

Your Monthly
Music Forecast!

Small is the New Big: The Rise of
Intimate Performance Platforms

Saint Levant
hemlocke springs
edbl
BEN SAMAMA
...and more!

 memBrain

STORM REPORT

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Our signature countdown of 20 buzzworthy bands and artists on our radar.

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Check out this issue's carefully curated playlists by clicking below:



ON THE COVER

flowerovlove. Photo by Tom J. Johnson. ©2022

ABOUT THE STORM REPORT

STORM = Strategic Tracking Of Relevant Media

The STORM Report is a compilation of up-and-coming bands and artists who are worth watching. Only those showing the most promising potential for future commercial success make it onto our monthly list.

How do we know?

Through correspondence with industry insiders and our own ravenous media consumption, we spend our month gathering names of artists who are “bubbling under.” We then extensively vet this information, analyzing an artist’s print & digital media coverage, social media growth, sales chart statistics, and various other checks and balances to ensure that our list represents the cream of the crop.

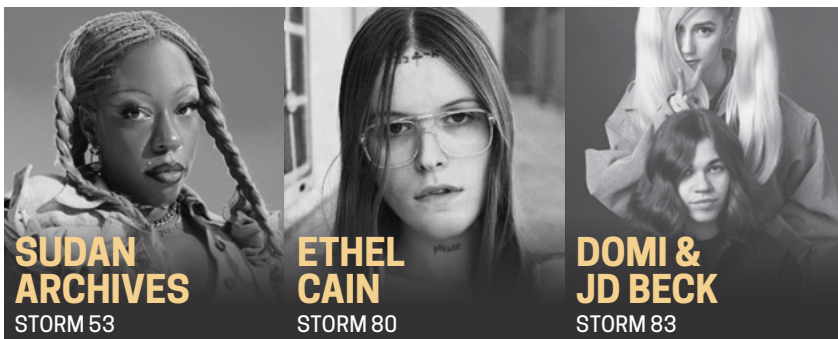
How do we rank?

STORM has a new formula! Artists are now given a score out of 100 that takes several factors of music success into account, including streaming, social media influence, and industry support.

Why do we do it?

Music is the best way to sell products because it creates such a powerful emotional connection with an audience. The STORM Report provides our clients with a tool to harness the music that will be the most relevant to audiences in the near future, thereby becoming very useful for the enhancement of products, promotions, and platforms.

STORM ALUMNI



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

After a whirlwind start to 2023, we are back in action with our first STORM Report of the year. Our annual CES Report is coming soon and our February/March issue will deep dive into the world of AI and Music, but for this issue we are starting the year “small.” Our focus this month is on the evolution of online performance platforms like Jam in the Van and Tiny Desk Concert. Artists and fans alike have grown to love these curated, more intimate feeling experiences—and for good reason. Artists are able to showcase their talents in new ways and reach a broader audience, and fans can experience a performance in a controlled environment that is available any time at the click of a button. We are now living in a world where the divide between the physical and digital worlds are becoming invisible, and so it’s an exciting time for these kinds of platforms to evolve and flourish. More on this to come in 2023! Happy New Year!

Enjoy!



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EYE OF THE STORM

Lizzy McAlpine (STORM 77) performs for NPR's Tiny Desk Concert. Photo Credit: Bob Boilen



SMALL IS THE NEW BIG: The Rise of Intimate Performance Platforms

By Ava Blanchette

When the pandemic rendered the live stage obsolete for musicians and fans in 2020, artists sought other ways to reach fans. Ushered into the world of online performance platforms, some for the first time and some as long-time veterans, artists and listeners alike gained a renewed appreciation for this lively artistic corner of the internet. Artists and audiences discovered that smaller, curated showcases like NPR's Tiny Desk, COLORSxSTUDIOS, KEXP Studio Sessions, PASTE Studios, and Jam in the Van offer something that the live stage typically does not. With masterful audio engineering, intimate settings, and the help of recommendation algorithms, these intimate platforms have solidified themselves as a coveted setting for music discovery and celebration.

It's important to note that these platforms are not new. The rise of NPR's Tiny Desk closely mirrors the rise of video and audio-sharing platforms like YouTube in the mid-to-late 2000s. Founder Bob Boilen recognized a need for more intimate

performance platforms after a particularly frustrating experience at SXSW, where he and his colleague couldn't hear the performer over the noise from the crowd. NPR's music channel has since amassed 7.5 million YouTube subscribers, and more notably, cultural significance; artists seek and celebrate these online opportunities, and fans flock to the finished products once completed.

