WHO WILL TAKE HOME OUR ALBUM OF THE YEAR!



Liam Gallagher & John Squire ~ Slam Dunk Festival ~ Teddy Rocks



To the Full Pelt Magazine!

Packed full of music news, reviews and more!

We hope that you've had a fantastic Christmas thus far? Now, put down those festive leftovers and tuck into our Top 50 Albums of the Year!

Plus we take a look back at some of our favourite Podcasts of the year as we get ready for next week's special Year in Review which will include the big reveal of our 2023 Full Pelt Award winners!

There are also a handful of updates in our weekly News Report from Liam Gallagher & John Squire, Slam Dunk





Follow Full Pelt on Social Media!



@fullpelt

on Facebook

@fullpeltmusic

on Instagram, X, TikTok and YouTube

THE FULL PELT MUSIC PODCAST



LISTEN ON SPOTIFY, APPLE PODCASTS,
YOUTUBE, GOOGLE PODCASTS,
AMAZON MUSIC, CASTBOX, DEEZER,
RADIO PUBLIC, POCKET CASTS & MORE!





THE DOLLYROTS



CJ WILDHEART



REWS

www.fullpeltmusic.com

NEWS REPORT

New Releases



LIAM GALLAGHER & JOHN SQUIRE

Liam and John will release their first single together, 'Just Another Rainbow', on January 5th, with more new music to follow as the year unfolds.

John says, "To me the most obvious take on 'Just Another Rainbow' is that it's about disappointment, and the sentiment is that you never get what you really want. But I don't like to explain songs, I think that's the privilege of the listener, it's whatever you want it to be. To me, it's also one of the most uplifting tracks we've made together, which is weird."

Liam adds, "I think John's a top songwriter. Everyone always bangs on about him as a guitarist, but he's a top songwriter too, man, no two ways about it as far as I'm concerned. There's not enough of his music out there, whether it's with the Roses or himself. It's good to see him back writing songs and fucking good ones. The melodies are mega and then the guitars are a given. But I think even when you take all the fucking guitars off, you can play the songs all on acoustic and they'll all still blow your mind."







TWIN ATLANTIC
'ASLEEP'

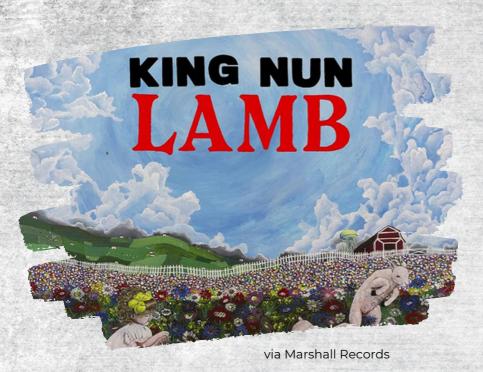
LAURAN HIBBERD
'PRETTY GOOD FOR A BAD DAY'

COURTING 'EMILY G'

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY

LAMB KING NUN





WHAT WE SAID

This is a clearly carefully constructed record, which is able to wear its heart on its sleeve and one that resonates so well with the current climate. Life may be tough right now but at its core 'Lamb' tells us that our destiny is still ours to decide, and in that sense this may be one of the most vital albums to come out this year!

WHAT THEY SAID

Speaking on the album, vocalist and frontman Theo Polyzoides said:

"LAMB is about vulnerability. It's about being true to yourself. It's about retaining the part of you that is naive and optimistic and trusting, in the face of a world that will turn you into a fucking android if you give it even an inch." exclaims Polyzoides."

"So, LAMB is a metaphor for that Achilles heel, the part of you that is susceptible to trauma, emotional pain... all of these things," he expands. "that's the thing that rises to the occasion and is the most beautiful part of us... I think that, actually, if we all just tried to retain a bit of humanity, we'd probably make a better future."

LIGHTBRINGER RIVAL SONS





via Atlantic Recording Corporation

WHAT WE SAID

2023 is the year of Rival Sons rejuvenation, or at least the year that they share it with us. 'Lightbringer' marks the second album of the year from the band following June's 'Darkfighter'.

The albums go hand in hand and document a time of inward reflection and struggle during the pandemic. That extra time though has clearly lead to a creative surge and a fine one at that. 'Lightbringer' matches the positive direction of 'Darkfighter' and finds the band feeling at home in their own skin again.

WHAT WE SAID

This is a well-rounded debut album, which shows that the band have plenty to offer other than just noise. The songs are well crafted and have an accessible enough sound that they should cut across in bigger venues just as well as they will in tiny clubs.

WHAT THEY SAID

Speaking on the album, frontman James Joseph says, "We can't wait to get this album out into the world, it's a no frills rock and roll ripper recorded ourselves in the garage where we first started jamming as a band, we think it's a great introduction to what we're about at our core, loud, energetic guitar rock..."



AND THE COLD GUN

JOH THE CLUB

AS DECEMBER







At its core 'Join the Club' is simply an enjoyable collection of songs which just flies by when listening, which is always a good sign. Deeper down it's an expansion of the groups previous two efforts with the band sounding more assured and ready to take over the world.

WHAT WE SAID

The subtlety of the experimental expansion of the band's sound is what helps to ensure that the record stays on point and harnesses its gloomy visceral roots to great effect. Whilst the band have clearly sought to reach new heights musically, they've managed to control the narrative of the album well.



WHAT THEY SAID

"The Perfume of Decay is set at night," Jamie Hall explains. "It was written at night, I recorded all the vocals at night, and it is at night when my thoughts race and uneasiness pours through me like running water. Under the glimmer of moonlight, my apprehension ebbs and flows like the tide and it doesn't stop until the morning. Perfume is a diary of my emotional journey from dusk to dawn, an anxiety-fueled voyage through the storm. Lyrically, at points, it is almost a stream of consciousness. I sat up late and wrote the words down as they flashed before my eyes."



TIGERCUB
THE PERFUME OF DECAY

VIa Loosegroove Records

GIGI'S RECOVERY

THEMPIRDER





via Human Season Records

WHAT WE SAID

This is undoubtedly a brave sonic adventure undertaken by a band confident in their ability to conjure magic and assured by the acceptance of their audience. The album slowly leads us on the journey that the band has creatively been on over the past few years.

