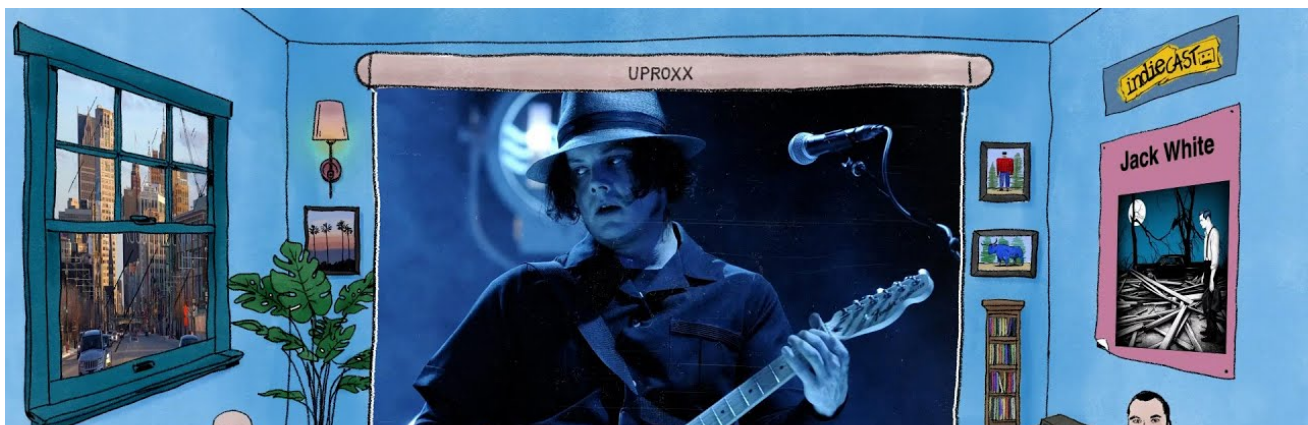


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It's been nearly three weeks since the tragic passing of Taylor Hawkins, but the news is still difficult to process. Watching a video of his final performance with Foo Fighters just five days prior to his death on March 25 only compounds the cognitive dissonance. The 50-year-old drummer looks tan, lean, and at least 10 years younger than his actual age. He is gregarious, magnetic, and charmingly affectionate to his band leader and best friend, Dave Grohl. He is a rock star at the height of his powers. Seemingly invincible. But only seemingly. Among the last of the absurdly popular stadium rock bands, Foo Fighters have been so ubiquitous for so long that it's easy to take them for granted. But the reaction to Hawkins' death over the past several weeks testifies to their reach. Even if you don't consider yourself a fan, you likely know at least a couple of their radio-conquering anthems: "Everlong," "My Hero," "Best Of You," "Times Like These." "Learn To Fly." When I wrote last year about the best Foo Fighters songs, I realized that my engagement with them was less casual than I imagined. As Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers did for a previous generation, Foo Fighters have specialized in the kind of broadly appealing rock songs that people incorporate into their lives often without realizing it, as if by cultural osmosis. You don't have to work to like their music. You just do. I wrote about whether they can carry on without Hawkins [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...

Kurt Vile reviewed each of his eight studio albums for Uproxx, including his latest, *Watch My Moves*.

Taylor Hawkins' first posthumous song is a Johnny Winter cover.

Japanese Breakfast's Michelle Zauner shared a touching post about her late mother to commemorate one year of her book, *Crying In H Mart*.

Our latest **Indie Mixtape Q&A** is with **PENDANT**, whose sophomore album masks grief with dance music.

OPENING TRACKS





SHARON VAN ETTEN

On her previous album, 2019's *Remind Me Tomorrow*, this singer-songwriter embraced goth-y synths, buzzing basslines, and dreamy drum machines — basically nothing like the austere piano and guitar-based arrangements that distinguish Van Etten's previous work. We're curious if that shift continues on her newly announced LP, *We've Been Going About This All Wrong*.

LISTEN



WILD PINK

Last year's *A Billion Little Lights* by this Indie Mixtape favorite was one of the best albums of 2021, integrating Americana instrumentation like pedal-steel guitar and fiddle into their usual synth-rock mix, producing an even more epic



JAMES KRIVCHENIA

The drummer for Big Thief took a lead role on the recent *Dragon New Mountain I Believe In You* as a producer. But on his own, he does the opposite of Big Thief. The forthcoming *Blood Karaoke* (due Friday) suggests that

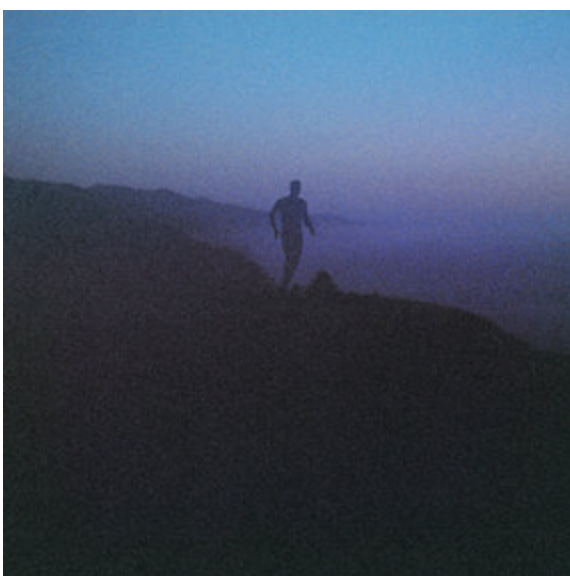
surge. Somehow, their new single might be even more epic as it dreamily unfolds over six minutes.

LISTEN

future BT shows might have a “Drums/Space” section.

LISTEN

DEEP CUTS



NIGHTLANDS

This side project from War On Drugs bassist Dave Hartley diverges from that band’s expansive heartland rock sound in favor of something that’s sonically ethereal and surprisingly playful. On the new single “Moonshine” (the title track from his forthcoming album, due July 15), he marries New Age vocals with low-key electronics.



WET TUNA

Matt Valentine is one of the modern masters of the intersection of indie rock and jam band music. While he’s best known for the group MV & EE, he’s lately been putting out music under the name Wet Tuna, taking a psych-rock approach to ’70s funk and jazz fusion.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

FLEETWOOD MAC - '1973-1974'
4LP + 7" (COLORED VINYL)



Add a little color to your vinyl collection with this limited-edition Fleetwood Mac box set. It includes *Penguin* (1973) on Yellow vinyl, *Mystery To Me* (1973) on Orange vinyl, *Heroes Are Hard To Find* (1974) on Gold vinyl and an unreleased concert from 1974, *Live At The Record Plant* on White vinyl. All pressed on 140-gram vinyl and presented in replica sleeves.

[PICK IT UP](#)

THROWBACK

'FOREVER CHANGES' by LOVE



It's always a good time to revisit one of the great albums of the 1960s, a pitch-perfect combination of psychedelia, folk rock, and symphonic beauty. If you don't know it, prepare to be wowed.

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LINER NOTES



Indiecast

The latest episode dug deeper into Kurt Vile's latest album, *Watch My Moves*.

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