Below, we've highlighted some of the key features that these platforms offer to artists and audiences alike. With the new year, we predict that these kinds of platforms will continue to evolve and grow in popularity, keeping true to their small-scale, intimate roots. Small is the new big.

FOR ARTISTS

Bucket List: Because of their loyal viewerships, participating on these platforms have become important benchmarks in an artist's career. In between songs in her recent Tiny Desk performance,

Lizzy McAlpine told the live audience, “In 2019, I started a bucket list on my notes app in my phone, and this was one of the first things I put on it... this is literally a dream come true, I have no words.” Performing on these shows has become as much of a career bucket list item as headlining a tour; artists recognize them as unique opportunities facilitated by professionals that care about their craft as much as they do.

Personality Showcase: Platforms like Bedstock and Jam in the Van encourage a candor that can’t quite be executed on a stage. There’s inherent humor in these settings, whether it be in a van or under the covers in a literal bed, that allows for a breakdown of traditional performance expectations. Encouraging a casual side of performers often unseen, these platforms offer fans a perspective of personality that they yearn to see.

Artistic Freedom And Opportunity: With the help of the platform’s audio engineer team and quiet setting, artists often take the opportunity to re-imagine their work. COLORSxSTUDIOS prioritizes this idea, writing on their site that they “seek to provide clarity and calm, offering a minimalistic stage to shine a spotlight on the artists and give them the opportunity to present their music without distraction.” A typical COLORS performance features the artist or band alone, with a mic and the occasional instrument, staged against flooring and walls of a single color. With this approach, COLORS directs all attention to their performers and aids their mission to showcase exceptional international talent without distraction.

Discovery: These platforms have fan bases of their own; fans tune in for the high quality performances curated by the platforms themselves, and for artists, it’s an excellent opportunity to reach new fans with some heightened appreciation for the craft that goes into it. A recent performance by Icelandic artist Arny Margret on KEXP Studio Sessions welcomed YouTube comments like, “Thanks KEXP for this discovery!” and “New fan here!” For artists, these platforms serve as the exciting first touchpoint between them and a new fan.

Unique Spaces: Another reason that artists are turning to these kinds of performances is to showcase their music in a unique setting. Tunetrax, a digital music platform for independent artists to publish, distribute, sell, and promote their music, recently announced the launch of Tunetrax “AirSTUDIO” and “The Gig Rig.” The AirSTUDIO is a transformed classic 1987 Airstream Excella 1000 that includes a fully equipped mobile recording studio and live streaming hub. Taking it one step further, the Gig Rig is a mobile adjustable stage that features a full PA customized to the size of the audience. It’s a self-sufficient stage on wheels that doesn’t require outside power to operate. No venue? No problem.

Pop-up shows are not only a great way for artists to find more performance opportunities, but also a great way to generate buzz on the road. It’s (potentially) internet gold!

FOR FANS

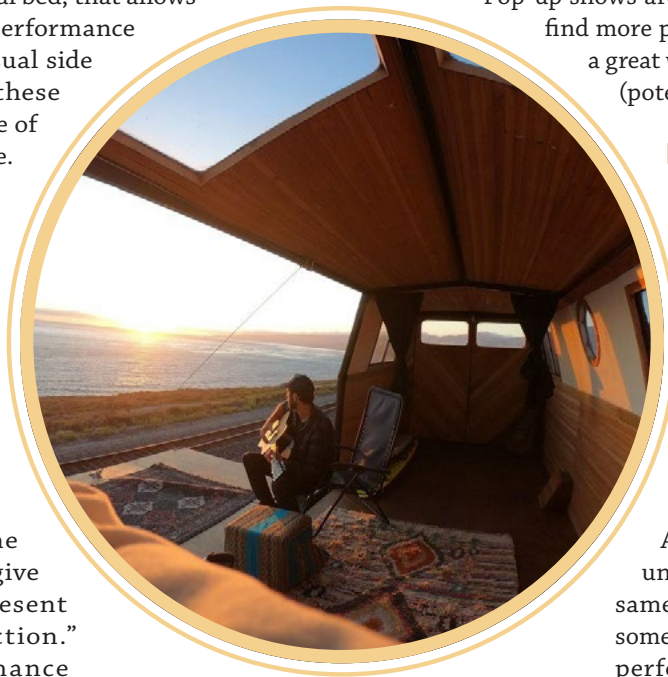
Outside of music discovery, listeners come to these platforms for their quality, longevity, and accessibility. A controlled environment, absent of ambient noise, coupled with the work of brilliant audio engineers creates an audio experience that you can’t get anywhere else.

