Parasite*: his devastating treatise on economic inequality and social mobility. While a less commanding filmmaker might struggle to make a coherent statement out of all this, the

Korean writer/director lands each tonal shift seamlessly, and seals the deal with immaculate staging, production design, and cinematography. The result is a landmark film, worthy of comparison to Jordan Peele's *Get Out*, for its combined clarity of purpose, and slippery disregard for genre boundaries. The massive international hype *Parasite* has generated (from a Palme d'Or win to six Oscar nominations) adds a symbolic layer to the socioeconomic reach of Bong's satirical vision: globalization, and its ability to render the chasm between a rich family and a poor family in Seoul immediately, universally recognizable to any casual observer.

Tip:

registertovote.ca.gov

E. LIT

I also love movies

Salami Rose Joe Louis – *Zdenka 2080* (BRAINFEEDER)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Bay Area favorite Salami Rose Joe Louis has been enchanting local venues with her magical sounds for years now, and this first full length offering on Brainfeeder is a perfect summation of her musical style. *Zdenka 2080* takes you on a journey through eight dimensions, where paintings act as portals and molecules shift in dancing symmetry. The rich are attempting to harness the power of the Sun and steal it from the less fortunate, but the errors of their ways leave them lamenting the loss of their mai tais. Salami's beautiful keyboards and lovely singing have a distinct warmth and innocence to them that's balanced by her clever humor and wit. She'll take you on a trip to the farthest reaches of the stars, then turn to you and wink. If you live in the Bay and have yet to see her play with her jazz ensemble, I would highly advise scheduling a night out.

Gel Roc – *Mass Elements*

(ABOLANO)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Gel Roc is a Southern Cali O.G with deep roots in the LA hip hop scene, and has repped crews such as EX2, Massmen and Project Blowed for over 20 years now. This latest solo offering scratches a stylistic hip hop itch that is too rarely satisfied in the era of modern rap. Straight-up raw LA rap styles over menacing boom bap production from Avatar. We're talking all hands on deck here, with guest features from Aceyalone, Myka 9, Medusa, Abstract Rude, Ellay

Khule, Of Mexican Descent, Self Jupiter, Acid Reign, Awol One, Radioinactive, Existereo and Neila to name only a few. The album plays like a friendly competition of who can rap the hardest, with some challenging beats that really demand the MCs to bring their A-game. Fans of this project should also check for Gel Roc's recent full length collaboration with Awol One, *Cloak Encounters of the Third Eye*, which is equally brilliant and loaded with weird and original styles.

Dillon – *The Tails of Lobsterdamus* (FULL PLATE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Dillon's alter-ego Lobsterdamus emerges from the depths of the Ocean to find his Lobsterdameus, and plenty of hilarious rap misadventures ensue. When this half-man, half-lobster MC isn't wooing women with his sharp sense of crustacean fashion, he's snapping his claws and putting lesser shrimp rappers in their place. The fresh rap flows here are tasty, but the biggest surprise of the album is the production, which is handled entirely by Dillon himself and has got all the flavorful funk that any hip hop head could hunger for. The amount of lobster film dialog sampled on this album is also mind-boggling, and clearly a labor of some very serious digging. You'd best put your bibs on before listening to this one, it's lobster season!

Von Pea – *City for Sale* (HIPNOTT)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Von Pea of Tanya Morgan delivers his finest work to date with an album loosely themed around gentrification and the feeling of displacement from home. His smooth flow and personality shine over the course of the project, whether he's humorously detailing a romantic fling or providing social observations of the street corners he roams. The beats are all handled in-house by Von Pea himself, and they've got a nice jazzy quality to them that works perfectly with his fine-tuned style. Homeboy Sandman and Fresh Daily drop by for some memorable guest appearances, as does Von Pea's Tanya Morgan teammate Donwill. Plenty of stand-out cuts here, sure to appeal to jazzy hip hop aficionados and boom bap purists.

Billy Woods – *Terror Management*

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

I've sung Billy Woods' praises in just about every Music We Like book that's been published in the last few years, but believe me when I say that this is one rapper who merits every bit of hype he receives. *Terror Management* is Billy



Woods' second release of 2019, and it's a fractured and scattered mess of an album that continues to highlight Woods' brilliant writing style and unique delivery. This project feels scary and disjointed in the best of ways, with some nice production provided by Blockhead, Willie Green, Preservation, Messiah Musik, Uncommon Nasa and Small Pro amongst others. Like all of Billy Woods' albums, it deeply rewards repeated listens. A lyric booklet accompanies the CD release of the album for maximum appreciation.

MONTY

The Rubinoos – *From Home*

(YEP ROC)

Find it in: ROCK

Nat King Cole Trio – *Hittin' The Ramp: The Early Years*

(1936-1943) (RESONANCE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Freddy King –

The Mojo! King Rarities & Obscurities (MODERN HARMONIC)

Find it in: BLUES

Laura Nyro – *More Than A Real Discovery* [Reissue]

(REAL GONE)

Find it in: ROCK

The Third Mind –

The Third Mind

(YEP ROC)

Find it in: ROCK

Booker T & The MGs – *The Complete Stax Singles Vol. 1 (1962-1967)*

(REAL GONE)

Find it in: SOUL

Linda Ronstadt:

The Sound Of My Voice (2019)

– Directed by Rob Epstein, Jeffrey Friedman

KURT

Beherit – *Drawing Down*

The Moon [Reissue] (KVLT)

Find it in: METAL

This is essential. No seriously, stop reading this and get this album now.

Mylingar – *Döda Själär*

(AMOR FATI / 20 BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

Döda Själär is a twisted, uncomfortable and harsh landscape of Swedish black metal. Mylingar are very unique in both aesthetics and modern black metal. Punishing and dissonance textures abound in this stunning release.

Neurosis & Jarboe –

Neurosis & Jarboe [Reissue]

(NEUROT)

Find it in: METAL

It is easy to forget just how much Neurosis spoiled me. Release after release they have managed to hold my attention and make interesting music. When this was released I liked it but I wanted another *Sun That Never Sets*... my ears and heart were not ready for what was given to me. However life changes you, experiences shape and form you—I am now ready to fully embrace and accept this offering. The remastering is great and I love the new art work by Aaron Turner. I am very thankful they took the time to reissue this [1st time on LP] and for giving me a second chance to fully appreciate this.

Wolfbrigade – *The Enemy: Reality*

(SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: PUNK

Wolfbrigade are one of those bands that uses everything that is good in d-beat, crust, Motörhead worship, metal and blends it to a perfect

head banging cacophony of punk n roll. If this sounds like something your into, pick up *The Enemy: Reality*—you will be moshing around your house in no time.

Esoteric –

A Pyrrhic Existence

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Esoteric have consistently released one great doom album after another since 1992. *A Pyrrhic Existence* is no exception. Pyrrhic is an adjective, the definition is: achieved at excessive cost, costly to the point of negating or outweighing the expected benefits. For example: a Pyrrhic victory is a victory that inflicts such a devastating toll on the victor that it is tantamount to defeat. Someone who wins a Pyrrhic victory has also taken a heavy toll that negates any true sense of achievement or damages long-term progress. Esoteric have taken this idea and have translated the permutation that occurs when dealing with death, suffering, tragedy and lies, the ultimate breakdown of a human psyche. The music is simply incredible and reflects the journey through a broken mind perfectly.

Billy Woods – *Terror Management*

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

How do we continue to exist? How does one conduct oneself in the face of insurmountable grief, depression and suppression? Let alone the destruction of nature? In a world full of cognitive dissonance, emotional, financial, and political manipulation we human beings need more art like this. Billy Woods doesn't necessarily offer answers nor does he just hold a mirror up for us to have endless critique parties. This art provides an anchor against hopelessness and despair; this art allows one to think and this allows one to hopefully become a better human.

Elucid – *Shit Don't Rhyme No More*

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Elucid drops a gem in the sea of shit that is humanity. This is layered, complex and intelligent. Much like Billy Woods' *Terror Management*, Elucid also observes the world we are part of and brings forth the metaphysical, the spiritual and the absurdity of life in a way that both strengthens and breaks your heart.

Wormed – *Metaportal*

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Excellent technical, brutal, sci-fi death metal. Seriously good.

Shades Of Deep Water – *Death's Threshold*

(DUNKELHEIT PRODUKTIONEN)

Find it in: METAL

There is no feel good music on this album. This will drown you in sorrow and despair. Shades Of Deep Water make atmospheric funeral doom metal. Highly recommend.

Mayhem – *Daemon*

(CENTURY MEDIA)

Find it in: METAL

Mayhem has released one of the finest black metal records this year. This is in my top ten list for 2019.

Coffins – *Beyond The Circular Demise* (RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

Death metal is a lot like a cookie: most are good, some are defiantly better than others and then every once in a while you get a great one. It is hard to put into words what makes that cookie so great but it just is. Coffins delivers that kind of a cookie with *Beyond The Circular Demise*. This is some great death metal, now where is my glass of soy milk...

Gene Clark – *No Other* (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

"Some walk out winners of those who've lost..." And this is just the opening line to start off this incredible album. Misunderstood and a commercial failure upon initial release *No Other* has gone on to be highly revered and influential. I am very thankful that 4AD has reissued this treasure on vinyl (and a deluxe CD) with a wonderful remastering. I really can't recommend this one enough, always a contender for my desert island list. "We all have souls yet nobody knows Just How much it takes to fly..." Does it get any better than this?

Michael Kiwanuka – *Kiwanuka*

(POLYDOR/INTERSCOPE)

I really enjoyed this album. Both modern and retro, British in the best way possible, soulful, groovy with a sprinkling of social consciousness, these are just a few of the words to describe this wonderful album. Do your heart and soul some good and make sure to pick this one up.



Perdition Hearse – *Mala Fide*

(NUCLEAR WAR NOW)

Find it in: METAL

OMS! (Oh My Satan) this is good. Raw and primitive with a hint of thrash. If you are a fan of early black metal demo's without a scripted blueprint for what is or is not black metal you need to own this. Another excellent release from Nuclear War Now.

Departure Chandelier – *The Black Crest Of Death, The Gold Wreath Of War* [Reissue]

(NUCLEAR WAR NOW)

Find it in: METAL

I am absolutely in love with this album. Yeah yeah, I know it is a demo, but Nuclear War Now has reissued this on LP and CD. As always the packaging does nothing but enhance the philosophy and art for the band, thus making it a "proper" documentation. Anyway, I was genuinely moved by this recording. It has been awhile since I felt fascination and reverence for what I was hearing. While this does not reinvent black metal, Departure Chandelier definitely offers us a unique and heartfelt black metal album. Nothing strikes me as phony. This is the real deal folks.

Devourment –

Obscene Majesty (RELAPSE)

Find it in: METAL

There is a scene in *Sin City: That Yellow Bastard* where ex-detective Hartigan is finally gonna get his man, Roark Jr. Hartigan stabs Jr., pulls his dick off with his bare hands and then beats his face to an unrecognizable pulp. This album sounds just like this.

Tomb Mold – *Planetary Clairvoyance* (20 BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

It is refreshing to hear a band that has studied the alchemy of their forefathers and make the music their own. If you love death metal, and I mean death metal, you will like this.

Botanist – *Ecosystem*

(AURAL MUSIC)

Find it in: METAL

This is a mature album that was hinted at in previous releases from Botanist. *Ecosystem* is an accumulation of previous ideas, the growth of the musician and the mastery of the instruments. The art work is a great reflection of what is being communicated and the quality of the music contained within. Highly recommend.

Alice, Sweet Alice (1976) – Directed by Alfred Sole

Questionable characters, shady doings, religious themes, proto slasher. A proper release of this gem by Arrow Video.

Tammy and the T-Rex (1994) – Directed by Stewart Raffill

This movie made me laugh, it made me cringe and made me go what the fuck... This is awesome! If you are searching for a good bad flick—check this one out. Great characters, the plot moves along at a nice pace, great special effects and very quotable dialogue. She sure can ride that dinosaur.

The Biggest Little Farm (2018) – Directed by John Chester

You need to see this documentary. A better life is possible and we can do good for the earth.

The Last Black Man In San Francisco (2019) – Directed by Joe Talbot

This better win some oscars... One of the most powerful dramas I have seen in a very long time. This made my heart soar like an eagle and I cried at the end of this film. Excellent actors, excellent story, excellent cinematography, in short everything that makes a great film. Please, Please see this.

True Detective Season 3 – Created by Jeremy Saulnier / Daniel Sackheim / Directed by Nic Pizzolatto

Nothing will ever be able to top the first season of *True Detective*, but this season certainly does justice to the original by being a wonderful noir tale. Certainly redeems this series from season two.

Once Upon a Time in... Hollywood (2019) – Directed by Quentin Tarantino

I am so happy Tarantino made this kind of film and that I watched it. I expected one thing but came away with a big smile and in a better mood. This is exactly what a good Hollywood film can do for you.

Midsommar (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster

Upon exiting the theatre, I let out a deep breath. I simply could not talk about this film at the time and I am still having trouble expressing in writing what it was like to watch this film. I had horrific dreams that night and felt very unsettled for a few days after. *Midsommar* really triggered my wife and her anxiety which led to some serious discussions about what we saw and what themes Aster could be making within *Midsommar*. Much like his previous film *Hereditary*, Aster continues to impress me with his understanding of horror. He is great at both the psychological and gross out gore. Again, I think there are layers and ideas that can be interpreted in his work. This also makes for repeated viewings and there is always something else to see/interpret. Be warned, Aster does not fuck around when it comes to horror and is 100 percent committed to providing the viewer with what they want - a great horror film.

Tip:

There is one book I want every horror fan to read. The book is Stephen King's *Danse Macabre*. King tackles the subject of horror in a serious manner without being too academic. He also provides a movie watch list and books to read. You will not be disappointed.

MAC

"First time, or returning?"

Wound Man/Regional Justice Center – *Wound Man/Regional Justice Center split 7"*

(ATOMIC ACTION)

Find it in: PUNK

This is a perfect example of the power violence renaissance that's happening right now. Seattle's Regional Justice Center delivers three blazing tracks that will have you smashing your face against your bedroom wall. While Wound Man from MA crushes with four songs that will have you scraping your ears off the floor. If your heart pumps in blast-beats, this record is already on your turntable.

The Coolies – Uh oh! It's... The Coolies 10"

(WICKED COOL RECORD CO.)

Find it in: ROCK

Last October the world lost Kim Shattuck to complications from ALS. Before she passed she was able to crank out one final Muffs LP and this six song 10" from her side project with ex-Muffs guitarist Melanie Vammen. This record really captures the lo-fi energy of the early Muffs records that made me fall in love with her and her songwriting way back in the '90s.

Good Riddance – Thoughts and Prayers

(FAT WRECK CHORDS)

Find it in: PUNK

Santa Cruz, CA's kings of politically charged melodic hardcore-punk return with their ninth LP since 1995's *For God & Country* and the second LP since their 2008 break-up. No reinvention of any wheels here. Good Riddance are doing what they've always done. But ya know what? They could put out another nine records that all sound just like this and I'll be stoked on every single one of them.

Shit Coffins – *Termination*

(IRON LUNG)

Find it in: PUNK

Unlike NYHC, east bay hardcore has always been a little difficult to define and codify, and realistically that's part of what makes it so great. But if I'm ever in a situation with a gun to my head and asked to give an example of EBHC... I'm dropping Shit Coffin's name without hesitation. Members of Talk Is Poison, Artimus Pyle, Acts of Sedition and many more, playing... East Bay Hardcore.



Jimmy Eat World - *Surviving*

(EXOTIC LOCATION)

Find it in: ROCK

Since 1994, Jimmy Eat World has been navigating the tumultuous seas of the recording industry for almost three decades, from indie labels to majors, back and forth again and again. During that time they've stayed true to themselves and never catered to trends. In a world where one day "emo" means Rites of Spring and the next it means My Chemical Romance, the one thing you can always depend on is Jimmy Eat World.

Integrity/Bleach Everything – *SDK X RFTCC split LP*

(DARK OPERATIVE)

Find it in: PUNK/METAL

Cleveland/Baltimore's Integrity and Bleach Everything from Richmond, VA come through with a really cool tribute to the 1992 Septic Death / Rocket From The Crypt split 7" but instead of just covering the two Septic Death and the two RFTCC songs from that split, each band does five songs each, Integrity tackling Septic Death and Bleach Everything handling RFTCC. With really great mash-up cover art as well.

Neurosis & Jarboe – *Neurosis & Jarboe [Reissue]*

(NEUROT)

Find it in: METAL

Few records have developed a cultish fandom like this collaboration between Oakland heavyweights Neurosis and Jarboe La Salle Devereaux from Swans. Since its release in 2003, this is the first time this record has been available on vinyl. Not sure how long they're planning to keep this record in print, so you might wanna think about snatching this up before they're all gone.

Various Artists – *Hillbillies In Hell: Country Music's Tormented Testament (1952-1974) Volume 8*

(THE IRON MOUNTAIN ANALOGUE RESEARCH FACILITY)

Find it in: COUNTRY

The latest offering of the excellently curated *Hillbillies In Hell* compilation series. I can honestly say Volume 8 packs just as much of a punch as any of the seven previous entries. Collecting 16 tracks of pre-outlaw country & western music with lyrical content focusing on more illicit topics like sex, drugs and murder, rather than your typical ballads about broken hearts, old glory flappin' in the wind and church on

Sunday. With selections of music by Johnny Paycheck, Porter Wagner, Eddie Noack and a ton more, this really is one of the best archives of "outsider" country music out there.

Tip:

"Let me tell you about the journey of my relationship with Russell Brand..."

RAMO

Metaphorical hats still hold weight.

Mono/Poly – *Monotomic*

(HIT+RUN)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Ego-crushing bass, Kinetic and frenetic radio waves. Planet-busting rhythms. Life-affirming death groove. Straightjacket B-boy battles. Your end is nigh. Your rebirth is imminent. This is the soundtrack. LP only on blue vinyl. Comes w/ download code. :)

Stro Elliot – *Moods EP*

(STREET CORNER)

Find it in: HIP HOP

As a member of the legendary Roots crew, Stro Elliot has really been pushing beyond those boundaries in the last few years with his solo endeavors. *Moods EP* is a solid brick in that wall of sound he's building. There's a unique quality to his beat structure. It's at once grimy and professional, like wearing a suit to court... or an interview. Dope, thoughtful samples chopped to head-nodding rhythms. LP only. No download. :)

DJ Shadow –

Our Pathetic Age (MASS APPEAL /

LIQUID AMBER)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA & HIP HOP

Currently in the lead for best campaign slogan of 2020, this aptly titled, meaty double-album is full of heart and despair. The first all-instrumental half is aggressive and sad and angry and chilling and more emotions than your Replicant motherboard can handle. The second lyrically-weighted half knocks hard with heavy-hitters like Pharoahe Monch, Nas, Ghostface Killah, Raekwon, Run the Jewels, De La Soul, Gift of Gab, Lateef the Truthspeaker and plenty more. This will definitely peel your face from your five-inch dreams. And if not, well, the bright side is you'll never see that bus coming. Available in a few different cover color-combinations. No download code. :)

Gel Roc – *Mass Elements*

(ABOLANO RECORDS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

L.A. underground hip hop in the year 3019. Skynet-sampled beats from the Terminator production facility, and rapid-fire Resistance raps framing our dystopian society. Subterranean missions in enemy territory with no hope of making it back alive. This one's for the heads. LP is translucent black and smoke-grey swirls. No download. :)

Gang Starr – *One of the Best Yet*

(GANG STARR ENTERPRISES / TTT / INGROOVES)

Find it in: HIP HOP

It's really great to hear Guru's voice again. R.I.P.

Blockhead – *Bubble Bath*

(FUTURE ARCHIVE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA & HIP HOP

Reminiscent of his much revered *Music By Cavelight* album, *Bubble Bath* is smooth and dark, but... bubbly. Taking the sexy elements of electronic and house music, dropping a beat backbone on it, adding a bit of bellydancer, sprinkle some Herrensauna vibes, and a dash of that magic Blockhead puts in everything he does and you got it – *Bubble Bath*. Journey music as fuck. LP only. No download. :)

Clear Soul Forces – *Detroit Revolution(s) [Reissue]*

(FAT BEATS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Detroit is known for birthing musical muscle, and CSF are no exception. Originally released in 2012, this LP-only reissue is worth its weight in lyrics. Listening to these cats wield the mic is like watching a moonlit rooftop samurai swordfight, where every other line delivered is that 'clang' of expert metal clashing, with the occasional 'shcrak' from the hilt to the face. Mind yourself. Ronin run these hills. No download. :)

Elucid – *Shit Don't Rhyme No More* (BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Originally sold as a 2018 tour-only CD, this first-time-on-vinyl release from rapper/producer Elucid is pure, raw hip hop-ish. Lo-fi and experimental, these elements enhance the whole package, delivering an interesting collection of instrumentals and raps. LP only on blue vinyl. No download. :)

Showbiz – *A-Room Therapy*

(D.I.T.C. STUDIOS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

The D.I.T.C. producer/rapper delivers street-slapping boom bap production with lyrical assistance from Davis Bars, A.G., OC, A Bless and more. Solid neck-snapper. Feels like '90s NY flavor. Get that.

The Sorcerers – *In Search of the Lost City of the Monkey God* (ATA)

Find it in: JAZZ

Awesome Ethiojazz-inspired soundtrack music from the UK. Creepy and funky and a great listen. For fans of the Ethiopiques collections, Getatchew Mekuria, Budos Band, and the Daptone sound. Includes download code. :)

Dillon & Paten Locke – *Studies in Hunger [Reissue]*

(FULL PLATE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

A bittersweet addition to the collection. The Full Plate founders dropped this 10-year anniversary, first-time-on-vinyl, issue in early 2020, five months after the incredibly unfair and untimely passing of Paten Locke, and the music not only holds up but could easily be mistaken for fresh produce. Locke's sliced and diced production blends perfectly with Dillon's grocery list of lyrics. This is that rap shit, period. Either you get it, or you're starving and you don't even know it. Rest in Peace, Paten Locke. Love and strength to his family, Dillon, Batsauce, Lady Daisey, and the whole Full Plate fam. Olive green vinyl with bonus 7". Includes download code. :)



Sean Price & Lil Fame –

Price of Fame

(RUCK DOWN / DUCK DOWN)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Man, it's great to hear Sean P on the mic again. R.I.P!

Billy Woods –

Terror Management

(BACKWOODZ STUDIOZ)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Without a doubt one of the elite lyricists out there. Listening to Billy spit is like walking in his kicks for 40+ minutes. His unique and unassailable view of our world delivered with a sense of urgency, like a being from a distant planet desperate to communicate the danger on its way. And oh, there's danger, but you ain't listening. Artistic sensibilities with various covers for each format, and a so-solid crew of producers like Blockhead, Willie Green, Small Pro, Child Actor, and more. White vinyl version available. No download code. :(

Abstract Orchestra –

Fantastic 2020 V.1 & V.2

(NE'ASTRA / BARAK)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Over two separate releases, the 18-piece big band from the U.K. delivers live, jazz-inspired interpretations of J Dilla's legendary production of Slum Village's *Fan-tas-tic* and *Fantastic*, Vol. 2, respectively. With help from the surviving members of SV, each LP is a beautiful homage to one of Hip Hop's greatest producers. No download code. :(

Tip:

Time to stop playing nice.



NOTES:



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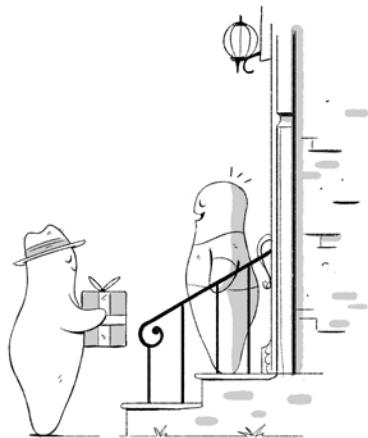
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SAN FRANCISCO



HUFFLE

*You can't go back and
you can't stand still...*

Frank Zappa – *Hot Rats* 50th Anniversary Deluxe (UME)

Find it in: ROCK

Seven hours plus of just three days in the studio in the summer of '69. Frank extracted a remarkable amount of material from these sessions, and on a good deal of it SugarCane Harris completely shreds on violin. Music is the best and this is just about the best Zappa there is.

Brian Eno, Roger Eno, Daniel Lanois –

Apollo – For All Mankind (UMC)

Find it in: ROCK

Part of the expanded *Apollo* reissue, this is a second disc of newly recorded material in the spirit of the original album, which I have always cherished as one of Eno's most emotional works.

The 180 Gs – *Commercial* *Album* (KLANGGALERIE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

If acappella or the Residents are your thing, this is for you! Five brothers from Detroit who produce truly astounding sounds using only their voices. Serious fun!

Gong – *Love From Planet Gong:* *The Virgin Years 1973-75* (UMC)

Find it in: ROCK

The Virgin vault cleaned out and spiffed up with oodles of unreleased live material that show them at their best.

