

Your Monthly
Music Forecast!

Here Comes the Sun: A Bright
Future for Music Festivals 2023

Bayanni
Emei
Layto
Balming Tiger
...and more!

 memBrain

STORM REPORT

ISSUE NO. 88
MARCH/
APRIL 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 EYE OF THE STORM

*Here Comes the Sun:
A Bright Future for Music Festivals 2023*

6 STORM TRACKER

*Charli XCX, Japanese Breakfast,
AND Shygirl*

7 STORM FORECAST

*Record Store Day, Met Gala, Eurovision
Song Contest, Cannes Film Festival*

8 STORM WARNING

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

PLAYLISTS

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



ON THE COVER

Hanni of NewJeans. Photo by ADOR ©2023

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.

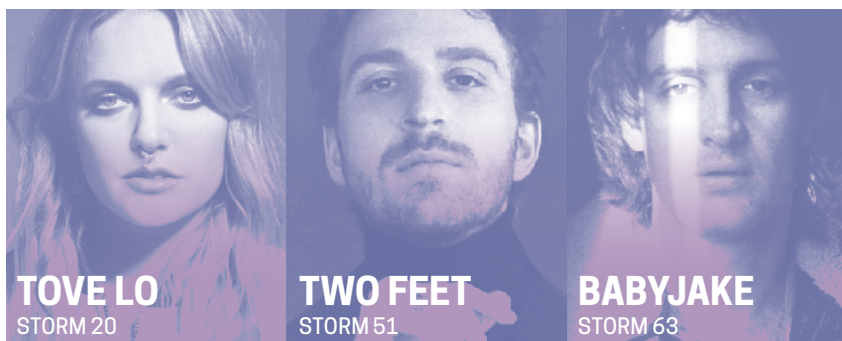
How do we rank?

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

As the days grow longer and the sun shines brighter, we eagerly welcome you to the latest edition of The STORM Report. Our team is thrilled to bring you an in-depth look at the most anticipated music festivals around the globe in 2023. Get ready for a sonic adventure like never before!

In this special issue, we have curated a comprehensive guide to the best music festivals happening this year. From the scorching deserts of Coachella to the mystical fields of Glastonbury, we’ve got you covered.

We’re proud to showcase some of the incredible artists previously featured in The STORM Report who are now gracing the stages of these prestigious events. As you flip through the pages, you’ll discover emerging talents and iconic legends performing side by side.

As always, The STORM Report is committed to being your trusted source for all things music. We are beyond grateful for your unwavering support and passion for our magazine. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your musical journey, and we can’t wait to see you out there, dancing under the stars and singing along to your favorite tunes.

Let the music guide you!



Jennifer Sullivan
President, memBrain
Editor-in-Chief, The STORM Report

STORM STAFF

Jennifer Sullivan
Editor-in-Chief

Grace Slansky
Writer/Research

Emma Heard
Julia Ross
Ava Blanchette
Research

Robert Roxby
Designer

HERE COMES THE SUN: *A Bright Future for Music Festivals 2023*

By Jennifer Sullivan and Grace Slansky

Coachella, Life is Beautiful, Bonnaroo, Lollapalooza, Stagecoach...

It is with great pleasure that we say the list goes on and on, because music festivals are officially back in full force! Without harping on the difficulties faced by live entertainment the past several years, we would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge the massive milestone that is having a full year of festival lineups! While last year served as an experiment to begin a return to normalcy, this year brings unbridled excitement and all-star lineups!

As a unique opportunity for people to come together and celebrate their love of music and art in a communal setting, music festivals have an important place in pop culture. Now, with a full-out return, music festivals will be more than just a chance to see your favorite artists perform live; they will also serve as a much-needed opportunity for in-person gathering, community building, and cultural advancement. As we emerge from a time of physical separation and social isolation, music festivals will be a space where people can come together and reconnect, forming new friendships, creating new memories, and celebrating their shared love of music and art.

