

THE NUTMEG MAGAZINE

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Summer 2017

Festival Fashion

- + Local Concerts
- + Cancelled Spring Concert
- + Best Summer Jams

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It's been an eventful semester here at UConn. I think I speak for most students when I say we're ready for the summer. What better way to gear up for the coming months away from school than to stop pretending you're studying for finals and read Nutmeg Magazine instead?

This issue is all about music. We cover it all, from upcoming concerts in the Connecticut area to 2017's best releases so far — according to writer Neel Razdan, at least. If you want to relive the unprecedented cancellation of the Lil Uzi Vert Concert (I'm personally still recovering), check out page 4. In this issue, you'll also find music festival style tips, the best songs of the summer, and coverage of WHUS' Spring Fling show.

So take a break from studying, because you totally were, and read ahead. Best of luck on finals, everybody. HAGS.

- Dan Araujo

I Don't Really Care If You Cry

The Tragedy of a Cancelled Concert

Article by Neel Razdan

Photographs by Kim Sun

Design by Mary Olmsted

On the day of the annual SUBOG Spring Concert, the weather reports predicted a high chance of rain, thunder and lightning storms, and a high of 55°F. However, this would not stop students from seeing headliner and rapper Lil Uzi Vert along with opening act Amine. Soaking wet, shivering from the wind and lined up by the hundreds, students waited outside of Gampel Pavilion, excited for the night despite the horrid weather.

Unfortunately, those doors would never open. Vert's flight was delayed due to the rough weather conditions in Connecticut, forcing SUBOG to cancel the show. Students and guests were frustrated with the decision, and some even lashed back on social media criticizing SUBOG's decision despite there being no other choice. SUBOG has since offered refunds to ticketholders but have not schedule any alternative events.

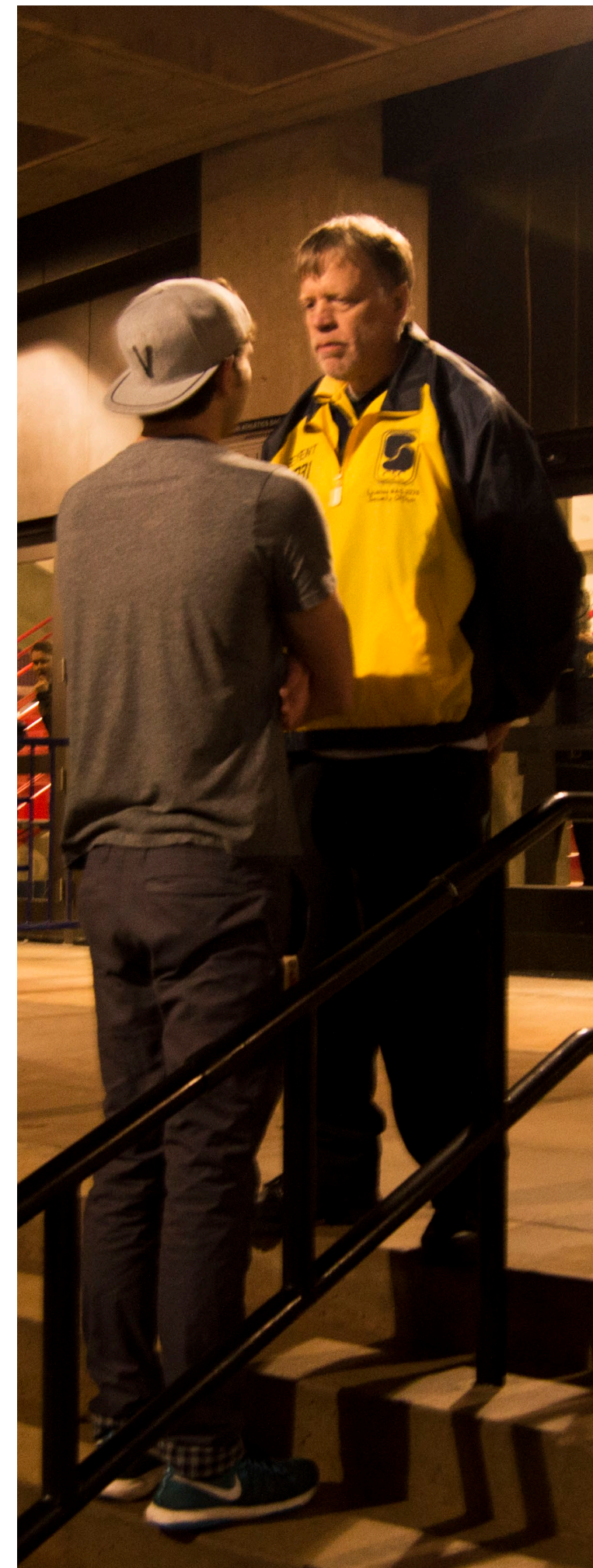
"This has never happened in my time at UConn," said SUBOG Concert Chair and incoming President Julia D'Alessandro. "It was a freak thing." D'Alessandro said she was informed of the concert's cancellation by a SUBOG advisor, who received a call from Vert's management, 20 minutes before the doors were to open. "I said 'you're kidding me'" said Alessandro. "I realized it wasn't a joke when the advisor began talking about a strategy to cancel and contacting UConn Communications."

