The Shins

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The Shins are an American indie rock band comprising singer, songwriter, and guitarist James Russell Mercer, keyboardist/guitarist/bassist Martin Crandall, bassist/guitarist Dave Hernandez, drummer Jesse Sandoval, and Eric Johnson of the Fruit Bats. Their sound draws on several musical genres, including pop, alternative rock, alternative country, and folk. The Shins formed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but are now based in Portland, Oregon.

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History

From Flake Music to The Shins (1992–2000)

The Shins began in 1997 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as a side project of Mercer (previously of Blue Roof Dinner) and Neal Langford, both members of the lo-fi musical group Flake (formed in 1992). By 1999, Flake (now Flake Music) had disbanded and its former members became The Shins. (The name was based on a fictional family in the Broadway show The Sound of Music.)

The Shins' debut album, Oh, Inverted World (2000), was released on Sub Pop and includes the singles "New Slang" and "Breakfast Bar." They released their second album, Chutes Too Narrow (2003), which included the single "Sirens." They released their third album, Wincing the Night Away (2007), which included the singles "PHFMT (Are You Recalling?)" and "Port of Call." They released their fourth album, Your Chimney (2013), which included the single "Some Things Just Know." They released their fifth album, Heartworms (2017), which included the single "So Much Love." They released their sixth album, Heartworms: Part 2 (2019), which included the single "Gentleman." They released their seventh album, No. 1 in English (2021), which included the single "An Innkeeper."
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The Shins performing in London, March 2007

#### Background information

- **Origin**: Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States
- **Genre(s)**: Alternative rock, Indie rock, Indie pop
- **Years active**: 1997–present
- **Label(s)**: Sub Pop (2000–2009), Transgressive (distributing label), Cargo Records (distributing label)
- **Website**: [www.theshins.com](http://www.theshins.com)

#### Members

- James Mercer
- Martin Crandall
- Dave Hernandez
- Eric Johnson
- Jesse Sandoval

#### Former members


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