



It's understandable that Taylor Swift would want to spend more time in the wintery-country world she created for *Folklore*. (For starters, even someone as rich as Swift has nothing better to do at the moment.) But even *Folklore* felt overstuffed — at 16 tracks, it's a little samey in places, especially given the monochromatic nature of Dessner's musical electro-folk beds. (This has also been an issue on the last few National records.) It's still the second-best Taylor Swift record after *Red*, though it might have topped that record had it been reduced to an unbeatable 10-12 tracks, with "Cardigan," "The Last Great American Dynasty," "Mirrorball," "August," and "Invisible String" acting as a very strong core. Swift — and surely her many fans — no doubt feel differently. So now comes *Evermore*, the *Amnesiac* to *Folklore*'s *Kid A*. As Swift herself concedes, this is the first time that a Taylor Swift record has reiterated a previous album's aesthetic, rather than pushing her music in a different direction. Put another way: It's another 15 songs of novelistic Swift writing set against downbeat pianos, plunky acoustic guitars, and stripped-back vibes. Check out my review [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 is now the official home to collection of [Jane's Addiction music videos](#).

The [latest episode](#) of ***Indiecast*** launched an awards show and delivered the first round of awards.

David Crosby has joined the list of artists selling their catalogues copyrights. While **Bob Dylan** got a massive payout from his catalogue, Crosby [made it clear](#) that "it's my only option" after "streaming stole my record money."

If **Phoebe Bridgers** [married](#) **Phoebe Waller-Bridge**, they would have the "exact same name."

The first installment of this year's **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A Holiday Edition** is with [Sad13](#), who only wants a new audio interface for the holidays.

This beautiful Tash Sultana custom Stratocaster could be yours!

ENTER TO WIN



OPENING TRACKS



GRIMES

If you're gamer, you've no doubt taken *Cyberpunk 2077* for a test drive by now. You might have also noticed the jam-packed soundtrack featuring songs by Run The Jewels, Refused, Converge, and that indie-pop dynamo known as Grimes. Check out her track "Delicate Weapon" also credited to Lizzy Wizzy.

LISTEN



THE HOLD STEADY

Every indie fan's favorite bar band just finished off their Massive



GUIDED BY VOICES

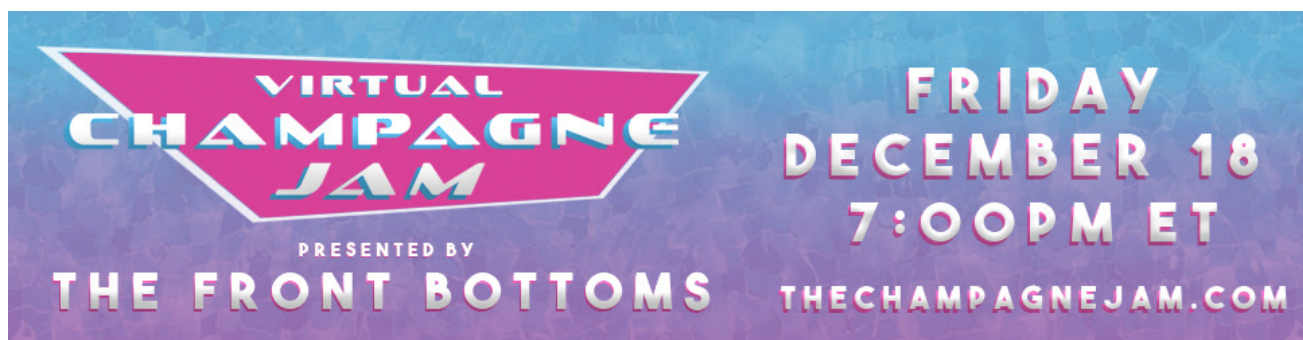
Would you be shocked to learn that Guided By Voices has a new album

Nights concerts at Brooklyn Bowl, which were some of our favorite livestreamed events of the year. It was a warm up of sorts for The Hold Steady's forthcoming album *Open Door Policy*, which is previewed with the very good single, "Family Farm."

