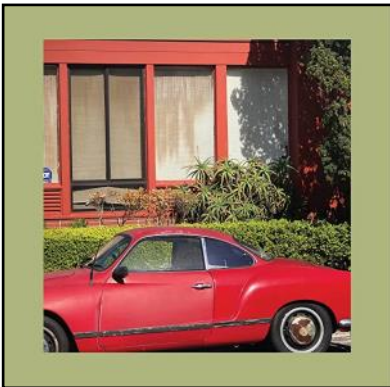




BOYGENIUS **the record**

Julien Baker, Phoebe Bridgers, and Lucy Dacus formed Boygenius after booking a tour together, but the trio had subconsciously been in the works for longer than that. The lyrically and musically arresting singer-songwriters and kindred spirits got to know each other on their own terms.

FOR FANS OF:
Soccer Mommy, Julia Jacklin, Sharon Van Etten



THE REDS, PINKS AND PURPLES **The Town That Cursed Your Name**

Whereas the 2022 collection *Summer at Land's End* was a softer, gauzier world, *The Town That Cursed Your Name* is heavier, with fuzzed lines running through. 'Leave It All Behind' starts out with an amorphous whine but quickly launches into something both supremely melodic and buzzing at the edges. Lyrically, Donaldson embraces the earnestness of his heroes Paul Westerberg and Grant McLennan.

FOR FANS OF:
Yo La Tengo, Ride, Rolling Blackouts CF



BILLIE MARTEN **Drop Cherries**

Recorded entirely on tape in Somerset and Wales late last summer, *Drop Cherries* marks the very first time that Billie Marten has both written and co-produced (with Dom Monks) one of her records. Maintaining her minimalist acoustic folk foundations she made a name for herself with, but maturing with every new record.

FANS OF:
Fenne Lily, Boygenius, The Paper Kites



NICKEL CREEK **Celebrants**

While the Grammy-winning trio of singer-songwriter-multi-instrumentalists Sara Watkins (fiddle), Sean Watkins (guitar), and Chris Thile (mandolin) had sporadically collaborated since 2014's *A Dotted Line*, the long layoff yielded a bounty of 18 interconnected songs. Written collectively during a creative retreat in Santa Barbara in early 2021. The tracks form a mosaic that is beautiful from a distance, but each tile also tells its own story.

FOR FANS OF:
Chris Thile, Patty Griffin, Lyle Lovett

A CERTAIN RATIO

1982

ACR's latest studio album is no different to their previous albums in its unpredictable multidimensional nature. It shoots off in every direction, whether via searing Afrobeat, mind-melting jazz breakdowns or moody electronic experiments all with pop hooks and irresistible dance rhythms.

FOR FANS OF:

The Fall, Durutti Column, Section 25



NATALIE MERCHANT

Keep Your Courage

An eclectic album, produced by Merchant, it features two duets sung with vocalist Abena Koomson-Davis (Resistance Revival Chorus), contributions from the Celtic folk group Lúnasa and Syrian virtuoso clarinetist Kinan Azmeh, and horn arrangements by jazz trombonist Steve Davis. There are lush orchestrations throughout by seven composers.

FOR FANS OF:

10,000 Maniacs, Suzanne Vega, Beth Orton



LAUREL CANYON

Laurel Canyon

Guitars are drenched in an Asheton worshipping haze and pummel, melded alongside a Velvets chug and mid-to-late 80s Pacific Northwest guttural / primal howl... this is American primitive music at its most powerful. Pigeonholers beware, this album takes its cues from all the most potent places... Funhouse, Loaded, Green River, early Sub Pop, all providing valid reference points.

FOR FANS OF:

Purling Hiss, CIVIC, Bright Eyes



FEIST

Multitudes

Multi-Award winning, hugely influential musician Feist returns with *Multitudes*, her sixth solo album and first since 2017's *Pleasure*.

Multitudes took shape soon after the birth of her daughter and sudden death of her father, a back-to-back convergence of life-altering events that left the Canadian singer / songwriter with "Nothing performative in me anymore." As she cleansed her songwriting of any tendency to obscure unwanted truths, Feist slowly made her way toward a batch of songs rooted in a raw and potent realism which is touched with otherworldly beauty.

FOR FANS OF:

Cat Power, Broken Social Scene, Laura Marling





BLONDSHELL

Blondshell

The loud-quiet excavations that comprise her hook-filled debut as Blondshell don't only stare traumas in the eye - they tear them at the root and shake them, bringing precise detail to colossal feelings. Sabrina shed her previous, pop-leaning project, Baum, and the process emboldened her. Working as Blondshell, she succumbs to her childhood love of '90s alternative rock acts like Hole, Liz Phair, and the Cranberries.

FOR FANS OF:

Wednesday, Samia, The Waeve



THE NO ONES

My Evil Best Friend

The No Ones are Peter Buck, Scott McCaughey, Arne Kjelsrud Mathisen and Frode Stramstad - Consisting of members from REM, The Minus 5, The Young Fresh Fellows, The Baseball Project, and I Was A King. Through their upbeat 60s-style indie sound infused with psychedelic flourishes, The No Ones honor Nick Lowe, Pamela Polland, George Harrison, Jenny Lewis, and Phil Ochs, among others.

FOR FANS OF:

Let's Active, Game Theory



WEDNESDAY

Rat Saw God

The same way Hartzman can guide you through a landscape that subtly grows as familiar as the one where you grew up, she sometimes gives the sense that you're poring through her books and record collection, sitting beside her as she recites the underlined passages. In her lyrics, there are quotes from fiction writers George Saunders and Richard Brautigan; shout-outs to Bill Callahan and Drive-By Truckers.

FOR FANS OF:

Special Interest, Blondshell, Wet Leg



TREES SPEAK

Mindmaze

As with all their previous releases, *Mind Maze* is a mind-boggling tightrope walk across an array of musical influences that seamlessly create the unique present-day world of Trees Speak. The band's sound is characterized by a combination of German krautrock motoric-beat rhythms, angular New York post-punk attitude, 60s spy soundtracks, psych, rock, jazz, and 70s synthesizers and vocoders.

FOR FANS OF:

Japanese Television, Beak>, Snapped Ankles