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POP LIFE.



The pop world [has been eating in 2023](#). Though, it hasn't always been because of new music. For pop fans, the biggest shaking of their cultural core has occurred in stadiums, as Taylor Swift has swept through the South and East, while Beyoncé's massive tour has taken Europe by storm. 2023 has also featured big-ticket tours from Harry Styles, SZA, and Lizzo as well, making for a year where pop fans can gather and scream their lungs out together.

But that doesn't mean the albums of 2023 haven't been impactful. From critical darlings like Caroline Polachek and Jessie Ware to stadium-ready institutions like Karol G and the Jonas Brothers, there has been plenty for pop fans to savor. It's a world that still might favor the single to the full release, but the following offerings argue the opposite. [Check out the best pop albums of 2023](#) so far (including one from December 2022, which is basically just 2023 a little early).

Uproxx Staff — [The Best Pop Albums Of 2023 So Far](#)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Bebe Rexha had to end her recent concert early after [being hit with a thrown phone from the crowd](#).

Lady Gaga gave fans an [update on social media about her upcoming](#)

The Chromatica Ball film.

The Grammys are now lowering the amount of nominees in their Big Four categories.

Spotify is putting out a possible new premium subscription tier.

The Weeknd is continuing to push back against *The Idol* criticism.

NUMBER ONE STUNNERS



BTS

BTS' new song, "Take Two," has made it to No. 1 on both *Billboard's* Global 200 and Global Excl. US charts. Despite the band technically being on hiatus, they have still gained over 60 million streams and 64,000 in sales on the release.

Additionally, they are the only act to have reached the top of the global charts each year — since it was created in 2020.

LISTEN

BUBBLING UNDER



OWENN

Owenn dropped his new song, "Dark Side Of The Moon," his second release from this year. The catchy chorus already sounded familiar, likely from TikTok, as he sings, "On the coldest night / You cross my mind." Plus, there's a killer guitar instrumental near the end. Originally starting as a dancer, the NYC-born musician has proven to have multiple creative talents.

"I wanted to tell the story of a passionate relationship with a focus on sharing all of the vulnerable parts of yourself with your partner," Owenn said of the track. "At the end of the day, they know every side of you; the good, the bad, and the ugly."

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CHECK OUT

JANELLE MONAE — 'AGE OF PLEASURE' BOX SET



Janelle Monáe recently released their much-anticipated album *The Age Of Pleasure*. You can pick up a copy of it on CD, as well as an exclusive t-shirt design, to show your love for the singer.

PICK IT UP

REMEMBER WHEN



TAYLOR SWIFT DENOUNCED APPLE MUSIC

Apple Music changed the policy about not paying artists for any streams made during a user's free three-month trial period, following Taylor Swift's open letter and refusal to allow 1989 to be on their platform. "We don't ask you for free iPhones," she wrote. "Please don't ask us to provide you with our music for no compensation."

In the years since, Spotify and Apple Music streams continue to not provide sufficient income to artists on the platform, with a payment reported of \$0.003 to \$0.005 per stream. From this, 1,000 streams on a song would only get a musician \$3, but at least it's not completely free.

LOVE LETTERS



MADISON BEER

Madison Beer has the internet buzzing with her latest single, "Home To Another One." The space-themed music video is a perfect fit to match the shimmery pop track. There's also a hint of shade as she starts

suspecting some double timing — but lets it slide for another year.

As the first hint from her next album, *Silence Between Songs*, this era is already giving serious potential to propel Beer to another level and gain new fans, just as we've been pulled in.

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