

Some Grumpy Old Guy's Top Ten Bands and Artists of 2015

 www.slickstermagazine.com/top-ten-bands-and-artists-of-2015/

Joe Mitchell

Some Grumpy Old Guy's Top Ten Bands and Artists of 2015

So not all of these artists released albums in 2015, nonetheless, they were this grumpy old guy's fave musicians of the year anyway.

Who were your top ten? We've gotta comments section below, ya know. Tell me. Who did I miss aside Kendrick Lamar and Lame Impala?

Grumpy old guy's top ten:

10. Beverly



Photo by Chad Kamenshine

Wonderful sonic blasts in the tradition of Lush and My Bloody Valentine that make for some great road

trippin' music. The video for 2014's "Honey Do" is a languid work of art directed by [Hanly Banks Callahan](#). Hmm. [That last name sounds familiar](#).

9. The Twilight Sad



Let's get emo!!! These guys are opening for the Cure on their upcoming North American Tour, and I cannot wait for them to land in my backyard and toss aside the stale remains of Robert Smith. Now that Coldplay have devolved into a ridiculous parody of themselves, this is your band for gray days, lonely bedrooms, and Smiths fan club reunions. Of course, what else would you expect from good, god-fearin' Glaswegians?

8. Best Coast

Ah.. The Bethany and Bobb show. *California Nights* was one of the top LPs (yes, grumpy old guys still use that 'breve) of the year with tracks like "Feeling Okay" and "Jealousy" vying for song of the summer. The various tracks I've heard from their previous three releases haven't been too shabby either. Best Coast will be touring the US with Wavves in the first half of 2016, and I'm chomping at the bit to see if they live up to all the [hype I've heard about their live gigs](#) and if they can fire a nice rock 'n' roll middle finger in the general direction [of their less than enthused critics](#).

7. Belle and Sebastian



Emily Browning, Hannah Murray, and Oliver Alexander from the film *God Help the Girl*

Okay, I've mostly been listening to the *God Help the Girl Soundtrack* from 2014 and the original *God Help the Girl* recording from 2010, so technically, it's not Belle and Sebastian, but just lead singer Stuart Murdoch's songwriting work. But hey, let's not get technical. *God Help the Girl* will always be associated with B&S. Their 2015 LP *Girls in Peacetime Just Want to Dance* and 2010's *Write About Love* have also been burning the bits and bytes of my playlists.

6. Childbirth



Photo by Shaine Truscott

Okay, I've already [waxed cloyingly](#) over this band, so I'll just shut up and tell you I'm ready to drive 16 hours to their February 2 gig in Tucson and scream "I Only Came to Your Gig as a Joke!"

5. Courtney Barnett



photo by <http://www.miamalamcdonald.com/> — with Helena Leal.

No, it's not her wildly acclaimed newest release, *Sometimes I Sit and Think and Sometimes I Just Sit*, that had my ears in 2015, but her earlier cuts like the sublime "Avant Gardener" and the raucous "History Eraser" which is by far the best thing's she's ever done IMHO.

NEXT

Pages: 1 2

Some Grumpy Old Guy's Top Ten Bands and Artists of 2015

 www.slickstermagazine.com/top-ten-bands-and-artists-of-2015/2/

Joe Mitchell

4. Protomartyr



I've already [venerated this band's latest herein](#). But this isn't their only album. There's plenty more Detroit meets Manchester grit where the *Agent Intellect* came from. *Under Cover of Official Right* is just as searing, if not as cohesive, as this year's model. Plus, gotta love lead singer Joe Casey who at the ripe old age of 38 has established himself as a songwriting powerhouse to be reckoned with. I hope he keeps going until he's 98, though I doubt I'll be around to enjoy it. If Protomartyr is an augur of things to come for Detroit, you'll be wanting to live there soon if you aren't already.

3. CHVRCHES



Band Selfie after Fun Fun Fun Fest show, Austin, 11/06/2015

This year's release, [Every Open Eye](#), did not disappoint. "Empty Threat" and "Clearest Blue" are right up there with "The Mother We Share", "Recover", and "We Sink" from the band's debut, *The Bones of What You Believe*. CHVRCHES have proven that they are more than so much candy-ass dance music passing in the night. They're ready to take their places in the synth-pop pantheon right alongside the likes of New Order and Depeche Mode.

2. Grimes



Photo via Grimes on Facebook

2015's [Art Angels](#) is a great album, but I keep going back to 2012's *Visions* which is destined to be an EDM classic, if not just a plain ol' classic, period. I don't think it's possible to write a better song for tripped-out dance floor [shape-pulling](#) than "[Circumambient](#)." Go anywhere with that on your headphones and the whole world melts into a rave. I'm sure it would pass the Noel Fielding test with the highest flying of the brightest colors in the Zooniverse – colors not even visible on the physical spectrum. Grimes is one of a kind.

1. Chastity Belt



Photo via Chastity Belt on Facebook [person on left = person on right in item 6, in case you were

wondering]

Melodic guitar? Not one, but two melodic guitars? Is that what you're looking for? Lyrics about trimming the fat, slicing through the meat and getting right to the bone? A band that unabashedly declares, "It's okay to be slutty..."? A live show that can blast Johnny Marr's, Peter Buck's, and your socks right off? Future of rock 'n' roll? Is this what you're seeking? Yeah, me, too. See that picture just above this paragraph? See those four people? That's them. Get ready.

Pages: [1](#) [2](#)