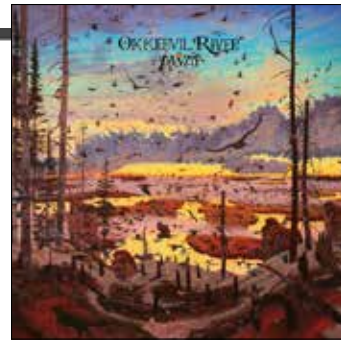




**ALLAH-LA'S  
CALICO REVIEW**  
MEXICAN SUMMER

Where the **Allah-Las** display their insight, and what really shines across the 12 songs that comprise **Calico Review**, is the way that the group has pivoted from specific influences and nods to the music they love, to crafting the feelings of freedom, grit, and melancholy in their music. That feeling – the peerless capture of music long in the tradition and mood of California pop, the sound that's captured the essence of the LA experience – aligns with their stylistic technique and their developments in songwriting and arrangements. "Strange Heat" shows off of the band's knack for restraint. "Famous Phone Figure" cradle character sketches over delicate strains of violin, organ, and Mellotron. "Could Be You" works off a steady percussive gallop, while "Roadside Memorial" applies the Bo Diddley beat to the open road, and the carnival-like atmosphere "200 South La Brea" is LA in a mutant nutshell. Crank it!



**OKKERVIL RIVER  
AWAY**  
ATO RECORDS

"The new **Okkervil River** album is called **Away**. I didn't plan to make it and initially wasn't sure if it was going to be an **Okkervil River** album... I wrote the songs during a confusing time of transition in my personal and professional life and recorded them quickly with a brand new group of musicians. I got together the best New York players I could think of, people whose playing and personalities I was fans of and who came more out of a jazz or avant garde background, and we cut the songs live in one or two takes – trying to keep things as natural and immediate as possible – over three days in a studio on Long Island that hosts the Neve 8068 console which recorded Steely Dan's *Aja* and John Lennon's *Double Fantasy*. It's not really an **Okkervil River** album and it's also my favorite **Okkervil River** album." – Will Sheff



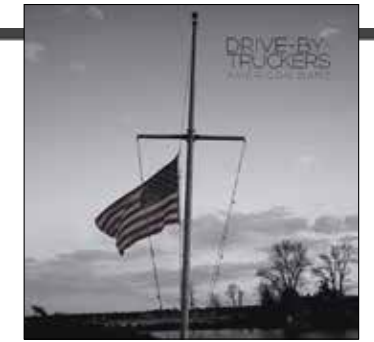
**MNDSGN  
BODY WASH**  
STONES THROW

**Mndsgn** grew up in south New Jersey, raised with Gospel music at church, and B-Boy culture at home. Experimenting with beatmaking, he befriended fellow producer Knwledge and the two formed the influential Klipmode collective. **Body Wash** is a full set of realized songs influenced by the likes of early SOLAR records, Leon Sylvers III, Kashif, and Dave Grusin. These artists, **Mndsgn** says, "embodied that potent feeling in the early 80s boogie/funk/soul/jazz/fusion wave." He adds, "I was also digging back into some early 90s R&B sounds and started really imagining what it would be like if I had mashed the two eras together." He explains **Body Wash** as "a soul record that plays with nostalgic elements in a very dynamic & positive way." There's a loose narrative about a homeless man, a magic body wash, and a love interest – but you'll have to figure that out on your own.



**KT TUNSTALL  
KIN**  
CAROLINE

Two years ago, **KT Tunstall** thought she was done with music: "As an artist I feel like I died," she says. She put her stuff in storage and bought a little house in Venice Beach, California, and enrolled in the Sundance Institute's elite Film Composers Lab. It was a turning point in her life. A year later and **KIN** was born. It has been over ten years since **KT** released her multi-platinum debut, *Eye To The Telescope*, and in **KIN** is its full-bodied and blooded follow up, exemplified by the teaser track "Evil Eye" – a stripped back, primal rock 'n' roll track that seeded the whole record. Produced by Tony Hoffer (Beck, Belle and Sebastian), and written by **KT** in LA, it exemplifies the very best of guitar pop. "This record was very much embracing my dharma as an artist, which is to write happy songs that are also good." Mission accomplished!



**DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS  
AMERICAN BAND**  
ATO RECORDS

A powerful and legitimately provocative work, hard edged and finely honed, **American Band** is the sound of a truly American Band – a Southern American band – speaking on matters that matter. **Drive-By Truckers** made the choice to direct the "Way We Live Now" head on – employing realism rather than subtlety or symbolism to purge its maker's own anger, discontent, and frustration with societal disintegration and the urban/rural divide that has partitioned the country for close to a half-century. Fueled by a just spirit of moral indignation and righteous rage, **American Band** is protest music fit for the stadiums, designed to raise issues and ire as the nation careens towards its most momentous election in a generation. **American Band's** considerable force can in part be credited to the sheer musical strength of the current **Drive-By Truckers** line-up – the longest-lasting iteration in the band's two-decade history. Having two of the best songwriters in *The Game* doesn't hurt either. You need this.

