



A reader recently asked: Is it weird to go to concerts alone? No! In fact, it's awesome. And it's also necessary. If you happen to be a big music fan, you will likely encounter situations where nobody in your friend group wants to see a concert that you want to see. But you shouldn't look at this as a setback. It is, rather, an opportunity. If you have never experienced the pleasures of solitary concert-going, well, I envy you. Because you are about to enter a whole new world, my friend. Let's say a band you love is playing a club downtown on a Tuesday night. Who in the world is going to agree to tag along to see a concert on a Tuesday night by a band they might not know or like? Talk about a big ask. There's a very good chance you won't find anyone to go with you. But why should this prevent you from doing something you want to do? Because you're worried about looking "weird" or violating some unwritten social contract? This is ludicrous. Read more of our discussion on this "solo concert-going" question [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 digs into **Courtney Barnett**'s new album. Check that out above or [right here](#), and revisit the full collection of *Indiecast* visualizers [here](#).

The [latest episode](#) of *Indiecast* plugged new releases from **Ovlov** and **Pillow Queens**. Send your questions for Steve and Ian to indiecastmailbag@gmail.com.

Snail Mail [postponed](#) their upcoming tour after Lindsey Jordan revealed a vocal cord issue.

Jonah Hill [confirmed](#) that he will be playing Jerry Garcia in a forthcoming biopic directed by Martin Scorsese.

The latest **Indie Mixtape 20** Q&A is with [Angel Du\\$t](#), who weed out the weak by playing Sublime songs.

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CHARLI XCX

This indie pop favorite has often been described as the “future” of pop music, which is odd given that she’s been a fixture for the better part of a decade and already has a sizeable body of work to her name. Her latest album, *Crash*, due out March 18, should only add to her legacy.

LISTEN



BAND OF HORSES

The forthcoming album for these beard-y veterans, *Things Are Great*, due out Jan. 21, has been on our radar for a while.

We dig the first single, “Crutch,” because it sounds like their first two records.

Hopefully this signals a comeback for one of the better “crunchy” indie bands of recent years.

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MIDLAKE

This Texas indie band is best known for their 2006 album *The Trials Of Van Occupanther*, which holds up as an excellent example of “spooky” folk rock.

We’re curious to find out whether they can recover their mojo on the forthcoming *For The Sake Of Bethel Woods*, due March 18.

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DEEP CUTS



SASAMI

This Los Angeles-based singer-songwriter was one of the buzziest new artists of 2019, garnering raves for her slow-building art-rock jams as a tour opener for Mitski. Now she is looking to build on that momentum with her forthcoming album, *Squeeze*, due Feb. 25, featuring the epic and sonically disorienting new single “The Greatest.”

LISTEN



SILVERBACKS

There's been no shortage of talky post-punk bands to emerge from Europe in recent years. But Ireland's own Silverbacks leaven the usual formula — spiky guitars, dead-eyed vocals, chaotic rhythms — with bursts of sunny, '60s-style guitar pop melody on the upcoming *Archive Material*, due Jan. 21

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

RHINO'S EARLY BLACK FRIDAY SALE



It's the moment you've all been waiting for: an opportunity to score big-ticket boxed sets at a discounted price. Get ahead of the holiday rush and take advantage of early Black Friday savings with 15% off nearly everything on the Rhino store, including sets from Crosby, Stills, Nash, And Young, Fleetwood Mac, Joy Division, and so many more. Plus, you get free shipping in the U.S. when you spend \$100 or more. What's not to love?

CHECK IT OUT

THROWBACK

'FAVOURITE COLOURS' by THE SADIES



One of Canada's best kept secrets, this quartet has a deep

catalog of wonderful albums that blend rock, folk, bluegrass and surf music for an infectious and soulful stew. This album from 2004 is among their very best.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES



Looking Ahead To 2022

On the latest Indiecast, Steve and Ian look ahead to the early months of 2022, in which we'll see new albums from Mitski, Beach House, Big Thief, and Spoon. Who will hit? Who will miss? Listen to our wild guesses!

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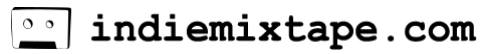
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