



Last month, The War On Drugs released their fifth album, *I Don't Live Here Anymore*. It arrives as the band appears to be at the height of their career — they're now a Grammy-winning, chart-topping act that will headline Madison Square Garden next year. Which means that they're also due for an assessment of the catalog. If I wanted to be efficient, I would simply declare that they have now passed The Five Albums Test and move on. But I feel like they're worthy of more effort than that. Therefore, I have delved deep into the canon in order to discuss my 30 favorite tracks by one of the most popular and acclaimed rock groups in modern indie, and explore how they have evolved over the course of nearly 15 years. Are we talking here about a creature void of form? Of course not. It's just a list. [Let's dive in!](#)

-- 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 is about all things **The War On Drugs**. Check that out above or [right here](#), and revisit the full collection of *Indiecast* visualizers [here](#).

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

Indigo De Souza [unveiled](#) a beautiful cover of **Frank Ocean's** "Ivy."

In the wake of **Mark Hoppus'** cancer recovery, **Tom DeLonge** has once again [expressed interest](#) in a **Blink-182** reunion.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** Q&A is with [Trace Mountains](#), who knows every word to *American Idiot*.

OPENING TRACKS



IDLES

This feisty British punk once called an album *Joy As An Act Of Resistance* and that pretty much sums up their aesthetic — really energetic and uplifting music targeted with the goal of toppling oppressive hierarchies. Their latest release, *Crawler*, will attempt to capitalize on the success of 2020's *Ultra Mono*.

LISTEN



CAMP COPE

This Australian outfit hasn't put out an album since 2018's *How To Socialise & Make Friends*, though lead singer Georgia Maq did turn up with a solo record, *Pleaser*, a few years back. But now it appears that Camp Cope is on the verge of making a return, evidenced by a new single, "Blue."

LISTEN



GUIDED BY VOICES

We will love this band forever, but it can be hard to keep up with all the albums churned out by the Ohio indie-rock institution. You have to be somewhat selective, which is why we're happy to sound the alarm about the recent *It's Not Them. It Couldn't Be Them. It Is Them!*

LISTEN

The Walters

I Love You So
OUT NOW



DEEP CUTS



GONG SPLAT

Whether he's with Thee Oh Sees or one of his many side projects, John Dwyer just continues to make kickass rock music. The self-titled album by his latest band Gong Splat (due out December 17) is a collaboration with a corps of likeminded musicians that promises to be a potent mix of punk, fusion and experimental music.

LISTEN



YOUNG GUV

You might know the name Ben Cook from his association with punk bands like Fucked Up and No Warning. But you might as well set that aside when approaching Cook's work as Young Guv. Instead of screams and bulldozing guitars, Cook crafts winning power-pop records like the forthcoming *Guv III*.

LISTEN

VINYL OF THE WEEK

RHINO'S HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



Well, Halloween is officially behind us, which means it's time to start thinking ahead to the holiday season. Luckily, we have you covered with a list of all the best boxed sets, vinyl pieces, and more. Pick up your favorite limited edition versions of iconic records from Fleetwood Mac, Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young, and many more, courtesy of our friends at Rhino. Check out all of the options below and be sure to send us photos of your haul.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'JUMPIN' IN THE NIGHT' by THE FLAMIN' GROOVIES



Speaking of power pop, we've been grooving on this 1970s power pop institution lately, particularly this 1979 gem that mixes killer originals like the title track with unlikely but surprisingly awesome covers like Warren Zevon's "Werewolves Of London."

LISTEN

LINER NOTES



Snail Mail Grows Up On 'Valentine'

Snail Mail's much anticipated follow up to 2018's *Lush* dropped last week. Find out what Steven Hyden thinks about *Valentine* here.

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