Beyond the benefits of in-person gathering, music festivals offer a wide range of additional benefits to attendees. They provide a platform for emerging and established artists to showcase their talents and reach new audiences. They also offer an opportunity for festival-goers to discover new artists, broaden their musical

horizons, and immerse themselves in new and exciting sounds. In addition, music festivals often incorporate other forms of art, such as dance, theater, and visual art, creating a multi-dimensional experience that engages all of the senses. From rock and pop to electronic and hip-hop, this year brings an inclusive and diverse approach to live performance, offering something for everyone.

In 2023, music festivals have taken on even greater importance for artists, fans, and cities around the world, serving as a testament to the resilience and adaptability of the music industry. For artists, festivals provide a unique platform to reach wider audiences and network with other professionals, fostering collaboration and creative growth. Fans, eager to reconnect with live music experiences, benefit from the opportunity to discover new talent and celebrate their favorite artists in a shared, communal atmosphere. Cities hosting these events benefit from increased tourism, economic growth, and the promotion of local culture, as music festivals often incorporate regional elements, creating a symbiotic relationship between the event and its host city.

Music festivals continue to play a crucial role in shaping the global music landscape, fostering connections, and promoting cross-cultural exchange. From the biggest names in festivals to smaller indie productions, this year's festival season is sure to bring enthusiasm and evolution to the music community.

BIG PLAYERS

Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, April 14-16; April 21-23, (United States): Held annually in Indio, California, this festival showcases a diverse lineup of popular music acts, visual arts, and installations.

STORM Alumni Highlights: Kaytranada (STORM 38), Sofi Tukker (STORM 50), Kali Uchis (STORM 25), Porter Robinson (STORM 17)

Glastonbury Festival, June 21-25 (United Kingdom): As one of the largest greenfield music and performing arts festivals in the world, Glastonbury takes place in Somerset, England, featuring a variety of genres and performances.

STORM Alumni Highlights: Lizzo (STORM 45), Joey Bada\$\$ (STORM 24), Jacob Collier (STORM 46), RAYE (STORM 56), Young Fathers (STORM 23)

Tomorrowland, July 21-23; 28-30 (Belgium): This electronic dance music festival held in Boom, Belgium, is known for its impressive stage designs, extensive lineup of top DJs, and an immersive experience for attendees.

STORM Alumni Highlights: The Chainsmokers (STORM 14), ALOK (STORM 53), Martin Garrix (STORM 11), Nora En Pure (STORM 35)

Primavera Sound, June 1-3 (Spain): Held in Barcelona, this festival offers an eclectic mix of indie, electronic, and alternative music acts, drawing visitors from around the globe. They also offer Madrid and Porto festivals!

STORM Alumni Highlights: Halsey (STORM 28), Caroline Polachek (STORM 68), Fred Aguin. (STORM 70), St. Vincent (STORM 16), Japanese Breakfast (STORM 62)

Lollapalooza, August 3-6 (Chicago): With its roots in the United States, Lollapalooza has expanded to multiple locations around the world, featuring a diverse lineup of genres, including rock, hip-hop, and electronic music. With four epic days in Chicago, this is a widely attended extravaganza.

STORM Alumni Highlights: Billie Eilish (STORM 41), Noah Kahan (STORM 49), Sudan Archives (STORM 53), Portugal. The Man (STORM 13), Maggie Rogers (STORM 49)

Fuji Rock Festival, July 28-30 (Japan): Set amidst the picturesque mountains of Naeba, Japan, this festival showcases a mix of international and Japanese artists, along with art installations and environmental initiatives.

STORM Alumni Highlights: Lewis Capaldi (STORM 65), Dermot Kennedy (STORM 56), Gryffin (STORM 35)

Sziget Festival, July 28-30 (Hungary): This week-long festival on an island in Budapest features a wide range of music genres, art installations, and cultural activities, drawing visitors from all over Europe.

STORM Alumni Highlights: Sam Fender (STORM 50), Yungblood (STORM 50), Bonobo (STORM 41), Arlo Parks (STORM 71), Two Feet (STORM 51)

INDIE DARLINGS

Smaller, independent music festivals serve as crucial platforms for emerging artists, often providing opportunities that can be even more valuable than those offered by larger festivals.

