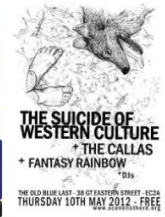


# THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE ON TOUR



# The New York Times

South by Southwest Music  
Festival

## SXSW

Reports from the  
annual music  
festival in Austin,  
Tex.



The electronica composer Nicolas Jaar performed in a duo with an electric guitarist, whose strummed textures brought some physicality to Mr. Jaar's looming sustained tones and boom-chunk bass lines. [The Suicide of Western Culture](#), an electronic duo from Spain, put an ominous undercurrent under dense, driving marches coordinated to video that merged dizzying motion with messages like "Hope Only Brings Pain."

[\[read online...\]](#)

# Los Angeles Times

A much, much smaller audience had a similar reaction to the Suicide of Western Culture. The Spanish noise duo already showed some gumption by being, well, in a noise duo with word "Suicide" in their band name. But even though their tent set (to their credit, they were up against new hometown heroes M83) was maybe one-fifth full, what they lacked in attention they made up for in volume, viciousness and a knack for sneaking sad sampled melodies into the distortion maelstrom. Occasional moments nodded at danceability, and if they can find a way to harness their more populist impulses, they might be a powerful act to watch.

[\[read online...\]](#)



With my energy levels starting to rise again, I made the trek to the disco tent to check out the Suicide Of Western Culture, an EDM team from Barcelona making their American debut. Impressive stuff, truly psychedelic and bugged-out. I may not know much about EDM – or as my people still call it, “techno” – but it’s pretty easy to like anything with tunes this sinuous and beats this imaginative.

[\[read on-line...\]](#)



### The Suicide of Western Culture

**11:55pm, Mohawk** Half of the mysterious Catalan duo explained the genesis of its name thusly: "I was in a club: glowing lights, house music, drugs, girls shaking their asses. I was lucid for a second, and I thought that Europe was lost." Some might come to the exact opposite conclusion. Sometimes trancey, occasionally raucous, but with circuits instead of microprocessors. Also, often a



J Roddy Walston & the Bus

[\[read online...\]](#)

## The Great Escape 2012 - Saturday review

'A final dash through Brighton's Laines'



**The Suicide Of Western Culture** @ Sticky Mike's Frog Bar (6/10): So this is what happens if you don't give your child a Casio VL-Tone to play with. They grow up, grow a beard and at the first opportunity rush out and buy grown up musical electronic toys so they can finally make all the noises they didn't get to create in their youth. Only louder. And with more knobs on. A crazy spider's web of cables links a dozen-or-so seemingly random boxes with flashing lights and sparkling dials and the room fills with a spinning variety of loops, beeps, swoops and leaps. Expect to be mightily confused and/or swept along with the DIY ethos of the whole thing.

[\[read online...\]](#)



# NEON FILLER

First venue of the day was The Albert to check out some of the Catalan acts that are being showcased at the festival. The first one I saw on stage was **Ferguson**, youthful and energetic noise pop with endearingly shouty vocals. The drumming was brilliant and the twin synths gave the guitar noise some real depth and texture, a lot of fun. Next up was **Suicide of Western Culture**, two hooded men behind a table of samplers and laptops and effects pedals and wires. A pretty uncompromising sound, very heavy and hard edged with a real darkness behind their techno tinged sound. On the screen behind them were projections of dark and disturbing images, corpses, military marches and other troubling subject matter. As good as they were it was not what one wanted on one of the first sunny days in weeks, it seemed wrong being inside in the dark listening to music much better suited for a late night set.

[\[read online...\]](#)



## The Great Escape 2012 - Saturday review 'A final dash through Brighton's Laines'

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[\[read online...\]](#)



**THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE**  
Friday, Catalan Sounds @ The Prince Albert



The Suicide Of Western Culture picture by Cath Aubergine

Some sort of military march gives way to dark distorted drones as the screen shows images of blood and brutality which it quickly becomes clear are old newsreel footage from the Spanish Civil War. Two black-hooded figures stand underneath, twisting switches on a particularly laden version of the modern electronica artist's Table Of Interesting Stuff and nodding from the waist in time-honoured fashion to the hard-edged industrial sounds they're creating. Played as a continuous piece, the sound evolves into a more ambient landscape as the screens spin newspaper pages and still shots of destruction, before the words flash up "HOPE ONLY BRINGS PAIN" against an explosion of Fuck Buttons meets Holy Fuck progressive electro-post-rock. Finally there are cinematic sweeps and a last message: "LOVE YOUR FRIENDS, HATE THE POLITICIANS". Outstandingly powerful stuff and my favourite new (to me) band of the weekend.

