

Adrian's October 2006 mix

1. **Pinback** *Penelope* Bedroom, bass guitar-heavy indie pop with electronic elements. That's about how I'd describe pinback. They're from San Diego and everything in the song from the guitar riff on forward is catchy.
2. **Beulah** *If We Can Land a Man on the Moon* Beulah's a now-defunct SF band that was associated with the Elephant 6 collective (see also Apples in Stereo track). They look back to the Beach Boys and the *Rubber Soul/ Revolver* Era Beatles, even using a victorian-style piano solo, like "In My Life." But it's more than robbery, this is a perfectly crafted pop song here.
3. **Ben Kweller** *Falling* I'd heard a lot about Kweller but finally decided to check him out recently. I found this Ben Folds-like song that I liked a lot. The ending's great. He was something like 20 when he recorded this a few years back.
4. **Regina Spektor** *Fidelity* We got the new Regina Spektor in at the radio station and this was immediately the standout track. There are parts of this song (some of the vocals) that would normally turn me away from a song but this song works well.
5. **Will Olham** *Boy, You have cum* Will Oldham was between the Palace names and Bonnie Prince Billy, his current name that has just released a new album, when he released a rarities album. I really like the cheesy old drum machine and synth bass and strings on this one. His lonesome voice over it all works well.
6. **Damien Jurado** *Hoquiam* This is the first track off of Damien's latest album. A Seattle singer-songwriter, Damien's never lived in middle America but often takes that as topic and manages to write great songs with sounds that evoke the feeling of driving through cornfields for miles.
7. **Mark Kozelek** *Bad Boy Boogie* Mark is an SF songwriter that's led Red House Painters and now leads Sun Kil Moon. He's also released an EP (a couple originals, a John Denver cover and a few AC/DC covers) and an album (all ACDC covers) under his own name. He has an amazing talent at interpreting songs. Can you imagine this was an ACDC song at some point in time? There are some great lyrics in this song.
8. **Johnny Cash** *Like the 309* The last song that the Man in Black reportedly wrote. Off of the recently released *American V: a Hundred Highways*
9. **The New Amsterdams** *My Old Man had a Pistol* The New Amsterdams is the folky sort of band from the frontman of the Get Up Kids. I think the electric piano part really makes this song.
10. **Ron Sexsmith** *Tell Me Again* Ron Sexsmith is a Canadian singer-songwriter that sort of skirts the edge of the indie/ mainstream divide. He's got a very recognizable voice. I like the instrumentation in this song, particularly bells and accordion in the breakdown near the end.
11. **Seldom** *Who am I?* Pedro the Lion sort of championed this Seattle band by bringing them out on tour a couple times. They squeezed out an EP and an album before they broke up. This is possibly the first song I heard by them as I walked into the Middle East Club while they were playing. I really like the entire song, including Yuuki's voice, but the keyboard breakdown is what made my ears perk up the first itme.

12. **P:ano** *Tut Tut* Another Canadian group. This one is two friends from high school that managed to put out a good and varied album called *When It's Dark and It's Summer*. I like how sneaky this song is: the second verse is from the Jackson 5's "I Want You Back."
13. **The Mommyheads** *In the Way* This one goes way back to high school. I got this album pretty early on in my high school years on a friend's recommendation. Now defunct, this SF act, basically wrote a simple, great pop album. Adam Cohen's voice is fantastic. If you can't hear the bass in this song, you're missing something.
14. **The Light Footwork** *The Art of Everyday Communication Part I* The Light Footwork are super local—they lived in Palo Alto when they recorded this album. Becca listened to my radio show and sent me this album thinking it'd fit in well with my show. Both Jay and Becca came down and guest Djed a set on my radio show as well. Jay was the tour intern for Beulah and there are some similarities to that band. Bill Swan (of Beulah) also guests on the album.
15. **Apples in Stereo** *Glowworm* the Apples in Stereo anchored the Elephant 6 collective's more straight-up pop leanings. Boy did they do it well. This, from their first album, is just one great song of many that they put out. Apparently a new album's in the works for 2007.
16. **the Magnetic Fields** *Fear of Trains* Before *69 Love Songs*, Stephin Merritt wrote songs with the idea, at least in part, to alienate his audience (the *Verfremdungseffekt*) to make them pay attention. He did this by super processing the instrumentation to get it to sound like this. He wrote a winner of a semi-country-electro-pop album called *Charm of the Highway Strip* that took a while to grow on me, but is now one of my favorites.
17. **Low** *Dinosaur Act* I don't really know much about what this song is about. The chorus, though, even though it doesn't make much sense to me, I like.
18. **Explosions in the Sky** *Remember Me as a Time of Day* This is off of the Austin, TX band's first album *How Strange Innocence*. Patterning their style a bit off of Scottish post-rockers Mogwai, it also lends itself surprisingly well to stories of west Texas football, like the movie and, later, the TV series *Friday Night Lights*, the latter of which reminded me of this song.
19. **The Album Leaf** *Red Eye* San Diego glitchy electro indie semi-minimalists the Album Leaf just came out with a new album a couple months ago. I'm often amazed at how largely electronic music can still be emotional.