In these intimate settings, up-and-coming musicians have the chance to showcase their talent and connect directly with their audience, forging personal connections and fostering a sense of community. With fewer acts competing for attention, these artists can enjoy greater exposure and a more focused spotlight, which is particularly important in the early stages of their careers. Furthermore, independent festivals are more likely to feature a diverse range of genres and styles, creating a breeding ground for experimentation and collaboration. This inclusive atmosphere not only encourages artistic growth but also opens doors to new fans and networks that can propel emerging talents into the limelight.

Not all of the lineups have been announced, but we are sure that STORM alumni will be out in full force. And our team will be watching these events closely for future STORM Report inductees!

Lightning in a Bottle, May 24-29 (United States): This California-based festival emphasizes the fusion of music, art, and culture. Lightning in a Bottle offers an eclectic mix of electronic, indie, and world music acts, along with workshops, art installations, and wellness activities in a vibrant, immersive setting.

Roskilde Festival, June 24-July 1 (Denmark): As one of the largest music festivals in Northern Europe, Roskilde showcases a wide range of artists and genres, with a focus on promoting social and environmental causes.

Montreux Jazz Festival, June 30-July 15 (Switzerland): Though it began as a jazz-focused event, this festival now features a diverse lineup of artists from various genres, attracting music lovers from around the world.

Exit Festival, July 6-9 (Serbia): Held at the Petrovaradin Fortress in Novi Sad, Exit Festival is known for its stunning location and diverse lineup. The festival showcases a mix of electronic, rock, and world music acts, attracting visitors from around the globe.

Pitchfork Music Festival, July 21-23 (United States):

Organized by the online music publication Pitchfork, this Chicago-based festival showcases a mix of established and emerging indie, alternative, and electronic acts.

Splendour in the Grass, July 21-23 (Australia):

This popular festival in Byron Bay features a diverse lineup of local and international acts, covering genres like indie, electronic, and hip-hop. In addition to music, Splendour in the Grass offers art installations, workshops, and a range of food and drink options, all set in a beautiful, natural environment.

Shambala Festival, July 21-24 (United Kingdom):

This independent festival in Northamptonshire is known for its inclusive atmosphere, eclectic music lineup, and commitment to environmental sustainability.

Meredith Music Festival, December 8-10 (Australia):

This iconic Australian festival takes place in Victoria and features a curated lineup of indie, rock, and electronic acts, with an emphasis on local and emerging talent.

Øya Festival, August 8-12 (Norway):

Held in Oslo, Øya Festival presents a diverse lineup of local and international artists from various genres, with an emphasis on sustainability and eco-friendly practices.

Iceland Airwaves, November 2-4 (Iceland):

This festival takes place in Reykjavik and showcases a mix of established and emerging international and Icelandic artists, with a focus on indie and alternative music.

FESTIVALS OF THE FUTURE

While music remains at the heart of festival-going, events of all shapes and sizes are increasingly becoming immersive experiences that leverage cutting-edge technology to create unique and unforgettable moments. The methods vary, but universally, technology is allowing for a more immersive experience and a broader reach.

Using augmented and virtual reality (AR/VR) technologies, festivals are able to enhance live performances with immersive visuals, bringing a new level of engagement to the audience. In addition, AR and VR technologies are being used to create interactive experiences and installations that allow festival-goers to engage with art and music in new ways. For example, Tomorrowland's virtual festival, "Tomorrowland Around the World," which took place during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowed fans to attend the festival from the comfort of their own homes through an immersive virtual reality platform.

Taking this even further, holographic performances and AI-driven experiences are pushing the boundaries of what is possible at music festivals. Holographic technology is being used to revive past artists, such as the lifelike hologram of Tupac Shakur that appeared at Coachella in 2012. AI technology is being used to create customized and personalized experiences for festival-goers, such as the AI-driven DJ system developed by researchers at Pompeu Fabra University that adapts its performance in real-time based on audience reactions and preferences.

With that same goal of reaching more fans with more engaging material, live streaming has been a game-changer for music festivals, allowing organizers to expand their reach to global audiences. Streaming platforms like YouTube and Twitch are used to engage remote audiences, and collaborations with streaming services have led to the creation of exclusive content for fans. Travis Scott's "Astronomical" concert in Fortnite was a groundbreaking example of how live streaming and gaming can be combined to create a new type of music experience.

