

NO COAST!

Interviewed by The Silver Age, August 19th, 2024

no coast! is a Philadelphia power emo band comprised of Ariel, Steven, Olias, and Luke. Their first single, “sobel” will be released August 30th, 2024 and they plan to release their first EP by the end of 2024. Follow @nocoastphl on Instagram for updates on future releases and shows and listen to no coast! on Spotify and Bandcamp.

ALICIA LOPEZ: So you want to just start by saying name, age, I think we're all based in Philly, and then what you play in the band?

ARIEL: Cool. My name is Ariel. I'm 24. I play guitar, and I sing in no coast!

STEVEN: I'm Steven. I'm also 24. I live in Philly, and I play guitar.

OLIAS: My name's Olias. I live in Philly. I'm 23, and I play drums for the band.

A.L.: So then what type of music would you say you all play?

OLIAS: I always direct that to Ariel.

ARIEL: I've been describing it as Philadelphia power emo.

STEVEN: I think that fits. You didn't ask us, but I trust you. I left that to her.

OLIAS: I'm bad at distinguishing genres and their subdivisions.

STEVEN: Me too.

COLE GABORIAULT: The name “no coast!”... how'd it happen?

ARIEL: I'm so glad you asked. Well, so Steven and I have had this bit for quite a while. Steven and I have known each other for quite a long time at this point. I guess just about six years... damn. Here's to half a year more and no more. So Steven is – what are you, Ecuadorian? Colombian?

STEVEN: No.

ARIEL: El Salvadoran?

STEVEN: Yeah. All the above.

ARIEL: So Steven is Bolivian. And Bolivia, for the folks at home, happens to be a landlocked country. So historically, whenever Steven starts to act up or get funny with me, I'm like, "dude, touch water. Like, get a coastline before you bring that energy here."

STEVEN: It still hurts.

ARIEL: And when we formed this band and we were coming up with a name for it – I don't know – one of us floated the name "no coast!"

STEVEN: Yeah, I think I mentioned it. We were sitting in your living room, just, like, throwing names out with a former member. And I mentioned "no coast!", and it just kind of clicked. She heard it and was like, "yes." And our previous bandmate also really liked it. So we just kind of stuck with it. That's pretty much it. [to Olias] You had no say in this.

OLIAS: I think it's good.

A.L.: So how did you guys meet? You met 6 years ago?

STEVEN: We were in the same Snapchat group chat for Temple, because we both went to Temple.

ARIEL: And we lived at the Edge.

STEVEN: We both lived at the Edge – that was a dorm at Temple. And us two, and I think four or five other friends, just decided to meet at Jimmy John's at Temple.

ARIEL: \$1 sandwich night.

STEVEN: Yeah, \$1 sandwich night.

OLIAS: *\$1* sandwich night?

ARIEL: *\$1* sandwich night.

A.L.: It's not really just for *whatever* reason decided then, is it?

STEVEN: Yeah, that's true. Yeah, meeting you was secondary. Getting that \$1 sandwich...

ARIEL: Dude, I was eating Jimmy John's sandwiches for a week.

STEVEN: I got seven, and by four I was like, "dude, I cannot eat these anymore." So they just kind of rotted in my fridge.

OLIAS: Because they don't keep!

STEVEN: They don't keep at all.

OLIAS: Yeah, no.

STEVEN: Dude, \$7 for seven sandwiches...

ARIEL: They didn't, like – they already weren't good fresh off.

OLIAS: They didn't start at a good state.

STEVEN: Yeah, so that's how we met. And from there we were just, like, casual friends. We would play music together sometimes. And then COVID happened. We lost contact, and after COVID we – actually, kinda during COVID – we weren't very COVID friendly, or safe – like, you came over to my house a good amount.

ARIEL: You were the only person I hung out with.

STEVEN: Oh, okay.

ARIEL: I can't speak for you guys.

OLIAS: It's just how you met. It's not how you fucking created a band. Jesus.

ARIEL: Alright.

C.G.: That's kind of the next question, so we can just move seamlessly.

STEVEN: Can you just restart this?

OLIAS: I just wanted to add that I met Steven in high school, so we've known each other longer.

STEVEN: Way longer. Yeah, I met Olias, like, freshman year. Or, your freshman year, my sophomore year.

OLIAS: Yeah. And we always played – there was, like, a lot of music events at our high school. So we had to play a lot of musical events. So, yeah, I'm just happy to be playing for real with Steven.

