Last month, King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard released their 24th studio album. It is called (takes a deep breath) PetroDragonic Apocalypse; Or, Dawn Of Eternal Night: An Annihilation Of Planet Earth And The Beginning Of Merciless Damnation. (If that’s a little too tl;dr for you, just PetroDragonic Apocalypse will also suffice.) It is a tongue-in-cheek throwback metal record that nods to bands like Slayer and Tool, based on a concept recently described by frontman Stu Mackenzie as being “about humankind” and “planet Earth” and “also about witches and dragons and shit.” For newcomers — and even relatively casual admirers like myself — staying on top of this band’s myriad musical adventures can seem like a full-time job. To help make sense of (part) of King Gizzard’s sprawling catalog, I recently did a Zoom call with founding member Joey Walker during a break in their recent U.S. tour, which wrapped last week ahead of a run of dates in Europe that begin in late July. Read our conversation here.

-- Steven Hyden, Uproxx Cultural Critic and author of five books, most recently Long Road: Pearl Jam And The Soundtrack Of A Generation

In case you missed it...
On this week’s *Indiecast* episode, Steve Hyden and Ian Cohen answer listener questions about concert t-shirts, *Art Brut*, and more. Listen here.

**Paul McCartney** blames **Bruce Springsteen** for setting a standard of hours-long concerts.

**Lil Uzi Vert**’s unexpected cover of *System Of A Down*’s "Chop Suey" from *Pink Tape* has fans divided.

**Tracy Chapman** achieved a first for Black women as **Luke Combs’** cover of "Fast Car" topped the country charts.

Our latest *Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A* is with **Japanese House**, who remains hopeful in the face of despair on her sophomore LP.

**OPENING TRACKS**

**ANOHNi AND THE JOHNSONS**
This English songwriter with a one-of-a-kind voice has been making striking indie-pop records since the mid-aughts. Both solo and with her backing group The Johnsons, she has continued to make haunting music with a singular point of view. Her latest album, *My Back Was A Bridge For You To Cross*, drops this week.
**THE JAPANESE HOUSE**

We were big fans of the 2019 release by this project headed up singer-songwriter Amber Bain, the very good *Good At Falling*, so we are definitely psyched to hear the album she just put out. Titled *In The End It Always Does*, it finds Bain furthering her beguiling art-pop aesthetic.

**MILITARIE GUN**

At some point, hardcore bands stopped sounding like hardcore bands and started sounding like rock bands who were played nonstop on KROQ in 1998. For some people, this might register as a sellout. For others, including me, it sounds like an improvement. On their debut album, Militarie Gun bring plenty of volume and attitude.

**DEEP CUTS**
**PALEHOUND**

Ellen Kempner has established a reputation for witty, empathetic songwriting. The early singles from Palehound’s forthcoming album *Eye On The Bat* (out July 14) show that Kempner has only grown stronger as a writer. In the song “The Clutch,” she also exhibits a talent for excellently crunchy alt-rock.

**LISTEN**

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**SLAUGHTER BEACH, DOG**

This rootsy outfit from ex-Modern Baseball member Jake Ewald has been steadily moving closer to dad-rock nirvana since launching nearly a decade ago. On their recent single, Ewald just might achieve it. Over a leisurely mid-tempo stroll that layers vintage guitar and keyboard sounds, he affects his best approximation of mid-period Wilco.

**LISTEN**

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**VINYL OF THE WEEK**

"*COLTRANE'S SOUND*" by JOHN COLTRANE – *LP*
Cut from the original flat master tapes, hear John Coltrane's music like you never have before with this high fidelity re-master.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'LOVE AND ROCKETS' by LOVE AND ROCKETS

While *Pretty Hate Machine* is better remembered, this album also released in 1989 kicks up plenty of industrial rock sleaze, with classic jams like “So Alive” striking a particularly sexy posture.
Catch up with Hyden's favorite music of June 2023

Every month, Uproxx Steven Hyden makes an unranked list of his favorite music-related items released during this period — songs, albums, books, films, you name it.

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