

## Brainwashed - Anthony D'Amico

Written by Anthony D'Amico

Sunday, 11 January 2009 01:55 - Last Updated Tuesday, 08 January 2019 22:40

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Anthony D'Amico lives a quiet life in a picturesque upstate NY town on the Hudson River and subsists entirely on Indian and Thai food. He lives vicariously through books, music, and film.

He regularly does a delightful podcast called [Hot Freaks](#) that delves into all the great music that he never gets to cover here (Jamaican soul, dub, folk obscurities, psych, etc.). You might like it.

He does not particularly want unsolicited submissions these days, aside from those sent by labels that he is already in contact with. This policy saddens him, as he is sure that he will miss out on hearing a great deal of compelling new music. Unfortunately, the amount of music being released these days is absolutely overwhelming and it is simply not feasible to devote so much time and energy to things that randomly appear in his mailbox anymore. Exceptions, of course, will be made for artists and labels that he already has a documented appreciation for.

### **Here's where to contact him for all other purposes:**

email: misplaced\_sandwich at hotmail.com

### **Humanity's Greatest Cultural Achievements of 2018: A Definitive and Complete List**

- Current 93, "The Light is Leaving Us All" (The Spheres)
- Ian William Craig, "Threshold" (130701) & the "A Turn of Breath" reissue (Recital Program)
- Catherine Christer Hennix, "Selected Early Keyboard Works" (Blank Forms)
- Puce Mary, "The Drought" (PAN)
- Thomas Ankersmit, "Homage to Dick Raaijmakers" (Shelter Press)
- Rudolf Eb.er, "Om Kult: Ritual Practice of Conscious Dying" (Om Kult)
- Tim Hecker, "Konoyo" (Kranky)
- Fluxion, "Upsides & Sideways" EP (Echocord)
- Belong, "October Language" reissue (Spectrum Spools)
- Ashley Paul, "Lost in Shadows" (Slip)
- Cam Deas, "Time Exercises" (The Death of Rave)
- Dedekind Cut, "Tahoe" (Kranky)
- Eliane Radigue, "Electronic Works" boxed set (INA-GRM)
- La Monte Young, "The Well-Tuned Piano in The Magenta Lights" reissue

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- Lars von Trier's *The House That Jack Built*
- Gaspar Noe's *Climax*
- Alex Ross Perry's *Her Smell*
- Luca Guadagnino's *Suspiria* remake
- Yorgos Lanthimos's *The Favourite*
- Lynne Ramsay's *You Were Never Really Here*
- Ali Abbasi's *Border*
- Alfonso Cuarón's *Roma*
- Hirokazu Koreeda's *Shoplifters*
- Chapo Trap House podcast
- "Calendar Customs" boxed set (Folklore Tapes)
- Carla dal Forno, "Top of the Pops" (self-released)
- Clarice Jensen, "For This From That Will Be Filled" (Miasmah)
- Distant Animals, "Lines" (Hallow Ground)
- Machinefabriek w/ Anne Bakker, "Short Scenes" (Zoharum) and DNMF, "Smelter" (Moving Furniture)
- Roberto Opalio, "Once You'll Touch The Sky You Will Never Return To Dust" (Elliptical Noise)
- Cindy Lee, "Act of Tenderness" reissue (W. 25th/Maple Death)
- Sean McCann, "Saccharine Scores" (Recital) and "Fountains" (Round Bale)

## 2017's Most Exquisite Cultural Delights (in no order whatsoever)

- Carla dal Forno, "The Garden" (Blackest Ever Black)
- Razen, "The Xvoto Reels" (Three:Four)
- Bill Morrison's *Dawson City: Frozen Time*
- Aaron Dilloway, "The Gag File" (Dais)
- Sarah Davachi, "All My Circles Run" (Students of Decay)
- Luca Guadagnino's *Call Me By Your Name*
- Ogive, "Ogive" (Room40)
- Caterina Barbieri, "Patterns of Consciousness" (Important)
- Bill Orcutt, "Bill Orcutt" (Palilalia)
- David Lowery's *A Ghost Story*
- Kara-Lis Coverdale, "Grafts" (Boomkat)
- Sean Baker's *The Florida Project*
- Cosey Fanni Tutti, "Time To Tell" reissue (Industrial)
- Greta Gerwig's *Lady Bird*
- Current 93, "Thunder Perfect Mind" reissue (The Spheres)
- Félicia Atkinson, "Hand in Hand" (Shelter Press)
- Darren Aronofsky's *mother!*
- Coil, "Time Machines" reissue (Dais)
- Christopher Nolan's *Dunkirk*
- Noveller's "Deep Shelter" (from "A Pink Sunset for No One")

