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Guided By Voices was once dubbed “the Grateful Dead of beer,” a jokey but accurate allusion to the Ohio-based indie-rock institution’s hard-drinking ways and the devotion of their small but committed cult of fans. Though it could also apply to the restless creative process of GBV’s founder and sole charter member, Robert Pollard. As is the case with the world’s most famous jam band, Pollard ultimately cares more about the journey than the destination. The flash of inspiration and the thrill of creation are what matter most, regardless of whether the resulting songs fully land or not. At its best, GBV’s music communicates that initial whippet-like excitement to the audience — you feel like you’re hearing Pollard’s songs as they occur to him for the first time. It’s an addictive experience, and it keeps you listening to every LP, EP, solo album, and side project, no matter how half-baked, because the possibility of serendipitous genius always, tantalizingly, remains. The thrill is definitely there with the latest GBV album, *Tremblers And Goggles By Rank*. Read our review [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 1975 mailed fans postcards **revealing** their new album's title and tracklist.

Travis Barker was **hospitalized** for a reported pancreatitis, prompting fans to rush to his support after he sent a concerning tweet.

Avril Lavigne celebrated the 20th anniversary of her debut album by **recreating** its iconic cover art.

Our latest **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Momma**, who have matching tattoos of each other's names.

OPENING TRACKS





WHITNEY

This Chicago band specializes in easy-going soft rock that at times sounds like ... the actual band Chicago. While their smooth ways continue on the new single “Real Love” — taken from the upcoming *Spark*, due out September 19 — it appears they’ve also embraced electronic and R&B influences.

LISTEN



DRY CLEANING

There is no shortage of British post-punk bands that deploy talky vocals, clanging guitars, and loose-limbed rhythm sections. This band definitely



ALEX G

Over the course of several albums, Alex G has drifted dreamily in the midst of strummy guitars and off-kilter melodies, garnering a sizeable

fits that mold, and while they don't always transcend the conventions of this genre, lead singer Florence Shaw does have a strikingly unique presence. Their latest, *Stumpwork*, drops October 21.

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cult following in the process. While he's associated with lo-fi indie, each record has been a little lushier than the last. His next LP, *God Save The Animals*, arrives September 23.

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DEEP CUTS



BLACK MIDI

This buzzy British outfit emerged just in time to keep the "lad guitar-band" trend alive. Though you can't really pigeonhole Black Midi. The generic "post-punk" signifier doesn't do them justice — for instance, the recent single "Welcome To Hell" might be



KIWI JR.

This Canadian band garnered comparisons to Pavement upon the release of their 2020 debut *Football Money*, and it suits them — their shambolic yet catchy songs are loaded with fractured riffs and lyrical non-sequiturs. They look to embellish this template on the

their zaniest prog-rock blowout yet. We expect nothing less from the forthcoming *Hellfire*.

new *Chopper*, due out August 12.

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VINYL OF THE WEEK

CHROMEО - 'HEAD OVER HEELS' (DELUXE 2LP)



Head Over Heels is the fifth studio album by French-Canadian electro-funk duo Chromeo. Released in 2018 as an "overarching love letter to funk music," the LP is available on vinyl and includes bonus remixes.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'THE THREE EP'S' by THE BETA BAND



Yes, you know “Dry The Rain” from the *High Fidelity* soundtrack. But the rest of the debut album from this one-of-a-kind Scottish band is worth revisiting as a wondrously adventurous slab of pastoral, electronica-tinged psych rock.

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LINER NOTES



*Steven Hyden's
Favorite Music Of
June 2022*

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of the month.

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