User Guide

-- A Visual Exploration of Sailor Shift and Oceanus Folk

This user guide consists of three sections designed to help users understand and analyse patterns related to the superstar **Sailor Shift** — including her professional network, career trajectory, and the broader influence of the musical style she represents: **Oceanus Folk**.

Each section offers interactive visualizations and insights to explore:

- The people and works connected to Sailor Shift

- The evolution and spread of Oceanus Folk over time

- The genres and artists most influenced by this unique style

Through this guide, users can gain a deeper understanding of Sailor's impact and the cultural reach of Oceanus Folk within the music ecosystem.

01 Artist Explorer

ARTIST EXPLORATION – CONTRIBUTION NETWORK

Purpose
This module helps users explore the creative contributions of the top 3 rising artists — Yang Zhao, Ping Tian, and Kimberly Snyder — across three key roles:
1. Composer
2. Lyricist
3. Producer

HOW TO USE

1. Select Artists

Use the checklist on the left panel to toggle the visibility of the three highlighted artists. This enables focused exploration of individual or combined contribution networks.

2. Filter by Contribution Type

Refine the network by selecting one or more contribution roles:
- ComposerOf: Shows songs/albums composed by the artist.
- LyricistOf: Displays works for which the artist wrote lyrics.
- ProducerOf: Includes tracks produced by the artist.

UNDERSTANDING THE NETWORK GRAPH

Nodes
- Persons (circles): The artists (e.g., Yang Zhao).
- Songs (triangles): Individual tracks.
- Albums (squares): Collections of songs.

Node Size
- Represents node degree (i.e., number of direct connections) – larger nodes indicate higher activity or centrality.

Node Color
- Red: Notable songs/albums.
- Blue: Other works.

Edges (Connections)
- Show how artists are connected to songs/albums by contribution type.
  - Blue = ComposerOf
  - Green = LyricistOf
  - Purple = ProducerOf

Hovering over nodes reveals:
- The name of the work.
- The year of release.
- The connected artist(s).

ARTIST EXPLORATION – INFLUENCE NETWORK

Purpose
This module is designed to explore how a specific artist's work is shaped by and contributes to a broader musical conversation. It reveals influence pathways through relationships such as:
- Sampling
- Covering
- Lyrical Referencing
- Interpolation
- Stylistic Emulation

Each network is centered on a single artist, visualizing how their songs are connected to others through these creative references.

HOW TO USE

1. Choose an Artist

Use the dropdown menu to select an artist to analyze. Only one artist can be viewed at a time.

2. Select Influence Types

Toggle specific influence relationship types to refine the view:
- DirectlySamples: The artist samples another's work.
- CoverOf: The artist performs a cover version of an existing song.
- LyricalReferenceTo: Their lyrics reference or echo those of another song.
- InterpolatesFrom: The artist borrows melodic or rhythmic motifs.
- InStyleOf: The artist emulates another's musical style.

UNDERSTANDING THE NETWORK GRAPH

Nodes
- Circles: Songs
- Squares: Albums
- Larger node size = higher reference count (in-degree/out-degree).

Node Color
- Black Dots = Notable Works
- White Dots = Other Works

Edges (Connections)

Edges represent different types of influence:
- Orange = CoverOf
- Green = DirectlySamples
- Purple = InStyleOf
- Brown = InterpolatesFrom
- Pink = LyricalReferenceTo

Each line shows a directional relationship between two songs (from origin to influence or vice versa).

ARTIST EXPLORATION – NEXT RISING STARS

Purpose

This module highlights the song catalogs of the next top 3 rising stars:

Copper Canyon Ghosts, Beatrice Albright, and Daniel O'Connell.

It focuses on direct artist-to-song relationships, allowing users to:

- See the breadth of songs each artist has performed.

- Understand each artist's creative output, without mapping broader network influence or collaborations.

HOW TO USE

Select Rising Stars

Use the selection panel to toggle one or more artists. You can explore:

- A single artist's discography

- Or compare catalogs across multiple rising stars

UNDERSTANDING THE NETWORK GRAPH

Artist Nodes

- Represented as orange triangles

- One node per artist

Song Nodes

- Represented as blue circles

- Connected directly to the artist who performed them

Edges

- Show a performance relationship: the artist has performed or released the song

- There are no influence or collaboration edges in this view

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02 Career Explorer

SAILOR SWIFT CAREER EXPLORER – INFLUENCE VIEW

Purpose

This module is designed to explore the individuals who have influenced Sailor Shift throughout her career. The visualization places Sailor at the center, with various edge types connecting her to other artists who may have had an impact on her work.