# caroline

## Mixtape

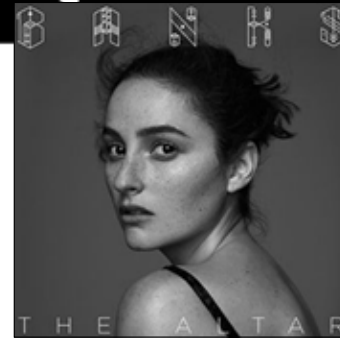


"COMPELLED, BUT NOT DEFEATED  
SURRENDER UNDER PROTEST  
IF YOU MUST" - DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS



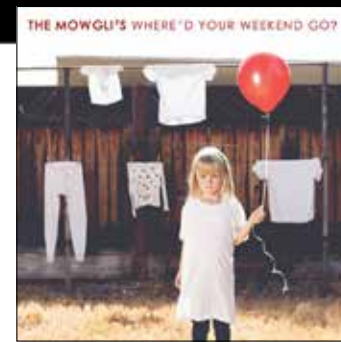
**VAN MORRISON  
KEEP ME SINGING**  
CAROLINE

As early as 1974, the Irish Mystic Soul Legend released an album that declared *It's Too Late to Stop Now*. Almost 40 years later he released another called *Born to Sing: No Plan B*. Ever determined, **Van the Man** is back with **Keep Me Singing** – his 36th studio album. It's a title that feels more like a plea than a declaration, but you wouldn't know it based on the music herein. **Keep Me Singing** consists of 13 tracks - 12 original songs written and performed by **Morrison**, as well as a cover of the blues standard "Share Your Love With Me" - written by Alfred Baggs and Don Robey and previously recorded by artists such as Aretha Franklin and Kenny Rogers. For the track "Every Time I See A River", **Morrison** has collaborated with acclaimed lyricist Don Black. The album's closing track, "Caledonia Swing", is an instrumental featuring **Van** on piano and saxophone.



**BANKS  
THE ALTAR**  
HARVEST

"Tell me what you want from me. I think you need a weaker girl, kinda like the girl I used to be," sings **Banks** on "Weaker Girl," with a voice that is both reflective and self-assured. **The Altar** embodies a new kind of strength for **Banks** – not one that she didn't have before, but that she's now embracing in full. The album, which features collaborations with producers and writers including Tim Anderson, SOHN, DJ Dahi, and Jenna Andrews, was driven by **Banks'** deep, insistent need for raw expression and solace. When **Banks** broke out with 2014's *Goddess*, she became the world's most blogged about artist, with a voice compared to the likes of Fiona Apple, Erykah Badu and Lauryn Hill, and a sound that took alt-pop and R&B to electrifying new places. **The Altar** pushes those edges even further, and pulls no punches. It's an inspiring confrontation of complicated love, pain, and self-doubt.



**THE MOWGLI'S  
WHERE'D YOUR WEEKEND GO?**  
PHOTO FINISH RECORDS

4 kids from the San Fernando and a couple of Midwesterners, **The Mowgli's** are a quintessential California band. Inspired by the magnetism of San Francisco, the grind of Los Angeles and the serenity of the Big Sur Coast, their songs are a joyous revival of rock 'n' roll, a twisting indie-folk dance and a heartfelt protest ballad. Sliding from indie pop to country and a host of genres in between, the band's latest album, *Where'd Your Weekend Go?* evokes modern artists such as Fun., Grouplove and Edward Sharpe And the Magnetic Zeros, whilst having their roots in the music of Neil Young, The Byrds, The Beach Boys and Fleetwood Mac. Part 60's Laurel Canyon, part 70's Venice Beach and part 10's Silverlake, the band and the harmonies are held together by their message of universal love, peace and the belief that the highest form of consciousness is achieved by togetherness and unity.



**PHISH  
BIG BOAT**  
JEMP RECORDS / ATO RECORDS

Recorded in Nashville, New York and the band's home state of Vermont, **Phish's** new album, **Big Boat**, features 13 new songs contributed by all four members of the band. **Big Boat** was produced by Bob Ezrin (Pink Floyd, Alice Cooper, KISS) and it marks his second collaboration with **Phish**, following 2014's *Fuego*. "There's definitely a point of view to this one," says singer / guitarist Trey Anastasio. "We're old enough to have a healthy respect for mortality." **Big Boat** comes on the verge of the bands upcoming fall tour, beginning with a two night stand October 14th at North Charleston, SC's North Charleston Coliseum with multiple two-nighters in Nashville, TN, Alpharetta, GA, and Grand Prairie, TX, as well as the band's first-ever concert in Jacksonville, FL. The October outing concludes with a sold out four-night run at Las Vegas, NV's MGM Grand Garden Arena culminating on Halloween – which, as you know, should be lots of fun.