It's methodical yet loose, meticulous but elegant, and therefore has no real standout moments. The album as a whole is the standout moment as The Murder Capital evolve into something very special indeed.

WHAT WE SAID

Thematically and sonically, this album is the straightest and most genuine and mature offering from the Canadians yet. Both the simple hard rock formula on the heavier tracks and the standard approach to the more melodic moments suits the album well.



via Roadrunner Records



THEORNAR A DINOSAUR

TAKEMEBACK TO EDEN SLEEP TOKEN





WHAT WE SAID

The great moments on this album are truly phenomenal, and there is so much to dissect across the hour plus, twelve song collection of sonic reverence. Multiple listens will be essential to fully grasp this offering from Sleep Token.

WHAT WE SAID

Shiflett is a true guitar playing aficionado and this album really allows him to explore his own identity. Shiflett's vocals and guitar playing seem to naturally fit the Americana vibes and his passion for the music shines through.



via Snakefarm

WHAT THEY SAID

"We wrote a lot of these songs during the lockdown," recalls Shiflett, who spent much of the pandemic at home in Southern California. "Then I began making trips to Nashville to work with Jaren. He and I have a lot of overlap, in terms of the music we like. We made a guitar-centric record that encapsulates everything I've been listening to over the years, from the most country songs I've ever recorded to punk rock and even songs that sound like a California version of The Clash."



SAFREST TOST AT SEA

DOOM LOOP DREAM NAILS





WHAT THEY SAID

WHAT WE SAID

Musically the album is a clear evolution to the sound offered by that self-titled album. Despite the serious and sinister themes of the lyrics, sonically 'Doom Loop' is a fun and bouncy record which emphasises the happiness as an act of resistance mentality. This is perhaps best demonstrated on another of the albums singles, 'Ballpit'.

Dream Nails convey a vitally important message through great music and despite promotional frustrations with their debut and subsequent line-up changes, it would appear with 'Doom Loop' the band are still on a trajectory to shatter any glass ceilings above them.

"Doom Loop is an exploration of the repeated cycles we find ourselves in," comments vocalist Ishmael Kirby, "from political injustice and patriarchal systems to the negative spirals of our minds. A doom loop is a crisis that starts to feed on itself. It feels like there is no escape. But there is. This album is a reflection of ourselves, the world we live in, and the one we want to create."

"Specifically, Doom Loop delves into masculinity in its many forms" expands drummer Lucy Katz. "The good guy, the lads at school, the narcissistic politician, the incel, the sexual predator, the police officer. It looks into gender-based oppression from childhood; how isolation can breed violence against women and the rhetoric that spawns incels."

Elaborating on the themes, guitarist Anya Pearson adds: "On the album we also celebrate masculinity by telling stories about butch and trans masculine identities. We show the shared responsibility we have in fighting misogyny. Empathy is hard to find in a divided world, but we seek it out, advocate for it, and ask how far it goes."

WHAT WE SAID

Thematically ambitious, whilst sticking to a tried and tested formula, 'Starcatcher' is a continuation of its predecessor 'The Battle at Garden's Gate' and will instantly gratify fans of the band.

There are a plethora of songs which sound like they were born for the live setting and as the band continue to mature and grow their audience that's a vital element. Lead single 'Meeting the Master' teased listeners into the experience that this album presents and arriving at the back end of the record ensures that the album finishes as strongly as it begins.

STARCATCHER
GRETA VAN FLEET

via Republic Recordings

WHAT THEY SAID

"We didn't really have to force or be intense about writing, because everything that happened was very instinctual," lead singer Jake Kizska says. "If anything, the record is our perspective, and sums up where we are as a group and individually as musicians."

We had this idea that we wanted to tell these stories to build a universe," says drummer Danny Wagner "We wanted to introduce characters and motifs and these ideas that would come about here and there throughout our careers through this world."

"When I imagine the world of Starcatcher, I think of the cosmos," bassist Sam Kizska says. "It makes me ask a lot of questions, like 'Where did we come from?' or 'What are we doing here?' But it's also questions like, 'What is this consciousness that we have, and where did it come from?"



GRETEEYAN STARCATCHER

DARKFIGHTER RIVAL SONS





via Atlantic Recordings

WHAT WE SAID

The eight tracks on this record all stand on their own merit and collectively represent another stunning snapshot of a masterful band. When they are at the peak of their powers, nobody quite does it like Rival Sons. 'Bird in the Hand' and 'Guillotine' here being two tracks that encapsulate the majesty and the force present in the band.

WHAT WE SAID

'A Call To The Void' is a call to arms, an invitation for that dedicated and passionate following to worship in their temple. From beginning to end the album is a galvanising expression of cathartic release from the band.



via Music for Nations



HOT MILK ACALL TO THE VOID

THE ONLY LIFE WORTH LIVING \$ 37 BLACKUMATER ** MEYER



WHAT WE SAID

Sonically this album is an encapsulation of everything you'd expect from the band but dialled up to eleven. There are songs here that go harder than the band ever has before and that adds to the urgency of the overriding themes perfectly.

Four of the albums ten tracks appeared in advance of the release and did give a good insight into what to expect, because the rest of the album is just as stirring. This isn't a case of the singles standing out above a mediocre album – no, every track here stands on its own and the album as a whole is sublimely inspiring.

Ten years in and Black Water County feel like they are just about to really hit their stride and take themselves to new heights. The Only Life Worth Living', may just be their catalyst for earning wider respect and appreciation for their talents.

WHAT THEY SAID

"The Only Life Worth Living spans the course of reaching rock bottom with a bank of broken hearts, to throwing caution to the wind and then cycling all the way back round again," say the band. "Our twist of folk instrumentation with modern rock entangles the collection of tracks into a whiplash of energy, while remaining loyal to the Black Water County sound."

OHE MORE TIME BLINK 182





blink 182

ONE MORE TIME ...

via Columbia Recordings

WHAT WE SAID

At 17 songs and 45 minutes, the band are certainly making up for lost time on this album and it's a clichéd back to basics approach all round. There are some great songs on the album and there are a handful which could've probably been left off, but ultimately you just can't help but smile and be glad that after all this time these three are making music together again.

