

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

DEADMAU5 VS. DRAKE

ACL 2015 PREVIEW

WEEKEND

First Weekend

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ON THE COVER
DRAKE AND DEADMAU5 BY GARY MILLER



Ruen Brothers

Point Dume (Republic)

Forged in the English steel town of Scunthorpe, brothers Henry and Rupert Stansall (showbiz surname amalgamated from their first names) infuse modernity into the more dramatic elements of post-Holly/pre-Beatles pop. Nothing packs the urgency of 2013's "Blood Runs Wild" on this four-song stopgap, but superproducer Rick Rubin's Western boom adds a rich atmospheric undertone. Henry's skyward vocal command remains the standout element, "Summer Sun" just as easily arranged for Orbison or Pitney. "Motor City" curbs the histrionics for a driving American travelogue. **(1pm, HomeAway stage)**

★★★ — Greg Beets



TAME IMPALA

6PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

"Writing songs from a personal point of view is kind of like tearing off part of yourself and throwing it out there," admits Kevin Parker.

Since pouring his soul into song, the timid Tame Impala frontman finds he's slowly emerging from his shell.

"It's rewarding – therapeutic, even. I used to be quite shy with my lyrics," he recalls. "Like, cryptic and metaphoric. On [2012 LP] *Lonerism*, though, I really put myself out there, lyrically: my relationships, my childhood, everything. It was really hard to do at first, but it felt so rewarding afterward."

The Sydney-born singer remains reticent onstage nonetheless.

"I'm terrible with eye contact! I can never look people in the audience in the eye. Even in normal life, like in conversations, I have to force myself to look people in the eye when I talk to them," he laughs. "It's like pushing magnets together, you know? We don't wanna stick."

Parker curbs that anxiety with age-old rock remedies. The multi-instrumentalist claims to have mustered the inspiration for the Perth-based quintet's third LP, July's *Currents*, while tailspinning down a Bee Gees wormhole on a coke/mushroom cocktail ("I, at least, have to reach the 'right' level of drunk before playing.") The 29-year-old's casualness contradicts his take-charge nature in the studio. *Currents* is a woozy whirlpool of Seventies-stroked psychedelic soul, all written, recorded, performed, produced, and mixed by Parker himself.

"I'm proud of these songs," he reflects. "Particularly, I think, of 'Love/Paranoia,' as it has some chord changes I especially like. Sometimes, when I go back and listen to an album I made a month or a year later, I'm surprised I came up with certain chords."

"Other times," he snickers, "I look back and think it's all a fluke."
— Neph Basedow

"Writing songs from a personal point of view is kind of like tearing off part of yourself and throwing it out there."

AMERICAN AQUARIUM

12:15PM, BMI STAGE

This Raleigh, N.C., sextet takes its name from a Wilco lyric, reflecting an early alt.country sensibility. 2012's Jason Isbell-produced *Burn. Flicker. Die.* was supposed to be a farewell. Instead, a decade into the group's recording career, *Wolves* imagines what hometown heroes Whiskeytown and the Backsliders sounded like in their prime.

— Jim Caligiuri

SON LITTLE ►

1PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

Yearning voices Philly native Son Little, a deeply soulful singer/guitarist who's collaborated with the Roots and RJD2. His modern take on deep blues offers subtle electronic inflections and a nod to hip-hop in both timing and rhyme. An eponymous full-length debut due this month follows 2014 EP *Things I Forgot.*

— Thomas Fawcett



PHOTO: ANTHONY SAINT JAMES

CONTINUED ON P.4



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DISCLOSURE

8PM, HONDA STAGE

“Wow, he’s exceedingly nice,” you think after the interview, which isn’t to say other needle-moving superstars lack sincerity. However, with 21-year-old Howard Lawrence, younger sibling of prodigious UK production and DJ duo Disclosure, there’s a tangible earnestness that comes off true, unforced, and without a lick of self-importance.

To this end, they’ve eschewed the “kitchen sink” mentality found on many follow-ups to smash debuts. Similar in approach to 2013’s Mercury Prize-nominated *Settle*, they’re sticking with what’s worked for them with September’s highly anticipated *Caracal*.

“I think the key is that we don’t mind if people are big or not,” says Howard. “We work with someone like Sam [Smith] or with the Weeknd because we think they’re really good, not because they’re big. We pick the people who aren’t as well-known for the exact same reasons.

“We have to be able to get along with them because it’s the way we work. We always write some with the artist

around the piano, in a really old-fashioned way. We never do the whole ‘sending the beat out and getting them to send something back.’ We all work together as a collaboration.

“They’re all just nice people, too. That’s another key part. We don’t really want to get involved in working with divas, or people with big egos.”

The most intriguing of the brothers’ influences is obvious throughout their catalog.

“[J Dilla] influences us in a huge way in our production,” affirms Howard. “We are hugely into [J Dilla] because of the sounds, like our drum sounds. He was the best in [drums]. I still think he is. That’s how he influences us.

“We got into him without really knowing it. We started listening to all these amazing songs like Erykah Badu, or Pharcyde, or Busta Rhymes. We would be like, ‘Oh, I love all these tunes.’ Slowly [we realized] all of the songs we liked were by J Dilla. We were like, ‘Ah right, I see – genius.’”

– Kahron Spearman

“We always write some with the artist around the piano, in a really old-fashioned way. We never do the whole ‘sending the beat out and getting them to send something back.’”

Drew Holcomb & the Neighbors

Medicine (Magnolia)

Third-time charm, *Medicine* fulfills the promise of Nashville’s Drew Holcomb. Pigeonholed somewhere between the passion of the Avett Brothers and the lyrical intensity of Jason Isbell, Holcomb proclaims “music is medicine” and proceeds to cure all. Two sides of this 33 songster are best epitomized by lofty anthem “Shine Like Lightning” and the cute, whistle-along duet with his wife Ellie, “I’ve Got You.” “When It’s All Said and Done” closes with Holcomb’s best vocal, a gut-busting proclamation of love immersed in a heavenly guitar shimmer. **(3pm, Austin Ventures stage)**

★★★★

– Jim Caligiuri



▲ THE MACCABEES

1PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

Fourth release in 12 years, *Marks to Prove It* finds this London fivepiece turning in a quintessential British indie guitar band effort: tentative rockers and piano-driven ballads wrapped in vocals pitched somewhere between a yawn and a plea. All wrapped in the requisite epic, widescreen feel.

– Tim Stegall

A TRIBUTE TO ANDRAÉ CROUCH

1:15PM, TITO’S HANDMADE VODKA STAGE

Andraé Crouch had a seismic impact on modern Christian music. That’s his choir on Michael Jackson’s “Man in the Mirror.” Raised in the Church of God in Christ, Crouch & the Disciples dominated gospel in the late Sixties/early Seventies. Crouch passed away earlier this year at age 72. Special guests render impassioned renditions of classics like “Soon and Very Soon.”

– Greg Beets

NATE RUESS

2PM, HONDA STAGE

Since Fun played ACL 2013, the year after it won a pair of Grammys for Best New Artist and Song of the Year (No. 1 hit “We Are Young”), the New York trio has pursued anything but fun. Frontman Ruess debuted solo in June with *Grand Romantic*, arena rock whose vox misses bandmate Jack Antonoff’s songs in his spin-off, Bleachers.

– Raoul Hernandez



Moon Taxi

Daybreaker (Vagrant)

Goodbye jam band, hello Cleveland! Between the arena pop of Maroon 5 and ooh/ahh/stomp of the Lumineers, the third effort from Moon Taxi touches on prog with heavily processed guitar and ska beats on “All Day All Night” and the soaring “Domino.” Still, the Nashville quintet’s lyrical reach never matches its musicianship with coming-of-age clichés piled high on clap-along “Ready to Go” and the synth-pop of “Make Your Mind Up.” Made for standing in a field and shouting along to with thousands of your friends. **(5pm, Austin Ventures stage)**

★★

– Jim Caligiuri

CONTINUED ON P.6



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LOCAL LIST

BY KEVIN CURTIN



DAVID BRENDAN HALL

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

(Fri., 12:15pm, Honda stage)

Ray Benson's charismatic Western swing-ers have kept "House of Blue Lights" lit for 44 years.

CALLIOPE MUSICALS

(Fri., 11:15am, Austin Ventures stage)

Technicolor folkies concoct eclectic dance-rock jubilee for the barefoot crowd.

GARY CLARK JR. (Fri., 7pm, HomeAway stage)

Guitar slinger finds his artistic voice via hip R&B and deep soul on new LP *The Story of Sonny Boy Slim*.

LEOPOLD & HIS FICTION

(Fri., noon, Austin Ventures stage)

Pop-angled garage blues imbued with L.A. chic and Detroit muscle.

RESIDUAL KID

(Fri., 1:30pm, Austin Kiddie Limits stage)

Grungy noise-punk trio sneers innocence and the apathy of youth.

SHAKEY GRAVES (Sat., 3:20pm, Miller Lite stage)

Indie bard charges enigmatic prose with guitar fuzz while kicking suitcases and melting hearts.

WIND AND THE WAVE

(Sat., 11:45am, Austin Ventures stage)

Commercial indie-folk duet portraying romance and adventure.

UME (Sun., 12:30pm, Austin Ventures stage)

Hard-charging shoegaze trio lifted by blond headbanger Lauren Larson's immolating shred.



Brandon Flowers

The Desired Effect (Island)

By delivering New Wave back to arenas in the 21st century, Brandon Flowers defies the typical narrative of band-leader-turned-failed solo artist. Lovingly produced by Ariel Reichtschaid, the sophomore effort by the Killers' frontman abandons some of the alt-rock of his 2010 solo debut *Flamingo* and toys with heavy bass drum and guitars on stand-outs "Untangled Love" and "Dreams Come True." Even so, *The Desired Effect* for a feel-good LP of self-discovery is coming-of-age stories that transform into lost Springsteen anthems. Mission accomplished. (6pm, Honda stage)

★★★

— María Núñez



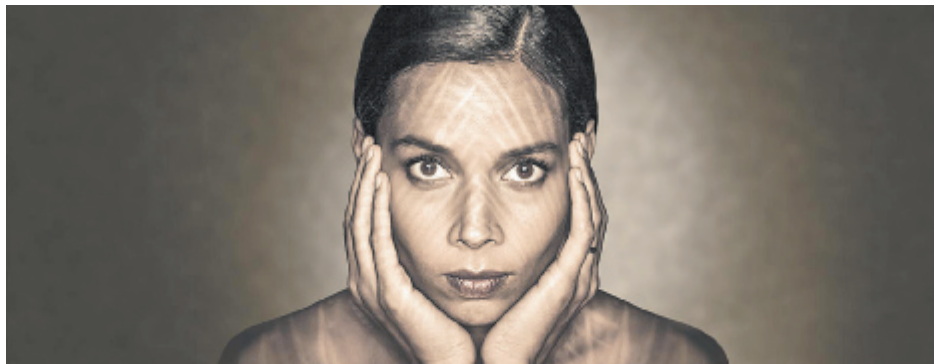
George Ezra

Wanted on Voyage (Columbia)

Amid the recent influx of young British songwriters, George Ezra strikes a unique chord. Improbably deep vocals set the Bristol-based 22-year-old's croon apart from contemporaries, even if his lyrical restlessness and wit still have room to mature. Ezra's debut collects older EP material, but displays an impeccable sense of melody on opening strummer "Blame It on Me" and continental hit "Budapest." "Cassy O'" cleverly stomps and rolls an early rock rhythm against the passing of time, while "Barcelona" drips into earnest ballad. Soulful and infectious. (7pm, Austin Ventures stage)

★★★

— Doug Freeman



ROYAL BLOOD

2PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

Big rawk riffs on a four-string stints neither on power nor accessibility for this bass/drum duo from the UK. Royal Blood's bestselling, Mercury Prize-nominated debut prompted patronage of two different generations of rockers in Jimmy Page and the Arctic Monkeys.