D'Alessandro began planning the Spring Concert in the fall, deliberating with the SUBOG concert committee. Since the committee is only composed of 30-40 members, D'Alessandro organized a general survey to the student population to understand who they would like to see in concert. "Everyone wants top-tier like Kanye or Beyonce but they never match with our budget." Chance the Rapper was a close second but his fee was higher, so Lil Uzi was the third option.

SUBOG faces several obstacles when reaching out and securing artists. First, SUBOG must reach out to Gampel to set a date for the Spring concert which is regularly scheduled in April. However, this creates a conflict for artists who headline festivals in the seasons, such as Coachella, with larger audiences. Artists also have other projects they work on. For example, Anderson Paak, who is working a new album, was contacted by SUBOG but was unable to dedicate his time to the Spring concert. After acquiring an artist and setting a date, SUBOG must then choose a period of time in which to prepare Gampel for the concert. This includes bringing in a stage and setting up production.

"I had to break down the stage that never got performed on," said D'Alessandro. "I'm sad, frustrated and angry too." D'Alessandro empathized with students' angry reactions to the cancellation. The concert committee worked all through Wednesday and Thursday up until the time of the show. The preparation invested by the SUBOG concert committee should not be diminished through uncontrollable forces. "We all put so much effort and time into this event, but when this stuff happens, you never expect it to happen to you."

D'Alessandro said she wish she could make Vert reschedule. However that was not a possibility. "This is the worst that could happen, I know we'll be successful in the future."



WHUS *Spring Fling*

Beanies. Striped shirts. Cardigans. Beat-up Converse. High-waisted jeans. And, of course, indie band tee's. Where else will you find this attire besides a coffeeshop in Williamsburg, New York? At the annual WHUS Spring Fling in the Student Union Ballroom, where students and guests came to see live performances of local trios and some of the biggest upcoming indie names.

UConn's own The Merks, composed of Conor Phillips, Nick Claps, Mason Gadd, Dan Theriault, and Julian Sherwood, kicked off the show. The group wasted no time when they took the stage. The bass drum pounded, followed by a screeching lead lick. The crowd nodded and was caught up in the burst of energy. Phillips grasped onto the microphone with both hands, drawing out long notes to belt out "screaming out the window on my own again." The band is currently underway to produce a new EP which is set to release in the summer, according to Phillips. "We're becoming more reliant on melodies that complement each other and trying to get away from a chord structure."



Reverist transitioned the sound to a poppy alternative. The three-piece consisted of no guitars, but all the melody was fulfilled by keyboardist and singer Omar Qazi. The group uplifted spirits and moved the audience to dance with a subtle smile. Qazi utilized looping tracks and heavy synths to provide layers to the sound, almost simulating a grandiose sound like a carnival on a holiday. Towards the finale, Qazi played a ukulele that he strummed hard and fast with a tempo that wouldn't slow down for a second. Magic was written across Qazi's shirt, and there is no denying the group brought such a charm with them.

Japanese Breakfast brought the crowd down to a mellow mood. The sultry, subtle introduction was brought on by crunchy riffs. Michelle Zauner, singer and guitarist, pushed long-winded vocals, which reverberated off the high ceiling. Zauner donned in a black tank, pants, and boots, brightly strutted across the stage. The crowd joined her in jumping to the wave of distortion and mouthing the words no one could hear. Zauner ended their set by jumping off the stage and singing to her fans personally, her voice warped by a modulator. "I like playing for a college crowd because it's a guaranteed crowd and more casual than an event," said Zauner. "I get try to new things and have an opportunity to experiment."

