

Mixtape: Panurge

Local lads Panurge dropped their third album, *Walking in the Fog*, on August 1st. Released through Last Gang Records (cue incessant buzzing), it has been lavished with critical praise aplenty. After limbering up their touring muscles during a spring circuit with Metric and Islands, Panurge has just returned home from a nationwide marathon. Never ones for overexposure (despite what that police report says), their next local show will be in support of Akron/Family in December. Despite six years of catching ears, Panurge's music often leaves listeners at a loss for descriptors. "A blend of '60s-style pop and modern electronica" doesn't offer much insight. Perhaps a mixtape can shed some light on the varied muses that govern them.

C.L. McLaughlin

1. Harry Nilsson | Gotta Get Up | This song leads off every early morning and mixtape of the last seven years for me. The perfect blend of wit, wonk, and songcraft. The template of basically everything I ever want to achieve.
2. E.L.O. | Boy Blue | You can tell it's Jeff Lynne's first time with a full string section and choir. He brilliantly doesn't know exactly what to do with them and doesn't do it this well again.
3. Hefner | When the Angels Play Their Drum Machines | Dead Media really introduced me to the idea of writing a pop song with an analog synthesizer. Lyrically, Darren Hayman is England's D.C. Berman, if you know what I mean. Geek.
4. The Ronettes | (The Best Part of) Breaking Up | Full of eerie bits and pieces that never quite fit and stop and start like every relationship I've ever known: by the time it's over, you can't tell if you'd have been better off having never been a part of it or if it was the best thing that ever happened to you.
5. Joanna Newsom | Peach, Plum, Pear | How heartbreaking can a harpsichord and multi-tracked vocals be? Let's find out.
6. Gram Parsons | \$1000 Wedding | About the wedding he skipped out on. Heartbreak and a longing for some sort of forgiveness are written all over this song. Regret never sounded so beautiful.
7. Steely Dan | My Old School | I secretly love a good guitar solo. This song has three of the best I've ever heard, so pay no attention to the mind-boggling horn arrangement and drumming.
8. Show Business Giants | Japan Is Turning Into Eric Burdon | For some reason this song makes me so happy. I always imagine that this was the most fun song to record ever.
9. Liars | There's Always Room on the Broom | The most FUCKEDUPPERFECTPOPSONG ever!
10. Superchunk | Watery Hands | Try to sing along with this song. You know you can't, but want to so

bad. You can't sing like that and neither can I, but that doesn't mean I don't try every damn time.

11. Blue Öyster Cult | Burning For You | From the band that brought you nothing good, here's the best song you've never thought was. Would someone cover this song already?
12. The Beekeepers | Dave Clark 5 | If you ever have a crappy song stuck in your head, listen to this song. Voila! That one's gone and this one is in, right? One of the best Vancouver bands ever, they were swallowed by the night, never to be seen again. Poor, poor us.
13. Elvis Costello and The Attractions | Two Little Hitlers | I end every mixtape with this song. It's the end... it has to be.

Jon Schubert

1. The Beatles | Norwegian Wood | They are the best.
2. Bob Dylan | 115th Dream | Probably the most overt display of his sense of humour.
3. Devendra Banhart | I Feel Just Like a Child | Grooves like Marc Bolan in diapers.
4. Novillero | The Hypothesist | Rod Slaughter (real name) has been the beating heart of Canadian indie-mod for fifteen years now. We played with them in August; 'twas grand, as is this song.
5. Of Montreal | Eros' Entropic Tundra | We just played with them; 'twas fantastic, as is this song.
6. The Dukes of Stratosphear | What In the World??... | Genius (XTC) attempts imitation but arrives at something fresh and exciting.
7. The Poppy Family | Beyond the Clouds | Van City represent. Not sure why they're not more celebrated in their hometown.
8. Air | Kelly Watch the Stars | From the enormously creative Moon Safari.
9. Broadcast | Goodbye Girls | What Ladytron might sound like if they were able to feel love.
10. Slow Dazzle | Fleur de Lis | I know nothing about them except what's on their Myspace, but I've listened to this song a thousand times and haven't yet tired of it.
11. The Pink Floyd | See Emily Play | I say "The" Pink Floyd to differentiate them from post-Barrett Floyd. The 4-second piano break at the 0:50 mark means more to me than the entirety of Dark Side of the Moon. One of my favourite tracks ever, for certain.
12. The Soft Machine | Hope for Happiness | Robert Wyatt and Kevin Ayers being in a band together was a pretty good idea.

13. Jim Noir | Eanie Meany | It's always heartening to hear something new that is childishly fey without being milquetoast.
14. Donovan | Epistle to Dippy | Good-hearted, whimsical and melodic.
15. The Zombies | Brief Candles | Basically just picking my current favourite Odessey and Oracle song.
16. El Perro Del Mar | I Can't Talk About It | She so sad. Why she so sad? She can't talk about it.
17. Love | She Comes In Colors | Worth it for the harpsichord/flute flourish bits alone.
18. Beck | Rowboat | A young, pre-"Loser" Beck does a great sad cod-country song which ends up as the real thing in Johnny Cash's hands.

Chris Lovell

1. Kevin Ayers | Lady Rachel | As exquisite as David Bedford's orchestral arrangement for alternate versions of this song, I prefer the one which appears on Joy of a Toy – spare, spooky and a little more uptempo. A pop song with real movement, full of images and the pervasive tension between fantasy and vulnerability.
2. W.A. Mozart | Overture from "Le Nozze di Figaro" | Plenty of delicate little melodies, counter-melodies and harmonies, yet all of the bombast that no number of guitar overdubs will ever get you. Wonderfully dynamic, this is one that always moves me when I hear it.
3. Bill Withers | Ain't No Sunshine | Lacks all pretension. I feel silly even talking about this song, so I will do so no longer.
4. Neil Young | Tell Me Why | I am just all about this song right now – such a moving melody, such sweet harmonies, such great complementary acoustic guitar parts.
5. Radiohead | Paranoid Android | I heard some dude in Steve's Music playing this on the acoustic guitar this summer and it reminded me just how good it was. The dude was okay, too, but probably not Thom Yorke good, you know? Anyway, nothing should be less cool than a hit song written a decade ago, but "Paranoid Android" doesn't care.

Daniel Byrne

1. LCD Soundsystem | Beat Connection | It's all true.

2. Spoon | My Mathematical Mind | Builds like a good shit.
3. Feist | Lonely Lonely | I love the somewhat unexpected guitar picking at the end.
4. Beyonce | Yay Beyonce! | Beyonce can lick my balls.
5. Justin Timberlake | Sexyback | Can I ironically appreciate the Trousersnake too? Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh?

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