When the user drags Sailor's node, the connected nodes move along with it. Visually, the extent to which other nodes follow Sailor's movement may offer an intuitive sense of the strength of their influence on her.

HOW TO USE

1. In the Select View panel, choose 'Influence'.

2. Tick the relevant Influence Type (e.g., ComposerOf, ProducerOf, etc.).

3. Hover over nodes and edges to inspect influence connections.

4. Drag the central node (Sailor) to observe dynamic force layouts.

SAILOR SWIFT CAREER EXPLORER – COLLABORATION VIEW

This module examines the individuals and groups that Sailor Shift has influenced through collaboration. The visualization centers on Sailor's network of creative partnerships, showing how her musical contributions may have shaped the work of other artists, albums, groups, and record labels.

HOW TO USE

1. Select 'Collaboration' in the View panel.

2. Enter a Depth value (e.g., 2) to control network expansion.

3. Explore Sailor's direct and indirect collaborators.

The visualization supports multi-level exploration, revealing how Sailor's partnerships extend into wider collaborative chains.

SAILOR SWIFT CAREER EXPLORER – COMMUNITY VIEW

This module shows how Sailor Shift's influence extends beyond her immediate circle into the broader Oceanus Folk community. By choosing the 'Community' view, users can trace how artists who worked with Sailor later influenced or collaborated with others.

HOW TO USE

1. In Select View, choose 'Community'.

2. Set the Depth level (e.g., 2) to expand the network.

3. Hover to explore indirect influence links.

This network highlights ripple effects — not only Sailor's collaborations, but also the extended web of activity that results from them.

03 Influence Explorer

EXPLORE OCEANUS FOLK'S INFLUENCE AS A GENRE – TREND OF RELEASE

Purpose

This module helps users explore the release trends of works in the **Oceanus Folk** genre to determine whether its rise was **intermittent** or **gradual**.

The analysis is based on the assumption that a **higher volume of productions** reflects the genre's **influence and spread**, as it indicates greater adoption by artists and active use as a mode of expression.
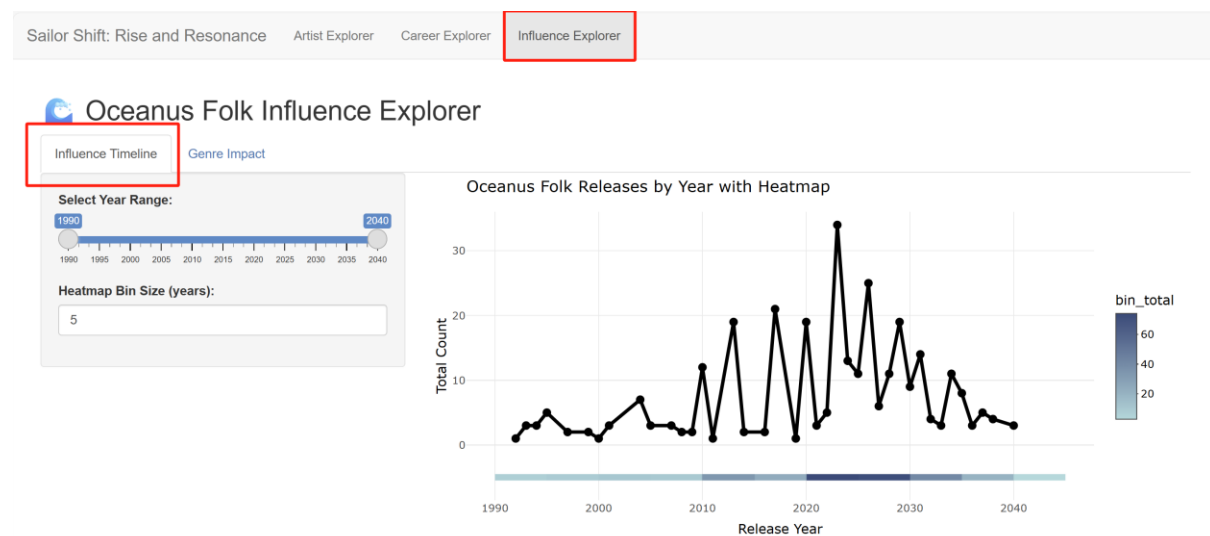
HOW TO USE

1. **Open the Influence Explorer Panel**

Click on the Oceanus Folk Influence Explorer at the top of the page.

