

Silverbacks

Biography

Silverbacks are a 5 piece band from Dublin, Ireland. Taking their cues from the taut rhythms and urgent drive of late 70s punk and the discordant, unpredictable freak outs of NYC no-wave, they craft a signature sound spiked with triple guitar riffs, a motorik rhythm section and on the pulse lyrics.

The band have independently released a string of singles produced by Girl Band bassist Daniel Fox, beginning in 2018 with 'Dunkirk' and 'Just in the Band'. This was followed in 2019 by 'Pink Tide' and 'Sirens', which was part of a double A side 7 inch single released with second single 'Drool' by UK independent label Nice Swan Records in January 2020. These single releases were backed by festival appearances at Simple Things, Swm, Eurosonic and Electric Picnic, headline shows in the UK and Ireland and supporting Girl Band on their sold out UK tour dates. The band have completed the recording of their debut album 'Fad' which is slated for release on Friday May 22nd.

"...infectious and breakneck" – Stereogum

"Try to follow the thread of those guitars. It's impossible. Twisting, turning and transforming like Optimus Prime in a sticky-floored club, it drives each track into cacophonous, explosive territory" - NME

"Dublin's Silverbacks are at the forefront of this, all bassline spasms, taut percussive patterns and barbed wire guitar explosions" - Clash Magazine

"With the same sarcy, stone and starving balled-up frustration as Brooklynites Parquet Courts, Dublin's Silverbacks are an exciting new prospect" - DIY Magazine - The Neu Bulletin

"A jagged-yet-slick piece of modern post-punk" – The 405

"No-one in Ireland is making slacker indie pop quite like Silverbacks" – Nialler9

"If you like a bit of thought in your punk, you'll love this" – Songwriting Magazine

"They unleash a relentless energy as it hits the sweet spot between melodic repetition, pent up aggression and danceable infectiousness" – BarryGruff

"jittery, overly caffeinated post-punk" – Tome To The Weather Machine

List of Participants:

Daniel O'Kelly – Vocals/Guitar

Kilian O'Kelly – Guitar/Vocals

Emma Hanlon – Bass/Vocals

Peadar Kearney – Guitar

Gary Wickham – Drums

Gavin Elsted – Management

Rebecca Lewis – Booking Agent, Primary Talent International

RADIO

Silverbacks 'Sirens' - BBC Radio 1 - Jack Saunders - Next Wave - 13.11.19

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000b4tj>

Silverbacks 'Sirens' - Radio X - John Kennedy - X-Posure Hot One - 13.11.19

<https://www.globalplayer.com/catchup/radiox/london/b8G8wME>

Silverbacks 'Sirens' - BBC Radio 1 - Jack Saunders - 18.11.19

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000bd99>

Silverbacks 'Sirens' - BBC 6Music – Amy Lamé – 5.1.2020

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000czvm>

Silverbacks 'Sirens' - KEXP – Song of the Day – 15.10.2020

<https://www.kexp.org/podcasts/song-of-the-day/2020/1/15/silverbacks-sirens/>

Silverbacks 'Drool' - Radio X - John Kennedy – X-Posure 4.2.2020

<https://www.globalplayer.com/catchup/radiox/uk/b8G7abN/>

Silverbacks 'Just In The Band' – BBC 6Music – Steve Lamacq Recommended/Track of the Day – 17.12.2018

The graphic features the BBC 6music logo in the top left corner. The word "RECOMMENDS" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, the band name "SILVERBACKS" and the song title "'JUST IN THE BAND'" are listed. A quote from Steve Lamacq describes the band as "another new band from Dublin's current enthralling and energising punk scene; a scuffed and scratchy piece of art punk from five-piece Silverbacks." The quote is signed "Steve Lamacq" in a white cursive font. On the right side, there is a photograph of a cityscape with a prominent church spire. Handwritten in the top right of the photo are the words "Silverbacks" and "JUST IN THE BAND" in red and black ink.

PRESS

Drool (this has just been serviced to press/radio at time of writing):

Stereogum: <https://www.stereogum.com/2071904/silverbacks-drool-sirens/music/>

Compared to the frenetic energy that's propelled most of Silverbacks' singles so far, "Drool" is a far moodier and more reflective affair. The band's three-guitar layers are still in full effect, with all kinds of precisely placed melodies and turns. But it's in service of a song that's more depleted than fiery this time around, all revolving around a melancholic chorus going "Can't you see/ It does exactly what it says on the box."

