

Posty's latest project echos new sounds, vulnerability

By Benjamin Gutierrez
Guest Writer

The very first time I remember listening to Post Malone was back when I was in 8th grade.

It was 2018 and the Spider-Man Into the Spider-Verse album released with the movie, and the main song that was promoted was, "Sunflower" by Post Malone featuring Swae Lee. The very first time I listened to the song I was hooked, making it one of my favorite songs off the album. So, I started to listen more to Post Malone, after many albums later and hours of listening to the songs on repeat, Post Malone instantly became one of my top favorite artists of all time, and I still listen to his music to this day.

One of my most highly anticipated albums of this year by far was, "Austin." I was excited when Post announced the album on his Instagram and was ready to listen to his new music. Once the album was released on July 28, 2023, I hit play and listened to it all night.

The album consists of 17 songs, and the duration of the album is 55 minutes and 54 seconds long. The album is explicit, but no worries there is a clean version too.

This album is very much a different take from the

rap and hip-hop music Post is mostly known for. This album is not that. This album focuses on acoustic, and indie pop vibe. I liked that he decided to do something different.

He did a bit of this type of music in his previous work, "Twelve Carrat Toothache." But he completely changes that in "Austin." He plays the guitar in almost all his songs, and it sounds great. He's always singing his heart out on all of the tracks and it is just honestly fantastic.

One of the biggest stands outs of the album is, "Don't Understand." This song is a great way to start off with this very calm and soft sounds of his guitar while Post sings about a relationship he was in and doesn't understand why the other person loves him back.

Another standout for me was, "Something Real." This song reminds me of being in church with the choir blasting their vocals across the room and hearing them echo throughout while Post does his thing. And finally, the standout of them all and the best song of the entire album is, "Mourning."

This song was the true definition of a transition for something new for Post Malone. This song focuses on his struggle to sober up after a long night of partying.

But what makes this the best song is the production is outstanding.

You hear a guitar playing at the start of the song. It moves to a drumbeat and the whole vibe of the song felt very cinematic and it became my personal favorite song of the entire album. Some honorable mentions I really liked, "Chemical", "Overdrive", and finally "Enough is Enough."

Although this album is great, there are some negatives like every album. For one there are no features in this album, so you're mostly getting Post Malone by himself. Also, some of the songs don't have the same production as the other songs. For example, "Mourning" has a better production than "Overdrive." Although "Overdrive" is not a bad song, the difference is noticeable.

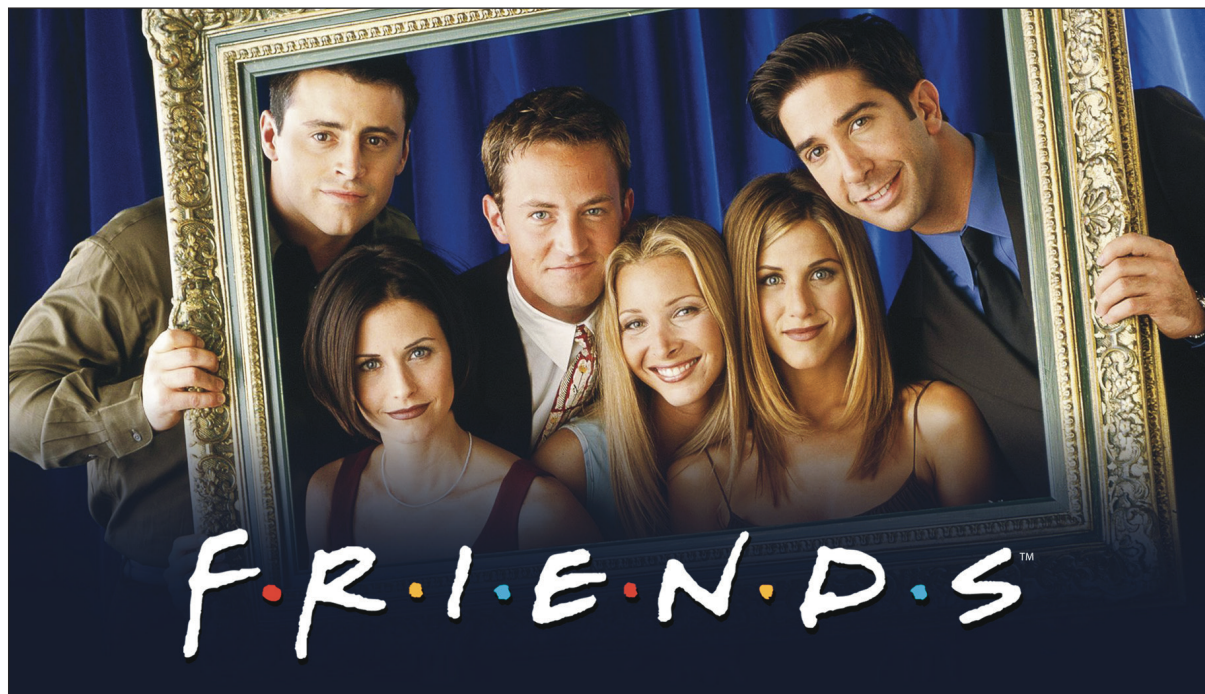
In conclusion, "Austin" is great overall. It has the catchiest songs that I have ever heard from Post, and it gets better the more you listen to the album. Though it may have its flaws, "Austin" has cemented as one of the best albums that Post Malone has ever made. And I give this album a score of 9/10. I highly recommend listening to the album on any music streaming platform or buying a physical version.



