

May 11, 2023  
For Immediate Release

## Mandy, Indiana Unveil New Single/Video, “[Drag \[Crashed\]](#)”

### Debut Album, *i’ve seen a way*, Out Next Friday on Fire Talk



Photo Credit: Harry Steel

“[T]here’s catharsis and resistance in the industrial abrasion of the sound [Mandy, Indiana] create, like a rogue machine created from cobbled-together parts suddenly learning how to talk back.”

— *The New York Times*

“[Mandy, Indiana] whip up a dark, scattered sonic storm: an enthralling, danceable swirl of discordant EDM and crashing waves of unruly noise-rock.” — *The Guardian*

“[Mandy, Indiana’s] music is as unsettling as it is incendiary.” — *Pitchfork*

“Mandy, Indiana make dance music for strobe-lit DIY spaces, punk rock if it was entirely about rhythm, squeals, and shrieks.” — *Stereogum*

“[Mandy, Indiana] are finally unleashing their full-length debut. If it's anything like their blistering live show, get ready.” — *Brooklyn Vegan*

Manchester-based experimental noise quartet **Mandy, Indiana** present “**Drag [Crashed]**,” the final pre-album release **single/video** from their much anticipated **debut album, *i've seen a way***, out next Friday, **May 19th on Fire Talk**. Recorded in caves, crypts and shopping malls, *i've seen a way* transcends genre into an expertly executed vision that is at once chaotic and precision engineered. As producer/guitarist **Scott Fair** explains, “We wanted to alter textures, create clashes, and craft those moments when what you’re expecting to happen never comes.” The band’s soundworld is completed by frontperson **Valentine Caulfield**’s lyrics of fury and fairytales, as she sings in her native French to express her frustration at the state of the world. On the propulsive “Drag [Crashed],” Caulfield directs her ire toward everyday acts of misogyny as a siren-like guitar sounds the alarm.

Caulfield explains: “‘Drag [Crashed]’ is a collection of things that were said to me or about me because I’m a woman. From middle-aged men saying I would ‘pop some fly buttons’ to my dad and that he would need a gun to fend off the boys when I was a literal toddler, to educators telling me my shoulders would ‘distract the boys’ and I therefore needed to cover myself, and romantic partners trying to control my body, ‘Drag’ is a personal exploration of what it means growing up a girl.” *Pitchfork*’s new [“Rising”](#) feature gives further insight into the origin of the song.

#### FRENCH LYRICS

Elle va en faire sauter des boutons de braguette  
Tu vas devoir repousser les garçons au fusil  
Elle va en briser des coeurs cette petite  
Tu seras grand-père jeune avec cette fille

Souris, souris, souris, souris  
C’est plus joli une fille qui sourit

Couvre-toi les épaules, tu vas distraire les garçons  
Elle est trop courte ta jupe, tu vas distraire les  
garçons  
C’est quoi ce maquillage vulgaire, tu vas distraire  
les garçons

Eh on voit tes bretelles, tu vas distraire les garçons

C’est trop décolleté ça, tu vas distraire les garçons  
Cache ce corps honteux, tu vas distraire les  
garçons

Souris, souris, souris, souris

#### ENGLISH TRANSLATION

She's gonna pop some fly buttons  
You going to need a gun to fend off the boys  
She's going to break hearts, this little one  
You will be a young grandfather with this girl

Smile, smile, smile, smile  
It's prettier a girl who smiles

Cover your shoulders, you'll distract the boys  
Your skirt is too short, you'll distract the boys  
What is this vulgar makeup, you'll distract the  
boys

Hey, your bra straps are showing, you'll distract  
the boys

That's too low-cut, you'll distract the boys  
Hide that shameful body, you'll distract the boys  
Smile, smile, smile, smile

It's prettier a girl who smiles

C'est plus joli une fille qui sourit  
Tout le monde sait qu'une femme ça sourit  
Souris, souris, souris, souris

Non mais on va te regarder jusqu'à tes 23-24 ans,  
alors laisse pas passer ta chance, et moi je préfère  
les filles naturelles, mais t'as l'air fatigué là, puis il  
va falloir muscler tes fesses hein

Souris, souris, souris, souris  
C'est plus joli une fille qui sourit  
Tout le monde sait qu'une femme ça sourit  
Souris, souris, souris, souris