And while there’s something undeniably special about being in the same room as a performer, there’s also something to be said about hearing their performance in full, sans screaming, chaos, and technical difficulties. Additionally, though live concerts are back in full, their increasing prices have proven to be a barrier for fans. With online performances available

on free platforms, fans enjoy more accessibility to their favorite performers, with the additional perk of longevity. These videos exist permanently online, welcoming fans back to watch whenever they like.

LOOKING AHEAD

We expect these platforms to grow in their followings and importance in 2023. In an industry that can feel simultaneously oversaturated and fragmented, these platforms invite us into their spaces built on care and respect for artistry. What goes into creating them is palpable and refreshing, and has rightly attracted meaningful attention from artists and listeners alike.



Pop-up anywhere performances made possible with “The Gig Rig” by TuneTrax. (Photo Credit: TuneTrax)

STORM TRACKER

Tracking Our STORM Report Alumni!

CHECK OUT

this issue's carefully curated playlists by clicking below:



ELLIE GOULDING
(STORM No. 2)

Ellie Goulding and Calvin Harris are recording their third collaboration and we couldn't be more excited! While Harris and Goulding recently celebrated 10 years since the release of their chart-topping "I Need Your Love" last year, there has been a lot of excitement for their next collab. It's also been nine years since they dropped their second dancefloor hit, 2014's "Outside," and so a reunion is long overdue and we are here for it!



MUNA
(STORM No. 43)

Muna has just announced their headlining 2023 tour dates, with in between stints opening for Taylor Swift and Lorde. They'll also be performing at this year's Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival and Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival. Muna released their 2022 self-titled album on Phoebe Bridgers' Saddest Factory label. Its notable single, "Silk Chiffon," featured Bridgers in both the song and video. In October, they shared the Live at Electric Lady EP, featuring a cover of Taylor Swift's "August."



JAI PAUL
(STORM No. 38)

After a very long hiatus, Jai Paul is set to take the stage at Coachella this year. In 2019, the musician issued *Leak 04-13 (Bait Ones)*, an "official" version of the unfinished debut album that was leaked in 2013, along with two previously unreleased songs. He's since marked the 10th anniversary of his track "BTSTU" with remixes and archival material, and made a rare cameo on Atlanta earlier this year. He's continued to work with his brother, A. K. Paul, on their Paul Institute operation, which issued a six-song EP titled Summer 2020 in the titular year.



H.E.R.
(STORM No. 50)

On January 11th, H.E.R. has launched her own Fender Stratocaster and has spoken about her desire to see more women playing instruments and producing. The musician's new Blue Marlin Stratocaster is limited to production in 2023 only and pays tribute to her father Kenny, with its iridescent blue finish a nod to their fishing trips together in her youth. In a special video feature shared alongside the guitar's launch, H.E.R. spoke about the need for more female musicians to get behind instruments and mixing desks. "I hope I've contributed to this in some way—that it's cool to be in a band and it's cool to play an instrument," she said. "It's cool to pick up an instrument and be melodic or come up with a really dope chord progression alongside songwriting."

AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

February—March 2023

Get ready for the music red carpet(s) of February and March! *The 65th Annual Grammy Awards* ceremony will be back in Los Angeles this year at the Crypto.com arena February 5, 2023. *The 58th annual Academy of Country Music Awards* will take place on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at Ford Center at The Star in Frisco, Texas. Returning to Prime Video in collaboration with the Academy of Country Music and MRC, the show will livestream exclusively for a global audience in 2023. And *The iHeartRadio Music Awards* is an annual awards show that honors the biggest names in music across various genres, including pop, rock, hip-hop, R&B, country, and more. *The 2023 iHeartRadio Music Awards* will be held at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles on March 27, 2023, and broadcast live on Fox. What are you wearing?

