THE SILVER AGE PRESENTS

# FUN HOUSE



Vol 28 | August 30th, 2025

BIG BELIEVER SOFT IDIOT DOWNDRESSER VINE WHIP

VENUE FEATURE: THE MEETINGHOUSE



## BIGBELIEVER

ig @bigbeliever.mp3 | yt @bigbeliever.mp3

SPECIES: sad indie folk rock

CENTER OF OPERATIONS: Philadelphia, PA LEADER: unnamed green plastic alien MEMBERS: MARK, MASON, MATT, MICHAEL

### MARK

WEAPON OF CHOICE: bass

EARLY LIFE: grew up around music at home; knew he wanted to make music when he first heard "Paperback Writer"; has been playing bass for 16 years

SPOTTED IN: Truant Minds, Clockwork A Stenographer, Starlight Park, Faded Mourning

MOTIVE: is not a very loud person, so likes being able to express himself with an amplifier;

also it's fun

#### MASON

WEAPON OF CHOICE: drums

EARLY LIFE: grew up tapping along to his mom's CDs in the car, started drums at age 5, switched

to guitar at 16, then back to drums at 22

SPOTTED IN: Mildwood

INDUSTRY: electrical engineering

MOTIVE: started playing music and got hooked; making music with other people is a magic

experience

### MATT

WEAPON OF CHOICE: guitar

EARLY LIFE: started learning violin at age 3;

has been playing guitar for 22 years

INDUSTRY: non-profit

SPOTTED IN: Astro Alloy, The Lower Aetna

MOTIVE: playing and performing music pre-dates his memory; times without music have felt empty;

he enjoys collaborating with a group

### MICHAEL

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: quitar, vocals

EARLY LIFE: started playing quitar in middle school, then started songwriting in high school INDUSTRY: shelving books

ASPIRATION: wants to write a movie

MOTIVE: wanted to play quitar after falling in love with the Beatles in an infomercial; wanted to write music after listening to Bob Dylan

FIRST CONTACT: MICHAEL moved to Philadelphia from Seattle and posted a Craigslist classified ad seeking bandmates. MATT responded to that, MARK responded to a post on the Philadelphia DIY Music Facebook group, and MASON slid into MICHAEL'S DMs and asked to be the drummer.

IDENTIFIER: wanted a name that started with "B"; liked the phrase "I'm a big believer in \_" PRECURSORS: Bob Dylan (writing), The Beach Boys (harmony), Wilco, Bright Eyes, Kevin Morby FABRICATION: MICHAEL writes vocals and guitar on his own, then demos the song at home and uploads it to a private SoundCloud. He shares the demo with the band, and they arrange it as a group. AUDIOVISUAL EVIDENCE: recorded their first EP in their practice space and self-produced it; their singles were recorded at Drexel

DOGMA: the physical space of New Jersey, aliens RECENT WORKS: "Drinking," "King of the Plastic Isle," the first EP, "little green alien" LIKELY NEXT MOVES: potentially a concept album



# Soft Idiot

ig @soft\_idiot | softidiot.bandcamp.com

SEE VOL. 14

SPECIES: indie rock

CENTER OF OPERATIONS: Philadelphia, PA

MAN OF ACTION: JUSTIN ROTH

AGE: 28

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: drums, guitar, vocals, keys GERMINATION: started drum lessons in 4th grade, then later started playing with his dad's guitars and learning from tab

MOLLIFICATION AND STULTIFICATION: Temple University AUXILIARY PURSUIT: modular synthesis
PATH TO COMPLETION: Always starts with acoustic guitar. Writes music and lyrics at the same time.
No longer writes about anything in particular; leaves the listener with "something to chew on."
Used to use Audacity, now uses Reaper.
UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF: Phil Elverum, The Microphones, Neutral Milk Hotel, Andy Shauf
SEO TACTIC: name sourced from a tweet that called

SEO TACTIC: name sourced from a tweet that called pets "soft idiots" living in your house