Michaela Poppick, a fourth-semester natural resources major, said the whole vibe of the show seemed to be really everyone enjoying themselves, dancing and singing along with the music. "I loved the aesthetic of the lead singer of Japanese

Breakfast," said Poppick. "She was really energetic and connected with the audience and her music, which got the crowd more involved and excited about the performance."

Finally, the headliner Porches walked on. The band reached critical acclaim with their 2016 album *Pool*. Aaron Maine, singer, guitarist, and brain of the band, attempted to reclaim a 1980s synth-pop revival -- and it seemed obvious the minute Porches took the stage. All the members but bassist Maya Laner rocked grey high-waisted slacks, black shirts, and black-heeled shoes. Laner wore a green top and long bootcut white pants. The show began with "Underwater," a curious and pulsating track that grooved slow and deep. Maine sang softly to the microphone, eyes closed at one point, and, in another moment, reached out his hands to the audience. The crowd bounced off each other while the band initiated comical choreographed struts. Maine humored the audience throughout the set. "All these ideas in my head, but all that comes out is nonsense."

The band closed with "Be Apart" and ended on the lines of "I wanna be a part of it all". The crowd chanted for an encore but unfortunately the night had come to a close. The night was a spectacular success according to Kailey Townsend, WHUS Operations Manager and organizer of the Spring Fling. "I felt that the overall atmosphere was this wonderful hideaway for the night for UConn students that may not feel musically/artistically catered to on a regular basis and it was the ultimate night for it," said Townsend. "In short, we surpassed what we thought we'd attract in numbers. It was a proud night for WHUS."

Article by **Betty Noe**

Photographs by **Jason Jiang**

Design by **Makhala Huggins**

Festival Fashion

It's coming on summer, and with the warm weather comes a slew of music festivals ranging in size from modest to massive. While festival-goers show up for the music, fashion is undeniably the second most important aspect of a good festival. At Coachella this year, comedian Elijah Daniel even took the time to create a twitter thread of the number of people he saw wearing "urban outfitters pineapple print." Needless to say, people notice what you're wearing at a festival, even if it's not Coachella. So we have a few suggestions for what to wear to look great whether you're listening to your favorite artist at a festival or in your car on your way to the beach.



For the college student on a budget (which is virtually every college student) buying anything new can be a struggle between your heart and your wallet, but every once in awhile it's okay to treat yourself. If you're looking for a nice way to splurge without actually breaking bank, H&M and Forever21 are great options for a couple of fringe tops or bohemian dresses. Everyone knows these stores for a reason — they're the best places to buy a few staple items and still have spending money left.

And instead of buying new bottoms, since denim is always in style, you can cut-off your most worn-out pair of winter jeans for some new shorts. Just remember to mark where you want to cut your jeans while you're wearing them! And, to give your new daisy dukes a distressed look, take the sharp edge of a pair of open scissors and drag it along a section of your shorts a few times to wear the fabric a little. Add a vintage band t-shirt, the likes of which you could find at any Savers or Goodwill, and you have yourself a whole new wardrobe to last you for days of festival living.

Anyone who's put aside a little money for summer spending can check out stores like Free People and Urban Outfitters for the newest festival fashion. Free People, which is essentially Anthropologie's free-spirited little sister, will satisfy all of your cravings for airy, bohemian pieces. This is definitely the place to shop if you're looking to draw on Stevie Nicks as your festival inspiration. The clothes from Urban Outfitters, however, have a more modern, millennial feel to them, and unlike Free People, Urban sell men's clothing. Plus, if you're looking to emulate the men of Coachella this summer, this is the place to get your pineapple print.

For more breezy clothes — and fringe galore — check out lesser known Irene’s Story and Spool 72. While these retailers, like Free People, only cater to women, they’re great places to buy cute pieces at reasonable prices. Spool 72 is a great place to find kimonos and dusters along with beautiful, slightly less common prints and designs. Irene’s Story, in contrast, is a good place to find simple pieces that still have an effortless vibe reminiscent of Woodstock. And men who are feeling a little left out by these stores can check out Asos or Boohoo. Boohoo sells an array of t-shirts ranging from classic to vibrant, and it won’t clear out your wallet either. Asos, while more expensive, has some good floral shirts and printed shorts as well, but you might have to look a little harder.