There are more than a few tellingly knowing nods to their own past and the heartstrings are tugged hard when DeLonge sings "Do I have to die to hear you miss me?".

WHAT WE SAID

'Bleed Out' represents another evolution for Within Temptation as their sound and lyrical content takes a darker more resilient tone. Across the album the band show that they aren't afraid to speak about the issues that matter to them, and the result is perhaps the most important record of their career.



via Force Music



TEMPTHON BLED OU

THE GARLAC MEYEN



WHAT WE SAID

Whilst there is an added maturity, there is still a playful experimentation in the albums sonic palatte with elements of country, rock, funk and metal all evident at times. Ultimately this feels like a stock take record, whereby the band fuse everything that they've learned over the past decade or so and produce these twelve tracks as a document of their career thus far.

WHAT THEY SAID

"This record does have a lot of growth, a lot of hurt and heartbreak," says Mason, the group's drummer. "We are a little more grown up now, but we're still doing the same thing we were doing in the beginning."

WHAT WE SAID

Nobody expected Lonely The Brave to re-invent the wheel on album four, and they haven't! What they've done is captured an honest and enlightened soundscape which will be cherished by their fans as Exhibit D of the case of Lonely The Brave being the most viscerally progressive band of their generation.

WHAT THEY SAID

Guitarist Mark Trotter comments: "You can plan it out as much as you want, but you're just along for the ride. That's the most exciting part, seeing what it decided to be. With this album, we're certainly more mature as people and as a band. That makes sense with everything that has happened since our last one."



via Easy Life Records

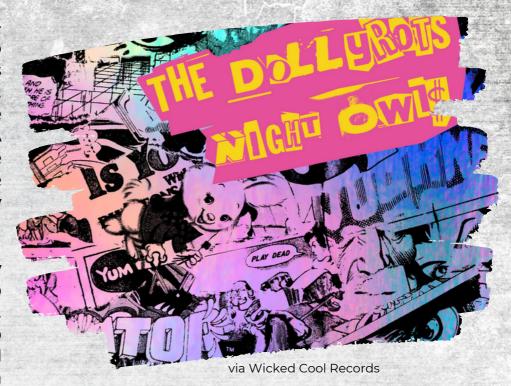


LOBEAVEHE WHAT WE DO TO FEEL

WHAT WE SAID

Yes, anyone looking for a fun pickme-up record need look no further because Kelly and Luis have got you covered once again. From opening bop '5+5' to the albums epic closing cover of 'A New England', The Dollyrots have managed to capture the essence of the band perfectly over forty minutes and thirteen tracks.

The songs are properly catchy with great punk hooks, pop melodies and sing-a-long lyrics. You will find it impossible not to dance around to this album, and it's going to stay on repeat for a considerable time! It's truly impressive that eight albums in The Dollyrots are still able to deliver such consistently good results.



WHAT THEY SAID

Kelly Ogden describes 'Night Owls' by saying: "You know how they say a band's 1st album is usually their best? Well I think because we had time for this one, you know, since the World stopped, it's a lot like a 1st album. We had so many bits and pieces and once we could finally get into the studio it all just flew out of us, like we had been holding something vital & urgent in for years. Because we had. If you love The Dollyrots you'll love "Night Owls". If you don't know The Dollyrots, you'll probably love it too."



DOLTHEOTS NIGHTOWLS

THE BEATH OF RANDY FITZSIMMONS: THE HIVES





WHAT WE SAID

Yes, on record the band are equally as exuberantly riotous as they are on the stage. The runtime of circa thirty minutes is ideal and ensures that the listener's attention is never even tested in the slightest. Indeed you'll just want to hit play again straight away.

There may not be any earth-shattering developments to their sound since their last effort, but let's all be honest, nobody would've wanted that. This is The Hives doing what only they do and doing so elegantly well!

WHAT WE SAID

Whilst this may be a completely different album compared to any of their three previous efforts, Royal Blood have still created something distinctly Royal Blood. The band have seen their fair share of criticism in the past both somehow for failing to evolve and for changing too much! On 'Back to the Water Below', the band merge everything they've done before and evolve into something new.





RACE THE NIGHT ASH







Well what has happened with 'Race the Night' is a sublime slice of pop rock perfection. Fans of the band that have enjoyed recent offerings 'Kablammo!' and 'Islands' and observed how good those releases are will perhaps be surprised by the quality of this album. That's because both those albums were very decent and maintained the legacy of the band, but 'Race the Night' sees the band take a giant leap forward.

WHAT WE SAID

From all out rockers like 'Do What You Want' and 'Rockstar', to slower grooves like the title-track and 'Bad Decisions', the band really flex their songwriting muscles. The album almost feels like a band trying to prove themselves as more than just a great live act.

Ultimately there can be no doubt that the band are in top form and that with 'Pretty Vicious' they've managed to create a glorious rock n roll hurricane.

WHAT THEY SAID

"This record showcases each individual member's strengths," vocalist Luke Spiller says of the album. "It's some of my favorite music, hands down, we've ever conjured up. It's the record everyone's been waiting for."





THE STRUTS
PRETTY VIGIOUS

HAUNTED BY THE HOLY GHOST





WHAT WE SAID

One thing has remained consistent through his career however and that is the quality of his songwriting. Insightful, deep and meaningful one moment, tongue-in-cheek and brash the next, whatever he turns his mind to, Hamilton comes out with something spectacular.

'Haunted by the Holy Ghost' ultimately is another fine release from Ryan Hamilton, which will remain on repeat for quite some time for those that dive in. What comes next from Hamilton, only time will tell, but odds are it will be great!

BLOODSUCKERS SAINT AGNES





WHAT THEY SAID

WHAT WE SAID

As the album develops you begin to hear a more diverse palate of musical and lyrical delivery with the likes of 'This Is Not The End' and 'At War With Myself' and 'Forever and Ever' making this more of a well rounded record.

There is still plenty of rage on the second half of the album however with the double header of 'Middle Finger' and the Mimi Barks featuring 'Body Bag' offering a tonne of controlled fury to maintain the fierce pace.

If this album needed to be big and bold to continue the rise of Saint Agnes, then the band has delivered exactly the record that was called for.