ACCOMPLICES: Eric O'Neil, Terrin Munawet

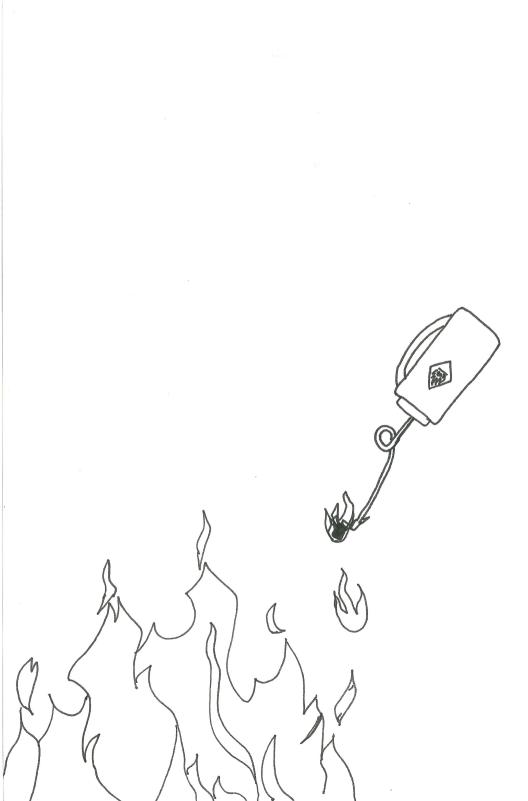
MOTIVE: doesn't know what else to do with his life

RECENT WORKS: All the Same Dark, Some Captured

Light, Younger Moments

LIKELY NEXT MOVES: upcoming country folk album





## DOWNDRESSER

ig @downdresserband | downdresser.bandcamp.com

SPECIES: rock (indie alternative garage), pop punk,

"Coldplay but from Delco"

CENTER OF OPERATIONS: Philadelphia, PA MEMBERS: DIANA, MATTIE, MIKE, SAM, VIOLA

### DIANA

WEAPON OF CHOICE: guitar

EARLY LIFE: started playing guitar at age 15; is entirely self-taught; also plays some drums,

bass, ukulele, and piano

HABITS: loves video games, built her own PC\*

MOTIVE: was already weird, so just started doing

it; connection with bandmates

\* Peace Corps

### MATTIE

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: keys, synth, trumpet

EARLY LIFE: classically trained; started playing piano as a little kid, then picked up trumpet in

elementary school

HABITS: making merch, stained glass, crochet

MOTIVE: can't not make music

### MIKE

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: drums, vocals

EARLY LIFE: started on piano, then learned other instruments; picked up drums about 9 years ago HABITS: survival crafting video games, making

some solo music

MOTIVE: stuck with it; brain is wired for music

### SAM

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: guitar, vocals

EARLY LIFE: started bass at age 17 and switched to guitar at 18 or 19; is entirely self-taught HABITS: strategy and world-building video games,

soccer

MOTIVE: it's a compulsion; enjoys camaraderie

### VIOLA

flesh it out

WEAPON OF CHOICE: bass

EARLY LIFE: started guitar lessons at age 10 or 12, then switched to bass after a year or two since it was more her speed

HABITS: loves to party, collects VHS tapes

MOTIVE: is pulled toward rhythm and patterns and needs to make music

\* Vehicular Homicide + Suicide

EQUILIBRATION: In 2018, SAM, VIOLA, and DIANA met at Delaware County Community College and formed a band. MIKE joined when the original drummer left around three years ago. SAM asked MATTIE to join after seeing them play keyboard on their Instagram. FORMERLY KNOWN AS: Ladies For Ladies SIGNIFIANT: SAM comes up with the core concept for a song and brings it to the band, then everyone else adds their parts and makes suggestions to

SIGNIFIÉ: theme-oriented; tries to write openly, so that anyone can listen to a song and find something personal to attach to it

SUBSTANCE: Drums are recorded at Cambridge Sound Studios by Alex Fichera; everyone else records their parts DI at home. The files get sent to their producer for mixing and mastering.

DOGMA: mental health, living by a script RECENT WORKS: "Sinking Sun," "Bummed Sinatra,"

Please Stand By

LIKELY NEXT MOVES: releasing singles, more recording, planning for a tour in 2026



# VIWE WHIP

ig @vinewhipmusic | vinewhip.bandcamp.com

SPECIES: shoe gays, whatever their little hearts

desire

CENTER OF OPERATIONS: Philadelphia, PA

FORMERLY KNOWN AS: Junonia

MEMBERS: ETHAN, NICK, STORM, WILL

### **ETHAN**

WEAPON OF CHOICE: bass

EARLY LIFE: started harmonica in 6th grade; stole his sister's acoustic guitar in 8th grade; started playing bass in college for a musical

MUSES: Yes, Bernard Edwards, Modest Mouse

AFFILIATIONS: Cave Paintings, Dante Robinson and

The It's Lit Family Band, Miss Olivia

MOTIVE: has always wanted to be a musician

### NICK

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: guitar, vocals

AKA: The Great Nor'Easter

EARLY LIFE: started playing guitar in 7th grade, then stopped because it was too hard; picked it

up again later and stuck with it

MUSES: americ anfootball, slowdive, Delta Sleep,

Interpol, Future Islands, The National

MOTIVE: was inspired by their dad and by bands they like; playing music and sharing your art is one of the coolest feelings in the world