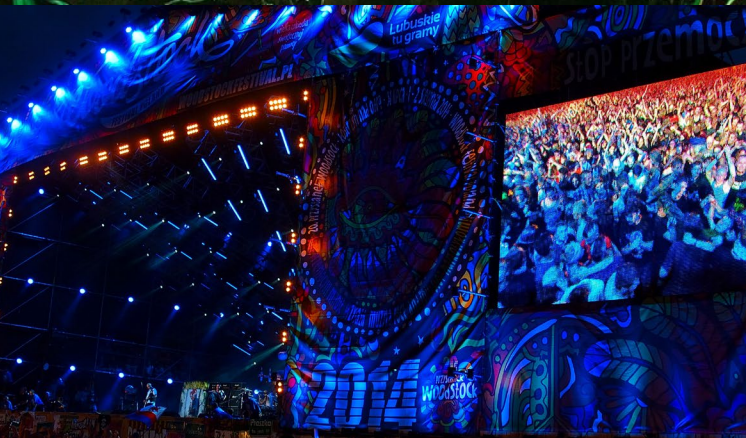
Finally, no good look is complete without shoes. This year, stick to the classic gladiator as your sandal option. And for anyone attending concerts or festivals that are going to be crowded, try Adidas Stan Smiths or Superstars to keep your toes safe from anyone dancing a little too hard. No matter where you’re going this summer, whether you’re working or singing along with Lorde at Lollapalooza, you can take the festival with you with the right outfit.



Your Summer Concert Guide

Summer is, unequivocally, the best time for concerts. Whether you're looking to sweat it out in a tiny club that resembles someone's basement or spend all day outside in the sun as one of thousands at a festival, there will always be a great show to go see. From rap to punk, indie to country, summer 2017 is stacked with great tours and plenty are coming to the area. Summer is the best time for music fans to see their favorite bands live. Start your concert tickets fund now, because there's tons of great shows coming to Connecticut and nearby. See you out there.

Article by **Schae Beaudoin**
Photographs by **Mike Carlson**
Design by **Victoria Kokoszka**



Mayday Parade
Tuesday, May 9
Webster Hall, New York, NY
Dedicate the night to throwbacks and go see the pop-punk band everyone knew in middle school. Get ready to have tears streaming down your face when the band kicks into "Terrible Things."

Machine Gun Kelly
Tuesday, May 9
Upstate Concert Hall, Clifton Park, NY
Machine Gun Kelly is infamous for his raucous live shows. The rapper uses a live band for his concerts, giving the shows some air of authenticity. If you plan on being close to the stage, just be ready to catch MGK when he stage dives.

Metallica
Friday, May 19
Gillete Stadium, Foxboro, MA
The heavy metal titans are touring in support of their newest album *Hardwired... To Self-Destruct*, bringing both classics and new songs to stadiums across the country. If you're looking to get your face melted, this is the show for you.

Boston Calling Festival
Friday, May 26 - Sunday, May 28
Harvard Athletic Complex, Boston, MA
This year's lineup is incredibly diverse, boasting Chance the Rapper, Mumford and Sons and Tool as headliners for each night. Other artists, out of the approximately 40 performing at the festival, include Bon Iver, Weezer, Major Lazer, Run the Jewels and Cage the Elephant.

The Weeknd
Friday, June 2
Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, CT
The RnB singer known for his practically pitch-perfect vocals will be bringing his beautiful voice and catchy dance beats to the casino this summer.

Governors Ball Festival
Friday, June 2 - Sunday, June 4
Randall's Island Park, New York, NY
Another festival within just a few hours' drive is Governor's Ball. For rap lovers, Wiz Khalifa, Childish Gambino and ScHoolboy Q are on the bill. Indie fans can see Lorde, Phoenix and Franz Ferdinand. It's impossible to list all the acts here; there's over 60!

Foster the People
Tuesday, June 6
College Street Music Hall, New Haven, CT
The indie band surprised fans after recently announcing a huge tour, hitting the US as well as Europe. There doesn't appear to be a new album in the works (at least not yet) but fans can hear hits from the band's first two albums to hold them over in the meantime.

Dirty Heads
Sunday, June 18
Blue Hills Bank Pavilion, Boston, MA
The reggae fusion band's music was meant for summer. They'll be touring outdoor amphitheaters all summer long, letting fans enjoy the summer weather and music as a package deal.