A.L.: Are you guys from Philly? Like, high school-wise?

OLIAS: Jersey originally.

STEVEN: Yeah, Jersey.

C.G.: So then, how did the band form itself, going back to that?

ARIEL: Well, so Steven and I had a different band shortly post-COVID. Long story short, it just – like, not much really happened with it, and it fizzled out. And then we kind of just, like, didn't really do anything for a while. And then, I don't know, then we were just like...

STEVEN: I think we wanted, like, a harsh rebrand.

ARIEL: Yeah, we were like, "let's do that shit again."

STEVEN: Yeah, like, buckle down and actually attempt it.

ARIEL: Yes.

STEVEN: So some of the songs that we're playing now are from our previous project. Like the ones that you wrote, right?

ARIEL: Yeah, yeah, I think one – no, two.

STEVEN: Two.

ARIEL: One and a half. One song I wrote – one song was one that I wrote in between.

STEVEN: Right. And I think this was around last year, I think, when we decided to change the name.

ARIEL: Yeah, it was like a year ago or so. No, no, no, no, no, no, no, it wasn't. It was more recent than that. But... I don't remember.

STEVEN: But yeah, so I guess we're, like, still pretty early into our project, I'd say.

ARIEL: But there's a lot of momentum over the years behind it.

STEVEN: Exactly, yeah. And then I had known – obviously, I've known Olias for a while, and he was in Philly. I asked him, and he hopped on board.

OLIAS: And the first time they asked, I was like, "eh, maybe." And the second time, they sent me music, and I really liked it, so I said, "yeah."

A.L.: And you have a fourth person too, or no?

OLIAS: Yeah, so our latest addition is a new bassist, his name's Luke. And hopefully he'll be sticking around.

ARIEL: Very new addition. I feel like he was a little too new of an addition to have him here.

A.L.: That's fair.

ARIEL: We've had one practice with him so far.

STEVEN: Yeah.

OLIAS: I didn't want to put him on the spot like that.

A.L.: Is he going to play in the show?

ALL: Yeah.

A.L.: Okay, so we'll put him down in the booklet.

C.G.: Just like, "newborn."

A.L.: "Infant." So then, I guess, individually, how long have you guys been playing music?

ARIEL: I mean, I started playing guitar when I was like 10 or 11, because I was like, "ooh, if I play guitar, then girls will think I'm cool." And I don't think that necessarily happened, but I did like playing the guitar. And then, you know, a couple years later, I was like, "I want to sing also." And then I was like, "I want to play bass

also.” And then I was like, “I want to play drums also.” And then it just cascaded more. And eventually I made the fateful decision to buy a Focusrite Scarlett Solo.

STEVEN: I started playing trumpet at, I think, 10 or 11 – in fourth grade. And I was super into it. Like, that was my life. So people associated me with trumpet. And I was pretty determined to stick with it forever. Then I started listening to rock music. I see that Kiss album, right?

A.L.: Yeah.

STEVEN: Kiss *Alive*, right?

A.L.: Yeah.

STEVEN: Yeah. That’s one of those albums that kind of, like, got me. I was like, “holy shit, what is this?” So then I started growing out my hair, and I got a Les Paul.

C.G.: That’s how it happens.

STEVEN: Yeah. So yeah, I’ve been playing guitar since I was, I think, 13.

ARIEL: Is that the one you still play on?

STEVEN: Yeah.

ARIEL: That’s awesome.

OLIAS: Yeah. You actually have Gene Simmons’ guitar. That’s what I practice on.

STEVEN: Who? You?

OLIAS: No, you.

STEVEN: No, Paul Stanley – no, Ace Frehley.

OLIAS: Huh?

STEVEN: Gene Simmons is the bassist.

OLIAS: You said guitar.

STEVEN: Oh, dude, fake.

OLIAS: It could have been bass guitar.

STEVEN: But I don't play bass.

OLIAS: Just... fuck you. Just...okay. I've been playing drums since I was four, and that exact age because I got a drum kit when I was four years old. I was lucky enough to have a dad who was a professional drummer. And so he – I grew up in a very musical household in the first place. Both my parents are into lots of great music. But, you know, I think I was just fostered into that environment well. And I love it. So yeah, I got my first kit when I was four for Christmas. And ever since then I played in every talent show in elementary school and every, you know, event that I could – I can get into. And yeah, I love it. I play piano as well. Do a little bit of singing, rapping, whatnot. But yeah, I just – I love to play.

