vulfpeck the ultimate guide

compiled by <u>Allegra Rosenberg</u>
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ABOUT THE BAND



Vulfpeck is a rhythm section formed in 2011 in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan, with Jack Stratton, Woody Goss, Theo Katzman, and Joe Dart. As of 2017, they have released 4 EPs and 2 LPs, worked with a variety of different musical guests, and played shows across the world.

Follow Vulfpeck:

<u>Official Website</u> · <u>Facebook</u> · <u>Twitter</u> · <u>Instagram</u> · <u>YouTube</u> · <u>Mailing List</u>

Listen to Vulfpeck:

Bandcamp · SoundCloud · iTunes · Spotify

Contact Vulfpeck:

Booking · **General Mail**



Jack Stratton

"I run a digital label. That's what I DO. That's who I- it's who I AM now."

Jack Stratton (aka Mushy Krongold, Vulfmon, DJ Paradiddle) is Vulfpeck's founder, maestro, manager, bandleader, drummer, keyboardist, and guitarist. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan's Performing Arts Technology program. During college, he formed big-band funk group Groove Spoon and experimented with multimedia. The concept of Vulfpeck was inspired by an interview with Reinhold Mack he read, and put into action as a recording session for a friend's thesis project in early 2011. Jack's innovative fusion of composition, comedy, and contemporary digital strategy continues to get funkier.

Follow Jack:

<u>Twitter</u> • <u>Instagram</u> • <u>Facebook</u> • <u>Vine</u>

Listen To Jack:

Bandcamp • Spotify

Choice Jack Content:

<u>Jack Stratton awesomeness</u>
<u>DJ Paradiddle feature</u> ("This is where I create *los betos.*")

Building A Groove

<u>Vulfmon (Jack Stratton) Solo - "VULF WAS BORN"</u>

<u>Christine Hucal - "California"</u> (featuring Jack & Anna Ash as dancers)

Sound Effects (Tin Can Bros comedy sketch)

My First Instrument - Jack Stratton

Jack Stats:

Born 10/7/1987 in Cleveland
Graduated U of M in 2010
Was in an improv comedy troupe in college
Has a deep love for Trader Joe's
Doesn't give a fuck

His father, Bert Stratton, leads klezmer band Yiddishe Cup & writes regular New York Times editorials



Theo Katzman

"I invented a technology, and they stole it from me— the guys in Stuttgart—!"

Theo Katzman is Vulfpeck's drummer and guitarist. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan's Jazz & Contemplative Studies major. He played in dance-punk band My Dear Disco until 2009, released his debut solo album *Romance Without Finance* in 2011, & toured as Darren Criss's opening act, drummer, and musical director on his Listen Up! Tour in 2013. He is an extremely talented multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and songwriter, and his new solo album *Heartbreak Hits* was released in January 2017.

Follow Theo:

<u>Official Website</u> • <u>Twitter</u> • <u>Instagram</u> • <u>Facebook</u> • <u>Vine</u> • <u>YouTube</u>

Listen To Theo:

<u>iTunes</u> • <u>Spotify</u> • <u>Bandcamp</u>

Choice Theo Content:

Every Few Days - 6/30/13 Silver Spring, MD (on Listen Up tour)

Theo Katzman — Hard for You

Do As The Romans Do - 9/23/13 Evanston, IL (w/ Jack, Joey, Joe)

Theo Katzman + (((Love Massive))) (Diddle Locational S01E02)

<u>Trem Control — Theo Katzman</u>

Germinate to Activate Vol. 3: THEO KATZMAN

Post show ritual

<u>Theo Katzman Tour Diary: A Day In The Life of Darren Criss' Opening Act</u>
<u>My First Instrument - Theo Katzman</u>

Theo Stats:

Born 4/2/1986 in Long Island
Graduated U of M in 2008
Amazing cook, apparently
Likes tank tops and rock songs
His father was Lee Katzman, renowned jazz trumpeter



Joe Dart

"Here's something funny about us. We all have funny nicknames."