2. **Select the "Influence Timeline" Subpanel**

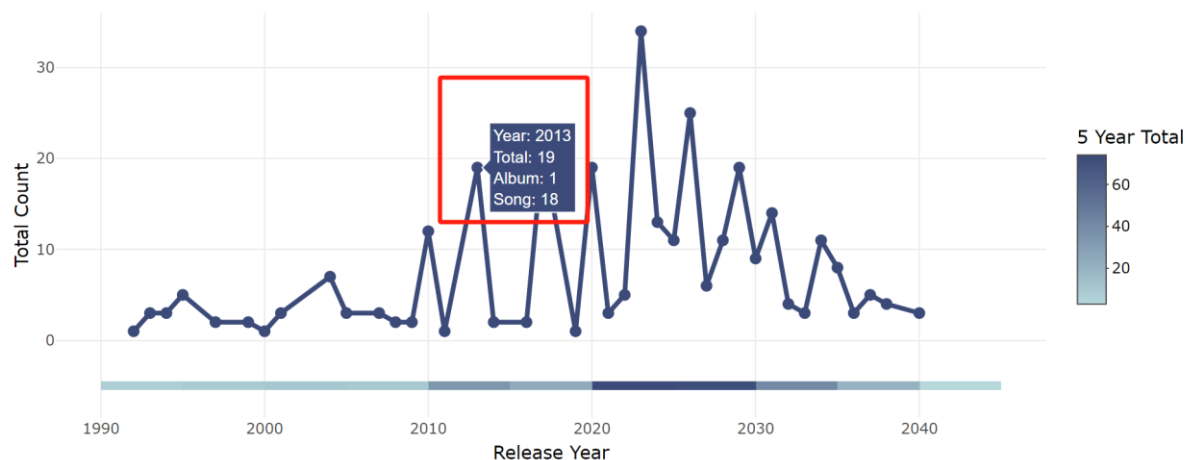On the left side, click Influence Timeline to explore the trend of Oceanus Folk releases.

3. **Explore the Full Timeline (1990–2040)**

By default, you will see the total number of Oceanus Folk releases from 1990 to 2040.
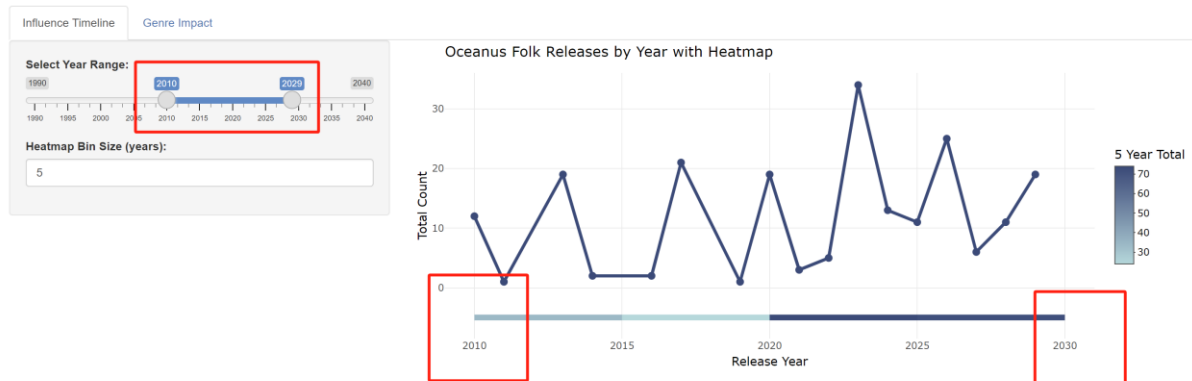
Hover over the line chart to view details for each year, including:

- Total releases
- Number of Songs and Albums
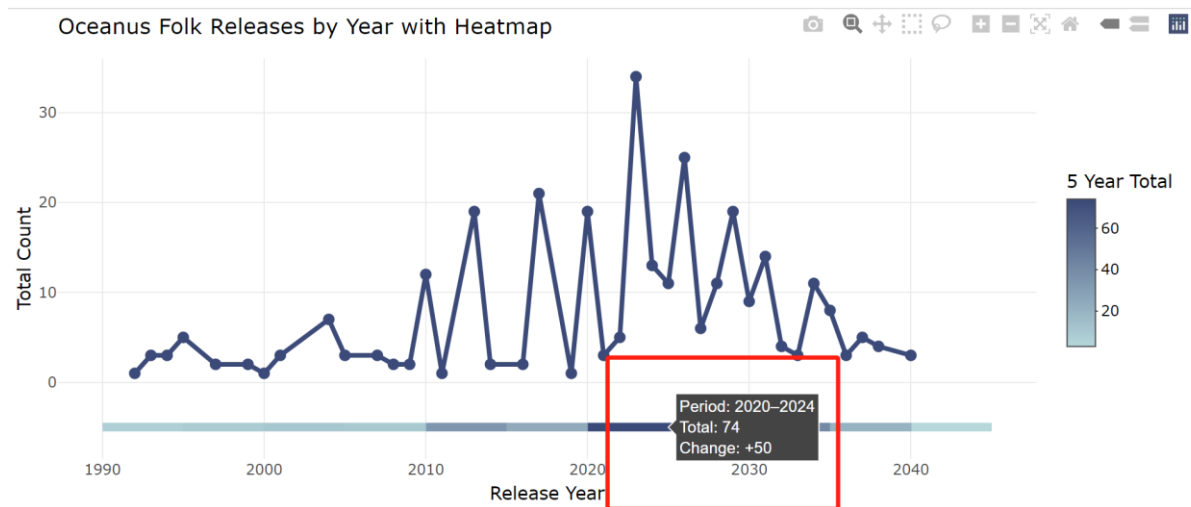- The specific year

4. **Adjust the Year Range**
   Use the **Year Slider** on the left to zoom in on specific time periods (e.g., 2010–2030).
   The heatmap below will automatically update to reflect the selected range.

5. **Understand the Heatmap**
   The heatmap below shows the number of releases grouped by default into 5-year bins.
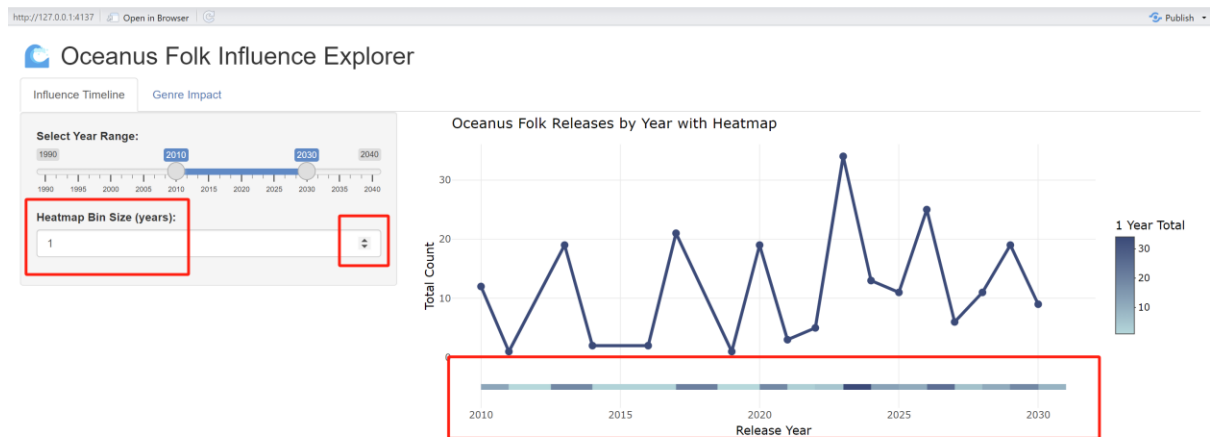   - Darker colors represent higher release counts.
   - Hover over a bar to view the time period, total releases, and the absolute change from the previous period.

6. **Change the Bin Size for More Detail**
   Adjust the **Bin Size** on the left to group by 1 year instead of 5.
   - Smaller bins show more detail but may introduce noise.
   - The heatmap bars will become narrower, and the legend will update accordingly.

EXPLORE OCEANUS FOLK'S INFLUENCE AS A GENRE – MOST INFLUENCED GENRE

Purpose

This section explores the relationship between **Oceanus Folk** and other genres.
By interacting with the network, you can discover:

- **Which genres** are most strongly influenced

- **How** Oceanus Folk influences other genres

Use this tool to gain insights into the stylistic impact of Oceanus Folk across the music network.

