

# Vancouver's Did You Die releases video for "Vulnerable"

by John Lucas on January 12th, 2017 at 3:51 PM



Did You Die's Richie Felix Alexander and Katherine Kovna.

What a great day to be a shoegazer!

Earlier, we told you about Slowdive's first single in 22 years. A little closer to home, Vancouver's own Did You Die has released a video for the dream-hazed track "Vulnerable". It looks like director Richie Felix Alexander (who is also a member of the band) took advantage of our extended cold snap to capture some snowy footage. Check it out below:



"Vulnerable" is a first taste of Did You Die's forthcoming split album with Seattle's Hollow Giant. That comes out on February 28, and you can preorder it here.



And yet sometimes you get to witness a performance that makes you forget the categories you use to make sense of things, and the music is just music. This is what happened for the crowd when Swervedriver played the Biltmore Cabaret last Monday.

The term "shoegaze" is usually the first one associated with Swervedriver's music, so it made sense for Vancouver band Did You Die to open the night. Did You Die combine rocking bass riffs, intense drum grooves, and guitar chords that sounds like they're imploding to create a huge wall of sound. Guitarist and singer Richie Alexander follows in the tradition of his shoegaze/dream-pop predecessors with lethargic yet anguished whines and moans, yet not without injecting some kind of individuality. That's one really nice thing about this kind of music: there's certainly a signature sound that ties all of the bands together, yet the no-rules approach lets groups as diverse as Amusement Parks on Fire, A Place To Bury Strangers, and Giant Drag hang in roughly the same space.

## BEST OF VANCOUVER Best of bands 2016: Did You Die

By John Lucas on September 23rd, 2016 at 6:00 PM



Every Sunday, Did You Die has a six-hour jam session at CRAB Park, much to the annoyance of area residents.

Richie Felix Alexander is the singing, guitar-slinging frontman for Did You Die, which also features James Green on drums, Maria Turner on bass, and Matt Pappadopoulos on guitar. The band's latest album, *Weird Love*, is for anyone who flew the flannel through the era of shoegaze and grunge—or just wish that they had.

### RELATED STORIES

Best of Vancouver 2016: Our favourite local musicians share theirs

**Best local release other than yours:** It's really hard to pick one album, so it's come down to a major tossup for me. I can't get enough of either of these albums and have spun them an equal amount of times, day after day, month after month. Twin River's *Passing Shade* is a perfectly crafted, dreamy indie rock record.

Softess's *Absolute Truth* is not for the faint of heart and definitely a banger. I find myself feeling really uplifted when it's on.

The year's best gig: DIIV with Sunflower Bean and No Joy at Fortune Sound Club on October 20 [2015]. It was a magical night and the first time I saw Sunflower Bean live! DIIV played new songs from *Is the Is Are* that night and they were extremely powerful live. The audience was really into both bands; DIIV had like a '90s-era mosh-pit/stage-diving thing going for their set. The funniest thing was that when a few kids asked Zachary Cole Smith about merch, he responded that the new album wasn't printed yet and that they had no T-shirts—almost as if he didn't have a band. A true slacker kid. Something we can all relate to.

Hootsuite's Ryan Holmes is paying. Where's the money? I'm very skeptical—sounds like some tech-startups and dine us, we would like someone to take us to N

KHAYSANLAND

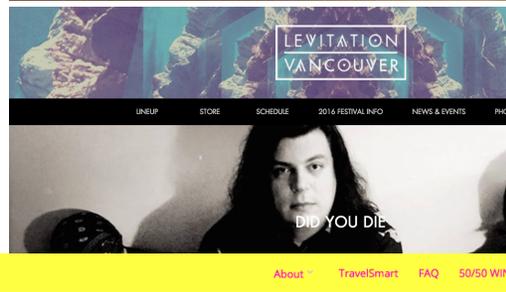
## Fresh and local

### DID YOU DIE WEIRD LOVE (INDEPENDENT)

One listen to *Weird Love* and you'll probably be able to piece together a pretty good picture of what's in Did You Die frontman and chief sonic architect Richie Alexander's record collection. "Pretty Faces" coasts along on a wall of

hoegazing noise like a Ride B-side. "Hey What's Wrong" is noisy enough rocker to get Jesus and Mary Chain fans hot and bothered, and the verse melody of "So Empty" is shamelessly lifted from Sonic Youth's "Titanium Exposé". All of which is to say that if your happy place, musically speaking, is the indie-rock underground of the '80s and early '90s, Did You Die is your new favourite band.

