



On the latest episode of *Indiecast*, Ian Cohen and I talk about one of the most acclaimed bands of the aughts, Animal Collective. If you were an indie fan back then, it was essential to check out albums like *Sung Tongs*, *Feels*, *Strawberry Jam* and of course their 2009 mainstream breakthrough, *Merriweather Post Pavilion*. But more than a decade later, do people still remember this band? For Ian and I, they immediately come to mind as a band that was hugely important at one time, and now seems to have little or no profile, at least in “the discourse.” They don’t seem to be influential at all, except in a more general sense of making vibe-y music that blurs the line between different genres. Ian and I try to figure out why that is, while making a case for neophytes to dive into this arty, idiosyncratic band’s work. Listen [wherever you get your podcasts](#).

-- 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...

We loved the Julien Baker episode of *Indiecast* so much that we decided to [animate it](#).

Speaking of *Indiecast*, the [latest episode](#) tried to understand the sudden explosion of NFTs in music.

Tom Morello was accused of white privilege, and had to [clarify](#) that he is not, in fact, white.

Mitski returned with **new music**, in the form of a soundtrack for an upcoming graphic novel.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** is with **Citizen**, who once listened to "September" by Earth, Wind, And Fire for five hours straight.

OPENING TRACKS



ST. VINCENT

The queen of indie art-pop is back with a new album, *Daddy's Home*, drawing upon the sleazy splendor of 1970s New York, a mix of punk and disco that grooves heavy and cuts deep. The album drops May 14, but you can check out the first single, "Pay Your Way In Pain," now.

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JAPANESE BREAKFAST

We're lucky here at Indie Mixtape HQ to get advance copies of upcoming albums, and one of our favorite spins lately is the new Japanese Breakfast LP, *Jubilee*, which drops June 4. The mix of pop, indie, and ambient influences makes for a highly addictive listen, as evidenced on the single "Be Sweet."

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MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA

It's been four years since this Georgia emo-rock institution put out their previous album, *A Black Mile To The Surface*. But their forthcoming record, *The Million Masks Of God*, due April 30, is plenty epic enough to justify the wait. Just take a listen to the single "Bed Head."

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DEEP CUTS



MDOU MOCTAR

While these are hardly great times for guitar heroes, at least those of us who still enjoy a good shred can dig into desert rock from Africa. One of the most exciting stars of this scene is unquestionably Mdou Moctar, whose latest album, *Afrique Victime*, drops May 21.

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SUNBURNED HAND OF THE MAN

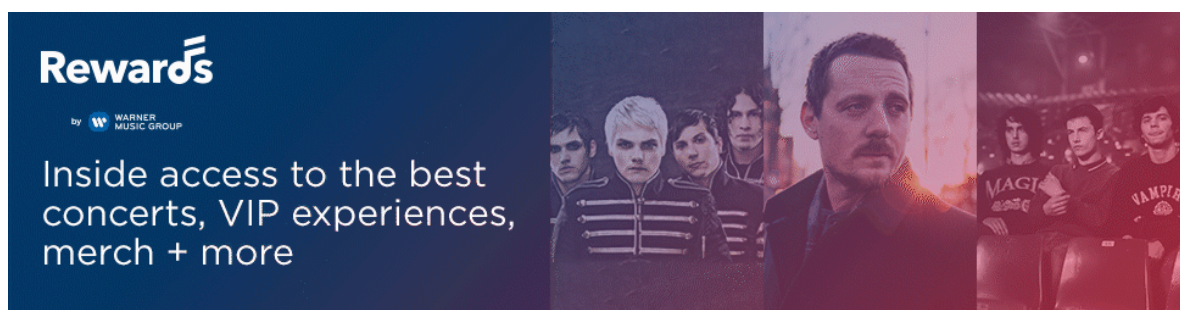
When the going gets tough, the tough get weird. And times this exceedingly weird call out for a band like Sunburned Hand Of The Man, the free rock collective that has gratefully reassembled for their first album in a decade. Recommended if you wish The Grateful Dead sounded more like Can.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

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THROWBACK

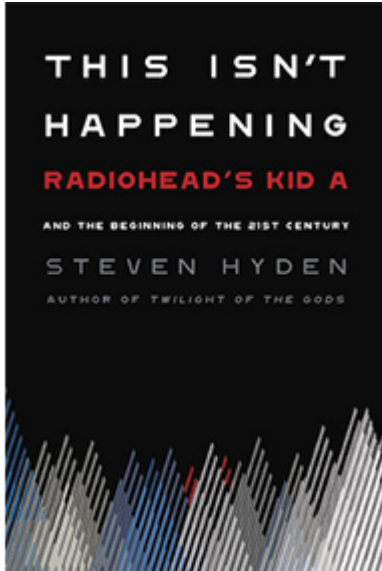
'SOFT SOUNDS FROM ANOTHER PLANET' by JAPANESE BREAKFAST



Ahead of the latest record by Michelle Zauner, it's worth revisiting her breakthrough sophomore effort from 2017. Touching on a variety of indie styles spanning several decades, Zauner somehow melds the sprawling music with a personal set of songs.

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LINER NOTES



'THIS ISN'T HAPPENING'

The paperback edition of Steven Hyden's *This Isn't Happening: Radiohead's "Kid A" and the Beginning of the 21st Century*, comes out June 8 and is now available for pre-order.

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