

Parquet Courts Biography

Recorded over the course of a year against a backdrop of personal instability, Parquet Courts' new record, *Human Performance*, massively expands the idea of what a Parquet Courts record can be. They've been one of the most critically acclaimed bands of the last 5 years; this is the record that backs all those words up.

"Every day it starts, anxiety," began the first song on 2014's *Content Nausea*. Those were essentially the song's only lyrics, but *Human Performance* picks up where that thought left off, picking apart the anxieties of modern life: "The unavoidable noise of NYC that can be maddening, the kind of the impossible struggle against clutter, whether it's physical or mental or social," says singer, guitarist and *Human Performance* producer/mixer Austin Brown.

There has always been the emotional side of Parquet Courts, which has always had an important balance with the more discussed cerebral side, but Savage sees *Human Performance* as a redistribution of weight in that balance. "I began to question my humanity, and if it was always as sincere as I thought, or if it was a performance," says Savage. "I felt like a sort of malfunctioning apparatus," he says. "Like a machine programmed to be human showing signs of defect."

The sonic diversity, time, and existential effort that went into its creation makes *Human Performance* Parquet Courts' most ambitious record to date. It's a work of incredible creative vision born of seemingly insurmountable adversity. It is also their most accessible record yet.