**From:** Don Yates

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**To:** KEXP All Staff (Dist List)

**Subject:** KEXP new music reviews for 4-18-16

Here are this week’s new music reviews – hope to see you at the big shindig tomorrow! Don

H:

Niki & The Dove – Everybody's Heart Is Broken Now (Universal)

This Swedish duo's second album is an excellent set of impeccably crafted electro-pop steeped in '80s synth-pop and R&B, featuring a warm sound with shimmering synths, mostly laid-back R&B and electronic rhythms, Malin Dahlstrom's glassy, heart-tugging vocals, melancholy lyrics and wistful melodies. Try **1**, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 & 13—Don Yates

M:

Gallant – Ology (Mind Of A Genius)

The debut full-length from LA-based artist Christopher Gallant is a promising set of moody, '90s-steeped R&B inflected with shades of hip hop, funk, rock and soul, combining mostly dark, beat-driven soundscapes with his soulful crooning and often-melancholy lyrics. Try **2**, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14.--Don Yates

Sturgill Simpson – A Sailor's Guide To Earth (Atlantic)

The third solo album from this Kentucky-bred, Nashville-based artist (and former Seattle resident) finds him continuing to stretch out with a masterful, even more expansive blend of outlaw country with soul, funk, psych-rock and other styles. A concept album addressed to his infant son, *A Sailor's Guide To Earth* roams from gritty funk-rock and spacy psych-rock to soul-steeped country-funk and atmospheric country ballads. The Dap-Kings are prominently featured throughout on horns. Try 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (Nirvana cover), 6, 7, 8 & 9.--Don Yates

The Coathangers – Nosebleed Weekend (Suicide Squeeze)

This Atlanta-bred trio's fifth album is one of their strongest releases to date, featuring a visceral blend of garage-rock, New Wave, post-punk and more along with some of their sharpest, most consistent songwriting to date. Try 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12.--Don Yates

Terrace Martin – Velvet Portraits (Sounds Of Crenshaw/Ropeadope)

This LA multi-instrumentalist/producerrapper was all over the recent albums from Kendrick Lamar. His second solo album sets aside hip hop for a beautifully crafted blend of soulful jazz with LA G-funk and R&B. Try 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12.--Don Yates

Frightened Rabbit – Painting Of A Panic Attack (Canvasback/Atlantic)

This Scottish band's fifth album is a bit more somber and restrained take on the band's anthemic folk-pop. Produced by The National's Aaron Dessner, the album combines an atmospheric, mostly mid-tempo sound with Scott Hutchinson's impassioned vocals and often-bleak lyrics. Try 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11 & 12.--Don Yates

L:

Prism Tats – Prism Tats (Anti-)

This Durban, South Africa-raised artist (aka Garett van der Spek) began his Prism Tats project while living in Seattle before recently relocating to Los Angeles.  His debut album under that name is a fine set of smartly crafted pop-rock with fuzzy guitars, occasional electronic elements and catchy song hooks. Try 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 8.--Don Yates

Future Of The Left – The Peace and Truce of Future Of The Left (Prescriptions)

The fifth album from this Welsh band led by former Mclusky frontman Andrew Falkous (aka Falco) is another potent set of menacing post-punk with spiky guitar lines and jagged rhythms accompanying Falkous' sneering vocals and biting topical lyrics laced with dark humor. Try 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 & 11.--Don Yates

Teen Suicide – It's The Big Joyous Celebration, Let's Stir The Honeypot (Run For Cover)

The second and final full-length from this Maryland-based project spearheaded by Sam Ray is an ambitious 26-song set of adventurous, lo-fi pop-rock combining a murky though diverse sound with often-dark lyrics revolving around depression and spirituality. Try 1, 3, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 22 & 26.--Don Yates

Eskimeaux – Year Of The Rabbit EP (Double Double Whammy)

The latest release from this Brooklyn project spearheaded by Gabrielle Smith is a strong 6-song EP of folk-tinged dream-pop that finds her opting for a live-band sound to frame her hushed vocals and intimate lyrics. Try 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6.--Don Yates

Deakin – Sleep Cycle (self-released)

The debut solo album from this Animal Collective member (aka Josh Dibb) is an often-transportive six-song set of expansive psych-pop ranging from dreamy, folk-tinged ballads to densely layered, percussion-driven songs. Try 1, 2, 4 & 6.--Don Yates

The Lumineers – Cleopatra (Dualtone)

This Denver band's second album is a more somber, ballad-heavy take on their dramatic folk-pop. Try 1, 2, 3, 5 & 7.--Don Yates

R/N:

Draze – Seattle's Own (self-released)

This Seattle artist's second mixtape is a fine set of underground hip hop combining a diverse sound featuring guitars, horns, marimbas and other live instrumentation with his workmanlike flow and Seattlecentric lyrics that hit hardest when attacking gentrification. Try 2, 9, 10 & 11.--Don Yates

John Carpenter – Lost Themes II (Sacred Bones)

The veteran film director/composer follows up last year's *Lost Themes* album with another set of ominous cinematic instrumentals. Try 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 12.--Don Yates

Museyroom – Pearly Whites (Grind Select)

This Brooklyn/Philly band's debut album is a solid set of adventurous psych-pop with skittering rhythms and dreamy melodies. Try 3, 4, 5, 6 & 8.--Don Yates

Ashley Shadow – Ashley Shadow (felte)

The debut album from this Vancouver, B.C. artist (aka Ashley Webber, former Organ bassist and Bonnie 'Prince' Billy collaborator) is a solid set of dark, buzzing folk-pop. Try 2, 3, 6, 7 & 8.--Don Yates

Lola Marsh – You're Mine EP (Anova Music)

This Tel Aviv duo debuts with a dreamy, 4-song blend of wistful follk-pop and breezy electro-pop. Try 1, 2 & 3.--Don Yates

Solids – Else EP (Topshelf)

This Montreal band folllow up their energetic debut album by switching gears for this fine 4-song EP of melancholy, grunge-tinged rock. Try 1, 2 & 3.--Don Yates