Third Eye Blind
Sunday, July 2
Oakdale Theater, Wallingford, CT
Sing along to "Semi-Charmed Life" for the 5000th time in a row, but this time do it live with the 90s rock band in person.

Zac Brown Band
Thursday, July 6
Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT
The country band is known for their explosive live performance, typically surprising fans with genre-breaking covers including "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Enter Sandman" and "Under the Bridge."

Vans Warped Tour
Sunday, July 9
Xfinity Theatre, Hartford, CT
Break out your ratty high tops and get ready to spend the day out in the sun listening to bands spanning all genres of the alternative scene. For the pop punk kids, Neck Deep and Anti-Flag will be at the Connecticut date, as well as hardcore bands like Hatebreed and the Acacia Strain and rapper Watsky.

Ed Sheeran
Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15
Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, CT
Fans will have two chances to see Sheeran perform songs from his new album for the first time at the casino this summer.

Incubus
Tuesday, July 18
Xfinity Centre, Mansfield, MA
The rock band will likely be performing songs from new album "8," as well as classics like "Wish You Were Here" and "Drive."

J. Cole
Friday, August 4
TD Garden, Boston, MA
With 4 *Your Eyez Only* recently certified platinum, J. Cole tickets are hot right now. The rapper is known for his charisma, don't miss your chance to see him live.

Dropkick Murphys and Rancid
Saturday, August 5
Brockton Fairgrounds, Brockton, MA
Get your aggression out with two punk greats. The "From Boston to Berkeley" tour is likely the only time you'll be able to see them together on the same bill.

Kenny Chesney
Thursday, August 10 and Friday, August 11
Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, CT
Summer was made for country concerts. Kenny Chesney tours every summer, so what better way to celebrate the season than with the country staple?

Green Day
Tuesday, August 29
Xfinity Theater, Hartford, CT
The punk band's new material is just as explosive as their old, and fans can be sure to hear a smattering of songs, from *Dookie* to *American Idiot* to *Revolution Radio*.



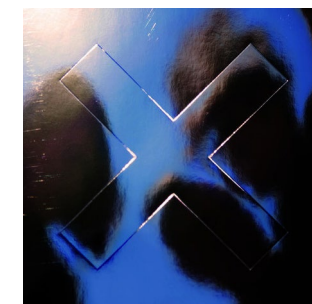
Music Reviews

Article by Neel Razdan
Design by Rachael Berry



Sango
De Mim, Pra Você

If you're craving hypnotic, sporadic rhythms, or a soundtrack for a long road trip, *De Mim, Pra Você* is an experience to explore. The Seattle-based producer has



The xx
I See You

The critically acclaimed English emo, indie-pop group has finally released a follow-up to their 2012 sophomore album *Coexist*. The band disbanded after

In 2016, we saw multiple major releases from artists across the spectrum: Beyonce, Radiohead, Kanye West, Bon Iver, Frank Ocean, and Porches, to name just a few. As the summer approaches, 2017

has already blessed our ears with refreshing sounds for those dog days ahead. Below, I dug out some of the best albums to accompany every mood, groove, and vibe you're in.

consistently built upon his discography – starting from 2010 – and has recently taken a more soulful direction. Taking influence from Northern Brazilian and black music, Sango hopes to reach out to his roots, according to the artist's Twitter. The album certainly attempts to do so; the translation from Portuguese meaning "from me, to you." The tracks offer a dynamic mix of mellow tempos, trap beats, and native sounds. "Que Nada" is a slow-burner with a mesmerizing vocal sample accompanied by

the pounding of hand drums. The album finds a healthy balance between building hype through a steady blaring bass, sure to test your subwoofer, and the cracks of a trap snare upon spoken Portuguese on "Esperado." Personally, my most recommended track is "Engenho da Rainha," featuring sultry R&B vocals over an acoustic guitar, which will be the perfect ending to a long summer day.

member Jamie xx left to pursue his 2015 solo album *In Colour*, an electronic instrumental album that explored a more optimistic atmosphere. Jamie xx returned, and brought with him a certain confident soundscape. On the opening track "Dangerous," a slew of bright, brass horns abruptly pushes away any familiarity the listener has with the usual minimal arrangements of The xx. Female vocalist Romy continues to sing, in an airy essence, subtle and distant lines such as "I'm on a different kind of high" over

the strum of reverberating single chords in "I Dare You." Jamie and Romy still complement each other on duets and have a set a new bar with a grand buildup consisting of synth-strings and a frantic piano in "Say Something Loving," displaying a richer sound than ever before. My go-to track, however, is "On Hold" for its bold use of dance-pop sampling and bass to breathe life into a band gone quiet for what seems too long.