[\[read online...\]](#)

## The Great Escape, Brighton 2012

A few of the highlights from The Great Escape music festival, which ran in Brighton from 10-12 May, including Admiral Fallow, PAWS, Bwani Junction and Grimes. You can read a detailed account of the weekend from The Skinny's crack team of reporters [here](#).

Photography by [Martin Senyszak](#)



[\[view online...\]](#)



## Brighton NOISE gig guide



Staying in the Albert, we get treated to another excellent Catalan Sounds gig, this time from Furguson, a melodic heavy punk band who take the usual guitar/bass/drums template and add a pair of synth players/sonic manipulators to the mix to create an excellent punky racket dripping with strange electronic noises. Next up are [The Suicide Of Western Culture](#), a pair of hooded knob twiddlers who make darkly unsettling post electronica set against a disturbing backdrop of Spanish Civil War film footage.

By all reports, Slow Club at Shipwrights Yard were fantastic, and I could hear Rebecca's voice belting out into Middle Street, but there was no way I was joining the huge queue outside, so I headed over to the Latest Music Bar for [The Physics House Band](#), who were astonishing as ever, taking their insanely complex electro-math-prog-punk to new levels with the debut outing of their latest, apparently unfinished song, complete with ridiculously

impressive guitar trickery.

[\[read online...\]](#)



**FURGUSON** next, and they're another great find: we're promised Krautrock mixed with progressive post-punk which proves to be wonderfully accurate. From an admittedly rather Mancunian reference point they sound like a particularly energetic cross between Wu Lyf and Plank! with a tasty topping of surf-pop organ. Today has already exceeded yesterday and it's barely mid-afternoon. The sunshine helps, too. This is the Great Escape I know and love. One more then? Why not. Especially when they've given themselves the rather eye-catching name **THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE**.



*Seward, and a message from our Catalan electro-post-rock friends*

[\[read online...\]](#)

## Rolling Stone

### Eurosonic / Noorderslag Tag 2: Neues aus der Muziekschool

Der zweite Tag des Eurosonic / Noorderslag in Groningen glich bisweilen einem Volksfest: Während die Branchenhasen durch die Clubs streiften und Acts wie **The Suicide Of Western Culture** entdeckten, lauschten die Anwohner im Café dem Blues von Jamie N Commons und feierten vor einer Riesenbühne die kleine Selah Sue.

Der Abend endete schließlich (oder vielmehr: der von Live-Musik beschallte Teil des Abends) mit dem Gig von **The Suicide Of Western Culture**, die im ersten Moment irritierten, einem aber nicht mehr aus dem Kopf gehen wollen – vermutlich weil ihr lediglich mit Keyboards und Effektpedalen erzeugter Drone-Sound, dem Summen der eigenen Kopfschmerzen nicht unähnlich ist. In Verbindung mit den stimmigen Visuals und der fortgeschrittenen Uhrzeit wurde dann also selbst der letzte, eher zufällig besuchte Gig des Tages einer der eindringlichsten.

[\[read online....\]](#)



## Cider House

**The Suicide of Western Culture** with a bottle of Duvel to swig on was the perfect antidote to Moss. Pure buzzing electronica, The Suicide of Western Culture mixed the more challenging Rephlex grinds, with melodic techno and broader beatless synth action. Deliberately cultivating the faceless techno act cliché, TSOWC relied on projections for their visual performance. Drawing on their Spanish heritage, pretty disturbing scenes from the Spanish Civil War were backdropped behind TSOWC's jerky midi button girations to start with. The imagery soon tempered out to abstract street scene snatches as the musical integration moved from bad cop to good cop through the use of lilting techno to a club friendly four-four beat. I left at 2am as they just re-entered the throbbing glitchcore realms, conscious that an early conference session on Meta Products awaited.



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**NME** ONLINE  
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FIRST FOR MUSIC NEWS

## The Suicide Of Western Culture @ PopKomm 2011 (Berlin, DE) III video

Clip #3 TSOWC live September, 7. Frannz Club – Kulturbrauerei Schönhauser Allee 36. Berlin



Running time: 03:40

the suicide of western culture tsowc irregular popkomm berlin 2011  
ramón llul miracle miraclemgmt.com miraclemanagement frannz club

[\[view online....\]](#)



## THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE



Photo Courtesy of The Suicide of Western Culture

When a band has a name like **The Suicide of Western Culture**, and tracks like "This Is The Last Time I Shake Your Hand," "Children Shouldn't Been Playing Beside the Railways" [sic], and "A Forest of Greyhounds Hanged," it's sure easy to hit your wordcount! The quirky Barcelona duo only seems like a crotchety black metal band — or at least, hoodie-donning catburglars — but in fact they're a couple of nice guys tinkering with eerie, lo-fi electronics. Their eponymous debut album earned them a shared stage with their closest, most famous soundalikes, Animal Collective.