STORM FORECAST

Events And Happenings For Your Radar

MUST WATCH THIS MONTH

March 2023

At the top of our list, we are excited for *Creed III* (March 3) to be releasing. Michael B. Jordan returns as Creed for round three in the ring, and this time, he's behind the camera too. There's no Rocky Balboa this time, but the cast includes Tessa Thompson, Jonathan Majors, Wood Harris, Florian Munteanu, and Phylicia Rashad. *Scream VI* (March 10) is continuing its legacy! In this sixth entry, the masked killer goes on a murder spree in New York City. We advise staying off the subway. And of course *John Wick: Chapter 4* (March 24) is already creating buzz. After a year-long pandemic-induced delay, Keanu Reeves returns as the world's most badass former hitman and titular protagonist, now traveling all over the globe to evade the High Table.

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME SUPER BOWL MUSIC?

February 9-11

The Bud Light Super Bowl Music Fest—an anchor entertainment event of Super Bowl weekend—continues to redefine the role of music at one of the biggest sporting events in the world. The Fest kicks off Thursday night with Paramore, and is followed by Friday night with Dave Matthews Band featuring a DJ set by STORM alumni DJ Pee .Wee (Anderson .Paak). The three-night music festival wraps Saturday night with the powerhouse lineup of Imagine Dragons and Kane Brown.

ULTRA MUSIC FESTIVAL

March 24-26, 2023

Known for its high-energy performances, elaborate stage productions, and diverse lineups, Ultra Music Festival (UMF) is an annual electronic music festival that takes place in Miami, Florida. The festival features a wide range of electronic dance music (EDM) artists and DJs from around the world, including house, techno, trance, and more. You don't want to miss this year's festival as EDM legends like Afrojack, David Guetta, and STORM alumni Marshmello will be headlining.

SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST (SXSW)

March 10-19, 2023

SXSW (South by Southwest) is one of the top annual events held in Austin, Texas that unifies professionals from the film, music, and interactive industries for a week of conferences, film screenings, and performances. It is considered an important event in the creative community as it provides a platform for emerging artists and filmmakers to showcase their work, and for industry professionals to network and discover new trends and technologies. memBrain will be there with cowboy boots on—and we can't wait to see y'all! Add us to your party list and we will do the same! Hee-Haw!

STORM WARNING

The 20 Artists On Our Radar

GRACE'S
TOP PICK!

EMMA'S
TOP PICK!

1 SAINT LEVANT

47.4K 8.6M

436K 663K Hip-Hop/Rap
CKay, Stormzy 2048 LLC

Saint Levant is a Palestinian/French artist born in Jerusalem and based in Los Angeles. Raised in Gaza and then Amman, he seamlessly fuses French, Arabic and English into his music, creating an exciting global pop sound that goes way beyond the limits of genre. Drawing inspiration from influential Arab thinkers from generations past and contemporary artists alike, Saint Levant's music is nostalgic yet intensely forward thinking.

Photo by management ©2022

ICON KEY

YouTube

Spotify

Instagram

TikTok

Genre

Similar Artists

Label

2

HEMLOCKE SPRINGS

37.5K 1.4M

83K 288.5K Alternative, Pop Kacey Musgraves, Ingrid Andress Independent

An ode to the '80s, hemlocke springs is making pop quirky again with her newest single "Girlfriend," the retro-style love song that TikTok is already obsessed with. hemlocke springs created her alias with the help of a random name generator (the 'e' in "hemlocke" was Lorde-inspired). The songstress was awarded Best New Artist by Pigeons & Planes with only one single out, garnering over one million streams, and receiving a cosign from Bella Hadid and Grimes. She sings about a love she has yet to taste, and gives a new meaning to the music. She is definitely breaking the normality of the music world. Photo by Michelle Li ©2022

"TikTok sensation Hemlocke Springs is your next DIY pop obsession"
—*Alternative Press Magazine*

3 EDBL

7.6K 543 R&B/Soul
Mac Miller, Tom Misch
edbl recordings

Singer-songwriter, producer and guitarist, edbl, is on track to become one of the UK's most prolific collaborators. With spins from BBC Radio 1Xtra's Jamz Supernova and BBC Radio 2's Jo Whiley, as well as a guest mix for BBC Introducing London, edbl has built a name for himself as one to watch. With roots as a session musician, Ed strives to keep his sound as live as possible. Aside from drums, everything you hear on a track—from the keys and the guitar to the trumpet—will be live instruments. The result is a free-flowing pool of textured sounds, each collaboration teeming with natural synergy.

