



Every week, I write about new music on Uproxx and yap about it on a podcast. But it's still a challenge to cover everything I'd like to share, and I'm sure it can be tough for readers and listeners to keep up with all my bloviating. Therefore, I just launched a new column in which I compile all of my recent favorites in a given month. [The first installment](#) on my faves of August 2021 went up last week. Keep in mind that while this list is numbered, it is not ranked. I'm not going to rank any of this until I'm required by music-critic law to do it at the end of the year. In the meantime, please enjoy this musical journal. I hope you find something that you like.

-- 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 Kanye West album. Send your questions for Steve and Ian to indiecastmailbag@gmail.com.

After Texas passed a law effectively banning abortions, **Lucy**

Dacus has **pledged** to donate the proceeds from all of her performances in the state to abortion funds.

The members of **Paramore** have **reportedly** made millions in royalties after receiving songwriting credit on **Olivia Rodrigo's** "Good 4 U."

The new **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Vial**, who want to have dinner with Lizzo.



In an era of the forced intimacy of Zoom interviews, it can be hard to feel a real sense of a person over a screen. That simply isn't the case with Beatrice Laus. Laus, aka Britain's latest beloved rockstar Beabadoobee, is just as palpable when she joins the call from a studio in West London as if she were physically in the room. Taking a break from early recording sessions for her second album, Bea's energy is impossible to mistake, and anything but fake. Her answers are as honest as they come, and she holds nothing back about her emotional state or the sometimes dark experiences that come along with life as a twenty-something musician catapulted to mainstream fame directly out of high school.

Check out Caitlin White's full Uproxx cover story [here](#).

OPENING TRACKS



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 this week on the stunning forthcoming LP *Hey What*, which melds noise and ambient sounds.

LISTEN



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 Friday 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

SLEIGH BELLS

It feels strange to describe this noise-pop duo as a legacy band, but it really has been more than a decade since the release of their hit 2010 debut, *Treats*. They've been quiet since the release of 2017's *Kid Krushev* EP, but they're due back Friday with the LP *Texis*.

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DEEP CUTS



COLLEEN GREEN

Here at Indie Mixape HQ, we've been known to put on Colleen Green's 2015 album *I Want To Grow Up* when we're looking



MATTHEW E. WHITE

As the founder of the Virginia-based label and studio Spacebomb Records, Matthew E. White aspires to make

for K Records-inspired guitar pop. As the years passed we wondered if we would ever hear another Colleen Green LP, but thankfully her latest album, *Cool*, is out Friday.

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records in the classic mold of Motown and Stax. It's been six years since 2015's winning *Fresh Blood*, but the soulful new *K Bay* picks up where he left off.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

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



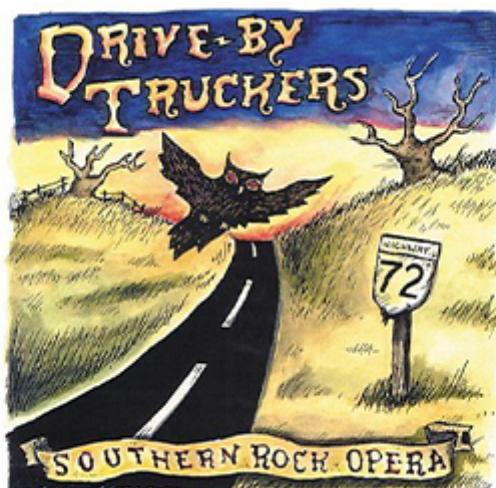
Depeche Mode's 1997 album *Ultra* marked the first time the band recorded as a trio in 15 years. Nearing its 25th anniversary, the band has prepared *Ultra / The 12" Singles*, the latest addition to their 12" singles series. Arriving in September, this collector's edition deluxe boxed set contains eight 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

'SOUTHERN ROCK OPERA' by DRIVE BY TRUCKERS



This week marks the twentieth anniversary of the landmark double album by the premier southern rock band of the modern era, in which they meditate on the idea of being a southern rock band. It's very meta, but it also rocks tremendously.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES

*Is It Okay To Yell
At A Critic Over A
Bad Review?*



In the latest Ask A Music Critic column, Steven Hyden gives you permission to yell at music critics who write reviews you don't like.

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