— Michael Toland

BILLY IDOL

4PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

Second solo LP, 1983's *Rebel Yell* made William Michael Albert Broad a leather-boy pinup with a punk rock sneer. The 59-year-old Brit is hardly retired in the millennium: 2014 dropped both his highly readable autobiography, *Dancing With Myself*, plus *Kings & Queens of the Underground*, trademark dance grooves and rock guitar.

— Tim Stegall

BRAND NEW

5PM, HOMEAWAY STAGE

For 15 years Brand New has tortured us. The Long Island fourpiece drops off, resurfaces, throws us gold, and disappears again in cyclic bursts of angst. In April, they suddenly embarked on their most extensive tour in five years after releasing two new songs. If this is the start of a disappearing act, we'll take what we can get.

— Abby Johnston

RUN THE JEWELS

5PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

Atlanta MC Killer Mike and Brooklyn rapper/producer El-P continue an unlikely redemption story. Unapologetic in the runaway road raider approach to their first two eponymous releases, the tag team maintains some order on their relentless promotion and proclamation of society's ugly truths via a lyrical intensity never before seen in hip-hop history.

— Kahron Spearman

SONS OF BILL

6PM, BMI STAGE

Anchored by the shared songwriting of brothers Sam, James, and Abe Wilson, Sons of Bill carved an Americana foothold on last year's fourth LP, *Love and Logic*. Produced by former Uncle Tupelo/Wilco drummer Ken Coomer, the Virginia quintet coated alt-roots influences with a more expansive polish, at times hearkening the Jayhawks.

— Doug Freeman

RHIANNON GIDDENS

6PM, TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA STAGE

On the Carolina Chocolate Drops' 2012 grand slam *Leaving Eden*, singer/banjo picker/fiddler Rhiannon Giddens' contributions — specifically the title track and single "Country Girl" — outgrew the Grammy-winning act's old-timey string band confines. The 37-year-old opera-trained singer's 2015 solo debut, the T Bone Burnett-produced *Tomorrow Is My Turn*, approximated Elizabeth Cotton and Nina Simone in one timeless voice.

— Kevin Curtin

FOO FIGHTERS

8PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

A hit HBO documentary miniseries dovetailing into last year's *Sonic Highways* LP, followed by a Foes tour only briefly derailed by an onstage injury, Dave Grohl remains remarkably indefatigable and seemingly omnipresent.

— Tim Stegall

DISCOVER

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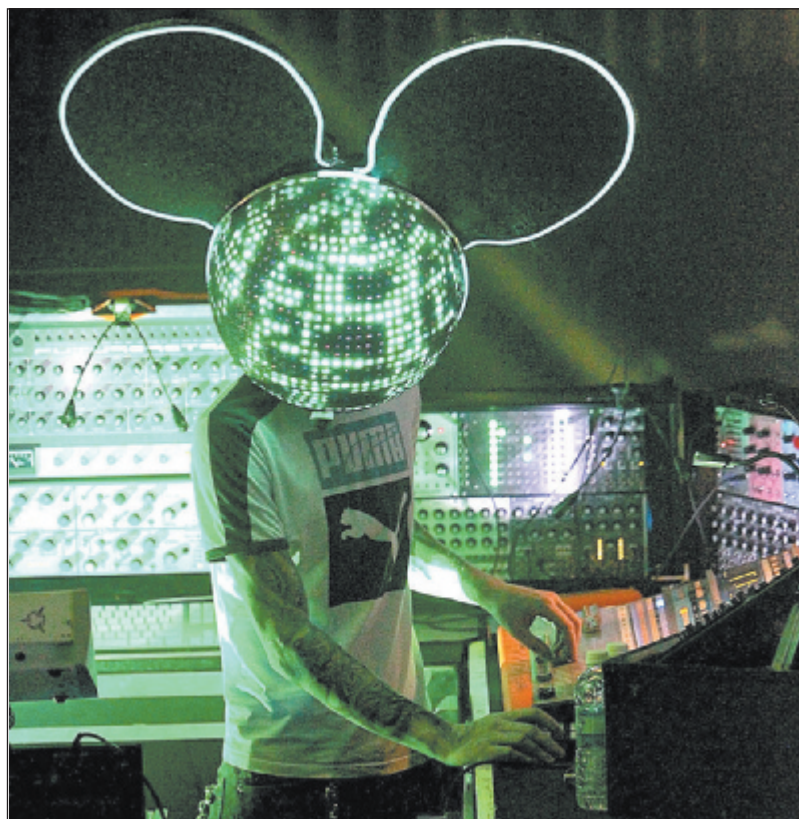
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DEADMAU5

8:20PM, HONDA STAGE

Government name: Joel Thomas Zimmerman

Birthday: January 5, 1981

Profession: DJ

Active since: 1997

Hometown: Toronto

Previous careers/professions: Light-twirling raver/computer geek

Number of albums: 7

Outrageous act, real or rumored:

Painted his limited edition Ferrari 458 Spider as a Japanese Nyan Cat ("Purrari"), and received a cease and desist letter from the automaker

Surely unintentional musical influences:

Mickey Mouse, Giorgio Moroder's disco divas, Nintendo

Notable collaborators: Kaskade, Rob Swire (Pendulum), Wolfgang Gartner

Songs he has to play: "Strobe" and "I Remember"

Song he shouldn't play: "I Said"

Most egregious example of passive-aggressiveness:

Funded a parody video game called *Ghosts 'n DJs* that attacked "fake DJs" – namely Steve Aoki and David Guetta

Precursor act: The Orb, Kaskade, Faithless, Daft Punk, Basement Jaxx

Best lines: Apparently drug-free, so none

Notable beefs: Most of his contemporaries. Latest: Skrillex. Previously: Avicii, Noel Gallagher, Arcade Fire, Afrojack, Armin van Buuren, the Walt Disney Company

Last show in Austin: March 12, 2013, Stubb's, during SXSW – a tag-team set with Richie Hawtin (as Testpilot)

Signature accessories: Big ol' maus head and a case of Red Bull

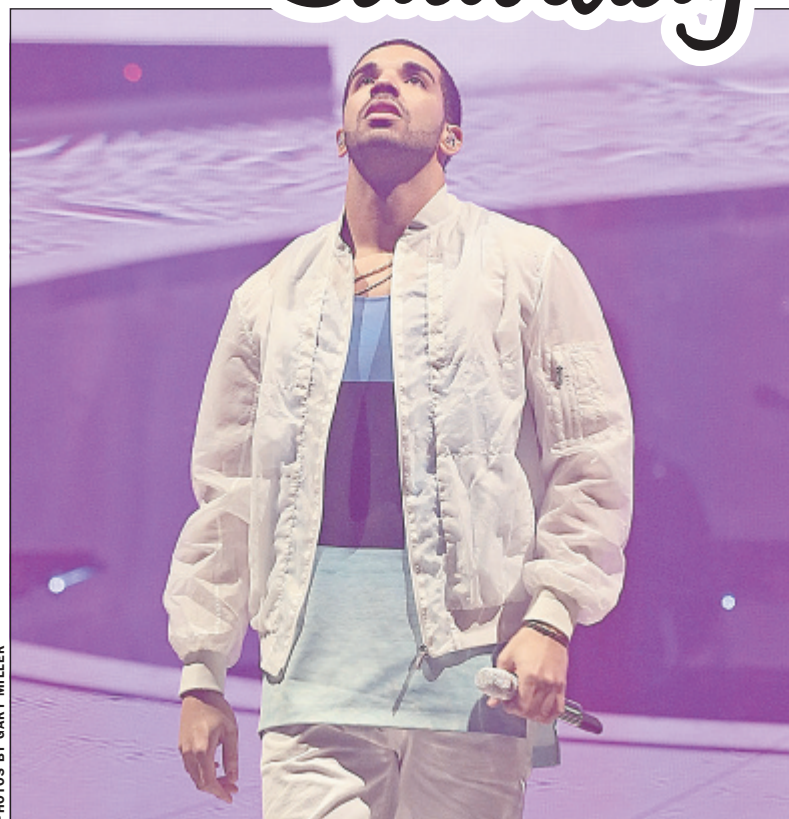
Nonmusical point of interest: The only EDM artist to be drug-free

Further signs of beta activity: Notorious Twitter GangsterBloodCripDisciple

Relationships: *Miami Ink* tattooist Kat Von D

FACE

BY KAHRON SPEARMAN



PHOTOS BY GARY MILLER

DRAKE

8:30PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

Government name: Aubrey Drake Graham

Birthday: October 24, 1986

Profession: MC

Active since: 2001

Hometown: Toronto

Previous careers/professions: Actor – played Jimmy, a paralyzed former basketball star, in Canada's *Degrassi: The Next Generation* series

Number of albums: 4 (upcoming – *Views From the 6*)

Outrageous act, real or rumored:

Got urinated on in a movie theatre by one of T.I.'s associates

Surely unintentional musical influences:

Eighties Keith Sweat, Babyface, Lenny Williams, mid-Nineties LL Cool J

Notable collaborators: Lil Wayne, Baby, Big Sean, Rick Ross

Song he has to play: "Marvin's Room"

Song he shouldn't play: "Miss Me"

Most egregious example of passive-aggressiveness:

Drake is passive-aggressive personified

Precursor act: 808s-era Kanye West, Carl Thomas, Jay Z, mid-Nineties LL Cool J

Best lines: "You love her, then you gotta give the world to her/ Is that a world tour or your girl's tour?/ I know that you gotta be a thug for her/ This ain't what she meant when she told you to open up more" ("Back to Back")

