



Arcade Fire apparently is in the midst of working on a new album, with writing having “[intensified](#)” during the pandemic. In spite of ourselves, we are interested in hearing this quarantine opus, even though [we openly disliked](#) their previous album, 2017’s *Everything Now*. Arcade Fire is also on our brains lately because the 10th anniversary of their third ([and we would argue greatest](#)) album, *The Suburbs*, was this past weekend. That album, like all Arcade Fire LPs, is a mix of breathtaking musical moments and grandiose, eyeroll-inducing thematic gestures. And yet we wouldn’t want Arcade Fire to be any other way. Sometimes they miss in embarrassing fashion, and other times they absolutely crush it. But they always swing big. For [this list of our 20 favorite Arcade Fire songs](#), we took stock of the crushes while also attempting to understand how and why they miss.

-- Steven Hyden, Uproxx Cultural Critic and author of [This Isn't Happening: Radiohead's "Kid A" and the Beginning of the 21st Century](#)

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In case you missed it...

The first episode of our new **podcast** hosted by **Steven Hyden** and **Ian Cohen** is [available now](#), wherever you listen to podcasts.

Our [YouTube channel](#) now has a collection of **playlists** to satisfy all of your nostalgic needs.

There is an alternate universe where **Phoebe Bridgers** sings over trap beats. She also kissed an elderly TikTok star in her new video for "I Know The End."

Spotify's CEO says he doesn't think it's "enough" for artists to release an album "every three to four years."

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Liza Anne**, who spends a lot of time researching '80s Volkswagens.

OPENING TRACKS



ANGEL OLSEN

On 2019's *All Mirrors*, Angel Olsen made her lushest, most orchestrated music yet. Her recently announced follow-up, *Whole New Mess*, takes many of those songs and strips them way back to their bare essentials, in a manner that no Olsen album has approached since her 2012 debut.

LISTEN



BLACK PUMAS

The debut self-titled album by this soulful rock combo was a breakout indie hit in 2019, garnering a Grammy nomination and scoring a viral smash with the single “Colors.” Now the album is getting the deluxe “special edition” treatment that includes outtakes, covers, and live versions, including a great version of “Confines.”

LISTEN



GULCH

Like all great hardcore bands, this fire-spitting California outfit burst into every song, make an extremely noisy racket, and then rapidly explode into the next track. Their latest, *Impenetrable Cerebral Fortress*, blows through eight songs in just about 16 minutes, teasing out some surprising melodies amid all the relentless carnage.

LISTEN

EXCLUSIVE SONG PREMIERE



YOUNG JESUS - "MAGICIANS"

The final track on Young Jesus' new album *Welcome To Conceptual Beach* is a ten-minute epic that takes you on a journey through genre boundaries, blending post-rock and emo and math rock to create something vibrant and beautiful. The track meanders with wandering riffs before locking into pristine build-ups that hammer home the strength of the Los Angeles band. "Magicians" doesn't officially drop until tomorrow, but click play above for an early taste of the new track.

PRE-ORDER THE ALBUM

DEEP CUTS



BAD MOVES

This Washington D.C.-based pop-punk band has built an impressive body of work in a relatively short period of time, putting out two albums, one EP, and nearly a half-dozen singles since 2017. Their latest album, *Untenable*, is their catchiest and most fully realized effort yet, with production by Hop Along's Joe Reinhart.

LISTEN



PSYCHIC TEMPLE

This project spearheaded by Chris Schlarb has assembled one of the year's more intriguing albums with the forthcoming *Houses Of The Holy*, due out September 25. A double LP, *Houses* features Schlarb working with a different band on each LP side, including Cherry Glazerr and The Dream Syndicate, to create a truly epic experience.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

***WOODSTOCK — BACK TO THE GARDEN
50TH ANNIVERSARY COLLECTION 5LP***



With all of us stuck inside during the pandemic, it can be hard to remember what communal revelry felt like. Sometimes a live record can help spur your memory. Released to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of the iconic 1969 festival, *Back To The Garden* features 42 of the best performances from the long weekend. Included on the 5LP set are live tracks from Joan Baez, The Band, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Grateful Dead, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jefferson Airplane, Santana, Sly And The Family Stone, and The Who.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'THE AGE OF ADZ' by SUFJAN STEVENS



This 2010 album sounded pretty bonkers when it first came out, especially for those Sufjan fans expecting something along the lines of *Illinois*. But a decade later, this proggy and crazy ambitious curveball is sounding better and better all the time, especially the one-of-a-kind showstopper “Impossible Soul.”

[LISTEN](#)

LINER NOTES



INDIECAST: 10 YEARS OF ARCADE FIRE'S 'THE SUBURBS'

Arcade Fire stunned the world when they took home the Album Of The Year award at the 2011 Grammys for their sprawling third album *The Suburbs*. It was the first time the band took home an award at the ceremony, and left many people wondering, "Who is Arcade Fire?" On the first episode of Indiecast, Steven Hyden and Ian Cohen dive in to the Canadian outfit's discography, zeroing in on *The Suburbs*, a decade after its release.☒

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Follow the official playlist

Curated in collaboration with Topsyfy straight from Indie Mixtape HQ, and updated weekly. Also available on Apple Music and Deezer.



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