R.E.M. – *Monster* [25th Anniversary Reissue]

(CRAFT)

Find it in: ROCK

I haven't seen anything like this since Pearl Jam's *Vitalogy* came out....

ELI ANAYA

*Occasional Amoebite.
I book and promote live music in
the Bay Area as Throwin' Bo's.*

(Sandy) Alex G –

House of Sugar (DOMINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Songwriting savant Alex Giannascoli's latest swings through Americana, experimental noise, and indie rock, all the while continuing his knack for storytelling and hooky melodies. For fans of Modest Mouse, Sparklehorse, and genius.

Pardoner – *Playin On A Cloud* [Cassette] (1642586 RECORDS DK)

Local guitar guys Pardoner put out my favorite record of the year, flat out. Their sophomore LP is chock full of hit after hit, burying insanely beautiful melodies under sludgy guitars and slacker rock swagger. For fans of Dinosaur Jr., Elliott Smith, and the '90s.

Vegyn – *Only Diamonds Cut* *Diamonds* (PLZ MAKE IT RUINS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I've heard this record referred to as "Aphex Light" and there is not better description. An accessible, interesting electronica record from UK producer and Frank Ocean affiliate Vegyn. For fans of Aphex Twin, DJ Seinfeld, and Southern rap.

Angel Olsen – *All Mirrors* (JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: ROCK

Angel Olsen reaches her final form on 2019 masterpiece *All Mirrors*. The artist takes her impeccable songwriting to a new level by adding

lush string arrangements. Rumor has it there is an acoustic version in the works, which will no doubt be equally amazing. For fans of Sharon van Etten, Mitski, and strings.

Claire – *Immunity* (FADER)

Find it in: ROCK

Claire effectively sheds the "bedroom pop" moniker on her debut album, with help from Rostam's signature production sound. A record of nicely-penned songs that showcase a true rising star. For fans of Rex Orange County, Fiona Apple, 2000s pop.

YBN Cordae – *The Lost Boy*

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: HIP HOP

North Carolina rookie YBN Cordae stunned fans and critics alike last year with what can arguably be called the best debut of the year (except for maybe Claire's *Immunity*). Don't sleep on this Grammy-nominated record full of all-star features, thoughtful bars, and catchy hooks. For fans of Chance The Rapper, J. Cole, the kids.

Hovvdy – *Heavy Lifter*

(DOUBLE DOUBLE WHAMMY)

Find it in: ROCK

Austin "pillowcore" duo Hovvdy double down on their sweater of sound on their third record, *Heavy Lifter*. Best listened to during the fall, though enjoyable all year round. For fans of Duster, Alex G, naps.

Tip:

Follow @throwinbossf on IG!!

SQUINTO

Be excellent to each other, dudes.

Bill Frisell – *Harmony*

(BLUE NOTE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Bill Frisell is an ocean of music and having been introduced through his *Naked City* days, *Harmony* is a nice, meditative album that highlights the calm of that ocean.

RoboCop (1987) – Directed by Paul Verhoeven

A great '80s film that I watched in my youth only to revisit it with a new appreciation for all of the elements from special effects to story.

□ *Twain Peaks: From Z to A*

[Blu-ray Box Set] –

Directed by David Lynch

One of my favorite shows is now out on Blu-ray in a complete collection with new bonus features and a lovely collection of photo cards. Highly recommend for any David Lynch fan.

■ *Us* (2019) –

Directed by Jordan Peele

Jordan Peele's second attempt at a horror movie blends *Twilight Zone* concepts with modern horror elements, making a highly entertaining entry into the horror genre. Also, Time Heidecker steals the show!

Daniel Lopatin (A.K.A. Oneohtrix Point Never) – *Uncut Gems* [OST]

(WARP)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACK/EXP

It is both thrilling and soothing at times, capturing the soul of one of the best films of 2019.

EDGARDO

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

The Ransom Collective – *Traces* (OFFSHORE)

Find it in: ROCK

An excellent debut from this awarded up & coming Philippine indie folk pop group. Influenced by Mumford & Sons, The Lumineers and Local Natives, the music has a warm endearing quality that invites repeated listening. Check out their single "Open Road." A very enjoyable album in the best indie tradition. Surely recommended! (Available on CD & LP.)

Eivor (Eivør Pálsdóttir) – *Live In Tórshavn*

(NORSE MUSIC)

Find it in: WORLD

This wonderful album features selections from Eivor's concert performances from 2017. Her compositional & vocal skills are showcased here revealing touches of Kate Bush and Björk. Beautifully sung in Faroese and English with superb sonics. This is unique Nordic electro-folk avant-pop that is truly addicting. Absolutely recommended!! (Available on CD & LP.)

Tallies – Tallies

(KANINE)

Find it in: ROCK

Formerly known as Thrifty Kids, this Canadian indie rock band from Toronto plays a modern brand of C86-style indie rock. Hints of The Sundays, Cocteau Twins, Lush and The Smiths give this record an appealing sound. A strong debut record with substance and promise. Recommended, eh? Oh yeah! (Available on CD & limited-edition colored vinyl LP.)

Explosions In The Sky – The Rescue [Reissue]

(TEMPORARY RESIDENCE LIMITED)

Find it in: ROCK

Released on vinyl for the first time, this “concept” album was inspired by the band’s early experiences while on the road touring. Without preconception, it was written & recorded in eight straight days, one for each track, and finished in just two weeks. This honest approach produced a musical experience that’s genuine and carefree. A recommended post-rock gem!

Epic Beard Men – This Was Supposed To Be Fun

(STRANGE FAMOUS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

EBM (B. Dolan & Sage Francis) continue their infectious brand of indie-conscious hip hop with this great follow-up to their debut *Season 1*. This album flows and grooves with dope beats, sick rhymes and intelligent wry humor. Groovy and funny! Hella recommended! For fans of Aesop Rock and Run The Jewels. (Available on CD, LP & Cassette.)

Tip:

“There are no such things as stupid questions, only stupid people who ask questions.” - Professor Chris Berman (ESPN)

DYLAN B

archaeologist

Rupa – Disco Jazz [Reissue]

(NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: WORLD

super catchy stuff to shake it to

The Apostles – Black is Beautiful [Reissue]

(TIDAL WAVES)

Find it in: WORLD

super funky reissue originally released in 1977!!

Circuit Rider – Photograph

Attached (NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: ROCK

“got three teeth in mah head, mah left eye lookin wild”

SHTEVE

Lord of Lava

Thin Lizzy – Thunder and Lightning

(VERTIGO)

Find it in: ROCK

Last studio album by Thin Lizzy. Harder rock than previous releases, almost bordering on heavy metal. Some very catchy guitar licks on the album.

Midnight Star – Midnight Star

(SOLAR)

Find it in: SOUL

1988 release contains their radio hits “Don’t Rock The Boat” and the irresistible “Snake In The Grass.” Electro-Funk at its finest.

Midnight Star – Planetary Invasion

(SOLAR)

Find it in: SOUL

1984 album features lots of vocoder robot-like vocals on the futuristic-sounding tracks. This was one of their biggest selling albums. Features “Operator” and “Scientific Love” and “Curious.”

Bananarama – Live In Stereo

(N SYNK)

Find it in: POP/DANCE

Live album recorded from promotional dates for their *In Stereo* album. Fans will love the classic tracks they added in the set list.

Shalamar – Friends

(SOLAR)

Find it in: SOUL

Shalamar was at their peak during this time period before Howard Hewett and Jody Watley left for solo careers.

Yes – 90125

(ATCO)

Find it in: ROCK

A big comeback album for them in the early ’80s. Trevor Rabin had joined the group and injected some much-needed youth into the aging rock band. “Owner Of A Lonely Heart” was a big top 40 hit.



RYAN

Wait, is this your zahmahkibo?

Uh-nope has my name on it.

Jane Weaver – Loops in the Secret Society

(FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

Re-imagined songs from her last three records. Orchestrations are removed for a more stripped down ambient presentation. As the title suggests lots of loops and general knob twiddling replace the original instrumentation. The CD/DVD release includes a twenty page booklet of art with lyrics created by her & Andy Votel. The visuals are from an experimental film installation created by Nick Farrimond that accompanied the tour as a background to the performance of this music. R.I.Y.L: Klaus Schulze, Steve Moore & Zombi.

Frank Zappa – Orchestral Favorites 40th Anniversary Edition

(UME)

Find it in: ROCK

This Zappa title often falls through the cracks. Originally released during the dust up with Warner Bros. and four years after the performance in a year when Joe’s Garage was something all together different. The new packaging includes the original recordings from September of 1975 performed at Royce Hall, UCLA. Frank plays guitar & Terry Bozzio drums along with a giant orchestra put together by Zappa. Amazing arrangements of some new and old favorites. *Black Napkins*, *Lumpy Gravy* as well as material from *200 Motels* and *Uncle Meat*. This should be a must have for the “Frank curious.”

The Comet Is Coming – The Afterlife

(IMPULSE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Of all the great new music coming from England this band stands out for just being its own thing. Flying Lotus Jazz I call it, electronic in percussion,

elements of Krautrock, cinematic. For some reason in the same way more obscure early eighties music has me imagining empty streets late at night or whatever random daydream. There are some talking bits; don’t be scared off, they are brief.

Black Pumas – Black Pumas

(ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

I first listened to this because I like the album *El Existential* by Grupo Fantasma. “AustinTexas connection.” The records are quite different musically but just solid cool and authentic. These days anything not producer driven auto-tuned pop is called “retro” but it’s really straight forward sing a long beer joint rock, get high, backyard Texas soul. Laid back like Bill Withers, straight ahead like something on Daptone.

Tool – Fear Inoculum

(RCA)

Find it in: ROCK

Of all the self-help math rock bands this one really rises to the top. Unlike lots of artists that make thirty shitty records after two good ones this band has kept quiet until having something to say and I appreciate that. If you never checked them out this is a fine place to start. Still not sure? Remember when you inherited all your eccentric aunt’s records and couldn’t stop listening to Alex Sanders and *Drama* by Yes? You can’t fight the Golden Ratio and if you do, prepare to swim.

FACTORYGIRL123

Wanna-be Donna Jordan

Peter Ivers – Becoming Peter Ivers

(RVNG INTL.)

Find it in: ROCK

Thankful to have more insight into this mysterious, and seriously seductive man’s life. R.I.P. Peter. If I was a “dancer” I would have a number with “Alpha Centauri.”

Alex Chilton – My Rival

(OMNIVORE)

Find it in: ROCK

Sweeter than suga, baby! Lyrical heaven. If you would marry me babe! I fall in love with Alex every song. I named my new cat Chilton. All I can say is “So Much Soul”!

Ramones – It's Alive
[40th Anniversary Reissue] (SIRE)

Find it in: ROCK/PUNK

Makes me want to wear my letterman jacket and skinny jeans and have a pillow fight & sleepover, with posters of Joey covering all 4 walls.

■ Polyester (1981) [Criterion]
– Directed by John Waters

One word... outrageous! This film is a literal dream world of neverending nonsense. Love the soundtrack, costumes, and colors. Fall in love with Cuddles with me, and catch Stiv Bators as "Bobo," looking like a city sewer rat. Blondie also made an amazing song for the movie that you can only hear if you watch!

■ Stiv: No Compromise, No Regrets (2019) – Directed by Danny Garcia

So much good live footage and stories by Stiv's loved ones. Also discovered a handful of good tunes featuring Jad Wio, and the B Girls. Long Live Stiv! Dead Bots forever.

KIANA

Hello, here I am

■ The Last Black Man in San Francisco (2019) – Directed by Joe Talbot

WOW. I already knew San Francisco was a magical city but I came out of the theater with new eyes. As someone whose dream is to own a house in the city, this one hit me right in the GUT. Watch this immediately!

Cate le Bon – Reward

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

This album is beautiful and magical and happy and sad and weird and I listened to it at least once a day for months in a row. 10/10 Cate le Bon is my hero.

Jeanines – Jeanines

(SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

A perfect indie-pop record full of love songs! Alicia Hyman's vocals are so simple yet exactly right. Another album I've had on repeat as of late. RIYL to cry and dance at the same time.

Buddy Junior – Marietta EP

(SELF-RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK

A gothy fever dream of an EP. This is my favorite local release of 2019. Go to one of their shows!

Delta 5 – Singles & Sessions 1979-81 [Reissue]

(KILL ROCK STARS)

Find it in: ROCK

"Can I interfere in your crisis? No! Mind your own business!" Dance punk from the best era of music! These girls are cool and tough and will have you dancing from start to finish.

JEFF

Rodrigo Y Gabriela – Live In Japan [Reissue]

(ATO)

Find it in: LATIN/WORLD

Rodrigo Y Gabriela – Mettal EP (ATO)

Find it in: LATIN/WORLD

Ikebe Shakedown – Kings Left Behind

(COLEMAN)

Find it in: SOUL

The Du-Rites – Soundcheck At 6

(REDEFINITION)

Find it in: SOUL/HIPHOP



Gang Starr – One Of The Best Yet

(GANG STARR ENTERPRISES)

Find it in: HIP HOP

AZ, Raekwon, Prodigy – Save Them 7" (TUFF KONG)

Find it in: HIP HOP

VINNIE ESPARZA

Cornell Campbell – I Man A The Stal-A-Watt (VP)

Find it in: REGGAE

Superb collection of '70s gems from the Curtis Mayfield of Jamaica. Essential.

Donald Byrd – Ethiopian Knights [Reissue] (BLUE NOTE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Nice reissue of the trumpet master's funkiest album.

Can – Ege Bamyasi [Reissue]

(SPOON)

Find it in: ROCK

Don't even talk to me until you've bought this.

John Coltrane – Blue World (IMPULSE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Any unreleased Coltrane to see the light of day is cause for celebration. Rejoice!

Al Charles – Outstanding 12"

[Reissue] (ATHENS OF THE NORTH)

Find it in: REGGAE

Reissue of an...ahem...outstanding reggae cover of the Gap Band classic. Get this.

Tip:

The plural of vinyl is vinyl.

ROOTS MUSIC MAVEN

Various Artists – The Bakersfield Sound

[Box Set] (BEAR FAMILY)

Find it in: COUNTRY

If you like real rocking, hard scrabble, West Coast style country music, this box is your bible. There are 10 CDs plus a 220 page hardcover book chock full of rare photos, etc. Unlike the Appalachia based traditional C&W music, Bakersfield developed its own style. Sometimes called "Nashville West," the music emanated from its migrant Oakies, Arkies and Texans, who placed much more emphasis on electric instruments and drums, and developed their sound in the many honky-tonks in the San Joaquin Valley.

This box contains nearly 300 curated tunes including hits by Merle Haggard and Buck Owens, who were the face of the music. However, the real value of the collection lies in its "deep cuts" that only an obsessed collector would have heard. Kudos to historian Scott B. Bomar and Bear Family for bringing us this collection.

Tip:

Check out my website, VinylBeat.com. Record Collecting 101!

TONY C

I've got a full moon!

Redd Kross – Beyond The Door (MERGE)

Find it in: ROCK

Super rockin' new LP from the indefatigable L.A. band...the title track is the hit single that wasn't, and their version of the theme from cult Peter Sellers movie *The Party* is fun fun fuggin' FUN!!



Moon Duo – Stars Are The Light

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

This Sonic Boom-produced LP takes the Moon Duo sound from springy drone-pop to a type of groove-oriented, almost disco music...some of their previous stuff hinted at this, but here it is for your pleasure! Warm & kinda sexy, not what you'd expect...

Brittany Howard – Jaime (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Ms Howard steps WAY outside the Alabama Shakes sound for this sprawling, personal and often boundary-pushing record...it takes several listens to really get a handle on the variety here, with Howard pushing her voice into new territory as much as she does her song-writing...songs like the intimate "Baby" are a sign of even better things to come...this is kinda her *Sign O' The Times*, as big a step forward for Howard as that LP was for Prince. Pretty great!

Curt Boettcher & Friends – Looking For The Sun (HIGH MOON)

Find it in: OLDIES

A comp of tracks & obscure singles featuring the production or songwriting talents of Sunshine Pop's Big Kahuna...amazing floral psych from this most prolific exponent of soft sounds for gentle people.

Amendola vs. Blades – Everybody Wins (ROYAL POTATO FAMILY)

Find it in: JAZZ

Blades on Hammond organ and Amendola on drums come up with a thrilling and most groovy collaboration, with Blades' solos and verve stealing the show...check out "Fess Up (Before Ya Mess Up)!" Guests include Jeff Parker (Tortoise) and Rob Burger (Tin Hat Trio)...thanks to Donnell for the tip!

Tip:

Go to YouTube & check out the INSANE clip of Russell Morris doing "The Real Thing"...apocalypse!!



ELIC

The Equatics – Doin It!!!

(NOW AGAIN)

Find it in: SOUL/FUNK

I was walking in the park and I saw a merry go round. It sent me spinning.

Various Artists – Style & Fusion (SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: REGGAE/ELECTRONICA

I had to sit down quickly. A boy fell from the Jungle Gym, but got up and brushed himself off.

Various Artists – Basement Beehive: The Girl Group Underground

(NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: OLDIES

The old school KFRC blared out from a radio. I got up and kept walking.

Peter Ivers – Becoming

Peter Ivers (RVNG INTL.)

Find it in: ROCK

When I got home, I put on an episode of *New Wave Theater*, and fell asleep.

Bobby Charles – Bobby Charles

(LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: SWAMP ROCK/COUNTRY/LOUISIANA R&B

I dreamed about "Small Town Talk" and "Street People." It sounded funky.

DAVID JAMES

I'm Late

Amirtha Kidambi, Elder Ones – From Untruth

(NORTHERN SPY)

Find it in: JAZZ

Holy Smokes! Singer/Keyboardist Amirtha Kidambi—you may have heard her as the vocalist in Mary Halvorson's Code Girl project—brings her own creative energy and compositions, fueled by righteous anger. The opening, thirteen minute track, "Eat the Rich" evokes at times Henry Threadgill and Alice Coltrane, but as it goes through its different feels and move-

ments, it is ultimately a unique and exhilarating creation. The band of saxophone, acoustic bass, drums, and synths effectively propels these sometimes complex tunes, providing drive for Kidambi's vocal flights that range from classical Indian to shrieks to earthy moans, while Matt Nelson takes his own flying turns on soprano sax. "Decolonize the Mind" indeed!

Brittany Howard – Jaime (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Alabama Shakes frontperson takes a soulful solo turn, with the help of keyboardist Robert Glasper, drummer Nate Smith and more. This very personal set of songs is dark, but it's got light. It's earthy, then it's spaced. It has declarations of love, and it has stories of surviving in the face of hate. Surprise of the year.

Art Ensemble of Chicago – We Are On the Edge (PI)

Find it in: JAZZ

Stalwart survivors Roscoe Mitchell and Famoudou Don Moye open their tent and are joined by a who's who of like-minded individualists and improvisors, both younger and veteran. From Hugh Ragin and Junius Paul to Tomeka Reid, Nicole Mitchell, and Moor Mother, this two-disc set (one studio, one live) is a wonderful addition to the AACM canon.

Chris Lightcap – SuperBigmouth

(PYROCLASTIC)

Find it in: JAZZ

He took his two bands, Big Mouth (the acoustic one) and Superette (electric), and smooshed them together to form this rocking juggernaut of two tenor saxophones (Tony Malaby and Chris Cheek), two electric guitars (Curtis Hasselbring and Jonathan Goldberger), two drummers (Gerald Cleaver and Dan Reiser) keyboards (Craig Taborn) and bass (Lightcap). Yes!

Jaimie Branch – Fly Or Die II: Bird Dogs of Paradise

(INTERNATIONAL ANTHEM)

Find it in: JAZZ

Abdullah Ibrahim – The Balance

(GEARBOX)

Find it in: JAZZ

SOUL KRAUT ROCK

Born too late

Yesterday's Children – Yesterday's Children (PARROT)

Find it in: PSYCH

American proto-metal! Bluesy and psychedelic. A must listen!

Blood Ceremony – Living With The Ancients

(RISE ABOVE/METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL/PSYCH/PROG

Heavy electric folky rock that will make you want to go dance on a grassy Nordic hill with Pan.

Altin Gun – On (ATO)

Find it in: WORLD/TURKEY

Contemporary Turkish music heavily inspired by the master of Anatolian Rock, Erkin Koray.

Coven – Witchcraft Destroys Minds & Reaps Souls [Reissue]

(REAL GONE)

Find it in: PSYCH/PROG/OCCULT ROCK

Some of the best occult rock from the '70s led by Satanic high priestess, Jinx Dawson!

Can – Ege Bamyasi [Reissue]

(SPOON)

Find it in: KRAUTROCK/EXP

Heavy, obscure, groovy, funky KRAUT ROCK.

ALLEN

Isn't every day bike-to-work day?

The Beatles – Abbey Road [Anniversary Edition] (APPLE)

Find it in: ROCK

Abbey Road is generally acknowledged as the best-sounding record in the Beatles' catalog, so one doesn't expect a lot of sonic revelations on this remix (and if you've never liked "Maxwell's Silver Hammer," you still won't like it). More than the previous remix projects of *Sgt. Pepper* and the *White Album*, a presupposition that a favorable view of *Abbey Road* is required; the *Pepper* remix gave psychedelia a good clean-up and sonic punch-up; the *White Album* remix gave

us a proper stereo picture and made it sound modern again. But *Abbey Road's* sonic pleasures were already evident, and most of the improvements here seem cosmetic, not earth-shattering. Whatever you liked about the record before, you'll like it even more; whatever you hated, it's still there and hasn't improved much.

That said, it's still startling to hear things that stuck out before, like the guitar and vocal overdubs in "You Never Give Me Your Money," pushed back to their proper place in the mix, or that you can finally hear the background vocals in "Oh! Darling" clearly. The Moog synthesizer foreshadows its dominance in the '70s with more clarity, sounding brighter than it used to be in "Here Comes the Sun," and spookier lurking in the verses of "Maxwell."

If you spring for the deluxe version, you get a deeper dive into the album's construction, including the original running order of the "Long Medley," with "Her Majesty" stuck in the middle where it apparently didn't belong; the original key of "Something;" the orchestral overdub all by itself; and the playful banter between John and Paul before "The Ballad of John and Yoko." George Martin said that working with the Beatles made him realize how quickly and surely they arrived at the best solutions to problems, and the outtakes show us how they made some of those decisions, which is invaluable.

So, bottom line, if you liked *Abbey Road*, you'll enjoy the remix. If you didn't like *Abbey Road*... what are you some kind of knee-jerk contrarian?

Dave Holland/Zakir Hussain/ Chris Potter – Good Hope

(EDITION)

Find it in: JAZZ

Bill Buford – Feels Good To Me / One Of A Kind (WINTERFOLD)

Find it in: ROCK

Two albums of '80s prog that has aged very well, thanks to fresh writing and Allan Holdsworth's unconventional playing.

Angelique Kidjo – Celia (VERVE)

Find it in: WORLD

Kidjo makes clear the link between Africa and Cuban salsa, with help from Tony Allen.

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Ubiquitous, for good reason.

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.*

Brian Eno, Roger Eno, Daniel Lanois – Apollo / For All Mankind [Reissue] (CAPITOL)

Find it in: ROCK

This is far better than your average re-issue because besides getting a beautifully remastered copy of *Apollo* you also get *For All Mankind*, a brand new album of music recorded by the same people who did the original. Since its original 1983 release, *Apollo* has become a classic piece of ambient music. The new album that comes with this is equally as good as the original. It's all instrumental and the songs lazily drift between being pure ambient pieces and songs that have just enough more stuff going on that they sound like lovely soundtrack music. It's eleven tracks and 40 minutes of pure bliss. Like the best ambient music it can either be in the background or foreground of your life. Listening to it in the background of a busy work day can calm and ground you. If you want to sit alone in a room and concentrate on nothing but the music it is equally rewarding as you explore its luscious depths of melody and production. I've listened to this many times and still keep discovering new textures and nuances. If you are a fan of synthesizer music this cd could easily be in your top ten. Almost every time I listen to this it creates a calming zen-like state of transcendence. With music like this playing, all the possibilities of the universe seem open to you. Purchasing this will actually improve both your mental health AND your quality of life.

This Island Earth (1955) – Directed by Joseph M. Newman, Jack Arnold

This is arguably the best flying saucer movie ever made and set the template for countless science fiction movies that came after it. There is a visual look and style to this film that is both timeless and simultaneously definitively fifties.

A lot of great science fiction movies came out of the fifties but this is one of the two or three best and would end up fighting films like *Forbidden Planet* and *War Of The Worlds*, for top dog status. This movie has it all: great script, good acting, gorgeous color, and legendary special effects. The film tells the story of aliens who come to earth to find scientists to help them in their interplanetary war. Two scientists, Dr. Cal Meacham and his old flame, Dr. Ruth Adams are kidnapped by the aliens and taken to their home planet of Metaluna. When they get to the planet they find it in the ravaged final stages of their war with the nearby Zagons. The aliens try to get the scientists to help them but it may be too little too late. Rex Reason and Faith Domergue are great in the starring roles as the two scientists. Jeff Morrow stars as the leader of the aliens and turns in a performance with just the right balance of pathos and desperation. Possibly the greatest star of the film is the planet Metaluna itself. It is portrayed in beautiful matte shots and miniatures that were some of the best special effects work to come out of the decade. Shout Factory's release of the film is perfect. A new 4K scan of the movie is presented in two aspect ratios with restored sound. The disc is loaded up with interviews, commentaries, still galleries, and new documentaries. This is one of the best science fiction movies ever made and this release truly does it justice.