COURTESY PHOTO

Post Malone's new album cover features the artist relaxing in his backyard pool. The album "Austin" is now available on Pandora, Spotify, Apple music, Itune Music, YouTube, Soundcloud, Amazon Music and Deezler.

Column



COURTESY PHOTO

→ 'The one' where Chandler gains his wings

By MADELINE TUMEY-SIMMONS
STAFF WRITER

As I look back on 2020, I feel like that year served as a time of loneliness as the pandemic isolated most of us in our homes.

The only light in my life was the one blaring from my television, showcasing someone who seemed like my only friend at the time, Chandler Bing from the show Friends.

Chandler was the reason for the laughter that filled my room, the tears and awe expressed on my face, and what seemed like the only source of true joy I felt during that dark period. His witty anecdotes and eccentric personality immediately attracted me to the show and gave me an understanding of why Friends was such a hit.

Fast forward a couple of years, and I was in the middle of a Halloween party a few weeks ago and suddenly heard some news that stunned me. Matthew Perry had passed away at age 54. My soul felt crushed. "There's no way! Have you guys seen this?" I asked my friends hanging out with me at the party. The responses I received were somewhat unexpected. "Who?" "Why does that matter?" "You don't even know the man!"

My first thought was, "True, they're right! This person, didn't even know I existed!" Yet the loss

of such a familiar face still felt so personal to me. That's when I asked myself why Perry's sudden death affected me so strongly?

While we may not know celebrities on a personal basis, when we turn the TV on, we expect to see those familiar faces we've grown to love or hate, the characters that those celebrities have represented for a long period of time.

Watching a favorite program is almost like welcoming a friend into your home every night. The characters actually make you feel the emotion they express on that screen. The experience becomes so much more than just watching TV. It is comfort. It creates a similar feeling to seeing your family after a long hard day at work or school.

Your favorite television show offers a way to escape reality and creates a blissful feeling that makes you feel like the characters are by your side, especially in situations like the pandemic.

For me, watching a show like Friends became a part of my comfort zone for a while. Another factor that plays into our feelings about a celebrity is that we often share some of the same life experiences and struggles that we discover about their off-screen lives.

People bond over experiences that they personally relate to, establishing an emotional connection. It could be simple like

finding out that some celebrity's favorite color or food is the same as yours or learning about something more serious they are going through on an intimate and personal note.

With that being said, I am thankful to Matthew Perry for the life he lived, for the work he did to fight against addiction, and for being open with his audience about his own struggles.

This leads to my next point, social media and its exposure. Having a cell phone is like having the entire literal world in your hands. People's lives are just a click away and the names of celebrities are all too often the main print on that screen. A lot of personal information is exposed to the viewer, whether we ask for it or not.

Social media is like having a virtual next-door neighbor and sometimes it just happens to be the biggest names in Hollywood or the media. These celebrity pages give a glimpse into their lives, providing what is often, however, a false perception to the public.

Even with the exposure of the media, it is important to remember that the connections we make in the virtual world do not establish a genuine bond. But even so, I thank "Chandler" for the laughter and tears that he brought to me, but most of all, I thank him for "being there" for me when I needed him the most.



COURTESY PHOTO

Palaye Royale releases new single "Dead to Me"

By Liliana Torreblanca
Layout & Design Editor

Adult supervision is strongly suggested when listening to Palaye Royale due to adult content. This band is definitely not for children.

Palaye Royale is an alternative fashion rock band under the Sumerian label. The bands lead singer is Remington Leith, the drummer is Emerson Barret, and the lead guitarist is Sebastian Danzig. The band has released four albums in the past 12 years and is constantly going on tour.

They are currently on tour in the UK until March 2024 performing the "Fever Dream" album.

Palaye Royale released their new single "Dead to Me" from their album *Sextape*. The "Dead to Me" music video begins with a warning that says, "This film might contain flashing images that may cause discomfort or trigger seizures for people with photosensitive epilepsy."

In this song, Remington explains how relationships fail and how he felt during and after one of his own breakups. In the song Remington hints that the person he may have been talking about had not been loyal, and that he was heartbroken to find out that she had cheated on him.

A lyric that I really loved was when he said "Going to love myself like I should have yesterday."

What I understood from this lyric was sometimes we do so much for a person who we are only to end up hating who we have become. We are not comfortable in our own skin. This type of message is another reason why I love this band because they always tell their fans to love themselves.

In "Dead to Me," Remington sings about how he changed so much for this person and did everything to make her happy and yet she was not loyal to him. Although this song is aggressive, I feel like there was just the right amount of anger and angst in the lyrics.

Palaye Royale's fan base, The Royale Council, is currently waiting on the rest of the album that will be released to the public soon.

The new single has reached over 149,000 views on YouTube and has been played more than 300,000 times on Spotify.

According to music.apple.com the upcoming album will be made up of five songs including "Dead to Me," "Stripped," "Desire," "Season of the Witch" and "Closer."

The Royale Council is eagerly waiting to find out if Palaye Royale will release new tour dates for the "Sex Tape" album in the coming days.

The single "Dead to Me" can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music, YouTube, and Deezler.