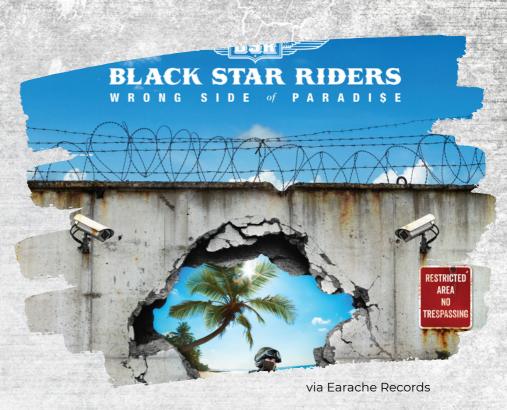
Vocalist Kitty Austen says: "Creating this album gave me a reason to get to my feet at a time when I really wasn't sure if I could. I've tried to put everything I've been feeling into it, all the pain, the rage, the grief, even the unexpected moments of beauty and belief. I hope it makes you feel less alone. I hope it makes you feel bigger, badder and stronger. We might be damaged but that doesn't mean we're worthless. This is a record for the defeated, the crushed. We might be broken but that doesn't mean we're not whole. Bloodsuckers forever, Saint Agnes forever."

WHAT WE SAID

New album, 'Wrong Side of Paradise', may be another new beginning but it's also a continuation of the essence of Black Star Riders. That signature sound remains firmly and passionately intact, and Warwick's distinguished vocals remain front and centre issuing that iconic battle cry as only he can!

Those famous riffs remain also as the album presents the perfect stable yet evolutionary prose that acts as the necessary statement to show that sans Gorham, this band remain a powerful force with a prosperous future.

Fans have a fifth album of pure rock and roll majesty, which still owes all to the faith that the initial cohort placed in themselves. They knew they had something special and now ten years later, the world knows it too!



WHAT THEY SAID

Ricky Warwick comments: "I am very proud of this record, Black Star Riders' fifth release and the first with our new and exciting relationship with Earache Records. As with all BSR albums, 'Wrong Side Of Paradise' is an anthemic statement of intent, driven by ferocious guitars and thundering drums. I can only write about my own personal experiences, my families, my friends and how I see a world that is unraveling and changing faster than we can comprehend. That being said, I'm a firm believer in the power of positivity, something that echoes throughout this album"



BLAGESTAR

IN TIMES NEW ROMAN

PHESISPE



WHAT WE SAID



The bands eighth album is a dark and groovy collection of heavy blues numbers which sonically tap into some of the bands finest earlier work. There is clearly less of the over-polished shine produced by working with Mark Ronson on predecessor 'Villains'. This is a plain and honest sound from a band settled in their skin.

WHAT WE SAID

What does all this mean then for '72 Seasons'? Well to an extent free reign for the band to indulge. What we get however is a continuation of the previous two albums, which in many ways is a good thing, after all both records were Metallica at their very best. And that is arguably what we have again here, Metallica doing Metallica incredibly well.





METALLICA
72 SEASONS

WHO ON EARTH

MCSEAWAN





Throughout his career McGowan has always shown his lyricism to be fresh and frank, but on this album we get to experience a more expansive sonic frame for those words. The focus on making the most of his musical freedom is clear for all to hear and the likes of 'On The Up' and 'Casanova' are amongst the best work McGowan has ever produced.

It's a difficult climate for musicians to navigate at the moment and 'Who On Earth' isn't just brave from a business sense it's bold and daring from a musical perspective. For an artist such as Sean McGowan to continue to surprise at this stage of their career is special and that just confirms McGowan as the extraordinary musician those familiar with his work have always known him to be.

WHAT WE SAID

After a period of upheaval, 'EVERGREEN' is the perfect statement needed from Gunn that the project remains not just viable but also striving for greatness!



PVRIS EVEREN

THIS IS WHY PARAMORE



WHAT WE SAID



WHAT WE SAID

The second half of the album particularly feels like a band testing what they are capable of when they work outside the confines of their own past. This being a relatively short album at thirty-six minutes, the listening experience is succinct and the delivery precise. There are tracks that will flourish live such as the title track and 'The News', but there is also plenty to dissect here beyond the obvious.

This is one of those albums that deserves your undivided attention, just stick in your head phones, close your eyes and enjoy a band mastering their craft.

As the record reaches its conclusion through 'Breathe Into Me', 'On My Back (Giant's Roar)' and 'Everything', it finishes as big and bold as it began. There really isn't a bad track on another astonishing album from the ever evolving REWS, and 'Meridians' is well worth your time and energy to check out.

Anybody familiar with REWS will know the sheer talent on offer, you just have to hope that 'Meridians' will reach a wider audience because this is as good of an album that you'll hear this year!





REWS

SHANTY PUNK \$ 16 SKINNY LISTER MEYER



WHAT WE SAID

If you've ever seen Skinny Lister live then you'll know what the band are all about, and if you haven't – where have you been! The bands reputation has already been well earned, but if any album could act as an introduction for the uninitiated it would be 'Shanty Punk'.

The band should be proud to have managed to truly capture their spirit and soul across the eleven tracks and ultimately 'Shanty Punk' must be heralded as possibly their very best collection of songs so far.

WHAT THEY SAID

Dan Heptinstall comments that, "Shanty Punk is our concept album – and the concept is Skinny Lister. It's a pure distillation of what makes Skinny Lister tick, and perhaps a collection of songs that leans further into our folky routes than we've ventured in some years. It felt to us like it was time to touch base and celebrate the essence of the band, while at the same time – giving it a fresh and dynamic feel."

SCREAMIN' AT THE SKY BLACKE STONE





WHAT WE SAID

Yes, any concerns that the beginning of the end may be upon us are squashed to a pulp by a band still capable of harnessing their raw power and creating something magic. Eight albums in, Black Stone Cherry are as consistent as ever and they remain a reassuring constant in an ever-changing world!

WHAT WE SAID

Skindred have built their reputation on their live shows and this sometimes means that their recorded works are underappreciated. It's easy to pigeonhole the band, even if they are put into their own unique box, but on 'Smile' you can again feel the creative dexterity they possess within the undertones of the record.





SKINDRED

SMILE

THE NOBLE ART OF SELF DESTRUCTION & 15 WHAT WE SAID



The ten songs here will suck you in and you'll lose yourself to the honesty and richness of the lyrical content whilst be carried about by the gentle waves of the atmospheric soundtrack. It's impossible to cherry pick highlights here as the album will simply take you on a journey that you'll willingly follow.