Scars Of Dracula (1970) [Blu-ray] – Directed by Roy Ward Baker

For the past couple years Shout Factory has been releasing beautiful restored versions of the classic Hammer films and this is another great one. In my opinion, except for possibly Bela Lugosi, Christopher Lee is the best actor to ever don Dracula's cape. He plays the bloodsucking villain with just the right balance of sinister and sexy. There is also a kind of violent animalism to how he portrays the character. The vampire is a humanoid creature but Lee never lets us forget they are apex predators. Like the best Hammer films, this movie reinterprets a classic Universal monster in lurid modern color. They also add in a lot of sex, violence, and adult themes. Hammer movies aren't for kids and that's half the fun of them. These movies shocked audiences in the fifties and sixties even though they are a little tame by today's standards. I always loved these movies because of the incredible British style that went into the making of them and the strength of their lead actors who usually included either Christopher Lee or Peter Cushing. I'll pretty much watch anything with either Lee or Cushing in it. This movie has all

the good things you'd expect from a Dracula film: coffins, a spooky castle, vampire brides, and plenty of gory deaths by blood sucking. It's a fun little horror movie confection and just one of many great films that Hammer released.

Mandy (2018) – Directed by Panos Cosmatos

I'm currently working on an article called "Best Movies To Watch While Tripping" and this film will be near the top of the list. In the past few years, Nicholas Cage has been evolving into this generation's Dennis Hopper. In the '80s and '90s Hopper was the go-to actor if you wanted someone to play a psychopath or madman. These days Cage is playing those roles and this is the movie he was born to act in. As an angry husband completely high on LSD out to avenge his murdered wife, Cage turns in the most frenzied and over the top performance of his career. He's really a wonder to watch in this. Cage plays Red Miller who lives with his girlfriend Mandy in a cabin deep in the woods. Their idyllic existence is interrupted by the arrival of a twisted hippy LSD cult led by Jeremiah Sand who becomes obsessed with Mandy. This leads to a series of events that results in Mandy's death and sets off one of the most psychedelic revenge scenarios in cinematic history. The cult is aided by a band of bikers strung out on experimental LSD who are like some new form of urban legend. In the second half of this movie everybody onscreen is tripping their brains out and the insanity just ratchets higher and higher. The cinematography in the second half of this film is some kind of surreal "trip-o-vision" as the director tries to portray the fried brains of his characters. Strange hallucinations and trails will



flicker across the screen at random moments, actors faces will start pulsating and mutating for no reason, no matter what your mental state by the end of the movie you'll feel like you dropped a tab yourself. This is one of those "perennials" that we always keep on display in our horror/sci-fi section in the DVD room because it sells steadily and is well on its way to becoming a cult film.

■ **Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark (1973) [Blu-ray]— Directed by John Newland**

In 2010 they made a 25 million dollar remake of this movie. It sucked. There was one good scene in it. The original 1973 made for TV movie blows the remake out of the water even though it was made on a shoestring budget. This is one of the best TV horror movies ever made which is why Warner Archive remastered it in 4K and released it on Blu-ray in 2019. It is a simple story with minimal special effects that creeps the hell out of you with just atmosphere, acting, and a good script. Sally Farnum and her husband Alex inherit an old house from her recently deceased grandmother. During renovations Sally finds a bricked up fireplace in the basement. Their handyman, Mr. Harris, tells her to never open the fireplace but when he goes out of town she disobeys him and partially opens it herself. After that terrible things start to happen. Some things have been let out and they want Sally. Whenever she is alone in the dark small hideous goblin-like creatures start to torment her. Because Sally is psychologically and emotionally fragile and the only one who sees the creatures, everyone around her merely begins to doubt her sanity until it's too late. This movie is a slowly tight-

ening noose that ends in a harrowing final scene. When this was first shown on TV in 1973 it scared the hell out of everyone. It still packs quite a punch today. Warner Archive's new Blu-ray of this looks and sounds amazing. This is a great example of how you can make an excellent movie without a lot of money just by using creativity and ingenuity.

TOM LYNCH

*In memory of friends, heroes,
and San Francisco musicians
and Amoeba shoppers:*

*Tom Guido, Tommy Zervas,
Steve Farzan, and Roy A. Loney.
I will miss you guys always.*

The Raunch Hands – The Rodeo Song/4 Naggin' Wives 7" (CRYPTO)

Find it in: ROCK

Two unreleased songs from the NYC quintet that had the chops, the nerve, and blood alcohol level to make every night a weekend night. In memory of Michael Chandler, lead mouth & words.

The Knights of Trash – Trainwreck/Everywhere I Look 7" (JINX)

Find it in: ROCK/GARAGE

First release on new label, JINX records. Garage punk from Seattle, WA, b-side is a milkshakes cover. Download card included, handprinted sleeve, aqua blue vinyl. 298 pressed.

The Wildtones – Pretty Boy/Puppy Dog 7" (ROCKIN')

Find it in: ROCKABILLY

Wild rockabilly from Orlando, Florida. 3D sleeve art with glasses by Donny David. Cool blue vinyl, download card, check of the video for "Pretty Boy" by Greg Johnson. 299 pressed.

Jesse Mae Hemphill – Run Get My Shotgun (BIG LEGAL MESS)

Find it in: BLUES

Outtakes and live recordings from the She-Wolf of North Mississippi Hill Country Blues. Hypnotic, foot stompin', nobody sounded like Jessie Mae. And they never will.

The Prime Movers – Prime Movers Blues Band [Reissue] (MODERN HARMONIC)

Find it in: OLDIES/ROCK

Mid-'60s quintet from Ann Arbor, Michigan heavy under the sway of Chicago Blues. The group includes brothers Michael (All Music Founder) and Dan (noted and preeminent guitar repair and restorer) Erlewine, avant garde composer, Robert Sheff, and Jim Osterberg, A.K.A. Iggy Pop. First time archival release of this legendary group from South East Michigan. Thank You, LSD!

Aretha Franklin – Complete Releases 1956-1962 (ACROBAT)

Find it in: SOUL/GOSPEL

Buy this 2-CD set exclusively for the teenage Aretha's devastating Gospel sides for the Detroit based JVB record label. Live recordings issued on 78 and 45, from her father C.L. Franklin's church. A human storm, mind blowing!

■ **Showtime At The Apollo: The Epic Tale Of Harlem's Legendary Theater – By Ted Fox & James Otis Smith** (ABRAMS)

Written by Ted Fox and illustrated by James Otis Smith as a hardcover graphic music history book on the great house of 20th Century African America's proving ground for Blues, Gospel, Jazz, R&B, and Soul. Essential for young and old.

■ **Babylon (1980) – Directed by Franco Rosso**

1980 film still fresh as a daisy. Brixton, South London: a gang of friends involved in the developing soundsystem culture fight parents, racist neighbors, police, and each other. From the team that wrote and directed *Quadrophonia* the year before.

Tip:

Two more books I highly recommend tracking down: *Blues Come To Texas*: Paul Oliver and Mack McCormick's Unfinished Book compiled by Alan B. Govenar and published by the Texas A&M University Press. A story deserving a documentary to go along with this massive book really lost to the ages. *American Paul Oliver, and Brit Mack McCormick started this book on the history of Texas Blues in 1958. Alan Govenar pulls it together 60 years later. In 1 Put A Spell On You: The Bizarre Life Of Screamin' Jay Hawkins* (Feral House), writer Steve Bergsman uncovers the magic, the myths, the triumph and tragedy of the enigmatic icon of the weird nighttime bossa profunda, Screamin' Jay Hawkins!

TOM, FROM CLOUDCITY

artfag — he'll dance to anything*

■ **Face It – by Debbie Harry** (HarperCollins)

The 74-year-old (age is just a number but props where props are due) solo artist and face of Blondie tells her story in this amazing (almost) autobiography. It doesn't delve too deep and she maintains that "Blondie" persona/creation throughout, but it's a glimpse into a world I always wanted to both be a part of and run from.

Sam Smith – I Feel Love 12" (UNIVERSAL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I've had actual arguments about this one. *Why did he cover it, it's been done...* Well, a self-identified gender non-binary person... covering what I consider a queer anthem... IT NEEDED TO BE DONE. Older folk remember Donna Summers original, '80s art—queers remember Jimmy Somervilles/Bronski Beats. But a whole new generation of queer youth (Millennials or Gen Z) that I've interacted with don't know either. Donna Summer was erased for the better part of a decade and a generation died in-between. Sam Smith's loving cover will and has helped a whole group to delve deeper into their past and their LGBTQ identity that the current government is trying to erase. Five stars for Sam Smith.

Swans – Leaving Meaning (MUTE)

Find it in: ROCK

Did I love it? Did I hate it? I wasn't sure at first. It wasn't "MY" Swans. It's a lush collaboration. Touched by the (unintentional?) influences of Nick Cave and The Cocteau Twins. There are still a few aggressive bits thrown in also. Yeah, I like it! A double album, *Leaving Meaning's* songs have been mixed separately for vinyl and CD releases, with the CD version of the album containing the original (and extended) mixes of the songs, as well as an additional track, "Some New Things."

Grimes – So Heavy I Fell To Earth (4AD)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Hope for 2020? A slice of arty downtempo electronica (what an antiquated word) but it fits. Mono (that chillout band from the 1996 meets Annie Haslam (from Renaissance) solo CD. What's old is new again?



Låpsley – These Elements EP 12” (XL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

When I first discovered Låpsley (from the U.K. not sure why people think she's Scandinavian!?) she reminded me of early Saint Etienne. This latest EP is more of a simple synthpop look at love and life—as she sings, “It's not easy letting go, it's not that simple” If you haven't experience her, I also HIGHLY recommend 2016's *Long Way Home* and the track “Operator (He Doesn't Call Me).”

Tip:

Talk to people. Don't be a freak, but it's okay to interact with other humans.

NICKI JIZZ

*Drag Queen Extraordinaire.
Mother of the Haus of Hoe,
the Breaker of Tops,
and Queen of the Fleet.*

FKA Twigs – Magdalene

(YOUNG TURKS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I don't know why you're gagging, she brings it every ball. Honestly the best album of the year. It's a masterpiece that takes you through a journey of heartbreak, self-discovery, yearning to be loved and every damn emotion. Saw it live and cried the entire show. She is a visionary goddess.

Jorja Smith – Lost & Found

(FAMM)

Find it in: SOUL

I had been sleeping on Jorja Smith and I don't want you to either. Great voice and love her style. Found her from my uber driver and gave him five stars just like I would this record.

Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross – Watchmen Vol. 1-3 [OST]

(UMVD)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

I am a Trent Reznor stan. Reznor and Ross have done it again with the *Watchmen* scores. The music goes perfectly with the show and makes each scene more alive. If you haven't caught the show, you are missing out big time.

Chelsea Wolfe – Birth Of Violence

(SARGENT HOUSE/EYE)

Find it in: ROCK

Amazing album by the uber talented Chelsea Wolfe. Her vocals are a beautiful haunting dream that you don't want to escape. Softer touch than her previous album but great nonetheless.

Lana Del Rey –

Norman Fucking Rockwell (UMVD)

Find it in: ROCK/POP

Never been the biggest LDR fan, but this album sold me. Love the tongue and cheek lyrics and great production.

Tip:

Follow me on Instagram for a look into the life of SF's #1 Drag Queen @nicki_jizz

ZACK

The Band – The Band

[50th Anniversary] (CAPITOL)

Find it in: ROCK

This reissue includes the complete Woodstock set, which is hard to believe was never officially released until now. An amazing example of The Band in their prime.

Rich Ruth – Calming Signals

(GENERAL GENERAL/PLANT LIFE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Nashville-based composer creates electro-ambient soundscapes set to a beat with elements of jazz and new age.

Mal Waldron – Free At Last

[Reissue] (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ

Reissue of this '69 session finds the trio playing freely without getting too “out.” Some very fine improvisation. Also, this was the very first ECM release.

Jake Hottell – Break The Chains [Reissue] (SPACETALK)

Find it in: NEW AGE

Reissue of 1985 private press new age masterpiece. Drum machines, atmospheric synths and twangy emotional acoustic guitar riffs provide the core sound for this unique, mostly instrumental album, except one narration about humans destroying the earth.

The Family Acid: California – by Roger Steffens (OZMA)

A photo album of Roger Steffens and his family's psychedelic journey across California, spanning nearly fifty years. The photos are a celebration of nature, LSD, creativity & culture in the magical golden state.

SHONA

Sho'nuff!

Various Artists –

Sacred Sounds: Dave Hamilton's Raw Detroit Gospel (KENT)

Find it in: GOSPEL

Real good gospel from the Motor City. Raw is the right word, these tracks from the 1960s and 1970s are unadorned and emotional.

Mal Waldron – Free At Last

[Reissue] (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ

2019 was the 50th anniversary of the ECM label, and what better way to celebrate than with a reissue of their very first release in an extended version on double vinyl. Mal Waldron's piano trio keeps it pretty inside, but not totally. The long version of “Willow Weep For Me” (part of the “extended” content) is an angular and lovely take on the standard.

Little Ann –

Detroit's Secret Soul (KENT)

Find it in: SOUL

There's a few other worthy cuts here, but “Deep Shadows” is worth the price of admission alone.

The Harlem Gospel Travelers

– He's On Time (COLEMIANE)

Find it in: GOSPEL

New gospel deeply in the vein of classic quartet gospel. Yes!

The Last Black Man In San Francisco (2019) – Directed by Joe Talbot

Find it in: DRAMA

A stunning, dreamlike movie based on writer/star Jimmie Fails IV's family story. Jimmie and his best friend Montgomery (“Mont”) have such a unique friendship, and Jonathan Majors gives a beautifully nuanced performance as Mont. Montgomery's play is one of the most special things I've seen in a long time. Danny Glover is

so poignant and tender as Mont's grandfather, and all of the cameos are gold: Tichina Arnold, Rob Morgan, Mike Epps, Jello Biafra, Daewon Song, Jamal Trulove, San Quinn, Thora Birch, etc. I would have loved this movie if it was about somebody else's hometown, and even if Talbot had not gone to my alma mater. But it is, and he did (SOTA represent!). It can be hard to convey to newcomers and outsiders what a special place SF was, and still is, in the spaces where us real folks live, and struggle, and dream, and create. Thank you Joe and Jimmie, for a film that shares just that.

Ari Lennox – Shea Butter Baby

(J COLE/DREAMVILLE)

Find it in: SOUL

I'm pretty old school, but this new soul/r&b record is some good shit from now.

GRAHAM

I'm just...a guy

Purple Mountains –

Purple Mountains (DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

Filled with piercing lyrics and laid-back country/folk vibes. A testament to David Berman's artistry! R.I.P.

Amazing Grace (2018) – Directed by Sydney Pollack and Alan Elliott

Aretha at the height of her powers! Backed up by some of the best session guys in Cornell Dupree and Bernard Purdie. Moving!!



Corridor – Junior (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Great indie rock group with sound pop-sensibilities. An abundance of awesome guitar riffs blending into a cohesive record!

Townes Van Zandt – Our Mother the Mountain [50th Anniversary Reissue] (FAT POSSUM)

Find it in: COUNTRY

A beautiful remaster of a classic! Must have for any Van Zandt-head.

King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard – Infest the Rat's Nest (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Latest from the boys down unda! Thrashy and delicious! Get it now!

DOC

Dude, where's my coffee mug?

Reveal! – Scissorgod (SEPULCHRAL VOICE)

Find it in: ROCK

I have no idea what subgenre of rock this falls under. There's some psychedelic punk a la Destruction Unit and Iceage, there's some black metal for like, a second, and there's...a horn section on parts of it. And it doesn't suck. It's actually one of the best releases of the year if you like weird punk records. I dunno, just listen to it.

Teitanblood – The Baneful Choir (NORMA EVANGELIUM DIABOLI)

Find it in: METAL

Remember that last Teitanblood record? This is like that with more riffs, but also more crazy spazzed out noise. Highly recommended if you don't want to sleep. Like, ever again.

Concrete Winds – Primitive Force (SEPULCHRAL VOICE)

Find it in: METAL

After Vorum announced their breakup earlier this year, I was really bummed. Their last EP is one of the best death metal records of the decade and I wanted more. Well, lucky for me, half of Vorum is now Concrete Winds and dropped a full length in August. It gave one of my friends an anxiety attack the first time he

listened to it. If that's not a stamp of quality right there, I think we're looking for different things to enjoy about music.

Evoked – Ravenous Compulsion (F.D.A.)

Find it in: METAL

Every now and again there's a nice surprise going through dozens and dozens of new bands every week. This was that record for me this time around. Evoked are doing a really faithful take on the early Death and Nihilist/Entombed sound, and it is absolutely ripping. Do yourself a favor and check it out if you're tired of waiting around for another Bastard Priest record.

Ulver – Bergtatt - Et Eeventyr i 5 Capittler (CENTURY MEDIA)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

This belongs squarely in the "fucking DUH" category, and hardly needs mentioning, but I'm always one to state the obvious, so here ya go. This is a record that should never not be in print. It's maybe the only black metal record to feature clean vocals and not suck. If you dig the "post-black" metal sound and don't know this record you are BLOWING IT. We can help you fix that :)

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

Find it in: JAZZ

This album is one of the most heart-wrenchingly beautiful pieces of music Sonny Sharrock ever recorded. A far cry from the smoothed out sounds on *Paradise*, *Ask the Ages* benefits from a crisp and clear production that was (and still is) a welcome relief from the soft focus sleeze of '80s pop jazz. Also, let's take a quick peak at the personnel: Pharoah Sanders, Elvin Jones, and Charnett Moffett rounding out the lineup!! How could this not be phenomenal?



SEAN MURPHY

Irish Drinker, Jewish Thinker

Parasite (2019) –

Directed by Bong Joon Ho

Better to know as little as possible going into this one. It starts off as one thing, then goes absolutely bonkers. The best film I saw in 2019.

JoJo Rabbit (2019) –

Directed by Taika Waititi

The only thing better than curb-stomping a nazi is publicly ridiculing them, and this film does that in spades. Bonus points for Sam Rockwell as the former SS officer relegated to Hitler Youth scoutmaster. Hilarious! Second best film I saw in 2019.

Black Lips – Sing In A World That's Falling Apart (FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

My second favorite band with Lips in their name is back! For fans of all things fuzzy and catchy!

Nada Surf – Never Not Together (BARSUK)

Find it in: ROCK

Often thought of as a one-hit wonder by those who only heard "Popular" in the post-Weezer major label feeding frenzy, these guys have quietly been putting out awesome indie rock records for 20 years now. Their latest is no exception.

Grimes – Miss Anthropocene (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

One of the most original voices in pop music today. Love her, love her, love her!

Tip:

Jesus Dude Mom on iTunes, Spotify, and Insta.

RORY MUSIL

Happiness is a warm pricing gun.

Leonard Cohen – Thanks For The Dance (COLUMBIA LEGACY)

Find it in: FOLK

Don't let the generic cover put you off, there is ample Leonard Cohen brilliance inside. The album was finished posthumously with vocals recorded during the *You Want It Darker* sessions. Consider it part two ("You Want It Slightly Less Dark?"). One of those albums that will be your friend for the rest of your life.

David Bowie – Conversation Piece (PARLOPHONE/RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Five fascinating discs of demos, outtakes, radio broadcasts etc. All the things you expect in a box set with the rare, unique fact that every bit of it is great. No barrel scrapings here. All of the building blocks leading up to the *Space Oddity* album fill the first three discs. Disc four is the original *Space Oddity* album. The box wraps up with a gorgeous remix of the same album. In fact, this may become your go-to version of that classic.

Allan Clarke – Resurgence (BMG)

Find it in: OLDIES

The Hollies' vocalist, retired from music a couple decades ago, has returned. The years have deepened his voice but haven't changed his way with a lyric. This is a fine, low key, collection of mostly new songs. Having said that, the real centerpiece is a stripped down version of The Hollies' shoulda-been-a-hit "Don't Let Me Down."

Michael Nesmith & Red Rhodes – Cosmic Partners: The McCabe's Tapes (7A)

Find it in: ROCK

This 1973 concert recording from McCabe's Guitar Shop is a rare gem. The songs are, as you know, country/rock classics. The musicianship, especially Red Rhodes' steel guitar, is sublime. You'll wish you were there.

Allison Moorer – Blood (THIRTY TIGERS)

Find it in: COUNTRY

Allison Moorer's childhood, with sister Shelby Lynne, was traumatic in the extreme. *Blood* is a collection of very personal songs based on

those years. While the lyrics are often close to the bone, Moorers is a master at making her songs relatable and universal. The performances are exquisite. This is the best recording, filed in the Country section, of 2019. It's a fact!

Iggy Pop – Free (LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: ROCK

It's not 1969, ok? This album is a quiet stunner. An almost ambient recording with Iggy vocalizing (ie. mostly speaking) over atmospheric trumpet and guitar tracks. If you heard (& liked) *Préludaires* or *Après* this is for you. If not, start here. Best recording of Dylan Thomas' "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night."

A Girl Called Eddy – Been Around (ELEFANT)

Find it in: ROCK

Full disclosure: I haven't heard this album yet. As we go to press it hasn't been released. The title song has been released digitally with the full album (LP and CD) scheduled prior to you reading this. Based on the single, last year's album *The Last Detail* (under the group name The Last Detail) and her incredible self-titled first album, I trust this is going to be great. Her (Erin Moran's) first album was a *Pet Sounds* meets Bacharach beauty. Check out the video/download/whatever first. You'll love it. I promise you will not be quickly trading it in for cash or credit.

ESCAPED APE MANN

Once you get out,
you just see you're in a bigger zoo

Star Wars Episode IX: The Rise Of Skywalker (2019) – Directed by J.J. Abrams

The fantastic and satisfying conclusion to the trilogy of trilogies. Packed with an exciting, coherent narrative filled with necessary new characters to create logical twists and satisfying conclusions. Truly a defining chapter in the saga of Star Wars.

Galaxy Quest (1999) [20th Anniversary] – Directed by Dean Parisot

Easily the best *Star Trek* movie of all time, this comedic spoof pokes fun at aspects of Trekkie

culture while simultaneously hitting every plot point and note you want in a *Star Trek* movie. Includes an ensemble cast of mildly famous people just before they were wildly famous, such as Missi Pyle.

Cats (2019) – Directed by Tom Hooper

The break-out musical hit for the whole family! This is the must-see film of 2019, with unforgettable performances by great Dame Judi Dench and the hilarious Rebel Wilson, and special effects that literally need to be seen to be believed.

Good Omens (2019) – Directed by Douglas Mackinnon

Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett's early-'90s novel is given new life in this comedic mini series, featuring performances by David Tennant and Michael Sheen, centering around the presentation of the biblical apocalypse.

Avengers: Endgame (2019) – Directed by Anthony Russo and Joe Russo

The fantastic and satisfying conclusion to the decade long franchise, with a narrative that creates world-building mechanics within the story's universe, and a phenomenal, conclusive performance by RDJ. Truly a defining chapter in the Marvel movie saga.



A. OH

Aspiring space hotel resident

Steve Hiett – Down On The Road By The Beach [Reissue]

(EFFICIENT SPACE)

Find it in: ROCK

Fashion/music photographer decides to record album and gets a repress 34 years later. Beautiful guitar album. Mostly chords, reverbs, and lovely tones. Ambient other than some very minimal percussion. Chill out.

X-Altera – X-Altera

(GHOSTLY INTERNATIONAL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

The prolific and versatile Tadd Mullinix (Dabrye, Charles Manier, JTC) strikes again, but this time it's liquid' drum & bass/hardcore with a fresh sonic palette. Plenty of dancehall bass and futuristic pads, but the highlights for me are the two excellent downtempo-techno synth tracks. Electronic music lovers, check it!

Bombay S. Jayashri – Shravanam

(TIME CAPSULE)

Find it in: WORLD

Beautiful Carnatic music from Bombay S. Jayashri. Classical music from southern India, often devotional. Very minimal and soothing—expect a drone, some drums, and beautiful voices. Play it in the morning or during a meditation.

Seahawks & Woo – Celestial Railroads

(EMOTIONAL RESPONSE/OCEAN MOON)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

I will always plug Seahawks. There is just something about their glissy New Age synths and general aesthetic—that is, skilled sailors of the Bermuda Triangle or something—that just sits right with me. Often New Age with a beat for the Balearic lovers, this record is a purely ambient affair alongside Woo, Mark and Clive Ives from London. Watery, otherworldly, and fresh fresh fresh. Sink into the dreamzone.