R 26 - DECEMBER 3 / 2015 THE GEORGIA STRAIGHT



## DID YOU DIE



5:00pm on the Mobi Stage at Balsam Street

Hailing from Vancouver, BC, Did You Die is an indie rock band that combines shoegaze and grunge elements in their sound. Formed in late 2014, originally as a way for main singer/songwriter Richie Felix Alexander to release new material, the band took off with multiple releases, a great live that has seen them share the stage with the likes of Swervedriver, Yuck, Mystery Machine, SIANSPHERIC, Nothing and The Lemon Twigs to name a

With label interest swarming the band, 2017 will see the band record their debut album titled 'Royal Unicorn' with wiz kid engineer Jordan Koop (Courtneys, Dead Soft, War Baby). Major tour plans to follow. A must see attraction when they hit your city. Stay tuned for more...

## Did You Die - Careless & All That Is Now EPs

Wednesday 04th, March 2015 / 16:21 in Record Reviews, REVIEWS

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By Sean Orr



### Sizzle Teen Records

Borrowing from the shoegaze pedigree of their previous band Fantasy Prom, Richard Alexander and Rafael Ceppitelli's new project Did You Die offers up two new EPs, a resume of what's to come by exploring what has passed.

Offering two originals and three covers on All That Is Now, band, drummer Jamie Cressford, is laying out a blueprint for their brand of '90s fuzz rock. Eric's Trio, Matthew Sweet and

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### [NYP] カナダのオルタナティブロックバンド Did You Dieが新作から'Wonderland'のMVを公開



youtube/Hym6Jic12-g

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quarta-feira, 27 de maio de 2015

### Freak Scene with Did You Die - An Interview



Dinosaur Jr, Swervedriver, MBV são a base para o ruído do Did You Die, diretamente do Canadá, os caras tem uma infinidade de singles, eps e produzem como tocam, em altíssima velocidade.

Uma boa pedida para adentrar ao mundo estridente do Did You Die é através do EP Wonderland, lançado em Abril, uma cacetada atrás da outra.

E se por acaso fica alguma dúvida se os caras estão podendo, eles SÓ, vão abrir pro Swervedriver em Vancouver, preciso falar mais alguma coisa?

## Did You Die

"What we learned from the other bands is don't try to do too much — just do one thing awesome."

by Natalie Hoy

"Life is only as complicated as you make it," according to the members of Did You Die.

Take their name, for example. Attention-grabbing and direct, I hoped for a rousing account of its origins as I sat down with the grunge rock outfit before their Biltmore Cabaret show. Vocalist and guitarist Richie Alexander is, however, swift to dismiss its death-defying tone.

"Our friend Grace teased that while she was waiting for me once, I was really late," Alexander explains. In search of a namesake for their new project, the phrase stuck.



"A lot less dramatic than you might think," drummer Jamie Cessford adds with a laugh.

Along with Rafael Ceppetelli on bass, the three-piece has been immersed in the Vancouver music scene for quite some time in various capacities. Alexander and Ceppetelli have played in a few bands together — most notably shoegaze act Fantasy Prom. Cessford co-hosts his own radio show, focussing on the city's underground music scene. With an inventory of songs already written by Alexander, Did You Die's first singles began surfacing online in September, culminating in the release of their debut EP, *Careless*, in January.

Written and recorded in Alexander's home studio, the EP features five originals and a cover of The Yardbirds' moody hit "Heart Full of Soul." "We get along well, and I think that's more important than how musically talented you are," says Alexander of the collaborative effort. "There is a friendship that didn't really exist in some other bands."

