



Jeff Rosenstock's *Ska Dream* — his recent ska-themed redux of his great 2020 album *No Dream* — reminds me of the late nineties ska that I heard in high school and college. Back then you really couldn't avoid ska. Even a person like me — I don't mind ska but I'm hardly a hardcore fan — attended ska music festivals. I have even skanked on occasion! Now it looks like ska might be making a comeback. What's interesting to me about ska is how antithetical it is to a lot of modern indie now. For one thing, it's upbeat and celebratory, as opposed to slow and vibe-y. Also, it's very much about musicianship and people playing in big bands, as opposed to a person who records alone in bedrooms. It's very social music, which might be why it's hitting so hard around now. After being cooped up for so long, we're all ready to skank. Find out more in the most recent *Indiecast* visualizer [here](#) or down below.

-- 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...

Revisit all of the past [Indiecast visualizers](#) over on YouTube and check out our review of the new **Iceage** album in the [latest episode](#).

The FBI quietly [released](#) their file on **Kurt Cobain**'s death last month, and it includes some conspiracy theories.

The notorious **Bamboozle Festival** is [set to return](#) in 2023 for the first time in over a decade.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** is with [Chloe Moriondo](#), who spent entirely too much money to see BTS live.

OPENING TRACKS



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.

LISTEN



BLACK MIDI

This buzzy British outfit emerged just in time keep the



SQUID

Speaking of British post-punk, here's another band that

"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*.

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creates jagged, esoteric soundscapes for a mumbly English singer to rant over in a thick accent. If that sounds like your thing, there are plenty of talky and oddly funky jams to be had on Squid's acclaimed debut album, *Bright Green Field*.

LISTEN



DEEP CUTS



ORIGAMI ANGEL

Lest this edition of Indie Mixtape get a little too intellectual, we have to do a



STOREFRONT CHURCH

This Los Angeles band fronted by singer-songwriter Lukas Frank specializes in

shoutout to *Gami Gang*, the latest LP — which is billed as a double LP, even though it's only about 50 minutes — from this boisterous emo duo. Definitely one of the most fun rock albums of early 2021.

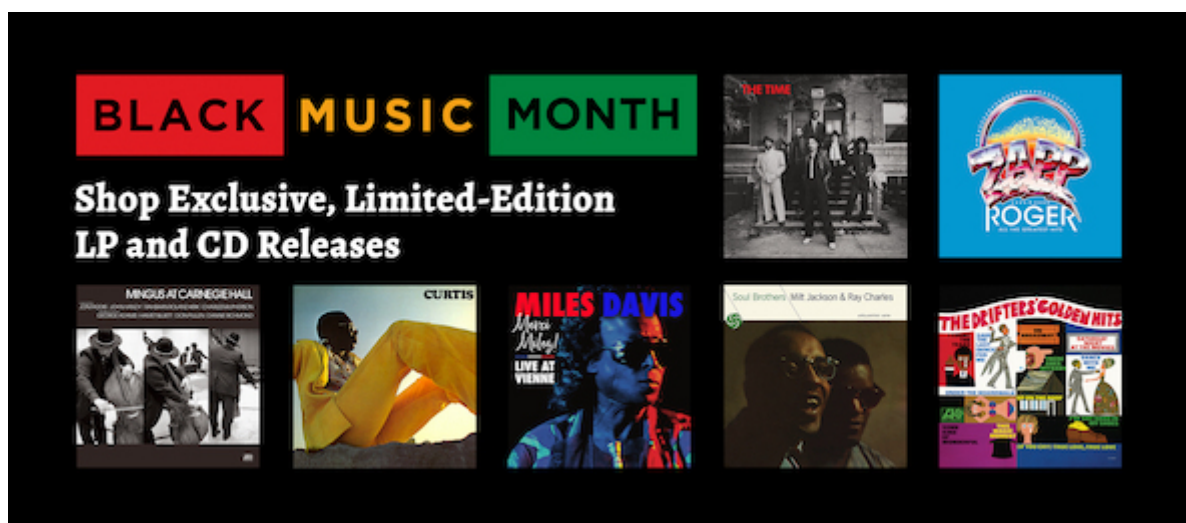
LISTEN

atmospheric and melodramatic indie rock that has earned comparisons to Jeff Buckley and Scott Walker. Their debut album *As We Pass* has been a grower for us lately, with songs that really start to pay off after the third or fourth listen.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

THE BLACK MUSIC MONTH COLLECTION



June is Black Music Appreciation month, and Rhino is prepping for a big celebration with special edition releases from Miles Davis, Charles Mingus, Ray Charles, Chaka Khan, and many more legendary artists. Check out all of the selections and place your orders now to get everything in time for June.

CHECK IT OUT

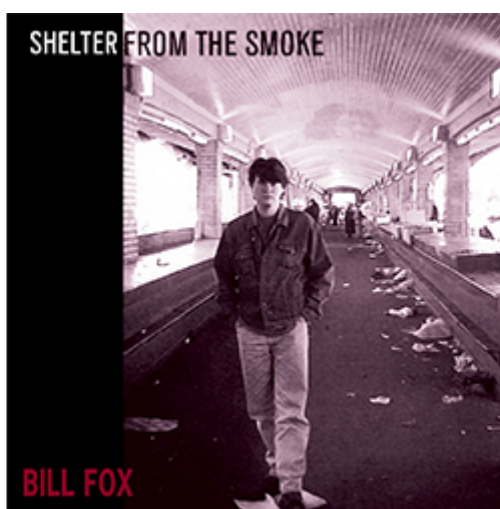


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FIGURES IN THE HISTORY OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

ROCKSCHOOLPODCAST.COM

THROWBACK

'SHELTER FROM THE SMOKE' by BILL FOX



This cult hero has all but disappeared from the music world in the past decade, which is a shame given how many perfect power pop songs he has written for his own albums and his band The Mice. We remain partial to this 1996 album, which sounds like a precursor to Elliott Smith's most Beatlesque work.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES

Dave Grohl's 'What Drives Us' Is A Recruitment Film



For The Rock Renegade Life

The new documentary, directed by Grohl, recently hit Amazon Prime's Coda Collection.

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