Meat Beat Manifesto – Opaque Couché

(FLEXIDISC)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Theeeeeee Meat Beat Manifesto bring the crunch yet again. Varied, cohesive, and excellent. Contains sixteen tracks of beautifully sinister ambient, frenetic breakbeats, exquisitely garbled chuggers, and tunnel techno. Sixteen shades of space ghosts.



CAMRY

The Springfields – Singles 1986-1991

(SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

Nice! Circa 86 pop rockers, The Springfields, have a collection of their nice music. Wow!

Television Personalities – Some Kind Of Happening: Singles 1978-1989

(FIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

Wow! Nice! All your favorite T.V.P. songs all on two vinyl LP records. Nice! So catchy.

Dolly Mixture – Demonstration Tapes [Reissue]

(ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: ROCK

Oh Gee! Hard to find recordings of the greatest pop group now are available via Rough Trade. Dang! Nice!

Peter Ivers – Becoming Peter Ivers

(RVNG)

Find it in: ROCK

Wow! So nice! Wonderful song writing! Very good! Give it a listen!

Belly Jelly – Belly Jelly EP 7"

(GOODBYE BOOZY)

Find it in: PUNK

Nice! More disjointed new wave from Minnetonka, Sean Albert. Wow! BUY BUY BUY!

RICKY

Acid – Maniac (GIANT)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Bad Bunny – X 100PRE (RIMAS)

Find it in: WORLD

**Various Artists –
Colombian Soul (Compiled by
Bagar AKA Tricky D)** (BBE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

**Blood Incantation –
Hidden History Of The Human**

(DARK DESCENT)

Find it in: METAL

Cuco – Para Mi (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

EMILIUS

Working on getting my pilot's license

**The Springfields –
Singles 1986-1991** (SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

**Akiko Yano –
Iroha Ni Konpeitou [Reissue]**

(WE WANT SOUNDS)

Find it in: WORLD

She's wearing a rad jumpsuit & holding up a dolphin... does anything else really matter?

Omni – Networker (SUB POP)

Find it in: ROCK

Arthur Russell – Iowa Dream

(AUDIKA)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

More Arthur?? Incredible!

**David Westlake – Play Dusty
For Me** (CAPTURED TRACKS)

Find it in: ROCK

**Duster – Contemporary
Movement** (NUMERO)

Find it in: ROCK

Spectacular atmospheric downer jams.

MEMO

**Space Ghost –
Aquarium Nightclub** (TARTELET)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

**Daniel Maunick –
Macumba Quebrada**

(FAR OUT)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Raphael Saadiq – Jimmy Lee

(COLUMBIA)

Find it in: SOUL

Dam-Funk – STFU II 12"

(GLYDEZONE)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Azymuth – Demos (1973-75)

Vol. I & II (FAR OUT)

Find it in: WORLD

MARK

**Jojo Rabbit (2019) –
Directed by Taika Waititi**

It is amazing that it even got made!

**Little Women (2019) –
Directed by Greta Gerwig**

A fine re-telling of this classic.

**Daytrippers (1996)
[Criterion] – Directed by
Greg Mottola**

1996 comedy from Greg Mottola gets the Criterion treatment.

**Seablite – Grass Stains &
Novocaine** (MVD)

Find it in: ROCK

Awesome!!!

**Until The End Of The World
(1991) [Criterion] –**

Directed by Wim Wenders

The 4 hour version on Criterion.

THOMAS

**The Vulgar Boatmen –
You and Your Sister,
Please Panic & Opposite Sex
[Reissues]** (PLAY LOUD! PRODUCTIONS)

Find it in: ROCK

Utterly essential reissues of the three long-players by The Vulgar Boatmen. Led by The Gizmo's Dale Lawrence in Indiana and Robert Ray in Florida, the band operated as two distinct units with songs written long-distance via mailed cassettes. The results of the collaboration are achingly beautiful, folk/country rock wonders - deceptively simple and filled to the brim with moments of heartbreak and hopeful bliss. I could go on and on about the merits of the song-writing and performances on these records, but I'd recommend you just pick them up and listen for yourselves. Highest recommendation for fans of late-'80s/early-'90s jangle in the vein of The Feelies, R.E.M. and Miracle Legion.

**Thigh Master –
Now For Example** (GONER)

Find it in: ROCK

Clanging, hook-filled pop from Brisbane's Thigh Master. Fell in love with this band back in 2014 when they released their "Head of the Witch" single on their own label, Tenth Court, and the slow trickle of 7"s and one great LP (2016's *Early Times*) has cemented them as one of my favorite current practitioners of antipodean pop. The ramshackle rhythm section, and endearingly shaggy multi tracked guitars play off beautifully against the catchy, near-anthemical vocals, creating a joyous cacophony that can't help but flaunt its gleaming pop heart. Fans of The Clean and Sebadoh take note.

**Pernice Brothers –
Spread The Feeling** (ASHMONT)

Find it in: ROCK

Totally welcome return from The Pernice Brothers—creators of some of the most beautiful, soaring guitar pop music this side of Teenage Fanclub. Lead singer/songwriter, Joe Pernice proved himself to have one of the best voices around in the early '90s with his band The Scud Mountain Boys, and almost 30 years later it's lost none of its sympathetic power. The songs on *Spread The Feeling* are up there with Pernice's best, pairing gorgeous, baroque melodies with "The Kids Are Alright"-era Who bombast on standout tracks like "Always in All Ways." Wonderful!

**The Springfields –
Singles 1986-1991** (SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

No-brainer must-have collection of singles from this quintessential Sarah Records band and late '80s indie-pop ambassadors to the US. Heavy Byrds influenced 12-string brilliance defines these tracks, but a healthy dose of Midwestern power pop à la Shoes finds its way into the jangle. Anyone with even a passing interest in indie-pop needs this record.

Modern Nature – How To Live (BELLA UNION)

Find it in: ROCK

Excellent new project from Jack Cooper (ex-Ultimate Painting, Mazes) sees his already stellar, gently psychedelic folk-rock songwriting stretched out into new terrain with help from members of Sunwatchers and BEAK>. Beautifully recorded soundscapes and Neu!-esque motorik beats permeate the record, but it's Cooper's warm and infectious guitar and vocal melodic interplay which made this record one of my favorites from the latter part of 2019.

SHAHAN

2 Dudes / Barbecues /

"I love you" / "I love you, too"

**Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds –
Ghosteen** (GHOSTEEN LTD.)

Find it in: ROCK

"The songs on the first album are the children, the songs on the second album are the parents."

These songs don't describe the actions of characters and their outcomes, but rather seek to isolate Cave's own pain/anxiety/grief and externalize them. They take the form of "children and parents" because they aren't allowed to simply be Nick Cave at his most vulnerable.



The Replacements – *Tim* (SIRE)

Find it in: ROCK

For a long time I refused to listen to The Replacements because they were American. I thought they were brash, crass and arrogant. Finally my coworker gave me this record and I realized I was completely right and it's awesome.

The Sneetches – *Sometimes That's All We Have* (ALIAS)

Find it in: ROCK

Glorious guitar pop from San Francisco circa 1990. Wistful and wanting music for lovers and dreamers.

Dead Boys – *Young Loud and Snotty* (SIRE)

Find it in: PUNK

These songs have some serious pain in them hidden behind all the masochism and baloney.

Sheer Mag – *A Distant Call* (WILSUNS)

Find it in: PUNK

I usually end my Music We Likes with a Thin Lizzy single and an earnest call to action, but this is the next best thing. For fans of Judas Priest, Motorhead, AC/DC, Thin Lizzy, oldness, newness, Socialism and leather.

Thin Lizzy – “Showdown”/ “Nightlife” 7” (VERTIGO)

Find it in: ROCK

Pick up this single to use as the backing track to your next “Breakin’” style dance fight. Violence can't do anything a head-to-head demonstration of style and poise could just as well if not better. Goes great with the copy of “We Will Be Strong”/“Sweetheart” you picked up after reading my last Music We Like recommendation.

O.D. RECEIVER

Barcodes

Pop Group – *Y [Definitive Edition]* (MUTE)

Find it in: ROCK

Lee “Scratch” Perry – *Heavy Rain* (ON-U-SOUND)

Find it in: REGGAE

Don't DJ – *Laniakea 12”*

(HONEST JON'S)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Coil – *Stolen & Contaminated*

(COLD SPRING)

Find it in: ROCK

Bombay Jayashri – *Shravanam*

(TIME CAPSULE)

Find it in: WORLD

MORGAN

♪♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ (♡♡) ♪ ♪ ♪

The Motorcycle Boy – *Scarlet* (FORGOTTEN ASTRONAUT)

Find it in: ROCK

A well-deserved and highly recommended release, featuring ex-Shop Assistants member Alex Taylor on vocals, as well as Creation Records' own Meat Whiplash backing her. Each song bounces from blissful '80s guitar pop to shades of darker shambolic sweetness, making it a truly mesmerizing listen. This record fills the room when it's on, and I feel lucky to own it. Hopefully you'll give it a listen!

Peter Ivers – *Becoming Peter Ivers*

(RVNG INTL.)

Find it in: ROCK

This compilation is filled to the brim with obscure demos, unreleased rarities, and even a zine curated with interviews and photos admiring the late and great Peter Ivers. He said himself, that demos often have more guts, soul and energy than records do—and I can't think of a more deserving and fitting body of work to prove that statement true. His songs are genuine and authentic, like each a drop from his own heart of gold. Love love love it!

The Springfields – *Singles 1986-1991* (SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

Ooh, I love this compilation. Rick Menck and Paul Chastain are big-time indie pop legends in my book, so the idea of owning all the major singles released by their most beloved project of mine really makes me blush. I've always been a big fan of their melodious lyrics and various covers that you'll find in this reissue. Yeah...this one is really worth it.

Purple Mountains – *Purple Mountains* (DRAG CITY)

Find it in: ROCK

This record makes me feel too many feelings to put here in this little booklet, so I'll leave it at this- it's really good, and it's only a glimpse into the soul of the true artist that was and always will be David Berman.

Young Guv – *GUU I & II*

(RUN FOR COVER)

Find it in: ROCK

This record really caught me by surprise this past year. At one point, I was completely addicted to all four of the first tracks off *GUU I*. Layered with inspirations of Chris Bell's Big Star era, Matthew Sweet, and Teenage Fanclub, I found it hard not to like. And the songwriting is just really nice. Then on to *GUU II*, which takes the songwriting into a more playful and ballad-esque turn, along with some songs that just kind of make me laugh... or dance... Is this really a review anymore? I'm not sure. Just listen to it.

Blueboy – *If Wishes Were Horses* [Reissue] (A COLORFUL STORM)

Find it in: ROCK

Intimate and meaningful songwriting, paired with melancholic harmonies that remind you of being a kid on some foggy faraway beach. And yes, it's another Sarah Records reissue. I'm not mad.

LUCIANO

@latreaumont

Purple Pilgrims – *Perfumed Earth* (FLYING NUN)

Find it in: ROCK

New Zealand sister duo Purple Pilgrim are two witches casting spells of dream pop, golk, and cosmic jazz.

Cold Beat – *Mother* (DFA)

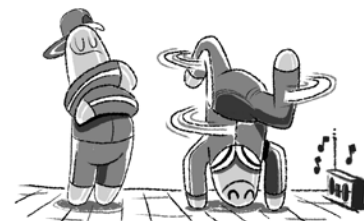
Find it in: ROCK

Bay Area quartet Cold Beat takes synth pop to the Milky Way in this new release via DFA.

Grimes – *Miss Anthropocene* (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Grimes is back with a much darker and ethereal new album inspired by Nu Metal, Drum & Bass, Dark Ambient and the end of the world as we know it.



Various Artists – *Seitō: In the Beginning, Woman Was the Sun* (AKUPHONE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Seitō gathers Japanese female artists from various electronic and experimental music fields. A collection of deconstructed dub, haunting electronics, doom folk, noise, and psych folk.

Yeule – *Seratonin II* (BAYONET)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

My favorite new artist! She's a perfect mix of dark ambient, synth pop, experimental, and electronic music. Beautiful ethereal vocals that are sexy and dark... I highly recommend it. You'll be addicted.

JOHN.T

Toshifumi Hinata – *Broken Belief* (MUSIC FROM MEMORY)

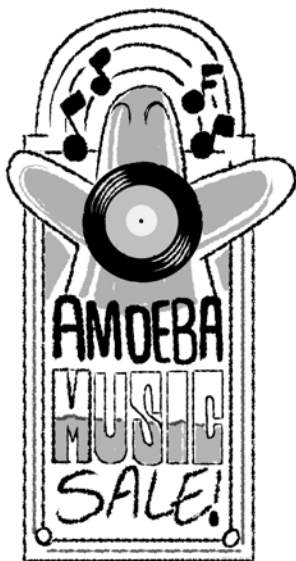
Find it in: WORLD

Another stellar release from Music From Memory. This time a compilation of works by Japanese multi-instrumentalist Toshifumi Hinata. After studying at Berklee College of music Hinata moved back to Japan and experimented with analog synths creating these works of light electronic pop with gentle soundtrack interludes. Fretless bass, piano, violin and synths are featured. Very relaxing.

Música Esporádica – *Música Esporádica* [Reissue] (MUSIC FROM MEMORY)

Find it in: WORLD

Apparently I should just work for Music From Memory as this label is constantly on my best-of lists. This time we get a reissue of the sole 1985 album from a collaboration between prolific American percussionist Glen Velez, Spanish New Age pioneer Suso Sáiz and a group of American and Spanish musicians (and a singer). A dreamy album full of hand drums, mallet instruments, wordless vocals and light keyboards. At times the mix of marimba and staccato vocals are straight out of Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians*. Outstanding stuff.



Duster – Duster (MUDDGUTS)

Find it in: ROCK

Duster was one of my favorite indie rock bands in the late '90s and early 2000s. Their last album was actually released in the year 2000. Well, 19 years later they are back! To my surprise they were selling out venues full of people born around the time they formed. The coolest part is they are still good and this new album doesn't feel forced, or so different as to be unfamiliar. This could have easily come out in 2001. I really don't think that happens too often.

Daniel Schmidt – Abies Firma (RECITAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Another collection of Mr. Berkeley Gamelan's compositions and recordings on the boutique Recital label. This time the record comes with a CD with bonus tracks. Lovely gamelan compositions. Some featuring the like minded Lou Harrison. It's limited edition again, but last time they reprinted the album two more times. Great 20 page pamphlet goes into quite a bit of detail in regards to the composition process.

Ruins – Marea / Tide [Reissue] (MUSIC FROM MEMORY)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Ok, I know it's getting ridiculous, but here's another from Music From Memory. How can a label be this great? This time it's a reissue of the 1984 *Sound Image Series* (the only album in the series) recording of Italian duo Ruins. Not to be

confused with the Japanese noise rock group of the same name. These two guys got together with a painter and made an album to be played along with his paintings at gallery openings. This was also the only place you could purchase said album, until now! Synth soundtrack style works with and without beats and light guitar. Still pretty relaxing. Comes with a bonus 7".

Tasos Stamou – D.A.D. (DISCREPANT)

Find it in: WORLD

Excellent new album from this Greek musician and electroacoustic experimenter. A mix of bouzouki improvisation, field recordings and electronics. I am at a loss for words so I will quote from the label: "Stamou delivers 40 minutes of music that explores ancient and modern languages, while crossing his unique instrumentation with celebrations of new/old folk, field recordings and electronics. In his music, there's a constant flow of ideas that defy standard tonalities and the conception of 'traditional'." Well it sounds cool to me.

War and Peace (1966) [Criterion]– Directed by Sergey Bondarchuk

It is seven hours long, so you have to be in the right mood, and you have to be down with costume drama and war movies. I think this movie is why the word sumptuous exists. This film, by some accounts, is the most expensive movie ever made, by a magnitude unfathomable even in these crazy times. The Soviet government gave full access to entire museums worth of set decoration and locations. The military handed over thousands of extras and equipment. Costumes worn by leads were occasionally vintage to the Napoleonic period. The color in this movie is amazing. There is nothing quite like '60s Soviet color timing. The aerial photography of the battlefields boggles the mind. Not for everyone, but if you are even remotely interested, you will be awestruck.

Local Hero (1983) – Directed by Bill Forsyth

Bill Forsyth's quiet comedy about an oil company hack from Texas who goes to a small village in Scotland to convince the town to sell the whole shebang so they can build a refinery. There is something magical and immensely likeable about this film. It is whimsical, beautifully filmed (even Michael Powell commented on the cinematography at the time), and effortlessly charming. Get it for your parents at least if it sounds too tame for you.

Monty Python's Flying Circus (1969–1974)

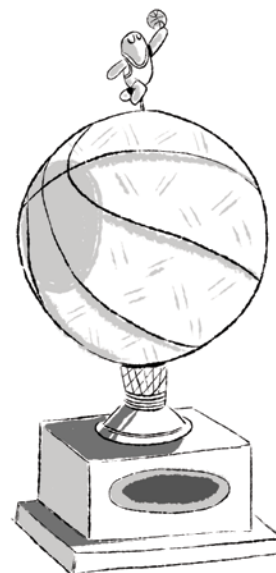
A painstaking restoration was completed of the entire *Flying Circus* four seasons. The episodes have never looked better, are more complete than ever and each season in this massive box comes with a 150 page book of incredibly detailed notes and essays. Yes, there are 600+ pages of notes in this box. It's really quite a collection, an amazing gift to the Monty Python fanatic in your life, even if that's you.

Monos (2019) – Directed by Alejandro Landes

"On a remote mountaintop, eight kids with guns watch over a hostage and a conscripted milk cow." Thus lays out the scenario for this *Lord of the Flies* style adventure involving an unstated militia in Colombia. Who are they working for and why is never discussed, and that is only for the best. Some of the most beautiful cinematography I've ever seen. I was gasping for breath at times during this movie. How this wasn't nominated for an academy award just blows my mind.

The Juniper Tree (1990) – Directed by Nietzchka Keene

4k restoration of this Icelandic fantasy film about witchcraft starring Bjork. It's got Bjork in it. And it's good. And it's not made by Lars Von Trier so she probably didn't cry because the director was mean to her. Lovely black and white landscapes abound.



STEELY

Nation of Buseys

Cuco – Para Mi (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

A bedroom-pop Roger Troutman with his heart on his sleeve. This record has a pharmaceutical bent, but the tabloids say he's freshly sober, so who knows where he goes next?

Jenny Hval – Practice Of Love (SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

Soundscape sensuality with a side of subtle pop moves. All her records are excellent. Light a candle, cyborg.

Sun City Girls – Dawn Of The Devi [Reissue] (ABDT)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

The slow drip of SCG reissues has finally landed on this fiery, spiteful wasp's nest of electric improvisation. It's a luscious nugget of Kryptonite in their lengthy catalog. A meteor of mean. The photo on the back says it all: a stark B+W shot of the Girls onstage, bent over, fully lost in their nasty scrapings, as two guys in hats wait for the headliner. Can guitars hate people? Drums?

The Mighty Sparrow – Slave [Reissue] (MODERN HARMONIE)

Find it in: WORLD

Our Slinger at his poetic, topical peak. The Dylan of Calypso; wit personified.

Grouper – AIA: Alien Observer (YELLOWELECTRIC)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Another freezerburn glacier from Grouper. Her records always feel like gifts. Complete with Basinski nod to hush the chin-strokers.

Duster – Duster (MUDDGUTS)

Find it in: ROCK

2019 was a resounding cultural trash fire. The return of Duster was a brief relief. Nonchalant magi.

DJ GEORGE BLEND

Maisha MC – VMME SAHAR

(TAUPALCA)

Find it in: HIP HOP

From Spain to the Bay, with raps in Spanish and English, Maisha MC delivered us a solid slice of wax with classic boom bap and next level beats.

Malev Da Shinobi – For Sickness and Health

(VINYL DIGITAL)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Malev shows off a more varied flow on his debut album, produced entirely by rising Indonesian beatsmith, Sickness MP.

I08 – Mission Infinite [Reissue]

(NBN ARCHIVES)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Legendary Bay Area project from 1996, featuring Encore and Grand the Visitor finally gets a proper release.

Jonathan Hay/Benny Reid/ Mike Smith – Follow The Leader: Reimagined As Jazz

(HAY REID & SMITH)

Find it in: HIP HOP/JAZZ

Fully endorsed by Eric B and Rakim. Can't lie, was a little hesitant when it came across my desk, but after my guy Jeff loaned me the tape, I couldn't turn it off.

Maple Syrup – High Tides

(MILLENNIUM JAZZ MUSIC)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Great beat art LP coming out of Russia, leaning toward lo-fi but with the occasional boom bap to keep you on your toes.

Emapea – Seeds, Roots, & Fruits [Reissue] (COLD BUSTED)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Necessary reissue of Polish producer Emapea's debut album as a double LP. Hip hop head-nodders with some reggae and funk mixed in.

Tip:

I can be caught playing rap and beat art records every first Wednesday at Makeout Room and third Saturdays at 540 Club in SF.

NOTES:



HOLLYWOOD

MARYANN

The Highwomen –

The Highwomen

(LOW COUNTRY SOUND)

Find it in: COUNTRY

📖 **Booksmart (2019) –**
Directed by Olivia Wilde

📖 **Jojo Rabbit (2019) –**
Directed by Taika Waititi

📖 **Once Upon a Time in...
Hollywood (2019) – Directed**
by Quentin Tarantino

📖 **Linda Ronstadt:**
The Sound of My Voice –
Directed by Rob Epstein
and Jeffrey Friedman

📖 **Catch & Kill: Lies, Spies and a**
Conspiracy to Protect Predators
– by Ronan Farrow
(LITTLE, BROWN)

Sturgill Simpson –
Sound & Fury (NEW ELEKTRA)
Find it in: COUNTRY



HOWARD

Harry Styles – Fine Line

(COLUMBIA)

Find it in: ROCK

This album is much better than you think it will be coming from an ex-member of One Direction. It's a lot less poppy than I thought it would be. Good songwriting and good usage of classic rock influences. "She" is a great song.

Beck – Hyperspace (CAPITOL)

Find it in: ROCK

Beck is a genius and anything he makes is better than 90% of anything else that's coming out. Get this album and every other album he's ever made.

📖 **Once Upon a Time in...
Hollywood (2019) – Directed**
by Quentin Tarantino

This movie is AMAZING. Instantly became one of my top three Tarantino films. It's funny, beautifully shot, interesting subject matter, and Leonardo DiCaprio is the greatest actor of all-time. Fact. I actually enjoyed this one more on the second viewing.

📖 **Die Hard (1988) –**
Directed by John McTiernan

Have you ever seen *Die Hard*? Have you ever seen *Die Hard...in 4K*? Well, you should. One of the greatest action movies ever made in astonishing clarity. Once you go 4K, you'll never go back.

MB

"The possible has been tried and failed.

Now it's time to try the impossible."

~ Sun Ra

Dustin O'Halloran – Sundoor
(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Find it in: ROCK

20-minute piece entitled "196Hz," created as a score for American artist Slater Bradley's *Sundoor* at World's End installation in Venice, Italy in 2017. One-sided vinyl with etched labyrinth on the b-side. A floating long-breath of near-stasis. Revelations appear in the space between

that same stasis and the patient unfolding. Very exciting to see the classical juggernaut Deutsche Grammophon signing this new wave of young international composers.

Psychic TV – The Evening Sun Turns Crimson (SWEET NOTHING)

Find it in: ROCK

Live performance to accompany Derek Jarman's *In The Shadow Of The Sun*, recorded at London's Cafe Oto on May 23, 2017. Instrumental meditation music featuring drums, violin, percussion, flute, guitar and keyboards. Very lovely and slightly hippie.

Various Artists – Musique Ambiante Francaise Vol. 2 (TIGERSUSHI)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Absolutely stunning collection of French Ambient Electronica. From warped and looping Satie-inspired piano musings, to warm drones and bubbling lullabies. Always inventive and refreshingly uncynical. Just exceptional!

Jefre Cantu-Ledesma – Tracing Back the Radiance (MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Vibes, flute, harp, pedal steel guitar, piano, voice, violin, synths and effects programming all team to create the electro-acoustic equivalent of watching clouds boil slowly against the mountains.

ARP Ensemble – Live!

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: JAZZ

Electro-acoustic jazz interplay that pulls from Les Baxter, Mwandishi-era Herbie Hancock, *A Love Supreme* and similar spiritual explorations of the post-Coltrane continuum. Some tracks feel more within the Afro-American improvisational idiom and others echoing the sleek ECM European vocabulary. Altogether superb!

Rose – Hymn To Moisture

(EAUX)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

There is a particular thread of Electronica that revels in the combination of repeating pulse and shifting texture. I am drawn to this style more strongly than probably any other... dunno why. The Field, Abul Mogard, Burial, all of which could be seen as electronic inheritors of the Reich and Glass 20th Century Avant-Garde continuum. Repeat as you change. This musical

philosophy has crept deep into our post-millennial film soundtracks by way of composers like Johann Johannsson (*Arrival*), Cliff Martinez (*Neon Demon*) and even, to some extent Thom Yorke (*Suspiria*). Rose works this mine. *Hymn to Moisture* has wriggled into my ears and taken residence in my spinal fluid. Come find me.