His counterparts nod in agreement, noting their minimalist approach as key in their hopeful longevity.

"What we learned from the other bands is don't try to do too much — just do one thing awesome," Ceppetelli chimes in. "That is what we are living with."



Drenched in hazy vocals and chord-heavy distortion, *Careless* explores '90s post-punk nostalgia with a charmingly novel perspective. "All the Way Her" is a jangly rock number, while "Forever Knows When" employs lo-fi drones and melancholic vocal delivery in its seven-minute tenure. Their rendition of "Heart Full of Soul" is of particular importance to Alexander, who has been listening to The Yardbirds since he was a child.

"I liked the lyrics; I could relate to them," he shares. "Lyrical themes, for me, are based on real-life experiences. I prefer the raw, introspective emotion." When asked to sum up their sound, Cessford also references the impact of his youth. "It's a nice combination of the things I listened to growing up — pop punk and grunge, and trying to find a marriage between the two."

Averse to the perceived standards in releasing music these days, Did You Die took a slightly different approach in the release of their EP. Instead of releasing a single and churning their time and energy into heavy promotion for said EP, the band released five singles over four months — unveiling *Careless* with almost no warning.

"Please play more shows, Womankind!" adds Ceppetelli. "Play shows with us."

Concise and honest, the members of Did You Die refuse to be defined by process or sound, keeping their drama-free creative juices flowing into the slacker-rock aesthetic they hone so well. "We draw our inspiration from getting together and writing songs," Ceppetelli maintains. "There is nothing behind it. It's just like, this is what it is."

Fuzz-tinged melodies and crashing guitars never seemed so simple.

*Careless* is available for digital download via Did You Die's Bandcamp page. You can also catch the band live at The Hindenburg on February 7, alongside The Dead Zones, Ornament & Crime, and Wild/Kind.

DISCORNER

## [WATCH] DID YOU DIE – I FELT I NEVER HAD YOU

Mark Anthony Brennan • June 23, 2015 • Alternative, Canadian, Music, Shoegaze, Watch • 943



Did You Die release a video to "I Felt I Never Had You". It seems the prolific shoegaze outfit have done teasing us with EPs (excellent thought they were) are now poised to drop their debut full-length "Wild Love" sometime this summer. Gonna be good....

## DID YOU DIE?

### weird and wired recording project springs to life

Did You Die aren't afraid to bring new material to life. With a year full of four self-released EPs and seven singles, the Vancouver-based fuzzed-out shoegaze project led by Richie Alexander has found a home for their debut full length, *Weird Love*, on California based indie label, Wiener Records. An offshoot of Burger Records, the label operates on a quasi-egalitarian pay-to-play model where bands can buy their way on to the roster by paying for the manufacturing costs in exchange for social media outreach and distribution through the label's web site.

"Burger formed Wiener to sign indie acts with a sound that was basically ignored by the music industry," says Alexander. "With the label gaining priority because they marketed the hell over the bands, like how Sub use to, it has opened up a new world for bands. Sales are also good use kids just eat up anything newer, thus making the label profitable."

It matters how Did You Die gets

their music out to all those perked up ears out there, Alexander is happy to have an outlet to channel all of his creative energy into.

"The songs come in waves to me," Alexander says. "I'll then show the demos to Ben Lowe (bassist) to see what he thinks and we pick the ones we like. So it is fully spontaneous. People ask me how I wrote certain songs on this album and I don't even really remember because it just came to me at the same time a bunch of other songs came to me, if that makes any sense. I'm just trying to document the experience and not forget them."

The band originally started with Alexander and a rotating cast of free-flowing members. But as time goes on, he says things are starting to look a lot more cemented in a traditional band set up.

A live feel surrounds the bass filled songs on *Weird Love*, as vocals struggle to fight through the hazy half-baked riffs with post-punk undertones. Showing their melodic pop sensibilities in tracks like "So Empty," and

their catchy chorus tags in "Hard on Me." Did You Die up the energy while trading very familiar territory.