Joe Dart is Vulfpeck's bassist. He studied bass at the University of Michigan. While in college, he played with Jack's band Groove Spoon alongside Antwaun Stanley, and eventually joined Ella Riot (fka My Dear Disco). He was a featured player on the 2012 debut record of Irish fusion group The Olllam, and played on Darren Criss's Listen Up! Tour alongside Jack and Theo. He is regarded as one of the best Fender bass players of his age bracket.

Follow Joe:

<u>Twitter</u> • <u>Facebook</u> • <u>Instagram</u> • <u>Vine</u>

Choice Joe Content:

Joe Dart is 22 and on the way to Nashville

first vid - practice session - 15-year-old Joe getting funky

Joedarte

2006 interview with Joe & his high school band

Ernie Ball Music Man StingRay 4 Bass: Joe Dart Demos

Joe Dart (Vulfpeck) Insane Bass Solo

Joe Stats: Born 4/18/91 in Harbor Springs, MI

Did not graduate U of M

Has owned the same Mexican Fender J-bass since he was a teenager

His maternal grandfather was renowned violinist Israel "Izzy" Baker of *Psycho* fame



Woody Goss

"Mm! Mm! Mmm! ...Mahogany!"

Woody Goss is Vulfpeck's keyboardist. Like Theo, he majored in Jazz and Contemplative Studies at the University of Michigan. In college, he played in Charlene Kaye's band and booked shows at campus venue Canterbury House (including Groove Spoon shows). Nomadic and enigmatic, since graduation he's lived in Texas, Utah, and Michigan, with stints as a park ranger, research assistant, care worker, and music teacher. He toured America and Ireland with the Olllam in 2013 and 2014 alongside Theo and Joe, and has released solo albums of covers and his own compositions.

Woody's Links:

Bandcamp • YouTube

Choice Woody Content:

George Fellowman and his Group (Woody & Joe, + Julian Allen)

Featured Alumnus: Woody Goss Interview with Stamps Foundation

Woody Goss: A Birdwatching Adventure in Central Park

Vulfpeck's Woody Goss Gives Wild Interview About Burritos And Space

Bird Quiz #27

Woody Goss shreds

Woody Stats:

Born in Skokie, IL Went to the same high school as me:)

Graduated U of M in 2011 An avid birdwatcher, naturalist, thinker, and all-around real-life Renaissance man

VULFPECK RELEASES

Mit Peck (2011)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

Beastly
It Gets Funkier
Rango
Cars Too
Prom
Tomboy

Vollmilch (2012)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

Outro*
A Walk To Remember*
Adrienne & Adrianne
It Gets Funkier II*
Barbara
Mean Girls

*feat. Joey Dosik

My First Car (2013)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

Wait For The Moment^
The Birdwatcher
The Speedwalker
My First Car
Kuhmilch 74 BPM*
It Gets Funkier III*

*feat. Joey Dosik
^feat. Antwaun Stanley

Fugue State (2014)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

Fugue State

1612^
First Place
Skymall
Christmas in L.A. (Instrumental)
Newsbeat

^feat. Antwaun Stanley

Thrill Of The Arts (2015)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

Welcome To Vulf Records*

The Beautiful Game (2016)

<u>iTunes</u> · <u>Spotify</u> · <u>Bandcamp</u> · <u>YouTube</u>

The Sweet Science~

Back Pocket^o\$&
Funky Duck^\$
Rango II+
Game Winner*#%
Walkies

Christmas in L.A.%
Conscious Club (Instrumental)\$
Smile Meditation≠

Guided Smile Meditation

*feat. Joey Dosik
^feat. Antwaun Stanley
\$ feat. Richie Rodriguez

feat. Tyler Duncan
% feat. David T. Walker
feat. Charles Jones

1 feat. Christine Hucal
1 +feat. Blake Mills
2 feat. Mark Dover

Animal Spirits²@

Dean Town@

Conscious Club\$@=

El Chepe;

1 for 1, DiMaggio^@

Daddy, He Got A Tesla*;

Margery, My First Car²@

Aunt Leslie^@A

Cory Wong@

*feat. Joey Dosik
^feat. Antwaun Stanley
\$ feat. Richie Rodriguez

º feat. Christine Hucal
 @ feat. Cory Wong
 ~feat. Michael Winograd
¡ feat. Pegasus Warning & Jamire Williams
¿ feat. Adam Levy & Rich Hinman
 = feat. Laura Mace
 Δ feat. Bethanni Grecynski

Other Releases

Sleepify
Santa Baby (Woody's Demo)
Something
Flow State

VULFPECK CONTENT

Disclaimer: I am a historian, not a librarian. This is not an exhaustive list, merely one containing the shit that I deem to be good shit.

