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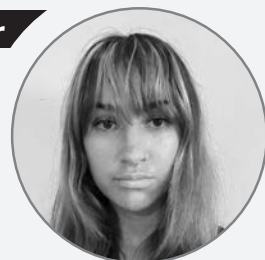
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ABOUT THE COVER: Our August cover features the work of *DIY Fest* legends **Fell** (Jorrien and Tiera Peterson). In their signature primary color-centric, Scandinavian-influenced style, they illustrate a number of Utah-familiar symbology. Follow Fell @madebyfell on Instagram.

Alexie Zollinger

Contributor Limelight
Contributing Writer



Alexie Zollinger came on as a Contributing Writer in May of 2022. Alexie's passion for the SLC community and her facts-first approach to journalism has allowed her voice to shine in articles on skate competitions, local art, addiction recovery advocacy and indoor BMX riding. We can't wait to see where Alexie's *SLUG* career takes her next! Read her feature on *DIY Festival* Kid Row artisan **Amrita Honey** on page 6.

Cherri Cheetah

Contributor Limelight
Contributing Writer



Musician-photographer extraordinaire Cherri Cheetah joined *SLUG* in the fall of 2021 and has since been a reliable, consistent voice in our music coverage. Her love of 2000s rock and emo shines in her coverage of the local successors to these sounds, such as **Number One Babe Team** and **Daniel Pimentel**. Read her recent music reviews on *SLUGMag.com*, and keep up with her self-published work on Instagram @wildhoneyimg.

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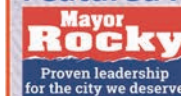
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DIY FEST

The 15th Annual Craft Lake City DIY Festival Presented By Harmons is returning to the Utah State Fairpark to celebrate a momentous 15 years as Utah's largest local-centric arts, music, science and technology festival with a selection of over 350 local artisans and makers. In the following pages, read about a few of the exciting vendors and exhibitors you can expect to see throughout the three-day weekend, including performances from renowned national acts! Check out craftlakecity.com for more info.

All Photos by John Barkiple

AMRITA HONEY



Corbin Peretto, 11, and his brother Jethro (Jet) Peretto, 16, of Amrita Honey are a part of *Craft Lake City's Youth Artisan Entrepreneur Program* pop-up, Kid Row, on Sat., August 12 at the *DIY Festival*, and they do things a little differently than most.

"Most beekeepers strain and heat their honey in order to produce a clear honey that will stay liquid on the shelf for as long as possible," Corbin says. "We do the exact opposite. Our honey is unfiltered, raw wildflower honey. It is cold-extracted, meaning that we never use heat when we harvest, and we go to great lengths to keep the living enzymes in the honey alive."

Some products Amrita Honey offer are whipped-flavored honey, multiple flavors of raw, unfiltered wild-

flower honey, hand-made soaps, balms, body butters and custom cutting boards. Corbin still has a few things to learn about beekeeping but enjoys making new flavors for honey and harvesting. Working together as siblings, Corbin and Jet learn about the process together and find it helps them connect.

Corbin is also enthusiastic about how bees help the garden. He makes a point to wear netted hats, suits, gloves and ankle-covering shoes as a safety precaution. "I am also pretty shy," Corbin says, "so learning to talk to people at markets has been a big stretch for me, but I have learned that people are usually pretty cool, and most people are interested in getting to know more about me as a kid entrepreneur."

- Nicole Bradham

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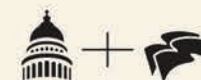
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ARTISANS

Mia Archer has been an artist her whole life. Though she began with drawing, Archer's love for creating has also expanded to include watercolor, calligraphy, digital portraits and embroidery. She finds inspiration for her artwork just about anywhere she looks, with nature being the most significant source.

"I am the friend you can't go hiking with because I will be stopping every minute to photograph this flower, those leaves or that mushroom," she says. "I love it all!" Archer notes that she finds a sense of calm when drawing a landscape or creating a floral composition, and she especially enjoys making and embroidering botanical designs because, like nature, they are often perfectly imperfect.

Through her work, Archer hopes to inspire others to create and find the artistic medium they most enjoy. "Art can be anything to each person. We just have to find the form we will fall in love with," she says. She also hopes to share the vital message that we don't need others' validation for our art to be important: We all have something beautiful to bring to the world.

Archer has enjoyed teaching classes with *Craft Lake City*, where she encourages students' confidence to share their art no matter their skill level. You can find Archer and her artwork at *Good4Life Markets* in Herriman, UT and through her Instagram *@handmadefrommia*. Be sure to stop by Archer's booth at this year's *DIY Festival* as well!

— Mallory Iverson



HANDMADE FROM MIA

JAWAHER DESIGNS



Jawaher Fadhel first began using henna, a 100% natural dye derived from the henna tree, when she was 12 years old and living in Libya. The artwork and design of henna tattooing came naturally to her, and it quickly became a passion. She continued to practice henna art as she got older and eventually opened her business, Jawaher Designs, in 2016 in Salt Lake City, where she has been professionally tattooing ever since.

Jawaher grew up with African and Middle Eastern cultures shaping her life and has found this to be influential in her henna designs. She also finds inspiration for her work from nature and storytelling and enjoys working with her clients to create personalized temporary tattoos. "If my client has specific ideas, I will use their hand as a

canvas to create a unique piece of art," says Jawaher.

Jawaher has shared her work with several organizations and groups, tattooing at events for the *International Rescue Committee (IRC)*, *World Refugee Day Annual Celebration*, *AfroUtah Festival* and this year's *DIY Festival*. Jawaher finds it important to educate others about her culture and the spiritual and healing properties of henna. "Henna is my biggest [form] of self-care," she says, often giving herself a new henna tattoo design every three weeks to feel fresh and confident. Jawaher even provides free henna crowns for anyone battling cancer. Check out samples of her incredible designs on her website at *jawaherdesigns.square.site* and at her booth at the *DIY Festival*.

— Mallory Iverson

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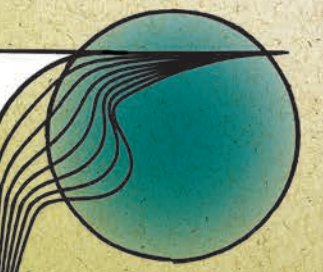
Blue Ruby's **Ammy Foste** creates her punk, queer designs primarily with vintage leather items, especially leather jackets. Foste uses bright colors such as ruby red and electric blue to show the opposing "fire-ness with sensitive, nostalgic water," she says. The contrasts of "darker esoteric themes with beauty, brightness and nature" pull people in and show both a fluidity and complexity.

Foste recalls cutting and sewing fabric for her Barbie dolls and wearing thrifted clothing from *Savers* or *Gen X* at a young age. As a teenager, her thrifting habits continued, and she experimented with various fabrics and accessories. "[I] spent a lot of time in my room frankensteining clothing together," she says. Punk fashion and sustainability heavily influence her style; she describes fashion as "experimenting

with materials you have readily at your disposal when you don't have anything else."

Although the concept of Blue Ruby first began as watercolor paintings, Foste also built masks and did performance art under the name "Ruby Blue." Previously living in Berlin, Foste moved back to SLC in 2020 and with much perseverance turned her passions for thrifting and painting into a business. However, the most fulfilling aspect is the personal connections she makes with people who are drawn to her pieces. When she is able to sell to people who are ecstatic about her clothing, she feels that they become "an extension of my art," an experience that she describes as "magical, serendipitous moments." Catch her designs at the *DIY Festival!*

—Arica Roberts



BLUE RUBY



FUNKXXN

2023's *DIY Fest* is **FUNKXXN's** debut, selling owner **Hannah's** functional, upcycled designs. A life-long dancer, Hannah is inspired by styles that prioritize comfort and movability. Her journey toward creating began in 2016 when she was living in the artist commune **Beachaus** in Salt Lake City—the aesthetic and lifestyle focused on recycling and trash-into-treasure feng shui. She says, however, that "We weren't doing it for the aesthetic. We actually were just trying to preserve the environment."