Notable beefs: Meek Mill, Chris Brown, Jay Z, Common, Pusha T, Tyga

Last show in Austin: Sept. 6, 2014 – Circuit of the Americas with Lil Wayne

Signature accessories: OVO (October's Very Own) Records merchandise, a glass of Merlot, and a shoulder to lean on

Nonmusical point of interest: His *Saturday Night Live* hosting gig

Relationships: Lately, Serena Williams; rumored, Rihanna and Nicki Minaj (see Meek Mill beef)

CONTINUED ON P.10

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PERFORMING ARTIST AUTOGRAPH SIGNINGS 2015

WEEKEND ONE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2ND

1:00pm In the Whale
1:30pm Meg Myers
2:00pm Run the Jewels
2:00pm American Aquarium
2:00pm Son Little
2:30pm Moon Taxi
3:00pm Rhiannon Giddens
3:15pm Mother Falcon
4:00pm Sons of Bill
4:30pm Albert Hammond Jr.
4:30pm Wolf Alice
5:30pm Leon Bridges
5:30pm Rey Pila

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD

1:40pm William Clark Green
1:45pm Echosmith
2:00pm Milo Greene
2:30pm Unknown Mortal Orchestra
2:45pm Ryn Weaver
3:00pm WALK THE MOON
3:00pm G-Eazy
3:00pm San Fermin
4:00pm Glass Animals
5:00pm Houndmouth
5:00pm MisterWives

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH

2:00pm UME
2:30pm Of Monsters and Men
3:30pm Years & Years
4:00pm BØRNS
5:00pm Strand of Oaks
5:15pm Jidenna
6:00pm The Suffers
6:45pm Kurt Vile

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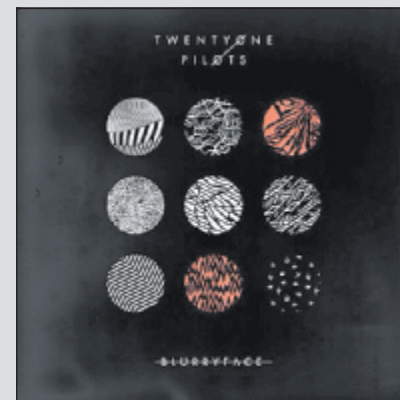


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Twenty One Pilots

Blurryface (Fueled by Ramen)

For six years, Tyler Joseph and Josh Dun have accomplished something unthinkable: vaguely Christian, quasi-emo, singer-songwriter pop-rap that works. On fourth LP *Blurryface*, the Ohioans maintain the miraculous mixture while grappling with pop viability. “Honest, there’s a few songs on this record that feel common/ I’m in constant confrontation with what I want and what is poppin’,” spits Joseph in dancehall-ish single “Lane Boy.” The “Fairly Local” beat recalls Drake and “Doubt” employs heavy Auto-Tune, but these aviators rock honest love on “Tear in My Heart” and inspire equality with “The Judge.” Not the clever cut of 2013’s *Vessel*, but still airborne. **(4:30pm, Samsung Galaxy stage)**

★★★

– Kevin Curtin

WILLIAM CLARK GREEN

12:30PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

East Texas singer-songwriter William Clark Green’s Texas country sound bears the markings of his roots and teenage years spent in College Station. Although fourth LP *Ringling Road* adopts the good ol’ boy aesthetic, the April release rings truer than most of his affected accent contemporaries. – Abby Johnston

▲ ECHOSMITH

12:45PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

As Eighties pop continues to beguile a new generation, acts like this band of California siblings proliferate. 2013 debut LP *Talking Dreams* proves a bright dose of catchy bittersweetness, exemplified by double-platinum single “Cool Kids” and a degree of craft that belies the members’ relative youth. – Michael Toland

SAN FERMIN

1:30PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

San Fermin’s eponymous 2013 debut gave compelling voice to composer Ellis Ludwig-Leone’s elaborate chamber pop, anchored by the female constituents of Lucius and the boozy baritone of Allen Tate. The latter returned for this year’s *Jackrabbit*, with Charlene Kaye now playing counter, the eightpiece now jelling less Sufjan and more Dirty Projectors. – Doug Freeman

verse scripture in a lesson-filled tome of trial, tribulation, and redemption written for those surviving in today’s darkest valleys. Equal loads of trepidation and greatness, Staples toes the line in detailing inner-city existence, using a fresh perspective and updated imagery.

– Kahron Spearman

FATHER JOHN MISTY

2:20PM, HONDA STAGE

Josh Tillman’s alter ego struck as an irony-tinged, postmodern indie crooner with 2012 debut *Fear Fun*, but a strange thing happened on the way to this year’s sophomore LP, *I Love You, Honeybear*. Tillman’s caustic apathy revealed instead a brutally honest self-awareness in his deadpan ballads of modern love and angst, a vulnerable but cathartic performance that emerges equally ambivalent onstage in his nonchalant gyrations. – Doug Freeman

VINCE STAPLES

2:30PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

This summer’s proper full-length debut, *Summertime ’06*, found Long Beach, Calif., MC Vince Staples printing contemporary chapter and

HOUNDMOUTH

3:30PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

March sophomore stunner *Little Neon Limelight* showcased versatility with an eclectic mix of harmony-braided roots ballads that positioned this Indiana quartet at the top of emerging Americana acts. From Katie Toupin’s twanging vox (“Gasoline”) to raucous rockabilly (“15 Years”), Houndmouth shifts effortlessly through Southern soul (“Honey Slider”), stomping folk-pop (“Sedona”), and Dylan-esque reels (“For No One”). – Doug Freeman

MISTERWIVES

3:30PM, HOMEAWAY STAGE

Mandy Lee initially conceptualized her NYC project Misterwives as an Eighties cover band. While the Reagan era impacts synth-rock debut *Our Own House*, this band is one radio hit and major festival set away from the next level. – Michael Toland

Unknown Mortal Orchestra

Multi-Love (Jagjaguwar)

Blowing up his profile among NPR programmers with mod falsetto soul on 2013’s “So Good at Being in Trouble,” New Zealander-turned-Oregonian Ruban Nielson doubles down on this vein to distraction. Top-loaded with mildly engaging songs drawn out past the point of intrigue, *Multi-Love* sorely misses the psychedelic fancy that informed its predecessors. “Can’t Keep Checking My Phone” cloyingly aims for the cheap seats with a push-button bhangra and walking disco bass. Bright spot “Necessary Evil” refreshes a hypnotic Bill Withers via interplay between Nielson’s guitar and his father’s trumpet. **(5:30pm, Austin Ventures stage)**

★★

– Greg Beets



CONTINUED ON P.12



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 Loudon Wainwright III THU OCT 22	 Al DiMeola FRI OCT 23	 Ricky Nelson Remembered THU OCT 29	 The Guess Who FRI OCT 30
 BETO & the Fairlanes SUN NOV 1	 Terence Blanchard TUE NOV 3	 AJ Croce THU NOV 5	 Marc Broussard FRI NOV 6
 Robert Cray SUN NOV 8	 Karla Bonoff THU NOV 12	 Gino Vannelli FRI & SAT NOV 13 & 14	 Bruce Cockburn SUN NOV 15
 David Cook THU NOV 19	 Last Comic Standing FRI NOV 20	 Peter White Christmas w/ Mindi Abair & Rick Braun FRI NOV 27	 Gaelic Storm WED DEC 2
 David Bromberg THU DEC 3	 Michael Martin Murphey's Cowboy Christmas FRI DEC 4	 Marc Cohn SAT DEC 5	 A Gospel According to Jazz Xmas Kirk Whalum, Gerald Albright, Norman Brown & Shéela SUN DEC 6
 David Benoit Tribute to Charlie Brown w/ Jane Monheit FRI DEC 11	 Blood, Sweat & Tears FRI JAN 22	 Rachelle Farrell SAT JAN 23	 Lizz Wright SUN JAN 24

DAVE MASON	1.29	THREE WOMEN & THE TRUTH (ELIZA GILKYSON, MARY GAUTHIER & GRETCHEN PETERS)	4.24
WALKIN' WOODY'S ROAD (JIMMY LAFAVE, ELIZA GILKYSON, LANCE CANALES)	1.30	SUZANNE VEGA	4.28
NILS LOFGREN	1.31	SAWYER BROWN	4.29
BRANFORD MARSALIS	2.3	JIMMY WEBB THE GLEN CAMPBELL YEARS	5.1
HAL KETCHUM	2.5	KRIS ALLEN	5.5
CRYSTAL GAYLE	2.6	THE MUSIC OF ABBA	5.15
MARC ANTOINE & STEVE COLE	2.14	BWB (RICK BRAUN, KIRK WHALUM & NORMAN BROWN)	5.27
GEORGE WINSTON	2.17 & 2.18	ACOUSTIC ALCHEMY	6.10
BJ THOMAS	2.21	THE RIPPINGTONS	6.24
FAB FOUR	2.28	YOGA SUMMIT & KIRTAN WITH JAI UTTAL	7.10
SOLAS	3.2	EUGE GROOVE & PETER WHITE	7.22
ALTAN	3.8	FIREFALL	7.29
MADELEINE PEYROUX	3.10	THE LETTERMEN	8.7
HERMAN'S HERMITS W/ PETER NOONE	3.18	MICHAEL GRIMM	8.14
SPYRO GYRA	3.25	PAULA POUNDSTONE	8.20
THE ASSOCIATION	4.1	PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE	8.21
BOB SCHNEIDER	4.8		
JOHN HAMMOND	4.14		



OCTOBER 20

UB40, featuring Ali Campbell, Astro and Mickey Virtue

Considered to be Britain's greatest reggae artists, UB40 has survived for more than 30 years in the music business with 40 million record sales worldwide, with songs like *Kingston Town* and *Red, Red Wine*. This tour reunites the band with founding vocalist Ali Campbell.

CONCERT CLUB 2015-2016



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CONCERT CLUB 2015-2016

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March 9 _____ ERIN IVEY
May 4 _____ RICK TREVINO
June 8 _____ TAMECA JONES

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Alabama Shakes Sound & Color (ATO)

Thunderbitch

Alabama Shakes rolled into SXSW 2012 and an attendant ACL TV taping riding a tsunami of Janis Joplin comparisons for singer Brittany Howard, without the benefit of a full-length LP. The Athens, Ga., quartet cut a nostalgia-tinged mix of blues, soul, and swamp rock, and the easy move would've been to continue down that tried and true path. Sophomore triumph *Sound & Color* aims higher. The title track opens the album with a warbling vibraphone, layered with unhurried drums and a symphony of strings as Howard's first words proclaim, "A new world hangs outside the window, beautiful and strange." "Future People" slow burns a celestial psych-funk groove, while "Dunes" updates classic Southern rock. "The Greatest" is no-frills rock & roll, and the clearest bridge to Howard's side project, Thunderbitch. The eponymous debut is pure punk, wherein song titles serve as mission statement: "I Just Wanna Rock n Roll" and "I Don't Care." **(6:20pm, Honda stage)** *(Sound & Color)* ★★★★★ *(Thunderbitch)* ★★★

— Thomas Fawcett

STURGILL SIMPSON

4:20PM, HONDA STAGE

Sturgill Simpson doesn't give a damn about saving country music, despite the mantle being continually placed upon him following last year's breakout sophomore LP, *Metamodern Sounds in Country Music*. Recently capturing Artist and Song of the Year honors at the Americana Music Awards, the Kentuckian's Waylon Jennings drawl and expansive scope in sound and sentiment paves a path of new progressive country.

