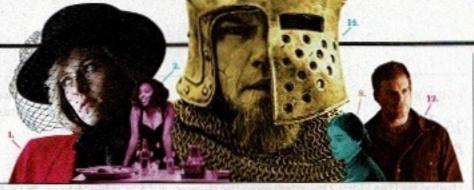


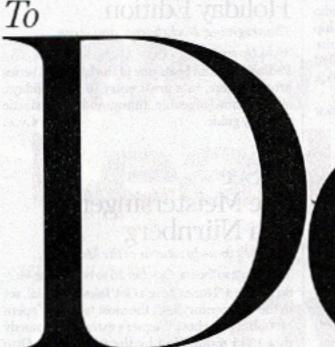
to be the most powerful mayor in decades. Who is he?

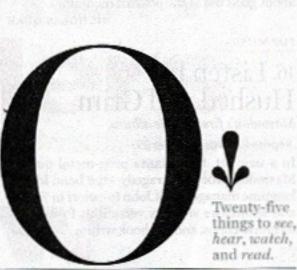
By David Freedlander

For more culture coverage and streaming recommendations. see vulture.com.



The CULTURE PAGES





and read.

OCTOBER 27-NOVEMBER 10

MOVIES

See Spencer

A devastating portrait.

In theaters November 5.

The most pedigreed of the latest incarnations of Princess Diana onscreen-including Jeanna de Waal in the misbegotten Diana: The Musical and Emma Corrin and, soon, Elizabeth Debicki on The Crown-is Kristen Stewart in the new film from Pablo Larraín, which focuses on Diana during the 1991 holidays. The real marvel is the way the film works as a bookend to Larrain's 2016 Jackie, another portrait of a woman caught up in the image-making required to create, or maintain, the idea of royalty. ALISON WILLMORE

2. Watch Love Life

Good-bye for now, Darby.

HBO Max, October 28.

The second season of this rom-com anthology series shifts from Anna Kendrick's Darby to a distant member of her social circle, Marcus Watkins (William Jackson Harper), a married guy who finds himself crushing on another woman, played by Jessica Williams.

POP MUSIC

3. Listen to Kid A Mnesia

Radiohead's game-changers hit their 20s.

XL Recordings, November 5.

In celebration of their pivotal early-aughts albums KidA (2000) and Amnesiac (2001), Radiohead is rereleasing them along with a third disc of session material as Kid A Mnesia. The package features long-sought-after ephemera like a studio version of "Follow Me Around."

CLASSICAL MUSIC

4. Hear Seth Parker Woods and Andrew Rosenblum

Woods's 92Y debut.

92nd Street Y, October 30.

Works by Schumann and Mendelssohn alternate with those of Black composers, including George Walker's lyrically gymnastic Cello Sonata, a movement from Florence Price's Piano Sonata, and the quiet, songful pluckings of Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's "Calvary Ostinato." JUSTIN DAVIDSON

5. See Travis Boyer

Fantastic fungi.

False Flag, 11-22 44th Road, Long Island City, through November 15.

Boyer's groovy, gently pervy fungi paintings, on dyed silk velvet, are tucked away in a garagebased gallery, usually open weekends. Their effect is more a microdose—delightfully mood-lifting and colorful-than a heavy trip. CARL SWANSON

THEATER

See The Securely Conferred, Vouchsafed Keepsakes of Maery S.

Chocolate Factory Theater, October 31.

Sibyl Kempson's experimental epic, a collageplay-film, Frankensteins narratives about Mary(s) Shelley. Women dream up monsters while having wild Gothic adventures of their own in the audiovisual experience, which includes music by Chris Giarmo and Graham Reynolds. HELEN SHAW

7. See The Souvenir Part II

The Cannes audience roared in applause.

In theaters October 29.

Joanna Hogg's semi-autobiographical films are sharp enough to wound. 2019's The Souvenir was a clear-cyed rendering of Hogg's days as a film student who falls in love with a man she doesn't realize is a heroin addict. Its sequel picks up with Hogg avatar Julie (Honor Swinton Byrne) looking to find her way as an artist by making work about the relationship and trying to see it, and herself, from the outside.

8. Watch Dickinson

Last bow for Hailee Steinfeld's Emily.

Apple TV+, November 5.

Because you could not stop for Death, it is time to stop for the gloriously bizarre series' final season, with the young poet confronting the Civil War.

KATHRYN VANARENDONK

9. Read The Dawn of Everything

David Graeber and David Wengrow's new past.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, November 9

This nonfiction study presents pre-state societies as an alternative to the violence and inequalities of civilization. Epic in ambition, it's the final work of the late David Graeber, an anthropologist and EMMA ALPERN leading Occupy figure.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

10. Hear Leonidas Kavakos and Yuja Wang

Two soloists come together.

Carnegie Hall, November 4.

Fuses must blow and lightbulbs shatter when these two get in a room to rehearse. Kavakos's program tracks Bach's traces through the music of Busoni and Shostakovich.

POP MUSIC

11. Listen to I Don't Live Here Anymore

The War on Drugs' fifth studio album.

Atlantic Records, October 29.

Adam Granduciel makes wrenching rock music with thought-provoking lyricism and a loose psychedelia. In I Don't Live Here Anymore, dense instrumentation collides with gossamer synths and chilly drum programming.