It's not just the viewing experience that has evolved, but the actual interactions on festival grounds. Wearable technology like smart wristbands and mobile apps are being used to streamline payment, access control, and audience engagement at music festivals. RFID wristbands, for example, are used by festivals like Coachella to provide seamless event entry and payment, while real-time analytics are used to manage crowd control and safety.

Festivals are also becoming more eco-friendly through the use of sustainable technologies. Energy-efficient stages and infrastructure, waste management solutions, and solar-powered charging stations are all being used to reduce the environmental impact of festivals. Glastonbury Festival, for example, has long been committed to environmental sustainability and green initiatives, including a ban on single-use plastics.

From the technology that is rapidly transforming music festivals—creating new and exciting possibilities for immersive experiences, global accessibility, sustainability, and personalized engagement—to the growing number of platforms for artists, the festival season serves as an important moment in music history, demonstrating trends and fostering community.

As we look forward to the 2023 festival season, we can expect to continue to push the boundaries of what is possible at music festivals. From launching careers, to showcasing diverse talents, and ultimately celebrating the unifying power of music, we're thrilled to watch the evolution, whether it's via livestream or among the cheering crowd.

For more information about us, visit memBrainllc.com.



STORM TRACKER

Tracking Our STORM Report Alumni!

CHECK OUT

this issue's carefully curated playlists by clicking below:



CHARLI XCX
(STORM No. 10)

Charli XCX and Jack Antonoff have signed on to write music for the upcoming film *Mother Mary*. The A24-produced film stars Anne Hathaway as a fictional musician and explores her relationship with Michaela Coel, who plays a fashion designer. XCX and Antonoff will compose original songs for the film presumably for Hathaway's character.



JAPANESE BREAKFAST
(STORM No. 62)

The best-selling (and heartbreaking) memoir *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner, better known as indie rocker **Japanese Breakfast**, will be made into a movie under the direction of *The White Lotus* actor, Will Sharpe. Zauner will write the script based on her memoir, which details her early years in Oregon, her time with her grandmother in Seoul, how she met her husband, and of course, her musical career.



SHYGIRL
(STORM No. 78)

Shygirl has released a new remix for her track "Woe" with the help of Björk. Björk's reinterpretation, titled "Woe (I See It from Your Side)," will appear on *Nymph_o*, the deluxe edition of Shygirl's 2022 album *Nymph*.

STORM FORECAST

Events And Happenings For Your Radar

RECORD STORE DAY

April 22, 2023
Worldwide

Record Store Day, which began in 2007, is an annual event that takes place on one Saturday in April and one Black Friday in November to “celebrate the tradition of the independently-owned record store.” The day brings together fans, musicians, and thousands of independently-owned brick-and-mortar record stores around the world.

MET GALA

May 1, 2023
New York, NY

The Met Gala, formerly known as the Costume Institute Gala or the Costume Institute Benefit, is an annual fundraising gala held in New York City to benefit the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The event attracts celebrities, young creatives, and industry titans. The theme of the 2023 Met Gala will be ‘Karl Lagerfeld: A Line of Beauty’ to honor Karl Lagerfeld, who was a regular attendee.

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

May 9-13, 2023
Liverpool, UK

The Eurovision Song Contest is an annual international singing competition. Since 1956 it has been known for elaborate performances, over-the-top costumes, and its unique scoring system, which combines both professional juries and public votes. Each country submits a song and artist to represent them, which is performed live during the contest. ABBA, Celine Dion, Julio Iglesias, Cliff Richard and Olivia Newton-John have been just a few of the best-selling music artists in the world have competed, and some of the world’s best-selling singles have received their first international performance on the Eurovision stage.

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

May 16-27, 2023
Cannes, France

The 76th annual Cannes Film Festival is an annual film festival held in Cannes, France, which previews new films of all genres, including documentaries, from all around the world. The festival attracts filmmakers, industry experts, and celebrities and is famed for its prestigious Palme d’Or prize.

HANGOUT MUSIC FESTIVAL

May 19-21, 2023
Gulf Shores, AL

Hangout is a three day festival on the white sand beaches of Gulf Shores, AL. It’s a place to gather your group of friends, throw on your favorite bathing suit and hit the beach for some sun, fun, and a great time. This years headliners include SZA, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Paramore, and more, so you definitely do not want to experience this festival.