Holding Absence are a band that appear to have found a magical formula for song writing because every time you think that they've peaked, they go ahead and surprise you all over again.

Yes, 'Divine Machines' is an album that instantly breeds a sense of the supermassive. Be it the thumping bass, solid rhythm, elegant guitar work or transcendent vocals, everything about this album exudes a band elevated to a higher level.

WHAT WE SAID

Each song is packed with mesmerisingly delicious psychedelic grooves and leaves an indelible mark on the conscious of the listener. Yes, the likes of 'Voodoo Science', 'Super-Fluid' and 'Run Baby Run', will be stuck in your head for days after absorbing this record.

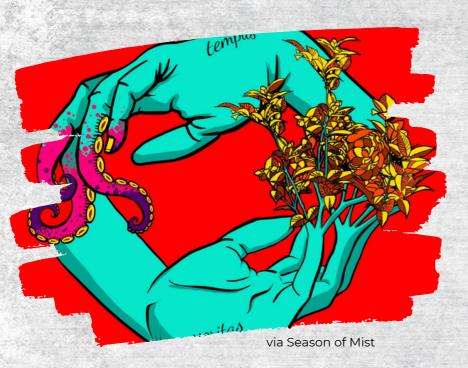


WHAT THEY SAID

"We've never chased the dragon of success," affirms Matthew Marcantonio, "even though we've been encouraged to, but we're not interested in doing it like that. We've always done what we wanted but now it seems like it might align with what other people want as well."



TEMPUS VERITAS \$ 13 BLACK PREHID *///FYEN



WHAT WE SAID

Once again packed full of killer riffs, driving rhythm and soaring vocals this is another stunning collection of songs from a band who have certainly mastered their sound.

There is something for everyone across these eleven tracks with elements of hard rock, melodic pop rock and radio friendly choruses all bound by their ferocious technical hooks. Whether you are after a rocker to sing-a-long to or something with a little more substance, Black Orchid Empire have you covered on 'Tempus Veritas'.

WHAT THEY SAID

Paul Visser comments on the album: "Interwoven with the fabric of our history as a species are countless opportunities for stories. Little pieces of imagined narrative, set within events we all collectively know as historical, that seek to explore what it means to be human - this is the idea behind Tempus Veritas. Whereas Semaphore looked to the future, this record reinvents the past, wondering what it was like to be inside the mind of a person living through times of consequence. Musically, we continue to seek the boundary between the savagely technical and the undeniably beautiful and attempt to push it as far as possible. We poured our entire creative beings into making this album - we sincerely hope you enjoy it."

BUTHERE WEARE \$ 12 FOO FIGHTERS MEYERS

via Roswell Records

WHAT WE SAID

Clearly a lot of love and care has gone into the creation of this album and that shines through on every track. This is a statement of love for those lost but also an opportunity of catharsis for the band.

Lyrically the album is a brutally honest insight into Grohl working through the events of the last year. Sonically though the album is somewhat of a throwback to past glories for the band as they exorcise the demons of their previous album, which didn't quite hit the spot for many fans.

You can say this album musically goes back to basics, and that fits the raw subject matter very well. This is in many ways the best Foo Fighters album in a decade or more. The themes behind the album will likely be the thing most remembered about this album and that should be the case, but it's important that we don't neglect the fact that this is a damn good album at the same time.

LEARNING TO LIVE AND LET GO \$ 11 THE XCERTS WHAT WE SAID



WHAT THEY SAID

As a result you get a wide range of new colours but the identity of the artist remains the intrinsic link. In a day and age where artists are encouraged to play it safe and stick to the rulebook, The Xcerts have been brave enough to throw that book out the window and explore themselves.

The result is twelve thoroughly enjoyable tracks interwoven by the theme of acceptance and the road to it. This very much feels like the band also coming to terms with their place in the world, pressing reset and setting off on their next journey; and given the immense quality of the outcome, you can't help but want to go on that journey with them!

"The album is rooted in drama, ego, love, lust, despair, alcohol, euphoria, anxiety, comedy, modern living, sex and friendship but the overarching theme is that of acceptance. I was involved in a prolonged toxic relationship and the fallout from that when it came to a head, led me to indulge in a pretty fuzzed out lifestyle to deafen the noise in my head. Don't get me wrong, I had a blast at times, but breaking point wasn't enough, I needed more of the unhealthy and as many recreational distractions as I could get" frontman Murray Macleod stated.

He continued, "When I kind of came to after this period in my life, I didn't walk away from it with a huge Hollywood-esq epiphany, I just felt somewhat quietly healed. The album isn't about letting go of one person, relationship, or situation in particular it's about learning how to live without feeling like a prisoner in your own skin and learning how to let go of the parts of you that cling on desperately, only to simmer and hurt. Don't get me wrong, I'm deeply flawed but self-

WHAT WE SAID

Packed full of a healthy mix of attitude and unashamed chic, 'Love, Chaos' is a charming collection of songs that also happens to pack a punch.

There may have been a bit of a wait between albums, but the wait for more of The Pearl Harts has been worth the wait and more. This duo are a force of nature and 'Love, Chaos' is another spectacular statement from a group with so much potential. Remember the name The Pearl Harts!



"Love, Chaos' is about saying goodbye to unhealthy patterns that we all identify with in our lives. Be that work, alcohol, sex, drugs, procrastination, love... Whether we like it or not our whole lives are a series of patterns that shape our personality, they can come about through the unconscious, through family dynamics, through everyday interactions and through trauma. 'Love, Chaos' is about realising and accepting this and forging a life beyond."

"Love, Chaos' is about saying goodbye to unhealthy patterns that we all identify with. Be that work, alcohol, sex, drugs, procrastination, love... the list continues. Whether we like it or not our whole lives are a series of patterns that are the behaviours that shape our personality, the album is about realising and accepting this and forging a life beyond."

"As women in rock'n'roll we have had to fight and unpick a load of history and patterns to accept ourselves as we are today," they say. "Shake off the 'good girls' we have been brought up to be', not to become 'bad' but to become our real, true, authentic selves. We are starting a new conscious pattern of how we want to play rock'n'roll our way. We don't just have to be hard, tough women. We can be sensitive ones too."