Everyone knows that a woman smiles  
Smile, smile, smile, smile

Men are going to look at you until you're 23-24, so  
don't miss your chance, and I prefer natural girls,  
but you look tired, and you should exercise your  
butt

Smile, smile, smile, smile  
It's prettier a girl who smiles  
Everyone knows that a woman smiles  
Smile, smile, smile, smile

The accompanying “Drag [Crashed]” video, directed by **Ella Margolin** (Porridge Radio, Jessica Winter) and featuring movement direction by **Jacquelyn Tepper**, is a disquieting translation of its source material’s subject matter. Margolin comments “I spent a long time thinking about misogyny as a feeling; the power dynamics that lie at its core and the ways they manifest in our lives. I was thinking about the rituals that we take part in collectively; how natural these power dynamics can feel and how blindly we play them out in our day-to-day. I really wanted to explore the violence implicit in these moments and the feeling of inevitability that underscores them. This inspired the idea of creating some form of ritualistic snog. I wanted to portray a degree of the complicity we all have in these rituals – the weight of their inevitability. I didn’t want it all to be about struggle. I wanted to represent a range of responses – apathy, fear, pride, shame, validation etc. – they all feel so present in our lives and in our engagement with these power dynamics.”

### [Watch Mandy, Indiana’s “Drag \[Crashed\]” Video](#)

Mandy, Indiana draw on the broad sonic palette of experimental noise music, and their sound arrives fully formed. The group initially came to fruition after Caulfield and Fair met sharing a bill with their former projects in the fertile Manchester scene, and was later completed with the addition of **Simon Catling** (synth) and **Alex Macdougall** (drums). Their first recordings emerged in 2019, culminating in 2021’s “...” **EP** which saw the band draw early cosigns from **Daniel Avery**, **Squid**, and **Gilla Band**, whose own **Daniel Fox** mixed several of the tracks on *i’ve seen a way*, alongside **Robin Stewart of Giant Swan**. Produced by Fair, the album boasts mastering credits from indie stalwart **Heba Kadry**.

Unlikely off-site recording locations with novel acoustics were crucial to achieving *i’ve seen a way*’s unique sound, from recording screaming vocals in a Bristol mall to live drums in a West Country cave. Other sessions happened in Gothic crypts, where Mandy, Indiana’s physical bass frequencies and experiments with volume competed with underground roadworks in

upsetting a yoga class above. Fair elaborates: “These locations offered something acoustically, but would traditionally be thought of as having the ‘wrong’ characteristics for producing a ‘good’ recording. These spaces imprint on the sound: It’s not about a lack of access to more traditional recording spaces — it’s about us capturing things happening in a specific place at that moment.” *i’ve seen a way* is a manifesto for these moments of openness and disruption.

[Pre-order \*i’ve seen a way\*](#)

[Watch “Pinking Shears” Video](#)

[Watch “Injury Detail” Video](#)

[Watch “Peach Fuzz” Visualizer](#)

### **Mandy, Indiana Tour Dates**

Sat. May 13 - Brighton, UK @ The Great Escape

Fri. June 16 - Mannheim, DE @ Maifeld Derby

Sat. July 8 - Trencin, SK @ Pohoda Festival

Thu. July 20 - Sun. July 23 - Suffolk, UK @ Latitude Festival

Sat. July 22 - Standon, UK @ Standon Calling

Sat. Aug. 5 - Katowice, PL @ OFF

Fri. Oct. 27 - Manchester, UK @ The White Hotel

Sat. Oct. 28 - Glasgow, UK @ Hug & Print

Sun. Oct. 29 - Newcastle, UK @ Zerox

Tue. Oct. 31 - Sheffield, UK @ Sidney & Matilda

Wed. Nov. 1 - Bristol, UK @ Dareshack

Thu. Nov. 2 - Brighton, UK @ Green Door Store

Fri. Nov. 3 - London, UK @ Corsica Studios

Sat. Nov. 4 - Nottingham, UK @ Bodega

Sun. Nov. 5 - Berlin, DE @ Festsaal Kreuzberg (Pitchfork Music Festival Berlin)

[Download hi-res images of Mandy, Indiana](#)



*i've seen a way* Cover Artwork

Mandy, Indiana Online:

[Bandcamp](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Fire Talk](#)

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