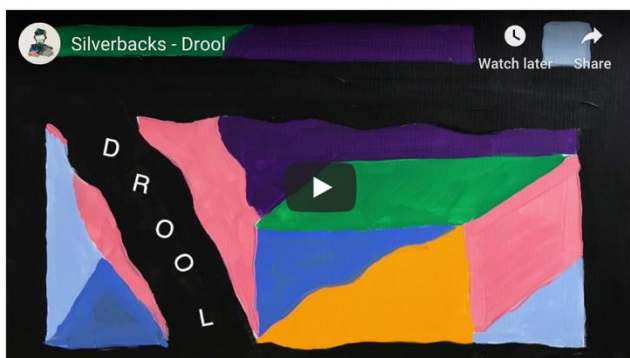
It also featured in their top 5 songs of the week:

<https://www.stereogum.com/2072770/the-5-best-songs-of-the-week-321/franchises/the-5-best-songs-of-the-week/>

"Silverbacks continue to surprise and delight even as they look to the past for inspiration"

5. Silverbacks – "Drool"

Silverbacks are the latest in the lineage of exciting new post-punk bands coming out of Dublin. But "Drool" is something slightly different than we've heard from them before, less hurtling breakneck energy and more depressive indie-rock reflection. The simultaneous slackness and precision of its mechanistic drumbeat and interlocking pinprick riffs is more Pinback than Parquet Courts, Kilian O'Kelly's detached vocals painting a picture of a man just trying to get by in less than ideal circumstances. "Can't you see/ It does exactly what it says on the box," he sings, but Silverbacks continue to surprise and delight even as they look to the past for inspiration. –Peter



Destroy/Exist: <https://www.destroyexist.com/2020/01/silverbacks-drool.html>

"Subtly moodier and cloudier than before, still, straightforward and easy to take in, Drool features an almost detached, yet, frank vocal delivery by singer, Kilian O'Kelly, eloquent guitar fancy coming from three guitarists, and a driving rhythm section, all welded together through Fox's cutting production."

The Revue: <https://therevue.ca/2020/02/03/the-matinee-20-february-3/>

"The three-guitar attack and the tickling rhythms create a soundscape that feels like a late-summer's evening drive along the California coastline. But just as the road seems to be smooth and clear, the song takes a couple of unexpected detour. The first is a breezy, mellow turn, and it merges into a rocky, slightly chaotic section. The dual transitions are brilliantly executed and perfectly reflect the uncertainty inside the protagonist's mind."

Jangle Pop Hub: <https://janglepophub.home.blog/2020/02/03/beat-the-delete-0041-weekly-new-music-recommendations/>

“Ireland’s Silverbacks, reside somewhere equidistant between the slightly fractious Pavement style 90’s alt.indie, Granddaddy laconic and the anxious isolated riffs of mid 80’s UK post punk...it’s a recipe that perhaps should not really work, but oozes originality and quality.”

Little Indie Blogs: <https://littleindieblogs.blogspot.com/2020/01/something-to-drool-over-from-irelands.html>

Sirens:

Featured on Spotify's New Music Friday UK on release day

Stereogum: <https://www.stereogum.com/2065033/silverbacks-sirens/music/>

"In theory, the use of three different guitars could be a bit overwhelming, however this seamless execution just proves that Silverbacks are focused and ready for bigger things."

Followed up with another feature in their Top 5 Songs of the week:

<https://www.stereogum.com/2065734/the-5-best-songs-of-the-week-314/franchises/the-5-best-songs-of-the-week/>

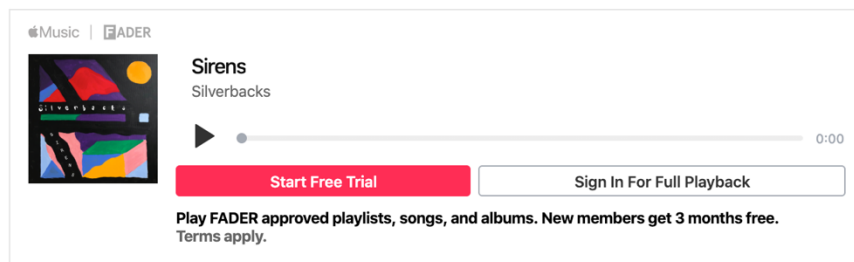
"Sirens feels like a logical continuation of the aesthetic Silverbacks have already established, but suggests a leveling up on the horizon. Their music is getting more wiry and layered, but losing none of its punch or infectiousness in the process."