C.G.: How much musical training has there been for each of you over those years?

ARIEL: I had guitar lessons for like five or so years. I also did voice lessons for four years, and I took like four drum lessons.

STEVEN: You went to music school...

ARIEL: fUck. Dude, I did that twice. I went to a music conservatory pre-college program. I just forgot about that. I literally forgot. Where I was trained as a classical guitarist. I guess that's, like – I guess – oops. I forgot.

OLIAS: Clearly had a large impact on you.

ARIEL: And I also went to, I got a music technology degree from Temple University. Perseverance conquers.

STEVEN: I didn't really have training with any of my instruments. I taught myself trumpet, aside from, you know, what they teach in orchestra, like, in band class. And I did a couple of summers of, like, group extracurricular music camp stuff. And then for guitar, which was, like, at 13, I had an instructor alongside a couple other people in this small group, who showed me how to hold it, and just, like, basic chords. And that's really the only guitar training I ever got in my life. But then I also went to Temple for music technology. But that was more theory-focused, and there wasn't any, like, hands-on guitar training in that program. So I'd still say, for the most part, I'm self trained, but obviously I got a formal degree, which helped with my understanding of music theory.

OLIAS: Yeah, I mean, it's hard to say that I ever had, like, proper training. My dad, you know, definitely taught me a lot. But I – in the early years, I was definitely very resistant because just as, I think, any parent to child relationship, we don't want to do exactly what they say. But, no, I definitely took a lot of notes from my dad, but I never had, like, proper lessons outside of that. Not saying he was a bad teacher or anything, just, you know, it was really how much I wanted to put into it that I got out. But I would always just, you know, practice along to songs I like. And that's kind of how I do a lot of my learning. And I'm bad at reading sheet music. I learn by ear. For anything, not even just drums. And yeah, I don't know, not a ton to report there. Besides, of course, I guess, you know, music class. But again, didn't retain any sheet music reading.

ARIEL: And that's been really inconvenient because we're actually an entirely sheet music-focused band. Like, we have stands up when we play.

OLIAS: I'm like, "I just need the tabs."

STEVEN: Drum tabs. Like the Guitar Hero screen.

OLIAS: I always have to have Rock Band underneath the kit when I play.

A.L.: Okay, so you mentioned Kiss – who are your musical influences individually, and then kind of as the band?

ARIEL: Someone else go first. I have to think about it.

OLIAS: As the band is interesting question, because I feel like I come to it from a more math rock side, you know. So I'm always tempted to say, you know, Chon and the likes of that. But I feel like you [Ariel] come at it from more of the emo side.

ARIEL: Yeah, yeah.

OLIAS: So maybe you would say something else for as far as the band side.

ARIEL: Well, yeah, I don't know. I mean, I spent, like, my entire teens listening primarily to Green Day and My Chemical Romance and Fall Out Boy, and I can only escape that mentality so much. But we definitely do write much more, like, emo, math rock-y music. Like, to the observant ear, it is absolutely unmistakable how much Sweet Pill Steven has listened to.

STEVEN: Yeah, I'm a huge Sweet Pill fan. But I definitely resonate more with the Olias's musical influences than Ariel's, with, like, the math rock stuff. I also love Chon. That was my favorite band for many years. I've seen them so many times, it's kind of ridiculous. It's kind of embarrassing, TBH. But, aside from that, I also love

metal, like, super aggressive, hardcore stuff too. Like, Kaonashi, you know, from Philly. They're sick. I've been listening to them a lot.

ARIEL: Peter Rono.

STEVEN: Yeah, no, they're awesome. But also, I listen to a lot of flamenco music, like, from Spain. Because I got a classical guitar a couple years ago, and I just became obsessed with it. As well as a lot of folk music from South America, just cause that's where I'm from.

OLIAS: Individually, would you say...

ARIEL: I feel like I gave my answer to that. Yeah, like, fundamentally, the way I think about music was shaped by Green Day, MCR, Fall Out Boy, Panic! at the Disco, Arctic Monkeys, etc. I only really, really got into emo music in like 2020.

OLIAS: Oh, okay, interesting. Individually for me, I guess I would say I grew up on a lot of, like, prog rock, so...

ARIEL: Pfffffft

OLIAS: Thank you. Thank you so much. So like, you know, Yes, and Genesis, and Rush, you know, the shit that just, I feel like, always pushed me to play stuff I couldn't play. As a kid, I would just play a shit ton of Rush.

ARIEL: I'm sorry.