— Doug Freeman

WALK THE MOON

5:20PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

After this Cincinnati quartet played ACL Fest in 2013, both its neo-New Wave aesthetic and Top 5 hit "Shut Up and Dance" conquered radio. No wonder: The ubiquitous dork-done-good anthem, like its attendant LP *Talking Is Hard*, remains an irresistible festival bounce.

— Michael Toland

RAYLAND BAXTER

6:30PM, BMI STAGE

Son of multi-instrumentalist Bucky Baxter (Bob Dylan, Steve Earle, Ryan Adams), Rayland Baxter just issued his second disc, *Imaginary Man*. Nothing intangible about the Nashville singer-songwriter's twanging songs of the South, whose characters reverberate in a folkish vibe that's occasionally swampy and always melodic.

— Jim Caligiuri



▲ A\$AP Rocky

6:30PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

On January 18, A\$AP Yams, founder of New York's A\$AP Mob and musical father figure to the crew's top star, A\$AP Rocky, died of a drug overdose. The Harlem MC, born Rakim Mayers, mourned in private, but *At.Long.Last.A\$AP* (RCA) offers candid insight to his grief. Danger Mouse-produced centerpiece "Pharsyde" goes deep on the gentrification on his native hood.

— Luke Winkie

José González Vestiges & Claws (Mute)

After fronting indie poppers Junip, Sweden's José González returns to his natural métier with third LP *Vestiges & Claws*. Centering melodies on his soft voice and nylon-string guitar virtuosity, the album, recorded in the singer's kitchen, stretches his sound as he did on 2007's *In Our Nature*. González folds in bass, flute, percussion, whistles, synth, and rhythms that might induce those so inclined to dance. From the groovy "Leaf Off/The Cave" to mantra "What Will," González gently expands his borders without abandoning the center. **(6:30pm, Tito's Handmade Vodka stage)** ★★★

— Michael Toland



CONTINUED ON P.17



AUSTIN CITY LIMITS MUSIC FESTIVAL PREVIEW

HERE WE GO AGAIN!

ACL CARES Visit ACL Cares to learn about how you can have a positive impact beyond ACL Festival. Find ways to support the local, music community, register to be a stranger's hero and save a life, or help preserve the world's natural resources. Swing by!

ART MARKET Your mecca for memorabilia. It's no secret that Austin is booming with creativity and style. ACL Art Market brings the best local artisans into one place — shop from bags, jewelry, or even art for your pad. Plus, the ACL General Store has all the Festival survival tools you might have forgotten, like gum, sunscreen, rain ponchos, and more essentials.

AT&T GIGAPOWERS GALLERY Visit the AT&T GigaPower Gallery to see live art performances each day from Austin's own artists. Watch as masterpieces come to life and get a chance to win art & prizes for yourself! Inside the lounge, see if you're eligible for blazing-fast Internet speeds up to 1Gbps with U-verse with AT&T GigaPowerSM, choose a custom free item & charge all your devices.

ACL EATS FOOD COURT ACL Festival brings Austin's staple restaurants to Zilker so you don't have to leave to enjoy good food. Be sure to explore the local food scene in ACL Eats and the HOPE Farmers Market's farm-to-festival fare. There's something for everyone!

AUSTIN KIDDIE LIMITS PRESENTED BY LIFEWAY Parents, keep your little rockers entertained at AKL with family-friendly performances and activities like video karaoke, punk hairdos, tattoos, hip-hop workshops, AKL Family Beach, Lifeway's Art Mural Wall and more. Kick back in the beach area to cool down, or even take advantage of our family services tent for any child-related needs.

CAMELBAK FILLING STATIONS Stop by one of the CamelBak Filling Stations to top off on free freshly filtered water. Help us offset the number of disposable water containers used at the Festival and track how many bottles are being saved at facebook.com/camelbak, @CamelBak on Twitter, or @CamelBak on Instagram. #ditchdisposable

POSITIVE IMPACT ON CLIMATE AND COMMUNITY Join the effort! ACL Fest has partnered with the City of Austin to support the preservation of the city we love so much. Buy a "PICC Purchase" in the ACL Art Market and proceeds will support Waller Creek Conservancy.

THE GALAXY EXPERIENCE The Galaxy Experience and VIP Owner's Lounge are the ultimate spots to unwind and recharge. Swing by and get your hands on the latest additions to the Samsung Galaxy lineup like the Samsung Galaxy S6 edge+ and Samsung Galaxy Note 5, or learn how to change the way you pay for all your festival needs with Samsung Pay. Galaxy Owners can earn exclusive rewards, including access to the VIP Owner's Lounge and more.

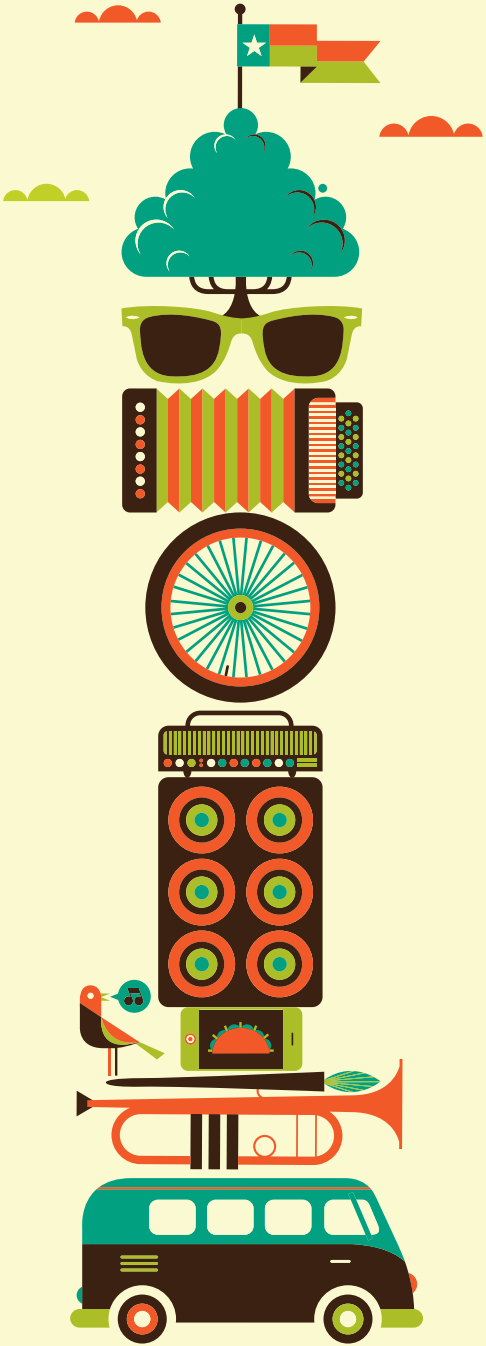
STATE FARM'S GOOD NEIGHBOR HANGOUT When Good Neighbors come together around the music they love, great things happen. JJoin State Farm at their Good Neighbor Hangout as they celebrate the Austin community and the artists inspired by this city. Discover local musicians performing at the ACL Festival, jam on their interactive music wall, & enter for a chance to win VIP upgrades.

TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA PLINKO PARLOR Come on down to the Tito's Handmade Vodka Plinko Parlor! Festival attendees 21 and over can step up for a chance to win from a selection of quality Tito's merchandise. Open daily from gates to 7pm — Everyone is a winner!

UBER Free First Uber Ride for ACL Music Festival Fans! Need a ride? Download the Uber app and get a safe, reliable ride to Austin City Limits Music Festival at the touch of a button. Enter promo code ACLFESTIVAL2015 for a free first ride (up to \$25). New users only.

WATERLOO RECORDS HONDA ARTIST SIGNING SHACK Come by the Waterloo Records Honda Artist Signing Shack for autographs from your favorite ACL Festival performers. While you're there pick up an album from Waterloo Records and check out the all-new 2016 Honda HR-V. Follow @WaterlooRecords and @HondaStage for the most up to date signing schedules.

In 2014, \$4.8 MILLION Was donated to the Austin Parks Foundation, bringing the eight-year total to \$14.8 MILLION



PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

PARKING & PASSENGER PICK-UP/DROP-OFF Do not park in Zilker Park neighborhoods and avoid parking on grassy areas. If you do, you may be towed. There is a designated passenger drop-off area on Stephen F. Austin Dr. at the north end of the MoPac footbridge. From there, it's a short walk across the MoPac footbridge to the Lady Bird Lake entrance.

SHUTTLES Board at Republic Square at the corner of 4th & Guadalupe streets and you'll be dropped off at the Festival entrance on Barton Springs Road. When you've finished rocking, hop back on for a return trip. The shuttles begin at Republic Square at 10AM and make their final return from the park at 11PM each day of the Festival.

CABS, BIKES, & SCOOTERS Taxis have access near the Festival entrance, with pick-up and drop-off on William Barton, just south of Barton Springs Rd. If you are pedaling in, bike racks are near either entrance (please provide your own lock). Stop by the Mellow Johnny's Bike Station at both entrances for parts or repairs. Scooter parking is available off Robert E. Lee in the Barton Springs Pool parking lot. Check out a B-cycle bike from one of the 45 stations downtown and park at the B-cycle valet across from the Barton Springs Entrance.

SCHEDULED CLOSURES

ZILKER PARK GREAT LAWN CLOSURE Sept. 21 – Oct. 24, closed to the public Oct. 16, festival load-out ends Oct. 19 – 23, park maintenance

STRATFORD DRIVE CLOSURE at Nature Center Dr & Barton Springs Rd Sept. 23 & 24, 7:00 am -10:00 pm daily Oct. 2 12:01 am – Oct. 5 3:00am Oct. 9 12:01 am – Oct. 12 3:00am Oct. 13 & 14, 7:00am – 10:00pm daily

BARTON SPRINGS ROAD CLOSURE at Sterzing St & Rollingwood Dr Residential traffic will be allowed to exit the neighborhood at Sterzing, eastbound to Lamar. All inbound traffic into the neighborhood is closed. Oct. 2 12:01am – Oct. 5 3:00am Oct. 9 12:01am – Oct. 12 3:00am

ROADS REOPEN OCT. 6-9 During this time, a portion of the areas in and surrounding Zilker Park will be accessible to the public including Barton Springs, Rugby Field and the Botanical Gardens and Austin Nature and Science Center.