The Fader – The 20 Best Rock Songs Right Now – Sirens at No. 5:

<https://www.thefader.com/2019/12/02/20-best-rock-songs-right-november>

5

Silverbacks, "Sirens"



Silverbacks are so indebted to LCD Soundsystem that James Murphy just took their TV away. In fairness, the Irish band acknowledge their influences here, and even ask the band not to sue.

DIY: <https://diymag.com/2019/11/15/dublin-silverbacks-single-sirens>

Dork: <https://www.readdork.com/news/dublin-based-fivesome-silverbacks-have-dropped-their-new-single-sirens>

Little Indie Blogs - <http://littleindieblogs.blogspot.com/2019/11/silverbacks-are-back-with-sirens.html>

Destroy/Exist - <http://www.destroyexist.com/2019/11/silverbacks-sirens.html>

Reignland - <https://www.reignland.co/silverbacks-releases-pop-rock-hit-sirens/>

Come Here Floyd - <https://comeherefloyd.com/silverbacks-shares-sirens-distractions-drown-must-peek-out-once-more/>

Clout Magazine - <https://cloutcloutclout.com/new-music/silverbacks-sirens/>

Mystic Sons - <https://www.mysticsons.com/article/new-music-discovery-201119#.XdUoQi2cai5>

Dansende Beren - <https://www.dansendeberen.be/2019/11/17/nieuwe-single-silverbacks-sirens/>

Nicorola - <https://www.nicorola.de/silverbacks-sirens/>

Indie Shuffle - <https://www.indieshuffle.com/silverbacks-sirens/>

Hard of Hearing - <https://hardofhearingmusic.com/2019/11/16/new-music-silverbacks-sirens/>

BarryGruff: <http://barrygruff.com/2019/12/03/silverbacks-sirens/>

Pink Tide:

Stereogum: <https://www.stereogum.com/2043719/silverbacks-pink-tide-dunkirk-just-in-the-band/premiere/>

"It's a cruising, catchy verse, and in a way it sets you up for the surprise of the chorus, a sardonic post-punk burst disrupting the seemingly laidback music that surrounded it"

Clash: <https://www.clashmusic.com/news/dublins-silverbacks-ride-toward-the-horizon-on-pink-tide>

"Fusing that post-punk chassis to moments of all out noise, their piercing, at times surreal songwriting has this weird wit which feels completely original."

CLASH

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Dublin's Silverbacks Ride Toward The Horizon On 'Pink Tide'

Follow

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It's a bruising return with Krautrock leanings...

Nialler9: <https://nialler9.com/silverbacks-take-stylish-trends-in-their-stride-on-pink-tide/>

Mapambulo: <http://mapambulo.blogspot.com/2019/05/silverbacks-gleich-nebenan.html>

Mad Mackerel: <https://madmackerel.org/2019/05/16/new-silverbacks-single/>

Analogue Trash: <https://www.analoguetrash.com/blog/silverbacks-pink-tide>

BarryGruff: <http://barrygruff.com/2019/05/31/silverbacks-pink-tide/>

The Fat Angel Sings: <https://thefatangelsings.com/2019/05/16/silverbacks-pink-tide/>

Just In The Band:

Featured on Spotify's The Rock List and The Indie List playlists from day of release.

Stereogum: <https://www.stereogum.com/2023326/silverbacks-just-in-the-band-new-single/premiere/>

"It begins breakneck and doesn't really let up from there — the drums gallop forward, the guitars shape-shift constantly, and Daniel O'Kelly's sing-speak delivery seems to grow more frenzied than before. It's another promising installment in Silverbacks' early output, a suggestion that their forthcoming album will be an overdriven display of gratifyingly dense guitars and vocal hooks alike."

Clash – Live session video premiere: <https://www.clashmusic.com/news/silverbacks-share-brutal-live-version-of-just-in-the-band>

"We've nabbed a live session version of the track, and it's an incisive, intense, pulsating performance, reminiscent of everyone from Gang Of Four to Fugazi and The Fall. Throughout it all, though, is a band of musicians dedicated to finding their own voice, blowing apart certainties and seeing what lies underneath."

