

# RICH AUCOIN

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Rich Aucoin has never been one to do things normally. You know the stories by now: he toured across Canada on a bike for the Childhood Cancer Foundation - confirming the east coast while on the radio in the west. On next tour, he ran a half-marathons for Heart And Stroke while at the same time recording 2011's We're All Dying To Live, featuring over 500 players. His first EP, Personal Publication, syncs up perfectly with "How The Grinch Stole Christmas" and 2014's Ephemeral with "The Little Prince". How every show features a custom video opening and a party under a parachute and at the end of that show, he puts his phone number up and you texted him.. and you probably hung out with him.

It shouldn't surprise you to learn that when Aucoin's computer was stolen on a surf trip in Costa Rica in 2016, along with it went every single recorded file for the new album. Gone. All but one completely finished new song which he had sent to his manager. That song was to be the first song of the album. It's now the last song on the even newer album. And that album? He didn't just start over - he made his best work ever: Spanning through electro-jungle variations to joyous and catchy orchestral pop.

That song he managed to save? That was the first single from Rich's "Hold" EP, released March 16. "Release" is a sprawling instrumental which features the drumming of Broken Social Scene's Justin Peroff. The heavy electro track is built upon vocal samples and pads sung and manipulated by Aucoin which weave in and out of Peroff's hard-panned grooves and modulating synths.

At each show, fans can expect a joyous celebratory vent - his positive life-affirming shows have often been described as a natural antidepressant. "Aucoin's sweat-soaked shows are near legendary events of mosh-pit euphoria, surfboard situations, and dancing underneath a multicoloured parachute..." - **Globe & Mail**.