GOOD STUFF TO KNOW

ACL CASHLESS is here. Activate your wristband and attach a credit card to pay with a tap of the wrist. Visit aclfest.com/wristband or stop by the ACL Cashless Tent to sign up!

Samsung Pay is the new way to make your festival experience even easier with your Galaxy phone. It's simple, secure, and is available in more places than any other mobile payment service. Use Samsung Pay during ACL to purchase your favorite mementos at the Merch Store, grab a bite at ACL Eats, and more!

Drink water! Enjoy FREE freshly filtered water at the CamelBak Filling Stations to stay hydrated at ACL. See on the Festival map for locations.

Rock & Recycle at ACL Fest and get rewarded! ACL Fest recycles and encourages fans to do the same. Fill a bag with recyclable cups, plastic bottles and cans from festival grounds and earn an official ACL Fest shirt, KIND bars, a chance to win a bike and 2016 ACL Passes. Visit a Rock & Recycle for details!

Did you know: In 2014, 67% of waste by volume was diverted from the landfill with the help of fans, staff and crowd service ambassadors.

Lost & Found: During the Festival weekend, turn in or look for lost items at the Info Center near the Barton Springs entrance. After the Fest, report lost items online at aclfest.com/lost or stop by on Monday and Tuesday after the Festival. Unclaimed items will be held for 30 days and then donated to charity.

Disability Access & Accommodations: ACL Festival has special services for people with disabilities. Visit the Access Center just inside the Barton Springs entrance for more info.

Tag-A-Kid: For the safety of our young guests, register your child with a special wristband. Stop by the Info Centers or Tag-A-Kid Tent for more information. If you get separated, we can connect you!

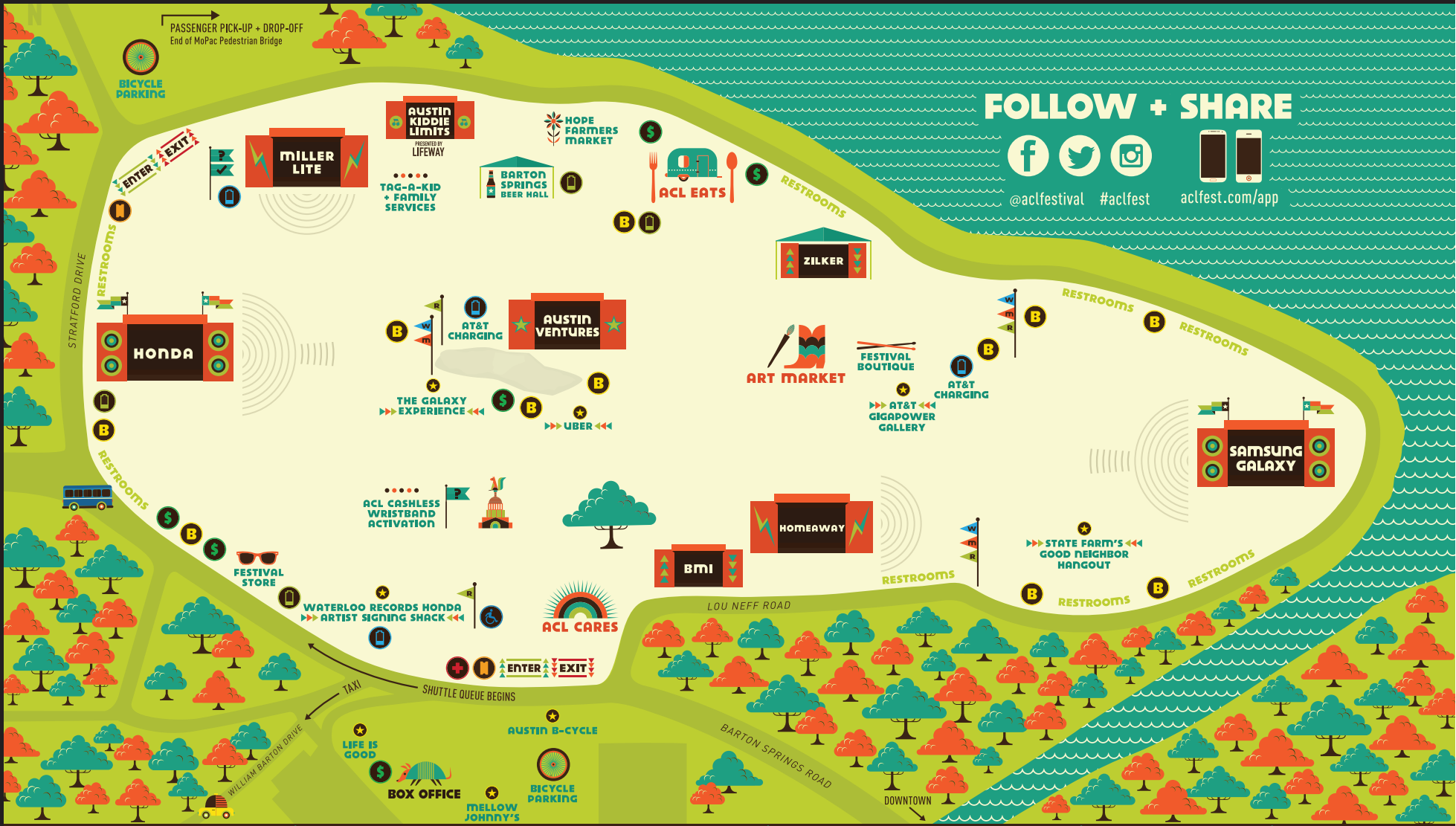
Watch ACL Festival Live: Red Bull TV is back to stream the 2015 festival. That means October 2-4 is your weekend to get cozy and catch dozens of performances across three channels. Tune in at aclfest.com all weekend long!

Go Digital: It's already in your pocket. Download the official ACL Fest App powered by AT&T GigaPower or Digital Program now. Keep all the info you need at your side, all weekend long!



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LEGEND	ACL EATS FOOD COURT	ACL ART MARKET	ACL CARES ORGANIZATIONS	AUSTIN KIDDIE LIMITS
CHAIR FREE ZONES	Amy's Ice Creams	Austin Art Garage	Anthropos Arts	AKL Family Beach
TICKET HELP	Austin's Pizza	Austin Massage Company	Austin Music Foundation	Alex's Lemonade Stand
INFO BOOTH	Burro Cheese Kitchen	Chaos Card Company	HeadCount	Art Station
LOCKERS & CHAIR CHECK	Chi'Lantro BBQ	Drive By Press	Health Alliance for Austin Musicians	Daily Greens
MISTERS	Children Of The Kettle Corn	Exit82ART	Keep Austin Beautiful	DrumZone
CAMELBAK FILLING STATION	East Side King	Futurgarb	KLRTV-Austin PBS	Hip Hop Workshop
ROCK & RECYCLE CENTER	Frank	Gou-Gui/Africabound	Love Hope Strength Foundation	Kiddie Lounge Area
ATM	Freebirds World Burrito	Greg Davis Photography	Oxfam America	Lifeway's Art Mural Wall
ACCESS	GoodPop Popsicles	Hatbox: A Modern Haberdashery	Rainforest Partnership	Photo Area with Life is Good
MEDICAL	Hat Creek Burger Co.	Iona Handcrafted Books	Rock the Vote	Punk Hairdooz
BAR & BEVERAGES	JuiceLand	Leap Of Joy	SIMS Foundation	Rock Star Video Karaoke
SAMSUNG WIRELESS CHARGING STATION	Lonesome Dove Western Bistro	Leighelena	The Nature Conservancy	Rockin' Magnets
CHARGING STATIONS	Maine Root Beverages	Moniker Guitars	United Way for Greater Austin	School of Rock Petting Zoo
	Mighty Bird	Ornamental Things		Tattoo
	mmmpanadas	Parts & Labour		

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WEEKEND ONE		FRIDAY						OCTOBER 2, 2015	
		HONDA	MILLER LITE	AUSTIN VENTURES	AUSTIN KIDDO LIMITS PRESENTED BY LIFEWAY	TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA	BMI	HOMEAWAY	SAMSUNG GALAXY
12 PM			IN THE WHALE 11:30-12:15	CALLIOPE MUSICALS 11:35-11:45		THE BARTON HILLS CHOR 11:15-12:00		TALK IN TONGUES 11:30-12:15	
1 PM	ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL 12:15-1:00		LEOPOLD AND HIS FICTION 12:00-12:40	SCHOOL OF ROCK 12:30-12:55	BLESSED 12:15-1:00	AMERICAN AQUARIUM 12:15-1:00		MEG MYERS 12:15-1:00	
2 PM		THE MACCABEES 1:00-2:00	SON LITTLE 1:00-1:40	RESIDUAL KID 1:30-1:55	A TRIBUTE TO ANDRAE CROUCH 1:15-2:00		RUEN BROTHERS 1:00-2:00		
3 PM	NATE RUESS 2:00-3:00		ALINA BARAZ AND GALMATIAS 2:00-2:40	TIM KUBART WITH MOTHER FALCON 2:30-2:55	CON BRIO 2:15-3:00	JESSICA HERNANDEZ & THE DELTAS 2:00-3:00		ROYAL BLOOD 2:00-3:00	
4 PM		CHERUB 3:00-4:00	DREW HOLCOMB AND THE NEIGHBORS 3:00-4:00	SPECIAL GUEST 3:15-3:30 <small>AUSTIN ROBERTS & THE MOST READY FOR NAPTUNE PLAYERS 3:30-4:00</small>			ALBERT HAMMOND JR. 3:00-4:00		
5 PM	LEON BRIDGES 4:00-5:00				REY PILA 4:00-5:00	MAGGIE KOERNER 4:00-5:00		BILLY IDOL 4:00-5:00	
6 PM		RUN THE JEWELS 5:00-6:00	MOON TAXI 5:00-6:00				BRAND NEW 5:00-6:00		
7 PM	BRANDON FLOWERS 6:00-7:00				RHIANNON GODDENS 6:00-7:00	SONS OF BILL 6:00-7:00		TAME IMPALA 6:00-7:00	
8 PM		FLOSSTRADAMUS 7:00-8:00	GEORGE EZRA 7:00-8:00				GARY CLARK JR. 7:00-8:00		
9 PM	DISCLOSURE 8:00-9:30							FOO FIGHTERS 8:00-10:00	