So Young: <https://soyoungmagazine.com/journal/listen-to-just-in-the-band-by-silverbacks/>

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Listen to 'Just in the Band' by Dublin's Silverbacks

18 Dec 2018

by So Young Magazine



Dublin's Silverbacks are a very exciting post punk band from Ireland. Following the hype behind Fontaines D.C., Just Mustard and The Murder Capital, Silverbacks lean towards the sounds of NYC in their huge new single called 'Just in the Band'.



 [Listen on Spotify](#)

 [Listen on Soundcloud](#)

Hot Press – Track of the Day: <https://www.hotpress.com/music/track-day-silverbacks-just-band-22762658>

Gigwise: <https://www.gigwise.com/news/3301645/dublin-art-punks-silverbacks-unveil-new-single--just-in-the-band----listen>

The Thin Air: <http://thethinair.net/2018/11/stream-silverbacks-just-in-the-band/>

Post Trash: <http://post-trash.com/news/2018/11/20/fuzzy-meadows-the-weeks-best-new-music-november-19th-december-2nd>

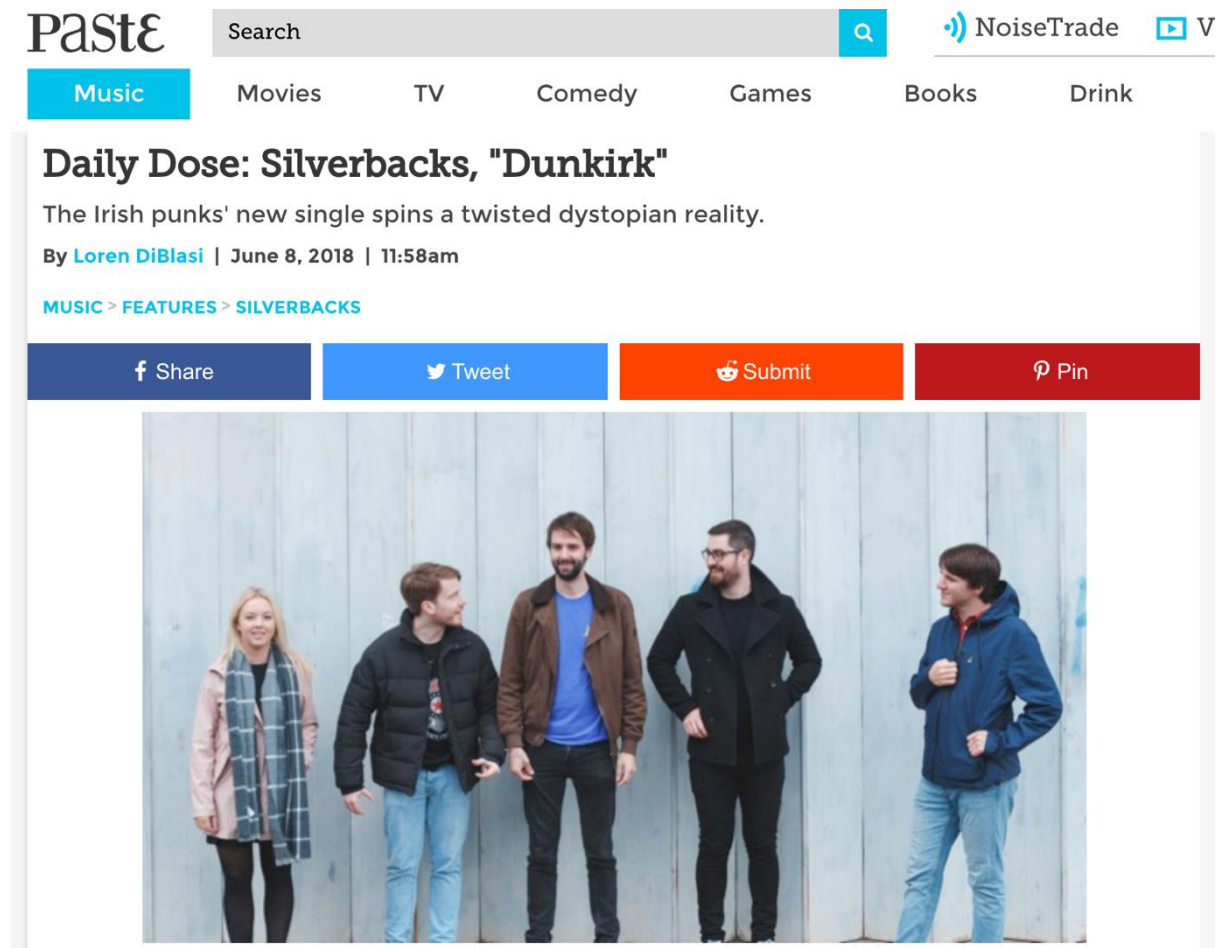
James Hendicott/Dublin Gazette:

<http://www.hendicottwriting.com/2018/12/silverbacks-weve-never-really-known-anything-but-diy/>

Dunkirk:

Paste Magazine: <https://www.pastemagazine.com/articles/2018/06/daily-dose-silverbacks-dunkirk.html>

"Jagged and menacing"



The screenshot shows the top portion of a web browser displaying a Paste Magazine article. The page features the 'Paste' logo on the left, a search bar, and navigation links for 'NoiseTrade' and a video icon. Below the navigation is a horizontal menu with categories: Music (highlighted), Movies, TV, Comedy, Games, Books, and Drink. The main heading of the article is 'Daily Dose: Silverbacks, "Dunkirk"', followed by a sub-headline: 'The Irish punks' new single spins a twisted dystopian reality.' The author is listed as 'By Loren DiBlasi | June 8, 2018 | 11:58am'. Below the text are social sharing buttons for Facebook (Share), Twitter (Tweet), Submit, and Pin. At the bottom of the screenshot is a photograph of five people (three men and two women) standing in a row against a light blue, vertically-slatted wall. They are dressed in casual, contemporary clothing like jackets and scarves.

Louder Than War: <https://louderthanwar.com/watch-silverbacks-single-dunkirk/>

"The track is underpinned by a throbbing bassline, gradually overlaid by a pounding drumbeat and spiky guitars building up to a crescendo of squally ululating noise, before the jangly razor sharp guitars take the song to its close. A fitting discombobulating surge of energy for the bands dystopian view of the future."

The 405: <https://www.thefourohfive.com/music/article/get-to-know-irish-post-punks-silverbacks-and-watch-the-video-for-their-scorching-single-dunkirk-405-premiere-153>

The Thin Air: <https://thethinair.net/2018/06/stream-silverbacks-dunkirk/>

Mad Mackerel: <https://madmackerel.org/2018/06/15/introducing-silverbacks/>

Get Into This: <http://www.getintothis.co.uk/2018/06/13-questions-with-silverbacks/>

Songwriting Magazine: <https://www.songwritingmagazine.co.uk/music/on-the-stereo-6/42188>

For The Rabbits:

<https://fortherabbits.net/2018/06/15/five-things-we-liked-this-week-15-06-18/>

Silverbacks feature as part of NME's piece on emerging Irish bands:

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The bands proving Ireland is the

nme.com/blogs/nme-blogs/ireland-punk-bands-fontaines-dc-murder-capital-2415910

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The bands proving Ireland is the new home of punk

From Fontaines D.C. to The Murder Capital, there's a noisy new movement taking over Eire

Tom Connick 3rd December 2018

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Tame Impala – 'The Slow Rush' review: a 57-minute flex of every musical muscle in Kevin Parker's body

Drillminster tells NME why he's running for Mayor of London: "I'm here to shake up politics"

Daniel Kaluuya: "My life's mad, I can't even process it"

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The bands proving Ireland is the

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Silverbacks



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A twisting, spindly take on arty punk-rock, Silverbacks take the noodling attitude of early-00s New York rock and drag it across the Atlantic, frontman Daniel O'Kelly's sing-speak-shouted vocal riding atop ever-more tangled-up guitar lines.

What makes them so good?: Try to follow the thread of those guitars. It's impossible. Twisting, turning and transforming like Optimus Prime in a sticky-floored club, it drives each track into cacophonous, explosive territory.

Start with this: 'Just In The Band'

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Rush' review: a 57-minute flex of every musical muscle in Kevin Parker's body

Drillminster tells NME why he's running for Mayor of London: "I'm here to shake up politics"

Daniel Kaluuya: "My life's mad, I can't even process it"

Green Day – 'Father Of All Motherfuckers' review: political punks let their hair down on their jukebox record

"It's going to be devastating" – here's how Brexit will screw over British touring artists

Daily Mirror print piece on the band:

Mirror

Silverbacks are happy to make the headlines

Iconic magazine NME lists Dublin band as one of the trail-blazers for Irish punk scene

Rock Music · Music · Entertainment
7 Dec 2018 [+1 more](#)

Ireland has been hailed as a 'go to destination' for punk bands thanks to the likes of exciting Irish five-piece Silverbacks. The Dublin band was name checked by NME this week alongside Fontaines DC and



the head-

Murder Capital for making Ireland 'the new home of punk music'.