Ludwig & Sallaerts –

Entre-Acte (MEANDER)

My ears always perk up when I hear non-dance floor Electronica that's been rendered with a very light hand. There's something very optimistic and care-free happening on *Entre-Acte*, yet it's neither naive or simple. This small sampling of Ludwig & Sallaerts' captured thought processes is all over the map: from cinematic pulses to jazz-electro conversation, and that's what I love about it. The musicians I respect most make the sounds that that they want to make. Get on board or move on past.

A Winged Victory For The Sullen – The Undivided Five

(NINJA TUNE)

Find it in: ROCK

Devices dude, Dustin O'Halloran and Adam Wiltzie from Stars of the Lid team up for a project that merges their sensibilities and rises beyond. I was never sold on Wiltzie's SOTL project, feeling that there just wasn't enough there. However, *AVVFTS* delivers a cinematic, beautifully paced document of drone, texture and chant. Thanks, Pete Majors for pushing me in the right direction.



Hiro Kone –

A Fossil Begins To Bray (DAIS)

Find it in: ROCK

A caustic, often aggressive and often soothing release from NY producer, Nicky Mao. A title that I keep returning to and getting more from on each listen. Dark, hopeless and hopeful, yet consistently inventive.

Tip:

Keep your ears open to the live music that the Lodge Room and Zebulon are featuring. Stupendous bookings of important sounds.

WYATT

Bolzer – Lese Majesty

(LIGHTNING & SONS)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Departure Chandelier – The Black Crest of Death, The Gold Wreath of War

(NUCLEAR WAR NOW!)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Insomnium –

Heart Like A Grave

(CENTURY MEDIA)

Find it in: METAL

Various Artists –

Come On Up To The House:

Women Sing Waits (DUALTONE)

Find it in: ROCK

ZACHARY BOUVION

Atrax Morgue – Autoerotic Death [Reissue] (URASHIMA ITALY)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

First vinyl release for some of the late Marco Corbelli's earliest recordings of bleak Power Electronic filth. Limited to Urashima's usual 199 copies, this is ground floor '90s death industrial following in the same bloody footsteps as '80s rippers Con-Dom, Grey Wolves & Genocide Organ; and prefiguring acts like Deathpile, Slogun, En Nihil, etc.

Subklinik –

Cremator / Of Bones And Death

(BREATHING PROBLEM)

Find it in: GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

Double vinyl package pairing the long absent 2000 release *Cremator* (on Atrax Morgue's Slaughter Productions), with a vinyl debut for the equally pummeling recent release on upstart Deathbed Tapes. Subklinik is one of the true early American forces of harsh Industrial sounds. Buzzing synth tones, creepy samples, disorienting tone shifts, pure misanthropy.

Moonbeam Terror –

Comfort Knife (HOSPITAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Solo debut from Anjilla (one-half of Autoerotichrist). Discomforting clank and screech, blown-out vocal wailing, low-end splutter, Argento samples—this one's got it all. Can't wait to hear what's next.

Lingua Ignota – Caligula

(PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

The best of 2019, and probably closing in on All-Time Favorite status. As powerful of an artistic statement as I can recall ever hearing. Emotionally harrowing, but endlessly listenable; Mme. Hayter is a juggernaut of ideas and energy. Really hits home for survivors of abuse, and those who stand with them—which probably is/should be all of us. Extra poignant for those of us with a complicated history with Christianity, and the scars left thereby. It's unbelievable she can so closely replicate this force live. Can't wait to hear her new collaborative project with members of The Body & Full of Hell called Sightless Pit.

Skin Crime –

Traveller On The Road

(HOSPITAL)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Brand new opus from long-standing Noise vanguard. Two epic tracks of mounting terror. Pure creep-out atmospherics—impressions of clanking chains, ominous scratching, furious scribbling and dripping water. Much more dynamic than the collaboration with Wilt (*Horror Of Fang Rock*) that surfaced last year, but with the same howling winds blowing through it. Note: I swear that Hospital Productions is not compensating me in any way for constantly slobbering all over their releases, although I wouldn't be averse to that...

Merzbow – Pulse Demon

[Reissue] (RELAPSE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

First ever readily accessible vinyl pressing for this epoch-defining Noise statement. Gently re-sequenced and remastered by James Plotkin. Really a lot of '90s Noise nostalgia going on with me right now.

Druadan Forest – Dismal Spells From The Dragonrealm

(WEREWOLF)

Find it in: METAL

Tolkien-inspired Dungeon Synth & Fantasy Ambient from this Finnish solo project. For fans of Summoning, Balrog, Uruk-Hai, etc. Much broader palette than a lot of the current crop of DS loners.

Depressive Silence – The Darkened Empires

[Reissue] (FINAL AGONY)

Find it in: METAL

First-ever vinyl pressing of the 1995 debut cassette from this cornerstone Dungeon Synth duo. Along with Mortii, this short-lived project really sets the blueprint for all DS projects to come. People are freaking the fuck out over a new cassette box set of their catalog, and while tapes are the beating heart of this scene, I'm still of the mindset that it doesn't really matter until it's on vinyl. Final Agony have done us all a huge favor (see also their now-pricey repress of related project, Gothmog).

Coil, New Blockaders, Vortex Campaign – The Melancholy Mad Tenant

[Reissue] (INFINITE FOG RUSSIA)

Find it in: GOTH / INDUSTRIAL

New vinyl edition housing the now complete 1984 recording and adding the remaining output for this epic three-headed monster: Proto-Industrial noise for fans of Throbbing Gristle, earliest Nurse With Wound, and the Broken Flag/Whitehouse UK Noise axis.

Clavicla – Sepulchral Blessing

(CYCLIC LAW / SENTIENT RUIN LABORATORIES)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Haunting sophomore album from Italian dark ambient / ritual industrial project. Last year's debut was a dazzling late discovery for me, and this one is equally powerful. The gurgling vocal treatments are terrifying, and perfectly fit the lurching synth thuds and cathedral echo. For fans of the more subdued work of Trepanner-

ingspiritualen, Nordvargr, or Lustmord. If you find yourself absorbed by this, I'd recommend searching out lesser-known works by Asche or Endvra, that I've come across chasing this sound.

Daniel J. White – La Comtesse Noire – Des Frissons Sur La Peau

[OST] (OMEGA PRODUCTIONS FRANCE)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Collecting two classic '70s Jess Franco Euro-smut/splatter film scores. Funky French library strut & some lounge-y vocal themes for fans of Edda dell'Orso's work with Morricone. Breathing-taking NSFW/Instagram cover shot.

Viy (1967) – Directed by Konstantin Ershov / Georgiy Kropachyov

Finally available on Blu-Ray, Viy is a brilliant Russian folk-horror classic. Inspired by the same Nikolai Gogol text that Bava loosely based *Black Sunday* on. Like an Eastern-Bloc Hammer film mixed with some epic Euro weirdness akin to *Valerie and Her Week of Wonders* or *Marketa Lazarová*.

Tip:

Zachary sends fond greetings and appreciation to Kerryanne & Penelope, Noisextra crew, Alex Deathbed, Oxen family, Mortlake & Co. (Seattle), fellow Dungeon Siege West travelers. Still reeling from *Heilung's* US debut ritual, and anxiously awaiting *Genocide Organ & Terror Cell Unit's* upcoming happening. Read: *The Wicked Shall Decay* - Charms, Spells & Witchcraft of Old Britain by A.D. Mercer. Listen: *Bone and Sickle Podcast*.

PEGGY

The Menzingers – Hello Exile

(EPITAPH)

Find it in: ROCK

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

The Replacements – Dead Man's Pop (RHINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Jeff Rosenstock – Thanks, Sorry!

(REALLY RECORDS/POLYVINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

Laura Stevenson – The Big Freeze (DON GIOVANNI)

Find it in: ROCK

CIGGY BOP

Allah-Las – Lahs

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

The Clash – London Calling: Scrapbook (COLUMBIA/LEGACY)

Find it in: PUNK

It comes with a cool 120 page book!

Vivian Girls – Memory

(POLYVINYL)

Find it in: ROCK

Someone described it as fast and fried and I like that!

Mikal Cronin – Seeker

(MERGE)

Find it in: ROCK

It's Great!

Liam Gallagher – Why Me? Why Not.

(WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: ROCK

It's also Great!

RANISIA

Taco Aficionado,
South Central Los Angeleno,
Prince Fanatic.

Gang Starr – One Of The Best Yet

(GANG STARR ENTERTAINMENT)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Choice Track: "Bad Name"

Michael Kiwanuka – KIWANUKA (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: SOUL

Choice Track: "Piano Joint (This Kind Of Love)"

Thundercat – It Is What It Is

(BRAINFEEDER)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Choice Track: "Black Qualls" (featuring Steve Arrington & Steve Lacy)



Prince – 1999 [Deluxe Edition Reissue] (WARNER BROS.)

Find it in: SOUL

Choice Track: The entire album is a classic and there are bonus 7" versions!

Kamaal Williams – DJ-Kicks (K7)

Find it in: JAZZ

Choice Track: "Stuck" (by Peven Everett)

Kiefer – Superbloom

(STONES THROW)

Find it in: JAZZ

Choice Track: "Be Encouraged"

Sudan Archives – Athena

(STONES THROW)

Find it in: SOUL

Choice Track: "Black Vivaldi Sonata"

Moonchild – Little Ghost

(EI)

Find it in: SOUL

Choice Track: "The Other Side"

Danny Brown – unknowhatimsayin (WARP)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Choice Track: "3 Tears" (featuring Run The Jewels)

The Last Black Man In San Francisco (2019) – Directed by Joe Talbot

What To Have Handy While Watching: tissue.

■ **Uncut Gems (2019)** –

Directed by
The Safdie Brothers

What To Have Handy While Watching: cbd gummies.

■ **Aretha Franklin:**

Amazing Grace (2018) –
Directed by Alan Elliot,
Sydney Pollack

What To Have Handy While Watching: even more tissue. and a good church fan because that's exactly where Aretha will take you in the documentary.

■ **Hustlers (2019)** –

Directed by Lorene Scafaria

What To Have Handy While Watching: stripper heels, the clear ones, & 6 inches or higher: you'll be ready to pop lock and drop it right in your living room.

Robert Glasper –

Fuck Yo Feelings (LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: JAZZ

Choice Track: "Endangered Black Woman"
(featuring Andra Day & Staceyann Chin)

TONY C

Your neighbor

□ **Twin Peaks: The Return**
(2017) – **Directed by**
David Lynch

■ **Once Upon A Time In...
Hollywood (2019)** –
Directed by
Quentin Tarantino

Childish Gambino –
Awaken, My Love! /
"This Is America"

(GLASSNOTE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

■ **ROBOCOP (1987)**
[Limited Edition] –
Directed by Paul Verhoeven

Thousand Foot Whale Claw –
Black Hole Party

(HOLODECK)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Harold Faltermeyer –
Beverly Hills Cop [OST]

(ENJOY THE RIDE)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Daft Punk –

T R O N : Legacy [OST]

(WALT DISNEY)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross –
Watchmen: Vol. 03 [OST]

(THE NULL CORPORATION)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Vangelis – Blade Runner
[OST Reissue] (WARNER)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

John Carpenter,
Alan Howarth – Big Trouble
In Little China [OST Reissue]

(MONDO)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

DAVE C

Mourn – Sorpresa Familia

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Find it in: ROCK

Deerhunter –
Why Hasn't Everything
Already Disappeared?

(4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Angel Olsen – All Mirrors

(JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: ROCK

DIIV – Deceiver

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Find it in: ROCK



CHRIS CURTIS

Pet Shop Boys – Hotspot (X2)

Find it in: ROCK

Catchy, clever compositions from Neil and Chris. Retro in some respects, but also shiny and modern.

Temples – Hot Motion (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Tasty and trippy brew of psych, pop, and Marc Bolan-style swagger.

☞ **Tosh – by Tosh Berman**

(CITY LIGHTS)

Warm and welcoming memoir of growing up as the son of a seminal L.A. artist. Gently humorous, the book details the author's encounters with a diverse cast of characters from the worlds of music, art, film, and Beat culture.

♣ **Watergate – Designed by**

Matthias Cramer (CAPSTONE GAMES)

Find it in: TABLETOP GAMES

Play as either the Nixon administration or the Washington Post in this tense and compelling 2-player tug-of-war. Nice graphic design with attractive components. Highly recommended!

♣ **Point Salad – Designed by**
Molly Johnson, Robert Melvin,
& Shawn Stankewich

(ALDERAC)

Find it in: TABLETOP GAMES

Sharp, quick-playing game about assembling the best salad! Two-sided cards allow for different scoring conditions for every game. Easy to learn, and a hit with everyone I've played it with.

BRIAN DAVIS

We fit Donnelly nut-spacing rim-riding grip grids and splay flex brace columns against beam fastened derrick husk nuts and girdle plate jerries using a field of half-seized sprats and brass-fitted nickel slits.

Big Thief – Two Hands

(4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Jessica Pratt – Quiet Signs

(MEXICAN SUMMER)

Find it in: ROCK

Molly Burch – First Flower

(CAPTURED TRACKS)

Find it in: ROCK

Pernice Brothers –

Spread The Feeling (ASHMONT)

Find it in: ROCK

Whitney –

Forever Turned Around

(SECRETLY CANADIAN)

Find it in: ROCK

Ride – This Is Not A Safe Place

(WICHITA)

Find it in: ROCK

Rustin Man – Drift Code

(DOMINO)

Find it in: ROCK

Robert Forster – Inferno

(TAPETE)

Find it in: ROCK

Pale Saints – The Comforts Of
Madness [30th Anniversary
Reissue] (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

The Dukes Of Stratosphear –
Psurroundabout Ride

(APE HOUSE)

Find it in: ROCK

Haruomi Hosono – Hosono House (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)
Find it in: ROCK

Various Artists – Across The Great Divide: Getting It Together In The Country 1968-1974 (GRAPEFRUIT / CHERRY RED)
Find it in: ROCK

Various Artists – The Bakersfield Sound: Country Music Capital Of The West 1940-1974 (BEAR FAMILY)
Find it in: COUNTRY

Various Artists – Electrical Language: Independent British Synth Pop 78-84 (CHERRY RED)
Find it in: ROCK

Various Artists – Bob Stanley & Pete Wiggs Present English Weather (ACE)
Find it in: ROCK

ELI

ding dong dandy ol' daddy

■ **Midsommar (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster**

Alright, I get it. I'm sure you are sick and tired of every single one of your horror nerd friends talking about this movie (including every other one in this booklet) or the countless people online being like "OMG OodNess NOT eVEN sCaRY"

well guess what here comes another one, and I'm not sorry.

visually this movie is stunning from top to bottom, the group think/ cult aspect makes this movie absolutely terrifying, its set in daylight, and it truly disturbs you without ever needing to have a single deformed boy with a machete, or a jump scare every ten seconds. keeping you on the edge of pure terror and laughter is not

only unsettling as hell, but does way more for me than any other form of cliché horror that I saw last year.

□ **Wonder Showzen – Created by Vernon Chatman/ John Lee**
this kids show for adults is an incredible satire take of PBS kids shows and is even more relevant today than when it aired back in 2005 on MTV2.

for a small taste of what you're getting yourself into each episode begins with a disclaimer, which reads: "Wonder Showzen contains offensive, despicable content that is too controversial and too awesome for actual children. The stark, ugly and profound truths Wonder Showzen exposes may be soul-crushing to the weak of spirit. If you allow a child to watch this show, you are a bad parent or guardian."

Cunts – Cunts (IPECAC RECORDINGS)
Find it in: PUNK

Incredible unapologetic hardcore punk tunes brought to you by Michael Crain (Dead Cross/ retox) and Matt Cronk (Qui). If you ever get a chance to see these guys live DO IT. If not, throw on this album and light a cop car on fire. It just may get close to capturing the experience.

Pissgrave – Posthumous Humiliation (PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: BLACK METAL

Absolutely disgusting, depraved, violent, horrible, despicable, and completely inaccessible. AND I LOVE IT. this band brings you straight back to old school death metal and then beats you to death with it. this band hails from Philly, PA with members: Matt Mellon (the Body), Tim Mellon, Demian Fenton, (Serpent Throne), and Brad D. (Otesanek).

this bombastic metal album makes you feel like you're being beat to death by a large gorilla in front of a kindergarten class on thanksgiving. lofi production values, mixed with extreme talent equals one disgusting album that is refreshing as hell.

WARNING the cover of this album is an exploded human head...what you thought I was joking when I said it was disgusting?

Metz – Automat (SUB POP)
Find it in: ROCK

THESE GUYS RIP TOO HARD. the last time I saw these guys I flattened my brand new

prescription glasses, got concussed, and have never been the same. (seriously send help)

This three-piece Canadian noise rock band has been around for a while, and I'm positive you've heard at least one of their songs in passing, but if not this is a great way to jump into their catalog. this album is a great way of looking back on their incredible catalog, while the band just keeps moving forward. this collection of b-sides and previously unreleased cuts is great for people just finding this band, or for die-hard fans alike.

Tip:
wait you're actually reading this? lol nerd.... check out my band on instagram: (@gigantictheband) Facebook: Gigantic or on bandcamp: <https://gigantictheband.bandcamp.com/> hugs and kisses boo boo see you next time ツ<3>

GNARL\$BAD

Beach bum in the big city!

Bee Gees – Idea (REPRISE)
Find it in: ROCK

Forget the disco and hear this instead

Demob Happy – Less is More / Autoportrait 7" (SO/ SILVA SCREEN)
Find it in: ROCK

Kikagaku Moyo – House in Tall Grass (GURUGURU BRAIN)
Find it in: ROCK
Nothing but vibes

Courtney Barnett – / Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit (MOM & POP MUSIC)
Find it in: ROCK

Greta Van Fleet – Anthem Of A Peaceful Army (REPUBLIC)
Find it in: ROCK
Kick-ass, powerhouse rock group from Michigan. If you like Zeppelin, you'll love them!

■ **Midsommar (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster**
Scariest movie I've seen in a while. Thought provoking and straight up terrifying.



Post Animal – The Garden Series (POLYVINYLL)
Find it in: ROCK

Harry Styles – Fine Line (COLUMBIA)
Find it in: ROCK

Not just a washed up ID member, hear this guy like never before! Amazing orchestrations and some hidden gems :)

Once Upon A Time In... Hollywood (2019) – Directed by Quentin Tarantino
Tarantino re-writes history again in this love letter to the '60s.

PRISMESS BEAM

Mix Composer, Light Bender

FKA Twigs – Magdalene (YOUNG TURKS)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Wounded angel in pearled armor

Boy Harsher – Careful (NUDE CLUB)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Dark dance

Blood Orange – Angel's Pulse (DOMINO)
Find it in: ROCK
Spectrum droplets

Toro Y Moi – Outer Peace (CARPARK)
Find it in: ROCK
deep thoughts on the dance floor

Tinashe – Songs for You

(TINASHE MUSIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Nude sweat

Dizzy Fae – NO GMO Mixtape

(DIZZY FAE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Phat emotion

Klein – Lifetime (IJN)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Gritty metallic

Solange – When I Get Home

(COLUMBIA)

Find it in: SOUL

Intentional orchestra

Kim Gordon –

No Home Record

(MATADOR)

Find it in: ROCK

A surprise!

SIR LORD ANDORKAPPEN

Not too big on lists.

This is my first one inna couple of years.

Support underground music.

Reject mainstream culture.

It's mind poison.

Vágtázó Halottkémek

(Galloping Coroners) –

Eletzuhatag

(SELF-RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK

The best record in over 25 years from the best band ever from Hungary (or anywhere). Utmost primal shamanistic psych/punk/metal from another dimension. The Past Is Alive...

Geronimo – Obsolete

(THREE ONE 6)

Find it in: ROCK

One of the most unique & heaviest releases of the year from these unjustly obscure SoCal underground music legends. Ultra-heavy yet ethereal—this band sounds like no one else. Seek it out & get brutalized!!!

MASTER – Vindictive

Miscreant

(TRANSCENDING OBSCURITY)

Find it in: METAL

This came out in late 2018 on a small Indian metal label. MASTER is one of the founders of the style of music known as “Death Metal.” Originally from Chicago, now based out of the Czech Republic, this is their fifteenth studio album and it rules hard.

Black Swan –

The Sentimental Drift

(ETHEREAL SYMPHONY)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Amazing ambient/drone project from NYC that is probably my favorite contemporary practitioner of the style. The sound world of Black Swan is densely orchestrated and positively dreamlike.

Defiled – Infinite Regress

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

From the promotional video alone, I predicted nothing but spazzed-out technical brutality from this Japanese band. One of the weirdest and most unique in Death Metal.

JASON FLAX

Griselda – WWCD (SHADY)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Chromatics –

Closer To Grey

(ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)

Find it in: ROCK

Whirr – Feels Like You

(SELF RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK

The Professionals –

The Professionals

(MADLIB INVASION)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Turnover – Altogether

(RUN FOR COVER)

Find it in: ROCK



DAVIS JONZ

Taylor Swift – Lover

(REPUBLIC)

Find it in: ROCK

I didn't want to do it but I did. And I am glad I did! One listen was all it took and I was hooked from beginning to end. This all-over-the-place record is so laden with hits it's almost impossible to pick a favorite. It's a pop-rock-electronic rollercoaster and I totally dig it. Forget all you know about T.S. and give this a listen.

Hildur Gudnadottir –

Joker [OST] (WATER TOWER)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Personally I am not a soundtrack score person at heart. In fact the last score I ever owned was Bond's *For Your Eyes Only* and I bought that on cassette from Columbia House so that speaks volumes. I do however watch a ton of movies and I have to admit the score from *Joker* leapt out at me. This score is haunting, beautiful and disturbing all at the same time. If you want to just chill and let your creative mind wander this is your soundtrack.

Bob Moses – Battle Lines

(DOMINO)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Talking about wanting an escape record? Well, here's your affordable brain vacation. This Bob Moses record is a journey +. From the initial “Heaven Only Knows” you disembark on a mind journey that will take you anywhere you please. Enjoy this Electro-Light gem from launch to landing. This is Bob Moses sophomore release. “Don't Hold Back” is my key track.

Sturgill Simpson –

Sound & Fury (ELEKTRA)

Find it in: COUNTRY

My #1 record of 2019 goes to this album. I can fess-up and say I am a follower on this. I had no idea what Sturgill Simpson sounded like nor did I ever think about wanting to. So I played along with the help of the Amoeba.com customers and joined the party. Imagine my surprise when this became my running/jogging soundtrack. Motivating, thought provoking and just plain kickass! Dig this album! Now its time to visit some other Sturgill Simpson releases.

Lana Del Rey – Norman

F***g Rockwell** (INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

Sometimes fanfare and bells-n-whistles record releases can be just a bit off-putting, for me personally anyway. So I felt the need to decompress from all of that before giving this a listen. With Lana Del Rey you know what you're getting into. Such as breathy vocals, sometimes repetitive subject matter (beaches, California) so it's never THAT big of a deal for her to repeat them or for her to sound like she's about to fall asleep or simply to fade away completely. This review is starting to sound not very positive but just hold on now! This Album is quite good and a little more on the serious side than her past releases. It was a nice breath of fresh air to hear some growth from her. Though not for everyone, but certainly not to be discounted either. Key track for me is “F**ck it I Love You.”

RICK FRYSTAK

Overheard at an Irish dart bar,

“I’m surprised that the president

still has his head!”

Jan Bang, Arve Henriksen,

Erik Honoré, Gaute Storaas

– Knut Hamsun’s “Victoria” –

Soundtrack (JAZZLAND)

Find it in: JAZZ

Make the score from real group composition. Very melodic, moving and mesmerizing. Lots of re-sampling of what they played as they improvise. The score is made from samples and composition as they played live. The fellows really know what they're doing with the new software. It really comes out as they play and they make it sound easy, but to put it all together? It's lovely.

Max Richter – *Ad Astra* [OST]

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Lush ambient with luscious instrumentals, make for an effective score, no visuals needed but I love sci-fi so there we go. Max is a brain at this stuff, and he knows what we want, and does it. Lush orchestrations with electronics and drones. Ambient-type electronics with musique concrete. A winner.

John McLaughlin, Shankar Mahadevan, Zakir Hussain – *Is That So?* (ABSTRACT LOGIX)

Find it in: JAZZ

Amazing Indian vocal music, with John's guitar synth chording and riffing and Zakir's free-rhythm tabla percussions out in front. This is John's new direction he states, but John is very loose and free these days, so I don't know what he's going to do next. He's so good it doesn't matter.

