

POP FLASH.

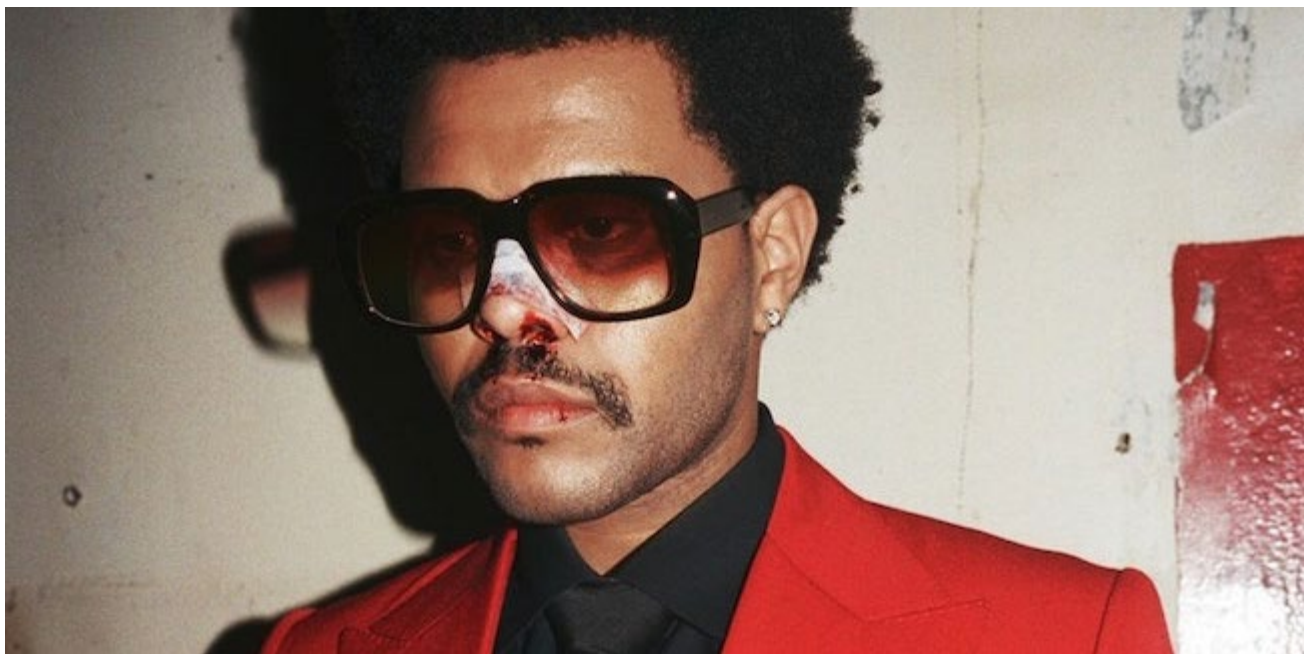


Across the globe, artists are [postponing and canceling shows](#), [suspending promotional campaigns](#), and [pushing their albums back](#). But last week, [Dua Lipa did the opposite](#). While it might be more in line with the pop audience's love of breathless exaggeration to call this act heroic, in a lot of ways, it felt like a vote of confidence that the listening public desperately needed. Lipa's second album, *Future Nostalgia*, was slated for release this coming Friday, April 3, but when the world began to shift drastically due to social distancing required to [halt the global spread of Coronavirus](#), Lipa didn't postpone her album, she pushed it up.

Released a week early this past Friday, March 27, the widely-anticipated follow-up to her self-titled 2017 debut, *Future Nostalgia* features the kind of shimmering, dance-floor bops that can instantly elevate the mood of irritated, exhausted, and isolated people everywhere. It's one of the most solid wall-to-wall pop albums of the last few years, as each of these eleven tracks has its own mood and style, but each song still blends seamlessly in with the others. *Future Nostalgia* feels like an aesthetic as much as an album, channeling '80s pop like "Physical" right alongside and neon-tinted high-tempo bangers like "Hallucinate."

— Caitlin White, Uproxx Pop Critic on [Dua Lipa's magnificent second album, *Future Nostalgia*](#). Check out the album [here](#).

NUMBER ONE STUNNERS



THE WEEKND

Well, after an 11-week run that was unprecedented, for 2020, Roddy Ricch had a streak that mirrored Lil Nas X's record-breaking dominance with "Old Town Road" last year, but "The Box" has officially been unseated as the No. 1 song in the country. Following his release of *After Hours* earlier this month, The Weeknd's shimmering single "Blinding Lights" has officially hit the top spot on the chart. Not only that, but his full record also reached No. 1 on the *Billboard 200* as the top album in the country, too. That's what's known as a coup — album is still king, even in the midst of crisis. Or, well, knowing the kind of music Abel makes, maybe because of it?

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BUBBLING UNDER



INGRID ANDRESS

Coming up performing in acapella groups and being influenced by artists like Faith Hill and the Dixie Chicks, it's no surprise that Ingrid Andress went on to land a post in Nashville's songwriting ecosystem, writing songs for Sam Hunt before finally pivoting to her own solo career. Her full-length debut, *Lady Like*, is full of songs with country underpinnings and hooky choruses that will get stuck in your head all day. Her debut single, "More Hearts Than Mine," put her on the map last summer, and after releasing her album this March, Andress is the kind of emotional, epic storyteller who won't be an unknown for long.

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REMEMBER WHEN

'SIGN "O" THE TIMES' by PRINCE



On this day in 1987, Prince released what is considered by many to be one of the greatest albums of all time — *Sign "O" The Times*. Of course, younger fans might know the title because Harry Styles rather infamously referenced that album and song with his own solo debut, “Sign Of The Times.” But whether you’ve grown up blasting this Prince classic or are just becoming aware of it, the 33rd anniversary of its release is as good a time as any to give it another whirl.

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LOVE LETTERS



WAXAHATCHEE

Waxahatchee's new album, *Saint Cloud*, is not quite a pop epic — but it *is* epic. Katie Crutchfield is more of an indie-rock songwriter, and a staple in that community, but this album is the kind of sweeping, silvery classic that defies genre. This album is one of the best releases of the year, and definitely one that will inspire you to reflect on the spiritual, sky-bound elements of the world.

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