Full Show Videos

3/27/15 - The Satellite, Los Angeles, CA

4/21/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL 4/22/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL (Set 1) 4/22/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL (Set 2) 4/23/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL (Set 1) 4/23/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL (Set 2) 4/24/15 - The Blind Pig, Ann Arbor, MI 8/29/15 - Beat Kitchen, Chicago, IL 8/30/15 - Tonic Room, Chicago, IL 4/2/16 - Fool's Paradise, FL 4/22/16 - Joy Theater, New Orleans, LA 4/23/16 - Orpheum Theater, New Orleans, LA 4/24/16 - Tipitinas, New Orleans, LA 6/4/16 - The Neutral Zone, Ann Arbor, MI 6/9/16 - Bonnaroo 2016 6/22/16 - Teragram Ballroom, Los Angeles, CA 8/25/16 - Lockn 2016 Set 1 8/26/16 - Lockn 2016 Set 2 9/9/16 - Brooklyn Bowl NYC Night 2

Quality Live Videos

VULFPECK first live performance EVER - 6/13/13 Ann Arbor, MI Vulfpeck - Live @ Rockwood Music Hall - 10/4/13 New York, NY Vulfpeck - Rango (Live) - 9/18/14 San Luis Obispo, CA <u>Vulfpeck - It Gets Funkier & I Wish LIVE</u> - 9/21/14 Chicago, IL Vulfpeck - Christmas in LA (with lyrics) - 9/22/14 Chicago, IL Vulfpeck - Dancing in the Moonlight featuring Darren Criss - 3/27/15 Los Angeles, CA Vulfpeck - "Fugue State" - 4/25/15 Bellaire, MI Wait For The Moment - 8/27/15 Ann Arbor, MI VULFPECK feat. BLAKE MILLS - RANGO II - 10/9/15 Los Angeles, CA VULFPECK - Time Inflation (Message to R2) [Mocky Cover] - 10/14/15 Los Angeles, CA Vulfpeck 4K - Fugue State~My First Car - 11/21/15 - Brooklyn, NY Vulfpeck house party set - 1/29/16 Los Angeles, CA Vulfpeck, Cory Henry and Antwaun Stanley - 4/2/16 Fool's Paradise, FL Vulfpeck - Conscious Club - Live at Shorts Brewery - 4/30/16 Bellaire, MI Vulfpeck Covers "I Want You Back" - 6/23/16 Los Angeles, CA Vulfpeck 4K - Kid Charlemagne w/Bernard Purdie - 9/8/16 Brooklyn, NY

Best of Vulf Channel

MUSHY /// New Orleans Groove Drum Lesson

VULF TWO /// Bernard Purdie & Cory Henry
He's The Greatest Dancer
Krongold & Shtein | Vulfmon Travels
MUSHY /// The Game
Learn To Fly (Without Wings)
Sugar's House - Process
VULFPECK /// Kickstarter
Craigs Stewarts — Interactive YouTube Vocal Lesson

Other Vital Videos

Vulfpeck "Problems" Live at the BlindBlindTiger.com Speakeasy

Redbull.tv Interview with Jack @ Bonnaroo 2016 ("You took me there!")

We're GOING to the MOUNTAINTOP

Vulfpeck "1612" // SiriusXM // Jam On

<u>chat w/ jack stratton</u> (I interviewed Jack. it got advanced. 35mins)
 <u>Who? With Vulfpeck</u> ("No, those are cereals.")
 <u>Vulfpeck Live guest appearance</u> (covering Superstition w/ Antwaun at a Yiddishe Cup gig)

Text Interviews

<u>Song Exclusive: Vulfpeck's "The Birdwatcher"</u> - No Treble 8/2/13 "I talk about getting a SAAB or Volvo because Sweden is so funky, but Dart pulled the trigger — respect."