Hannah's time in Berlin from 2018–2020 also influenced her work. There, she was introduced to both high fashion and upcycled designs, and she got her first sewing machine and began upcycling her childhood

clothing into new expressions. Her clothing consists of "functional, walking art pieces," a quality shown both by the environmentally conscious decision to use fabric scraps as well as Hannah's focus on sportswear such as upcycled Adidas, motocross pants, Chinese silk and Realtree camouflage.

Although Hannah comes from a long line of business owners—including a grandfather who fled to America during the Holocaust with nothing but a sewing machine—she shows humility and appreciation for people who are drawn to her designs. Hannah sells her work on Instagram and Depop and is working on a future fashion project that focuses on yoga, pole, lingerie and swimwear.

—Arica Roberts

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Kandi and Byron Tesen are the co-owners of Eats, a local bakery that focuses on creating tasty, well-prepared goods from plant-based, vegan ingredients.

After being diagnosed with multiple food allergies, Kandi created Eats with a mission to bake vegan treats that go beyond the stereotypical "vegan" label. She says, "We want people to think of vegan baked goods as just baked goods that happen to be vegan. We provide a product that is so good, no one will know the difference."

With tasty treats such as cinnamon rolls, donuts, bread loaves, brownies and cookies, Eats Bakery provides unique recipes and flavors made from quality ingredients. From their Peach Cobbler Roll to their Lemon Coconut Cream Roll or soon-to-be-

introduced Donut Ice Cream Sandwiches, Eats ensures that all fillings, fruits and flavors are real and natural. "We use as many organic ingredients as we can. If it's strawberry, we use real strawberries; if it's vanilla, we use real vanilla," Kandi says.

Eats focuses on recipes that not only look good but leave you feeling good afterward. Kandi and Byron have their friends and family test new recipes, making sure they don't miss the mark on taste or quality. Kandi says, "We're appealing to the vegan community but also bringing in the non-vegan community to see that you can have quality desserts without all the extra bad stuff."

Catch Eats Bakery at this year's *DIY Festival*, and grab a vegan pastry while you're there!

— Jamie Christensen



EATS BAKERY



SALT SMITH

Chris Smith first began crafting unique salt blends in 2020 out of a desire to create better-tasting popcorn salt seasoned with rosemary and thyme. Now, Smith has developed three herb-infused recipes that can be paired with far more than just popcorn.

Salt Smith offers three primary salt blends: a Rosemary Thyme infusion, Wine Smoked Garlic and Smoky Hot Pepper. Rosemary Thyme is a universal blend that Smith notes can be used on almost everything. Wine Smoked Garlic pairs especially well with meats, soups and roasted veggies, and Smoky Hot Pepper is a delicious, smoked seasoning that Smith recommends topping on tacos, bagels and eggs.

"Through time I developed several recipes, focusing on

local, fresh herbs that grow well in Utah despite the harsh winters," he says. Salt Smith sources greens from local, urban farm *Frog Bench Farms*, who use greenhouses to grow year-round produce. Smith emphasizes the importance of sourcing ingredients locally and supporting Utah farms, vendors and markets. "Supporting local creators and artisans keeps the local economy strong and builds community," he says.

You can grab Smith's salty concoction through *saltsmith.kitchen*, at this year's *Craft Lake City DIY Festival* or at the *Hello! Bulk Markets* where Smith creates his blends. He says, "I have several other blends in the works that will appear throughout the market season, so be sure to come by my booth and see what we have available!"

— Jamie Christensen

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The conflicting advice we read online about houseplant care can be confusing and frustrating: Is it too much water or not enough? Too sunny or not enough sun? Plant care is often generalized, and there isn't much research available on non-commercial plants, says Krado, an AgTech company that provides subscribers with a holistic plant care system called *leaflet*™.

Krado co-founders **Eric Lo**, **Jesse Montgomery** and **Max Ono** are on a mission to revolutionize how we care for houseplants by filling this knowledge gap with *leaflet*™. *Leaflet*™ is a sensor that you place in your plants, telling you the precise temperature, humidity, moisture and light requirements. The accompanying app translates the data into simple tasks and automatically ships products tailored to your

plant's needs to your doorstep. Krado says, "When we first started, we weren't thinking about plant data or building a plant database. We were just a couple of scientists trying to make our houseplants happy ... That's when we learned the world doesn't really know that much about plants." This is why Krado uses the power of collective action—every person who uses *leaflet*™ contributes to its database. *Leaflet*™ is the first plant database designed to "accelerate and advance research" across disciplines and answer questions such as: Can hemp replace concrete? How do we grow plants on Mars?

To learn more about plant science or to see *leaflet*™ in action, visit Krado at the *DIY Festival*.

—McCall Mash



KRADO

MICKY MAKES



Michelle Sharer of *Micky Makes* always loved making art. Despite this passion, she focused her career on software engineering, though she says the "itch to be creative" was always there.

Eventually, that itch turned into LED art after Sharer contributed her programming skills to friends' group art installations. Within a few years, Sharer was creating smaller projects on her own. "I've always loved creative coding and using algorithms and math to create visual output and beautiful patterns that are often animated or interactive. For me, LEDs are such an amazing blend of two things I love a lot—art and code," she says.

LED art uses light-emitting diodes (LED

lights) as a medium to create installations, sculptures or interactive pieces. Alongside LEDs, Sharer uses various materials—wood, steel, plastic and yarn—to make each piece, such as a realistic snake plant sculpture with leaves of lights and yarn or a 3D-printed bonsai tree that glows under a "canopy of pom-poms." Sharer says, "I usually come up with an idea first and then research a material that will work well for that idea, but sometimes I get excited to learn a new medium and then figure out a project to make with that material so I can practice."

Check out some of *Micky Makes'* LED art pieces on exhibition at the *DIY Festival*, and bring home a mesmerizing piece of your own.

—McCall Mash

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PERFORMERS

CLUB MUNGO is not your typical boy band. The five-piece alternative rap collective—**Bradley Cinema**, **Grandpa Sweats**, **\$lugg** and twins **Devin Summer** and **NEDS**—released their debut album, *LODESTAR*, in November 2022, but the group had been making music long before then. Since 2019, they have spent “days, months and years listening to the same note over and over, debating and experimenting with every aspect of the music until it felt right,” says Cinema.

CLUB MUNGO draws a lot of influence from 2010s alternative artists. “The five of us grew up with a large gap in our music taste—Grandpa Sweats with electronic music, the twins and Bradley with hip-hop and R&B and me with mostly punk and metal,” says \$lugg.

They embrace the idea of “do-it-yourself” in all aspects of music production, from graphic design and sound engineering to cinematography and editing for music videos. CLUB MUNGO isn’t concerned about defining their sound or limiting their music to a certain genre. “If you were to ask us what kind of music we make, we would probably look at each other with a level of uncertainty and say, ‘IDK, pop I guess?’” \$lugg says.

The group plans to drop a new single and music video every two weeks for the whole summer. If *LODESTAR* oozed confidence, then recent releases “WACK TODAY” and “BITCH SLAP” explode with well-earned chutzpah. Listen to their new releases and catch them live at the *DIY Fest*, Sat. Aug. 12.

—Asha Pruitt



CLUB MUNGO

HALAU KU PONO I KAMALANI



Every Wednesday evening, children as young as five gather alongside adults at the home of **Kahealani Ohumukini Blackmon** to rehearse hula. Blackmon, who began dancing at 18 months old and has been teaching hula since 2008, believes in perpetuating native Hawaiian culture and sharing centuries-old knowledge with the community. “The name Ku Pono I Kamalani means ‘to stand up for our children,’” Blackmon says.

The halau, or hula school, performs both traditional and modern-style dances called Kahiko and Auana, respectively. Ancient Kahiko is passed down from Kumu Hula—teachers who have earned special status through mastery of the art form—and remains unchanged through generations. “These dances are

preserved to help us remember where we came from and how our ancestors lived,” says Blackmon.

Contemporary Auana, however, is more fluid and innovative. “To choreograph the Auana, I lean on my ancestors and intuition to be guided to the movement that should be used for each dance. Our hula dances tell a story,” says Blackmon. Some dances are more culturally accurate than others, she says, but even without understanding the Hawaiian language, the performances are always joyful and entertaining.

