



We are probably at least one generation removed from a music culture in which B-sides are a relevant concept. But for those of us who remember our most precious B-sides, they remain eternally romantic. Just so we're all on the same page: Back in the days when physical media was the only game in town, a single — whether it was a 45, a cassingle, or a CD — would have at least one additional track to accompany the headliner (or A-side) song. Often, this was a deep cut from the most recent album or a live number recorded during a contemporary tour. But sometimes these extra songs would be original tunes not available in any other format. And for certain acts, these B-sides were as good as the A-sides, maybe even better. But who has the best B-sides of all time? This question came up in a recent Ask A Music Critic column. Read my response [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...***

Revisit the full collection of *Indiecast* visualizers [here](#).

The [latest episode](#) of *Indiecast* reviewed the new album from Deafheaven. Send your questions for Steve and Ian to [indiecastmailbag@gmail.com](mailto:indiecastmailbag@gmail.com).

**Bob Dylan** is **being sued** for allegedly sexually abusing a 12-year-old girl in 1965.

Amidst rising Covid infections, **Phoebe Bridgers** has **moved** all of her forthcoming tour dates to outdoor venues and will be requiring proof of vaccination.

The new **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Goodbye Honolulu**, who listen to hours of creepy podcasts on tour.

## OPENING TRACKS



## ***PARQUET COURTS***

This venerable — that's right, they've been around for a decade now! — New York band has been one of the more consistent indie acts of recent years. They keep finding new ways to do gritty urban post-punk in new and interesting ways, which carries over to the forthcoming *Sympathy For Life*.

**LISTEN**



## ***STURGILL SIMPSON***

The new concept record *The Ballad Of Dood And Juanita* is this indie-country troubadour's *Once Upon A Time In Hollywood* — both an expertly rendered homage to Simpson's old reference points in '60s and '70s country and an elegiac summation of the themes and ideas he's embedded throughout his work.

**LISTEN**



## ***BIG RED MACHINE***

This collective spearheaded by Justin Vernon of Bon Iver and Aaron Dessner of The National prides itself on having an inclusive, all-welcoming musical atmosphere. And they've welcomed a very famous collaborator, Taylor Swift, into the fold for their upcoming album, *How Long Do You Think It's Gonna Last?*, due Friday.

**LISTEN**



## DEEP CUTS



### LOW

This long-running Minnesota band has effectively mined narrow sonic terrain for decades — they either make really pretty slow-paced guitar music, or relatively aggressive slow-paced music. But 2018's *Double Negative* put them on an experimental path that continues on the stunning forthcoming LP *Hey What*, which melds noise and ambient sounds.



### ANXIOUS

This Connecticut band derives from that region's hardcore scene, but you wouldn't necessarily know that listening to their new single "Call From You," a melodic highlight of their forthcoming debut from Run For Cover records. If you like a mix of jangly guitars and angst, this might be your new favorite band.

**LISTEN**



**LISTEN**

## **VINYL OF THE WEEK**

### ***DEPECHE MODE - 'ULTRA' - THE 12" SINGLES - COLLECTOR'S EDITION DELUXE BOXED SET***



Depeche Mode's 1997 album *Ultra* marked the first time the band recorded as a trio in 15 years. Nearing its 25th anniversary, the band has prepared *Ultra / The 12" Singles*, the latest addition to their 12" singles series. Arriving in September, this collector's edition deluxe boxed set contains eight 12" vinyl discs showcasing four singles -- "Barrel of a Gun," "It's No Good," "Home," and "Useless" -- along with key B-sides, mixes and live recordings contemporaneous to the band's ninth studio album. The tracks are presented on audiophile-quality 12" vinyl, with audio mastered from the original tapes. The artwork for the exterior of each of the box sets draws on iconography inspired by the original releases, while the vinyl sleeves themselves feature the original single artwork.

**PICK IT UP**

## THROWBACK

### *'WITHIN AND WITHOUT' by WASHED OUT*



Chillwave was starting to fade by the early 2010s, but Washed Out made one of the finest albums to come out of the genre with this lush and beautiful synth-pop record.

**LISTEN**

## LINER NOTES



### *The Best Songs By The Who, Ranked*

The Who has influenced scores of rock bands, in the indie world and beyond. Check out this list of their greatest songs as picked by Steven Hyden.

**READ**

Was this email forwarded to you? Sign up [here](#).

## **YOU SAY YOU WANT MORE MUSIC?**

- [Subscribe](#) to our podcast and [follow](#) the official playlist
- [Pop Life](#) delivers all the latest music and messages in pop
- [The Pit](#) has everything you need to know about metal and hard rock



This email was sent by: Warner Music Group 1633 Broadway New York, NY 10019 USA  
This email was sent to: zgelfand@umich.edu

[PRIVACY POLICY](#) [TERMS OF USE](#) [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)