THEARTSRL LOVE, CHAOS

UNCERTAIN JOYS THE SUBWAYS





WHAT WE SAID

Musically vibrant yet lyrically vulnerable, you can feel the love and care put into this album by its creators. Whether leading us into battle on 'Fight', taking aim at social media on 'Influencer Killed The Rock Star' or getting deeply personal on the title track or 'Incantation', the quality of songwriting remains intact but again it seems to have even greater depth.

WHAT THEY SAID

"Many of the songs were written by me in my college dorm, as I pored over the history of English Literature and critical theory," Billy Lunn explains. "During this time, I also went through a crisis of identity, having had my self-image defined for me over the previous 15 years as a singer in a band."

"I'd gained a little experience in this regard having recorded all of the band's demos in my parents' council house before we went into the studio with Ian Broudie to record our debut album, YOUNG FOR ETERNITY," he explains. "From then on, I always took great care to observe and ask questions about methods and means of the recording process, undoubtedly annoying those practising their craft for our benefit, but all of whom were incredibly helpful and patient."

"Sometimes these lessons would conflict," Lunn says of the production process, "but that's where I found myself coming into my own, making my own decisions for the sake of the song when it was demanded of me."

A KISS FOR THE WHOLE WORLD ENTER SHIKARI WHAT WE SAID



via So Recordings / Silva Screen Records

WHAT WE SAID

Where Enter Shikari regularly raise the game however is their ability not just to get their audience moving, but also thinking. Again on this album, the band tackle the complexities and dangers of the modern world – and let's face it there is no shortage of source material for the band to explore given the state of the world these days.

The hot streak is very much intact, and this album can only be heralded as another stunning success for a band showing no signs of resting on their laurels.

What we get then on this record is a balance. The band deliver a fresh album which appeals to fans old and new. The opening trio of 'Love From The Other Side', 'Heartbreak Feels So Good' and 'Hold Me Like a Grudge' are right up there with the best the band has ever produced, and there are a number of great tracks scattered around the album which instantly provides greater strength in depth then 'Mania'.

The pace of the album works well and keeps you engaged even in the weaker moments. Overall this is probably the ideal answer to anybody questioning the band, even if it won't be held in the same esteem as some of their earlier work. A good number of the tracks will sound huge live and add to the bands momentum as they continue their path to world domination.



via Fueled by Ramen



FALL OUT BOY SO MUCH (FOR) STARDUST

WHAT WE SAID

Musically this is Therapy? at their very best and the album simply flies by with all ten tracks adding something to the album. There are some standout moments such as fantastic opener 'They Shoot the Terrible Master', the juxtaposition of 'Woe' and 'Joy' and the stunningly titled 'Poundland of Hope and Glory', but every track is a winner.

If the delivery rate for Therapy? albums is something to be admired, the consistency in quality truly must be revered. 'Hard Cold Fire' isn't just "another one for the collection", this is another highly relevant and hard rocking exhibit in the case that Therapy? are one of the most criminally undervalued rock bands of the last three decades!



WHAT THEY SAID

"One thing we did decide when we were eventually able to rehearse, was that we didn't want to make a lockdown record," says vocalist and guitarist Andy Cairns, "because people have been through enough."

"When we began to rehearse the songs, we realised there was an empathetic quality to them. We wanted to make something that was a bit more relatable, and less standoffish and claustrophobic – which we have a history of, and it stands in places – but we wanted to make something more approachable and open."

"We wanted this album to be one that felt good to play live, almost a release after this period of stasis, but then also not dwelling on the whole situation – we're moving forward, and we wanted that energy to be there," adds bassist Michael McKeegan.



THERAPY?
HARD COLD FIRE

A FISTFUL OF PEACHES BLACK HONEY







This may be the most honest reflection of Black Honey as a band thus far as the group pour their hearts into their art. Each element of their sound is turned up and the results are magnificent. Whilst they've always demonstrated this quality, the strongest achievement on this album is the mix of relatability with aspiration.

'A Fistful of Peaches' is both vulnerable and ferocious in equal measures as singer Izzy Phillips is able make you feel a full palate of emotions; ultimately though Phillips and co are simply able to empower you through their reflective, decisive and uplifting collection of soaring tracks.

WHAT WE SAID

'Anxiety Repleacement Therapy' is a perfectly timed blast of infectious indie pop that gets your feet moving and your brain thinking. Sonically uplifting and thematically inspiring, the album takes you on a literal journey towards enlightenment.

There are some purely stunning moments that will have you completely lost in the music such as 'Worry', 'Burning House' and 'Sertraline', then there are times where the smart lyrics will have you considering the depths of your inner being such as the highly relatable 'Letter To Myself' and 'You're Not Alone'.



via Modern Sky



COLOUR JIMLEOGKEY SOLEMNSEN





WHAT WE SAID

As the album progress through its ten tracks, it becomes very clear that the band are operating on a level way above anything they've done before, and given the quality of those early albums that is quite astonishing!

'Colour' is a truly remarkable return for a band that always felt like it had unfinished business. Well, the ten year wait has been more than worth it because this masterpiece of an album deserves to take the band to highest echelons of the industry. Simply magnificent!

WHAT THEY SAID

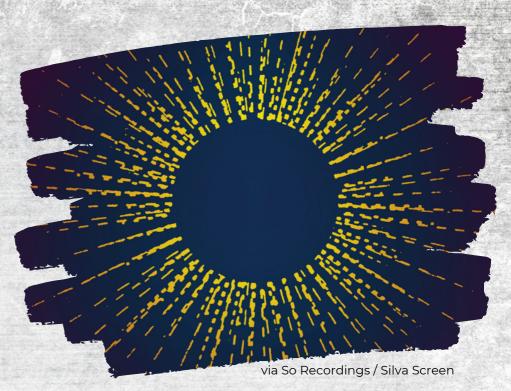
Jim says: "Written during the breakdown of a relationship that defined my life to this point, this album became a method of healing. Like the chaotic process of grieving it's an agitated reflection that shifts back and forth — from losing everything to rediscovering myself and finding the resolve to move forward. It was a hugely cathartic process for me, and it's the most personal I've ever been."