Halau Ku Pono I Kamalani opens their doors to anyone who wants to learn about Hawaiian and other Pacific Island cultures. Watch their performance at the *DIY Festival*, Saturday, August 12.

—Asha Pruitt



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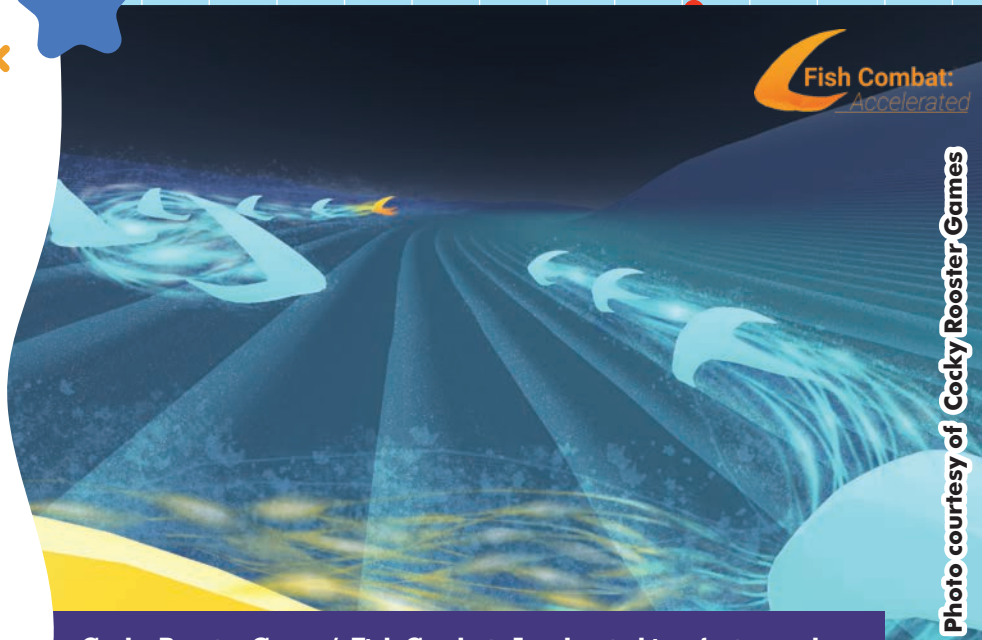
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FIND YOUR PASSION WITH INDIE GAME DAY

PRESENTED BY META AT DIY FEST

By **Brittnie Gallegos**
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Fish Combat: Accelerated

Photo courtesy of Cocky Rooster Games

Cocky Rooster Games' *Fish Combat: Accelerated* is a fast-paced aquatic arcade game that will be shown off at *DIY Fest's* Indie Game Day on Sunday, Aug. 13.

The gaming industry reached new heights during a time when there were few technological resources to jumpstart a career in game development. Now, thanks to recent advancements, those resources are easier to find than ever before. Indie Game Day Presented by Meta, which takes place Sunday, August 13 at the *15th Annual Craft Lake City DIY Festival Presented By Harmons*, brings indie gaming to the forefront with nine studios presenting their games. **Josh Watts** belongs to one of these studios.

Watts of *Cocky Rooster Games* is exhibiting *Fish Combat: Accelerated*, a fast-paced aquatic arcade game focused on speed. Watts is ecstatic to show off his work this year, and to him, the player feedback is crucial. "My goal is to increase wishlists of my game," Watts laughs, "but really local events seemed like a great way to get that exposure as well as learning more about what we are doing right and wrong in the game's design." There's no better source of feedback than from the players themselves, and with events like *DIY Fest*, the doors to playtesting will be wide open.

Lyndi Perry (*DIY Fest's* STEM Manager) helps exhibitors find their voice and provides support throughout the weekend. "While our three-day festival can be intense for exhibitors, it is also an amazing

way to find meaningful connections with the public, and the feedback we get from presenters every year shows that we're truly helping these businesses, clubs and institutions reach their goals," Perry says. The opportunity to stand out in a competitive industry and create connections with gamers and developers is an integral aspect of *DIY Fest*, and Perry feels lucky that this year's sponsor, Meta, aligns with that community-building goal.

Josh "Vazor" Jones is in a similar supporting role for indie exhibitors through the *International Game Developers Association (IGDA)* as leader of their SLC chapter. *IGDA* is the largest nonprofit membership organization that aims to serve anyone who makes games. "I volunteered for *DIY Fest* because I believe in their mission to help people learn to do stuff on their own and gain that independence," Vazor says. Independence in video game development is challenging but also rewarding as it's a practice that will teach you a lot about discipline, patience and creativity.

Teaching and learning are big components of *DIY Fest*, and this is especially true within their indie gaming exhibition. Attendees learn about game design as exhibitors gather invaluable feedback from the players. Vazor emphasizes his desire to inspire

others to design games. "I feel like this will be an event that will inspire kids, or anyone, to make a game themselves," he says. "I know a lot of people who make party or tabletop games ... and get lots of good interaction [at the festival]." There are many ways the youth can get involved with game design at *DIY Fest* such as through *Code Ninjas*, an educational coding program, and the *STEM Action Center*, a division of the *Utah Department of Cultural & Community Engagement* dedicated to the advancement of STEM education in Utah.

Indie gaming aligns with the core of the *DIY* movement, according to Watts. "You have the potential to start your own studio and run your own business," he says. "Not every field has that opportunity to start off as small as you want to." The tools of a major studio aren't needed to begin in game development, and working within those limitations can and have brought about some of the most seminal games of all time. Perry says, "I think all *DIY*-ers find constraints like these and, rather than seeing it as a problem, simply work them into their creative process. I love that energy, and I hope to empower our participating developers to build the next *Stardew Valley*."



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WARPAINT: BRINGING A DIY RIOT TO SLC

By Mary Culbertson • mlbculbertson@outlook.com

Warpaint will make their debut on the *Craft Lake City* stage after a seven-year recording hiatus, jamming out with songs from their most recent release, *Radiate Like This*. Catch their performance on Friday, August 11 at the *DIY Festival* alongside other national headlining acts, and read more about Warpaint's recent inspirations in *SLUG* Senior Staff Writer Mary Culbertson's interview with bassist and vocalist **Jenny Lee Lindberg**.

Warpaint, the four-piece girl band from Los Angeles, is quickly approaching their 20th anniversary and has acquired a large international following, grabbing the attention of art rock girlies all around the globe. In 2022, they released their first album in over seven years, *Radiate Like This*, and consequently embarked on a tour that includes this year's *DIY Festival*. In an interview with *SLUG*, Lindberg speaks about their album, the upcoming show and some other cheeky Easter eggs.

SLUG: How would you describe the shift in your sound over the years from the first EP to your latest album, *Radiate Like This*?

Warpaint: When we started our band, we had a huge amount of time to discover our sound and really sit with what we wanted to do. Maybe too much time. As the years have passed, it seems we have less time to do that. However, [we do have] more time spent playing and getting stronger and tighter as a band. I think the music we have made over the years has been inspired by circumstance and that is forever changing. Everything is, really.

SLUG: We understand *Radiate Like This* is a mixture of brand-new songs and some that had been written and set aside in the past. What's the inspiration behind the songs collectively and also the title of the album?

Warpaint: This record is actually mostly new songs. The process was frustrating—making a record during the pandemic was very challenging. [The title] *Radiate Like This* was suggested by [guitarist] **Emily Kokal**, and it felt very represen-

tative of where we were. Just trying to find the light ... anywhere!

SLUG: We're excited about the single, "Champion." Can you explain why you chose it to be the first single and opening track of the album?

Warpaint: It was the most upbeat [on the album], and our label wanted something like that to be our first release after so long. I love that song! One of my faves.

SLUG: Thinking back to some of your shows in the past, can you highlight a few

experiences you and the band had that are especially notable?

Warpaint: The one that goes down in history for me is *Bonnaroo* 2014. I had just gotten back from Mexico and I got really sick, so I had to wear a diaper and I literally shit my pants on stage. True story. Thank God for diapers.

