

June 16, 2020
For Immediate Release

THE MICROPHONES RETURN WITH NEW ALBUM, *MICROPHONES IN 2020*, OUT AUGUST 7TH ON P.W. ELVERUM & SUN

WATCH THE TEASER [HERE](#)



Photo Credit: Jimi Sharp

The Microphones - the hibernating moniker of **Phil Elverum** - returns with a new album, ***Microphones in 2020***, out **August 7th** on **P.W. Elverum & Sun**. This is his first new album for the Microphones since 2003's ***Mount Eerie***. The album is made entirely of one, 44-minute song. Additionally, on August 6th at 1pm EST, the Microphones will share an accompanying album-length short film - a lyric video slideshow of sorts - which will premiere the album, musically and visually, on Youtube one day prior to its official release. Set a reminder to join this premiere performance [here](#).

*The old smell of air
coming faintly through the spring
crack in the snow above a hibernating bear's winter den,
the smell of long self-absorption,*

*burrowing into one's own chest, re-breathing the exhales of one's own breath,
the smell of squinting in the dark
ruminating in dreams
beneath layering years, the snow still falling.*

*In the dark smoldering
slowly burning through all the old clothes, sifting through the ash,
wiping old shedded fur from the eyes
nosing out into the light.*

*In that brief moment when the airs of the past and present meet,
at the mouth of the open bed,
egoic solidity burns away in the spring wind, self becomes fuel,
there is only now
and the past is a dream burning off.
Fragments arranged along the trail, crumbs consumed, dust blown,
no route back.*

*Instead of shoring up the tilting walls of whoever I think I am, I push at the seams
and try to tip it all over. I do not want to be well known by my name or an image or an
idea that might trail me around. I do want to know well, and to share insights, about
the workings of time and weather growing and eroding this one life.*

*I used to call my recordings a different name. A small clump of albums from
1997-2002 were called "the Microphones," including some popular ones. But the
essence of this project has never really changed: me exploring autobiographically in
sound and words with occasional loose participation from friends. The name it has
been called has never mattered much to me.*

*In the summer of 2019 I played a little local concert under the old name for no big
reason. The little flurry of weird attention around this announcement got me
thinking about what it even means to step back into an old mode. Self
commemoration would be embarrassing. I don't want to go backwards ever. There is
nothing to reunite. So I nudged into the future with these ideas and came up with this
large song. It took almost a year to write and record, working constantly at home,
digging through the archives, playing the same two chords forever on the same \$5
first guitar. In it I have tried to get at the heart of what defined that time in my life,
my late teens and early twenties, but even more importantly, I tried to break the spell
of nostalgia and make something perennial and enduring. All past selves existing at
once in this inferno present moment. The song doesn't seem to end. That's the point.*

We all crash through life prodded and diverted by our memories. There is a way through to disentanglement. Burn your old notebooks and jump through the smoke. Use the ashes to make a new thing.

- Phil Elverum
May 20th, 2020

As with all P.W. Elverum & Sun albums, *Microphones in 2020* will see physical release in a very high-quality heavy gatefold jacket, with foil stamping, radical artwork, and include a poster and lyrics. The release will be a 3-sided 2xLP. Pre-order details can be found below.

[WATCH THE MICROPHONES IN 2020 ALBUM TEASER](#)

[SET A REMINDER TO JOIN THE MICROPHONES IN 2020 PREMIERE](#)

[PRE-ORDER MICROPHONES IN 2020](#)



Microphones in 2020 Cover Artwork

The Microphones & P.W. Elverum & Sun Online:

www.pwilverumandsun.com

www.pwilverumandsun.bandcamp.com/

<http://pitchperfectpr.com/mount-erie/>

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/7Ht57YadlBXcFJK3plmH0>

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