

July 1, 2016

The Playlist

OUR FAVORITE SONGS VIDEOS RIGHT NOW

1. Beck "Wow"

Beck's next album will be out in the fall, and if this new single is any indication, it might be the sweetest mix of his lovingly absurdist hip-hop side and his slyly gorgeous singer-songwriter side since *Odelay*. On "Wow," Beck drops lyrics such as "Standing on the lawn doin' jujitsu/Girl in a bikini with the Lamborghini Shih Tzu" over a springy surreal beat that sounds like trap music, if the lord of the trap were Willy Wonka.



2. Pusha T feat. Jay Z "Drug Dealers Anonymous"

Alongside Pusha T, our coke-rap laureate, Jay gets off the La-Z-Boy to deliver his best bars in ages: "Ambidextrous/Countin' with my right, 'whippin' white with my left wrist." Nice job, Dad.

3. The Shelters "Rebel Heart"

The first band Tom Petty has ever produced, and you can tell why: These L.A. rockers are the spitting image of the Byrds-Beatles garage rock he grew up on.

4. The Monkees "Me & Magdalena"

The surviving Monkees just celebrated their 50th anniversary with a fantastic new LP, *Good Times!*, and this autumnal ballad (written by Death Cab for Cutie's Ben Gibbard) is a gorgeous display of their ageless harmonies. The late Davy Jones is up there smiling.



5. Band of Horses "Whatever, Whatever"

There are many kinds of summer jams. This is one for your hot, lazy Sundays: an ocean-breeze bit of Beach Boys-tinged doo-wop folk that will make you want to murder an afternoon drinking IPAs in a seaside hammock.



6. Angel Olsen "Intern"

This high-drama indie-folk artist tries out dreamy synth balladry, and the results are softly slamming. Olsen imbues romance as the ultimate no-pay résumé-builder, delivering each lyric like she's performing an emotional high-wire act.



7. Rihanna "Kiss It Better (Kaytranada Remix)"

The original — a highlight from *Anti* — was a steel-hearted shape-shifter full of gauzy Seventies rock guitar. Canadian producer Kaytranada flips it into a beautiful house-music hallucination, making for one of the sweeter remixes we've heard this year.

MY LIST



Ann Wilson

Songs About Being There for Someone

"These are songs about talking directly to someone's spirit," says the Heart singer, who's touring this summer with Cheap Trick and Joan Jett. "They're all ballads."

Peter Gabriel "Don't Give Up"

He did this as a duet with Kate Bush. It's a pure dialogue between two people that isn't ironic or sarcastic. It really hits me.

Garbage "Beloved Freak"

The message here is, "You aren't alone, and I love you, beloved freak." It's a song to the 20 percent of crazy people who recognize each other.

The Beatles "Across the Universe"

This is pure, open-soul Lennon. He'd found his spiritual center with Yoko. It's an amazing moment.

The Rolling Stones "Fool to Cry"

This one makes me melt because it's so simple and heart-rending. Even though they were drugged-out guys, they could still be vulnerable.

Led Zeppelin "The Rain Song"

My favorite Led Zeppelin song. It's beautiful and spiritual, and though it's long, there's nothing extra in it at all. It's timeless.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DOUGLAS HANSON/GETTY IMAGES; DANIEL NIKHONTOV/GETTY IMAGES; CHRISTOPHER VETICO; JEFF BRANTZ/BBMA/2016/FILEMAGIC; AMANDA HARESAUS