WEEKEND ONE		SATURDAY						OCTOBER 3, 2015	
		HONDA	MILLER LITE	AUSTIN VENTURES	AUSTIN KIDDO LIMITS PRESENTED BY LIFEWAY	TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA	BMI	HOMEAWAY	SAMSUNG GALAXY
12 PM				THE WIND AND THE WAVE 11:45-12:15		WESLEY BRAY AND THE DISCIPLES OF JOY 11:45-12:30		IN THE VALLEY BELOW 12:00-12:45	
1 PM			WATERS 12:00-12:45	WILLIAM CLARK GREEN 12:30-1:10					
2 PM	MILO GREENE 12:45-1:30			BIG DON 1:00-1:25	THE LEVITES 12:45-1:30	MIKAELA DAVIS 12:45-1:30		ECHOSMITH 12:45-1:30	
3 PM		SAN FERMIN 1:30-2:20	CHARLOTTE OC 1:30-2:10	TIM KUBART WITH MOTHER FALCON 2:00-2:25	TYREE MORRIS & HEARTS OF WORSHIP 1:45-2:30		RYN WEAVER 1:30-2:30		
4 PM	FATHER JOHN MISTY 2:20-3:20		VINCE STAPLES 2:30-3:10	Q BROTHERS 3:00-3:25	THE LAST BANDOLeros 2:45-3:30	SOL CAT 2:30-3:30		GLASS ANIMALS 2:30-3:30	
5 PM		SHAKY GRAVES 3:20-4:20	HOUDMOUTH 3:30-4:30	SPECIAL GUEST 3:45-4:00 RESIDUAL KID 4:00-4:30			MISTERWIVES 3:30-4:30		
6 PM	STURBILL SIMPSON 4:20-5:20				EL TULE 4:30-5:30	KOA 4:30-5:30		TWENTY ONE PILOTS 4:30-5:30	
7 PM		WALK THE MOON 5:20-6:20	UNKNOWN MORTAL ORCHESTRA 5:30-6:30				G-EAZY 5:30-6:30		
8 PM	ALABAMA SHAKES 6:20-7:20				JOSÉ GONZÁLEZ 6:30-7:30	RAYLAND BAXTER 6:30-7:30		ASAP ROCKY 6:30-7:30	
9 PM		TV ON THE RADIO 7:20-8:20	BOOTS 7:30-8:20				BASSNECTAR 7:30-8:30		
10 PM	DEADMAUS 8:20-9:30							RAE SREMME 8:30-9:30	
11 PM								DRAKE 8:30-10:00	

WEEKEND ONE		SUNDAY						OCTOBER 4, 2015	
		HONDA	MILLER LITE	AUSTIN VENTURES	AUSTIN KIDDO LIMITS PRESENTED BY LIFEWAY	TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA	BMI	HOMEAWAY	SAMSUNG GALAXY
12 PM				NIGHT DRIVE 11:45-12:15		KINGS OF HARMONY +1 11:45-12:30		BOOM FOREST 12:00-12:45	
1 PM		WAXAHATCHEE 12:00-12:45		UME 12:30-1:10					
2 PM	LION BABE 12:45-1:30			BIG DON 1:00-1:25	DISCIPLES OF CHRIST 12:45-1:30	HUNTER SHARPE 12:45-1:30		JIDENNA 12:45-1:30	
3 PM		DAUGHTER 1:30-2:30	SHEPPARD 1:30-2:10	Q BROTHERS 2:00-2:25	THE EAGLE ROCK GOSPEL SINGERS 1:45-2:30		AMASON 1:30-2:30		
4 PM	BORNS 2:30-3:30		YEARS & YEARS 2:30-3:10	SCHOOL OF ROCK 3:00-3:25	KALI UCHIS 2:45-3:30	KEHLANI 2:30-3:30		LORD HURON 2:30-3:30	
5 PM		SYLVAN ESSO 3:30-4:30	STRAND OF OAKS 3:30-4:30	SPECIAL GUEST 3:45-4:00 <small>AUSTIN ROBERTS & THE MOST READY FOR NAPTUNE PLAYERS 4:00-4:30</small>			HALSEY 3:30-4:30		
6 PM	THE DECEMBERISTS 4:30-5:30				CLASSIXX 4:30-5:30	THE SUFFERS 4:30-5:30		BEN HOWARD 4:30-5:30	
7 PM		CHANCE THE RAPPER 5:30-6:30	KURT VILE AND THE VIOLATORS 5:30-6:30				VANCE JOY 5:30-6:30		
8 PM	ALT-J 6:30-7:30				GRIZ 6:30-7:30	MUDDY MAGNOLIAS 6:30-7:30		OF MONSTERS AND MEN 6:30-7:30	
9 PM		NERO 7:30-8:30	DWIGHT YOAKAM 7:30-8:30				HOZIER 7:30-8:30		
10 PM	THE WEEKND 8:30-9:30							THE STROKES 8:30-10:00	

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



ZILKER, AND ALL AUSTIN PARKS, ARE NON-SMOKING VENUES AND A BURN BAN IS IN EFFECT FOR THE CITY OF AUSTIN.



ACL FEST LATE-NIGHT BY MARÍA NÚÑEZ

Thursday, 10/1

Brand New, Manchester Orchestra, Kevin Devine & the Goddamn Band, Emo's
The Maccabees, Parish
Billy Idol, Ryn Weaver, Stubb's
Leopold & His Fiction, In the Whale, Stubb's
Zeds Dead, Vulcan Gas Company

Friday, 10/2

TV on the Radio, Boots, Emo's
Talk in Tongues, Day Wave, Lamberts
Leon Bridges, Kenny Uptain, Parish
Walk the Moon, Sheppard, Stubb's
Zeds Dead, Vulcan Gas Company

Saturday, 10/3

The Decemberists, Olivia Chaney,
 ACL Live at the Moody Theater
Alt-J, San Fermin, Austin Music Hall
Royal Blood, Bass Drum of Death, Emo's
Max Frost, Parish
Meg Myers, Jarryd James, Stubb's

Sunday, 10/4

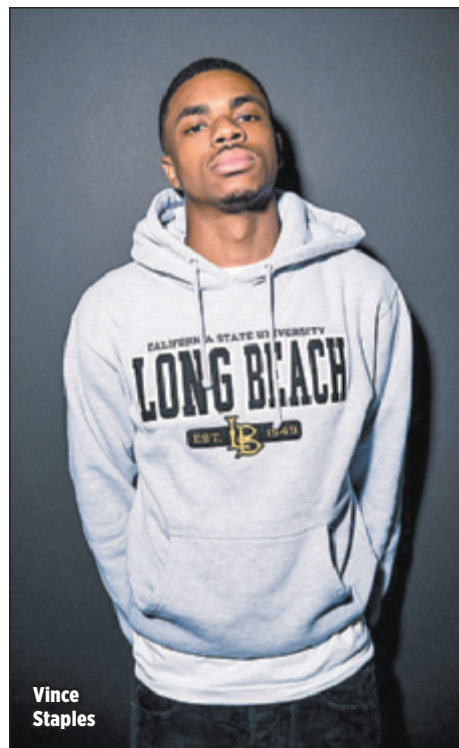
A\$AP Rocky, Danny Brown, Vince Staples,
 Austin Music Hall
Griz, Russ Liquid, Louie Lastic,
 Vulcan Gas Company

Monday, 10/5

Lord Huron, Gold Beach, Emo's
Danzig, Superjoint, Veil of Maya, Prong,
Witch Mountain, Stubb's

Wednesday, 10/7

Waller Creek Benefit:
Shake Graves, London Souls, Stubb's



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SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.

100% Natural tobacco does **NOT** mean a safer cigarette.

JIDENNA

12:45PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

Inviting Janelle Monáe to play a masquerade ball he was throwing in Oakland was one of the smartest moves Jidenna ever made. Many years later, the besuited singer and MC is signed to Monáe's Wondaland label and earworm "Classic Man" – plus a remix laced by Kendrick Lamar – broke as a swanked-out summer hit.

"It was the dopest summer camp you could go to as an adult," Jidenna says of recording label compilation EP *The Eephus* at Wondaland's suburban Atlanta compound. "We were waking up and doing yoga. We were cooking together, sleeping on the floor, sometimes in white tunics. By nightfall we'd be dancing around the fire pit or jumping on the couch, drinking fancy juice – Wondapunch.

"Everybody would have an instrument in their hand; everybody was on the mic all night. It was just a fun time, an adult playground in the most pure musical sense of that phrase."

In addition to occasionally living in a communal creative utopia, the Wondaland crew has been joining street protests in solidarity with Black Lives Matter while on the road promoting their EP. Jidenna Theodore Mobisson, who studied Race and Ethnicity at Stanford, was hit hard by the reality of U.S. race relations at age 7.

"I was raised in Nigeria and my mother is white, but I never saw her as white, not until I came to America," he says. "She was just my mother. She didn't really have a color. When I came to America, the first day of school I was called an African nigger and punched in the face by another student. I had to go home my first day of school in America and ask my mother what a nigger was.

"If that's your introduction to a country, that's the first awakening you have. Not unlike our country's history, my personal history was founded upon an unfortunate history of racial conflict between black and white."

– Thomas Fawcett

"I was raised in Nigeria and my mother is white, but I never saw her as white, not until I came to America."



▼ BØRNS

2:30PM, HONDA STAGE

Christened Garrett Borns on the rural coast of Michigan, he now makes music in a backyard tree house in the hills of Los Angeles. That's reflected in *Candy*, a sun-kissed EP of electro-folk. "10,000 Emerald Pools" is a dreamy mélange of psychedelic pop and lo-fi funk that feels like an underwater cosmos.

– Thomas Fawcett

SHEPPARD

1:30PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

Three Brisbane siblings form a band out of a school project and go on to conquer the Australian pop charts. Will infectious pop singles "Let Me Down Easy" and "Geronimo" achieve the same heights here? Massive hooks say odds are good.

– Michael Toland

KALI UCHIS

2:45PM, TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA STAGE

Kali Uchis concocts a sultry mix of soul, doo-wop, hip-hop, and jazz, all while nurturing a sweet and salty bad girl persona. The Colombia native, who moved to Virginia at age 7, got an assist from fellow troublemaker Tyler, the Creator on 2015 debut EP *Por Vida*. "Kiss my ass, it'll bring you good luck."

– Thomas Fawcett

SYLVAN ESSO

3:30PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

Sylvan Esso's Amelia Meath and Nick Sanborn have spent almost the entirety of this year and last on the road. Their self-titled debut of ruminating synth-pop dropped last May, and if a mysterious tweet and video are to be believed, they celebrate the end of this touring cycle with a sophomore LP in November.