Bill Hicks – *Access All Areas*

Find it in: COMEDY

This could very well be the best comedy album ever recorded. The late Bill Hicks goes at the jokes as if they will tear him up if he doesn't get them. EXTREMELY FUNNY! Watch out...he's good! I Love Bill... gone way too soon. Fortunately, lots of Bill's work is available, on YouTube also, so you get the whole deal. I want to see this one! DIGITAL

Dustin O'Halloran – *Sundoor*

(DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON)

Find it in: ROCK

Dustin's minimal style is more minimal here, and this disc moves into Steve Reich territory. He's also signed with Deutsche Grammophon, so the classical legitimacy is now draped over him like the priest's vestments. Very moving minimalism, still. This music defies the passage of time. With wonderful instruments and electronics used, they have come up with a sound here.

Forest Swords – *The Machine Air* [OST]

(DENSE TRUTH)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Samples fuel the Swords' work here, and this is a soundtrack reaching beyond what could be a possible best record for them/him. Tightly organized, with many cool, unusual sounds to feed the visual aspect (which I have not seen). Sampling all over 'da place.

Gabriel Yared – *Judy* [Original Score] (DECCA)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Beautiful cues, identifying characters and moods, a wonderful addition to Yared's body of work, whom I've always admired as one of the most melodic writers in Hollywood scoring at this time. A beauty. He should be writing symphonies regularly. Wait, these ARE symphonies!

Miles Davis – *The Lost Quintet* (SLEEPY NIGHT)

Find it in: JAZZ

Here's the grouping with Miles, Wayne Shorter, Jack DeJohnette, Chick Corea, Airto and Dave Holland. Grooving, creative scratch (when they could hear each other) taking into account that the band wouldn't be together much longer. Wayne was off to the magnificent, early Weather Report, Chick to Return To Forever, etc., and you name it, they were gone. Sorry Miles, we didn't get him to record a proper record. But where could they go from here, really. You've heard this kind of sound with Steve Grossman after Wayne left.

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

Find it in: JAZZ

Touches lots of bases in this bass-less trio recording, quite wonderful; Ben Monder shines as if this were his record. "Out" playing with an "in" feel to it, never getting lost; Estonian pianist Randalu keeps his chords centered because it IS his record. Drummer Markku Ounaskari is felt more that heard, perhaps like small tides at the shore-in, out, in, out. Easy to hear, hard to play! Monder, too... get into him if you aren't already. A great trio here.

Bill Frisell, Thomas Morgan – *Epistrophy (Live At The Village Vanguard, New York, NY / 2016)* (ECM)

Find it in: JAZZ

What can you say about Frisell? He puts an album out every 15 minutes, so many seeds and projects excite him. There are two of them on this list! The playing is so dynamic- searching isn't a dynamic enough word. There is so much music here for two musicians, it's kind of mysterious. How do they do it? Why and how are maestros created? I can't figure it... practice? Experience? Birthing? Sessions played on? Here are a couple. Let's try to figure it out.

John Coltrane – *Blue World*

(VERVE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Lots of cuts here that were the original first versions, like "Naima," "Like Sonny," etc, but had sat on a shelf because these were made for a film, but this LP never came out as an LP, hard to believe; maybe film people don't value original Coltrane tapes! Differing mixes only slightly, but the cats at Universal have a gold mine here! The other "original" cuts have looser playing but these are super special because the mixes just seem to slide together tightly; alas, film people and jazz music. Now that *La La Land* was a hit, the timing that they were forgotten/ stolen / stashed / sold, is / was / could have been a big mistake, and here we are with a film about jazz music. No, but yeah, but no, but yeah, but no but yeah but no but...

Bill Frisell – *Harmony* (BLUE NOTE)

Find it in: JAZZ

Gorgeous playing by all involved. Here Bill gets together with Petra Haden, for some terrific harmony! They have it all arranged to come out into this lovely set of music that's hard to categorize... who cares? Jazz/Americana/Roots music and Beyond! Bill is a master at this, and here he is showing off his roots and history. He's just great! I mean, to begin his catalog we'd have to go to 1983 just on ECM playing shoulder to shoulder with the best jazz cats and world musicians, and here he's got Charlie Haden's daughter.

Ryuichi Sakamoto – *Rage* [OST] (MILAN)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Ambient/drone/melodic music fused together in this LP of tones and textures. Leaning more towards the ambient side of things, he works at it here more texturally than ambient or melodic. It's hard for me, as I am a huge fan of Sakamoto-San. He can do no wrong in my opinion. Sample this someplace and know that the whole record is like that.

Brian Eno, Daniel Lanois, Roger Eno – *Apollo: Atmospheres and Soundtracks* [Remastered]

(ASTRALWERKS)

Find it in: ROCK

Now here's a nice one: LOTS of extra sounds from one of my favorite Eno records; I've spent a lot of time with the original; I can say that Danny Lanois had had as much to do as ENO with this-his mark is everywhere on it! It had



to be another album's worth of stuff but I can't think of it. If you like the original, you could just buy this one. Doubt if these will be on vinyl, but it kinda feels like a set-up...

Tip:

Every second Saturday on KPFK 90.7FM Radio and KPFK. ORG 6am to 8am or stream 24/7 by date and time at kpfk.org/audioarchives

DERICH HEATH

dheath.bandcamp.com

Check out the *Midnight Movie Podcast!*

Available on most major streaming platforms!

■ *Vice Squad* (1982) – Directed by Gary Sherman

Gary Sherman's crime thriller *Vice Squad* (1982) is a masterpiece, unusually thoughtful pulp, exploitation with a conscience and an admirable adherence to realism. Underrated B-movie stalwart Wings Hauser makes quite the impression as the villain, a brutal pimp named Ramrod. Martin Scorsese stated at the time that *Vice Squad* deserved the Best Picture Oscar for 1983, and it's a fair statement. The movie has languished in obscurity for decades, but luckily Shout Factory recently gave it a long overdue release on DVD/Blu. Get this movie. You will not regret it.

Dennis Wilson – *Pacific Ocean Blue* (SONY LEGACY)

Find it in: ROCK

Supposedly the other Beach Boys were mighty jealous when they heard baby drummer boy Dennis's first solo offering, and they had every reason to be, as it's shockingly, stunningly good.



A total gem of an album. Give this one a spin. Genuine heart and soul for days. You don't have to be a Beach Boys fan to appreciate it.

William Orbit – Strange Cargo I (PHANTOM)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

William Orbit ended up becoming one of the most sought after record producers of the late-'90s/early-'00s, but prior to then he released a massive series of instrumental albums known as the *Strange Cargo* series. They're all good, but the very first one is flat-out great, like the soundtrack to a cool '80s movie that doesn't exist. Probably my most listened to record of 2019, despite the fact that it's over three decades old. CD copies are regularly available in our Electronica section, and it rarely goes for more than a few dollars. Worth every penny.

The Addiction (1995) – Directed by Abel Ferrara

Abel Ferrara is my #1 favorite filmmaker, and his existential vampire flick *The Addiction* was recently given an absolutely fantastic Blu release by Arrow. By using vampire lore to explore the horrors of drug addiction, Abel was able to explore a dusty, tired genre in a way that still feels fresh to this day. He's a divisive artist and *The Addiction* is one of his most divisive features, but more adventurous film fans will find much to chew on. Features an unforgettable appearance from Christopher Walken as a confident, prophet-like bloodsucker who offers advice to the long-suffering protagonist (portrayed by the always lovely Lili Taylor). Also, excellent use of Cypress Hill's "I Want to Get High" as a sort of theme song. Abel is the best. Watch all Abel films.

ADAM HIKE

*Music, movie, and book nerd,
but not in an elitist way.
But also totally an elitist.*

This Will Destroy You – New Others Part Two

(DARK OPERATIVE)

Find it in: ROCK

My personal favorite post-rock band. Everything they release is amazing, including my favorite record of all time: *Young Mountain*. *New Others Part Two* is their newest output, and it does not disappoint. Riding the standard emotional roller coaster for a post-rock album, this will either help you get motivated or put you in ultimate relaxation.

Tomb Mold – Planetary Clairvoyance

(TWENTY BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

Grotesque death metal at its finest. A great follow-up to *Manor of Infinite Forms*, which was a stellar debut. This album is punishing from start-to-finish, guaranteed to make you spin your mid-back length hair. Of note: they are quite possibly the loudest band I've ever seen live.

Lane 8 – Brightest Lights

(THIS NEVER HAPPENED)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

While we're early in the year as I'm writing this, this will be one of my favorite releases of 2020. Very chill, catchy house music. Mostly instrumental with a few tracks featuring vocalists. The finale to this record is the standout track, with the vocals perfectly complementing the beats made by Lane 8. Highly recommend listening to this while driving through Los Angeles at night, or any city with lots of lights.

Altarage – The Approaching Roar

(SEASON OF MIST)

Find it in: METAL

Actual scary death metal. Brutal and nasty throughout. If you are a fan of Portal, highly recommend this band's entire discography. This was tied for my favorite album of 2019. I've been searching for a death metal album with an unclear idea of what I wanted, and this album delivered everything I was searching for.

Black Marble – Bigger Than Life

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

I've enjoyed Black Marble since *A Different Arrangement*. It's *Immaterial*, their second album, dropped a bit as far as enjoyability, but *Bigger Than Life* is their best record to date. They released three singles leading to the album release that were all insanely catchy, and every song on this album follows suit. Fun beats, catchy synth hooks, and classic new wave monotone vocals, this album was also tied for my best of 2019.

Things That Make White People Uncomfortable – by Michael Bennett

(HAYMARKET BOOKS)

A fantastic, easy read that doesn't shy away from anything. It's fantastic, because as a white person, I don't get to experience a lot of the things discussed in this book, so it really brings a great perspective for me to read about. It's an easy read because Bennett doesn't shy away from speaking like he would in a conversation. Conversational and vulgar, it's fun. Bennett's also not afraid to talk about the NCAA, use of language in his community, and his overall feelings towards quarterbacks (especially Tom Brady) as an NFL defensive lineman.

Dragged Across Concrete (2019) – Directed by S. Craig Zahler

Bone Tomahawk and *Brawl in Cell Block 99* were both great movies by Zahler, so why wouldn't this be great? Vince Vaughn and Mel Gibson are both perfect in this movie, and the slow-build pays off perfectly with an insanely gripping and violent climax. Fans of action movies (although it is a slow-build), crime movies, police dramas, etc. should watch this movie.

Eighth Grade (2018) – Directed by Bo Burnham

I've never seen a movie that was so funny and so cringe-worthy at the same time. *Eighth Grade* is a weird time, and the movie makes you feel weird while you watch. At times I missed that point in life. At other times, I remembered how awful it was. It also has one of the greatest and realest scenes with the main character and her father around a fire pit. (Get the tissues!)

The Farewell (2019) – Directed by Lulu Wang

A great story punctuated by a fantastic Awkwafina performance. It's a shame she did not get nominated for an Oscar for this role. If you thought comedic Adam Sandler's performance in *Uncut Gems* was wild, you should see the similar transformation by Awkwafina in this family drama.

Cold Pursuit (2019) – Directed by Hans Petter Moland

A Liam Neeson action movie released in February? I know I know. Hear me out, though: This movie is great. It's fun. It's hilarious. It's bloody. Action fans need to watch this movie. Dark humor fans need to see it, as well. Biggest surprise movie of 2019 for me.

Annihilation (2018) – Directed by Alex Garland

This movie appears to be overlooked by everyone due to its February release and minimal hype. Given the direction of society and desire for representation in our entertainment, this movie has everything and it is legitimately fantastic. A nearly all-female cast where they are all in a type of STEM field exploring an alien wasteland filled with horrors. This movie is gripping and legitimately scary/though-provoking. If you watch this and love this movie like I do, I highly recommend reading the even better book by Jeff Vandermeer released in 2014.

MIKE J.

Brand New Heavies – TBNH

(ACID JAZZ)

Find it in: SOUL

Mike Stern, Jeff Lorber Fusion – Eleven (CONCORD)

Find it in: JAZZ



John Coltrane – Blue World

(IMPULSE!)

Find it in: JAZZ**Maceo Parker –****Life On Planet Groove -****Revisited [Reissue]** (MINOR MUSIC)**Find it in:** SOUL**Tony Allen, Jeff Mills –****Tomorrow Comes The Harvest**

(BLUE NOTE LAB)

Find it in: JAZZ

BAILS

Lingua Ignota – Caligula

(PROFOUND LORE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

The first time I saw Lingua Ignota perform was to a small Oakland record store of maybe fifteen people. It left me shattered. Kristin Hayter allows her work an inspiring gut wrenching honesty. Favorite track: "Do You Doubt Me Traitor"

HIDE – Hell is Here

(DAIS)

Find it in: ROCK

Experimental sounds with a punk rock spirit, HIDE is fierce. This album is just the right amount of dancy, dark, and politically conscious. Favorite track: "999"

Chelsea Wolfe –**Birth Of Violence**

(SARGENT HOUSE)

Find it in: ROCK

A merging of genres creating a dark, folk atmosphere. Chelsea's recent albums are heavy with layers, this record holds that heaviness while moving back into the sounds of her earlier acoustic record *Unknown Rooms* (2012). Favorite track: "Be All Things"

Emily Jane White –**Immanent Fire** (TALITRES)**Find it in:** FOLK

One of my go to artists when I need to get lost in an atmosphere of feminine strength. This new album continues her reveal of the simultaneity between the dark and the soothing. Favorite track: "Infernal"

SRSQ – Temporal Love/Unkept 7" (Dais)**Find it in:** ELECTRONICA

A soaring, dancy, queer dreamspace.

Let My Puppets Come (1976)**– Directed by Gerard Damiano**

Excellent Blu-ray restoration of this 1976 smutty musical comedy. A perfect pornographic puppet performance!

The Farewell (2019) –**Directed by Lulu Wang**

It was refreshing to see an honest and sometimes comical depiction of family dynamics around grief and dying!

Midsommar (2019) –**Directed by Ari Aster**

The art direction was stunning, the scenes depicting death and violence were creative and shockingly realistic!!

The Last Black Man in**San Francisco (2019) –****Directed by Joe Talbot**

A powerful and artistic depiction of the gentrification that continues to displace people, especially people of color. As a Bay Area native it hit me pretty hard.

Polyester (1981) –**Directed by John Waters**

A clearer and more colorfully vivid version of Water's outstanding odorama drama!

BENNETT

scalpygonzales | bandcamp.com

Louis Moholo Octet – Spirits**Rejoice! [Reissue]** (OTOROKU)**Find it in:** JAZZ

Unbelievably rad reissue of this lost gold. So explosive, maddening and tense, yet spiritual and gratifying. One of the best things I've heard in a while. Totally in love.

Various Artists – Strain Crack & Break: Music From the Nurse With Wound List Volume 1

(FRANCE) (FINDERS KEEPERS)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

This rips. It's the dream to have some LP comps of the NWW list and this lives up to it. Some experimental legends and some deep cut bangers. All French, all frightening.

Various Artists – Basement Beehive:**The Girl Group Underground**

(NUMERO GROUP)

Find it in: OLDIES

This one really stands out in the extremely (and wonderfully) overcrowded world of doo wop and girl group reissue comps. There are just so many killer cuts here that I'd never heard before. Some real heartbreakers and some new all-time faves. "I Don't Believe" by the Mellow Dawns is about as good as music has ever been.

Ghédalia Tazartès –**Diasporas** (DAIS)**Find it in:** EXPERIMENTAL

This music is so inspired. I don't even really have reference points to describe it. It's like This Heat lost in the jungle. So raw yet so transcendent. Some terrifying vocal tape loop stuff to dilate your pupils and stop you in your tracks.

MEGGIE

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL**Summer Cannibals –****Can't Tell Me No**

(TINY ENGINES)

Find it in: ROCK**Starcrawler – Devour You**

(ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: ROCK**Kacey Musgraves –****Golden Hour** (MCA NASHVILLE)**Find it in:** COUNTRY**Desert Sessions – Vols. 11 & 12**

(MATADOR)

Find it in: ROCK**Adam Lambert – Velvet: Side A**

(MORE IS MORE)

Find it in: ROCK**Queens of the Stone Age – Songs for the Deaf [Reissue]**

(INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK**Turning Violet – Broken Wheel**

(SELF-RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK**The Donnas – Gold Medal**

[Reissue] (REAL GONE)

Find it in: ROCK**Tip:**

Check out Permanent Records Roadhouse! LA's first bar/venue/record store!

CROOKED FUNK

Uncut Gems (2019) –**Directed by Benny & Josh Safdie****Style Wars (1983) –****Directed by Tony Silver****Kiefer – Superbloom**

(STONES THROW)

Find it in: JAZZ

In the follow-up to his EP, *Bridges*, Kiefer continues to fuse hypnotic piano chords with analogue synths and crunching drums. The result is a modern jazz-funk experience that you can't help but nod your head to. If you like this also check out his album *Happysad*.

**Pete Rock –
Return of the SP1200**

(TRU SOUL)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Pete Rock taps into the archives to release a collection of beats made from 1990 to 1998. This is a time capsule filled with the grit and character that the SP1200 is known for. Sit back and listen to a demonstration of SP1200 wizardry without the frustration of a “disk read error” screen.

Count Bass D – Edibles

(COUNTBASSD.COM)

Find it in: HIP HOP

The Count is back with a full serving of flavor for your ears. His soulful, unique sound shines throughout this tape as he continues to carve a path that stays fresh for his fans. The drums are crisp, the basslines are warm, and the samples are buttery. After the first taste you’ll be asking for seconds.

JON

Tha God Fahim – Lost Kingz

(NATURE SOUNDS)

Find it in: HIP HOP

**Anxious – Never Better 7”
(triple b)**

Find it in: PUNK

**Gulch – Burning Desire
to Draw Last Breath 7”**

(CREATOR-DESTRUCTOR)

Find it in: PUNK

**Restraining Order –
This World Is Too Much**

(TRIPLE B)

Find it in: PUNK

**Tiana Major9 & Earthgang –
Collide**

(MOTOWN)

Find it in: SOUL

Earthgang – Mirrorland

(DREAMVILLE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

**I08 – Mission Infinite
[Reissue]**

(NBN ARCHIVES)

Find it in: HIP HOP

**KOTA the Friend –
Lyrics To Go Vol. 1**

(@FITBYS LLC)

Find it in: HIP HOP

David Bars – The Bar Code

(D.I.T.C.)

Find it in: HIP HOP

D.I.T.C. – D.I.T.C. Studios Vol. 2

(D.I.T.C.)

Find it in: HIP HOP

**TiRon & Ayomari –
A Sucker For Pumps**

(CAFETERIA LINE)

Find it in: HIP HOP

PETE MAJORS (DOOMDEATH)

Husband / Son / Brother /
Musician / Cat Dad

**Blood Incantation –
Hidden History Of
The Human Race**

(DARK DESCENT)

Find it in: METAL

**Departure Chandelier –
Antichrist Rise To Power**

(NUCLEAR WAR NOW!)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

**Rafael Anton Irisarri –
Solastalgia**

(ROOM40)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

**King Gizzard And
The Lizard Wizard –
Infest The Rats’ Nest**

(FLIGHTLESS)

Find it in: ROCK

**Lustmord – First Reformed
[Extended OST]**

(VAULTWORKS)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS



MGLA – Age Of Excuse

(NORTHERN HERITAGE)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

**Moonknight –
Discernment**

(RISING BEAST)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

**Cliff Martinez –
Too Old To Die Young**

[OST] (MILAN)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

**I Am the Wolf: Lyrics and
Writings – by Mark Lanegan**

(DA CAPO)

**Alessandro Cortini –
Volume Massimo**

(MUTE)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

**Hildur Guðnadóttir –
Joker [OST]**

(WATERTOWER)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

**Bliss (2019) –
Directed by Joe Begos**

**The Family Acid: California –
by Roger Steffens**

(OZMA)

**Black Marble –
Bigger Than Life**

(SACRED BONES)

Find it in: ROCK

**Scream With Me:
The Enduring Legacy of the
Misfits – by Tom Bejgrowicz &
Jeremy Dean**

(ABRAMS BOOKS)

**Kadavar – For The Dead Travel
Fast**

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Find it in: ROCK

**Jaz Coleman & St. Petersburg
Philharmonic Orchestra –
Magna Invocatio -
A Gnostic Mass For Choir
And Orchestra Inspired By
The Sublime Music Of
Killing Joke**

(SPINEFARM)

Find it in: ROCK / CLASSICAL

Alcest – Spiritual Instinct

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

**A Winged Victory For The
Sullen – The Undivided Five**

(NINJA TUNE)

Find it in: ROCK

TR/ST – The Destroyer I

(GROUCH)

Find it in: ROCK

Cult Of Luna – A Dawn To Fear

(METAL BLADE / RED CREEK)

Find it in: METAL

**Tomb Mold –
Planetary Clairvoyance**

(20 BUCK SPIN)

Find it in: METAL

**Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross –
Watchmen Vol. 1 - 3**

(THE NULL CORPORATION)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

Bölzer – Lese Majesty

(LIGHTNING & SONS)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

**Teitanblood –
The Baneful Choir**

(NORMA EVANGELIUM DIABOLI)

Find it in: METAL



MZ. 412 – Svartmyrkr

(COLD SPRING)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Tip:

check out my new project QAALM...slow doom

JOE M

Used to sell chainsaws

Hard to Handle: The Life and Death of The Black Crowes – A Memoir – by Steve Gorman

(HACHETTE BOOKS)

You don't have to be a huge Crowes guy like your ole Uncle Joey to dig this brutally honest depiction of just how easily stardom, money and ego can ruin friendships and careers. It's a pure Rock n' Roll roller coaster ride. Also, no wasted pages on a biography of the author's early life.

HILDOG

I once made a blood pact with an unnamed deity that promised to give me better taste in music. Really hope it worked.

Rosalía – El Mal Querido (SONY)

Find it in: WORLD

Dinosaur Jr. – Green Mind [Reissue] (CHERRY RED)

Find it in: ROCK

Brittany Howard – Jaime (ATO)

Find it in: ROCK

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You (ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Moonchild – Little Ghost (EONE)

Find it in: SOUL

Angel Olsen – All Mirrors

(JAGJAGUWAR)

Find it in: ROCK

Mac Miller – Circles (WARNER)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Daniel Caesar – Case Study 01

(GOLDEN CHILD)

Find it in: SOUL

Big Thief – Two Hands (4AD)

Find it in: ROCK

Midsommar (2019) – Directed by Ari Aster

BRIANNE

cashier

Cattle Decapitation –

Death Atlas (METAL BLADE)

Find it in: METAL

This is the eighth studio album from San Diego death metal band Cattle Decapitation. Vocalist Travis Ryan says “the core concept of this record is humanity's insignificance despite what we've convinced ourselves. That's kind of why this album cover takes place in space, to remind you that the universe always finds a way to purge.” The album features numerous guests including narration from John Fishman of Phish on the track “The Unerasable Past.”

Drab Majesty – Modern Mirror

(DAIS)

Find it in: ROCK

Hypnotic dark synth pop — This is the third studio album from LA's Drab Majesty. For fans of Black Marble, Cold Showers, and Soft Kill. If you like this album, check out VR SEX's debut album *Human Traffic Jam*, a side project including Andrew Clinco of Drab Majesty and produced by Ben Greenberg of Uniform and The Men.

Duster – Duster (MUDDGUTS)

Find it in: ROCK

Bleak and tranquil noise rock — Following a box set release of their entire catalog via Numero Group, San Jose slowcore band Duster returns with their first album in almost 20 years. Recorded in a garage, the band's third album retains their characteristically lo-fi sound. For fans of Bedhead, Codeine, Low, and Slint.

Russian Circles – Blood Year

(SARGENT HOUSE)

Find it in: ROCK

Heavy and melodic — This is the seventh studio album from instrumental metal trio Russian Circles. Produced by Kurt Ballou of Converge, *Blood Year* was recorded at Electrical Audio and God City studios in Chicago. For fans of Godspeed You! Black Emperor, Mogwai, Mono, and Pelican.

Nick Cave And The Bad Seeds

– Ghosteen (GHOSTEEN LTD.)

Find it in: ROCK

This is the seventeenth album from Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds and the final part of a trilogy including *Push The Sky Away* (2013) and *Skeleton Tree* (2016). *Ghosteen* is the first album written and recorded entirely following the passing of Cave's teenage son as well as the band's longtime keyboardist Conway Savage. The album delves into grief from a perspective that is both comforting and uplifting.

Sunn O))) – Pyroclasts

(SOUTHERN LORD)

Find it in: ROCK

Recorded by Steve Albini at Electrical Audio, this is the companion album to *Life Metal* compiled from improvised drone practices that occurred before and after daily recording sessions.

MONALISA

vinyl hoarder and turntable aficionado
with magical jazz hands

Black Moon – Rise Of Da Moon

(DUCK DOWN)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Madlib + OhNo – The Professionals

(MADLIB INVAZION)

Find it in: HIP HOP

House Guests – My Mind Set Me Free [Reissue] (SHAKE IT!)

