

VERST

JOHN DICKEY	GUITAR, VOX
JOHN PARSONS	BASS, VOX
BRANDON HEMLEY	DRUMS, VOX

VERST IS AN INDIE/SPACE ROCK TRIO FROM SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. BASS PLAYER JOHN PARSONS FIRST DISCOVERED GUITARIST JOHN DICKEY'S MUSIC IN THE MID-90S VIA A RANDOM PURCHASE OF PIE'S "GONE" EP IN A GREENWICH VILLAGE RECORD STORE. DICKEY WAS THE MASTERMIND BEHIND PIE, A BOSTON-BASED BAND THAT OPENED FOR BUILT TO SPILL AND YO LA TENGO BEFORE IMPLODING. PARSONS LED SAN FRANCISCO ALT-ROCKERS, RULE OF THUMB, THROUGH FOUR ALBUMS (AND OPENING SLOTS FOR THE GOURDS AND RICHMOND FONTAINE, AMONG OTHERS) BEFORE DISSOLVING THE BAND.

IN 2002, PARSONS, DETERMINED TO FIND MORE PIE MUSIC, DISCOVERED THAT DICKEY HAD RELOCATED TO SAN FRANCISCO AND FORMED A NEW BAND, RICHARD BITCH. A DECADE LATER, THE TWO JOHNS JOINED FORCES IN VERST. THE MUSIC INCORPORATES A WIDE VARIETY OF INFLUENCES: EVERYTHING FROM DINOSAUR JR. AND PAVEMENT TO JUDAS PRIEST AND KING CRIMSON. WITH THE A.M. GOLD SENSIBILITIES OF AMERICA AND BREAD. AND YET, IT IS DISTINCTIVELY AND UNMISTAKABLY ORIGINAL.

STARSHIP CRASH, THE DEBUT ALBUM RELEASED IN 2015, WAS DEEMED A "NOISE-POP MASTERPIECE" BY PANDORA AND RECEIVED NUMEROUS ACCOLADES IN THE PRESS. *DAVID SLAIN*, THE BAND'S SECOND ALBUM, WAS RELEASED ON NOVEMBER 14, 2017.



VERST LIVE AT THE SWEETWATER MUSIC HALL, MILL VALLEY, CA

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DAVID SLAIN

THE SECOND ALBUM FROM VERST

PANDORA'S CURATORS' CHOICE - NOVEMBER, 2017

"IF 1990S INDIE ROCK IS NOW CONSIDERED CLASSIC ROCK, VERST'S SECOND ALBUM, DAVID SLAIN, IS AN INSTANT CLASSIC. THAT'S NOT TO SAY THESE ARE RETRO RECORDINGS — SURE, THERE ARE HINTS OF PAVEMENT'S PENCHANT FOR SIX-STRING ENTANGLEMENTS, BUT DAVID SLAIN DECIDEDLY DODGES SLACKER MUSICIANSHIP. AND YES, FRONTMAN JOHN DICKEY'S VOICE SOMETIMES SOUNDS LIKE AN INTERSECTION OF THURSTON MOORE'S LACKADAISICAL TIMBRE AND J. MASCIS'S REEDY CROON, BUT DICKEY HAS BEEN SINGING THIS WAY SINCE THE '90S WITH PIE AND RICHARD BITCH. DAVID SLAIN MAY BE '90S INFORMED, BUT IT'S NOT A '90S RETROSPECTIVE. NO DISRESPECT TO SEBADOH, BUT LOU BARLOW COULD NEVER WRITE A SONG AS CATCHY AS "HALEAKALA." AND WHILE PIXIES ARE GODHEAD, THEIR GUITARS NEVER SOUNDED AS CACOPHOUSLY GORGEOUS AS THOSE LAID TO WASTE ON THE EIGHT-MINUTE SPACE ROCK EPIC "SECRET SEA."

