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The last we heard from Dan Bejar, it was early 2020 and he was touring behind a spooky and prescient Destroyer album, *Have We Met*. A sinister work rife with apocalyptic warnings about the future, the album hit almost too close to home when, just over one month after it was released, the world was forced to shut down due to Covid-19. If the Vancouver native earned some credibility as an oracle on the last Destroyer LP, his latest effort, *Labyrinthitis* (due out March 25) points in a more upbeat direction. While the lyrics contain some of the darkest lines of Bejar's career — so dark that Bejar talks about "the singer" on this record in the third person — the music grooves hard, drawing on an unlikely but somehow compatible combination of influences drawn from techno and rave cultures as well as gloomily catchy '80s English alt-rock bands like New Order and The Cure. It's similar to the musical palettes utilized on *Have We Met* and 2017's *Ken* — Bejar considers *Labyrinthitis* the concluding part of a trilogy with those records — but on the new album there's a greater feeling of exuberance. It surely is the most danceable music Destroyer has yet made. Check out our interview with Bejar [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 **latest episode of *Indiecast*** had Steven Hyden and Ian Cohen discussing the imaginary feud between Machine Gun Kelly and Japanese Breakfast.

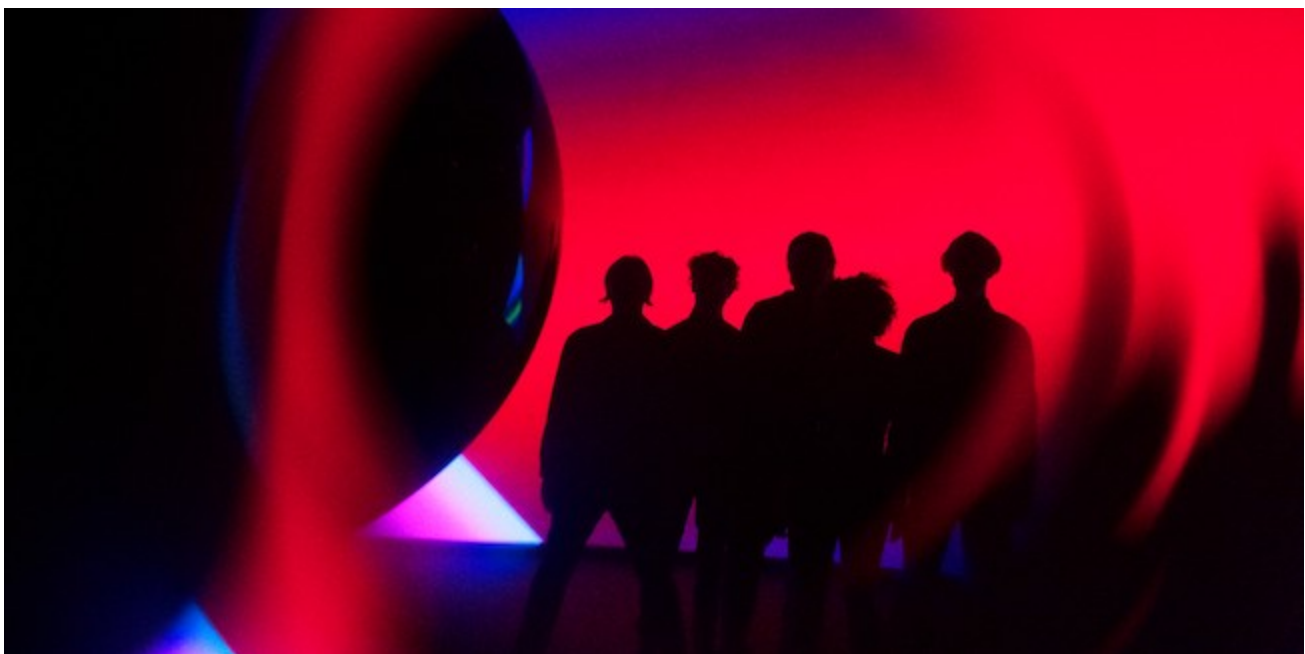
The Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame **opted** to keep **Dolly Parton** on its 2022 ballot after she asked to be removed.

Nancy Pelosi **read a poem** about Ukraine that **Bono** apparently texted to her.

Fontaines DC **shared** an epic cover of **The Cure's** "Just Like Heaven" in Dublin to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

This week's **Indie Mixtape 20** Q&A is with **Talker**, whose upcoming EP *In Awe Of Insignificance* gives a glimpse of her inner world.