STORM WARNING

The 20 Artists On Our Radar

ICON KEY

▶ YouTube

🎧 Spotify

📷 Instagram

📺 TikTok

🎵 Genre

👤 Similar Artists

🏷️ Label

1 BAYANNI

📷 391K 📺 192.5K 🎵 Afrobeat
👤 Popcaan, Wizkid
🏷️ Mavin Records

Nigerian singer Bayanni, born Oladokun Abimbola Elijah, was introduced to music at an early age, encouraged to experiment with instruments in church. From there he learned to blend Afrobeat with his silver-toned voice, honing his signature sound. Aiming to use his music as a tool for change, Bayanni deftly balances important subject matters with entertaining and catchy beats, ultimately bringing Afrobeat as a genre to the mainstream conversation.

Photo provided by management ©2023

▶ 6.91K 🎧 1.7M



“Bombastic breakout star Emei imbues the full force of her songwriting prowess...”
—Atwood Magazine

2 EMEI

- 📷 137K 🎵 187.9K
- 🎵 Alternative Pop
- 🎧 Melanie Martinez, Halsey
- 🎧 Independent

With dripping vocals, colorful lyrics, and slicing wit, viral art-pop artist Emei has rapidly built up a fan base over the past year. Emei, pronounced eh-may, radiates on stage, inviting audiences into her world, leading them with hyper-relatable musings on young adult life.

Photo by Lindsey Ruth ©2023

🎥 8.65K 🎧 1.1M



44.5K 1.1M

3 LAYTO

GRACE'S TOP PICK!

21.9K 397 Alternative, Pop Imagine Dragons, grandson Position Music

Born and raised in Boston, Layto turned to music in the midst of family turmoil and dysfunction, eventually turning it into his escape and outlet. Layto independently released his debut 'Low Boy' EP in 2018 that featured the single "Little Poor Me" which has 75M+ Global streams, showcasing his intensity to both his writing style and delivery, blending alt rock, pop, and hip hop elements. Photo provided by management ©2023

105.8K 31.2K Alternative Odd Future, N.E.R.D. Sony Music

Winners of the 2023 Grulke Prize for Developing Non-US Act, Balming Tiger are a self-described alternative K-Pop collective from Seoul, South Korea. Previous winners of the Grulke prize have included Haim, Anderson.Paak, Spoon, and The Flaming Lips, so Balming Tiger are in very good company! Taking their name from the ointment "Tiger Balm," the group's creative vision is to reflect and represent the younger generation of today's society, while aiming to popularize Asian culture throughout the world. They exploded in popularity in 2022 when BTS member RM joined their track "Sexy Nukim" last year. This year's single "Trust Yourself" is an anthemic banger that gives us high hopes for the group's upcoming debut album. Photo by Nikolai Ahn ©2023

4 BALMING TIGER 175K 947K



"Alt K-Pop Collective Balming Tiger Proudly Represents Korea's Rising Subculture Movement" —Rolling Stone

JENNIFER'S TOP PICK!

5 DEBBIE

📷 22K 🎵 15.3K 🎧 R&B, Hip-Hop

🎧 Ama Lou, Jorja Smith

🎧 Universal

Rising soul star Debbie crafts music that is full of sincere reflections on life and love, driven by a deep desire to create music fueled by truth. Her small but mighty collection of satin R&B songs have garnered impressive success from co-writing credits to TV appearances, not to mention loyal fans along the way.

Photo by Danika Magdalena ©2022





6 ELLA JANE

📷 45K 🎵 195.5K 🎧 Pop 🎧 Lorde, Olivia Rodrigo 🎧 FADER Label

With a creative practice built around her lifelong process of writing in the margins, Ella Jane has compiled years of annotations and uses them as influence for her music, taking cultural notes and collected stories and turning them into personal works. Using songwriting as a way to understand her own life she has created a body of work that encompasses the turmoil of coming-of-age, and all the identity-affirming head rushes that came with it, combining her pop sensibilities with the influence of her alt-rock heroes. Photo by Maddy Rotman ©2023

🎥 8.3K 🎧 543K

7 BUDJERAH

▶ 4.81K 🎧 530.5K



“There’s a reason we named him GQ’s Breakthrough Musician of the Year.”