SLUG: We're excited to have you at the *DIY Festival* in Utah! Have you performed in Salt Lake before? What are you manifesting for this summer show?

Warpaint: We played at *Urban Lounge* in 2014. I love Salt Lake; it's my home away from home. [I] can't wait to groove, hopefully with a view of the Wasatch mountains.

SLUG: What's your dynamic with each other on stage? What emotions do you go through during a show?

Warpaint: We like to laugh, connect and jam. But most importantly, HAVE A GOOD TIME!

SLUG: What's next for Warpaint in 2024 and beyond?

Warpaint: We are working on new music but doing it at our own pace and trying to get back to why we even started a band in the first place.

Warpaint's work is sonically audacious, and their promos and music videos are wild, alluring and slightly odd, giving off nonchalant, punk-rock vibes. *Radiate Like This* emulates this radical style while bringing a mature new sound for long-time listeners to sink into. Check out *@warpaint* on Instagram for music and touring updates, and be sure to catch them at the *DIY Fest*!



(L-R) Stella Mozgawa, Jenny Lee Lindberg, Emily Kokal and Theresa Wayman make up iconic indie rock quartet Warpaint.

Photo courtesy of Warpaint

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Courtney Marie Andrews

"These Are the Good Old Days"

By Mekenna Malan • mekenna.malan@gmail.com

Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, singer-songwriter Courtney Marie Andrews will be joining the lineup of national headliners at the 15th Annual Craft Lake City DIY Festival Presented By Harmons. Check out SLUG Senior Staff Writer Mekenna Malan's recent interview with Andrews and don't miss the chance to see her perform live on Friday, August 11 on the SLUG Mag stage at the DIY Fest.

Since she first began performing at 15 years old, Courtney Marie Andrews has enjoyed a whirlwind of a career. She toured with **Jimmy Eat World** for two years at age 18, and her fifth full-length release, *Old Flowers*, received a nomination for "Best Americana Album" at the Grammy Awards in 2020. On her latest album, *Loose Future*, Andrews collaborated with modern folk favorites **Sam Evian**, **Grizzly Bear's Chris Bear** and **Bonny Light Horseman's Josh Kaufman** to create a warm, rambling portrait of easy-going Americana. In anticipation of her performance at the *DIY Festival* this month, Andrews provides a deeper look into her musical journey.

SLUG: What examples of artistry, musical or otherwise, inspired you early in your life?

Andrews: Little Orphan Annie and karaoke at **Mr. Lucky's Bar** in Phoenix—singing pop-country songs and soul songs.

SLUG: You write, sing and paint; from the outside, your life seems full to the brim with art. Do you find that these different mediums flow together and enhance each other? If so, how?

Andrews: Absolutely. I used to think they detracted from one another; now I believe that they are all different animals on the same carousel.

SLUG: There's a lot of commentary out there about the heartbreak you endured while writing your Grammy-nominated album, *Old Flowers*. What is inspiring you now?

Andrews: Heartbreak is a part of life because love is a part of life. Grief is the price for love. It is our duty as artists to reflect life, so I'm always trying to do that. I try to be honest with where I'm at, and that usually produces the most honest work. Right now, big life changes are inspiring me, as are solitude and reflection.

SLUG: You incorporated some experimental techniques in your songwriting for *Loose Future*. Do you feel your process has become more playful as you've progressed in your career?

Andrews: Since I started writing music, I have never been interested in making the same album twice. It's integral for me to expand and experiment. The experimentation on *Loose Future* was meant to be playful because it is a love record.

SLUG: Could you identify one song on *Loose Future* and go deep into the inspiration and process behind it?

Andrews: "Older Now" was the first song we recorded for *Loose Future*. I wrote it after my first date as a newly single person and that felt like a big step forward. Sonically,

it was a tone-setter for the record. I knew I wanted lots of non-traditional percussion on the record, and this song led the way for that sound.

SLUG: You've performed in Utah a few times now. Are you happy to return?

Andrews: I used to tour up through Utah during my early days of touring, being from Arizona. I have lots of formative memories there, and I definitely look forward to returning. I actually think my first show outside of Arizona was in Utah!

SLUG: When you began pursuing music, did you ever imagine you'd experience the success you have now?

Andrews: You can't predict what is going to happen. All you can do is keep trying and creating. I hoped that I wouldn't have to bartend my whole life so I could dedicate myself to my work. It still blows my mind that that's a realized dream.

Through it all, Andrews has always allowed creativity to guide her. "Loose future, if you wanna ride with me / Loose future, nowhere we need to be," she sings on the title track of her 2022 album. Check out [@courtneymarieandrews](https://www.instagram.com/courtneymarieandrews) on Instagram for music and touring updates.

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Sego

By SLUG Staff ... info@slugmag.com

Though Se-go is now a nationally renowned band living in sunny Los Angeles, their roots trace back to humble beginnings in Provo's independent music community. Composed of **Thomas Carroll**, **Kathleen Frewin**, **Spencer Petersen** and **Alyssa Davey (Derv)**, the members of Se-go describe themselves as "art punk made by non-punk non-artists." Petersen says, "I like the chaos and atonal aspect of our sound, but I also push for highly organized and synchronized execution." He points to the inherently collaborative and fluid nature of the group as a further defining factor in their music. "While Tom and I provided the initial anchor, there has been a touch of rotation with other members

The 15th Annual Craft Lake City DIY Fest Presented by Harmons will feature national headliners for the first time as part of their performer lineup! Alongside other renowned artists, midwest outfit **Gable Price and Friends** and Provo-natives turned L.A.-based act **Sego** will be joining the *DIY Fest* stage Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12, respectively. Check out our interviews with these two bands as we discuss their musical progressions and excitement to perform at the festival.

leading to a certain kind of slacker chemistry—not necessarily superior or inferior, just distinct," he says. "Since Derv and Kathleen joined, a certain cohesion has been added to our live performances; an elusive unity we had perpetually aspired to but had remained slightly out of reach."

As they continue their ascent in popularity, Se-go looks forward to continuous innovation. "I find myself deeply entrenched in the current unfolding of my own experiences, both thematically and musically, within the context of each album," says Petersen. The band is currently finalizing their next, long-awaited album, recorded by **Nate Pyfer** at *June Audio Recording Studios* in their hometown of Provo. Petersen describes the sound as "a tad more distant and ethereal" than previous albums. Follow Se-go on their Instagram @sego and keep an ear out for their next single, due to release on August 27.



Photo courtesy of Se-go

Sego members (clockwise from bottom left) Alyssa Davey (Derv), Kathleen Frewin, Thomas Carroll and Spencer Petersen.

accrued over 1 million plays on streaming services, denoting their enduring success.

GABLE PRICE AND FRIENDS

By SLUG Staff ... info@slugmag.com

Born and raised in the midwest, **Gable Price's** musical journey began young and, since the mid 2010s, has revolved around his highly successful and critically acclaimed project, eponymously named **Gable Price and Friends**. Alongside lead vocalist and guitarist Price, the band features guitarist **Adam Elizarraraz**, drummer **Daniel Vargas** and guitarist **Cameron Pablo** (with bassist **Zach Luper** joining for a handful of live dates). The band has a raucous, electrifying rock sound comparable to earlier, edgier **Arctic**