- ERIC SHEA, [pandora](#)



VERST
DAVID SLAIN
RELEASED NOVEMBER 14, 2017
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ACCLAIM FOR STARSHIP CRASH

THE BIG TAKEOVER, ISSUE #78: REVIEW OF STARSHIP CRASH

"THIS IS GUITAR-DRIVEN ROCK THAT ALSO OVERFLOWS WITH LUSH VOCALS, THROBBING BASS, AND PSYCHEDELIC SONIC ADVENTURES. AS GOOD AS THEIR SOUND IS, THEY ALSO TAKE CARE TO CRAFT CATCHY, WELL-STRUCTURED SONGS, EVEN ON THE LONGEST, SPACIEST PIECE, THE TITLE TRACK. EVERY SINGLE SONG HAS EFFECTS OR TIMBRES THAT SET IT APART FROM THE SURROUNDING TRACKS, AND FROM THE COMPETITION AS WELL."

THE BIG TAKEOVER

STARSHIP CRASH: VERST'S PROPULSIVE DEBUT

"VERST, AN EXPLOSIVE NEW INDIE ROCK QUARTET, BLASTS ONTO THE MARIN MUSIC SCENE WITH ITS DEBUT ALBUM, STARSHIP CRASH, A SWEET AND SOUR CLASH OF JANGLY ELECTRIC GUITARS AND ANGELIC VOCALS...VERST'S INTRIGUING SPACE ROCK IS STRIKINGLY DIFFERENT FROM THE STANDARD NEO HIPPIE STUFF THAT SEEM TO DOMINATE THE LOCAL JAM BAND MILIEU."
SELECTED AS ONE OF THE IJ'S 10 BEST MARIN RECORDS OF 2015

PAUL LIBERATORE, MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

BEHOLD SAN FRANCISCO'S BEST-KEPT INDIE ROCK SECRET

"STARSHIP CRASH IS A NOISE-POP MASTERWORK THAT INFUSES '90S SONIC WIZARDRY WITH INNOVATIVE MELODIES, BOTH BARBED AND SUBLIME. GUITAR EFFECTS WHISPERER JOHN DICKEY CROONS LIKE STEPHEN MALKMUS CHANNELING NEIL YOUNG."

ERIC SHEA, PANDORA

ALTERNATIVE RISING ACTS: VERST

"...NOT EVEN ONE TRACK SKIPS A BEAT...FROM START TO FINISH, IT'S INTELLIGENTLY CRAFTED WITH VISCERAL TEXTURE...PSYCHEDELIC YET LUCID, THE ALBUM AND SOUND AESTHETIC IS SO REFINED AND WELL STRUCTURED, AN IMPECCABLE INNOVATIVE LISTEN FOR ANY OCCASION."

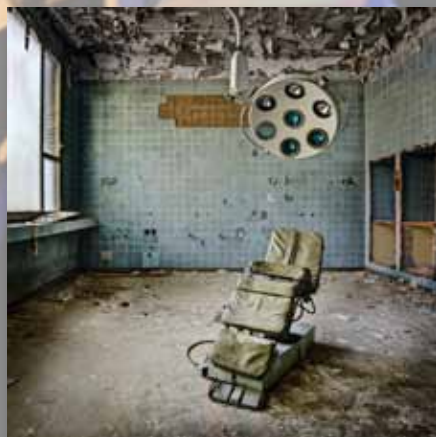
JOSH PINEDA, INDIEBEAT

SOCIAL

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SOUND

BANDCAMP: [VERST.BANDCAMP.COM](https://www.bandcamp.com/verstmusic)

ITUNES: [BIT.LY/VERSTAPPLE](https://bit.ly/verstapple)

AMAZON: [BIT.LY/VERSTAMAZON](https://bit.ly/verstamazon)

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SOUNDCLOUD: [SOUNDCLOUD.COM/VERST](https://www.soundcloud.com/verstmusic)

VERST

STARSHIP CRASH

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AVAILABLE ON 140-GRAM COLORED VINYL AND DIGITAL



VERST

VENUES

BOTTOM OF THE HILL
SWEETWATER MUSIC HALL
HOPMONK TAVERN
THE IVY ROOM
THE ELBO ROOM
THE HOTEL UTAH
19 BROADWAY
TOOTS TAVERN
NECK OF THE WOODS
WINTERS TAVERN



JOHN DICKEY

GIBSON LES PAUL
GIBSON SG
FENDER JAZZMASTER
MARSHALL & CUSTOM AMPS



BRANDON HEMLEY

GRETSCH AND LUDWIG DRUMS
ZILDJIAN CYMBALS



JOHN PARSONS

RICKENBACKER 4003
HOVERCRAFT ELDER GIANT
AMPEG HLF 410

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