—GQ Australia

📷 32.8K 🎵 14.8K 🎧 R&B, Pop 🎧 Stephen Sanchez, Ed Sheeran 🎧 Warner Music

ARIA award-winning Coodjinburra artist Budjerah is pushing the limits vocally and sonically, leaning into an R&B/pop crossover that serves as an ambitious emotional sucker-punch. With two EPs to his name, Budjerah continues to explore a sound that is both fresh and familiar, a reflection of his ambition and timeless artistry, continuing his career momentum with new releases and performances in some of his biggest venues to date as support on Ed Sheeran’s Australian stadium tour. Photo provided by management ©2023

📷 14.2K 🎵 68.8K 🎧 Indie/Folk 🎧 Bon Iver, Sigur Rós 🎧 Independent

The indie/folk project of Alec Duckart, a Pacific Northwest singer-songwriter and guitarist, Searows lulls listeners with haunting melodies and lilting guitar. With lush vocals and reverb-drenched soundscapes, Searows aims to soothe the most savage listener. Photo by Marlowe Lee ©2023

8 SEAROWS

▶ 2.59K 🎧 482K





9

MADISON McFERRIN

11K 416K

60.8K 24.3K R&B/Soul Charlotte Day Wilson, Solange MADMCFERRIN MUSIC

Vocalist and producer Madison McFerrin is the kind of beloved artist who has fostered a loyal and enthusiastic community of fans. With over a handful of EPs and singles, the 30-year-old singer has solidified a distinct style stuffed with fractal harmonies, claps, breaths, and a *cappella* melodies, complete with inventive structure and hidden gems. Photo by Justin French ©2022

5K 11 Dance/Pop Lykke Li, Robyn Nettwerk Music Group

Mr Little Jeans is the musical alias of Norwegian musician and songwriter Monica Birkenes. Having adopted the moniker from Wes Anderson's 1998 film *Rushmore* MLJ has released two EPs ('Good Mistake' and 'F E V E R S') as well as the debut album *Pocketknife*. After an extended hiatus, MLJ returns with stoic conviction, forging a path of self-empowerment. Photo provided by management ©2023

10

MR LITTLE JEANS

8.75K 313K

11 WEDNESDAY

▶ 3.98K 🎧 249K



📷 18K 🎵 N/A 🎸 Indie Rock/ Shoegaze Country 📺 Soccer Mommy, Suki Waterhouse 🎧 Dead Oceans

Creating songs like quilts with a patchwork of portraits of the American South, Wednesday brings disparate moments together to make sense as a whole. With a focus on storytelling, they tell relatable stories of suburban life with a soundtrack laden with familiarity and ekphrasis, weaving autobiographical, and deeply empathetic music. Photo by Zachary Chick ©2022

📷 15K 🎵 95 🎸 Alternative, Indie-Pop 📺 Channel Tres, NEIL FRANCES 🎧 Independent

Gamblers burst onto the scene in 2020, with their release of *Small World*, which garnered quite the buzz, including praise from outlets like PopMatters and Newsday and landed single airplay on Sirius XM, NPR Music, and WFUV. Frontman Michael McManus's kaleidoscopic pop sensibility serves as a throughline as they navigate soaring harmonies and wistful psychedelia. Using bubblegum pop and upbeat rhythms, they tackle real life issues including mental illness, violence, and personal tragedy, but in a palatable and enjoyable way. Photo by James Morano ©2023

12 GAMBLERS

▶ 987 🎧 242K



13 CONTOUR

6.8K N/A

R&B/Soul, Alternative

River Tiber, Isaia Huron

Touching Bass

South Carolina vocalist and producer Contour brings fans accessible R&B, building up tracks around spare instrumentation and single-tracked vocal melodies. With a throaty inflection, Contour compliments the jazzy sparkle of keyboard synths, lively stand-up basslines, and programmed drum patterns to create a cohesive and unpretentious soundtrack suitable for any situation.

Photo by Gabriel Rivera ©2022

527 182K

14 AVALON EMERSON

EMMA'S
TOP PICK!