OLIAS: Are you unaware of this?

ARIEL: I am totally aware of this. I don't know why I'm laughing.

STEVEN: I mean, Rush is kind of a meme, but they're awesome.

ARIEL: They are awesome.

STEVEN: Yeah, they're fantastic.

OLIAS: I mean, yeah, if you really want to get into it – and everything from lyrics to actual composition. Anyway, that's kind of what my basis of a lot of stuff was, I would say. And then, kind of later in my life – I say as a 23-year-old – I got more into hip-hop and stuff like that too, and producers that kind of push the boundaries and even sample progressive music. So, yeah, I think that kind of answers the question.

C.G.: So then as a band, what does the writing process look like?

STEVEN: I feel like there's been change.

OLIAS: The writing process is Steven.

ARIEL: It really depends so much. There are a handful of songs where I've basically just written the whole thing, and there are some that you've [Steven] basically written the whole thing. There are none that Olias has written the whole thing because we do not trust this fucker at all.

OLIAS: I'm not to be trusted.

ARIEL: Nefarious songwriter over here. There's also been – we also sometimes will just, like, all together work through a song.

STEVEN: Like “Feathers.”

ARIEL: “Feathers,” yeah. Also, I think “Frameskip” was pretty – like, “Frameskip” was kind of like that too.

OLIAS: Yeah. But I think “Feathers” was the first true group composition, right? But yeah, if someone comes up with an idea at practice, we'll just start building off of each other, and it'll very quickly become something, I think, which is really cool.

STEVEN: Yeah, I'd say we're fairly flexible with the writing process. Which is kind of nice, you know, if you come up with a song, or if I come up with a song, the other person usually is cool with it. There's isn't a lot of pushback or ego in that sense. I definitely want to hear more of Olias' writing, cause he's an incredible songwriter too.

ARIEL: Certainly.

OLIAS: Thank you. My voice memos from the last three weeks, ever since we played our last show, have just been “no coast! drum idea,” “no coast! drum idea,” “no coast! drum idea.” I am trying to write some melodies out too, so that's kind of the part that I'm getting hung up on a little bit. But yeah, when we have those group writing moments, it's really nice.

STEVEN: Yeah, it is.

A.L.: And then I guess lyrically specifically, how do you guys approach lyrics?

STEVEN: [to Ariel] It's all you.

ARIEL: Yeah, that's all me.

STEVEN: I mean, I personally don't have any interest in that. Just because I know I'd be terrible at it. Or – I mean, you write good lyrics, so I'm comfortable with you having complete creative control over it.

OLIAS: Yeah, for music that is more technically complicated, I think it's important to have lyrics that feel good first and foremost. And then if it's saying something, that's, like, the cherry on top, in my opinion. I feel like the lyrics – the vocals are going to kind of ground the song when we're doing odd meters or odd phrases or whatever. So, yeah, I think Ariel writes really good melodies, which is a big important thing, and that might engage the listener a little bit more – or give them something to focus on, rather. And then more recently, when I started doing backing vocals, I asked Ariel for the lyrics, and for other purposes as well. And I started reading them, and I was like, “oh, these are actually really cool.” So again, that's sort of the cherry on top. But yeah, I'm confident in Ariel's lyric writing abilities.

STEVEN: I mean, I'm not going to lie, I don't think I know a single line of our lyrics.

ARIEL: Dude, I don't either.

OLIAS: I've become well acquainted since using them for Instagram.

STEVEN: I'm also a fan of just, like, nonsensical lyrics of random words. Like, Dance Gavin Dance, like their harsh vocalist.

OLIAS: We didn't say Dance Gavin Dance.

STEVEN: Oh yeah, that's definitely one of my big influences. But their harsh vocalist just, like, yells random stuff, which I think is fucking hilarious. And if a part of the song is super complicated, it kind of breaks the seriousness of it. Where, like, yeah, we're able to write complicated stuff, but we're not taking ourselves too seriously. Which I think is important because I feel like a lot of times, prog music can just be a little...

ARIEL: Self righteous?

STEVEN: Yeah. I love prog music, but that's definitely one of my big critiques of it.

ARIEL: Yeah, I think that's not incredibly dissimilar from how I approach lyric writing.

OLIAS: I mean, it's like, if you're not reading it... again, I feel like it's so much about the feeling. Especially, like, diction and stuff in prog music is just so...