– Abby Johnston

CONTINUED ON P.20

Waxahatchee

Ivy Tripp (Merge)

Katie Crutchfield's infamous melancholy and aggressive angst find fullest expression on the Alabama native's third album. Brutally extracted lo-fi dirge, opener "Breathless" belies the heavily scarred electric guitars that follow with "Under a Rock" and "Poison," as well as the pop tinge of "La Loose" and "Stale by Noon," yet sets an anxious, searching tone. Calmer moments "Blue," "Summer of Love," and piano ballad "Half Moon" stun in their directness, while "The Dirt" grinds Nineties rock and "Bonfire" chars a bassline to close in self-immolation. Cat Power for the next generation. **(Noon, Miller Lite stage)**

★★★★

– Doug Freeman





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WEEKEND ONE ONLY BY MICHAEL TOLAND

**TALK IN TONGUES***(Fri., 11:30am, HomeAway stage)*

L.A. multi-instrumentalists garnish New Wave makeover with effervescent psych-pop.

THE LAST BANDOLEROS*(Sat., 2:45pm, Tito's Handmade Vodka stage)*

San Antonio sons of Tejano royalty bring Tex-Mex rock & roll into the 21st century.

NIGHT DRIVE *(Sun., 11:45am, Austin Ventures stage)*

Houston/Austin duo puts modern verve into vintage synth-pop.

KEHLANI *(Sun., 2:30pm, BMI stage)*

Twenty-year-old survivor of *America's Got Talent* pulls old soul out of contemporary R&B.

MUDDY MAGNOLIAS*(Sun., 6:30pm, BMI stage)*

New York's Jessie Wilson meets Mississippi's Kallie North to cook rock/blues/soul-hop gumbo.

*Lord Huron***Strange Trails (IAMSOUND)**

If a pair of 2010 EPs approximated an untamed jungle and 2012's debut LP *Lonesome Dreams* a tree house amongst it, Lord Huron's sophomore full-length *Strange Trails* is Ben Schneider's completed bungalow, his little plot of land in lush wilds. And from the sounds of "Until the Night Turns" and "Meet Me in the Woods," he might've invited Bruce Springsteen to share it. The L.A. quartet has evolved from Schneider's bedroom brainchild to freewheeling Jim James roots mysticism. "Fool for Love" wouldn't have survived the twisting soundscapes of the frontman's initial EP, but it offers the same sweeping vistas. **(2:30pm, Samsung Galaxy stage)**

★★★★

— Abby Johnston

▼ **THE SUFFERS****4:30PM, BMI STAGE**

Led by charismatic vocal powerhouse Kam Franklin, the Houston-hailed 10-piece whisks Cajun and calypso influence with rocksteady R&B on their new, Kickstarter-funded debut LP, *Make Some Room*. The Space City staples aptly deem their sound's groovy cultural swirl "Gulf Coast Soul."

— Neph Basedow

BEN HOWARD**4:30PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE**

Hardly surprising Ben Howard first emerged from the surfing community with 2011's *Every Kingdom*. The UK songwriter crafts rich, embracing soundscapes anchored by the depth and calm introspection of his lyrics. Sophomore LP *I Forget Where We Were* strikes a balance between poignant ballads and more restless reflections.

— Doug Freeman

CHANCE THE RAPPER**5:30PM, MILLER LITE STAGE**

In 2013, Chance the Rapper put us all on notice with *Acid Rap*, a heartbreaking mixtape. His elastic flow thrilled, but this was still the 18-year-old Chicago MC who watched his close friend get stabbed to death on the sidewalk. He's hilarious, poignant, and razor sharp.

— Luke Winkie

THE DECEMBERISTS**4:30PM, HONDA STAGE**

Written over a relaxed four-year hiatus, seventh LP *What a Terrible World, What a Beautiful World* dropped in January. Led by erudite egghead Colin Meloy, the baroque-pop quintet whimsies with theatrics live: literary lyrics, lengthy ballads, and frequent audience participation that propels their concerts into small-scale epics.

— Neph Basedow

*Kurt Vile***b'lieve i'm goin down (Matador)**

Never mind its title or the first single's cracker-barrel chorus. Kurt Vile's sixth LP ups the Philadelphian's creative ante, speckling finger-plucked finesse and Farfisa whimsy into his laid-back blues/folk crunch. Lyrically, the former War on Drugs guitarist stays on topic: out on tour, back on couch. Witty and self-aware, the father-of-two's goofy drawl belies true weight: "I'm an outlaw under Orion's Belt / What a dumb thing to sing," he self-shames in "I'm an Outlaw." Like Dylan, Young, and Springsteen, the 35-year-old's dichotomous old soul/hipster amalgam recalls eccentric sagacity. **(5:30pm, Austin Ventures stage)**

★★★★

— Neph Basedow

ALT-J

6:30PM, HONDA STAGE

Alt-J's 2012 debut, *An Awesome Wave*, garnered a Mercury Prize for its unique cauldron of electro-folk and ambient experimentalism boiled in indie rock rhythms. The UK quartet's second effort, last year's *This Is All Yours*, pushes even further. With unlikely samples butting against turns of traditional British folk and harmonies, the conceptual LP turns the pastoral into a haunting sonic universe. — Doug Freeman

NERO

7:30PM, MILLER LITE STAGE

On a roll with a highly anticipated sophomore LP *Between II Worlds*, London electronic trio Nero transfixes crowds with its live setup, featuring songstress Alana Watson. Originally showcasing a minimalist dubstep/drum and bass mixture similar to label bosses/superstar act Chase & Status, the band has transformed into something of a cinematic electro-prog act. — Kahron Spearman

DWIGHT YOAKAM

7:30PM, AUSTIN VENTURES STAGE

On his 14th studio album, April's *Second Hand Heart*, L.A.'s rhinestone country legend still rides that honky-tonk and roots-blues hybrid, thus allowing younger festival audiences to see a genre mainstay that, after all these years, still seems in the prime of his career. — Abby Johnston

CONTINUED ON P.22

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Hozier

(Columbia)

A debut EP spawned the lead-off hit here, “Take Me to Church,” a dramatic declaration of damnation (“I worship like a dog at the shrine of your lies”), followed by 25-year-old Irish sensation Andrew Hozier-Byrne inflaming the same houses of the holy on his eponymous full-length. Blessed with a vocal command equal to Father John Misty – sincere where J. Tillman is sardonic – Hozier next stomps gospel rock on “Angel of Small Death & the Codeine Scene” with a dual-sex retro chorale perfected by Fitz & the Tantrums. “Jackie and Wilson” cements intent of blue-eyed R&B. Whether Enya-esque pop nuggets (“Someone New”), or ballads both bumpy (“From Eden,” “Sedated”) and dirge-like (“Work Song,” “Foreigner’s God”), Hozier sets fire to heavens like no less than Adele. (7:30pm, HomeAway stage)

★★★★

– Raoul Hernandez



THE STROKES

8:30PM, SAMSUNG GALAXY STAGE

Closing the first Sunday only: the studied ennui and casual boredom of the East Village’s kings circa 2001. Debut *Is This It?* spun radio hits from cast-off Lou Reed and Tom Petty riffs, making garage/punk influences fashionable. Fourteen years later, they remain modern rock royalty despite no releases since 2013’s *Comedown Machine*. Guitarist Albert Hammond Jr. also plays a solo ACL set.

– Tim Stegall

THE WEEKND

8:30PM, HONDA STAGE

Fully converted into his inevitable destiny as vocal successor to Michael Jackson, demonstrated on smash hit “Can’t Feel My Face,” Ontario’s Abel Tesfaye is now a pop superstar. Sliding into public consciousness through a trilogy of influential mixtapes, the singer was self-cast as a shadowy figure filtering the King of Pop through raunch and dirty Sprite (codeine, promethazine, Sprite), with a co-sign from ACL headliner Drake. Breakout “Earned It,” from the *50 Shades of Grey* soundtrack, spots Tesfaye as Drake’s near-equal.

– Kahron Spearman

GOSPEL TENT BY THOMAS FAWCETT

Tyree Morris & Hearts of Worship



The tented stage nestled between the food court and art vendors remains the unofficial “gospel tent” thanks to its non-secular R&B. All acts appearing before 2:30pm each day are the same both weekends. A highlight from each day:

FRIDAY

Barton Hills Choir: Arrive early for this huge school chorus from nearby Barton Hills Elementary. The kiddie choir sings pop hits backed by a fourpiece rock band. Listen carefully. The next Dave Grohl may be in there somewhere. (11:15am)

SATURDAY

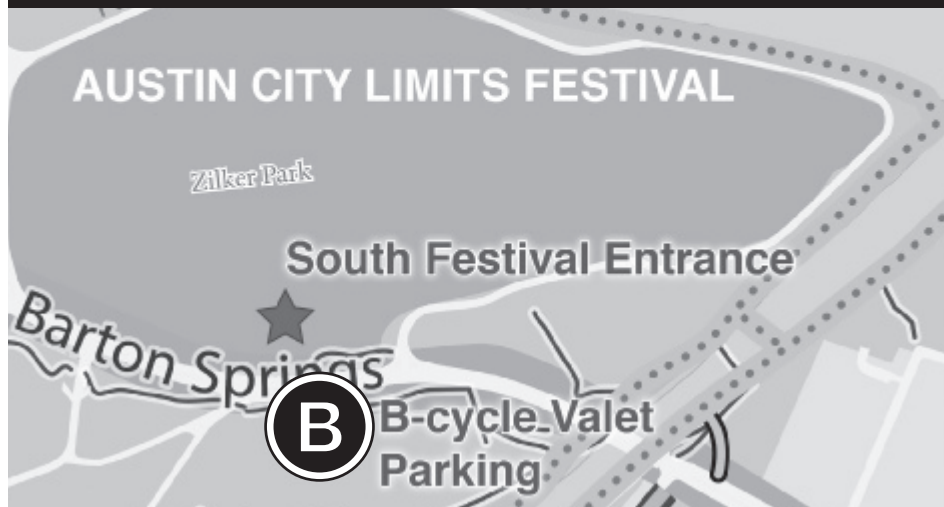
Tyree Morris & Hearts of Worship: Led by its outsized namesake, this Denver-based ministry makes it so that saints and sinners alike have a hard time resisting the “Happy” vibes. (1:45pm)

SUNDAY

The Eagle Rock Gospel Singers: Hailing from the City of Angels, this vocal quintet draws equally from black gospel and Appalachian roots traditions. Expect a mix of traditional spiritual numbers and originals from this summer’s haunting folk-tinged debut LP, *Heavenly Fire*. (1:45pm)

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Your ACL prix fixe

We admit it's not easy grabbing a bite to eat when you're at ACL. Sure, you hear the siren song of the food court, but how the hell are you going to grab anything to eat when Run the Jewels ends at 6pm and Tame Impala starts at the same time? Leave it to us. This isn't our first festival. Here's your plan: Pick a slow hour (we know it's hard to miss anything, but you have to eat, fools), assign one member of your squad to a vendor, order multiple items at each, and combine hauls into multi-course feasts that will keep you dancing to Disclosure or ... whatever it is people do when listening to Foo Fighters.