LISTEN

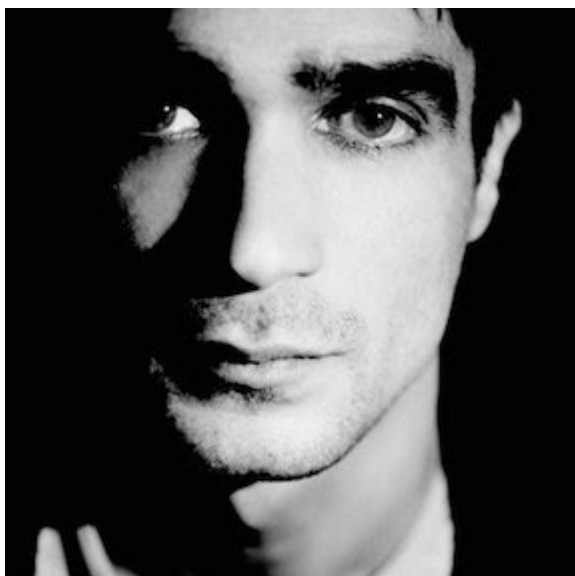
that just came out? The most prolific indie band in the history of the world just dropped *Styles We Paid For*, their third album of 2020 after *Surrender Your Poppy Field* and *Mirrored Aztec*.

LISTEN



The Front Bottoms' annual Champagne Jam festival is going virtual this year. Enter to win tickets [HERE](#).

DEEP CUTS



JON HOPKINS



EMMA RUTH RUNDLE +

Our favorite Radiohead-related release of the past decade is Thom Yorke's 2019 solo joint *Anima*, and the best track from that record is the spooky and gorgeous "Dawn Chorus." One person who apparently agrees with us is electronic artist Jon Hopkins, who recently unveiled his relatively faithful cover.

LISTEN

THOU

Speaking of "spooky and gorgeous" music, one of the year's darkest and goth-iest (in a pretty way!) records is *May Our Chambers Be Full* by the singer-songwriter Emma Ruth Rundle and the Louisiana metal band Thou. The riffs on this record come heavy and sludgy, but it's a lovely wave.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

GREEN DAY — 'GREATEST HITS: GOD'S FAVORITE BAND'



It's been nearly 20 years since Green Day released *International Superhits*, their first greatest hits collection, in 2001. *God's Favorite Band* is the revised and updated collection of the band's biggest songs to date, spanning all the way from their 1992 debut album *Kerplunk!* to 2017's *Revolution Radio*. All told, *God's Favorite Band* is a document of a scrappy punk rock band that evolved into unstoppable hit makers to become a musical force for nearly thirty years,

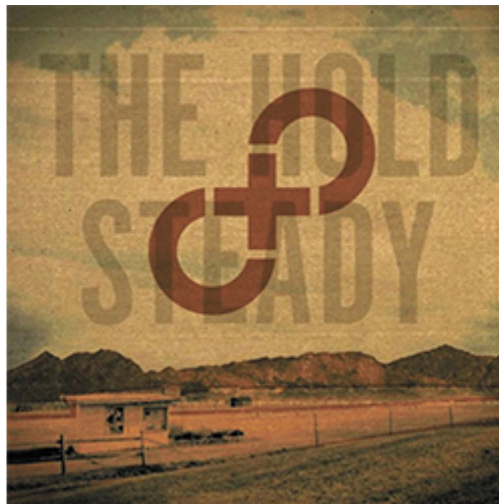
PICK IT UP



T H E B A N D C A M I N O
R O S E S
O U T N O W

THROWBACK

'STAY POSITIVE' by THE HOLD STEADY



Okay, so we've been on a big Hold Steady kick ever since Massive Nights. This 2008 record is one of our favorites, just loaded with killer riffs and quotable lines in songs like "Sequestered In Memphis" and "Constructive Summer."

[LISTEN](#)

LINER NOTES

LAST DONUT OF THE NIGHT

One of the most reliably great



music writing Substacks is Last Donut Of The Night by music critic Larry Fitzmaurice. Read Larry's smart thoughts here!

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