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- Mount Eerie, "A Crow Looked at Me" (P.W. Elverum & Sun)
- Chapo Trap House podcast
- Jacaszek, "Kwiaty" (Ghostly International)
- TALsounds, "Love Sick" (Ba Da Bing!)
- David Nance, "Negative Boogie" (Ba Da Bing!)
- Fred Thomas's "August Rats, Young Sociopaths" (from "Charger")
- Gnod, "Just Say No To The Psycho Right-Wing Capitalist Fascist Industrial Death Machine" (Rocket)
- Akira Rabelais, "Spellewauerynsherde" reissue (Boomkat)
- Alice Coltrane, "Turiyasangitananda" (Luaka Bop)
- Benoit Pioulard, "Lignin Poise" (Beacon Sound) and "Slow Spark, Soft Spoke" (Dauw)
- "The Folklore of Plants, Vol. I" (Folklore Tapes)
- Träd, Gräs och Stenar, "Tack för Kaffet (So Long)" (Subliminal Sounds)
- The Myrrors, "Hasta La Victoria" (Beyond Beyond is Beyond)
- Anahita, "Tourmaline" (Three:Four)
- Mary Lattimore, "Collected Pieces" (Ghostly International)
- Vox Populi!, "Magiques Creations" (Emotional Rescue)
- Mulatu Astatke, "Mulatu of Ethiopia" reissue (Strut)
- Annie Anxiety, "Soul Possession" reissue (Dais)
- Teleplasmiste, "Frequency is the New Ecstasy" (House of Mythology)
- Yadayn, "Adem" (Navalorama)
- Elizabeth Cottern, "Heschl's Gyrus" (Other Forms of Consecrated Life)

### **A Highly Subjective List of 2016's Most Delightful Cultural Achievements (in no particular order)**

- Tim Hecker, "Love Streams" (4AD)
- Biosphere, "Departed Glories" (Smalltown Supersound)
- Ian William Craig, "Centres" (FatCat)
- Radian, "On Dark Silent Off" (Thrill Jockey)
- B/B/S/, "Palace" (Miasmah)
- *Ciro Guerra's Embrace of the Serpent*
- The flood of Bandcamp releases from Skullflower
- *Andrea Arnold's American Honey*
- Rashad Becker, "Traditional Music of Notional Species, Volume II" (PAN)
- Huerco S., "For Those of You Who Have Never..." (Proibito)
- Paul Verhoeven's *Elle*
- Croatian Amor, "Love Means Taking Action" (Alter/Posh Isolation)
- Pablo Larrain's *Jackie*
  
- Elodie, "Odyssee" (Faraway Press)
- Personable, "Oyster" (Opal Tapes)

- Adam Curtis' *HyperNormalisation*
- Klara Lewis, "Too" (Editions Mego)
- Norman Westberg, "The All Most Quiet" (Hallow Ground)
- Paul Jebanasam, "Continuum" (Subtext)
- Tom Ford's *Nocturnal Animals*
- Andreas Brandal, "The Thursday Curses" (Sacred Phrases)
- Keith Maitland's *Tower*
- Chapo Trap House podcast
- The Dollop podcast
- Nicholas Winding Refn's *The Neon Demon*

### 2015's Greatest Cultural Delights (in no order whatsoever, as usual)

- *The Canon* podcast
  - Benoit Pioulard, "Sonnet" (Kranky)
  - Charlemagne Palestine, "Ssingggg Sschllingg Sshpppingg" (Idiosyncratics)
  - Amara Touré, "1973 - 1980" (Analog Africa)
  - KXLU's The Zoo Croo
  