Vulfpeck Releases "My First Car" - No Treble 8/6/13

"I dropped a drum stick at Baldwin-Wallace College with my Dad's klezmer band when I was ten, and I've never been the same. I wept onto the Donato's Pizza backstage and literally ate my tears."

Vulfpeck Keeps It Beastly - Jambands.com 1/12/14

"I can assure you our band has the least amount of time spent together vs. international success in history."

'Silent Spotify Album' Creator Talks Strategy Behind Unique Plan - Rolling Stone 3/21/14

One Band Have Worked Out a Way to Cheat Spotify out of Money - Noisey 3/27/14

"Q: Which location has the most Vulfpeck fans so far?

A: Ann Arbor, I have no idea why."

<u>Does The Market Reward Musical Talent?: Vulfpeck, Spotify, and the Changing Face Of The Music</u> <u>Industry</u> - WUPR 5/7/14

<u>The Band That Tried To Make Money From Spotify Has Been Banned From Spotify</u> - VICE Motherboard 5/7/14

"We turned down a \$250,000 T-Mobile ad because they never offered it to us in the first place."

Vulfpeck's Jack Stratton talks about U-M, 'Sleepify' and Spotify - MLive 5/12/14

Can't Fake The Funk: The Story of Vulfpeck's Start - Medium 5/18/15

"...I called [Jack] the next day, and was like, 'Hey, man, was he a freak?' and he just goes, 'He was a TOTAL FREAK,' and it was Joe Dart. So that's how I met Joe."

New thrills from Vulfpeck - Medium 10/2/15

"Things are getting progressively more absurd with the lyrics I give (Stanley), then he just destroys it,' Stratton said."

<u>The Benefits of Owning Your Masters in A Streaming World</u> - Songspace 2/11/16 "Our marketing strategy is very Jewish. There is no outreach."

Vulfpeck keeps the funk on its own terms - Columbia Chronicle 2/15/16

"A fun tidbit about us is that Theo and myself—our best instrument is bass, but we've never touched it with Joe Dart on stage; there's just no reason to."

Group At Work: Vulfpeck - Relix 2/17/16

An Interview With Vulfpeck - Sine Media 6/9/16

"I couldn't have predicted how good that felt — being able to pay people to come to our show. It was incredible."

<u>Vulfpeck's Woody Goss Gives Wild Interview About Burritos And Space</u> - Live For Live Music 10/5/16 "It's so sad to see Joe Dart perfectly poach eggs for us all and then go and be an utter disappointment on electric bass that he is."

<u>Vulfpeck: The Gamewinners</u> - Bandcamp 10/17/16 (I wrote this.) ""My dad taught me to pay musicians day-of," recalls Stratton. "It's in the Talmud."

<u>Then & Now: Theo Katzman Discusses What It Means To Be Vulfpeck</u> - L4LM 10/18/16
"I hear about every Vulf release from either Joe's mom, my mom, somebody forwarding an email ... I never know! Jack is the absolute master of the internet."

<u>Interview: Vulfpeck's Jack Stratton talks production and confidence in changing sound</u> - Stanford Daily 12/8/16

"Gotta keep doing crazy stuff, and we're already thinking of more crazy stuff."

Vulpeck's Theo Katzman Shares His Heartbreak Hits - Jambands.com 2/21/17

"I really think Vulfpeck is a phenomenon and I don't anticipate anything like it happening in my life again."

