

## **TAYLOR BRADSHAW BIO**

With an eclectic vibe-fusing edgy, raw alternative and garage rock with folk and punk sensibilities, NYC based singer/songwriter/guitarist Taylor Bradshaw is a fascinating study in emotional extremes, taking the volume way up and rocking intensely, then easing off into dreamier introspection. A lot of his songs are influenced by bands in the city's thriving punk scene, yet when he's holding court at some of the informal open mics he organizes with other musicians, he explores the more heartfelt side of his artistry via the acoustic guitar (and sometimes the ukulele and mandolin).

Bradshaw's worlds collide powerfully on his upcoming debut full length album, ***Twine***, whose recently released lead single is "Our First Date," a jangling and infectious pop/rocker about the explosive, unexpected excitement that can happen immediately with the right person – and the importance of letting go and surrendering to that feeling. Many of the 11 tracks on the album are about the ins and outs, ups and downs of romance, with Bradshaw negotiating through some intense relationships (with one in particular driving the narrative of many of the tunes) to figure out what works best for him.

He named the collection after the gently hypnotic closing song "Twine" feels that the songs tie together in many ways. That tune in particular describes the feeling of hanging from a thread, knowing a relationship is about to end, yet enjoying every moment of potential beauty until that happens. "After being the lead singer in several previous bands where I was limited as a writer and performer to specific genres and audiences, the songs on my first solo album are kind of my bare bones, naked emotion," Bradshaw says.

"There's this common thread throughout where I feel like I'm reflecting and questioning why some relationships worked out and others didn't. It's definitely cathartic. Because I'm writing in a multitude of styles, there's also this unapologetic feeling with some of the songs about going bold face forward in exploring who I am and what works for me in relationships."

## **MUSIC**

The real joy in getting into Taylor Bradshaw's richly eclectic songs is never quite knowing what style he'll venture into next, but willingly going along for the ride because of his exciting musicianship, vocal modulations (from dynamic rock vocals to the aforementioned falsetto) and compelling storytelling ability. While "Our First Date" conveys the sheer euphoria of new love, other tracks like the similarly bright and catchy "The Bends" are a bit more measured in their insight. "The Bends" shows the brighter side of letting someone back into your life over and over again. It's about that conflict – self-destruction vs. that great, smile inducing feeling because there's so much good there. "Slow Dance" is a seductive and edgy pop/rock ballad that evolves coolly into a 50's pop/soul style for an ultimate artsy old school meets contemporary experience. Bradshaw uses the movement inherent in dance as a metaphor for the alternating push and pull, closeness and distance of a relationship.

On the surface, "Self-Indulgent" is an ultra-infectious slow burning pop-rock ballad whose chorus is an earworm you won't stop singing. But it's also Bradshaw's lowliest, most provocative tune, rendered with lighthearted, comical phrasing – an opportunity for him to "let it all out" and be unapologetic about who he really is deep down. Bradshaw sets the tone for the album on the spirited and uplifting clap-along opener "Celebrate" which is pretty much the ultimate "carpe diem" song. Time is quickly passing by, making the urgency to live fully, and right now, of primary importance.

## **ONSTAGE**

When he's plugged in and holding court during his full band shows, Bradshaw makes no apologies for cranking it up, getting loud and shredding to the point where blood streaks his guitar. His full band's live performance of these soon to be released tunes at Connelly's Klub in Times Square introduced his new project to an thick and exuberant crowd. That kind of energy is beautifully balanced by his acoustic performances at private house shows and other intimate venues where indie artists are showcased while a visual artist is painting on canvas offstage. These creative spaces have an open mic feel and allow Taylor Bradshaw to share his latest material with his many talented friends. It reminds him of his days in high school, when he would perform in the cafeteria as part of coffeehouse events which raised money for the school's literary magazine, which he contributed to by way of visual art and fiction stories.

Prior to his emergence as a solo artist and performer, Bradshaw was the front man in two different kinds of bands. Influenced by Radiohead, Arctic Monkeys and The Strokes, his high school alternative-rock band participated in many battles of the bands, and performed in Long Island hotspots like Brookhaven Amphitheater and Crazy Donkey. He later formed Real Horror Show, an alternative-rock/electronica duo with a sax player, headlined such venues as The Knitting Factory and Santo's Party House.

#### **NOTABLE LIVE PERFORMANCES**

Arlene's Grocery	- New York, NY	(With LA Girlfriend, Jess McAvoy)
Littlefield	- Brooklyn, NY	(With Loop Troupe)
The Well	- New York, NY	(With Cryo Child, At a Distance)
Berlin Under A	- New York, NY	(With The Screaming Eyeballs, Couvo)
Boom Room	- Philadelphia, PA	(With Joey Selinger)

#### **FROM THE BEGINNING**

Launching his career producing albums in his drummer's basement in high school, Taylor Bradshaw later studied in the Sonic Arts Program at the City College of New York, learning music production and classical music composition and theory. A working music producer and classical composer in school, he pivoted easily into the film industry where he undertook numerous indie film scoring jobs. He also began specializing in sound design and mixing post production audio and surround sound mixes for films, including recording sound on film sets. For several years now, he has been a versatile and invaluable part of the audio scene in NYC, seamlessly maneuvering between narrative film sets, orchestral recording sessions and – his definite favorite – punk rock shows.

In the same week, it's not uncommon for him to switch from recording a financial tech podcast to interviews with hip-hop artists, and then recording an emerging band's EP in his bedroom studio. "In terms of artistic expression," Bradshaw says, "I built my career around audio tech in the music industry to help me get better at those things and develop the technological and human resources to help me create my own independent projects. Being part of a vibrant creative community means I will always know people who can help me take these endeavors to the next level."

#### **REVIEW**

"An emerging artist who boldly follows his own freewheeling muses into many different exciting musical territories, Taylor Bradshaw is the grand epitome of what can happen in a world where independent music and vision are encouraged over strict genre categorization and pigeonholing. Thematically, the 27-year-old's debut album Twine may be all about love and relationships and trying to figure all the craziness out, but those stories are couched in a musical setting that whirl past the ears with breakneck speed with the constant ability to excite and surprise. He's got the punk spirit at heart, but he's also a folkie and loves to rock

till he bleeds. You never know where he's going to take you next, and that makes his generous 11 track album a wild and triumphant whirlwind". – **Jonathan Widran**

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**Spotify:**

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/72CIKiR684NhIQtPavQZeH?si=Gq9b16F8SdSkf1B7qWLJJA>

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