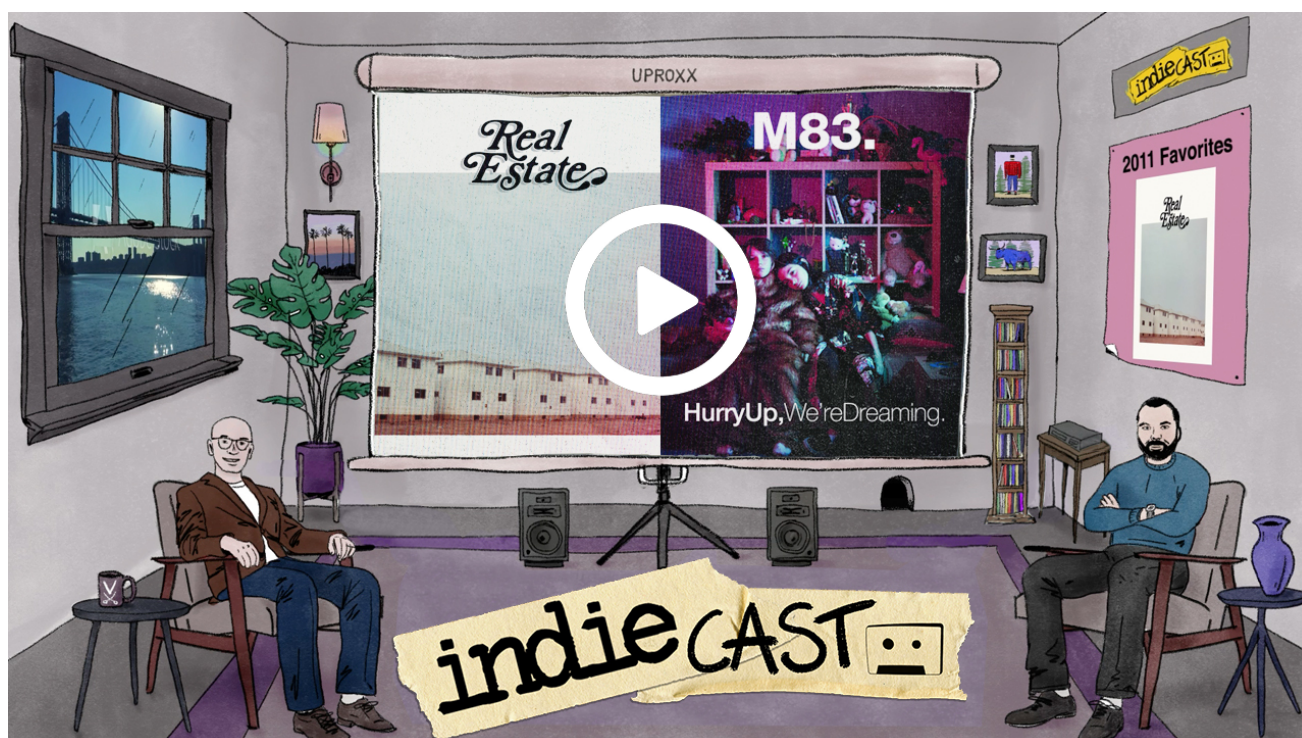




Hey, this might be a risky argument to make an indie music newsletter, but screw it: The idea that Stone Temple Pilots is worthy only of backhanded praise — they were good at being phony! — is pure bull. Their first four albums have more than stood up as some of the most tuneful and compulsively playable rock music of the '90s. That includes what I would argue is their very greatest LP, *Tiny Music ... Songs From The Vatican Gift Shop*, which turned 25 recently. Whereas many platinum-selling alt-rock acts reacted to fame by defensively retreating to the sanctity of “credible” punk and indie influences and signifiers, STP’s music only got grander and catchier. By the time they made *Tiny Music*, they were a melodic power-pop band in hard-rock clothing, skillfully aping glitter-era Bowie, The Beatles’ psychedelic period, and the cheesy '70s soft-rock acts (like The Carpenters and John Denver) that Weiland had loved since childhood. Check out our tribute [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...*

The new *Indiecast visualizer* is all about 2011 releases from Real Estate and M83. Check it out above or right [here](#).

The *latest episode* of *Indiecast* also dug into **Lana Del Rey's** forthcoming second album of 2021.