— Brandon Watson



Thai Fresh

Tropical Zone

Zilker Park is going to be hot, y'all, so you might as well pretend you're on a tropical vacation and the tides of people are the cool, refreshing ocean (stay with us here). If temporary psychosis is too hard to muster, at least you can make your dinner a getaway. Start at **Burro Cheese Kitchen** for the O.G. grilled cheese made on a King's Hawaiian bun, grab a few orders of **Mighty Bird's** Caribbean burrito, and then order twice the amount of **mmmpanadas'** fried plantains as you think you can eat. End the meal with **Amy's Ice Creams'** Aloha Lemonade paired (on the second weekend only) with **Thai Fresh's** coconut ice cream, remembering the sage advice, "put the lime in the coconut and drink 'em both up."

Lone Star

If you're coming from out of state, don't miss the chance to dine on some of Texas' best. Sure, Texans make some awesome tacos and barbecue, but we have also created a rich regional cuisine influenced by settlers from all over the world. Grab a grilled bratwurst sammie at **Frank** or a venison wrap from the **Mighty Cone**, pair it with rabbit & rattlesnake sausage from celebrity chef Tim Love's **Lonesome Dove Western Bistro**. Lighten up with chile-spiked watermelon from Love's **Woodshed Smokehouse**, a Hill Country peach snowie from, well, **Snowie**, and some tangy **Torchy's Tacos'** street corn in ancho aioli. The drink pairing? Naturally, **Maine Root's** Texas pink agave lemonade.



Frank

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



The Peached Tortilla

Fine Dining

Just because your makeup has sweated off onto your suede halter doesn't mean you have to eat like a hot mess. There's plenty of refinement on the grounds. For a sophisticated buffet, order black bean & goat cheese and spinach & caramelized onion tamales from **Tamale Addiction**, followed by **East Side King's** addictive brussels sprout salad and the **Peached Tortilla's** très jolie Parmesan and parsley fries. For dessert, indulge in a **GoodPop** hibiscus mint frozen pop or a **Skull & Cakebones** affogato cakewich.

Lone Star Part Deux

Then again, Texas' barbecue and tacos are damn good. You'd be crazy to miss out. Get sloppy with a pork rib boat from the **Salt Lick**, and a few fish tacos from **Trudy's** for contrast. On weekend one, **El Cruz Ranch Cafe** has a classic picadillo taco, or you can get a taste of local creativity with **Chi'Lantro's** Korean fried chicken taco. Get both specialties in one over at **Stubb's Bar-B-Q**, where they put jalapeño brisket in the taco. The bold flavors deserve a tart drink. Go with a **Shade Tree** strawberry lemonade.



The Salt Lick

COURTESY OF THE SALT LICK

Healthy Choices

If you're not quite ready to give up your six pack for a pulled pork sandwich, ACL Eats still has you covered. For a sip, begin with **JuiceLand's** Green Drink with cucumber and kale, then move on to **Freebirds World Burrito's** vegan option stuffed with braised tempeh, squash, and zucchini. At **Tino's Greek Cafe**, order the veggie plate with hummus and tabouli for all-day fuel, served with a cross-cultural exchange program of **Lamba's Royal Indian Foods'** vegetable samosa. Don't skip out on the probiotics while you're watching Drake. He would totally approve of **HOPE Farmers Market's** kombucha frozen pop.



As for us, we'll be downing delicious slices from **Southside Flying Pizza** and **Austin's Pizza**, or burgers from **P. Terry's** or **Hat Creek**, stuffed in our mouth in between **Tiff's Treats** cookies and **Children of the Kettle Corn** popcorn. We are not going to miss Tame Impala again.

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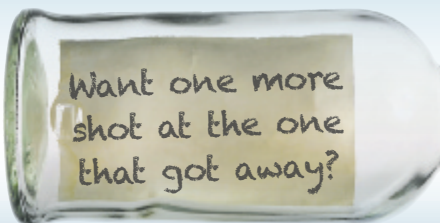
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1) CHUY'S With hubcaps, colored lights, and a velvet Elvis, this is Austin-style Tex-Mex at its tacky, funky best. It's almost always busy, but the chips and creamy queso are worth the wait. 1728 Barton Springs Rd.

2) THE PICNIC A curated selection of some of Austin's best food trucks – including Turf N Surf Po' Boy, Hey! You Gonna Eat or What?, and the Mighty Cone. 1720 Barton Springs Rd.

3) BABY ACAPULCO SOUTH Great enchiladas and multiflavored margaritas that should come with warning stickers: "Muy bueno!" 1628 Barton Springs Rd.

4) JUICELAND This friendly and popular juice bar near Barton Springs offers fresh juices, smoothies, froths, and nondairy ice cream. You'll feel better on the way out than you did going in. 1625 Barton Springs Rd.

5) SHADY GROVE Take advantage of the beautiful outdoor seating area and hot dogs all year round in a family-friendly setting. We're partial to the green-chile cheeseburgers with mountains of onion rings. 1624 Barton Springs Rd.

6) AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Beyond the morning cup o' joe, Austin Java offers an array of sustenance plus luscious desserts. 1608 Barton Springs Rd.

7) UNCLE BILLY'S BREW & QUE The barbecue sauce is outstanding on their tender sausage and ribs. After a day at Zilker Park, enjoy great service and cold, house-brewed beers on tap. 1530 Barton Springs Rd.

8) JULIET RISTORANTE This new Italian contender offers an elegant dining room and one of the best patios in Austin. Try the negroni flight if you just can't make up your mind. 1500 Barton Springs Rd.

9) SOUTH AUSTIN SOCIAL Tucked behind Thom's Market, SAS features some strong contenders for Austin's food truck crown – including Boca, Gibroni's, Unity Vegan Kitchen, and Gemma Love. 409 Jessie.

10) GREEN MESQUITE BBQ One of Austin's favorite barbecue dives – it may look seedy, but the menu is extensive and the food is terrific. 1400 Barton Springs Rd.

11) P. TERRY'S BURGER STAND Burgers fashioned from hormone- and antibiotic-free Black Angus beef, Buddy's Natural Chicken, fresh-cut fries, and milkshakes. Sit at a picnic table on the patio. Dogs get a free biscuit. 404 S. Lamar.

12) FLOUR AND VINE This place has garnered fans of the Texas flat-iron steak and crawfish mac and cheese. 300 S. Lamar.

13) EL ALMA CAFE Y CANTINA Chef Alma Alcocer-Thomas' take on casual Mexico City cuisine is approachable, affordable, and delicious. Brunch includes Huevos Rancheros, eggs and spinach resting on corn pudding, or Huevos Revueltos. Throw down a Mimosa Feliz and don't miss the *cochinita pibil* or the gorgeous views from the upstairs patio. 1025 Barton Springs.

14) TERRY BLACK'S BBQ As the mural says in the dining room, here "Brisket Is King." The pork ribs are a treat too. 1003 Barton Springs Rd.

15) SANDY'S HAMBURGERS Some say the corn dogs and fries are the tastiest in South Austin, and others say the burgers are the best buy in town. We're mostly interested in the frozen custard, malts, and soft-serve. 603 Barton Springs Rd.

16) THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ is just a shout away from the former Armadillo World Headquarters. The menu is packed with solid home-cooking options, and there's a brunch buffet on Sundays. 301 W. Riverside.

17) ZAX RESTAURANT & BAR American bistro cuisine here: fluffy crab cakes, classic Caesar salads, and meaty burgers with bleu cheese. Try the build-your-own Bloody Mary at brunch. Then, if you can still read the menu, go for the steak *au poivre* or pan-seared duck breast. 312 Barton Springs Rd.

18) AUSSIE'S GRILL & BEACHBAR In addition to great appetizers and pub fare, Aussie's offers big-screen TVs and beach volleyball courts out back. 306 Barton Springs Rd.

19) SOUTHWEST BISTRO Located on the second level of the Hyatt Regency's atrium, this place draws raves. Maybe it's SWB's commitment to local produce and meats that makes it a local favorite. 208 Barton Springs Rd.

20) UCHI The sushi ranges from fresh scallops, tuna, and *unagi* to *negitoro* rolls, seaweed, chicken, and salad, and all are highly rated. Reservations recommended. 801 S. Lamar.

21) ODD DUCK Chef Bryce Gilmore revives his Odd Duck trailer with this brick-and-mortar starring seasonal, farm-fresh food prepared via wood-fired oven. 1201 S. Lamar.

22) BARLATA TAPAS BAR You'll find lots and lots of innovative small plates, as well as overflowing paella pans at this popular South Lamar spot. 1500 S. Lamar.

23) SAZÓN With a grade of A for the chile relleno, you should feel adventurous for the rest of the menu. For fans of dishes made with the corn fungus *huitlacoche*, this place is a must. 1816 S. Lamar.

24) EL MESÓN Casual lunches, dinners, and Sunday brunches feature traditional, regional Mexican dishes, with some of the best salsas around as well as an extensive tequila selection. 2038 S. Lamar.

25) BARLEY SWINE This nationally acclaimed gastropub offers small plates of skillfully prepared seasonal and local foods. 2024 S. Lamar.

26) HENRI'S By day, this cheese shop has some serious food mojo bubbling forth. Culinary Institute graduate Andy Means has flair, which is obvious from the spot-on wine and cheese/charcuterie pairings, and from the originals emerging from the kitchen. 2026 S. Lamar.

27) LICK Lavender, salted caramel, and caramelized carrot & tarragon are just a few flavors at this all-organic, all-Texas ice cream parlor. 2032 S. Lamar.

28) OPA! A canopy of trees protects this dog-friendly open space. Play bocce, table tennis, or just relax and enjoy Greek treats such as spinach pie and moussaka. 2050 S. Lamar.

29) OLIVIA Excellent American regional cuisine based on what's fresh from local farmers and ranchers, paired with a full bar. For dessert, try the duck egg crème brûlée with huckleberry. 2043 S. Lamar.

BARTON SPRINGS POOL INFO

Give your ears a break and your body a much-needed bath by dropping by nearby Barton Springs Pool, which is fed by underground springs. A recent grounds-improvement project added an ADA walkway and more bike racks, making our town treasure even more accessible to the masses. So, jump in. At a chill 70 degrees, the water's always fine.

Barton Springs Pool, 2201 Barton Springs Rd.

Hours: 5am-10pm; closed for cleaning on Thursday, 9am-7pm

Admission (cash only): \$4, nonresident adults (age 18-62); \$3, resident adults, nonresident juniors (age 12-17); \$2, resident juniors, nonresident kids (11 and under) and seniors (over 62); \$1, resident kids and seniors

Free admission for everyone, 5-8am & 9-10pm daily

Call the Barton Springs hotline at 512/867-3080 for info on pool closures due to rain. No food, drinks, or smoking allowed.



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