Photo by Peter Watts ©2022

6.95K 687K



4

BEN SAMAMA

▶ N/A 🎧 641K

📷 2.4K 🎵 N/A 🎧 Electronic 🎧 Tiësto, ATB 🎧 4thCompany Management

Based in Los Angeles, CA, SAMAMA is a Grammy-nominated songwriter/producer. His strengths lie in his songwriting, vocal production and incredible pop sensibilities. A tireless worker, he has 2 songs currently going to pop radio, as well as songs on Spotify's Global, USA & UK Top 50, multiple New Music Fridays, and has hit #1 in multiple countries. SAMAMA (aka Ben Samama) is actively working with the producers and writers behind many of the top acts you hear on pop radio. Responsible for over 1 Billion plays, SAMAMA is quickly developing into a force to be reckoned with in pop songwriting. Photo provided by management ©2022

5 GINGE

📷 3.3K 🎵 N/A 🎧 R&B, Pop

👤 Snoh Aalegra, Joy Crookes

🎧 Gillionaires

GINGE aka Renée, has a voice that is sultry and sharp, making her sound both sweet and spicy. Inspired by artists like Joy Crookes, IYAMAH, and Snoh Aalegra, she writes songs that are a mixture of R&B, Pop, and Neo-soul. GINGE recently hit 7M streams on her catalog. On top of that, she made her national radio debut in 2021 and has performed multiple times on 3FM. Her songs are in rotation on several radio stations in the Netherlands and the UK. GINGE is working hard on her upcoming EP that will be released in 2022 and hopes to inspire her fans with her positive vibes and creativity in music. Photo by Ashwin Somer ©2022

📺 N/A 🎧 281K





6 PILLBOX PATTI

📷 5.6K 🎵 4K 🎧 Country
👤 Ashley McBryde, Miranda Lambert
🎵 Monument Records

No one puts Patti in a corner. After years of writing for other artists, including Ashley McBryde’s “One Night Standards,” award-winning songwriter Nicolette Hayford finally gets to be the artist she’s wanted to be for years. After ten years of being in a box, she ventured off with her tribe of writers and entered metamorphosis, emerging as Pillbox Patti with a project and tone that captures everything she wants to convey. It’s a fresh authentic take on growing up in her country crystallized through the lens of a Florida native delivering her youth and adulthood in an honest, spirited; not always pretty package. Whether or not her sound is for you, it’ll be impossible to box Pillbox Patti in after you’ve listened to her debut project, “Florida.”

Photo by Alexa Kinigopoulos ©2022

📺 1.25K 🎧 279K

**ROBERT'S
TOP PICK!**

📺 6.7K 🎧 256K

7 MIA GLADSTONE

📷 24K 🎵 8K 🎧 Pop
👤 Remi Wolf, PawPaw Rod
🎵 PINK BOX STUDIOS!

Growth has long been the mindset of singer/songwriter/producer MIA GLADSTONE and she wants it to be yours, too. A vegan icon and radical purveyor of self-love by day, the precocious youth moonlights as a true musical triple threat. Late in 2019, Mia released her debut EP ‘GROW’ which has garnered millions of streams and press support from *Paper* magazine, *Hunger* magazine, and *COOLS*. This past year, Gladstone performed a forty-five minute set at the Okeechobee Music & Arts Festival in Sunshine Grove, Florida. She released her first studio LP and third studio project overall *LOOPY* in early October. The album featured eleven tracks, with all but two featuring other artists.

