



For a year now, I have been hosting an indie rock podcast called *Indiecast* with my friend and fellow critic Ian Cohen. As you might assume, it was a weird time to start an indie-rock podcast! Imagine launching a podcast on how great the Titanic is five minutes after the iceberg hit — that's what it was like. (Yes, I know that podcasts did not exist in the 1910s but let's not take this analogy literally.) But even if it was a struggle at times to keep the discourse chugging along during a music industry shutdown, it was still a pleasure to wave the Indiecast flag. The best part is definitely our *Indiecast* listeners, the community of music nerds who turn to our show because nobody else in their lives wants to talk about Deerhunter, emo, and jambands. We welcome you all into our hearts, and we are grateful that you have welcomed us into yours. Check out our anniversary episode and subscribe to the pod [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 discusses *Sling*, the disarming and low-key sophomore album from Clairo. Check that out above or right [here](#), and revisit out the full collection of *Indiecast* visualizers [here](#).

The [latest episode](#) of *Indiecast* also inducted a few more under appreciated albums into the Hall Of Fame.

**Jack White** wants you to [check out](#) his impressive visual art (and his new blue hair).

R.I.P. to ZZ Top bassist Dusty Hill, who [passed away](#) last week at the age of 72. ZZ Top still [plans](#) to tour without him.

The new **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with [Jhariah](#), who is ready to belt My Chemical Romance's *The Black Parade* at any moment (bonus tracks included).

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## OPENING TRACKS



### ***JAMES BLAKE***

This introspective singer-songwriter has been making moody electro-ballads about big feelings with deep grooves since the early 2010s. His forthcoming album due out September 10 has an extremely James Blake-esque title: *Friends That Break Your Heart*. We can only hope that he once again delivers the usual heartbreaking jams.

**LISTEN**



## ***CHVRCHES***

We've come to expect certain things from these anthemic Scottish synth-poppers — namely, loads of hooks with incisive, sometimes pointed lyrics. We still feel like their 2013 debut, *The Bones Of What You Believe*, is their peak. But we're curious to check out their latest evolution on the upcoming *Screen Violence*.

**LISTEN**



## ***DEAFHEAVEN***

This alt-metal band doesn't sound all that metal on the recent single, "Great Mass Of Color." The screaming vocals of past releases have been replaced with cool crooning, which only adds to the majesty to the lush, dreamy guitars. Curious for what this portends about the forthcoming *Infinite Granite*.

**LISTEN**

**DEEP CUTS**

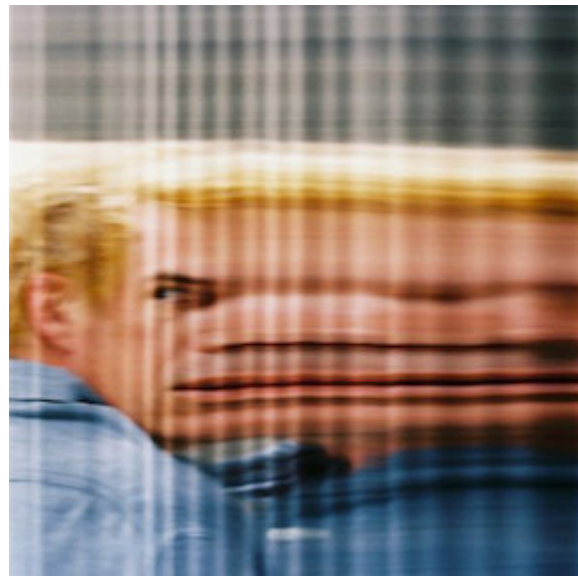




### **LIAM KAZAR**

This Chicago-based musician has an endorsement from Jeff Tweedy, which is good enough for us. His new album out this week, *Due North* — which includes instrumental backing from Jeff's son Spencer — sounds like a very cozy amalgam of '70s AM pop rock styles, with snatches of country and funk sneaking into a yacht-rock mix.

**LISTEN**



### **LIARS**

While they didn't achieve the level of fame lavished on some of their peers in the early aughts NYC rock scene, few bands from that world were as adventurous as Liars. And they've kept pushing at the boundaries of noisy post-punk since then, as evidenced by the upcoming *The Apple Drop*.

**LISTEN**

## **VINYL OF THE WEEK**

**TORI AMOS - 'LITTLE EARTHQUAKES' (180 GRAM)**

# TORI AMOS



*Little Earthquakes*

Originally released nearly thirty years ago, Tori Amos' debut studio album has sold millions of copies worldwide and been certified Platinum in the United States. Now, you can spin *Little Earthquakes* and experience the massive singles "Silent All These Years" and "Crucify" in your own little world, all on heavyweight 180 gram vinyl.

**PICK IT UP**

## THROWBACK

**'SLIPKNOT' by SLIPKNOT**



The debut studio album by this pioneering nu-metal band is one of the heaviest and most innovative rock records of the late '90s.

This is due in no small part to drummer Joey Jordison, who sadly passed away last week at the age of 46.

**LISTEN**

## LINER NOTES



*ZZ Top: That Little Ol' Band From Texas.*

We also want to pay tribute to the late Dusty Hill of ZZ Top by recommending the very enjoyable documentary.

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