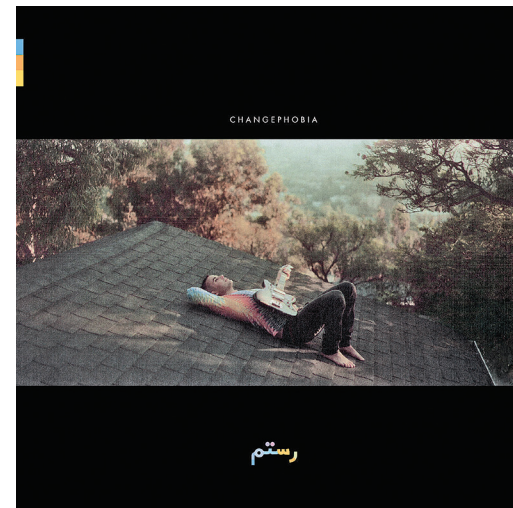


Bandcampin': Good stuff for your ears



BY BEN SALMON • For The Bulletin

Bandcamp is an online music platform used largely by independent artists and record labels to stream songs and sell merchandise. It's also a vibrant virtual community teeming with interesting sounds just waiting to be discovered. Each week, I'll highlight three releases available on the site that are well worth your time and attention. If you find something you dig, please consider supporting the artist with a purchase.

WAKE UP, "Tigers Can't Be Choosers"

According to the blurb on the album's Bandcamp page, "Tigers Can't Be Choosers" was recorded nearly 10 years ago, but you'd be forgiven for thinking that's a typo and that the correct number is 30. That would peg it to 1991-ish, which lines up perfectly with Wake Up's classic indie-rock sound. This California band is totally sick of being compared to Pavement or they're as flattered as can be. Or maybe it's both. Either way, "Tigers" contains lots of Pavement-isms, from the tumbling rhythms, jangling guitars and breezy cool to Evan Mui's lead vocals, which share more

than a passing resemblance to Stephen Malkmus. It's a familiar sound, and one "Wake Up" does really well!

TRISTEN, "Aquatic Flowers"

Nashville-based singer-songwriter Tristen came to Bend a few years ago, sandwiched on a bill between two mediocre dude bands. At the time, it felt like she was trying to figure out if she was more of a folk singer or a roots-pop aspirant, and she seemed like she was spinning her wheels. "Aquatic Flowers" finds her unstuck and cruising. These tunes are efficient and catchy: "Complex" is all warm, strummy acoustic guitar,

with a vaguely motorik beat and gauzy outro. "Wrong With You" takes crushing self-loathing and dips it in perfectly crisp indie-pop. And "Athena" feels like a throwback to the '60s, with cool surf-rock 'n' soul vibes reverberating through the song. Toe-tappers, all of 'em.

ROSTAM, "Changephobia"

Rostam Batmanglij is still best known as a key cog in the musical machine that made Vampire Weekend one of the best rock bands of the past 15 years or so. But he left VW in 2016, and since then, he has released two fine solo albums under his own name. The new-

est one is "Changephobia," which finds Batmanglij reigning in his brighter tendencies and rolling out a more muted — but still synth-heavy — sound. One thing hasn't changed, however: his knack for sophisticated pop songs arranged in ways that feel warm and uncluttered and intimate. If you felt like something was missing from VW's last album (2019's "Father of the Bride"), you may very well find it on "Changephobia."

■ Ben Salmon is a Bend-based music journalist and host of *Left Of The Dial*, which airs 8-10 p.m. Thursdays on KPOV, 88.9 FM and streams at kpo.org. You can find him on Bandcamp and Twitter at [@bcsalmon](https://twitter.com/bcsalmon).

music notes

Lake Street Dive to headline Les Schwab on Sept. 17

Lake Street Dive will perform with special guest Allison Russell Sept. 17 at Les Schwab Amphitheater, according to an Old Mill District announcement.

The versatile, genre-defying group opened for the Avett Brothers in 2019 at the Amphitheater, whose current season is up to 22 con-

certs so far, with a promise of more show announcements in the offing.

Online presales run from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday at www.bendconcerts.com, with the password "OBVIOUSLY," according to the release. Regular sales will begin at 10 a.m. Friday at either bendconcerts.com or the Old Mill District Ticket Mill, located between Lush and Tumalo Art Co.

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Lake Street Dive is seen opening for Avett Brothers in 2019 at Les Schwab Amphitheater, where Lake Street Dive will headline Sept. 17.

Nate Wyeth/submitted