Photo courtesy of Gable Price and Friends

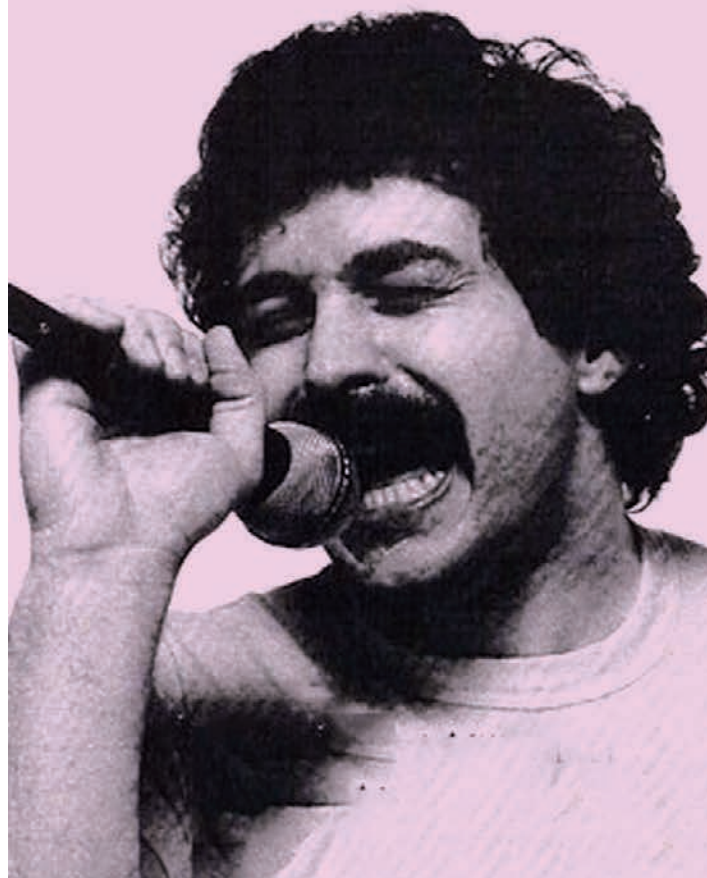
(L-R) Cameron Pablo, Gable Price, Daniel Vargas and Adam Elizarraraz.

Monkeys material blended with the pop-rock sensibilities of groups such as **The Killers** or **Imagine Dragons**. Tracks from their most recent album, 2022's *The Consequence of Being Alive*, have

A defining element of the group's music comes from Price's velvety voice and introspective lyrics. On the standout single from *Consequence*, "I Don't Wanna Live Like This," Price delivers a barn-burning, dive-bar-sing-along hook: "I don't wanna live like this / I don't wanna end up bitter either way / So I'll take my Kool-Aid microwaved," he sings, combining sarcastic nihilism and deep, emotional truths in his trademark style. Since the release of *Consequence*, Gable Price and Friends have been on a seemingly endless tour around the states—find more info about their tour and music through their website, gablepriceandfriends.com or follow their Instagram @gablepriceandfriends.

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Kyle Maloney fires up a pizza in the Dang Brother Pizza wood-fired oven at Farmers Market Ogden.



© 2014 Dang Brother Pizza

Dang Brother Pizza's constantly rotating menu sometimes includes the Sweet and Spicy pizza topped with pepperoni, peppers, honey and three cheeses.

A DANG GOOD REVIEW OF DANG BROTHER PIZZA



& Jacqueline Read
jacqueline@read.com

Originally a mobile catering service from San Diego, *Dang Brother Pizza* expanded to Utah this year as an innovative new food truck. Making their first appearance at the *Winter Market* in Ogden, *Dang Brother* is back this summer with exciting menu items and a brand new oven crafted from a vintage fire truck. With the promise of wood-fired pizza made from scratch, my friends and I were off to *Farmers Market Ogden* to try this unique experience for ourselves.

The smell of smoke carried us to the far east end of the bustling market to the second-to-last stand. Though the line was long, it moved fast, with a friendly young lad quickly taking orders and stealing time for jokes and chatter with customers. We ordered three wood-fired pizzas, each made to order in a 900-degree oven right at their tent.

We tried the Sexy Pepperoni (\$14), the Utah (\$16) and the Farmer's Special (\$18), the last of which changes frequently as *Dang Brother* works with other vendors at the local market to curate a new, unique pizza every Saturday. We waited about 15 minutes for

our three pizzas, which were all made from scratch—seriously, this guy was throwing dough right there in the tent!

We started out with the Utah pizza, which consisted of an olive oil garlic base topped with mozzarella, bacon, french fries, red onion, cilantro, parmesan and a drizzle of their house-made fry sauce. The pizza dough was warm and chewy with the perfect amount of char on each bite. The bacon was the standout star, but it wasn't overpowering due to the balance of zesty fry sauce and crispy french fries. This pizza was especially savory and filling.

Next, we tried the Farmer's Special. This week, it had an olive oil garlic base with red onions, roasted broccoli, bacon, mushrooms and feta cheese. This one had my friends and I wondering why broccoli isn't used more as a pizza topping. The crunch from the broccoli and red onions was the perfect contrast to the gooey cheese and meaty mushrooms. My only complaint with this pizza is that I wouldn't be able to order it every weekend, but it piqued my curiosity for the different combinations coming next!

Finally, we finished off with the Sexy Pepperoni, an enhanced version of your average pepperoni pizza. It starts off with a standard marinara base topped with mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, parmesan and feta. I don't know what it was that made this pizza so Dang good, but it was the group favorite by far! The marinara sauce was full of flavor and complimented the charred, wood-fired crust. Sweet and acidic, it was balanced by the savory pepperonis and sharp feta pieces.

Each of us stuffed to the brim, we still had extra slices to take home and enjoy later. When the pizza is made to order and filled with fresh, unique ingredients, \$12-18 per pizza is a great value. Take the time to check out *Dang Brother Pizza* at *Farmers Market Ogden* every Saturday this summer. Don't live in Ogden? You can also check out *Dang Brother* at the *Sunset City Farmers Market* on Tuesdays from 5-9 p.m. or on Wednesdays at the *Roy Community Farmers Market* from 5-8 p.m.

Be sure to grab a slice from *Dang Brother Pizza* on Sunday, August 13 at the *Craft Lake City DIY Festival*. I promise you'll have a Dang good time!

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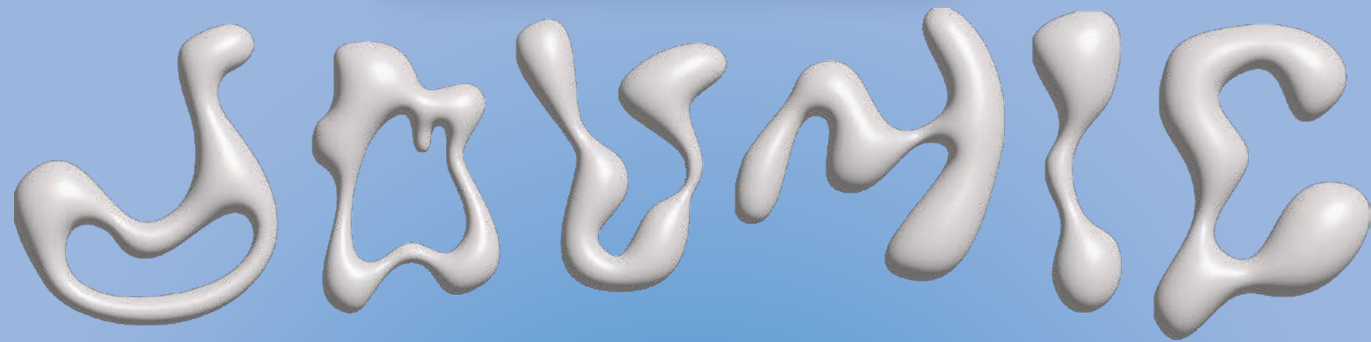
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By Andrew Christiansen achristiansen01@gmail.com

The Salt Lake music scene showcases a wide diversity of artists, spanning various genres, identities and countries of origin. **Doumie** and **Gavanni**, who immigrated to Utah at a young age from Madagascar and Nigeria respectively, are perfect examples of two musicians who bring fresh perspectives to the local scene. You can see the R&B/pop artists at *SLUG's* August *Localized* showcase at *Kilby Court* on Thursday, August 17 (doors at 7, music at 8). Thank you to *Riso-Geist* for sponsoring the event!

Although Doumie grew up around music in Madagascar, she didn't truly consider herself a musical artist until something magical happened in 2017. Her cover of "Indray Andro" received attention from the creator of the song, Malagasy musician **Rakoto Fran**.

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Doumie is on a continuous journey of metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly, becoming a fully formed artist that can easily tap into sorrow and joy.

