

Off-Air Playloop Artists Bio & Lyrics

Bobby Kumar

Bio: Apollo Architect is the music project of composer Bobby Kumar (they/she). They started this project as a way to tell stories that needed to be told, about people with mental illnesses doing great things. Sonically, the project blends Rock and Classical music to create something unique.

Track Info: Eden #4 was inspired by the broken homes of many trans people. The song was written around the idea of having a parent that accepts all of you.

I Feel the Wind was written in 2016, when she was dealing with post-concussion syndrome. This song and the entire album represent the power of the human mind.

[No lyrics]

TemptRexx (Aubrey Szabo)

Bio: TemptRexx is an agender trans disabled white queer musician and artist from Southern Ontario with an eclectic taste for music composition and performance! They explore music through deeply personal narratives on gender, disability, queerness, trauma, mental illness, and navigating Society™!

Track Info: Losst was initially their process of working through the lasting trauma of killing parts of themselves off to survive youth and young adulthood, and the grief, regret, and absence one feels in the echoes and reflections of the things you can't connect with in yourself anymore, but also can't forget.

Produced by Aubrey Szabo.

Lyrics: Losst – TemptRexx

Like an echo,
Your shadow still remains,
A silent whisper,
I still see you in the stains
You left behind...
I cannot shake the feeling
I've maligned...

Overwhelming,
Bile lingers in my mouth,
A bitter sting,
The needle's pointing south,
There's no escape...
The hole you left is howling
and agape...

I'd sleight the hand of fate and time,
Undo myself to do what's right,
Your loss is not forgotten,
Your loss is not forgotten...
The shattering of all that's true,
To keep the ghost that's left of you,
You're lost but not forgotten,
You're lost but not forgotten...

Growing numb now,
I can't feel you anymore,
But still you hurt me,
Driven nails in to my core...
Can't shut you out...
Can't find no trace of life,
So full of doubt...

Please forgive me for
My living memory of you,
A hollow tribute
To everything I put us through,
I'm letting go
Of everything I thought
I used to know...

Grit my teeth and push it down,
Steel myself against the glaring and the shouts,
Free my mind from the limbo that you left me in your wake...
Try to wash the blood from my hands,
Try to seal the fear in heart,
Try to make my peace with every piece of my I break...

I'd sleight the hand of fate and time,
Undo myself to do what's right,
Your loss is not forgotten,
Your loss is not forgotten...
The shattering of all that's true,
To keep the ghost that's left of you,
You're lost but not forgotten,
You're lost but not forgotten...

Never forgotten...

Jessica Kaya

Bio: To merely call Jessica Kaya a singer- songwriter would be to ignore her ability to cast delicate spells with her songs. Kaya's voice is hypnotic, with an aversion to the spotlight but a magnetic pull to create, Kaya is one of Toronto's best kept secrets.

With her debut album 'Iridescent', presented as a trilogy of 3 mini EP's, listeners shift between the warm emotions of love and the cold pain of betrayal, by both self and others. Raw sentiments of a startling kind of internal pain are voiced about Kaya's struggle with depression. And then, a heartfelt call to us all to explore empathy for those inflicted by suicidal thoughts. Musically, it teases between classic takes on 90s R&B, folk- inspired songwriter introspection, contemporary pop balladry and hyper-modern production.

As soon as you fully inhabit Kaya's nimble, unflinching musical world, you will name it uniquely hers.

Track Info: Her Debut Album "Iridescent" is about the constant shifting of polarizing experiences and the dichotomies within self, and in the world. Like creative brilliance paired with crippling anxiety, profound connection followed by devastating loss, or empathy so overwhelming it contributes to depression.

"Saline" was written and arranged by Jessica Kaya and produced by David "Swagg R'Celious" Harris and Jairus Pryor. "Sun Is Out" was written and arranged by Jessica Kaya, produced by Sam Obey and Jessica Kaya.

Lyrics: Saline (Lyrics)

Do, do you release your tide?
In all of the searching, in all of the time,
It's hard to heal when you've lost your mind
And all of your senses numb out and die,
It's hard to feel when you only cry

And in spite of
what's inside you
grieving eyes that try to,
swim away

Just like the ocean, just like the sea
salt inside water that's elementary
Saline, saline
And just like the ocean that pours out of me,
salt inside water that's elementary
There must be healing that's covering me
Saline, saline

With all of the reason, but none of the rhyme,
thinking your strong but your just killing time

And all of your senses numb out and die longer you wait,
the more that you'll cry

Like bodies in water that float
let it fall until your body is soaked

Just like the ocean, just like the sea
salt inside water that's elementary
Saline, saline

And just like the ocean that pours out of me,
salt inside water that's elementary
there must be healing that's covering me. Saline, saline.

Just like the ocean, calls out to me in perfect composition,
for mourning endlessly
Breaking me open, down to my feet
let it all be over, let it all be seen

Just like the ocean, just like the sea
salt inside water that's elementary
Saline, saline

And just like the ocean that pours out of me,
salt inside water that's elementary
There must be healing that's covering me. Saline, saline.