The Beat caught up with Silverbacks guitar and vocalist Daniel O'Kelly who spoke about his band's role in the movement and about their influences.

"Yeah It was great to be included in that list," said O'Kelly.

"We all have these mini goals and dreams in music and to getting the

mention in NME was obviously a nice one, that was a big source of music when I was younger.

"In terms of the link between us and punk? I think we have a fairly loose connection with the Irish punk movement, if you want to call it that.

"We definitely take influences from punk bands but most of our music would probably fall into different categories.

"I think that they were talking more about our approach to music."

Silverbacks started with Daniel O'Kelly and his brother Killian who have been writing and making bedroom recordings together for years.

Daniel admits that he was, for a long time, not quite as focused on their project as he could have been.

As a result the Silverbacks project took a few years to get off the ground.

"A lot of the early recordings were just done on a laptop microphone," he explained.

"The way we organised everything was a little chaotic."

"I had a host of other distractions as well, I was in a long-term relationship, travelling around a lot for work, writing short stories, I had a lot going on."

It wasn't until band mate and close

friend Peadar Kearney (guitars) returned from a stint in France back in 2016 that the brothers decided they were going to form a band and make music a much bigger part of their lives.

Out of that trio came Silverbacks, who have since grown into a formidable five-piece, with their brand of late 80's inspired noise/ indie rock has earned them a run of positive reviews and a host of new fans.

"It's a nice confidence boost," said O'Kelly on the positive reviews his band have been getting in the press.

"It's great to know that people are interested in listening to the music and that it's not just the five of us listening to our own songs.

joying working with Fox having

Been hugely impressed with his Band's live sets.

"I remember going to see them at Vicar Street about a year and a half ago and I remember thinking that they had set a real standard there.

"I remember thinking 'okay this is what a real live band is like, this is the standard that we should be aiming for', that gig was definitely a big source of motivation for us.

"Having spoken to Daniel, I'd say we share very similar influences with Girl Band, the difference is that we've gone down different routes.

"We definitely have had a couple of

"It motivates us to do more and work a little harder, it's particularly nice as it hasn't exactly been immediate for us.

"Some bands find that they get a bit of success or recognition within the first few months, other bands have to wait a little longer, we're one of them."

While they may have a very separate style to the likes of Fontaines DC and Murder Capital and some of the other band's listed in NME's article, Silverbacks share an admiration for groundbreaking Irish outfit Girl Band, with the above mentioned.

The band, who last weekend played Other Voices in Kerry, have recorded seven songs with Girl Band bassist



Daniel Fox and are looking to put out a full-length release at the end of spring next year.

O'Kelly says that the band are en-



Sonic Youth and Talking Heads Silverbacks are earning recognition INFLUENCES: COMING INTO THEIR OWN:

demos where we've tried to write a Girl Band song, unsurprisingly what came out sounded too much like Girl Band so we had to scrap them."

So what material inspires a Silverbacks release? "It kind of changes," explained O'Kelly.

"It generally comes band that we're listening to at the time, then there are also those core bands that you never get sick of listening to.

"For a group of us they would be bands like Sonic Youth, Yo La Tengo, Pavement, Television and Talking Heads."

It's been a busy couple of years for the band who released their debut EP Sink The Fat Moon in 2017 earning nods from BBC'S Across The Line, The Irish Times, The Thin Air and Nialler9 amongst others.

Their single Just for a Better View

came after that, and garnered yet more accolades and lead to a coveted radio session for Today FM'S Paul Mcloone.

They are a band who are coming nicely into their stride as Dublin's noise rock scene in continues to grow and will cap off 2018 with a headline show at Whelan's tomorrow night.

O'kelly says the band are looking forward to letting loose at the Camden Street venue and will be treating it as their "staff party."

Ltickets for the gig are €10 and are available online from WAV Tickets or Lo-call 1890 200 078 (1-7pm M-F) Doors open at 8pm.

It's great to know That people are Interested in Listening to the music and that It's not just the Live of us Listening to our own song'

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 Q (UK)



THE DUBLINERS

Following the success of *The Murder Capital* and *Fontaines D.C.*, here’s four more acts to investigate from the Irish capital’s thriving live scene.