Photo by Anna Koblisch ©2022



“GLADSTONE has cultivated her sound, utilized her break, and is returning to her own music stronger than ever.”
—FLAUNT

8 NINA COBHAM

4.46K 236K

10.8K 910 R&B/Soul, Pop

Jessie Reyez, Billie Eilish AWAL

Fusing English with the Spanish that she grew up speaking in her formative years in a small mountain town absorbing the country's rich lexicon and culture, 21-year-old Nina Cobham's broad-reaching, bilingual storytelling feels like a natural next step for UK alternative pop. This past year, she released her soothing new single, "What Is This?" Nina explains that it's about seeing someone while they're also seeing someone else, not having the patience for casual dating or willing to go through trial and error. It's about wanting something more meaningful and knowing you don't have to force that with someone who's meant to be there. With more music arriving soon, Nina's broad-reaching bilingual storytelling feels like the natural next step for UK alternative pop. Photo by Sophia J. Carey ©2023

“Psychedelic
and soulful, dazzling
and immersive”

—*Atwood
Magazine*

**JENNIFER'S
TOP PICK!**

9 SAY SHE SHE

▶ 685

🎧 212K



📷 10.6K 🎵 N/A 🎧 R&B/Soul,Pop 🎧 The Three Degrees, Bananarama 🎧 Colemine Records

The female-led discodelic soul band Say She She—named as a silent nod to Nile Rodgers—will transport you with their dreamy harmonies, catchy hooks and up-tempo grooves. Their debut album *Prism* was released this fall and earned raves from *NPR New Music Friday*, *Wax Poetics*, *Ones To Watch*, *Brooklyn Magazine*, *The Talkhouse* and key live performances with *Paste* and *WNYC Soundcheck*. Their live show injects funk and pop with a heavy dose of dance and disco beats and a wide range of inspirations: Indian legend Asha Puthli, David Macuso’s loft parties, Turkish funk, Rotary Club, Stax soul groups and more, carving their own corner and coining their own crate of discodelic soul. Photo by Kaelan Barowsky ©2022

10 KINDER

📷 17K 🎵 N/A 🎶 Dance/Electronic

👤 Sofi Tukker, PNAU 🎵 Warner Music

Kinder is the music project of sisters Briony and Savannah from the very small town of Maitland, Australia. The duo has toured live alongside the likes of Marshmello, RL Grime, NGHTMRE, Alison Wonderland and PNAU as well as playing slots at Australian festivals like Splendour in the Grass, Groovin The Moo and Spilt Milk. This past November, Kinder released their EP, "Akwaaba," via Warner Music Australia. "Akwaaba" follows the release of the four-track EP "Yenko" which was defined by generosity of spirit that's imbued with some kind of sisterly magic.

Photo by Leo Harunah ©2023

📺 640 🎧 169K





11 FIG

📷 4.5K 🎵 1.4K 🎧 Pop

📍 The Japanese House, Cannons

👤 Cob Stand LLC

Indie Pop/R&B singer FIG turns everyday activities and emotions into upbeat tunes and sob ballads. The NYC-based Malaysian artist began making music in high school, writing and recording snippets to share on social media when she was feeling alone. It wasn't long before she started writing full songs, which she would design cover artwork for, while directing and editing music videos to accompany them.

Photo by Caroline Xia ©2022

📺 2.5K 📶 105K

📺 2.75K 📶 101K

12 JULIAN TAYLOR

📷 6360K 🎵 N/A 🎧 Rock/Folk

📍 Eddie Vedder, Neil Diamond

👤 Howling Turtle, Inc

Toronto-based singer-songwriter Julian Taylor has been part of the musical fabric and landscape in Canada for over two decades. His second solo album *The Ridge* earned praise from press worldwide and airplay from America to Australia to the U.K. His latest album, *Beyond the Reservoir* addresses identity, loss, hope, and redemption. The themes of resilience, courage, and strength are prevalent in every carefully-chosen lyric. Photo by Lisa Macintosh ©2022



“Taylor is a unique and important voice on the Canadian roots-and-folk scene.”

—Brad Wheeler,
The Globe and Mail



JULIA'S
TOP PICK!

13 GRACE GARDNER

210 69K

3K 28.3K Alternative/Indie/Folk Ethel Cain, Genevieve Stokes Imperial

A self-proclaimed indie-pop cowgirl, Grace Gardner uses bright instrumentals and punchy lyricism to create music at the rallying point of being emotional, confused, and sparkly. Born and raised in Coppell, Texas, she takes inspiration from country artists as well as her mother's indie-alternative lean and her father's taste for 80's pop. Along with being a singer, songwriter, and instrumentalist, Grace is also a producer, music educator, and arranger. Photo provided by Kalista Tamez ©2022