Sun is out

Sun is coming up
(to) warm inside all that I'm hiding from you
I could never get enough I can't describe the night,
the night I been through

Ooo yea

When every day that came before this was the same
now all the leaves in me have fallen
Cause I had fell in, my dark but,
the sun has come back out to light me up
and I'm iridescent

Sun is out, sun is out, sun is out for me x2

But there's a new wave, new wave
coming for me
I'm in a new place, next phase
not gona leave
like it's my birthday, first day
part of the ease I've got a lot to feel this summer

Sun is out, sun is out, sun is out for me x4

Now the sun is up
oh, and it warmed inside all the things that I
had to breakthrough
and I can never get enough
I can't describe the fight that pulled me through
When every day that came before this was the same
now all the leaves in me have fallen
cause I had fell in, my dark but
the sun has come back out to light me up
and I'm iridescent

Sun is out, sun is out, sun is out for me x4

Sun, sun, sun
For me

Madam Sad

Bio: Madam Sad is disabled artist with complex post-traumatic stress disorder, and several chronic pain diseases caused from trauma. They feel most connected to bare bones, vulnerable, lo-fi folk music. They process events and extreme emotions through singing and song writing. "Disability" and "Forgetting" are both songs written during intense fear, confusion, and feelings of chaos.

Track Info: The new album Closed and Cured comes from an ironic take in Madam Sad's lyric; "The broken and opened wounds don't heal." The album's theme is to say Madam Sad does not feel closed and cured, but very much like an open wound. Healing from trauma takes years, especially with constant bombardment of poverty and ableism.

Both tracks were performed, recorded and produced by Maddison Schreiber.

Lyrics:

Disability

Exposed homes
But safe
I stay
I don't feel that's
Right
To say

And I'm going
Going going
Going insane
Deserving of a place to
Trust and lay
My name

Dig me up and
Watch
Me die
How you treat
Another
Life

And I'm wishing that I had
A pause to rest
My sight
I'm wishing that I had
A break to call
The night

And you
Don't see
The part
Of me
That's everything
Cause you act
So heartlessly

Can't find home there
I'll go nowhere
With you
I have feelings
Best kept reeling
Behind you

And I find bright lights
In your dark
Eyes
I don't know where to
Love or when
It's right
Stuck in a mode
That makes me run
And fight

Cause you
Don't see
The part
Of me
That's everything
Cause you act so hateful
I would dream
Now that's
Unseen
And I
Can't leave
Cause you act
So heinously

Forgetting

I forgot love
What I thought of
Your expression that I
Miss again

I took notice
Of your focus
Leave me feeling
Like I really can't
Can't

Left to lose
It's all a ruse
In every moon and
Song I choose
Choose

Shit
Never
Works
With you
Shit
Never
Works
With you

Sing your blues
Comb your hair
Out
Sing your blues
Sing your blues
Now

I
Wish I knew
What it took
To be special
Ain't it neat
Raining on my cheek
You sound so much like
Buck Meek

Why
All the
Rotting
Fruit
Why
All the
Rotting
Fruit

Your names the same
But you don't know
How
To trust someone
Who cries with a
Frown
Your names the same
Your names the same
Sound
Trust someone
Trust someone
Loud

Rachel Romu

Bio: With a deep love for the soulful, experimental stylings of artists like James Blake and Moses Sumney and the darker grungy sounds of Nirvana and System Of A Down, Rachel Romu's taste in music is boundless. Their music can be heard in AMI-tv's Breaking Character, a docu-series following performers with disabilities. After recovering from multiple spine surgeries and receiving an Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome diagnosis Rachel Romu took to the world of fashion with Ledrew Models, pushing for the inclusion of disabled people in the industry and was the first mobility aid user to be a part of Toronto Fashion Week.

Track Info: Coming By Was a Mistake is about a personal experience in an abusive relationship and the internal monologue they'd had during the first incident. Sick & Tired (Clean) is about how too many times they'd been the 'secret' without knowing, where the person they thought they were dating had an able bodied partner they were cheating on them with.

Both tracks were written by Rachel Romu and produced by LaFlamme and Rachel Romu.

Lyrics:

Rachel Romu - Coming by Was a Mistake

VERSE ONE

I'm at your home
And you're yelling at me once again
Drown you out
With sounds of sirens from the street instead
Your blistering tone
The air I'm breathing in is thickening
Window's open
Oh I hope someone's listening

PRE-CHORUS

Fuck I feel my heart race
Tying up my shoelace
Tryna keep a brave face
Coming by was a mistake

Coming by was a mistake

CHORUS

Oh (oh oh oh oh oh) guess I'll start running

Clouds'll roll in, skies of blue turning gray

Oh (oh oh oh oh oh) guess I'll start running

Cuz I know another storm is coming my way

VERSE TWO

How did I come to find myself lying by your side

I should be calling out for help - too choked up, tongues tied

Why's my pride keep me quiet

What you've done stays private

Abide by the tyrant

Why's my pride keep me quiet

Careful and compliant

Switch me on autopilot

PRE-CHORUS

Fuck I feel my heart race

Tying up my shoelace

Tryna keep a brave face

Coming by was a mistake

Coming by was a mistake

CHORUS

Oh (oh oh oh oh oh) guess I'll start running

Clouds'll roll in, skies of blue turning gray

Oh (oh oh oh oh oh) guess I'll start running

Cuz I know another storm is coming my way

OUTRO

What you've been showing me

The things that I've been going through with you make me crazy

For you I'll never be enough - why's it so tough to be in love...so tough to be in love with you baby?
Baby.