HOW TO USE

1. **Understanding the Plot**
   This network shows how **Oceanus Folk** influences other genres through its works.
   - **Blue nodes** represent **genres**. The larger the node, the more influence it receives from Oceanus Folk (higher indegree).
   - **Green nodes** represent **works** (songs and albums).
   - **Colored edges** show different **types of influence** (e.g., blue for *InStyleOf*, *CoverOf*, etc.).
   - **Gray edges** indicate *BelongsToGenre* relationships between works and genres.

2. **Highlight Nodes**
   - Click a node,
   - Select a node name from the **left panel**, or
   - Choose from the **top ID list**
     to highlight the node and its **one-degree neighbors**.

Oceanus Folk Influence Explorer
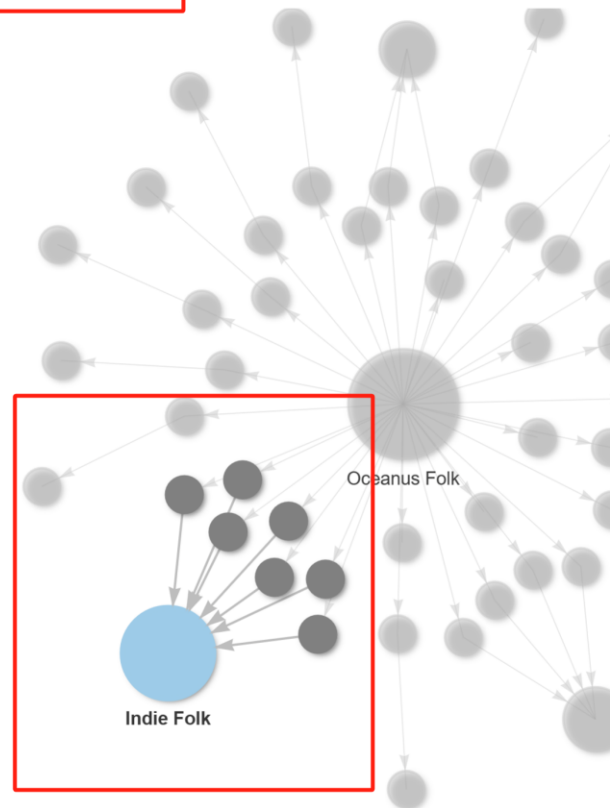
Influence Timeline **Genre Impact**

Select Genre(s):

Acoustic Folk Alternative Rock Americana
Avant-Garde Folk Blues Rock Celtic Folk
Darkwave Desert Rock Doom Metal Dream Pop
Emo/Pop Punk Indie Folk Indie Pop Indie Rock
Jazz Surf Rock Lo-Fi Electronica Oceanus Folk
Post-Apocalyptic Folk Psychedelic Rock
Sea Shanties Southern Gothic Rock Space Rock
Speed Metal Symphonic Metal Synthpop
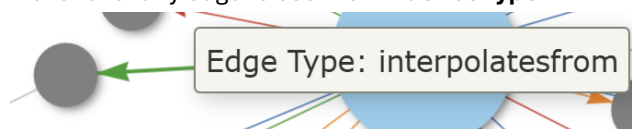Synthwave

Select Work(s):

Aerial Conquistadors Inheritance of Hope
Stones and Shadows White Crosses, Red Hearts
Whispers Across the Pacific Ink-Stained Memories
Vernal Procession Pulse
Hey, Hey! (Expanded Version)
Clock Out Confession Unseen Currents
Wooden Shoe Blues Twilight Paradigm
Broken Whispers to the Divine Floating Free
Noble Harvest Beneath the Coral Moon
Ghostlights & Galleons Wreck and Reverie
Coven's Whisper The Kelp Forest Canticles
The Liminal Space Generation Rising
Boise Bound Tales from the Briny Deep
Echoes of the Old Way Echoes of What Could Be
Fields of Red and Steel Tractors and Traditions

Indie Folk

Oceanus Folk

Indie Folk

3. **View Influence Type**
Hover over any edge to see the **influence type**.

Edge Type: interpolatesfrom

4. **View Work Details**
Hover over a **work node** to see the **work's name and type** (song or album).

Noble Harvest
Type: Song