



Most of the time, I make a living as a professional music critic. But occasionally, a higher calling takes precedence. In these moments, I must function as a kind of defense attorney for music that is widely maligned. As Atticus Finch once said, "The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience." Like Atticus, I am *morally bound* to defend those who have been piled on by my peers. Enter Greta Van Fleet, the most critically reviled young rock band in America. Not since Nickelback has there been a popular group that's been so easy for the press to pick on. Even when their coverage is nominally positive, the music of Greta Van Fleet still garners comparisons to an "[ejaculating hyena](#)." If you've heard even a minute of their music, it's easy to understand why this is the case. To say that Greta Van Fleet is extremely derivative of old-school and very unfashionable 1970s arena rock doesn't go nearly far enough. This band ransacks the hesher canon with an unbridled, reckless enthusiasm that makes Paul Stanley look like King Krule. They make music for people whose rock nostalgia was shaped by their coked-out uncles blasting *Houses Of The Holy* before Thanksgiving dinner. Greta Van Fleet is *a lot*, is what I'm saying. But I kind of love that about them. Check out my review of their new album [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 latest *Indiecast* visualizer digs further into why **Greta Van Fleet** gets so much hate. Check that out above or [here](#), and revisit all of the past *Indiecast* visualizers over on YouTube.

The [latest episode](#) of *Indiecast* also raised the question of which indie artists should follow in Taylor Swift's footsteps to take another stab at their earlier material.

Phoebe Bridgers [sang](#) on a new version of **Paul McCartney**'s "Seize The Day."

Bon Iver's Justin Vernon [previewed](#) new collaborations with **Taylor Swift** and **Robin Pecknold** on Instagram Live.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** is with [Maple Glider](#), who can't choose just one favorite meal.

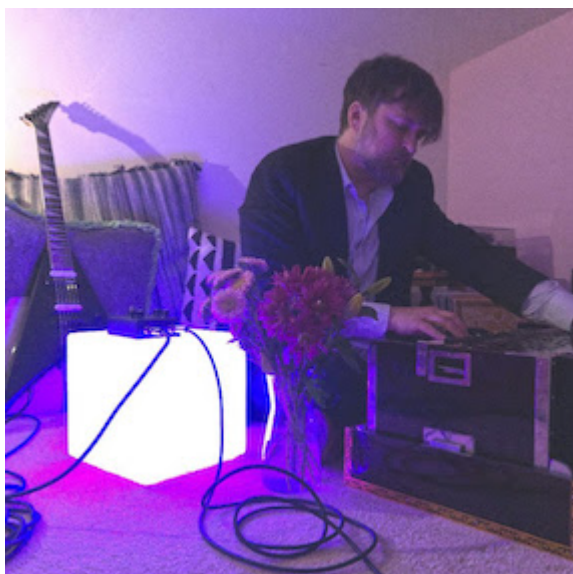
OPENING TRACKS



DINOSAUR JR.

For decades now, Dinosaur Jr. has been one of the loudest rock bands on the planet. They've also had an unexpectedly long and fruitful post-reunion career, amassing a late-career catalogue almost as strong as their early classics. Their latest LP, *Sweep It Into Space*, drops Friday.

LISTEN



***SIX ORGANS
OF ADMITTANCE***



***HOME IS
WHERE***

Ben Chasny is typically slotted as a folk musician, but his project Six Organs Of Admittance ranges far beyond the constraints of straightforward acoustic jams. The forthcoming *The Veiled Sea* is one of his most adventurous and downright thrilling releases, encompassing everything from psychedelia to avant-jazz. Dive in and explore.

LISTEN

This Florida emo band has released one of the year's most bracing and ecstatic rock records thus far with *I Became Birds*. Singer-songwriter Brandon MacDonald has expressed admiration for Bob Dylan, but their turbulent and explosive tunes instantly evoke the intensely spiritual expressions of prime era Neutral Milk Hotel.

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GIVEAWAY ALERT:
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DEEP CUTS



CLAIRE ROUSAY

This Texas-based electronic artist makes ambient recordings that don't just set out to fill the room with interesting and soothing sounds, but to actually re-create the feeling of specific atmospheres. Her latest album, *A Softer Focus*, is a collaboration with visual artist Dani Toral, and it feels like a world unto itself.

LISTEN



SNOW ELLET

We don't know much about this Chicago-based emo-punk act, but we really like their EP *Suburban Indie Rock Star*. It's precisely the kind of catchy and immediately engaging guitar pop that we never tire of hearing. If you like late '90s indie rock, or anything by recent emo heroes Oso Oso, dive in.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

***JONI MITCHELL - 'THE REPRISE ALBUMS
(1968 - 1971)' LIMITED EDITION 4LP
BOX SET***



Revisit Joni Mitchell's iconic first four studio albums in this newly remastered box set. Featuring 180-gram pressings of *Song To A Seagull* (1968), *Clouds* (1969), *Ladies Of The Canyon* (1970), and *Blue* (1971), the set compiles the makings of a living legend. The albums are all housed in a jacket featuring a previously unseen self-portrait Mitchell painted during this time period, recently rediscovered in one of her old sketchbooks, and accompanied by an essay from Brandi Carlike. Limited to 10,000 copies, *The Reprise Albums* are due this summer, but you can reserve your set right now.

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THROWBACK

**'BROKEN ENGLISH' by
MARIANNE FAITHFULL**



This 1979 comeback record by the former 1960s British pop star would be remarkable for the backstory alone, given how down and out Marianne Faithfull was at one point. But this punk-disco classic also delivers big time artistically, with a stunning set of survivor's anthems.

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LINER NOTES



I'm Not Ready To Perform

Will Butler of Arcade Fire wrote an interesting piece about his reluctance to tour post-pandemic.

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