"The title 'Colour' suited these songs and my experiences perfectly. For me colour is what defines a life: it controls our moods, changes our perceptions and decides how we experience the world. We're constantly searching for colour in our lives, and immediately feel its absence."

WHAT WE SAID

As soon as you press play, you are instantly sucked in to those beautiful soaring hooks, those delicate, emotive moments, those brash riffs, those all out rocking flashes and just the pure majesty that the band is able to create.

So many criminally underappreciated rock bands from the early 2000's have sadly been lost to the ages, but thank goodness that we have Hundred Reasons back in our lives and that they return at their magnificent best!



WHAT THEY SAID

Vocalist Colin Doran commented: "When we started writing again it was really important that we did not go back to any material that had been cut previously. It all had to be completely new. We started writing just before Covid and got together sporadically as and when we could to write and demo which was not our usual way. We would normally be in a room together for the most part but this time it was not always possible. Larry and I would write, The Andy and Larry would write and then I would join the session later in the day (I have a day job) but we were all super happy with what was coming out. This was a deal breaker for all as if we were putting out new material it had to be amazing.

This album isn't something we felt we had to do. We simply arrived at a position where the music was so good that it was something we needed to do."



HENSONSET GLORIOUS SUNSET

SANGUIVORE CREPER





The influences on this album though stretch far and wide, with the scope of its sonic exploration only matched by its ambition. As the record progresses the listener is taken on a musical and mythical journey of vampires, horror and intrigue.

The word masterpiece is overused these days, but the urge to use it for 'Sanguivore' is just too irresistible. The problem that Creeper have produced is that with every release you think that they've peaked and couldn't possibly top what they've created... and then they go ahead and do just that!

It should probably be illegal to have this much imagination and ingenuity because it's simply not fair on the competition. The reality is though at this point, certainly in their chosen sphere, there is no competition and Creeper are in a league of their own.

It's easy to wax lyrical here about this album, because it's such a well rounded record. There are fantastic singles, or bangers as the kids would say, yet there is also such depth present as well. Prerelease singles such as 'Teenage Sacrifice' and 'Black Heaven', certainly gave a good insight into what to expect, but listeners really need to dig deep and immerse themselves into 'Sanguivore' to fully comprehend its brilliance!

WHAT THEY SAID

Vocalist William Von Ghould says, "This is Creeper at their most outrageous, harking back to a time where Jim Steinman ruled the airwaves in leather gloves and Aviators."



THE FULL PELT MUSIC PODCAST

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY, APPLE PODCASTS, YOUTUBE, GOOGLE PODCASTS, AMAZON MUSIC, CASTBOX, DEEZER, RADIO PUBLIC, POCKET CASTS

YOU CAN LISTEN TO INTERVIEWS WITH THE FOLLOWING ARTISTS FROM OUR 'ALBUM OF THE YEAR' LIST NOW!



JAMES AND THE COLD GUN





BLACK WATER COUNTY



SAINT AGNES



RYAN HAMILTON



KING NUN



JIM LOCKEY AND THE SOLEMN SUN





DEMOB HAPPY



THE PEARL HARTS



THERAPY?



THE SUBWAYS



BLACK ORCHID EMPIRE



BEANS ON TOAST



SKINNY LISTER



SEAN MCGOWAN





www.fullpeltmusic



HARDS HEAVY

Spotify Playlist

Kid Kapichi

'999'

Sum 41

'Rise Up'

Blackout Problems

'FUNERAL'

The Intersphere

'All We Need'

Kite Thief

'Ambiviolent'

BLACKGOLD x Hyro The Hero

'Old School Sound'

<u>Listen on Spotify</u>



Festival Announcements



SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL

Slam Dunk Festival promised a Christmas cracker of an announcement and they delivered with news that Mallory Knox will reunite with frontman Mickey Chapman for two exclusive reunion shows this summer!

They join the likes of You Me At Six, All-American Rejects, Funeral For A Friend, The Blackout, Pale Waves and Bob Vylan at the dual events this May.





*TICKET+

TEDDY ROCKS

Teddy Rocks continues to use the power of rock to fight children's cancer!

This year the focus has shifted to feature some of the UK's premier tribute acts although also on the bill are Full Pelt favourites Millie Manders and the Shutup, Massive Wagons, Lacey, The Bottom Line, Skarlett Riot, Gaz Brookfield and more!



GUNS 2 ROSES



Live/wire

oas-is

The very best of QUEEN

one step behind the masters of madness





FOO FORGERS

HILAN MONDEN BLONK 182

Ed Sheeran Experience

CHASING > MUMFORD

UK PARAMORE TRIBUTE

THE POP PARTY RETURNS!



DJSAMMY LIBERTYX = VIE

Sara bl**o**w

Wurzels





DICK&DOM



BARRIOKE

BRANDON CIRLBAND BÖGGER (AIR) BLACKMARKET THOMAS MILES THOMAS MILES THOMAS MILES













THE BRASSHOLES • THE CABARATS • CRYSTAL TIDES • GAZ BROOKFIELD LACEY • SKARLETT RIOT • SUBLIFTER • THE PAGANS S.O.H

THE ADDITIONS • ALEX ROBERTS • ALL FUNK'D UP • ANDY STOCK • BABY • BAKER & COLE • BENNIZ • BONSAI PIRATES • CHLORINE CLLRS KEDDIE & RIGBY • CROSS & SPINOUT • CRUNCHIE • DAN MCSHANE • DATURA • DAVE MOORE • DAV GOMRASS THE DECATONICS • D.J.P • DORSET PHIL • DR BEETROOT • D-TOX • EDD BLEACH & RYAN BARBER • THE ELECTRIC SHAKES • ESTELLA FAKE A SMILE • FILTA • FLY YETI FLY • FREEZE UK • THE GUSETTES • GRENADE • HIGHER POWER (MC) • HIGHTOWN PARADE • JAKE AYRES JAMES HAYNES • THE JIMMY HILLBILLIES • J-ME (DJ) • JODIE ELMS (LIVE & VOCAL WORKSHOP) • JON LANGFORD • JONNY PHILLIPS KEV SCOTT • KITTY STEWART • LAST RESORT • LATE SEPTEMBER • LUKE DUBYAH • MATT BLACK • MARK RUSH PALMER • MARTIN COLLINS MAYNER • MC CASPER • DJ MELODY • MERRY MISCH.CHIEF • THE MIDNIGHT ALLIANCE • MIKE DENNIS • MILLIE WATSON MISCHA & HIS MERRY MEN . MONGREL . MOTHER UKERS . MYRIAD . DJ NOSE IT . THE OGRETONES . PAUL MOSS . POP KIDS POWDERED COWS • PUNK ON YOUR HITS • RANDOM-K • RHYS THOMAS • REBEL SOUNDSYSTEM • RELIGHT MY CHOIR • THE REVERENT DJ R.SOUL • SI GENARO • SI THE SIGH • SIXTEEN STRING JACK • SLAY DUGGEE • SOS • SPITFIRE • STU RATCLIFFE • SUPERHANZ TEN YEARS TOO LATE • TOM PERRY • TOWERS • WEATHERSTATE • HOOPFULNESS (HULA WORKSHOP) • THE YOGA MOVEMENT