### STORM

WEAPON OF CHOICE: drums

EARLY LIFE: played lots of instruments on and off for ~15 years, briefly went to music school MUSES: Circa Survive, Death Cab for Cutie, TTNG\*\*
AFFILIATIONS: keep an eye on the news
MOTIVE: makes bad life choices, likes making

MOTIVE: makes bad life choices, likes making sounds that sound good, loves playing music and sharing it with others

\*TOP TOP \* NICE GUT!

### WILL

WEAPONS OF CHOICE: guitar

EARLY LIFE: has been playing for REDACTED years

AFFILIATIONS: Fire Gilding

MUSES: At the Drive-In, Elliott Smith, Six

Organs of Admittance, jazz

MOTIVE: music is in his blood; he can't help but

be a musician

RANDOM ENCOUNTER: STORM and NICK met in college and tried collaborating on various music projects but never released anything. In 2018, they met WILL through the Philly DIY Facebook group. STORM and ETHAN met just before the pandemic, and he joined the band in 2023 after the original bassist, SHEILA, left.

NAMESAKE: Pokémon move; initially rejected the name, then circled back and agreed on it later SCRIBES: Originally, NICK and WILL split songwriting duties, contributing ideas and filling them out together. Now everyone is bringing ideas, and the process is more collaborative. FINISHING TOUCH: STORM does production in Logic; first LP was recorded at Retro City Studios and heavily produced. The upcoming album will be recorded in-house and sound more live. They plan to use a gutted and re-wired MXL-990 for vocals. DOGMA: being near the beach/trees, nature generally RECENT WORKS: Junonia

UPCOMING SHOWS: September 10th (Dawson St. Pub) & 12th (Century Bar), 2025



## THE

### Venue feature

## ETINGHOUSE ig @themeetinghouse

CENTER OF OPERATIONS: West Philadelphia

BIRTH DATE: June 2025 PROPRIETOR: JARED

### JARED

AFFILIATIONS: Ghostship Dreamland, fruitless! WORKPLACES: So Big Auditory, The Speakeasy at Al

Capone's Cell at Halloween Nights at Eastern

State Penitentiary

AMUSEMENTS: D&D, theater & performance



JARED on the stage

### \* Dollars & Dimes

INCORPORATION: JARED had been living at the house for 2 years and wanted to host events in the backyard; he was going to be here all summer this year and decided now was the time to start



The yard

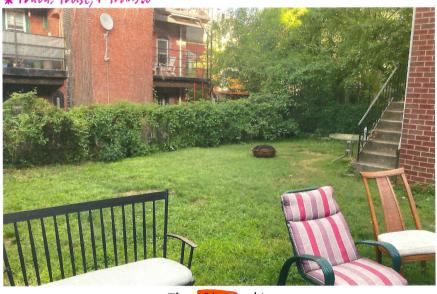
ACCESSIBLE VIA: T3\*

GENRES: all, though usually mo drums due to volume

restrictions

BOOKING: through Instagram DMs; hosts shows about once a week

\* Touth, Toust, + Transit



The fire pit

ADDITIONAL EVENTS: occasionally hosts Quaker

meeting for worship (hence the name)

EQUIPMENT: JBL EON208P\*

MEMORABLE MOMENT: Miles in Transit closing with

"Piano Man"

MOTIVE: bringing shows to his backyard instead of having to go elsewhere; providing artists with a

space to perform and compensating them



BEST BY: October 2025

\*Taved's Backyard Lifestyle: Entertaining Our Neighbors, 208 Persons



COFFEEHOUSE: low-key music with coffee, baked goods, etc. included

FEATURING: JASON MCCUE, PAUL ARENDT
September 10, 2025 | DOORS 7 PM | MUSIC 8 PM | \$10

DM @the.silver.age.hq FOR ADDRESS



PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN MUG (BYOM)

### Upcoming Shows at the HQ Doors at 7:00 pm

September 5th, 7:30 pm Guest Show: Public Access

September 10th, 8:00 pm Coffeehouse

September 20th, 7:30 pm Otherworld

October 4th, 7:30 pm Guest Show: House Show Philly

Want to play at our venue?
Message @the.silver.age.hq on Instagram

Full interviews and other issues of Fun House online at www.thesilverage.com/funhouse