He invited her to his home in Biarritz, France where they drove to San Sebastián, Spain to record a new version and video of "Indray Andro" together. "It was a great experience that gave me a wild belief in myself," Doumie says. "And I was like, I'm just gonna start doing music and actually write my own songs."

In 2010 at age 18, Doumie immigrated to Utah from Madagascar by herself. She says it was a tough transition because of the language barrier as she only spoke Malagasy and French at the time. The move to the United States was important and worth the struggle to "get access to more opportunities." After doing covers for several years, Doumie dropped her first album in June 2020, *Butterfly*, a soulful R&B/pop rock record with smooth melodies and lyrics, best described as an emotional exploration of human experiences.

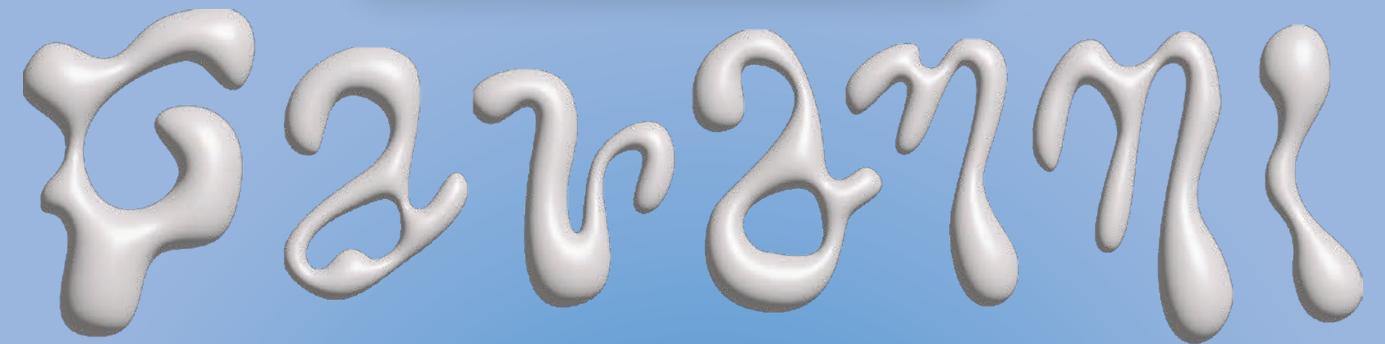
Doumie says the lyrics in her songs often come from painful experiences or chaotic emotions which can often be cathartic to sing about. "That's the power of being an artist—music is really a healer," Doumie says. "I want it to heal myself and heal other people through my songs." For her, song ideas can come at any time, whether it be a topic she wants to sing about or a melody she wants to include. "I just record myself on my phone ... I talk about what I feel, what's going on in my life ... or my friend's life." She also enjoys finding instrumentals to sing freestyle over on the daily "just to exercise her voice."

After the pandemic started calming down, Doumie began performing at small

shows around the city. Now more than ever, she feels that unheard artists like her are starting to appear in more spaces around Salt Lake, performing and practicing their art. "There are more studios, clubs and cafes, and all of that gives more access to artists that have just been doing everything by themselves," she says. In 2021 her Instagram got hacked, and she lost over 7,000 followers comprising people who listened to her music and important figures in the music industry. "It was so hard to rebuild everything because I did everything from scratch," Doumie says. "But there's always gonna be obstacles with anything that you do." She's been able to steadily rebuild her following since then and connect and collaborate with more local artists.

Since Doumie first became involved with the Salt Lake City music scene, she notes that its consistency and variety have grown. "People are now doing pop, and there's a lot more female artists that are rappers," Doumie says. One thing she thinks the local scene could do to take it to the next level is foster less competitiveness and more community and camaraderie, especially between artists who make different genres of music. She says, "What if we were all happy for each other's growth instead of wanting to be more than someone else?"

Even though it's been several years since Doumie put out her album *Butterfly*, she feels she's still on that journey of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly—a fully formed version of an artist that can easily tap into sorrow and joy, has more confidence and feels spiritually rich through making music. "I want to be so sure of myself, because ... I'm not 100% there," she says. "I feel like [it's always important to] remember where you want to go in the future."



By Andrew Christiansen achristiansen01@gmail.com

Gavanni's music, both instrumentally and lyrically, connects the place he lived for the first 17 years of his life—Lagos, Nigeria—to the place he's lived for the past nine years—Utah. His sound is best described as a blend of traditional R&B, afrobeats and Western pop. "I had these very unique, original experiences from one culture [in Nigeria] and then ... my experiences from 17 to now in a different culture," Gavanni says. "It's like trying to retain my culture in a place where it's kind of nonexistent and building on top of another one that's fresh to me."

Gavanni first immigrated to St. George, Utah in 2014 to attend *Utah Tech University* for their computer science program. "You kind of expect it to be a cultural shock, changing countries, but I don't think anything could have prepared me," he says. "To be honest, I was kind of all over the place in St. George." It wasn't until a regular morning five years ago when he was singing along to "Plastic 100°C" by **Sampha** that it dawned on Gavanni that he wanted to be a musician. "I was like, 'You know what? I think I can be a singer,'" he says. "I don't care what other people think, what I even think of myself—this is my goal, I'm going to work toward it."

Years later, Gavanni moved closer to SLC, which feels "a lot more grounding and inclusive," he says. One day, he was hanging out with local artist **G'aza** during a recording session, and although Gavanni had yet to drop any music at the time, his friends encouraged him to hop on the mic. "[They told me] 'Think about whatever comes to your mind,'" Gavanni says. Extremely nervous, he opened his mouth and went for it. "At the time, it was the best

thing I'd ever heard," he says. Listening back to it now, he thinks it's "completely trash, but it was a great starting point."

Over time, as he grew to be more comfortable creating his own songs, experimenting and performing live, Gavanni started to see the positive impact making music could have on his life and his listeners. By 2021, he had built up a solid local fanbase after releasing his debut EP, *The Sound*, and several standalone singles that showcase his soothing voice and versatility in genre. "One of the biggest feelings that I was hoping to evoke for listeners was nostalgia," he says. "I want you to be relaxed, I want you to be in a place where you just feel warm and don't have to worry about anything and just groove." Overall, Gavanni hopes to make music that has universal appeal—songs that people wouldn't necessarily think are made by an artist based in Utah. "I take my time writing my lyrics—the cadence, the performance, the whole thing has to come together so that a Utahn can enjoy the sound of Afrobeats and be like, 'Oh, wow, this is new to me.'"

As he continues to experiment more as an artist and work with new producers and musicians, his vision is to "reconstruct the sounds of Afro-pop." In his music, he wants to contribute to "bridging the gap between cultures, from Nigeria to the rest of the world," to make a modern

version of Afro-pop that culminates in a sound everybody can connect with. Up next in Gavanni's career is a long-awaited debut album that he hopes will convey this vision. More than anything though, Gavanni is happy to be a part of what he sees as a special time in the local music scene. "I think in a few more years, there's going to be a big spotlight shining on Salt Lake City and the talents here," he says. "And I'm going to be so excited to say, 'I told you all so.'"

Gavanni bridges the cultural gap between Nigeria and Utah to make a modern version of Afro-pop that everybody can connect with.



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Giving Beer Bottles a Second Life with Tappan Candleworks

By Rachel Brooks • rachel.brooks94@gmail.com

Photos by Ashley Christenson



With an emphasis on crafting sustainably, Justin Tappan of Tappan Candleworks repurposes old beer bottles to give them a second life as candleholders.

Reduce, reuse, recycle—a staple mantra that most often emphasizes “recycle.” While recycling remnants of a night out drinking is better than sending waste to a landfill, finding ways to reuse those empty beer bottles and cans saves energy and can provide some great decor for your home. In Utah County, **Tappan Candleworks** is a thriving example of a local business emphasizing sustainability through crafting by repurposing bottles and cans and turning them into candle holders.

Justin Tappan, founder of Tappan Candleworks, began making candles during the pandemic. An engineer by training and inspired by years of watching his dad invent things, Tappan started Tappan Candleworks with craft store supplies and empty candle jars. “At some point, I was taking out our glass recycling, and I think it was an Apothic [wine] bottle, and I remember just thinking, “This would be a beautiful candle,”” he says.