  - Andrew Chalk, "A Light At The End of the World" (Faraway Press)
  - Finally seeing The Mekons live
  - Gnod, "Infinity Machines" (Rocket)
  - Celer, "How Could You Believe Me..." (Two Acorns)
  - My Cat is an Alien, "The Dance of Oneirism" (Backwards)
  - Joel Potrykus' *Buzzard*
  - The triumphant return of *Peep Show*
  - Binge-watching *The Walking Dead*
  - Brannten Schnüre, "Sommer Im Pfirsichhain" (Aguirre)
  - Colleen, "Captain of None" (Thrill Jockey)
  - Yair Elazar Glotman, "Etudes" (Subtext)
  - Yadayn, "Pendel" (Eilean)
  - Disappears, "Irreal" (Kranky)
  - Jasmine Guffond, "Yellow Bell" (Sonic Pieces)
  - Sarah Davachi, "Barons Court" (Students of Decay)
  - Delving into the wonderful back catalog of Bourbonese Qualk/Simon Crab
  - Natural Snow Buildings, "Terror's Horns" (Ba Da Bing)
  - Scharpling & Wurster, "The Best of the Best Show" box set (Numero Group)
  - Miroslav Slaboshpitsky's *The Tribe*
  - Sebastian Schipper's *Victoria*
  - Yorgos Lanthimos' *The Lobster*
  - Maja S. K. Ratkje, Jon Wesseltoft, Camille Norment, Per Gisle Galåen, "Celadon"
- (Important)

- Shion Sono's *The Whispering Star*
- William Basinski, "Cascade" (2062)
- Gaspar Noe's *Love*
- Heather Leigh, "I Abused Animal" (Editions Mego)
- \*AR, "Memorious Earth" (Aeolian/Corbel Stone Press)
- Volcano The Bear, "Commencing" box set (Miasmah)
- Land, "Anoxia" (Important)
- Big Blood's cover of The Cure's "Disintegration" (from *Double Days I*)

### 2014's Greatest Cultural Delights (in no order whatsoever)

- Black to Comm, *Black to Comm* (Type)
- Bremen, *Second Launch* (Blackest Ever Black)
- Skullflower, *Draconis* (Cold Spring)
- *Haiti Direct* (Strut)
- *The Sound of Siam, Volume 2* (Soundway)
- *Whiplash*
- *Force Majeure*
- *Boyhood*
- *Jodorowsky's Dune*
- David Mitchell's *The Bone Clocks*
- John Darnielle's *Wolf in White Van*
- *The Flophouse* podcast
- *The Bugle* podcast
- The return of Tom Scharpling's *The Best Show*
- WZBC's *Flyweight*, *Kick Out The James*, *Love & Math*, and *Rare Frequency*
- KXLU's *The Zoo Croo*
- Diane Cluck, *Boneset* (Important)
- Swans, *To Be Kind* (MUTE/Young God)
- My Cat is An Alien w/ Cedric Stevens, *Abstract Expressionism for the Ears* (Elliptical Noise)
- Chris Herbert, *Wintex-Cimex '83* (Room40)
- Maxwell August Croy & Sean McCann, *I* (Students of Decay)
- *Finding Vivian Maier*
- Steve Lowenthal's *Dance of Death: The Life of John Fahey, American Guitarist*
- Fennesz, *Becs* (Editions Mego)
- Petrels, *Mima* (Denovali)
- Tom Kovacevic, *Universe Thin As Skin* (Immune)
- The Inward Circles (Richard Skelton), *Nimrod is Lost in Orion and Osyrus in the Doggestar* (Corbel Stone Press)

## **Cultural Highlights of 2013**

- Tim Hecker, *Virgins* (Kranky)
- Russian Tsarlag, *Gagged in Boonesville* (Not Not Fun)
- Rashad Becker, *Traditional Music of Notional Species, Vol. I* (PAN)
- \*AR, "Relics" from *Succession* (Corbel Stone Press)
- *Kenya Special: Selected East African Recordings from the 1970s & '80s* (Soundway)
- M. Geddes Gengras, *Collected Works Vol. I: The Moog Years* (Umor Rex)
- *The Flop House* Podcast
- *Welcome to Nightvale*
- Disappears, *Era* (Kranky)
- Films from Harvard's Sensory Ethnography Lab (*Leviathan* & *MANAKAMANA*)
- Tsai Ming-Liang's *Stray Dogs*
  