Recorded at Little Red Sound in Vancouver by lo-fi luminary Felix Fung, who also happens to be an occasional Did You Die member, Alexander says the two share the same vision on how albums should sound and flow.

"During the process, your songs develop into something more. Our ability to take influences from shoe-

gaze, grunge, pop, and modern sound, developed with someone. Now with a place, you can't record songs until you Die release this month.

Did You Die pre November 21



Finding inspiration in new places Did You Die? ready the

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## Local rock band Did You Die to release debut LP on November 17

BY YASMINE SHEMESH  
3:00 PM PDT, TUE OCTOBER 27, 2015

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It's no secret that Vancouver is a breeding ground for extremely talented and hard working musicians. Amongst some of the most ambitious are local slacker-rockers Did You Die who, in just one year, have released four EPs and seven singles, as well as opening up for bands like Swervedriver, Birdstriking, and Dead Leaf Echo.

Now, the trio comprised of Richie Alexander (vocals/guitar), Ben Lowe (bass), and Nathan Pope (drums) are poised to drop their very first full-length effort on November 17 through California-based indie label, Wiener Records. The 10-track album, titled *Weird Love*, is entirely penned and composed by lead singer Alexander and is all gorgeous grungy shoe-gaze. Produced by Felix Fung (Spectres, Needles/Pins, Chains Of Love), it also features cameo vocals by guest musicians Luke Rogalsky of Mystery Machine and Poor Traits' Alex Badger.

*Weird Love* will be released physically on cassette, with a vinyl version likely to follow next year. Did You Die also plans to hit the road on a tour in support of the new record in the near future.

The album release party for *Weird Love* will be held at SBC in East Vancouver on Saturday November 21.

## exclaim! ✖️#

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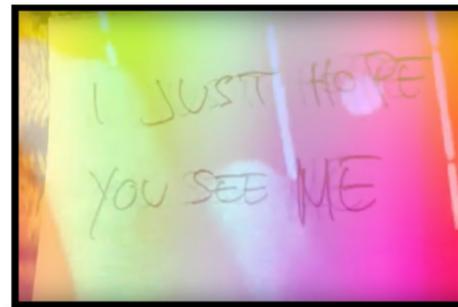
## Did You Die "Pretty Faces" (video)

By Calum Slingerland  
Published Mar 24, 2016

Vancouver slacker rock trio *Did You Die* will be showing off cuts from their debut record, *Weird Love*, when they provide support for Yuck at the city's **Fortune Sound Club on March 29**. Before you head out to catch them, though, Exclaim! has your first look at bright new video for album cut "Pretty Faces."

Shot, directed and edited by Richie Alexander, the video pairs the group's deep, reverberant track with clips of band members, friends and lyric sheets. A rainbow filter and a wealth of layering effects ensure there's no shortage of visual appeal.

*Weird Love* is out now on **Wiener Records**. Watch the band's colourful clip for "Pretty Faces" in the player below.



Hey **Dead Leaf Echo**, introduce yourselves.

We are LG: Guitar, Vocals Ana B.: Guitar, Vocals Kevin K: Drum Steve S: Bass

What's the concept behind split cassette with Did You Die?

We played this wild techno party in Vancouver with them before the van broke down in British Columbia. It was ultimately the last show of our west coast tour last year. We knew there was something special there and they had suggested we do something collectively together. We have these 2 tracks that aren't going to be on our new album so it worked out perfectly for this tape release. Plus we've never released any music on that format so that's cool.

### All-time favourite video

Seriously? I think most videos are horrible. Too clever and just straight-up bore me. So this video goes out to my friend and namesake Richie Felix Alexander from the band Did You Die. He makes my favourite videos. Done in four hrs on his iPhone 6. He showed me this Sonic Youth Video for their song "Shadow of a Doubt". It's just a girl on a train.