7.4K 177K

66K 3.6K Dance/Electronic Octo Octa, Chromatics Another Dove / One House

Avalon Emerson first found her artistic footing DJing at raucous Bay Area warehouse parties, and now stands as one of dance music's most celebrated contemporary figures. After moving to Berlin in 2014, she quickly became a regular behind the decks at the city's famed Berghain, and has since remained a mainstay of the dance music scene. However, determined to evolve artistically, she is now stepping away from the DJ booth altogether to explore an intimate strain of synth-pop inspired by her love of avant-pop auteurs, showcasing her singing voice to the world. Photo by Tonje Thilesen ©2023

"One of the most creative DJs in the game"
—Resident Advisor



15 GEORGE RILEY

911 158K

“George Riley:
the R&B songwriter
and club kid who is
switching on the joy”
—*The Guardian*

8.9K 442

Pop/R&B, Electronic

Janet Jackson, Kelela

PLZ Make It Ruins

George Riley hails from Shepherd’s Bush, West London and brings her signature futuristic take on soul wherever she goes. Infusing the sonics that soundtrack her immediate surroundings, she includes jazz, R&B, trip-hop and electronica, fusing together diverse sounds with her own unmistakable tone. She has woven subtle narratives from underrepresented cultures throughout her output; steadily building an essential discography with a multitude of equally essential messages.

Photo by Siam Coy ©2023

16 HAICH BER NA

1.4K 138K

ROBERT'S
TOP PICK!

4.7K 1.2K
Indie-Pop, Alternative
Blood Orange, Tame Impala
Independent

Originally hailing from the small city of Peterborough, this self-taught musician has roots in rap and grime production, but shifted into the avant-garde in 2017, resulting in his genre-bending experimentalism. Capturing the attention of both underground and mainstream music circles, Haich Ber Na proves to be one of London's most exciting artists with a focus on pushing sonic boundaries and working across disciplines.

Photo by Lucy Alex Mac © 2022



17 CARLA WEHBE

📷 29K 🎵 198.2K 🎧 Pop

🔗 MAY-A, CXLOE 🎧 Warner Music

Leaning into the weird and wonderful, Carla Wehbe is exhilaratingly odd. She brings unconventional visions to fruition that are reminiscent of Bowie and Mercury. Fusing modern pop tunes with an edgy 80s nostalgia, Carla Wehbe transports listeners to a different period, carried by pure pop vocals and retro undertones.

