



Given the insanity we've all had to deal with 2020, you'll be forgiven if many quality indie albums have flown under your radar of late. Hopefully, we can help draw your attention back to these worthwhile sounds in this newsletter as well as our new podcast, Indiestcast, which is [currently available](#) at your favorite streaming platform of choice. In our latest episode, Ian Cohen and I discuss our favorite sleeper records so far in 2020 — this is the music that should be getting more attention but for whatever reason hasn't quite captured the zeitgeist. Between us, we shared 10 picks, including the latest from Wares — whom I [called](#) my indie sleeper of the year last month — Stay Inside, Rose City Band, Ben Seratan, Ezra Feinberg, I'm Glad It's You, 2nd Grade, Peel Dream Magazine, and more. Check out the conversation now [here](#).

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

## ***In case you missed it...***

Our YouTube channel added a handful of new videos from **The Flaming Lips** to our [epic catalogue collection](#).

We started posting [good memes](#) **Instagram Reels**.

**James Gandolfini** [loved](#) **Green Day's** *Dookie* and named his dog after the album.

**Live Nation**'s revenue was **down nearly 100%** during the pandemic.

We compiled the **best music documentaries** you should be watching.

**Neil Young** **finally sued** Donald Trump after years of denying him permission to play his music at events.

**Phoebe Bridgers** **said** that her music is like **Taylor Swift's**, but for people who hate themselves.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Jessy Lanza**, who absolutely loves Janet Jackson.

## OPENING TRACKS



### ***BON IVER***

Justin Vernon has been an outspoken supporter of Black Lives Matter and other worthy causes of late. Now, he's putting his music to use with the new single "AUATC" — short for "Ate Up All Their Cake" — which includes some little known guest stars named Jenny Lewis ... and Bruce Springsteen.

LISTEN



### **DEHD**

This Chicago trio makes dreamy-sounding indie rock that evokes the oldies melodrama of Roy Orbison and the timeless goth-rock splendor of The Cure. The band themselves have labeled their sound “mutt-rock,” nodding to the motley stew of influences. But their latest LP, *Flowers Of Devotion*, merely sounds like beautiful guitar pop.

LISTEN



### **GEORGE CLANTON + NICK HEXUM**

Clanton, scion of vaporwave, is known for excavating maligned or ignored music genres of the past and reimagining them into something stranger and more modern. His latest project might be the most unexpected example of this — a collaboration with 311’s Nick Hexum that sounds like a straightforward celebration of chill rap-rock.

LISTEN

DEEP CUTS



## **SAMIA**

We've been following this savvy New York-based singer-songwriter for more than two years now, ever since we heard her stinging, '90s indie-inspired single "Lasting Friend." After an extended period of woodshedding, it looks like Samia is ready to drop her debut full-length, *The Baby*, which comes out on August 28.

**LISTEN**



## **ANDREW WEATHERS ENSEMBLE**

This North Carolina outfit describes itself as a "chamber-folk group," but that doesn't come close to summing up the band's latest release, *The Thousands Birds In The Earth, The Thousand Birds In The Sky*. You'll also find ambient soundscapes, free-jazz extrapolations, and space-rock ponderousness on this utterly unpredictable record.

**LISTEN**

## **VINYL OF THE WEEK**

**LOU REED — 'NEW YORK' DELUXE  
3CD/DVD/2LP + CASSETTE BUNDLE**



Lou Reed's Sire Records debut is now available with a fresh remastered sound in a set that also features unreleased studio and live tracks. This massive limited-edition bundle also includes the DVD debut of “The New York Album” concert film and a cassette version of the album that was previously unavailable. Out in September, this set is a must-have for any Reed or Velvet Underground fan.

**PRE-ORDER**

## THROWBACK

***'THE SKY MOVES SIDeways' by PORCUPINE TREE***





This underappreciated British band was making complex progressive rock at a time in the '90s when that kind of music couldn't possibly be less cool. But in retrospect, early mindblowers like *The Sky Moves Sideways* have aged as well as prime era Pink Floyd.

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## LINER NOTES



### *The Best Bruce Springsteen Songs, Ranked*

Steven Hyden recently wrote 12,000 words on his 100 favorite songs by recent Bon Iver collaborator Bruce Springsteen.

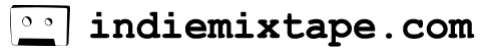
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### Follow the official playlist

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

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