14 NATALIE RED



1.4K 54.5K

1.6K 2.3K Pop Willow Kayne, Babebee Independent

Born in Estonia, raised in Finland and currently based in London, Natalie Red is a producer, writer and artist whose nomadic background gives influence to her uniquely fresh sound. Blending sounds across UK electronic and pop, US trap, Hip-Hop, and R&B, she is a gifted producer with a true ability to write uptempo, super catchy tracks that will earworm into your mind within seconds. Photo provided by management ©2022



15 POM POKO

2K 30K

8.1K N/A Alternative
Deerhoof, illuminati hotties
Bella Union

Norway's freewheeling Pom Poko combine their jazz training and experimental leanings into music that's equally sugary and explosive. Named after a film by Japanese animation powerhouse Studio Ghibli, Pom Poko consists of Ragnhild Fangel Jamtveit (vocals), Martin Miguel Almagro Tonne (guitar), Ola Djupvik (drums), and Jonas Krøvel (bass). Tonne, Djupvik, and Krøvel met while studying at the Trondheim Music Conservatory and initially aspired to be a noise punk trio.

Photo by Jenny Berger Myhre ©2020



16 THE WILDWOODS

📸 153K 🎵 48.5K 🎧 Folk, Alternative
📍 The Decemberists, Of Monsters and Men
📌 Independent

The Wildwoods are an enchanting Folk/Americana trio based in Lincoln, Nebraska, whose flowing songwriting has been praised by *Paste Magazine* as “focused and charmingly human”. Their delicate melodies and descriptive lyrics come from nature, love, experiences from the road, and growing up in Nebraska. Their debut album, *Sweet Nostalgia* and duo EP, “Birdie & Goose,” established them as a force in their local music scene. Their forthcoming album *Foxfield St. John* is set for release in February 2023.

Photo by Joseph Rathe ©2022

📸 3.4K 🎧 22K





17 DESURE

▶ 472

🎧 12.5K

📍 7K 🎵 78 🎸 Alternative 🎧 Band of Horses, Lord Huron 🎧 Range Music Partners

Desure fuses indie alternative songwriting, cinematic pop hooks, and plenty of atmospheric nostalgia into a space between genres. He's earned praise from Rolling Stone for an ever-evolving sound that nods to "the anything-goes vibe of his Los Angeles upbringing." This vibe includes 808 drum machines, vintage synthesizers, organic instruments, and sharply-written hooks as anchors. Playing a role in his latest EP "Still Blue" are a number of collaborators, including Jonathan Tyler, Cameron Duddy, outlaw country vocalist Nikki Lane, and producer/chart-topping songwriter Joe Janiak. "Still Blue" is an autobiographical record that mixes its old-school nostalgia with a modern emphasis on adventurous arrangements. Photo by Tom Bender ©2022

18 MAUVEY

📷 5K 🎧 1261 🎵 Alternative

👤 The Weeknd, KennyHoopla

🎧 604 Records

Behind a chic mauve aesthetic and a larger-than-life personality is the man that is Mauvey—Ghanaian born and U.K. and Vancouver, Canada raised artist and song writer. Listeners flock around the alt-pop rising star because of his musical idiosyncrasy, yet his music and character hold a certain “je ne sais quoi” that is irresistible. To date, Mauvey’s work has garnered critical acclaim from the likes of BBC Music *Introducing*, BBC Radio 1, BBC 6 Music, *Exclaim!*, *Complex*, *Range Magazine*, *Selector Radio*, and *The Block CBC*. His themes are not always black and white, at times, they’re a bit Mauvey.

Photo by Bree Laryea ©2022

🎥 492 🎧 8K

“Mauvey blossoms into a passionate artist worth keeping on your radar”
—Earmilk





19 ROZZZQWEEN

📷 2.8K 🎵 1.4K 🎧 R&B/Soul
🔗 Erykah Badu, Amy Winehouse
📍 Independent

Birmingham born ROZZZQWEEN, the brummy extraordinaire who now resides in London, is the fresh sound you didn't know you needed to hear! Uniqueness and authenticity is evident in every single song. Her raspy quirky tone is incredibly powerful, and combined with sassy, clever lyrics, ROZZZQWEEN really stands out. Following her Birmingham Music Award nomination she is definitely the rising star to watch.