ARIEL: Yeah, I mean, I feel like I've unpacked my philosophical approach behind writing lyrics so many times in my head. Where I feel like I go at it from, like, a melody first, diction second, lyrical content third. Where, like, if I have what I feel is a really good melody and good, like, mouth sounds that I want to make over it, if I have to write a lyric that I don't feel like makes all that much sense, I'll take it. But I don't know, I feel like the way I try to write lyrics in terms of, like, meaning and such is – I don't know, I've never been one to write in super specific ways. Like, you know, I feel like a lot of emo singers these days – and this is not a bad thing – write lyrics that are just, like, you know, the Modern Baseball – like, “you were the only one who thought of us that way.” And I love that shit. Like, that's awesome. But it just doesn't come naturally to me. I like to – I don't know. I think of myself as an impressionist lyricist. Where it's not about any one thing specifically. But if you step back and look at it as, like, a patchwork of vague statements, a meaning comes together.

C.G.: Do you have themes that you circle around? Or ideas?

ARIEL: Like... horrific sadness, despair. That type of thing. I feel like I really – I give a very negative picture of what my dark, twisted mind is like. More so than I think is reflected in reality.

STEVEN: Are you okay?

OLIAS: Also, there's a lot of lyrics about Crazy Frog, which I think is really strange. I don't know why you keep – I don't know why you're so obsessed with that guy.

ARIEL: That frog is just so crazy, dude. Like, to me, that's just a normal frog.

OLIAS: We're gonna need that two page spread.

C.G.: It'll be well utilized.

A.L.: Okay, so I know you're releasing your first single. You wanna tell us about how that's been, recording, what you're using to do mixing? I'm assuming you're mixing it yourself.

STEVEN: ChatGPT.

ARIEL: No dude, Grok.

STEVEN: Is that the Twitter one? That's so funny.

OLIAS: I thought that was fake. My friend sent me that the other day, like a screenshot of Grok. And I was like, this has to be Photoshopped. What is Grok? Why would that be a name for anything at all?

A.L.: Embarrassing.

ARIEL: I think it was a neologism coined by Robert Heinlein. But, to answer your question, which was... what? Oh, recording stuff for a single. Yeah, we recorded it in my basement, which, for the fans at home, is also the site of Philadelphia's 13th best house venue, Over Yonder – except when we're doing recording there, there's a bunch of acoustic dampening panels up. And we just recorded it. And then mixed it.

OLIAS: We all went over at different times and tracked our individual parts. And then, she's using Ableton?

ARIEL: Ableton, yeah.

OLIAS: To mix.

ARIEL: That's right.

OLIAS: And I have no experience with Ableton. I'm a Logic user. So we just sort of barked commands at Ariel to do that, make this good.

ARIEL: Yeah, basically. Yeah, I gave it my best first mix and they were both like, "first of all, fuck you, second of all, go fuck yourself, third of all" –

STEVEN: Quit your job.

OLIAS: Don't quit your day job.

ARIEL: And then collaboratively, over a period of about 80 years, we put together a mix that we were all happy with.

STEVEN: Yeah, it's interesting. This specific single – I just came back from a two week trip, so communicating with me was very difficult, and I appreciate their patience with me because I just wasn't responding.

ARIEL: Dude, you were not.

STEVEN: The messages were just, like, coming in very inconsistently. So I was fairly hands-off with this single. They just sent me a couple of versions, and it sounds good. I think it sounds cool.

A.L.: And I guess I heard that you're – knock on wood – hoping to get an EP out by the end of the year, maybe?

ARIEL: Are we?

OLIAS: That's the idea.

ARIEL: Oh –

OLIAS: We did say –

ARIEL: We did say we were going to do that.

OLIAS: You said that.

STEVEN: Yeah, you did.

A.L.: I got it from him [Olias]. It's not like I heard this on the street, to be clear.

OLIAS: There were some paparazzi outside who just kept asking that question, so I had to just tell them “yes” to just, like, get them to go away.

ARIEL: Yeah, damn, I should record the rest of that.

OLIAS: We have a track list, and we have one other song recorded. I don't know if – I haven't – we'll see if I like what I played. But yeah, we're trying. We're trying to do that.

C.G.: We're almost to the end of the questions, but before we get to our last one, what kind of stuff are you guys interested in outside of music, outside of the band? Work, hobbies, other interests, other kinds of art that you do?

OLIAS: This is all I have.

STEVEN: So we better make it.

OLIAS: Yeah, that's me. I just love to hear myself talk.

ARIEL: I love to hear you talk too.