Find it in: SOUL

Roy Ayers – Silver Vibrations [Reissue] (BBE/EXPANSION/UNO MELODIC)

Find it in: JAZZ

Angelique Kidjo – Celia

(DECCA FRANCE)

Find it in: WORLD

Angelique Kidjo – Remain In Light (KRAVENWORKS)

Find it in: WORLD

The JB's – More Mess On My Thing (NOWAGAIN)

Find it in: SOUL

Quantic – Atlantic Oscillations

(TRU THOUGHTS)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Abstract Orchestra – Madvillain Vol. 1 (ATA)

Find it in: HIP HOP

Khruangbin – Con Todo El Mundo

(NIGHT TIME STORIES)

Find it in: ROCK

Mary J Blige – HERstory Vol. 1 [Reissue] (UME)

Find it in: SOUL

Various Artists – Space Funk: Afrofuturist Electro Funk In Space 1976-84

(SOUL JAZZ)

Find it in: SOUL





Steve Lacy – Apollo XXI

(3QTR)
Find it in: SOUL

Gang Starr – One Of The Best Yet

(GANG STARR ENTERPRISES)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Various Artists – Jazz Dispensary: The Dank D-Funk Blend

(CRAFT/JAZZ DISPENSARY)
Find it in: JAZZ

Various Artists – The Daisy Age (Native Tongues Compilation)

(ACE)
Find it in: HIP HOP

G & D (Georgia Anne Muldrow & Dudley Perkins) – Black Love & War

(E ONE MUSIC CANADA)
Find it in: SOUL

DITC – The Official Version

(FAT BEATS)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Stretch & Bobbito + The M19s Band – No Requests

(UPRISING MUSIC)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Temu – Relic Of The Mothership

(THE SLEEPERZ)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Slum Village & Abstract Orchestra – Fantastic 2020 Vol. 1 & 2

(NE'ASTRA / BARAK)
Find it in: HIP HOP

Juju – Live At The East 1973

(NOW AGAIN)
Find it in: JAZZ

Deee-Lite – Infinity Within [Reissue]

(ELEKTRA)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Jonathan Hay, Benny Reid, Mike Smith – Follow The Leader (Eric B & Rakim) Re-Imagined as Jazz

(SMH)
Find it in: JAZZ

Khruangbin – The Universe Smiles Upon You

(NIGHTTIME STORIES)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Prince – Originals

(NPG)
Find it in: SOUL

RYAN

Perhaps the foremost Laserdisc retailer of the continental United States

Desert Sessions – Vols. 11 & 12

(MATADOR)
Find it in: ROCK

The first DS release in 16 years and it more than lives up to previous volumes' excellence, it surpasses them. Every jam on here is a legitimate classic or at the very least chunky.

Prince – 1999 [Super Deluxe Reissue]

(WARNER)
Find it in: SOUL

One of the greatest double albums of all time, paired with another two CDs worth of fascinating outtakes. A remaster that respects the mixing of the original and is genuinely revelatory and enriching in supplementary content

■ Matewan (1987) [Criterion] – Directed by John Sayles

A very necessary reissue of a very important piece of American indie film history that had never previously been released on DVD in North America. A very timely tale of a true life West Virginia coal miners labor union forming in the 1920s. A teenaged Will Oldham plays the small town preacher, and Chris Cooper is the labor organizer. Members of the David Strathairn Hive will delight in the knowledge he does some iconic shit here.

■ Rock & Roll High School (1979) – Directed by Allan Arkush

This recent Shout Factory 40th anniversary edition features a new 4K scan of the film from the original negatives. Finally someone treated this movie like the historically significant document it is. A radiant PJ. Soles shines, as does brooding fascinating Clint Howard, who pulsates with a chaotic sexual energy.

■ The Peanut Butter Solution (1985) – Directed by Michael Rubbo

A movie that sat on the shelf of many video stores in the late '80s, that much like the video tape from *The Ring*, entered the recipient's life and slowly destroyed it. What begins as a breezy Canadian suburban children's movie romp quickly escalates to a profoundly jarring scenario, which leads to the solution mentioned in the title. Legitimately unsettling, at least that's how I and many others remember it. The actor who portrayed Yick Yu on the original *Degrassi* series is prominently featured. Which begs the question why hasn't *Degrassi* itself been given the loving photochemical restoration this film received? I would certainly be delighted. It's very important.

■ When We Were Kings (1996) [Criterion] – Directed by Leon Gast

A documentary capturing the buildup to the 1974 "Rumble In The Jungle" fight between Ali & Foreman. The documentary itself is a fasci-

nating vital document, but as a bonus you also get the 2008 doc *Soul Power* as a bonus. That movie shows the planning and execution of the accompanying Zaire 74 music festival. Lots of incredible performances, and you also get to see Bill Withers in cutoff jean shorts getting drunk.

BEN O

Rings Of Saturn – Gidim

(NUCLEAR BLAST)
Find it in: METAL

Lucas Mann is the baddest guitarist in the metal scene right now and it is not even close.

DJ Harvey – The Sound of Mercury Rising Vol. II

(PIKES)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA

House music with real instruments. The first time this was played at Amoeba, 5 employees bought a copy before the album finished. Everyone I have showed this to loved it.

JEFF P.

Lingua Ignota – Caligula

(PROFOUND LORE)
Find it in: ROCK

Seizures – Reverie of the Revolving Diamond

(SUN TERRACE)
Find it in: ROCK

Full Of Hell – Weeping Choir

(RELAPSE)
Find it in: ROCK

Sightless Pit – Grave Of A Dog

(THRILL JOCKEY)
Find it in: ROCK

Orville Peck – Pony

(SUB POP)
Find it in: ROCK

Hesitation Wounds – Chicanery

(DEATHWISH)
Find it in: ROCK

Chelsea Wolfe – Birth of Violence

(SARGENT HOUSE)
Find it in: ROCK

**Uniform & The Body –
Mental Wounds Not Healing /
Everything That Dies Someday
Comes Back** (SACRED BONES)
Find it in: ROCK

**Silver Snakes –
Death and The Moon**
(EVIL INK)
Find it in: ROCK

**Sturgill Simpson –
Sound & Fury**
(NEW ELEKTRA)
Find it in: COUNTRY

Entry – No Relief
(DUNE ALTAR)
Find it in: PUNK

Brian Fallon – Local Honey
(LESSER KNOWN)
Find it in: ROCK

**Hayley Williams –
Petals For Armor** (ATLANTIC)
Find it in: ROCK

Fearing – Shadow (FUNERAL PARTY)
Find it in: ROCK

GREGG

**Kaelan Mikla – Kaelan Mikla
[Reissue]** (ARTOFFACT)
Find it in: GOTH / INDUSTRIAL
Three weird sisters from Reykjavik. Scream and sing in their native tongue. Spooky Synth-Goth driven by exquisite resonant bass. '80s Death Rock aura is haunting me once more. Reissue of 2016 debut. They have two more LPs that will also leave you spellbound.

**Chelsea Wolfe –
Birth of Violence**
(SARGENT HOUSE)
Find it in: ROCK
Not her archetypal heavy, drone, doom. This album offers quiet, layered acoustic songs but still delivers a melancholic and haunting mood.

Ioanna Gika – Thalassa
(SARGENT HOUSE)
Find it in: ROCK
My introduction to Ioanna Gika was seeing her open for Chelsea at the Palace Theater in downtown LA last fall. Supreme accompanist for Ms. Wolfe. A siren walking on water, crying to come ashore.

**She Past Away –
Disko Anksiyete**
(METROPOLIS)
Find it in: GOTH / INDUSTRIAL
Duo from Turkey. More brilliant electro-goths invoking '80s darkness. Liquid guitar melodies, mesmerizing synth, with minimalist poetry sung in Turkish.

**Midsommar (2019) –
Directed by Ari Aster**
Once upon a time in... Sweden?!? Witchy. Intense. Beautiful.

ALEXA
1970s punk addict!

**Vicious Visions –
Retrodisrespect 1980-83**
(BUSY B PRODUCTIONS)
Find it in: PUNK
Another amazing new punk release! Vicious Visions are a punk band from Sweden. The tracks are bonkers. Twisted and chaotic. The compilation features tracks that have never been released until now.

**The Haskels –
The Lost Album**
(SPLUNGE COMMUNICATIONS INC.)
Find it in: PUNK
Incredible new release of 1970s Milwaukee punk rockers, The Haskels. Released on Splurge Communications Inc., this new LP features tracks that have never been available on record until now. Taking The City By Storm! Killed by death classic!

Crass – Penis Envy [Reissue]
(ONE LITTLE INDIAN)
Find it in: PUNK
New remastered version of one of the best anarcho-punk albums ever released! Pick one up in the punk section today!

**Ugly Things #52 –
Mike Stax, Editor**
Long running fanzine that always has so much info on amazing psych, punk, and garage bands. Lots of great articles and reviews. This new issue includes an interview with Craig Bell of Mirrors and Rocket From the Tombs.

WINXPOT

Men I Trust – Oncle Jazz
(RETURN TO ANALOG)
Find it in: ROCK
My most listened to album of 2019! Perfect driving around music.

Blood Orange – Angel's Pulse
(DOMINO)
Find it in: ROCK
Dev Hynes did it again. The Blood Orange mixtape I never knew I needed.

Whirr – Feels Like You
(SELF-RELEASED)
Find it in: ROCK
If you see a used copy of this, buy it because you won't regret it. Years after calling it quits, Whirr decided to drop their last album.

**Black Marble –
Bigger Than Life**
(SACRED BONES)
Find it in: ROCK

Young Guv – Guv 1 & Guv 2
(RUN FOR COVER)
Find it in: ROCK
Listen to "Roll With Me."

**Westside Gunn –
Hitler Wears Hermes 7**
(GRISELDA)
Find it in: HIP HOP
Listen to "Undertaker vs. GoldBerg."

**Darcy Baylis –
A House Breaking**
(BURNING ROSE)
Find it in: ELECTRONICA
Breakbeats, autotune, dancehall rhythms and ambient sketches are eloquently woven together throughout the course of the album; seemingly disparate, yet meshing perfectly.



ALWYN

*"The promise I was kingdomed.
No...the kingdom...I was promised!"*

**John Wick: Chapter 3 –
Parabellum (2019) –
Directed by Chad Stahelski**
The first John Wick was this triumphant return for Keanu. The second was fun, but just more of the same...after awhile it just looked like a bunch of meat puppets running at Wick waiting to get murdered. The third one, they stepped it up a bunch of notches, and damn, is it fun. My favorite part is when he's submerged in the pool..in the midst of all the stylized gunplay I thought "are they gonna keep going with this craziness or are they gonna go Mythbusters on us?" and when it happened I almost jumped out of my seat. Can't wait for the next one.

**The Blob (1988) –
Directed by Chuck Russell**
I'm loving that this film is getting a second life on Blu-ray, and also seeing it fly off the shelves here. I loved this back in the watch-HBO-for-days-straight days, with this being a big time high school favorite. Special effects were sick, Kevin Dillon's mullet was glorious, and Shawnee Smith...hell yes. I even dressed up as the priest from this movie one Halloween.

**Pink Floyd – Live At Pompeii
– Directed by Adrian Maben**
This is the greatest Pink Floyd "album" of all time. To me, at least. It's only available on DVD as a "director's cut," but gives the option to see the original version, which is what you should go for and skip the former (where a bunch of moon

landing footage is added. Sounds good in theory, but it's pretty bad). Pink Floyd performs songs off their excellent *Meddle* album, with the centerpiece being their epic "Echoes." Couple things: Beastie Boys fans and Gen X-ers who watched MTV in the early '90s will catch something and go "ooooh!"; and make sure to look up on youtube the mash-up of "Echoes" with the "Jupiter and Beyond The Infinite" part of *2001: A Space Odyssey*... infinitely (heyoooooh) superior to that stupid *Wizard of Oz* thing... under the influence or not, it's mind-blowing how perfect the synchronicity is.

🍷 **Conan The Barbarian (1982)**

– Directed by John Milius

This movie rules, but I'm mostly posting this for the commentary track with John Milius and The Governator himself, Arnold. It's incredible. It sounds like two drunk guys who made a movie, mostly forgot about a lot of details, and one of them is Arnold. I can't stress how you need to see this post haste. Now. GET OUT! DO IT! NAAAAAAAAAOOOO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tip:

Crush your enemies, see them driven before you, hear the lamentations of the women (and men and children, too, I guess, cause inclusion and all that)

MEZZADETH

*I enjoy music because it is impressive.
Not necessarily because it's enjoyable.*

🍷 **Parasite (2019) –**

Directed by Bong Joon Ho

This new Korean thriller is easily the best film of the year. It's commentary on class struggle and strata is impeccable. As is its razor sharp script. The desperate circumstances of poverty, and the wealthy detachment from reality and hardship that rich people live in are brilliantly betrayed by Bong Joon Ho. No spoilers here. I'll just say this movie has a twist you genuinely won't see coming. YOU MUST SEE THIS FILM!

🍷 **Joker (2019) –**

Directed by Todd Phillips

The most socially relevant movie of the year. Joaquin Phoenix makes interesting choices. So I had to see what he chose for this one. Everyone talked about/got mad about how violent it is. Those people completely missed the point. The theme of this film is mental illness and our responsibility as a society to the mentally ill. We have a moral obligation to take care of these

people or it will and IS biting us in the ass. It's brutal, yes, it's violent, yes, but all the violence pushes the plot forward. It's never gratuitous. Many criticize it saying it's just *Taxi Driver*, *Falling Down* and *King of Comedy* rolled into one big Batman side story. That's valid, but it doesn't make it a bad movie. Many great films are reminiscent of/take inspiration from previous great films. This movie is hugely empathetic to the mentally ill and serves as a great origin story for a legendary villain.

🍷 **Cats (2019) –**

Directed by Tom Hooper

Parasite is the best movie of 2019 and *Joker* may be the most socially relevant, but (make no mistake) the "movie" of the year is *Cats*! This jellicle shit-storm was a virtually indescribable, kaleidoscopic, nightmare fuel, dumpster fire of an ill-conceived, confusing, boring, disturbing, clumsy, inconsistent freak show of glorious failure that we may never see the likes of again. You have to see this film! I've never seen something done so terribly wrong from the very beginning that somehow stayed on its ill advised path all the way to the theater. Every decision is so obviously bad. With the exception of the cast, which is amazing. Among others we have Idris Elba, Dame Judi Dench, Jennifer Hudson, and newcomer Francesca Hayward (who is a principle dancer in the royal ballet, and might be the most beautiful creature who ever lived). Then there's the one and only Sir Ian McKellen who, much like Gina Gershon in *Showgirls*, is the ONLY ONE who knows what movie he's in. All this talent could do nothing to save this "film". And I'm sorry to say that, at least in this one, Idris can't dance. His steps are cringe worthy and his furry body seems strangely naked during his dance scene which only makes it more awkward, but not as awkward as every character's disembodied human face trailing behind the movements of their feline frame. On top of everything else—it's BORING. And the fact that something this wildly strange and bad could also be this boring just makes it even more fascinating. How did this happen! So many decisions had to be made and double checked and approved by multiple people. The design process for how the cats should look alone is massive. It's not just one person's idea and then they make it. It starts with a drawing and then another drawing and then another and another. All of which get tweaked and critiqued until a final design is approved. And THIS is what they decided on! It doesn't even have the fun plot and enjoyably bad acting of other famously bad movies that have rocketed to cult status. This is NOT the next *Showgirls* or *Rocky Horror*. And that makes

it more fascinating again! The musical was a phenomenon and the movie follows the musical's plot pretty much to the letter. This is a perfect example of how some art works in one medium but not in another. Or could work if you made the appropriate changes and put the right person at the helm, but they did NOT do that. I was raised in a musical theater household and saw *Cats* on Broadway when I was 12 years old. The whole point of the show is make up, costumes and performance. All they had to do was put the actors in actual costumes and make up, let them perform, don't cut around them constantly (jumpy editing) and it could have worked. It would have cost half as much and looked twice as good. This movie cost \$100,000,000. ONE HUNDRED MILLION JELLICLE DOLLARS! They could have given over 200 impoverished inner city youths a four year university education all expenses paid, written the whole thing off as a charitable donation, and ended up making more money in the long run than they did releasing this into theaters. One. Hundred. Million. Dollars!

Vitriol – To Bathe From the Throat of Cowardice

(CENTURY MEDIA)

Find it in: BLACK METAL

Death metal with the heart of black metal and the musicianship of tech-death. Blazing drums, kinetic bass and whaling, crazy guitar solos. The realest shit out there right now.

PATRICIA

"That wasn't me, that was Patricia"

Lana Del Rey – Norman Fucking Rockwell

(INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

A major part of my summer '19 was listening to *NFR* on a constant loop for hours. Might sound super emo of me to admit but the best track on the album (IMO) is "How to Disappear." This album is one of those albums you could just leave playing in the background and feel so relaxed by it that you don't even realize it's still playing. Not sure whether it's the soothing melody or her calming voice but it is definitely perfect to wind-down to. The best thing about it is that it isn't as "poppy" as Lana's other albums.

Tip:

Looking forward to finding my summer 2020 anthems!

EVO

Bad Bunny and J Balvin – OASIS

(UNIVERSAL MUSIC LATINO)

Find it in: WORLD

Representing for the Latinos, Bad Bunny and J Balvin had summer 2019 POPPIN'! You couldn't flip through the radio without at least one station playing a song from this album. "La Canción," will have you missing your ex while "Un Peso" reminds you why they're your ex in the first place. lol The rest of the tracks are the perfect songs to turn up to!

Tip:

Support small businesses!! shop @belladonala on Instagram

DOMINIK ROTHBARD

Snack Food Enthusiast

My Life Story – World Citizen

(EXILOPHONE)

Find it in: ROCK

Jake Shillingford reunited his neo classical britpop outfit for an album of joyous over the top pop confections that beg to be heard on repeat.

Pet Shop Boys – Hotspot

(X2)

Find it in: ROCK

Pet Shop Boys show no signs of aging with their latest album. Tongue in cheek and wry, *Hotspot* explores few new sonic territories, but there's no reason anyone would want them to tinker with a working formula.

Tot Taylor – Featurette / The Action Painting Blues 7"

(ROUGH TRADE)

Find it in: ROCK

Though Tot Taylor has been active in the music scene for more than 40 years and released plenty of albums, he's not the household name he should be. After writing his first novel last year (the lovely and very long *The Story Of John Nightly*) Tot Taylor return to the recording studio to release a handful of 7"s The latest, "Featurette" is a song that was written several decades ago, but freshly recorded. It's fantastic and this record should be sought out immediately.



Fiat Lux – *Hired History Plus [Reissue]* (CHERRY RED)

Find it in: ROCK

This new wave reissue snuck out last year and for a select few, it's a dream come true. Between 1981-1985 obscure new wave UK synthpop band Fiat Lux (think Depeche Mode, but messier) released a handful of brilliant singles that sank without a trace. This compilation compiles all their singles, remixes AND includes a bonus disc of their long lost album from 1985 *Arc Of Embers*. Really great stuff.

The Wombats – *Beautiful People Will Ruin Your Life* (WOMBATS)

Find it in: ROCK

The Wombats are delightful. And the beautiful people WILL ruin your life, so you can tell they know what they're talking about. Modern British dance pop with a sense of humor.

Said The Whale – *Cascadia* (ARTS & CRAFTS)

Find it in: ROCK

Canada's Said The Whale quietly churn out albums of folk tinged pop brilliance. Their latest album *Cascadia*, and their first for Arts & Crafts is one of their best, and a great place to start.

John Grant – *Love Is Magic* (PARTISAN)

Find it in: ROCK

John Grant is the most clever and handsome artist releasing music today. I'm writing this in the hopes that he will read it, come find me and drag me from my one bedroom apartment in Hollywood and make me his husband. Until then I shall just play this album (and the rest of his catalog) on repeat. Call me, John.

Gangway – *Whatever It Is* (RCA)

Find it in: ROCK

Denmark's Gangway haven't released an album since the '90s, but 2019's *Whatever It Is* sounds like they picked up right where they left off. For Pet Shop Boys fans.

Captain – *For Irini* (SELF RELEASED)

Find it in: ROCK

UK's Captain burst onto the scene in the 2000s with a Trevor Horn produced LP that still sounds good today. Their second (brilliant) album *Distraction* was shelved (hear it on Youtube) and so it took a long time (and a PledgeMusic campaign) to get this, their third and most accessible album released. Not a bad track on the thing. Get it!

Gregory Gray – *Entire Catalog* (CBS/ATCO/EMI)

Find it in: ROCK

Gregory Gray, born Paul Lerwill, later known as Mary Cigarettes is an Irish singer songwriter. He fronted the '80s new wave band Perfect Crime before making three gorgeous albums over a ten year period. *Think Of Swans*, his first from 1986 is a strange, swirling pop album. *Strong At Broken Places* (1990) is poppy and commercial. *Euroflake In Silverlake* from 1995 is his electronic pop album. All three sound like nothing else. Gregory Gray died on April 25th 2019, but he left behind a brilliant catalog of pop music just waiting to be discovered. His Mary Cigarettes' Soundcloud page is filled with dozens and dozens of unreleased gems just waiting to be discovered. If any of the above bands appeal to you, you might benefit from checking out Gregory Gray's music. You won't be sorry.

Momus – *Akkordion* (AMERICAN PATCHWORK)

Find it in: ROCK

Scottish one-eyed genius Momus releases an album a year. They're usually very good. This one happens to be one of his best. With nearly thirty albums to choose from, that's saying something. Curious first timers should check out "The People Are Turning To Gold," "Loneliness" or "The World Of Night."

Shakespears Sister – *Ride Again* (LONDON)

Find it in: ROCK

Siobhan Fahey and Marcella Detroit reunite for what could've been a novelty tour and single, but instead is a brilliant EP that adds a new, almost western layer to the already complex Shakespears Sister sound. Also seek out the videos that accompany this release. They're hilarious.

Mother Mother – *Dance and Cry*

(MOTHER MOTHER MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

This is Mother Mother's seventh album. They just keep growing as a band. Hi-energy boundary-breaking pop combining complex vocal melodies with electronic soundscapes. They're hard to explain, but they're great. Try "Back To Life." That'll explain everything.

JS

Motion Ward label founder

Perila – *Irer Dent*

(SFERIC)

Find it in: SPOKEN WORD

Debut record from Perila is soo good, spoken word meets drawn out satisfying deep zones of textures and moods.

Theodore Cale Schafer – *Patience* (STUDENTS OF DECAY)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Beautiful rec full of deep attention to sparse detail, some real emotional moments on this one!

Pontiac Streator & Ulla Straus – *11 Items* (WEST MINERAL LTD.)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

The chemistry between these two is truly special and this record is good proof of that.

Mister Water Wet – *Bought The Farm*

(WEST MINERAL LTD.)

Find it in: EXPERIMENTAL

Debut full length by Iggy aka Mister Water Wet will surely appeal to listeners of all types of music. A really unique distillation of styles that somehow make sense together, magic rec.

URA – *Entertainment*

(COLLECT CALL)

Find it in: ELECTRONICA

Tip:

There is a lot of great music being made right now, some of which is digital only. Bandcamp is a great resource for accessing some of that material. Some digital only releases from this year I loved (i'm positive i'm forgetting some): All of the c- compilations, Oli XL — Rogue Intruder, Soul Enhancer, everything Exael released, and so much more!

BRAD

Soccer Mommy – *Color Theory* (LOMA VISTA)

Find it in: ROCK

Chromatics – *Closer To Grey* (ITALIANS DO IT BETTER)

Find it in: ROCK

Tennis – *Swimmer* (MUTUALLY DETRIMENTAL)

Find it in: ROCK

Beach Bunny – *Honeymoon* (MOM & POP MUSIC)

Find it in: ROCK

Bacchae – *Pleasure Vision* (GET BETTER)

Find it in: ROCK

ANDY

Bill Fay – *Bill Fay [Reissue]* (ECLECTIC DISCS)

Find it in: ROCK

Great from beginning to end.

Arvo Part – *Alina* (EMC)

Find it in: CLASSICAL

You might need some tissue to wipe the tears away.

Karen Dalton – *In My Own Time*. (LIGHT IN THE ATTIC)

Find it in: FOLK

Her voice is amazing.

Judee Sill – *Abracadabra – The Asylum Years [Reissue]* (RHINO)

Find it in: FOLK





TRU

Rock n roll space cadet

**Courtney Barnett –
The Double EP:
A Sea of Split Peas**
(MOM+POP RECORDS)

**Buffalo 66 (1998) –
Directed by Vincent Gallo**

**Siddhartha –
by Hermann Hesse**
(A NEW DIRECTIONS BOOKS)

Franz Schubert
Studying abroad in Germany I listened to Schubert on trains and through many alleyways. It's an intensely emotional journey to listen to his symphonies; some bittersweet, some painful, some lovely. His music paints a picture and invites you to take part. Powerful.

TERRY SMITH

Father of 3 daughters and
Pop Pop to 3 grandsons...

**Parasite (2019) –
Directed by Bong Joon Ho**
This movie was a sleeper that exploded into the top movie of 2019. I went with Lori Williams & it shocked us. We both went again.