Over the past two years, Tappan has grown his hobby into a side business. Part of his sustainability efforts include using every part of the bottle and reusing his own materials as much as possible. Tappan notes that part of what helped him establish his business ethos is the desire to take care of the

planet and create a healthy lifestyle for him and his family. “I want to have a positive impact on the world,” he says. Recently, Tappan’s oldest child found some empty beer bottles on a hiking trail and, rather than letting them sit as waste, he took the bottles home, cleaned them and gave them a second life as candle holders.

He says, “It takes energy to recycle something, so it’s still better to remove it [from the waste stream] and repurpose it.” Tappan sources his bottles from dumpster dives in glass recycling bins and leaves a box on his porch for customers to drop off their own bottles. His workshop even features a box of “busteds,” bottles with some imperfections that he still crafts with but cannot sell in their current condition. Tappan also offers a candle refill program, allowing people to keep family heirlooms or other special containers and reuse them.

Beginning a sustainability journey or trying a new craft can be overwhelming, and Tappan recommends starting small. His candle-making process has changed dramatically over the course of a few years, but sustainability has been central to his crafting. He recycles in his workshop and reuses elements such as popsicle sticks with holes drilled into them to hold candle

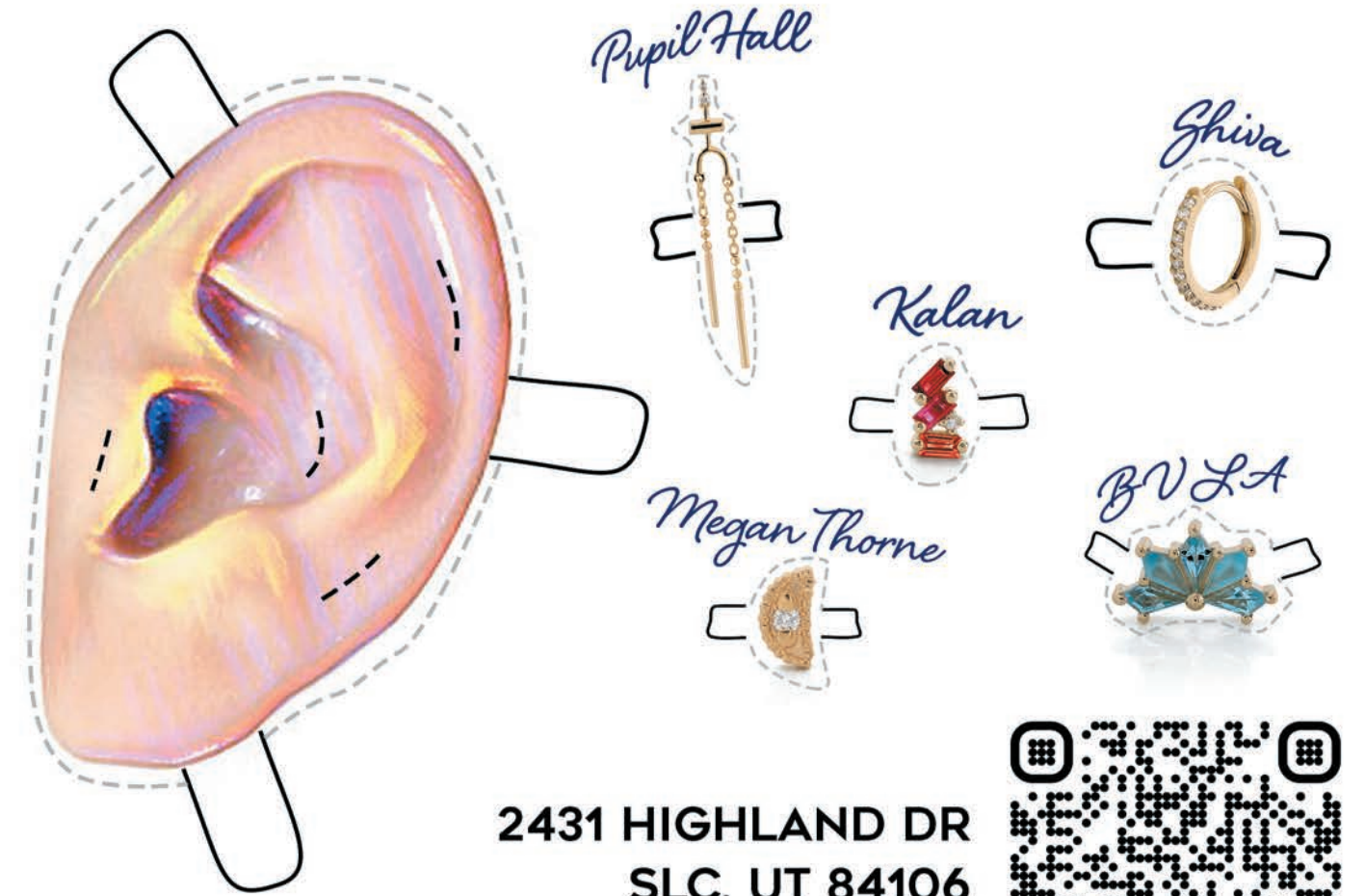
wicks in place while they dry. “There are definitely some small steps you can take to reduce what you throw away and to see beauty in some of those things that were headed to the trash,” Tappan says.

If you’re considering a new project for your own beer bottles or looking for sustainable ways to repurpose materials, Tappan Candleworks is a great reference for getting started at home. Instead of just throwing away those empties after a night of drinking, rinse bottles to use as a vase for fresh flowers or to store home-brewed beer or kombucha. Make coasters or trivets out of beer caps. Use cans and bottles to hold string lights and decorate your backyard. Hammer the bottles and make a mosaic picture frame out of broken glass—or, donate them to a local artist, such as Tappan Candleworks.

Tappan Candleworks’ products can be purchased online at tappancandleworks.com or at farmers markets in Provo, Orem and Springville. Check out his candles at local shops *The Collective Underground* in Provo and *Beespoke* in American Fork, and swing by his booth at this year’s *Craft Lake City DIY Fest*. Find Tappan on Instagram @[tappan.candleworks](https://www.instagram.com/tappan.candleworks) and send him a DM if you’d like to drop off some bottles.

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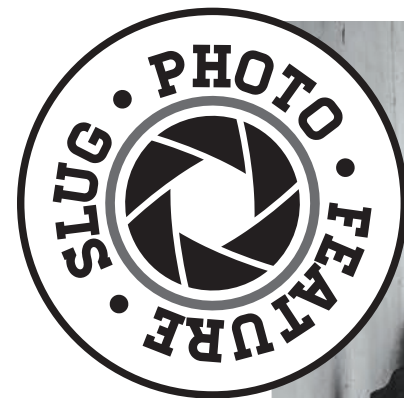
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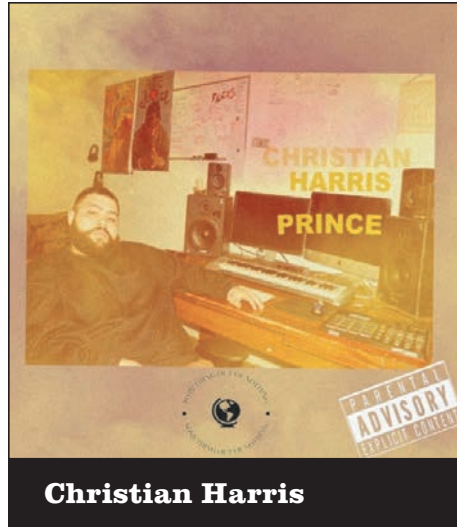
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Local Music Singles Roundup

School is coming back, and it's hot on our trail! Savor every last moment of vacation heat by checking out our August Local Music Singles Roundup! Sunbathe by the pool with **Emily Hicks'** "Canned Wine," or take over the final few nights of the summer while blaring **No Jure's** "Judgement Day." Whatever you're doing to wrap up the summer season, you can rely on *SLUG* to keep your soundtrack company.