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### ***BAND OF THE DAY #228 - The Suicide of Western Culture***

With just some toy keyboards and a bunch of second hand pedals, these two sci-fi individuals decided to create their songs from the room of a hostel for students in London, trying to reproduce sounds from those bands they admired in the 90s: Godspeed You Black Emperor, Disco Inferno, Mogwai, Flying Saucer Attack, Tortoise... Also strongly influenced by unusual but classic Spanish bands in the electronic scene like the harsh industrial sounds of Esplendor Geométrico and the mechanical low-fi pop of Telefilme.

Hardness and emptiness, melody and surprise, instrumental post-electronic based on the palpable, impossible contortion of buttons, a revolution of the machines, some as familiar as the Casio CZ-1000 or the beloved TR505 drum machine... an ode to the "do it yourself".



# DOTS AND DASHES

*Fest Bests: Sónar 2012.*



## *The Suicide Of Western Culture*

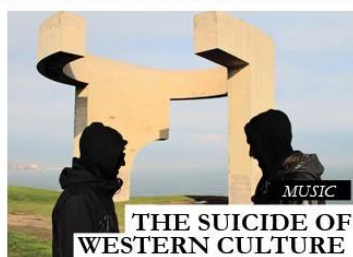


**Who:** Enigmatic pairing who are to this gritty city what Fuck Buttons are to their respective West Country grot hole.

**Why:** When in Rome – or indeed Barcelona – best witness what it is that los barcelonés do. This duo are up to some retrospective, '90s-soused mischief that never concedes to pastiche nor cliché but rather comes across as the unremitting upset of Godspeed You! Black Emperor rewired through knackered Casiotone keys.

**When:** Saturday, 8.30pm, SónarHall.

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## The Suicide Of Western Culture - TSOWC

25. November 2011 • Tags: [Electronic Music](#), [Interview](#)

"We were in this very decadent club once. Drugs, house music, girls shaking their asses, drunk people... In a lucid moment I thought 'we're fucked, we have no future'. I don't know if that's political. That's not our intention... We are the suicide of the West as well as we are more concerned about what kind of beer we'll find at our backstage." TSOWC- The Suicide of Western culture is a music duo from Spain and surely not only their name has caught our attention...

**Hello guys, many thanks for your time :) How are you and where are you at the moment?**

Very well, indeed. After releasing such a personal record we could never imagine we would be doing interviews for international media, touring in Europe and soon in the USA. It's a good moment for our career.

**The suicide of Western Culture, -let us know a bit about you guys behind this music project...who are you and how did you get together as a band?**

TSOWC are two guys from the Barcelona outskirts. We come from an industrial town just 20 miles from Barcelona, with the 3rd highest unemployment rate in our country. Those who have interests different from the ordinary ones we know each other, ie video art, music, cinema, photography... Both of us felt the need of making music in some kind of underground style as early Warp or Replex artists did – just releasing demos without any specific aim. A record label heard one of them and they went for us. Then, here we are.

**How did you come up with that band name and why? Is it a political message?**

We were in this very decadent club once. Drugs, house music, girls shaking their asses, drunk people... In a lucid moment I thought 'we're fucked, we have no future'. I don't know if that's political. That's not our intention. We just express the things we like as in 'The End of Luxury'. Or how we loathe the current situation of the Spanish working class. We don't provide solutions – we don't have them. We are the suicide of the West as well as we are more concerned about what kind of beer we'll find at our backstage.

[\[read online...\]](#)



# THE NEW LOFI

INTERVIEW: SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE



[\[read online...\]](#)

# PANAMERIKA

“Suponemos” que después de un pasón de ácidos y estupefacientes, lo único que uno quiere es aislarse del caos electro bit al que pueden llegar a convertirse estos festivales. Y por si esto le llegara a suceder (que esperemos que no) le recomendamos darse una vuelta -y un descanso- por el acto de **The Suicide of Western Culture** un dúo barcelonés que convierte a las frecuencias más básicas en obras de arte con las paletas de color más efímeras y extensas. Rico contenido de electro rock alto en lo-fi emocional y melancólicos sintetizadores. Si quiere escuchar un poco más sobre **The Suicide of Western Culture** visite su sitio oficial. ¡Y ya merito se me va decirle! Esta banda ya fue telonera de uno de sus proyectos matrices, Animal Collective.