**Ford v Ferrari (2019) –
Directed by James Mangold**
A true story that keeps you interested the whole movie. I love true stories...

**Just Mercy (2019) – Directed
by Destin Daniel Cretton**

A true story in the south, not too far from my ex's hometown of Evergreen, Alabama. I wouldn't want to do time in the south. Great acting by Jamie Foxx & Michael B. Jordan.

**Joker (2019) – Directed by
Todd Phillips**

I went three times, maybe because I'm crazy but what a performance by Mr. Phoenix.

**The Invisible Man (2020) –
Directed by Leigh Whannell**
What a trip. Take a friend. Awesome.

Tip:

If you want to hang out Tuesday nights at Elbow Room: trivia, Lakers, cold beer, and great food. Listen to vinyl on Sat & Friday up at 1606 on Cahuenga. Pick your music & hang out!

SIMONE SIREN

Author & Turning Violet Frontwoman

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

Find it in: PUNK

These guys are fun, fast and loud with endearingly cute/tough vocals by singer Amy Taylor. Highlights are "Gacked on Anger" and "Got You."

**Monstress – by Marjorie Liu
& Sana Takeda (IMAGE COMICS)**

The world of this graphic novel is gorgeously dark and sinister, with incredible art and flawed characters you're rooting for, but aren't 100% sure you should be. Except for sweet Kippa aka "Little Fox," who had better survive! (Or we riot.)

**The Dark Crystal:
Age of Resistance (2019) –
Directed by Louis Leterrier**
**Creators: Jeffrey Addiss,
Will Matthews, Jim Henson
Company**

This prequel to one of my favorite films was everything I hoped it would be and more! Stunning practical effects and a beautiful, immersive world with plenty of darkness as well as light. The Gelfling Deet is one of my all-time favorite characters.

Minor Threat – Minor Threat
(DISCHORD)

Find it in: PUNK

This 1984 classic has been going around and around in my car a lot this year. It's been cathartic.

**A Wizard of Earthsea –
by Ursula K. Le Guin**
(HMH BOOKS)

The first book in Le Guin's *Earthsea* series reads like an old legend or myth, especially told in her clean, visual prose. It's the tale of a young wizard whose pride leads him to allow an evil shadow into the world and then he must hunt it down.

X – Under The Big Black Sun
(ELEKTRA)

Find it in: ROCK

Another classic that I've been listening to a lot lately for its consistently strong songwriting tied with perfect harmonies.

ELEANORE

Indie publisher, photographer,
doer of just about all things at Amoeba

Beck – Hyperspace (CAPITOL)

Find it in: ROCK

Ethereal, warm, and hypnotic, full of rising and sweeping melodies, *Hyperspace* belongs in the family of Beck albums that includes *Sea Change* and *Mourning Phase*; less up-tempo than some of his other works, but still stunning and richly produced. "Stratosphere" is a particular standout track, but there isn't a weak one on the album. This many decades in, Beck still can be counted on to deliver every time.

**Hellraiser (1987) –
Directed by Clive Barker**

The various entries in the *Hellraiser* franchise have seen multiple releases over the years, but Arrow's latest blu-ray 2K restoration of the original is the current best way to revisit it, or see it for the first time. (If you haven't yet, what are you waiting for? It holds up wonderfully, including the beautifully goopy practical effects.) There are some great new special features included, as well as the gamut of collected features from various previous editions, at last finally all accessible in one place. The new restoration gives the film's rich color palette the attention it deserves, and as this is still one of the truly great horror entries of the '80s, it's worth coming back to enjoy so lovingly enhanced.

**Millennium Actress (2003) –
Directed by
Satoshi Kon**

The continued re-release of Satoshi Kon's masterful works from his tragically short career remains a welcome and overdue treat for any lover of animated works that transcend both genre and simple understanding. *Millennium Actress* is as difficult to pin down as any of Kon's other works, but a simple summary might touch on its examination of the relationship between actress and fan, film and viewer, art and time. Just how real are the characters portrayed by actors, and how much power does art have to bend the laws of time and space? Here's one beautifully animated, lushly realized idea in answer, as dreamlike and mind-bending as all of Kon's other masterpieces.

**Suspiria (1977) –
Directed by
Dario Argento**

Forget the bland, overlong, tedious remake; the new, long-awaited 4K restoration of the true original *Suspiria* is something else. The psychedelic colors have never popped brighter, the screams have never echoed more deeply, and that Goblin score has never reverberated better. Be sure to turn the volume up, immerse yourself, and enjoy.

CODY T.

Writer, Actor, Lover of Hats

**Royce da 5'9" –
Book of Ryan (E1)**

Find it in: HIP HOP

Royce has always been one of the most underrated wordsmiths in the game. *Book of Ryan*, his 2018 album, was absurdly slept on and shut out of any awards despite critical acclaim. As sharp lyrically as he's ever been, this album explores an introspective, storytelling version of Royce. It's his most complete project to date, and if he continues in this direction, folks outside the hip-hop world might finally understand why most hip-hop heads consider Royce da 5'9" a serious contender for greatest of all time.

Tip:

Do yourself a favor and hit up Yen Sushi in Los Feliz.

GEORGE

Grauzone – Raum 12”

[Reissue] (VRWTFWW)

Find it in: ROCK

Originally released 40 years ago in the now infamous Swiss Wave (Off Course Records) compilation which also featured Grauzone's biggest hit "Eisbear," "Raum" is the biggest Grauzone track people haven't yet discovered. "Raum" merges post-punk rhythms with techno sensibilities, with a touch of experimental pop. "Raum" is Grauzone's best kept secret and a underground mega-gem from 1980.

Black Tambourine –

Black Tambourine (SLUMBERLAND)

Find it in: ROCK

If you like anything fuzzy, angelic harmonies, reverb-lovin' or twee, you should be listening to Black Tambourine. This band inspired current acts such as Pains of Being Pure At Heart, Vivian Girls, Dum Dum Girls, Crystal Stilts and countless others. Black Tambourine's cover of Suicide's "Dream Baby Dream" is amazing!

@LILLILOVES

Thick thighs x stage dives

Lizzo – Cuz I Love You

(ATLANTIC)

Find it in: SOUL

Also check out for the first time on vinyl
Coconut Oil Ep

Knocked Loose –

A Different Shade of Blue

(PURE NOISE)

Find it in: ROCK

Ceremony –

In the Spirit World Now

(RELAPSE)

Find it in: ROCK

Bad Bunny & J. Balvin – Oasis

(UNIVERSAL)

Find it in: WORLD

Cuco – Para Mi

(INTERSCOPE)

Find it in: ROCK

Higher Power – 27 Miles Underwater

(ROADRUNNER)

Find it in: ROCK

Hands of God –

Blueprint for Self Destruction

(FLATSPOT)

Find it in: PUNK

Nathan Johnson – Knives Out

[OST] (MONDO)

Find it in: SOUNDTRACKS

HAILEY

Rock 'n' Roll Horror Show

Harry Styles – Fine Line

(COLUMBIA)

Find it in: ROCK

I have been a fan of Harry since the One Direction days and have supported him ever since. Once all the boys decided to go off and do their own thing I patiently anticipated Harry's solo music career and let me just say HE DID NOT DISAPPOINT! His self titled album was only the beginning. *Fine Line* is so raw and powerful and you can tell he really poured his heart and soul into this one. From breakup songs to songs to blast in your car with all the windows down, this album has it all. I cannot recommend this album enough, it really takes you through all the feels and emotions. Do yourself a favor and listen to *Fine Line*, you won't regret it.

Midsommar (2019) –

Directed by Ari Aster

I am a huge fan of A24 movies and after Ari Aster's *Hereditary*, I was excited to see he was creating another mind bending horror tale. Once I saw the previews for *Midsommar* I honestly had no idea what to expect and going into the movie I had the same mindset and let me just tell you WOW, this movie was the most beautifully horrific breakup story I have ever seen. The whole movie is so visually pleasing and all the art is stunning, even the gore is beautiful. Florence Pugh who plays the main character Dani did an absolutely amazing job at capturing the feelings of loss and heart-break throughout the film without it seeming fake or too much, it seemed raw and genuine. I would recommend this movie to anyone who loves a movie that will make you think or if you love watching beautiful gore, like myself.

3 From Hell (2019) –

Directed by Rob Zombie

I am a huge fan of anything Rob Zombie does and when I heard he was releasing another addition to the *House of 1000 Corpses* franchise I was absolutely stoked! If you know Rob Zombie you know his movies are all chaotic masterpieces and this one did not fall short of the mark. The movie was a bit of a switch up from *The Devil's Rejects* because of the new characters but it was still just as enjoyable, I loved the story line and it never got boring, the gore is tasteful as always and it was just overall a great movie to finish up the franchise. If you are a fan of Rob Zombie's movies this one should not disappoint.

The Growlers – Natural Affair

(BEACH GOTH)

Find it in: ROCK

The Growlers have been one of my favorite bands for awhile, this album feels like they really went back to their roots a little. With songs like "Social Man" and "Truly" I really feel like I was listening to some of their earlier stuff. The whole album is absolutely great! If you are a Growlers fan then this album shouldn't disappoint at all. If you like The Growlers check out Spentime Palace!

REBECCA

Chooses Love.

The Dark Crystal:

Age of Resistance (2019) –

Directed by Louis Leterrier

Creators: Jeffrey Addiss,

Will Matthews, Jim Henson

Company

This show captivated my daughter and I gotta say it sucked me in, too. We'd watched the movie awhile back, but I wasn't prepared for how much further they could take it. They storytelling and puppetry and sets and world-building were all amazing. Let's do a Season 2 already!

Orville Peck – Pony (SUB POP)

I admit to developing a little crush on this mask-wearing fellow while working on the Amoeba calendar. Lovely songs that linger in your head.

A Dark Song (2016) –

Directed by Liam Gavin

Oh my gosh, this movie freaked me out so much. But all was redeemed by that one scene at the end. You'll know the one!

NOTES:





THE AMOEBA COLLECTION CHECKLIST

Use this checklist of essential records to build your collection... but, of course, leave room for new "must haves" as it continues to grow!

Our criteria: \$50 bucks or under, nothing too rare or out of print, no greatest hits records and mostly studio albums.
How many do you have? What are you missing?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AC/DC
<i>Highway to Hell</i> (1979) | <input type="checkbox"/> BEASTIE BOYS
<i>Licensed to Ill</i> (1986)
<i>Paul's Boutique</i> (1989) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADOLESCENTS
<i>Adolescents</i> (1981) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE BEATLES
<i>Abbey Road</i> (1969)
<i>Let It Be</i> (1970)
<i>Revolver</i> (1966)
<i>Rubber Soul</i> (1965)
<i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> (1967)
<i>The White Album</i> (1968) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND
<i>At Fillmore East</i> (1971) | <input type="checkbox"/> BELLE & SEBASTIAN
<i>If You're Feeling Sinister</i> (1996) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANIMAL COLLECTIVE
<i>Merriweather Post Pavilion</i> (2009) | <input type="checkbox"/> CHUCK BERRY
<i>The Great Twenty-Eight</i> (1982) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APHEX TWIN
<i>Selected Ambient Works 85-92</i> (1992) | <input type="checkbox"/> BIG STAR
<i>#1 Record</i> (1972)
<i>Radio City</i> (1974)
<i>Third/Sister Lovers</i> (1978) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCADE FIRE
<i>Funeral</i> (2004) | <input type="checkbox"/> BJORK
<i>Homogenic</i> (1997)
<i>Post</i> (1995) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE B-52'S
<i>The B-52's</i> (1979)
<i>Wild Planet</i> (1980) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK FLAG
<i>Damaged</i> (1981) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANGELO BADALAMENTI
<i>Twin Peaks [OST]</i> (1990) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK STAR
<i>Mos Def & Talib Kweli Are Black Star</i> (1998) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ERYKAH BADU
<i>Baduizm</i> (1997) | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK SABBATH
<i>Black Sabbath</i> (1970)
<i>Paranoid</i> (1970) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BAND
<i>The Band</i> (1969)
<i>Music From Big Pink</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> MARY J. BLIGE
<i>What's the 411?</i> (1992) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BAUHAUS
<i>In The Flat Field</i> (1980) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BEACH BOYS
<i>Pet Sounds</i> (1966)
<i>The Smile Sessions</i> (2011) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BEACH HOUSE
<i>Teen Dream</i> (2010) | |

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLONDIE
<i>Parallel Lines</i> (1978) | <input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTIAN DEATH
<i>Only Theatre Of Pain</i> (1982) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BLUR
<i>Parklife</i> (1994) | <input type="checkbox"/> CIGARETTES AFTER SEX
<i>Cigarettes After Sex</i> (2017) |
| <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)
<i>London Calling</i> (1979) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BON IVER
<i>For Emma, Forever Ago</i> (2007) | <input type="checkbox"/> COCTEAU TWINS
<i>Head Over Heels</i> (1983)
<i>Heaven or Las Vegas</i> (1990) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DAVID BOWIE
<i>Hunky Dory</i> (1971)
<i>The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars</i> (1972) | <input type="checkbox"/> LEONARD COHEN
<i>Songs of Leonard Cohen</i> (1967) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BREEDERS
<i>Last Splash</i> (1993) | <input type="checkbox"/> ORNETTE COLEMAN
<i>The Shape of Jazz to Come</i> (1959) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JAMES BROWN
<i>Live at the Apollo</i> (1963) | <input type="checkbox"/> JOHN COLTRANE
<i>A Love Supreme</i> (1965) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET
<i>Time Out</i> (1959) | <input type="checkbox"/> ELVIS COSTELLO
<i>My Aim Is True</i> (1977)
<i>This Year's Model</i> (1978) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JEFF BUCKLEY
<i>Grace</i> (1994) | <input type="checkbox"/> CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL
<i>Green River</i> (1969) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB
<i>Buena Vista Social Club</i> (1997) | <input type="checkbox"/> THE CURE
<i>Disintegration</i> (1989) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> KATE BUSH
<i>Hounds of Love</i> (1985) | <input type="checkbox"/> D'ANGELO
<i>Brown Sugar</i> (1995)
<i>Voodoo</i> (2000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BYRDS
<i>Mr. Tambourine Man</i> (1965)
<i>Sweetheart of the Rodeo</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> DAFT PUNK
<i>Discovery</i> (2001) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAN
<i>Ege Bamyasi</i> (1972)
<i>Tago Mago</i> (1971) | <input type="checkbox"/> MILES DAVIS
<i>Kind of Blue</i> (1959)
<i>Bitches Brew</i> (1970) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CARPENTERS
<i>Close to You</i> (1970) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEAD CAN DANCE
<i>Within The Realm Of A Dying Sun</i> (1987) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CARS
<i>The Cars</i> (1978) | <input type="checkbox"/> DE LA SOUL
<i>3 Feet High and Rising</i> (1989) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JOHNNY CASH
<i>At Folsom Prison</i> (1968) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEERHUNTER
<i>Microcastle</i> (2008) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CAPTAIN BEEFHEART
<i>Trout Mask Replica</i> (1969) | <input type="checkbox"/> MAC DEMARCO
<i>Salad Days</i> (2014) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS
<i>Let Love In</i> (1994) | <input type="checkbox"/> DEPECHE MODE
<i>Violator</i> (1990) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CHAMELEONS
<i>Script Of The Bridge</i> (1983) | <input type="checkbox"/> DJ SHADOW
<i>Endtroducing....</i> (1996) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RAY CHARLES
<i>The Genius of Ray Charles</i> (1959)
<i>Modern Sounds in Country and Western Music</i> (1962) | |

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

- ☐ **THE DOORS**
☐ *The Doors* (1967)
- ☐ **DR. DRE**
☐ *The Chronic* (1992)
- ☐ **NICK DRAKE**
☐ *Five Leaves Left* (1969)
☐ *Pink Moon* (1972)
- ☐ **DURAN DURAN**
☐ *RIO* (1982)
- ☐ **BOB DYLAN**
☐ *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan* (1963)
☐ *The Times They Are A-Changin'* (1964)
☐ *Bringing it All Back Home* (1965)
☐ *Highway 61 Revisited* (1965)
☐ *Blonde on Blonde* (1966)
☐ *Blood on the Tracks* (1975)
- ☐ **THE EAGLES**
☐ *Hotel California* (1976)
- ☐ **BRIAN ENO**
☐ *Here Come the Warm Jets* (1974)
☐ *Another Green World* (1975)
- ☐ **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 GAINSBURG**
☐ *Histoire de Melody Nelson* (1971)
- ☐ **MARVIN GAYE**
☐ *What's Going On* (1971)
- ☐ **GALAXIE 500**
☐ *On Fire* (1989)
- ☐ **GANG OF FOUR**
☐ *Solid Gold* (1981)
☐ *Entertainment* (1979)
- ☐ **STAN GETZ / JOÃO GILBERTO**
☐ *Getz / Gilberto* (1964)
- ☐ **GORILLAZ**
☐ *Gorillaz* (2001)
- ☐ **AL GREEN**
☐ *I'm Still in Love With You* (1972)
☐ *Let's Stay Together* (1972)
- ☐ **GREEN DAY**
☐ *Dookie* (1994)
- ☐ **GRIMES**
☐ *Visions* (2012)
- ☐ **GUIDED BY VOICES**
☐ *Bee Thousand* (1994)
- ☐ **GUNS N' ROSES**
☐ *Appetite for Destruction* (1987)
- ☐ **GEORGE HARRISON**
☐ *All Things Must Pass* (1970)
- ☐ **GENIUS/GZA**
☐ *Liquid Swords* (1995)
- ☐ **THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE**
☐ *Are You Experienced?* (1967)
- ☐ **JIMI HENDRIX**
☐ *Electric Ladyland* (1968)
- ☐ **LAURYN HILL**
☐ *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* (1998)
- ☐ **BILLIE HOLIDAY**
☐ *Lady in Satin* (1958)
- ☐ **HÜSKER DÜ**
☐ *Zen Arcade* (1984)
- ☐ **IGGY & THE STOOGES**
☐ *Raw Power* (1973)
- ☐ **INTERPOL**
☐ *Turn on the Bright Lights* (2002)
- ☐ **MICHAEL JACKSON**
☐ *Off the Wall* (1979)
☐ *Thriller* (1982)
- ☐ **ETTA JAMES**
☐ *At Last!* (1960)
- ☐ **JAY-Z**
☐ *The Blueprint* (2001)
☐ *Reasonable Doubt* (1996)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

- ☐ **JEFFERSON AIRPLANE**
☐ *Surrealistic Pillow* (1967)
- ☐ **THE JESUS & MARY CHAIN**
☐ *Psychocandy* (1985)
- ☐ **ELTON JOHN**
☐ *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road* (1973)
- ☐ **ROBERT JOHNSON**
☐ *King of the Delta Blues Singers* (1961)
- ☐ **JANIS JOPLIN**
☐ *Pearl* (1971)
- ☐ **JOY DIVISION**
☐ *Unknown Pleasures* (1979)
☐ *Closer* (1980)
- ☐ **KHRUANGBIN**
☐ *Con Todo El Mundo* (2018)
- ☐ **KILLERS**
☐ *Hot Fuss* (2004)
- ☐ **KING CRIMSON**
☐ *In the Court of the Crimson King* (1969)
- ☐ **CAROLE KING**
☐ *Tapestry* (1971)
- ☐ **THE KINKS**
☐ *Something Else By The Kinks* (1967)
☐ *The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society* (1968)
- ☐ **KRAFTWERK**
☐ *Computer World* (1981)
☐ *Trans-Europe Express* (1977)
- ☐ **KENDRICK LAMAR**
☐ *To Pimp a Butterfly* (2015)
- ☐ **LCD SOUNDSYSTEM**
☐ *LCD Soundsystem* (2005)
- ☐ **LED ZEPPELIN**
☐ *Led Zeppelin* (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)
- ☐ **CHARLES MINGUS**
☐ *Mingus Ah Um* (1959)
- ☐ **JONI MITCHELL**
☐ *Blue* (1971)
- ☐ **MODEST MOUSE**
☐ *The Moon & Antarctica* (2000)
- ☐ **ENNIO MORRICONE**
☐ *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* [OST] (1966)
- ☐ **VAN MORRISON**
☐ *Astral Weeks* (1968)
☐ *Moondance* (1970)
- ☐ **MOS DEF**
☐ *Black On Both Sides* (1999)
- ☐ **THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION**
☐ *Freak Out!* (1966)
- ☐ **KACEY MUSGRAVES**
☐ *Golden Hour* (2018)
- ☐ **MY BLOODY VALENTINE**
☐ *Loveless* (1991)
☐ *Isn't Anything* (1988)
- ☐ **NAS**
☐ *Illmatic* (1994)
- ☐ **THE NATIONAL**
☐ *Boxer* (2007)
- ☐ **NEU!**
☐ *Neu!* (1972)
- ☐ **NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL**
☐ *In the Aeroplane Over the Sea* (1998)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

NEW ORDER

- ☐ *Power, Corruption & Lies* (1983)

NINE INCH NAILS

- ☐ *Pretty Hate Machine* (1989)
- ☐ *The Downward Spiral* (1994)

NIPSEY HUSSLE

- ☐ *Victory Lap* (2018)

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 Featuring Veronica* (1964)

ROXY MUSIC

- ☐ *Avalon* (1982)
- ☐ *For Your Pleasure* (1973)

SADE

- ☐ *Diamond Life* (1984)
- ☐ *Love Deluxe* (1992)

- ☐ *Saturday Night Fever [OST]* (1977)

SELENA

- ☐ *Dreaming Of You* (1995)

SEX PISTOLS

- ☐ *Never Mind the Bollocks, Here's the Sex Pistols* (1977)

SIGUR ROS

- ☐ *Ágætis Byrjun* (1999)

SLEATER-KINNEY

- ☐ *Call the Doctor* (1996)
- ☐ *Dig Me Out* (1997)

SLINT

- ☐ *Spiderland* (1991)

SLY & THE FAMILY STONE

- ☐ *Stand!* (1969)
- ☐ *There's a Riot Goin' On* (1971)

NINA SIMONE

- ☐ *Nina Simone Sings the Blues* (1967)

SIMON & GARFUNKEL

- ☐ *Bridge Over Troubled Water* (1970)

PAUL SIMON

- ☐ *Graceland* (1986)

FRANK SINATRA

- ☐ *In the Wee Small Hours* (1955)

SIOUXSIE & THE BANSHEES

- ☐ *Juju* (1981)

SLAYER

- ☐ *Reign In Blood* (1986)

SLOWDIVE

- ☐ *Souvlaki* (1993)

SMASHING PUMPKINS

- ☐ *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* (1995)
- ☐ *Siamese Dream* (1993)

ELLIOTT SMITH

- ☐ *Elliott Smith* (1995)
- ☐ *Either/Or* (1997)

PATTI SMITH

- ☐ *Horses* (1975)

FROM THE AMOEBLOG

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 and 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 STOKES

- ☐ *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)

TYLER THE CREATOR

- ☐ *Igor* (2019)

U2

- ☐ *The Joshua Tree* (1987)

VANGELIS

- ☐ *Blade Runner [OST]* (1994)

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND

- ☐ *The Velvet Underground & Nico* (1967)
- ☐ *White Light/White Heat* (1968)
- ☐ *The Velvet Underground* (1969)
- ☐ *Loaded* (1970)

THE VERVE

- ☐ *Urban Hymns* (1997)

VIOLENT FEMMES

- ☐ *Violent Femmes* (1983)

TOM WAITS

- ☐ *Blue Valentine* (1978)
- ☐ *Swordfishtrombones* (1983)

KAMASI WASHINGTON

- ☐ *The Epic* (2015)

WEEZER

- ☐ *The Blue Album* (1994)
- ☐ *Pinkerton* (1996)

KANYE WEST

- ☐ *Late Registration* (2005)
- ☐ *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* (2010)

THE WHO

- ☐ *Quadrophenia* (1973)
- ☐ *Who's Next* (1971)

THE WHITE STRIPES

- ☐ *White Blood Cells* (2001)
- ☐ *Elephant* (2003)

WILCO

- ☐ *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot* (2002)

HANK WILLIAMS

- ☐ *Ramblin' Man* (1955)

LUCINDA WILLIAMS

- ☐ *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road* (1998)

AMY WINEHOUSE

- ☐ *Back To Black* (2006)

WIRE

- ☐ *Pink Flag* (1977)

STEVIE WONDER

- ☐ *Talking Book* (1972)
- ☐ *Innervisions* (1973)
- ☐ *Songs in the Key of Life* (1976)

WU-TANG CLAN

- ☐ *Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)* (1993)

XTC

- ☐ *Skylarking* (1986)

THE XX

- ☐ *The XX* (2009)

YEAH YEAH YEAHS

- ☐ *Fever To Tell* (2003)

YO LA TENGO

- ☐ *I Can Hear the Heart Beating as One* (1997)

NEIL YOUNG

- ☐ *After the Gold Rush* (1970)
- ☐ *Harvest* (1972)

THE ZOMBIES

- ☐ *Odessey and Oracle* (1968)



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