Photo provided by management ©2022

📺 183 🎧 2.3K

📺 N/A 🎧 1.9K

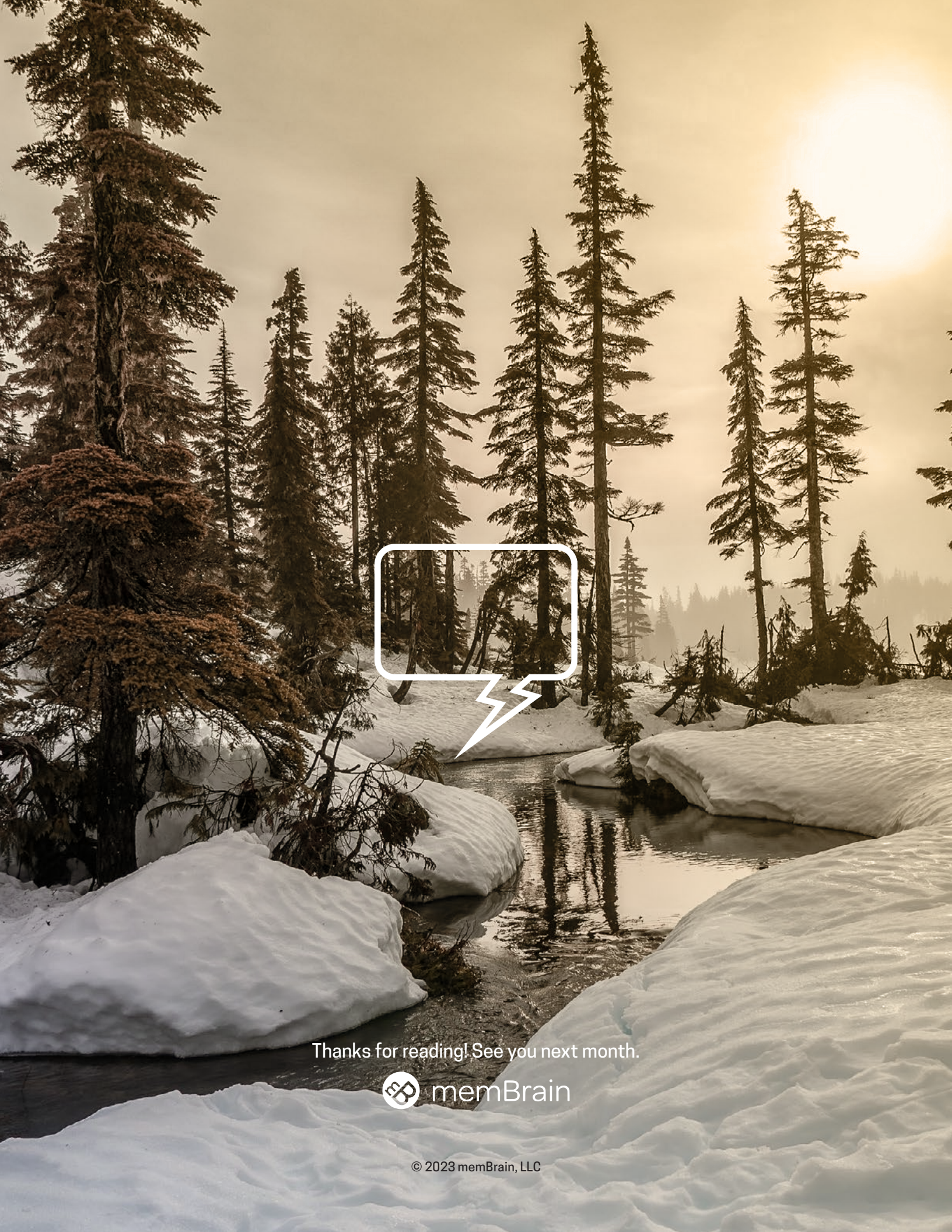
20 APHTY KHÉA

📷 1.19 🎵 N/A 🎧 Dance/Electronic
🔗 Sade, Little Dragon
📍 squareglass

Greek-British electronic producer, singer, composer, multi-instrumentalist, and DIY visual artist Aphty Khéa, innovatively blends warm, blissful, driving electronica with soulful melodies and captivating vocal harmonies. Using a mixture of chopped, pasted and edited samples, Aphty surgically dissects every sound they make including synths, piano, percussion, whilst sampling every single vocal style available.

Photo by Teresa CG ©2022





Thanks for reading! See you next month.



memBrain