Quality Show/Music Reviews

<u>Sold-out Vulfpeck brings formidable funk to Blind Pig</u> - Michigan Daily 4/26/15

<u>Vulfpeck's homecoming- The Blind Pig - Ann Arbor, MI</u> - Realfeelstv 5/15/15

<u>"Thrill Of The Arts" by Vulfpeck Review</u> - Wall Street Journal 10/13/15

<u>Vulfpeck's "Flow State" @ Savage Smyth, Chicago, IL</u> - Realfeelstv 6/7/16

<u>Brooklyn Bowl Recap</u> - Brooklyn Bowl 9/9/16

<u>Vulfpeck // Brooklyn Bowl // London</u> - Stitched Sound 9/20/16

<u>Vulfpeck Shine at Brooklyn Bowl</u> - Oxford Student 9/20/16

<u>Gig Review: Vulfpeck- Vicar St</u> - Dyladvised 9/20/16

Miscellaneous

Jack Stratton AMA #1

Jack Stratton AMA #2

Jack Stratton AMA #3

Joe Dart AMA

Fugue State history

Christmas In LA history

Back Pocket Premiere on Nerdist

Startup Musician podcast with Jack Stratton (55min)

Short's Live Music Series podcast with Joe and Theo (70min)

Beastly/It Gets Funkier 7" Liner Notes

Thrill Of The Arts Liner Notes

VULF-ADJACENT CONTENT

Explore the wide, wide world of Vulf with this healthy spread of related material.

My Dear Disco

Toolbox - Nishiki's Bicycle Early incarnation of MDD featuring Joey on sax

My Dear Disco Blissfest 2008 - Catch Theo, Joey, Tyler & the squad being adorable

My Dear Disco - White Lies - Live on Fearless Music

My Dear Disco - Shaving at Arby's

My Dear Disco - Alehouse Rock

My Dear Disco Live Sizzler

Groove Spoon

GROOVE SPOON • Dance Week (Live From the Dude)

GROOVE SPOON • Crazy (acoustic cover) *LIVE*

GROOVE SPOON • Simple Step (Live From the Dude)

GROOVE SPOON • Barney Miller Theme - Bass Jam (Canterbury House 1.30.10)

Joey Dosik

Take Mine by Joey Dosik w Theo - Sonic Lunch 8/20/15

VULFPECK feat. JOEY DOSIK - Game Winner - YONI House 1/29/15

JOEY DOSIK /// What's Happening Brother

JOEY DOSIK /// Running Away

Joey Dosik — Game Winner (Rec Center Version)

The Olllam

the olllam at the 2013 Pittsburgh Irish Festival
Creating .the olllam. (Documentary)
the olllam - An Introduction
Joe Dart at DeBarras

Darren Criss

<u>Part of Me (cover) - Darren Criss (green room rehearsal)</u> with Theo and Joe. VOICES OF ANGELS <u>Darren Criss & Theo Katzman - TN Mornings</u> (adorable interview)

Bert Stratton/Yiddishe Cup

<u>Don't Go To Music School</u> - New York Times, 6/12/15 <u>My son is a sort-of rock star. I'm glad I didn't discourage his dreams.</u> - Washington Post, 5/30/16 <u>Klezmer Hip Hop / Tsiganeshti</u> (Yiddishe Cup feat. Jack)

Other

<u>Lou Breed - Locus Of Control</u> Album by Jeremy Daly featuring Woody Goss & Christine Hucal.

<u>ROB STENSON /// Gold Mountain EP</u> Rob Stenson plays clawhammer banjo in Jack's backyard.

<u>Anna Ash - Floodlights</u> album by Anna Ash featuring Woody, Joe, Joey, & Theo

VULFLUENCES

Context is everything.

Reinhold Mack: ELO, Queen, Black Sabbath & T. Rex - Tape Op Jan/Feb 2011

The interview that started it all. (\$2 paywall)

Bernard "Pretty" Purdie: The legendary Purdie Shuffle
Time to shed.

<u>Stuff - (Do You) Want Some of This</u> - 1976 "I'm into Stuff, you're into Stuff......"

<u>Weather Report - Teen Town</u> - 1977 This one's the lobby. "Dean Town" takes the elevator to the skydeck.

> <u>Jackson 5 - The Stripped Mixes</u> Very important.

<u>The Five Stairsteps - O-O-H Child</u> - 1970 All about the lift!

WHO'S WHO?

Tracking Vulfpeck's network of friends and collaborators

Jack Stratton, Theo Katzman, Woody Goss, Joe Dart: They're Vulfpeck.

Antwaun Stanley: Close collaborator. Funky Duck historian. Studied classical voice at Michigan and was lead vocalist for Jack's band Groove Spoon. From Flint, MI.