 Q (UK)



THE DUBLINERS

Following the success of *The Murder Capital* and *Fontaines D.C.*, here’s four more acts to investigate from the Irish capital’s thriving live scene.

1 Feb 2020

Silverbacks

Untangle Dublin five-piece Silverbacks’ knotty art-rock and you’ll find traces of *Parquet Courts*, *Pavement* and fellow countrymen *Girl Band*’s earsplitting noise, but their unsettled, snarky spirit is all their own. **Get This Track: Pink Tide**



SILVERBACKS		Musicians — Ireland	
01 PROFILE		02 PLAYLIST	<p>Silverbacks Fred Perry Subculture</p>
			<p>SHARE THIS PLAYLIST</p>
03 N	<p>Name, where are you from? Silverbacks, we're from Ireland.</p>		

03 INTERVIEW	<p>Name, where are you from? Silverbacks, we're from Ireland.</p>
	<p>Describe your style in three words? Comfort always first.</p> <p>What's the best gig you've ever been to? Kilian: Television in Vicar Street playing the entire Marquee Moon album. A great band playing one of my favourite albums in one of Ireland's best venues.</p> <p>If you could be on the line up with any two bands in history? Daniel: Sonic Youth and Suspicious Minds-era Elvis. At the end of the night, we'd all get on stage together to play 'Suspicious Minds'. I imagine a Sonic Elvis supergroup would be something people would be interested in.</p> <p>Which subcultures have influenced you? Kilian: Spectralism. I'm not sure if it classifies as a subculture or if it plays any role in Silverbacks but the music of Grisey and Tenney has had a pretty big impact on my own college studies.</p> <p>If you could spend an hour with anyone from history? Gary: Bob Marley. I love reggae and have been a massive Bob Marley fan for years.</p> <p>Of all the venues you've played, which is your favourite? Peadar: Pharmacia in Limerick. We played a DIYLK night there and we were treated like royalty. There's a fantastic community of bands and musicians in Limerick helping each other out.</p> <p>Your greatest unsung hero or heroine in music? Daniel: High Llamas. I first got into High Llamas before the likes of YouTube and Spotify gave an idea of how 'big' or 'popular' a band was. I was really surprised to find out that they weren't a household name. Sean O'Hagan from High Llamas used to be in Microdisney and appears on the Stereolab records.</p>



04

PLAYLIST NOTES

The first track you played on repeat?

Daniel: 'Instant Street' by Deus.
Gary: 'Rocks' by Primal Scream.

A song that defines the teenage you?

Daniel: The first gig I ever went to was Manic Street Preachers at AB Concerts in Brussels. My Dad took me to see them on a school night. According to my Dad, it wasn't their best showing but they blew the ears off me and I was hard of hearing for the next few days. 'Motown Junk' by Manic Street Preachers.

One record you would keep forever?

Kilian: Michael Chapman's album 'Playing Guitar The Easy Way'.

A song lyric that has inspired you?

Daniel: "*Well some people try to pick up girls,
And get called assholes,
This never happened to Pablo Picasso,
He could walk down your street,
And girls could not resist his stare and,
So Pablo Picasso was never called an asshole.*"

From 'Pablo Picasso' by The Modern Lovers.

The song that would get you straight on the dance floor?

Peadar: The Lizzy boys every time. 'The Boys Are Back in Town' by Thin Lizzy.

A song you wished you had written?

Daniel: 'Heroes' by David Bowie or 'Marquee Moon' by Television.
Gary: 'Pancho and Lefty' by Townes Van Sandt.



Best song to turn up loud?

Emma: 'Cybele's Reverie' by Stereolab can always be louder.

A song people wouldn't expect you to like?

Daniel: Anything from ABBA 'Gold', so good. They've recently got back together so whoever books those Croke Park shows in Dublin sort it out and put us on as support, we'll do it for free.

Best song to end an all-nighter on?

Daniel: If Kilian has gone to bed before me after a night out I have a bad habit of sneaking into his room and playing Frank Zappa's 'Watermelon In Easter Hay' and playing it until he wakes up and politely asks me to go to bed.

Any new bands you are listening to right now?

'Negative One' by Hot Cops.
'Post Punk Election Party' by Post Punk Podge and the Technohippies.
'Year of the Sofa' by Junk Drawer.
'Waves' by Badhands.
'T N Biscuits' by Slowthai.