

# SCRATCHPAD

## Q&A with Holiday Friends band leader

Band recently released its newest album

By **ALYSSA EVANS**  
COAST WEEKEND EDITOR



**A**storia indie rock band Holiday Friends released its third album, "Still Wonder," last week on streaming services. The band first released the album in June on Bandcamp and SoundCloud.

Scott Fagerland, the band's lead singer and guitarist, recently shared some thoughts on the album in an interview with Coast Weekend.

The band's other members include Joey Ficken, Zack O'Connor and Jon Fagerland.

**Alyssa Evans:** There are a lot of songs that relate both to wondering and wanting. How did the themes of this album come about?

**Scott Fagerland:** All the songs go through the band filter so by the time they're done they'll even have lyrical contributions from every member. I probably write 80 to 90% of the words but sometimes, Joey, our drummer, will take a song and write a verse or two ... there's a collective consciousness going on.

What I write is sort of truthful but exaggerated. It's a technique I use which I learned from my friend and band co-founder Jesse. I'll take these themes and ideas of desire or wondering what if, and looking at all the other paths your life could have taken, then blow it into an 80s movie soundtrack.

**AE:** What were some of the inspiration sources for the album?

**SF:** Musically, definitely Tears for Fears, The Outfield, just a lot of 80s music. Then some contemporary musicians that make that style of music ... sometimes at the end of the day, I wish our music sounded more 80s-like.

Other inspirations ... I draw a lot from my own emotions and life. It's not usually from a happy place, it's from a therapeutic place of thinking about something that

bothers me. In a lot of ways it's like we're an emo band because the lyrics aren't super literal, they're emotional. I like music that makes you feel something.

**AE:** We talked a couple months ago about how this album was ready to be released but the band's plans were put on pause because of the coronavirus pandemic. How have the band's plans since adapted?

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## our coast weekend

ON THE COVER

The Astoria Column.  
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