Joey Dosik: Close collaborator and friend. Los Angeles native. Studied jazz at Michigan and was a founding member of My Dear Disco. <u>Releases solo work under his own name</u>, and plays in LA alongside Mocky, Pegasus Warning, Nia Andrews, and more.

Tyler Duncan: Vulfpeck engineer, close collaborator, and friend. Founding member of My Dear Disco and The Olllam. Vulf tracks their Michigan tunes at his studio. Plays low whistle and bagpipes.

Darren Criss: He's just this guy, you know?

Rob Stenson: Jack's childhood best friend. Attended Columbia, worked for Twitter, is now a full-time partner at <u>Goodhertz</u>. Plays banjo.

Devin Kerr: Vulfpeck's mastering engineer. Attended Michigan with the band, & is a founding partner at Goodhertz.

Christine Hucal: Friend and collaborator. Attended Michigan with the band. Musician under moniker DAD and experimental filmmaker.

Richie Rodriguez: Theo's percussion teacher from high school. Session musician in New York. Features on *Thrill Of The Arts,* as well as Vulfpeck's live shows in NYC.

Cory Wong: Minneapolis guitarist. Met Vulf in MN in 2013 when they checked out a gig of his while touring with Darren Criss. The "Billy Preston" of *The Beautiful Game,* featuring 7 out of its 10 tracks. Featured live with Vulfpeck in 2016. Currently a member of Ben Rector's nationally touring band.

David T. Walker: Famous session guitarist. Featured on records by The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, and Marvin Gaye. Played on *Thrill Of The Arts.*

Mark Dover: Clarinetist featured on "Back Pocket" and at Vulfpeck's live shows in NYC and Philly.

Attended Michigan with the band.

Charles Jones: LA session musician featured on "Game Winner" and at Vulfpeck's live LA shows. Member of Andra Day's touring band, among others.

Blake Mills: Searing session guitarist & Grammy-nominated producer featured on "Rango II" and at Vulfpeck's 10/9/15 LA show. Joe Dart played in his touring band.

BORNS: LA-based, Michigan-born pop singer. Featured on "Back Pocket" at Bonnaroo 2016. Joe Dart played in his touring band.

Anna Ash: LA-based singer-songwriter & friend of Vulf. Attended Michigan with the band. Joe/Woody/Theo occasionally play in her touring band.

Laura Mace: LA-based vocalist featured on *Conscious Club* (and "Rhythm Kitchen"). Sometimes sings in Theo Katzman's LA band.

Julian Allen: Ann Arbor-based drummer who often plays with the Vulf guys on various musical projects and tours.

VULFAQ

These are the questions that people ask, and the answers that I give.

Q: Can Antwaun/Joey/Cory/I become an official member of the band?

A: No. Vulfpeck is the core four plus featured players.

Q: Can Vulfpeck come to [city]?

A: Yes, they can. Whether they *will* is a question for their booking agent. Thus far they have tended not to play in smaller markets and stick to the biggest cities, but that may change in the future.

Q: Can Vulfpeck collab with [musician]?

They seem to like keeping it low-key and close to home, based on their current choices for featured players, so I dunno.

BUT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE IF WE TRULY BELIEVE

Q: Where do they live?

A: Theo and Jack live in LA. Joe is based out of Ann Arbor. Woody lives in Chicago.

Q: How do I tell Vulfpeck how much I love them?

A: Send them an email.

Q: Who is Vulfmon?

A: Vulfmon is a professor of electronic music at the University of Halle-Wittenberg in Germany, and the advisor/A&R man of "the Vulfpeck." He is also a completely fictional alter-ego of Jack Stratton.

Q: Who wrote [song]?

A: Either Jack or Woody. Unless it's "Kuhmilch 74 BPM" or "Game Winner," in which case it was Joey, or "Back Pocket," in which case it was Theo.

Q: Who makes the videos/does the social media/mixes the albums/does the graphic design/markets the band/manages the band/does the accounting?

A: Jack Stratton.

Q: How do *you* know the Vulfpeck guys?

A: I am a high-level freakazoid incapable of enjoying a band calmly and reasonably like a normal person.