Kendrick Lamar
DAMN.

Kendrick Lamar A.K.A a Benz to me is just a car. KDot. Cornrow Kenny. Kung-Fu Kenny. King Kendrick is back with his fourth-album DAMN., a braggadocios untamed return. It has become a welcome change for those who did not quite find the experimental, funk, jazz production of his previous album To Pimp A Butterfly (TPAB) accessible. TPAB was a conceptual, introspective album on Lamar's influence in hip-hop, social issues in America, and the disconnect he has dealt with

during his rise to fame. However, Lamar has proudly reclaimed his throne as a lyrical virtuoso, kicking down the doors proclaiming "I got, I got, I got, I got, loyalty, royalty in my DNA" in "DNA." Aggressive and fast-paced, Lamar declares no one will "take me out of my element" on "ELEMENT" and has proved he hasn't fallen off since his breakthrough on good kid, m.A.A.d. city. This is not to say that Lamar has forgotten his sensitive side; he raps "just love me, I just wanna be with you"

on "LOVE," asking a significant other if they will stay with him if he ever does fail. Deciding on a single track as a favorite was nearly impossible for me, but I have repeatedly come back to "PRIDE." The song is an appropriate example of what makes Lamar such a prominent hip-hop artist today; a hopeful young man dreaming of change but in reality, the only obstacles stopping him is not only the world but himself as well: "see, in a perfect world, I'll choose faith over riches."



John Mayer
The Search For
Everything

This one is for all you sappy couples looking forward to those lovey-dovey hot summer days. Mayer's new album is nothing in comparison to his earlier works,

but aims to become more informal and casual to offer more straight truth than any other albums before. "Love On The Weekend" is a campy, pop love song spewing cringy but adorable lyrics like "I'll be the driver, you be the DJ" for those long countryside drives. An American-folk influence is present in "In The Blood" when Mayer addresses the struggles of familial relationships around him over an acoustic guitar, touched with bluesy licks fit for some self-reflection. Mayer still has

got that pretty boy touch on "I Still Feel Like Your Man" with seductive vocals, funky chords and a catchy chorus your boyfriend couldn't even resist singing. My guilty pleasure on the album has to be "Rosie" for the brass section that never fails to put a smile on my face.

If the above recommendations aren't enough to keep you musically satisfied during the summer months, here are some upcoming artists who are expected to release albums in 2017 that I recommend watching out for:

- Mac DeMarco
- Vince Staples
- Gorillaz
- Lorde
- Logic
- Alt-J



UConn On: The Best Summer Jams



We traveled around campus on a sunny day to ask UConn what their favorite summer song is and why. Spoiler alert: A lot of people picked a song because it made them want to drive around with windows down.



"California Gurls" by Katy Perry feat. Snoop Dogg

"The lyrics match the summer theme."- Kailin Lu

"Lighthouse - Andrelli Remix" by Hearts and Colors

"It's so upbeat and nice. I listen to this song all the time!" - Andrea Lugo-Ramirez

"Breathe" by Astrid S

"It pumps you up." - Breanna Gagnon

"Solo Dance" by Marin Jensen

"It makes you want to dance. It makes you feel more free. It makes you want to put your windows down." - Elizabeth Feinberg

Any song by 311

"Anything with reggae in it just gives off the summer vibe." - Chris Grant

“

*It makes you want
to put your windows
down*

“Slide” by Calvin Harris feat. Frank Ocean and Migos

“It’s upbeat and happy. I like it.” - Eric O’Loughlin

“It’s just a summery song!” - Chris Carroll

“Blem” by Drake

“It’s got a summer vibe. I can see myself riding out with the windows down!” - Baeli Polanco

“All Night” by Chance the Rapper

“It’s upbeat. It makes you want to dance.”
- Andrea Camargo

“Shining” by DJ Khaled feat. Beyonce and Jay-Z

“Summer’s basically in the title!” - Marissa Dacruz

“Wonderful” by Travis Scott and “Say It” by Tory Lanez

“When I’m out in the sun that’s what I want to play. I’m also about the throwbacks so I’ll throw in ‘All I Have’ by J. Lo too.” - Yazmin Cotterell



NM