Rachel Romu - Sick & Tired

VERSE ONE

I couldn't see it with my own two eyes

Bypassing lows, I was chasing the highs

I wish that I knew the whole time that I was yours, you weren't mine

PRE-CHORUS

It took me a while to see

All the lies that your smile hid from me

CHORUS

I'll never be good enough for you

I'll never be the one you choose

My mind is on fire I'm so sick and tired of lovers like you

VERSE TWO

You're somewhere in the desert

Still lying in your bed

Though I don't know you're with her yet

I know I'm in your head

While she's in the next room, whip your phone out, snap a quick nude to send with a text saying "I miss you"

But your not mine, you never have been

I'm the sign that's flashing exit

And so sick and tired of your bullshit

PRE-CHORUS

It took me a while to see

All the lies that your smile hid from me

CHORUS

I'll never be good enough for you

I'll never be the one you choose

My mind is on fire I'm so sick and tired of lovers like you

OUTRO

I'm so sick and tired, I'm so sick and tired of lovers, of lovers

Heather Cherron

Bio: Heather Cherron has been writing songs for a long time; however, when she was injured the tone of her songs changed, expressing frustration, at the WSIB (Workers Safety Insurance Board). She shared how the board was supposed to work and started to encourage people to speak out, rally and demand change to health and safety. To this day, she still co-facilitates the Injured Worker Speaker School.

She has scripted, performed and facilitated as an associate artist with Mixed Company Theatre for over 25 years. MIXCO presents worst-case scenarios for various communities. The scripts are then presented back to the community and they, the community, have the opportunity of moving from Spectators to spectACTORS, thereby allowing them practice for reality to make positive change.

Track Info: EXTRA! EXTRA! and BILLS TO PAY were created during the Bargaining Campaign to encourage the Casual Unit to put words into action. To actively demand that employers treat Casual workers as they do Full time workers, with yearly wage increase, paid sick leave and benefits. THEY WERE HEARD! These songs were and are used in various injured worker events, the Compensation is a Right Campaign and as accompaniment to " PRECARIETY U", a short film also produced by Rebecca Singh, which received honorable mentions in the Workers United Film Festival 2021.

Music, lyrics, lead and background vocals by Heather Cherron. Musical arrangement and background vocals by Melissa Morris. Producer and background vocals by Rebecca Singh. Additional background vocals on Extra! Extra! only by John von Atzigen.

Lyrics:

Bills to Pay

Verse

Illness has no boundaries
All workers need PAID sick leave
Working sick is not okay
We all have bills to pay!

Health and safety is priority,
Our concerns protect community
Don't punish us, don't turn us away.

CHORUS

You can't change what you don't know,
I learned that long ago
The time is now to make things right -we all have bills to pay
You can't change what you don't know - you don't know

You can't change what you don't know,
So we're telling you now
And now you'll know...

Verse

Take a look at seniority.

Compensate for loyalty
"Thank you" doesn't the pay bills
We all have bills to pay...

Furthermore, since 1998-
No proper raise -the economy escalates
Give us fair pay - a living wage!

CHORUS

BRIDGE

Here what we say now -paid sick leave is a must
Compensation for all of us,
Transparency and fairness on the job!
Again, we want, we want, we want
One, paid sick leave is a must
Two, Compensation for all of us
Transparency -three
-and fairness on the job!

CHORUS and BRIDGE at the same time...." And now you know!"

EXTRA, EXTRA!

CHORUS

Extra! Extra! hear all about us...
We're the casual unit and we want the floor.
Extra, extra -No doubt about it
We're the casual workers and we deserve more!

VERSE:

The CBA has to change, change
The way it's written today ain't okay
(Our) Employers can say
We change our minds – you get minimum wage. .
We got to get in the game
Inflation is on the rise
Pay should reflect the same.
We will not be trivialized!

CHORUS

VERSE:

It just doesn't compute,
(No!) Sometimes we work 2 hours or less
Some spend that time in commute
We deserve better than that!

No more working for free -no
No working more for less pay -no
Enough is enough -
We deserve a living wage! C'mon.

CHORUS

BRIDGE:

Change... Change it.... Change
We want change now
Turn it around... Turn it around... Turn it around...
We can turn it around.
Extra! Extra !-We're - sayin' it loud and strong
We're the casual unit and we deserve more!
Extra! Extra! -Say it loud and strong
We're the casual unit and we deserve more! Change... Change it... Change...
We need to change things now!