- The Silverman, "Spring" from *Finisterre* (Trademark of Quality)
  
- The Legendary Pink Dots, "Ghost of a Summer to Come" from *The Curse of Marie Antoinette* (Rustblade)
  
- Noveller, "No Dreams" from *No Dreams* (Important)
- The Don Bolles episode of *The Fogelnest Files*
  
- Tom Scharpling's increasingly lengthy and ridiculous sound collages on *The Best Show on WFMU*
- Pete Swanson, "Punk Authority" from *Punk Authority* (Software)
  
- Fluxion, *Vibrant Forms* (Type)
- Martin Aston's *Facing the Other Way: The Story of 4AD*
- Cornell Campbell, "I'm Still Waiting" from *Studio One Ironsides* (Soul Jazz)
- Huerco S., "Quivira" from *Colonial Patterns* (Software)
- Iron Fist of the Sun, *Who Will Help Me Wash My Right Hand?* (Cold Spring)
- *Angola Soundtrack 2 - Hypnosis, Distortion & Other Innovations 1969 - 1978* (Analog Africa)
- Noah Baumbach's *Frances Ha*
- Natural Snow Buildings, *The Snowbringer Cult* reissue (Ba Da Bing)
- Eliane Radigue, *Adnos I-III* reissue (Important)
- *The Bugle*
- The Field, "No. No..." from *Cupid's Head* (Kompakt)
- Wilson Neate's *Read & Burn: A Book About Wire*
- Big Blood, *Radio Valkyrie 1905-1917* (Feeding Tube)

## **Things That Made 2012 Enjoyable (in absolutely no order whatsoever)**

- C. Spencer Yeh, "Transitions" (De Stijl).
- Finally seeing Andrzej Zulawski's *Possession*.
- Edward Ka-Spel, "Ghost Logik" (Rustblade).
- Seeing Jason Lescalleet live.
- Pauline Oliveros' 80th birthday concert at EMPAC.
- Swans, "The Seer" (Young God).
- Raime, "Quarter Turns Over a Living Line" (Blackest Ever Black).
- Biosphere & Lustmord's "Trinity" at Unsound NY.
- Finally seeing Ken Russell's batshit crazy *Devils*.
- Joshua Oppenheimer's *The Act of Killing* at TIFF.
- The return of *Peep Show*.
- Damian Valles, "Nonparallel (In Four Movements)" (Experimedia)
- Finally seeing Martin Bell's *Streetwise*.
- Diane Cluck's Song-of-the-Week.
- James Blackshaw, "Love is the Plan, the Plan is Death" (Important).
- Twinsistermoon, "Bogyrealm Vessels" (Handmade Birds).
- Machinefabriek, "Secret Photographs" (Important).
- Richard Skelton, "Verse of Birds" and "Limnology" (Corbel Stone Press).
- Myrminerest, "'Jhonn,' Uttered Babylon" (The Spheres).
- Carter Tutti Void, "Transverse" (Mute).
- Windy & Carl, "We Will Always Be" (Kranky)
- Julian Cope's *Copendium*.

### List of 2011 Favorite Things In No Particular Order

- *Dogtooth*
- Natural Snow Buildings, "Waves of the Random Sea" (Blackest Rainbow)
- Isengrind, "Night of Raining Fire" (Blackest Rainbow)
- Eli Keszler, "Cold Pin" (Pan)
- Dirty Beaches, "Badlands" (Zoo)
- Andrew Chalk, "Violin By Night" (Faraway Press)
- Eliane Radigue, "Tranamorem-Transmortem" (Important)
- New books by Haruki Murakami and David Foster Wallace
- Current 93, "Honeysuckle Aeons" (Coptic Cat)
- Peaking Lights, "936" (Not Not Fun)
- The Forgetters double 7" (Too Small To Fail)
- Archers of Loaf reissues
- Tim Hecker, "Ravedeath, 1972" (Kranky)
- "Lady Friend" by Christina Carter (off *Texas Blues Working*)
- "Confetti" by Cold Cave (off *Cherish the Light Years*)