PLUS: EXTREME RIDES, TASTY STREET FOOD, BARS, SHOPS, MERCH, FESTIVAL GLAM, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES & LOADS MORE! CAMPING AVAILABLE INCLUDING GLAMPING AND LIVE-IN VEHICLES

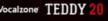
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

DONATING 100% OF PROFITS TO CHILDREN'S CANCER CHARITIES

CHARISWORTH FARM | BLANDFORD, DORSET | TEDDYROCKS.CO.UK

















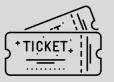
Festival Announcements



BRIGHTEN THE CORNERS

Ipswich will once again host Brighten The Corners Festival in June.

Amongst the first acts revealed for 2024 are CLT DRP, Coach Party, The Orielles and more!



LEESTOCK

Another festival bringing fan favourites to Suffolk will be LeeStock who have just announced that The Coral will headline Saturday night of the event.

Also playing will be Badly Drawn Boy.





Tour Announcements





VENDED

Vended have announced details of a European and UK Spring Tour.

Speaking of the forthcoming tour, the band have said: "We are thrilled to headline overseas in 2024. The intensity we've felt in the past from Europe and the UK is something we don't find anywhere else, and we want to return the favour tenfold this next year. It is a pleasure to feature our special guests, Profiler and The Gloom In The Corner, to round out the package. See you soon. Welcome to VENDED."





Can you name each song from the lyrics?

Go on give it a go - the theme this week is:

PARTY TIME!

YOU WAKE UP LATE FOR SCHOOL, MAN YOU DON'T WANT TO GO YOU ASK YOU MOM, PLEASE? BUT SHE STILL SAYS, NO

KNOW WHAT WE WANT AND WE GET IT FROM YOU DO WHAT WE LIKE AND WE LIKE WHAT WE DO

IT'S A PARTY, DON'T YOU KNOW IT DON'T GET MUCH BETTER
WE GONNA MAKE IT SUCH AN AWESOME PARTY

SHE WAS INTO FRENCH CUISINE BUT I AIN'T NO CORDON BLEU THIS WAS AT SOME DO IN PALMERS GREEN, I HAD NO LUCK WITH HER

I'M YOUR OPERATOR, YOU CAN CALL ANYTIME
I'LL BE YOUR CONNECTION TO THE PARTY LINE





ALBUM OF THE YEAR

EP OF THE YEAR

SINGLE OF THE YEAR

FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR

LIVE ACT OF THE YEAR

ARTIST OF THE YEAR

NEW ARTIST OF THE YEAR

TELL US YOUR WINNERS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

DISCOVER

NEW MUSIC PLAYLIST



Telltale - 'Otherside'

Virginia-based rockers **Telltale** have released hypnotic new single **'Otherside'**.

Speaking on the new single, vocalist John Carteret shares: "Throughout my early twenties, I found myself chasing some sort of 'otherside' in whatever vice would get me the furthest from reality. It's easy to treat the fragility of life as a joke until death comes knocking. Like standing at the edge of a pier, ready to jump into the infinite void, it doesn't click until you hit the water."



Fraser Morgan - 'Fell In Love Again'

Rising folk-punk newcomer **Fraser Morgan** shares his vibrant new single **'Fell In Love Again'**.

Fraser elaborates, "I started writing this silly song about how my mum's probably sick of hearing about my love interests. One night I played it at an open mic and people went mental for it, so here we are two years later and it's still one of my most popular songs. You're probably wondering what happened to the girl, right? Well, I messaged her on Instagram after I finished writing the song and she never replied. She doesn't even know the song exists".



Shooting Daggers - 'Not My Rival'

Queercore punk band **Shooting Daggers** announce debut album **'Love and Rage'** (out February 16th) and share new single **'Not My Rival'**!

As the band put it ... "When we started writing this album we decided we didn't want to limit ourselves by any genre. We wanted to be able to get influenced by any band that we were fond of at the moment, that's why each of the tracks of this album are so different from one another, which is something we've always committed to do while at the same time trying to keep it very ours.

We have hardcore songs inspired by Ceremony, Axe Rash, Turnstile, G.L.O.S.S. and then we have some more melodic hardcore inspired by Title Fight, Touché Amoré, Gouge Away, some post punk and shoegaze inspired by Placebo and Slowdive to showcase more of Sal's clean vocals. A bit of 90s nu metal sprinkled in one of the tracks too. Then we have a piano track because why not.

We just went with the flow and let our creativity run free."

<u>Listen, Follow and Discover your new</u> <u>favourite act on our 'Discover' New Music</u> <u>Playlist</u>

<u>Then find out the stories behind the songs on our 'Discover' New Music Podcast!</u>



DISCOVER

NEW MUSIC PODCAST

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY, APPLE
PODCASTS, YOUTUBE, GOOGLE
PODCASTS, AMAZON MUSIC,
CASTBOX, DEEZER, RADIO PUBLIC,
POCKET CASTS & MORE

RECENT GUESTS



HEADCAGE



NORTH ATLAS



KITE THIEF



DEATH OF ME

IN THE PREVIOUS

ot www.fullpeltmusic.com!















(C) Full Pelt Music

Editor: Paul Barnes - paul@fullpeltmusic.com