We're *giving away* a **Green Day** merch pack, complete with a copy of the brand new 25th anniversary remastered version of *Insomniac*, and a vintage t-shirt design from the era. Enter [here](#).

**Mannequin Pussy** *returned* with "Control," their first new song since 2019's excellent *Patience*.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** is with *Harmony Woods*, who is wondering if you can marry yourself.

**OPENING TRACKS**



## ***BLACK MIDI***

This buzzy British outfit emerged just in time keep the "lad guitar-band" trend alive. Though you can't really pigeon-hole Black Midi. The generic "post-punk" signifier doesn't do them justice — for instance, their latest single sounds a little like Primus. We're curious if *Pork Soda* also informs the upcoming LP, *Cavalcade*.

**LISTEN**



## ***BEN HOWARD***

This British singer-songwriter



## ***ICEAGE***

How many NYC music writers

has garnered plenty of international acclaim, but he still seems a bit unsung in the U.S. Hopefully that will change with *Collections From The Whiteout*, his new collaboration with Aaron Dessner, in which his evocative songs are enhanced by deeply atmospheric production flourishes.

**LISTEN**

does it take to screw in a lightbulb? Zero — they're all too busy writing extremely positive reviews of the latest Iceage record, *Seek Shelter*, due out May 7. If you happen to not be a NYC music writer, check out the new single, "Shelter Song."

**LISTEN**

## DEEP CUTS



### ***FLOATIE***

This Chicago band makes jumpy and rhythmically intense guitar jams that unfold in mesmerizing fashion. Their latest album *Voyage Out* has been in constant rotation at Indie Mixtape HQ — while they are broadly classified as math rock, the casual complexity



### ***FLOCK OF DIMES***

Jenn Wasner wears many hats these days. Along with fronting Wye Oak and performing as a member of Bon Iver, she also writes songs for the solo project Flock Of Dimes. The second Flock Of Dimes record, *Price Of Blue* — which drops

never comes at the expense of winning melodies.

Friday — is her most bruisingly personal work to date.

**LISTEN**

**LISTEN**



## VINYL OF THE WEEK

### ***JOE STRUMMER — 'ASSEMBLY' (180G DOUBLE LP)***

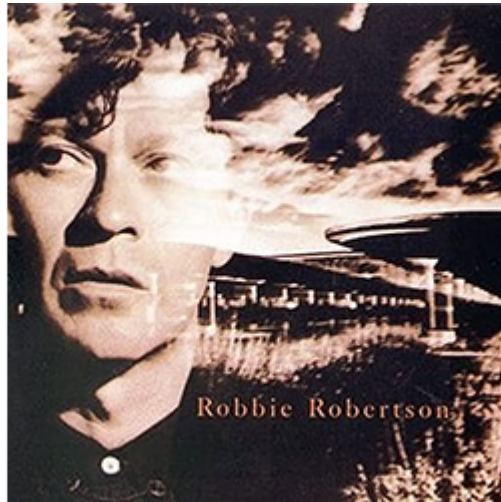


We know, we brought this up last week. But Joe Strummer's *Assembly* was released last Friday and is a whole world of fun. The brand new collection features remastered 16-track collection of Joe Strummer's greatest solo work, and is now available to pre-order as a standard double LP gatefold 180-gram set. All tracks on the album were remastered by Paul Hicks (The Beatles, The Rolling Stones), and it includes a never-before-heard acoustic home recording of "Junco Partner" and live versions of The Clash classics "I Fought The Law" and "Rudie Can't Fail" with his band, The Mescaleros.

**PRE-ORDER**

## **THROWBACK**

### ***'ROBBIE ROBERTSON' by ROBBIE ROBERTSON***



The 1987 solo debut by the former leader of The Band is like *The Avengers* for artists associated with Daniel Lanois in the 1980s, featuring guest spots from U2 and Peter Gabriel. An essential text for lovers of vibe-y heartland rockers like The War On Drugs and Kurt Vile.

**LISTEN**

## **LINER NOTES**

*RICK NIELSEN OF  
CHEAP TRICK  
REVIEWS CHEAP  
TRICK'S BIGGEST  
ALBUMS*

Cheap Trick is a pivotal



influence on generations of indie, punk and emo acts. Check out our interview with the band's guitarist Rick Nielsen.

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