



About three years ago, I [made a wish](#) for more artists to livestream their concerts. In a sense this wish has come true, though strictly in a cursed, *Monkey's Paw* kind of way. I was hoping for a future in which more bands made it possible for fans to engage with their live performances from the comfort of home, and to enhance this engagement by approaching their setlists in more creative and innovative ways. Certainly, I did not anticipate that a worldwide pandemic would completely level the concert industry and make livestreaming, for now, the only game in town. Nevertheless, this is where we currently find ourselves. And, in spite of what some in the industry might want to believe, I don't think this is a temporary stopgap. Even if concerts come back in some form later on this year — hardly an automatic proposition given the slow rollout of Covid vaccines — I suspect that livestreaming will continue to play a significant role in how fans experience “live” music. I wrote about how this experience can be improved [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...

Get ready for **Valentine's Day** with this new [YouTube](#) playlist. Have a song suggestion? Let us know on [Twitter](#).

We [reflected](#) on albums turning 10 this year over on **TikTok**.

The [latest episode](#) of **Indiecast** debated the best sophomore

albums of all time.

Phoebe Bridgers revealed her pick for the fourth member of Boygenius.

Hayley Williams leaked a new song by hand-delivering a CD to a fan in Nashville.

**What song has you
like this?**

Let us know

Me: "I think I might actually be okay."
Sad music plays
Me:



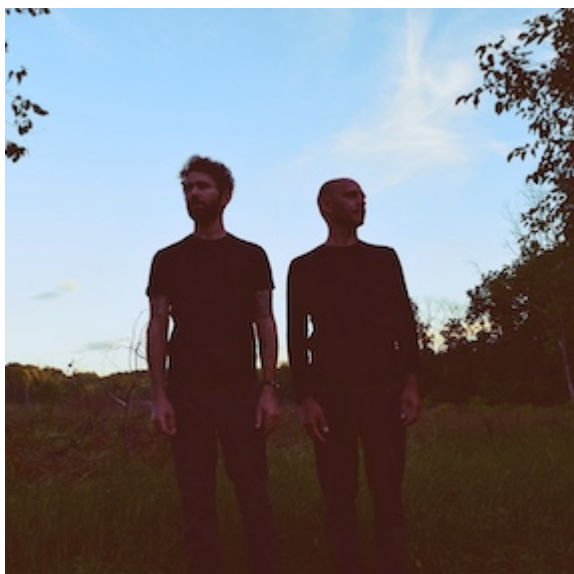
OPENING TRACKS



THE WEATHER STATION

This artist otherwise known as Tamara Lindeman specializes in incisive, insightful songwriting set to warm, organic sounds that evoke the glory years of sensitive tunesmiths in the 1960s and 70s. Her fifth studio album arriving this Friday, *Ignorance*, ranks with her very best work and will hopefully expand her audience.

LISTEN



THE ANTLERS

This hyper-emotional indie-folk act is best known for *Hospice*,



FRUIT BATS

The long-running indie institution has a deep

one of the defining indie-rock albums of the late aughts. It's been seven years since their most recent LP, 2014's *Familiars*, but thankfully the group will finally return with a new record, *Green To Gold*, on March 26.

LISTEN

catalogue of catchy and frequently haunting pop songs written by Eric D. Johnson. After a brief hiatus in the mid-2010s, Fruit Bats picked up pretty much where they left off. Their forthcoming album, *The Pet Parade* (due March 5), was made with producer-of-the-moment Josh Kaufman.

LISTEN

DEEP CUTS



YASMIN WILLIAMS

There is no shortage of instrumental guitar albums in the underground primitive scene, and while many of them are pleasant enough, they rarely distinguish themselves from the pack. And then there's Yasmin Williams, whose new *Urban Driftwood* is one of



NERVOUS DATER

A record coming out later this month — Feb. 26 to be exact — that we're eager to hear is *Call In The Mess*, the latest from the very appealing and infectious Brooklyn pop-punk trio Nervous Dater. As the band name suggests, Nervous Dater sets self-deprecating vignettes to melodic rippers.

the best instrumental guitar
records to come out lately.

LISTEN

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

***GREEN DAY – 'DOOKIE' (LIMITED EDITION
PICTURE DISC)***



Green Day's groundbreaking major label debut was released on this very day, 27 years ago. Celebrate the iconic album by picking up this limited edition picture disc, featuring the entire original tracklist (including the hidden track).

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'THE POSITIONS' by GANG OF YOUTHS



We are big boosters of this Australian band and their 2017 album *Go Farther In Lightness*. But lately we've also been digging into the record before that one, *The Positions*, which is just about as rousing and anthemic as the follow-up.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES



THE STATE OF LIVESTREAM CONCERTS

In the latest episode of *Indiecast*, Steven and Ian talk about the future of livestream concerts and share their favorite sophomore albums.

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