



When was the last time you heard somebody complain about hipsters? Remember when that was a thing? Hipster hysteria peaked around 2010. That year, *New York* magazine published an article called "What Was The Hipster?" that, perhaps presciently, indicated that the phenomenon had already peaked. Written in the dense language of an anthropological study, "What Was The Hipster?" included a section on the so-called "Hipster Primitive Moment" that "recovered the sound and symbols of pastoral innocence with an irony so fused into the artworks it was no longer visible." Indie rock was singled out for leading "the artistry of this phase," and certain attributes of notable aughts-era bands were enumerated — they have a thing for nature, they are bit a childish, they are obsessed with music of the 1960s, they are theatrical, they sometimes wear funny costumes, they are basically hippies (though likely won't identify as such). One band singled out in the article, of course, was Animal Collective, among the best and most acclaimed indie acts of the era, whose breakthrough 2004 album *Sung Tongs* was once described by Pitchfork's Mike Powell (in far more sympathetic fashion) as a "children's album" made up of "sing-alongs, nursery rhymes [and] lullabies." With the first AnCo album in six years, *Time Skiffs*, due this week, I revisited the band and the furor they once caused. Check out my findings [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 most recent *Indiecast* visualizer examines LCD Soundsystem's "farewell" concert. Check that out above or right [here](#). Revisit the full library [here](#).

The [latest episode of Indiecast](#) had Steve and Ian listing the albums they hope finally come out this year. Send your questions to [indiecastmailbag@gmail.com](mailto:indiecastmailbag@gmail.com) for a chance to appear on the show.

**Neil Young** and **Joni Mitchell** both [removed their music](#) from Spotify due to the platform's refusal to mitigate the anti-vaccine conspiracies spouted by podcast host **Joe Rogan**.

**Meat Loaf**'s iconic 1977 album *Bat Out Of Hell* has achieved a [new chart peak](#) after the rocker's recent passing, rising to No. 13.

**The Black Keys** and **Band Of Horses** will [hit the road together](#) this summer and fall.

## OPENING TRACKS



### ***THE WEATHER STATION***

This artist otherwise known as Tamara Lindeman specializes in incisive, insightful songwriting set to warm, organic sounds that evoke the glory years of sensitive tunesmiths in the 1960s and '70s. Following up last year's acclaimed album, *Ignorance*, she's just announced the new *How Is It That I Should Look At The Stars*.

**LISTEN**



## ***SPOON***

The most consistent band in indie rock has a new album, *Lucifer On The Sofa*, due in February. And guess what? The tracks that have already been released sound like ... extremely consistent Spoon songs. Not trying to be blasé about this at all, as we know we'll likely play this album 10,000 times.

**LISTEN**



## ***BLACK COUNTRY, NEW ROAD***

Well, this is awkward: We've been intrigued by the new singles that have spun off from this British band's forthcoming LP, *Ants From Up There*, which sound like a mix of freak folk and deconstructionist rock. But now singer/guitarist Isaac Wood just quit the band, putting their future in doubt.

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**DEEP CUTS**





### ***M. J. LENDERMAN***

On his own, Wednesday guitarist M.J. Lenderman plays a more straightforward kind of choogle, favoring funky country licks and leaning into his back-porch vocal twang. The first single from the new *Boat Songs*, “Hangover Game,” is one of the album’s best tracks, with Lenderman singing the praises of Michael Jordan over chunky guitars.

**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**

***CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH***



February is Black History Month and Rhino is celebrating by releasing several albums on special edition vinyl. Now's your chance to pick up *The Very Best Of Curtis Mayfield* or Aretha Franklin's *Young, Gifted And Black*, along with many more titles only available for a limited time.

[CHECK IT OUT](#)



**THROWBACK**

***'GENTLMEN' by THE AFGHAN WHIGS***



In honor of the Bengals making it to the Super Bowl, we're dusting off this indie classic by one of the finest bands to come out of Cincinnati.

**LISTEN**

## LINER NOTES



### *Steven Hyden's Favorite Music Of January 2022*

Find out which music Steven Hyden loved the most this month.

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