OLIAS: Music is definitely my number one passion. But other things I enjoy are definitely comic books – I’m a big comic reader, big nerd. Yeah, that’s another thing my dad kind of put me onto as a kid. And then – I don’t know – definitely movies, film – I’m into film – and food.

STEVEN: So original.

ARIEL: I kind of have a lot of things that I’m into. Similarly, music is kind of my main thing. I love that stuff. I do mixing and recording, engineering and stuff. I just last week got done mixing an album for a band called A Night of Arrogance.

A.L.: We know them. Two of those guys came and played here.

ARIEL: Pleasure Circuit?¹ Yeah, I love all those fellas. I play drums for them every once in a while. Yeah, what else do I got? I’m a tinkerer. I like fixing stuff – that’s actually my day job. I’m a loudspeaker technician. Community Loudspeakers, based out of Chester, PA. Fuck L-Acoustics.

A.L.: Why does everybody we interview have a cooler job than me?

ARIEL: Dude, I genuinely have no idea how I got – actually, I *do* have an idea how I got this job. This motherfucker [Steven] –

STEVEN: I sent you the LinkedIn link, and I was like, “you should probably apply to this. You’d probably do well.” And she got rejected at first, and then they called her back.

ARIEL: They came crawling back offering a lower salary, and I accepted it. Yeah, I don’t know. Am I missing anything?

OLIAS: That’s all your hobbies. That’s it. You’re done.

STEVEN: We’re cutting you off.

OLIAS: No more hobbies for you.

STEVEN: Yeah, I kind of have, like, a weird relationship with music. I love music. It’s been my life for a while, but after graduating, I was like, “fuck, I need a job.” So, I didn’t have enough faith in my abilities to just completely pursue music full-time. So I did something else that I really liked. I was doing audio DSP engineering at Crestron, which is an electronics company.

¹ See Fun House vol. 3

ARIEL: A direct competitor with my company.

STEVEN: Yeah, and that job was awesome because I just got to, like, fuck around with algorithms that other people made and just, like, tune them for whatever purpose they needed to be tuned for. But then I quit that job because the commute was super long, and I hated driving. And now I work from home as a software engineer, which is okay. I spend a lot of time at home, which, you know, kind of can get weird sometimes, but I got used to it. And in terms of hobbies, I like volleyball a lot.

A.L.: Beach or just normal court?

STEVEN: I've been playing a lot of outdoor volleyball, but a month and a half ago, I was running after volleyball and just, like, fell into a hole and twisted my ankle really bad. So, like, for the past month and a half, I haven't been able to play volleyball. And my ankle is, like, the size of a tennis ball right now. But yeah, those are my hobbies.

OLIAS: It's the size of a volleyball.

ARIEL: That would be crazy.

A.L.: Cool. So then I guess our last scheduled question is just why are you a musician? Why is this something that drew you to it?

ARIEL: Genuinely, truly, because I can't – I cannot imagine myself doing anything else. Like, it's really been pretty much the only thing that's given me an absolutely insatiable drive to do more and more and more every day. And yeah, I don't know, what else would I do?

OLIAS: Yeah, I mean, for me again, I grew up in a very musical household, but I think even if it weren't for that, I would still have a love for music. I just think there's so much music to be discovered every day. And that's really exciting to me. And yeah, just the feeling that I get being able to play music. Drums for me is, like, very physical, so I can get very into it on a physical level as well as a – I don't know – emotional level – like, the way that music makes me feel. So yeah, I feel like no matter what point in my life I would have discovered music, I would have just loved it.

STEVEN: I think for me it was, like, the first thing that gave me discipline, because when I started playing trumpet, I really wanted to get good at it. And to get good at it, you just have to practice a lot. So that's the first thing in my – probably my life ever, where I just felt motivated to do something. And then that transitioned to more creative endeavors where, when I started playing guitar, I started improvising a lot – just, like normal blues stuff. And that kind of unlocked a whole separate aspect of music for me, and I've just been kind of riding that

ever since. So for me, my favorite part about music is the improvisational aspect, and I think that's why I'm a musician, because it's just – it's a good creative outlet.

C.G.: I guess, to conclude, anything else that we should definitely be asking you about? Anything you definitely want included?

OLIAS: Sobel comes out August 30th.

ARIEL: Sobel comes out August 30th.

STEVEN: Sobel comes out August 30th.

OLIAS: And we're gonna do at least one other single before the EP, which will hopefully release before the end of the year.