Photo provided by management ©2023

📺 14K 🎧 137.7K

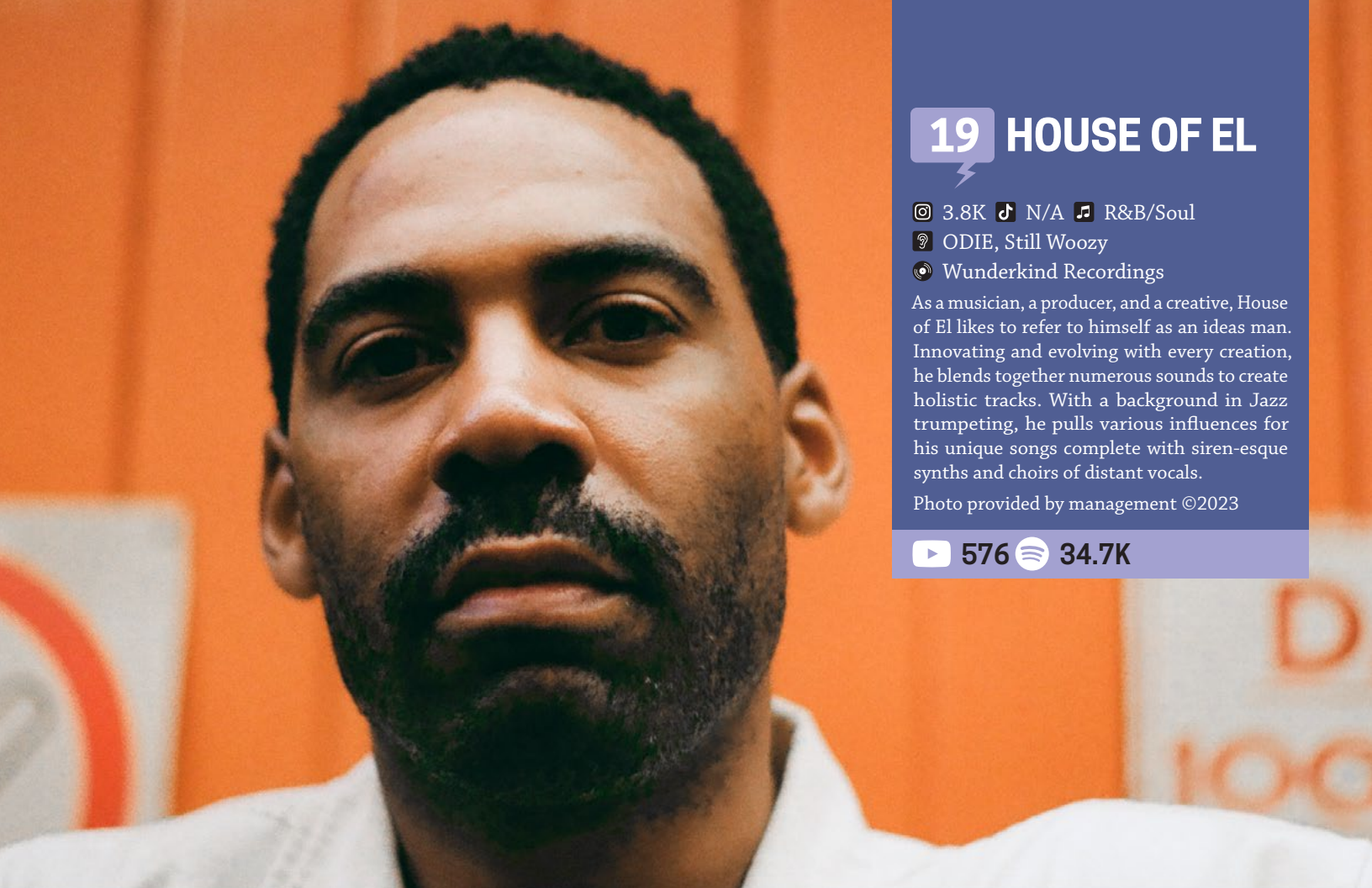


18 TINY HABITS

▶ 3.91K 🎧 113.5K

📷 189K 🎵 280.7K 🎧 Folk, Pop 🎧 Angel Olsen, PJ Harding 🎧 Harbour Artists

Tiny Habits is a Boston-based acoustic, folk-pop trio comprised of performers Maya Rae, Cinya Khan, and Judah Mayowa. The trio's enticing signature sound focuses on three-part harmonies and a charmingly intimate vibe and has propelled them to viral popularity and carries them into this year with an excited debut EP release and a spot on Gracie Abrams' "Good Riddance" Tour in March/April 2023. Photo by Caity Krone ©2022



19 HOUSE OF EL

📷 3.8K 🎵 N/A 🎧 R&B/Soul

📍 ODIE, Still Woozy

🎧 Wunderkind Recordings

As a musician, a producer, and a creative, House of El likes to refer to himself as an ideas man. Innovating and evolving with every creation, he blends together numerous sounds to create holistic tracks. With a background in Jazz trumpeting, he pulls various influences for his unique songs complete with siren-esque synths and choirs of distant vocals.

Photo provided by management ©2023

🎥 576 🎧 34.7K



🎥 192 🎧 31.4K

20 FENNEC

📷 371 🎵 N/A

🎧 Electronic

📍 The Avalanches, Axel Boman

🎧 Independent

Austin-based DJ and producer Fennec creates nostalgic, plunderphonic house music to be enjoyed in both the home and on the dancefloor! As a DJ, Fennec exhibits his crate-digging sensibilities by putting together daring, diverse blends of avant-garde and vintage deep house that are made to elicit a wide range of reaction from the listener, bringing crowds to laughter, tears, and general excitement.

Photo by Jessie Davis ©2022

“Just Make Songs: The Low-Key House-Music Genius of Fennec”
—Rolling Stone

Thanks for reading! See you next month.



© 2023 memBrain, LLC