Christian Harris



Emily Hicks



Jack and the Fun-Guys

"Afeni"
Self-Released
Street: 06.04
Christian Harris = J. Cole + Frank Ocean
x Warren G

With "Afeni," the first single off a newly released EP, Christian Harris reminds me why I loved **Mac Miller** so much. It was never about how fast MM could throw rhymes but instead about creating a tasteful and jazzy sonic space where he could mumble his lyrics that speak to exhaustion and suffering. Harris touches on this hushed, tortured-artist rap with "Afeni." A shiny jazz piano floats above the lyrics while dominant seventh chords and a leisurely, punchy beat hold everything up from below. Harris, a buttery baritone vocalist, speaks about what could be the life of rap legend **Tupac's** mother, **Afeni Shakur**. In that context and perspective, Harris' lyrics pack a meaningful punch. "Afeni" could easily yield hours of research and entertainment for young listeners; it's a track that would do Tupac proud.

—Mary Culbertson

"Canned Wine"
Self-Released
Street: 06.02
Emily Hicks = '90s Garth Brooks +
Fearless-era Taylor Swift

Akin to a Christmas ham or a birthday cake, Emily Hicks posits canned wine—the latest white-girl-wasted alcohol craze after we burned ourselves out on seltzers—as a metonymic stand-in for sartorial ceremonies. To Hicks, these dangerously yummy aluminum tins are liquid harbingers of summer shenanigans. "Raise it up, pink red or white / If you're ready for a real good time / All you need is one / To get a special kind of drunk," she sings in ode on the chorus. She extols its virtues—fancier than beer, easier than mixing a cocktail, the perfect companion to "talk[ing] shit from the couch"—over a country-pop instrumental as lackadaisical as her lyrical preoccupations. The trend of young musicians proclaiming to have concocted the "song of the summer" has become an eye roll-worthy TikTok meme, but Emily Hicks might actually be on to something with this breezy, poolside rallying cry.

—Audrey Lockie

"Water Song"
Self-Released
Street: 05.01
Jack and the Fun-Guys = Beach Boys +
Grateful Dead

If you haven't listened to Jack and the Fun-Guys before, you're really missing out. Right off the bat, "Water Song" lives up to its name by transporting you to a picturesque beach in July, complete with clear waters and a light breeze. I was mesmerized by the complete harmony between the many moving parts in this song. The surf-rock bass line and saxophone work in tandem to create a complex, relaxed musical flow perfect for catching waves. The plunky keyboard and tinny production quality bring me back to live recordings of Grateful Dead shows. "Water Song" is a total playlist essential for any summertime event. If you love your bands more jammy with a hint of brass, I'd highly recommend listening to this single and trying to catch Jack and the Fun-Guys live. You won't be disappointed!

—Elle Cowley



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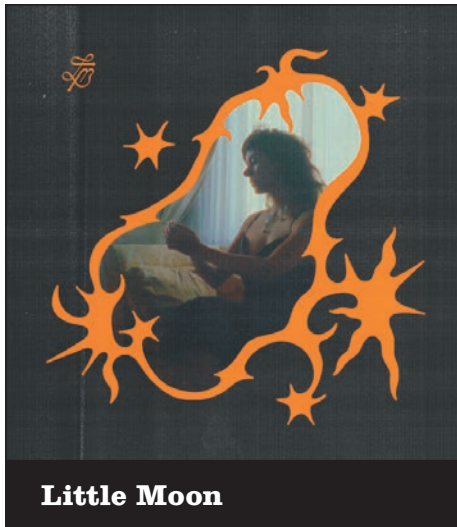
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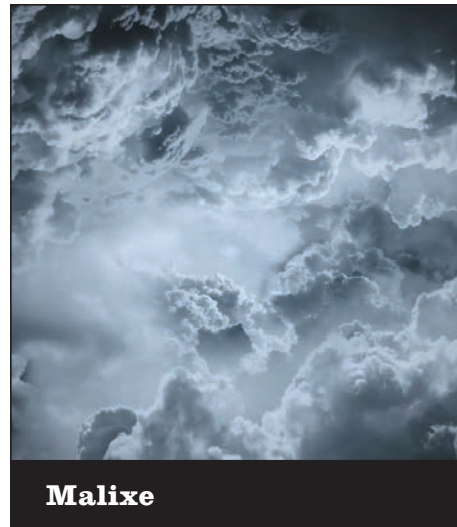
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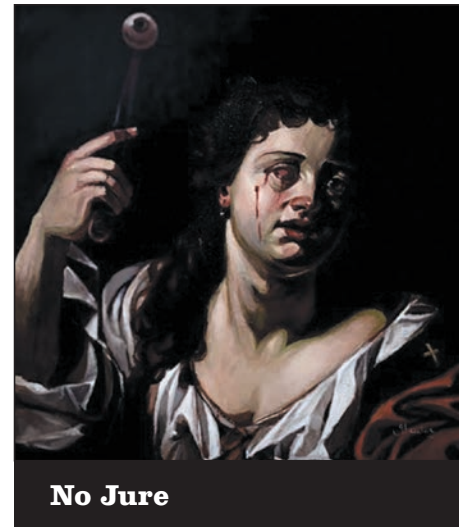
Local Music Singles Roundup



Little Moon



Malixe



No Jure

“wonder eye”
Self-Released
Street: 05.16
Little Moon = Charity Rose Thielen + Sylvan Esso

From the artist who won this year’s *NPR* Tiny Desk Contest, “wonder eye” is the latest installment in the unique discography of Little Moon. The musical project of artist **Emma Hardyman**, Little Moon has found a niche in the indie-folk world that is relatively unexplored. “wonder eye” continues to set the band apart, showcasing Hardyman’s aching, emotion-packed vocals. A buzzing chorus of hums floats in and out of the song like a bee caught in your hair, invoking a sense of anxious anticipation. The climax hits around one minute in: Shifting from finger-picked guitar, harp-like melody and other string instruments, the song explodes with the pounding of drums and a series of electronic beeps and boops. Hardyman’s belted vibrato accompanies the mechanical cacophony, creating a sound that actually works. Lyrics are kept to a minimum, making the song intentionally vague and allowing the music to offer meaning in itself—for me, it was heart-wrenching nostalgia. —Katie Hatzfeld

“Save Myself”
Dark Audio
Street: 05.12
Malixe = Flume + Chromatics

“Save Myself,” the new single from artist Malixe, is like remembering a dream. With its floating vocals and synths that are sliced into electronic shards, the track’s dichotomy of sounds reflects the cover art of clouds exuding power through contrasting light and dark. Malixe sings “I don’t know why I’m here / Wish I could tell you all the reasons I got swept away,” while the rhythmic, light wubs scratch the ambient surface. The song is disorienting and surprising in a way that entices listeners. While the beginning softly builds, the first drop still feels like a shock. After that, the sound ebbs and flows along itself, maintaining a rhythm that makes it impossible to retreat until it eventually closes out in the same haunting way it began. The song comes together in pieces to create a disjointed vision of confusion, wistfulness and journey. —Harper Haase

“Judgement Day”
Self-Released
Street: 05.05
No Jure = Sick Puppies – Rise Against + Early 2000s Hot Topic

The soaking-wet beginning of No Jure’s “Judgement Day” sets the mood for the song: brutal, hydraulic limb-boxing in some rainy alleyway where the cyberpunk, neon cityscape casts a peach spotlight. The single reflects a gothic, sci-fi sound that can be heard in similar tracks such as **Classic Jack**’s earlier work. Their bassy guitar twang complements **Taegen Kehr**’s Jabberwocky screech paired with brutish drums that will make you headbang yourself into a whiplash. It’s an industrial/metal cement mixer that’s only heightened by an eerie echo effect throughout the track. You could easily close your eyes on a quick listen, visualizing the chicken scratch, Polka-trash wordplay that the band has accomplished (even if you can’t quite understand what Kehr is saying). It’s the type of black-and-white, straight-edge rock that doesn’t quite reinvent the wheel, but its heavy drone rock chords and hollowed-out percussion deserve a listen. —Alton Barnhart

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