

Julien the Child

Julien the Child was formed in 2016 by Oliver Eldridge who has been writing songs since the age of ten, he is from Tampa, Florida and this will be his second album called *Memory Flu* and will be coming out this year.

Being a singer/songwriter for Oliver is:

Catharsis. There's something pretty incredible about having the ability to articulate what you're feeling through song and I try to be grateful everyday that I happened to be born with that ability. Listening to music you've made that clearly articulates what you're honestly feeling gives a cathartic feeling unlike any I've found anywhere else. When I was young, listening to music gave me a really wonderful feeling but as I got older I realized that I experienced an even stronger catharsis when making the music myself. Now I use songwriting as a form of self-therapy and it helps me in ways that nothing else has managed to. Oliver Eldridge

Oliver loves writing and being a songwriter, it is his passion. I asked what inspired him.

Music has always been something I react to quite strongly. When I was a kid, certain melodies or rhythms could make the hair on my arms stand up or make me feel as though I was on the verge of tears. I never realized that about myself until later in life because I thought that was how everyone reacted to music. Nowadays I still feel those kinds of sensations when listening to certain songs, I'm just pickier about it. As my pickiness increased, my preferences as a songwriter and producer got more and more specific. I would find myself listening to songs from other artists thinking "they should have chosen this chord progression there" or "they should have said this instead of that at that part". So, it wasn't long before I felt the overwhelming compulsion to bring those preferences to life in my own songs. Oliver Eldridge

Oliver is a very passionate singer/songwriter and I find that very inspiring as a writer to find someone so passionate about

their career, he loves doing it and wants to make something out of himself, being as passionate and devoted as he is I think he has a good chance.



Oliver Eldridge

The single “Self-Aware” debuted in the beginning of April. This has been compared to Bright Eyes, Dirty Projectors and Radical Face for similar sound but Oliver’s band is unique in its own way with different sounds and awesome vocals.

Here is the inspiration for “Self-Aware:”

I wrote “Self-Aware” during a time when I was reading a lot of essays and books by philosophers like Peter Wessel Zapffe, Arthur Schopenhauer, David Benatar, and Jean-Paul Sartre... Philosophers that would largely be considered pessimistic, or even nihilistic. Self-awareness as it relates to consciousness is a frequent subject within the work of those philosophers I mentioned and it was a concept I hadn’t much considered previously. I found a particular essay by Zapffe to be especially engrossing, to the point where it had my mind reeling for several months after. I thought about a handful of particular philosophical concepts so obsessively that there were times when I felt like I was driving myself mad. I

started deconstructing every aspect of my life in a way I hadn't before, which caused me to question every assumption I could find lurking in the back of my mind. It made it hard to work a job and just be a normal person who thought about their day-to-day life. I was just trying to figure out the truth of things but there were admittedly many times when I wished I could have just turned my brain off. I remember writing the chorus lyrics for Self-Aware intending it to be more of a "cry for help" of sorts in light of the extreme discomfort I often felt when constantly reflecting upon the sheer degree to which I was aware of my own self-awareness... It's not the most straight-forward thing to try to explain but it was a very claustrophobic time of life to say the least. Oliver Eldridge

I recently went on Julien the Child's Youtube channel and I got to admit I love "Self-Aware" and after reading this quote I can see where the inspiration is coming from like this quote from the song *"I WILL NEVER KNOW ENOUGH/YET IT'S STILL TOO MUCH/I AM JUST ONE MAN/YEAH/I THINK I'M THINKING TOO MUCH/OVERFLOWING LIKE A FLOOD/LIKE AN AVALANCHE/JUST LIKE AN AVALANCHE"* I think this verse is pertaining to all the philosophical knowledge or just knowledge, in general, the world has to offer but we are just one person and it is overwhelming but at the same time can be fun and joyful.

JULIEN THE CHILD

self-aware



Julien the Child "Self-Aware"

I asked Oliver what some musical influences were for him and he answered this: I'm not sure if I have direct influences (at least, not ones I'm aware of at this time) but I certainly draw inspiration from a myriad of artists. Philosophy and various forms of storytelling has been pretty influential on my songwriting for several years now but from a musical standpoint, I draw inspiration from pretty well-known artists like Tom Waits, Conor Oberst, Danny Brown, Radiohead, Sufjan Stevens, Joy Division, The Beach Boys, The 1975, Car Seat Headrest, Kanye West and lots of other artists. I'm a sucker for a good melody with some interesting, substantive lyrics...

That's all it really takes for me to feel inspired. Oliver Eldridge



Oliver Eldridge

The use of piano and high pitched almost scratchy vocals makes the song interesting to listen to and gives the song an upbeat almost punk-rock sound but makes it unique throughout the song. I personally enjoy the song and think it is really good and has been growing on me when I listen to it.

The song is classified under Indie Electronic and Pop but in my opinion, it has a hint of punk-rock in it, just a tiny hint. I may be wrong, but it sounds like it to me or I could just be hearing things, though, when I hear Oliver's vocals pitch with the piano I think there may be a tiny hint in there, or again it is just me.

While I was browsing Julien the Child's Youtube I found some amazing cover's done by Oliver, here are a couple I recommend checking out:

Youtube

Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSV8VF971cN1X-qZvdNG>

aqA

Soundcloud: <https://soundcloud.com/julienthechild/self-aware>

BandCamp: <https://julienthechild.bandcamp.com>

Official Site: <http://julienthechild.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/julienthechildmusic/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/julienthechild>