



In 2018, Gang Of Youths was making a significant international breakthrough. One of Australia's most popular rock bands, they made in-roads on American radio with their outstanding second album, *Go Farther In Lightness*, and played their biggest stateside concerts yet as the opener on a Foo Fighters arena tour. The next year, they crisscrossed Europe with Mumford & Sons. But privately, David Le'aupepe, the band's loquacious and charismatic frontman, was hurting. His beloved father Teleso, known to friends and family as Tattersall, was diagnosed with cancer in 2017, and died of the disease the following year. Le'aupepe, who refers to his dad as "my best mate in the whole world," was devastated. But he was also inspired to give the family patriarch a voice on the next Gang Of Youths record. Several years later, that record has not yet seen the light of day. Surely the most ambitious and experimental Gang Of Youths album to date, it has the added stakes of being their first big release with new label Warner Records, which signed them to a worldwide deal in 2019. (They've also had to contend with the loss of founding guitarist Joji Malani, who exited the band that same year.) Read about the 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...

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

The [latest episode](#) of *Indiecast* reviewed the took questions from listeners and attempted to answer the unanswerable: "what is indie?" Send your questions for Steve and Ian to indiecastmailbag@gmail.com.

We launched "Songs From The Bathroom Floor," an intimate new performance series with **Catie Turner**. Check out "Play God" at the image above or right [here](#).

Smash Mouth are [very upset](#) that "All Star" wasn't included in *Rolling Stone*'s updated list of the 500 Greatest Songs Of All Time.

The new **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with [We Were Promised Jetpacks](#), who make a decent pesto.

OPENING TRACKS



SNAIL MAIL

Lindsey Jordan's debut as Snail Mail, 2018's *Lush*, was one of the most hyped indie albums of recent years, an LP of big choruses and sweet guitar tones hinting at great potential. The forthcoming *Valentine* might very well cash in on that potential, deepening her songcraft beautifully.

LISTEN



MY MORNING JACKET

This Louisville institution wasn't all that prolific in the 2010s, with several years spaced out between two volumes of *The Waterfall*. But now MMJ appears to be making amends by returning with relative swiftness on the forthcoming *My Morning Jacket*, in which the band once again orchestrates sprawling psych-rock epics.

LISTEN



STRAND OF OAKS

Each time Tim Showalter returns with a new record, you know you're in for a cathartic experience of extreme emotions. His previous album, *Eraserland*, made with members of My Morning Jacket, felt like a resurgence. But his forthcoming LP, *In Heaven*, might very well be his best work since 2014's classic *Heal*.

LISTEN



DEEP CUTS



ILLUMINATI HOTTIES

We're long-time supporters of this excitable indie-pop band, ever since their knockout 2018 debut *Kiss Yr. Frenemies*. And it seems like we're not the only ones, given how similar Olivia Rodrigo's *Sour* is to the IH template. Hopefully they can capitalize via the upcoming *Let Me Do One More*.

LISTEN



TONSTARTSSBANDHT

This Florida-based duo has been highly prolific since forming in 2008, putting out a whopping 17 records. But the forthcoming *Petunia* is their first since 2017, and it feels like a potential breakthrough, with the excellent new single "What Has Happened" sounding like a jammier Radiohead.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB - 'BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB' (25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION)

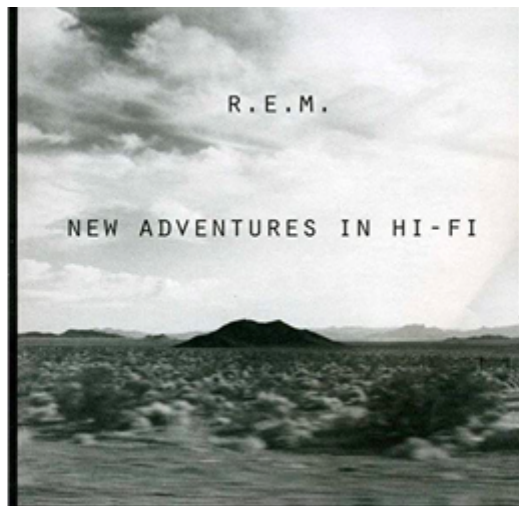


Buena Vista Social Club's self-titled debut album was recorded in just seven days, but that didn't stop the Cuban ensemble from selling 8 million copies and earning a Grammy. Now, the group is celebrating 25 years of the album with a series of special-edition boxed sets that include new remasters of the original album, unreleased tracks from the original 1996 sessions, and a 40 page book featuring new liner notes, photos, song notes, lyrics, biographies and a history of the original club. The set is out now, and you can pick it up wherever you get your music.

ORDER

THROWBACK

'NEW ADVENTURES IN HI-FI' by R.E.M.



This 1996 effort, their last with founding drummer Bill Berry, is perhaps the most underrated R.E.M. masterpiece, a fantastic road record that balances bombastic rockers with insightful ballads.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES



*The 18-Year Wait
for New Wrens
Music Is Over.
Sort Of.*

It sounds like the first new Wrens music since *The Meadowlands* is on the horizon, though not in the form that was expected. Read the *New York Times* piece [here](#).

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