THE 60-SECOND BOOK EXCERPT The Sentence

By Louise Erdrich

WHILE IN PRISON, I received a dictionary. It was sent to me with a note. This is the book I would take to a deserted island. Other books were to arrive from my teacher. But as she had known, this one proved of endless use. The first word I looked up was the word 'sentence.' I had received an impossible sentence of 60 years from the lips of a judge who believed in an afterlife. So the word with its yawning c, belligerent little e's, with its hissing sibilants and double n's, this repetitive bummer of a word made of slyly stabbing letters that surrounded an isolate human t, this word was in my thoughts every moment of every day. Without a doubt, had the dictionary not arrived, this light word that lay so heavily upon me would have crushed me, or what was left of me after the strangeness of what I'd done. (Harper, November 9)

12. Watch Dexter: New Blood

Showtime, November 7.

Premium cable's favorite serial killer is back in what has been dubbed a "special event" series. A decade has passed since Dexter Morgan (Michael C. Hall) went missing, and he's trying to distance himself from who he used to be. But (no spoilers) reminders of his former existence have a way of creeping into the picture.

13. See Indigenous Liberation

Join the circle.

Joyce Theater, November 9 to 14.

This intertribal production by the Native American and Canadian collective Indigenous Enterprise presents (and contextualizes) work like the Ojibwa Jingle Dress Dance, the Blackfoot Chicken Dance, and the Omaha Grass Dance, demonstrating both the virtuoso footwork and gorgeous regalia of a half-dozen traditions from all over Turtle Island.

MOVIES

14. See The Last Duel

Matt Damon vs. Ben Affleck vs. Adam Driver.

In theaters

Ridley Scott's epic-about the last sanctioned duel in medieval France-is his most entertaining movie in decades. Ben Affleck steals the show as a flamboyant, callow playboy count.

PODCASTS

15. Listen to Operator

Before Pornhub.

Topic Studios and Wondery, November 8.

Hosted by Tina Horn, Operator traces the story of the once-mighty phone-sex industry through the rise and fall of American TelNet. Expect an audio doe that explores America's fraught relationship with sex and sex services, and how an empire crumbled as its core technology-the landed phone line-was disrupted by online porn. Talk about good use of the podeast medium.

NICHOLAS QUAH

POP MUSIC

16. Listen to Hushed and Grim

Mastodon's first double album.

Reprise Records, October 29.

In a new set, the Atlanta prog-metal quartet Mastodon processes tragedy—the band lost its longtime manager Nick John to cancer in 2018and showcases slippery versatility, formidable technical chops, and ace hook writing.

17. Watch Big Mouth

Let's talk about animated middle-school babies.

Netflix, November 5.

Netflix's animated series about tweens and the Hormone Monsters/Monstresses who love them is back (spoiler: There may or may not be an episode that features actual puppets).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

18. Hear New York Philharmonic

A famed conductor is back in style.

Alice Tully Hall, November 4, 5, and 7.

Michael Tilson Thomas returns with Ruth Crawford Seeger's bristling Andante for Strings and Beethoven's Eroica Symphony. Gil Shaham plays the Berg Violin Concerto.

POP MUSIC

19. Listen to Valentine

In time for sad-girl autumn.

Matador Records, November 5.

Lindsey Jordan's band Snail Mail has hooks that are always airtight, vocals hushed and personal, but the indie-rock outfit is expanding to include more folk songs, glossier guitar workouts, and a few tasteful pop and hip-hop accents.

MOVIES

Becoming Cousteau

Aboard Calypso.

In select theaters.

Liz Garbus's moving doc shows undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau as a conflicted man who realized that by making the world's seas accessible, he was enabling their eventual devastation. B.E.

21. Watch

Taste the Nation: Holiday Edition Thanksgiving, Nochebuena, and more.

Hulu, November 4.

Padma Lakshmi hosts one of the best food series around. Here, in a great entry to the holidays, she's a knowledgeable, funny, and enthusiastic culinary guide.

OPERA

22. See

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

Wagner's comedy returns to the Met stage.

Metropolitan Opera, October 26 to November 14.

So maybe a "Nuremberg's Got Talent" special, set in the 16th century, isn't the most topical of opera plots, but somehow Wagner's extra-long comedy in a 1993 production by the 91-year-old Otto Schenk still sounds fresh, especially when Eva is sung by the superb Lise Davidsen.

23. See Diane Severin

Nguyen
Titled "If Revolution Is a Sickness."

SculptureCenter, 44-19 Purves Street, Long Island City, through December 13.

Nguyen turns the SculptureCenter's grand industrial atrium—which most artists don't know quite what to do with-into a cinema to present video work, filmed in Warsaw, which "loosely follows the character of an orphaned Vietnamese child" who is obsessed with K-pop. It's a TikTok-worthy meditation on global ideologies—communism, then, and teen dance troupes, now.

24. Watch Yellowstone

Season four.

Paramount, November 7.

Yellowstone is a deathly serious Western drama about masculinity and the land and generational divides, but the best way to watch it is as high camp. The series is full of death-scare twists and enormous hats and Kevin Costner's gravelly voice being ultragrim while he talks about cows. Pretend it's Dallas and you're off to the rodeo. K.V.A.

POP MUSIC

25. Listen to In Plain Sight

A sophomore album.

Colemine Records, November 5.

Pianist-singer Neal Francis's new record kicks off with our hero's home in literal flames. The subsequent tracks dive into the causes and consequences of one man's return to dickishness, while Francis leans into the grandiosity of mid-70s prog rock. ALAN SYTSMA