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- Ebo Taylor, "Life Stories" (Strut)
- Xela, "The Sublime" (Dekorder)
- *Melancholia*
- Charlabides, "Exile" (Kranky)
- Ensemble Economique, "Crossing The Pass, By Torchlight" (Dekorder)
- Black Eagle Child, "Pages On A Plane" (Under The Spire)
- Maritime, "Human Hearts" (Dangerbird)
- Corrupted, "Garten der Unbewesstheit" (Nostalgia Blackrain)
- *We Need To Talk About Kevin*
- *Shut Up Little Man*

### Mercifully Brief List of 2010 Favorite Things In No Particular Order

- Twinsistermoon, "...Then Fell the Ashes" (Blackest Rainbow)
- Jefre Cantu-Ledesma, "Love is a Stream" (Type)
- *Marwencol*
- Isengrind, "Modlitewnik" (Blackest Rainbow)
- Cyclobe, "Wounded Galaxies Tap at the Window" (Phantomcode)
- *Shadowplayers: The Rise and Fall of Factory Records* by James Nice
- *Haunted Air* by Ossian Brown
- Emeralds, "Does it Look Like I'm Here?" (Editions Mego)
- *As Loud as Possible*
- "The Sound of Siam: Leftfield Luk Thung, Jazz and Molam in Thailand 1964-1975" (Soundway)
- "The World Ends: Afro Rock & Psychedelia in 1970's Nigeria" (Soundway)
- JG Thirlwell, "Manorexia: The Mesopelagic Waters"
- Everything Current 93 released
- Danny Paul Grody, "Fountains" (Root Strata)
- Gaspar Noé's *Enter the Void* (despite its massive flaws)
- *Big River Man*
- Balam Acab, "See Birds" (Tri-Angle)

### Favorite Albums of 2009 (no order)

- Black to Comm - *Alphabet 1968* (Type)
- Oneohtrix Point Never - *Rifts* (No Fun)
- Social Junk - *Born Into It* (Digitalis)
- Our Love Will Destroy The World- *Stillborn Plague Angels* (Dekorder)
- various Richard Skelton/A Broken Consort reissues and releases
- *Africa Boogaloo: The Latinization of West Africa* (Honest Jon's)



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- Current 93 - *Aleph At Hallucinatory Mountain* (Coptic Cat)
- Cold Cave - *Love Comes Close* (Heartworm/Matador)
- Several Soundway compilations (*Tumbélé, Ghana Special, Panama!*, etc.)
- *Siamese Soul: Thai Pop Spectacular 1960s-1980s Vol. 2* (Sublime Frequencies)
- Jim O'Rourke - *I'm Happy, and I'm Singing, and a 1,2,3,4* (Editions Mego)
- Harappian Night Recordings - *The Glorious Gongs of Hainuwele* (Bo' Weevil)
- Benjamin Finger - *Woods of Broccoli* (How Is Annie)
- Area C - *Charmed Birds Against Sorcery* (Students of Decay)
- *The World is Shaking: Cubanismo from the Congo, 1954-1955* (Honest Jon's)
- The Kath Bloom half of *Loving Takes This Course: A Tribute to the Songs of Kath Bloom* (Chapter)
  
- Gog - *Mist From the Random More* (Utech)
- various Nurse With Wound releases
- Darwinsbitch - *Ore* (Digitalis)

### **Favorite/Most Intriguing Albums of 2008:**

- Merzbow/Richard Pinhas - *Keio Line*
- Nurse With Wound - *Huffin' Rag Blues*
- Current 93 - *Birth Canal Blues*
- Fennesz - *Black Sea*
- Sun Kil Moon - *April*
- *Victrola Favorites- Artifacts From Bygone Days* (Dust-to-Digital)
- *Sprigs of Time: 78's From The EMI Archive* (Honest Jon's)
- *The Vodoun Effect and African Scream Contest* (Analog Africa)
- The reissue of 23 Skidoo's *Seven Songs*
- *Nigeria Special: Modern High-Life, Afro-Sounds and Nigerian Blues* (Soundway)
- James Blackshaw - *Litany Of Echoes*
- Johann Johannson - *Fordlandia*