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## DID YOU DIE



Did You Die is the nom-de-plume of **Richie Felix Alexander**, musical provocateur and front-man of an atmospheric and autumnally-charged Vancouver four-piece. Alexander, who has been deemed prolific by countless music publications, released *7 singles and 4 EPs in the first 10 months of the band's existence.*

These releases organically found their way into the hearts and minds of college radio and like-minded press outlets. With the buzz swarming around Did You Die, the band found themselves sharing the stage with the likes of **Swervedriver** and Brooklyn NY's **Dead Leaf Echo** after only playing 5 previous shows.

In the midst of self made releases and higher profile live shows, Alexander teamed up with indie producer **Felix Fung** (Chains Of Love, Needles//Pins, Spectres) to record the band's first cassette and physical release, '**Weird Love**'.

Released on Wiener Records in November 2015, 'Weird Love' further propelled Did You Die as the cassette charted at #5 nationwide on Canadian college radio for over 4 months. Press also caught on quickly to this 'hip' new band's cassette and praised its on-purpose mid-fi production, filled with a slew of catchy indie-esq songs that resembled *Dinosaur Jr being assaulted by Husker Du on a tight rope*.

'**Weird Love**' saw the bands reach a higher profile landing slots on the coveted **Levitation Festival, Music Waste Festival** and supported acts such as **Yuck, Nothing, The Lemon Twigs, Wrong, Sunflower Bean, Culture Abuse and Creative Adult**. The band also toured in support of 'Weird Love' in spring of 2016. Did You Die began crossing over between the indie rock and punk scenes gaining fans from both communities.



In addition to the band's impressive live show fans, press and college radio really attached themselves to Alexander's music videos he made for '**I Felt I Never Had You**' and '**Pretty Faces**' both found on '**Weird Love**'. Alexander purposely built the band to be found organically, and these videos only further propelled the band's popularity. That said, Alexander knew he had to keep working. Accolades rolled in for all of Did You Die's hard work put forth promoting '**Weird Love**', and the band was deemed *Vancouver's best alternative act in The Georgia Straight's 'Best Of 2016' special edition issue*.

Late 2016 saw a split cassette between Did You Die and **Dead Leaf Echo** released on cassette by Dallas TX label **Moon Sounds Records**, followed by a split single between Did You Die and Seattle WA's **Hollow Giant**, which was hyped for 2 months before it was released late February 2017. Did You Die and Hollow Giant supported their split release by touring the Pacific NorthWest. Not to mention, Alexander made a video for '**Vulnerable**', the first song on the Hollow Giant split, **which reached over 20,000 views on YouTube** and landed a feature in *Vancouver's entertainment magazine, 'The Georgia Straight'*.

With the new popularity of '**Vulnerable**', which not only got attention on Canadian college radio, but UK college radio stations as well as internet and satellite radio picked up the song. 2017 has seen Did You Die continue to play higher profile shows landing a prime time slot at **Khatsalano Music Festival**, more touring, as well as supporting slots for **Dead Heavens** (Walter Schriefel of Quicksand fame's new band), **Mystery Machine** and **SIANspheric**.



During 2017 Alexander penned his best work to date and in June of this year, the band teamed up with wiz kid engineer **Jordan Koop** (The Courtney's, Dead Soft, War Baby) and recorded what Alexander considers their debut album, '**Royal Unicorn**', at Koop's **The Noise Floor** studio in Gabriola, BC. The album was mastered in July and August of the same year by up and coming engineer **Evan Matthiesen**. The album is the band's best version of themselves with countless potential singles featured throughout the album, not to mention the band's best recording to date.

With '**Royal Unicorn**' in the bag, the band plans to partner with a notable indie label interested in a release format which includes vinyl, cassette and digital. Extensive tour plans are in the works for North America and Europe. Did You Die will span their wings far and wide throughout the indie rock community and bring their impressive live show, which is now backed by a gorgeously recorded album in 2018 and beyond. *Alexander works exclusively with long time friend Wesley Hutchison Cook (ex All State Champion) on bass, Katherine Marie Kovna who sings and plays guitar and Brazilian import, Felipe Galdino on drums.*

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Did You Die can be found on Spotify and Apple Music

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## NOTES