



In a recent edition of Uproxx's "Ask A Music Critic" column, we were asked about our favorite "career-killer follow-up" albums. You know what we're talking about: A band has a huge hit debut, and then instead of making another record that attempts to replicate that success, the band goes the opposite way and alienates many of the people who originally loved them. One album that came immediately to mind was ***Congratulations***, the 2010 LP by MGMT that essentially transformed them from the kings of late-aughts dorm-room indie-pop — it can't be overstated how popular songs like "Kids" and "Electric Feel" *still* are — to a weird outsider psych outfit who never regained the mainstream popularity they once had. ***Congratulations*** arrived at a moment when the indie wave of the aughts was about to crash against the critical vogue of popoptimism and the commercial consolidation around massive pop stars that has defined the corporate and homogenized streaming era. What I love about ***Congratulations*** is that MGMT steered into the crash. Read more [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 just added a handful of [new videos](#) from late-'80s era **The Replacements**.

Settle into a nice audiobook with **St. Vincent**, who was [announced](#) as the

latest artist featured on Audible's *Words And Music* series.

We're getting new **Sufjan Stevens** solo music for the first time since we cried while looking into a fire to his *Call Me By Your Name* soundtrack contributions. *The Ascension* is Sufjan's first solo album since 2015's *Carrie And Lowell*.

Austin City Limits cancelled their 2020 installment, and have shared dates for the 2021 festival.

Make sure you don't sleep on **Haim**'s excellent new album *Women In Music Pt. III*, which is their best yet.

The latest *Indie Mixtape 20* Q&A is with **Big Wild**, who is poised and ready to vote for The Rock in 2024. He didn't mention anything about **Kanye West** in 2020.

ENTER TO WIN A HOME RECORDING BUNDLE

We're teaming up with Sweetwater to give away everything you'll need to finish that ambient album you've been promising us all these years.

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OPENING TRACKS



DISCLOSURE

This brother duo was one of the defining acts of early '10s-era indie electronic music, creating hooky pop songs that were ubiquitous in trendy boutiques all over the world. But since 2015's *Caracal* they've been mostly silent, though that's about to change: A new LP, *ENERGY*, drops Aug. 28.

LISTEN



WASHED OUT

You can be forgiven for believing that this week's Indie Mixtape is somehow leftover from 2011. Just as Disclosure soundtracked the Obama years, Washed Out was one of the best and most celebrated acts of the chillwave era. And Ernest Greene is still doing his thing on *Purple Noon*, due next month.

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FONTAINES D.C.

This feisty, wordy Irish post-punk band has been steadily releasing singles for their forthcoming sophomore record, *A Hero's Death*. The album finally drops later this month on July 31, but Fontaines D.C. just provided another taste with the propulsive new rant about the mass media echo chamber, "Televised Mind."

LISTEN



DEEP CUTS



CHRIS FORSYTH

This Philadelphia guitarist is a master of elongated jams that shimmer luminously and then swell into surly squalls of majestic noise.

His forthcoming LP, *First Flight*, compiles some of the best jams captured from a residency last fall at NYC club Nublu. Before then, check out this recent release from last month.

LISTEN

BRIGID DAWSON AND THE MOTHERS NETWORK

You might know Brigid Dawson as a member of Thee Oh Sees — she's the one providing cool counterpoint to the frenzied gesticulations of frontman John Dwyer. On her own via the beguiling *Ballet Of Apes*, the debut of her solo project Brigid Dawson and The Mothers Network, she's more chilled out.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

'GO FARTHER IN LIGHTNESS' by GANGS OF YOUTH



This 2017 album by the energetic and endlessly inspirational Australian band Gang Of Youths is a modern classic for us at Indie Mixtape, a

compendium of indie-rock styles skillfully synthesized — fans of Arcade Fire and The National should especially take note — and set to impassioned, literary lyrics.

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THROWBACK

EAGLES — 'LIVE FROM THE FORUM MMXVIII' SUPER DELUXE BOXED SET



Recorded live over three nights at LA's The Forum in September 2018, this live album depicts an iconic band still in command of the stage after almost 50 years. This Super Deluxe Edition contains four 180-gram LPs, two CDs, and a Blu-ray of the concert film, housed in a deluxe slipcase with a 16-page book featuring photos from the Forum stage. The Eagles spent most of 2018 on tour, with Don Henley, Joe Walsh, and Timothy B.

Schmit joined by two new bandmates: Deacon Frey and Vince Gill. Highlights from all three shows have now been compiled for this brand new 26-song live album and concert film.

Indie Mixtape subscribers have first access to pre-order the set, chronicling three historic nights for a legendary band.

PICK IT UP

LINER NOTES



Wares' 'Survival' Is 2020's Great Indie Sleeper Record

One of our favorite “sleeper” indie releases of 2020 is *Survival* by the Canadian band Wares. Read more about the record here.

[CHECK IT OUT](#)



Follow the official playlist

Curated in collaboration with Topsyfy straight from Indie Mixtape HQ, and updated weekly.

 Play



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