OPENING TRACKS



ARCADE FIRE

Opinions were divided on this band's 2017 album *Everything Now*, but now it seems they're attempting to recover some of their old mojo with a new single, "The Lightning I, II," from the forthcoming *WE*. The album includes multi-instrumentalist Will Butler, who just left the band.

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CHARLI XCX

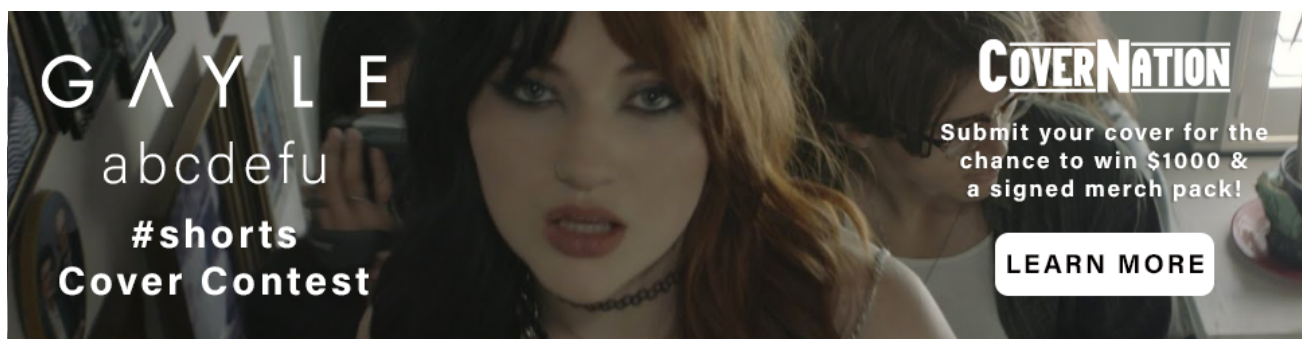
This indie pop favorite has been described as the "future" of pop music, which is odd given that she's been a fixture for the better part of a decade and already has a sizeable body of work. Her latest album, *Crash*, which dropped last week, should only add to her legacy.

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SONIC YOUTH

How cool is it to report that there is once again a new Sonic Youth album? The all instrumental *In/Out/In* features five previously unreleased tracks recorded between 2000 and 2011. While the album is short, it covers the band's range of low-key beauties and eardrums-busting noise rockers.

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DEEP CUTS



OSO OSO

When Jade Lilitri put out *The Yunahon Mixtape* in 2017 under the name Oso Oso, it instantly became a favorite among emo fans as well as those who yearned for the buoyant guitar jams of classic indie and alternative rock. Now there's a surprise LP, *Sore Thumb*, to



WET LEG

This British duo just might be the most hyped act in indie rock at the moment. On the heels of several buzzed-about singles, including the viral hit "Chaise Lounge," expectations are high for their self-titled debut.

keep up the pace.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

***DAVID CROSBY - 'IF I COULD ONLY
REMEMBER MY NAME'***

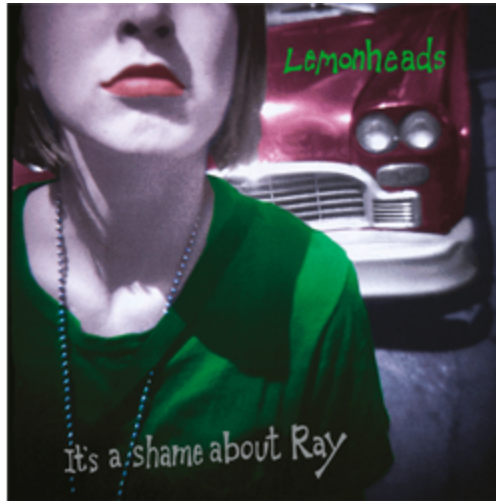


David Crosby's debut release *If I Could Only Remember My Name* turned 50 earlier this year and Rhino is celebrating with a 2-CD set. It includes the album lovingly remastered from the original analog tapes, accompanied by a bonus disc that features a dozen unreleased demos, outtakes, and alternate versions.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'IT'S A SHAME ABOUT RAY' by THE LEMONHEADS



This winsome early '90s classic recently turned 30, which is a great excuse to revisit Evan Dando's mix of slacker charm and stunning folk-rock melodies.

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LINER NOTES



Indiecast

On this week's episode, Steve and Ian induct four new albums in the Indiecast Hall Of Fame.

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