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## The Suicide Of Western Culture

From Our Apartment's Window

By [Rai Knight](#) | February 24th, 2012

Filed under:

[electronic](#)

[experimentalindie](#)

[post-rock](#)

[animal-collective](#)

[cut-copy](#)



The Suicide Of Western Culture - From Our Apartments Window

**Sounds like:** *Animal Collective, Cut Copy, Orbital, Darkstar*

### What's so good?

The Suicide Of Western Culture is a duo from Barcelona. They are a secretive bunch with the not-so-secret idea that we are witnessing the death of Western culture. Maybe they've even gone so far as to personify the "destruction."

In a way, "From Our Apartment's Windows" sounds like a celebratory funeral march. It seems to carry with it a message that what we put into the world is not always what the world gives back. It's a struggle, and it either ends by giving up (a type of suicide), or by persevering — and persevering is the hardest thing. Persevering is heartache, but the rewards are great.

These two are mere conduits for a world of perspectives, and they're spitting them out the only way they know how: organized, mechanical, musical chaos. I get the feeling they are still struggling to make sense of it all too. "From Our Apartment's Window" is dark, but hopeful. Tragic, but beautiful. Much like life, it isn't over until it's over. So maybe Western culture is killing itself, but these two aren't going down without a fight. Catch them as the kick off their 2012 tour:

TSOWC's next gigs:

14/3 South By Southwest Music Conference (SXSW) (Austin, TX)

15/3 South By Southwest Music Conference (SXSW) (Austin, TX)

17/3 South By Southwest Music Conference (SXSW) (Austin, TX)

21/3 Knitting factory (NYC)

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Irregular Label - THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE 'FROM OU...



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South by Southwest'in son gecesinde **Erykah Badu** konserinden çıkıp koşarak Mohawk'taki **The Suicide of Western Culture**'ı görmeye gittim. Festivale gitmeden önce grubun plak şirketi ve menajeri beni ısrarla bu performansa davet ettiler. Bir anlamda kendimi zorunlu hissettim gitmek için ama elbette internetten müziklerini dinleyip beğenmişim. Canlı dinleyince de performansı kaçırmadığıma sevindim. Mohawk'a girdiğimde içerde fazla insan yoktu. Ben daha önceden biliyordum ama kapıya da yönetmen **Terrence Malick**'in gelecekteki bir projesinde kullanmak üzere konseri çekeceği yazılmıştı.

İspanya'nın en başarılı elektronik ikilisi olarak adını duyuran grubun, tamamen karanlık bir salonda arkadaki video ekranında yer alan görseller eşliğinde çaldığı karanlık müzik ruhuma çok iyi geldi. Bundan sonra takipçileriyim. İlk videoda beliren "**Love Your Friends, Hate the Politicians**" yazısı belki de SXSW'da bu sene tanık olduğum en politik anlardan birisiydi.

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ROCKDELUX



A lo grande: en la mítica Knitting Factory, en Nueva York.

EN LA CARRETERA (2012)

## THE SUICIDE OF WESTERN CULTURE

Para protegerte a ti, a tu familia y a tu comunidad

Por *The Suicide Of Western Culture*

A finales de marzo el dúo electrónico catalán dio el salto a Norteamérica para realizar una gira sin respiro que durante nueve días y siete conciertos los llevó a visitar Austin —como parte el cartel del South By Southwest Festival (SXSW)—, Nueva York y Toronto. Juanjo Fernández y Miquel Martínez detallan (al alimón) para Rockdelux las experiencias vividas dentro de una vorágine de aeropuertos, hoteles, escasez de transformadores eléctricos y choque cultural respecto al consumo callejero y el precio de la cerveza.

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## MondoSonoro

### The Great Escape, el año que viene más

THE GREAT ESCAPE/ festival

distintas en Brighton. Curiosa y sorpresivamente, lo fueron. **Mujeres, Amics del Bosc, Furguson, Me And The Bees, Ninette & The Goldfish, Seward, The Suicide Of Western Culture** u **Oso Leone** actuaron en salas modestas, pero abarrotadas en la mayoría de los casos por público británico. Y convencieron. Sin duda y en todos los caos. Que se lo digan a Mujeres, que fueron felicitados una y otra vez y vitoreados tras su concierto en el emblemático The Prince Albert, pese a ser víctimas de puntuales problemas con la microfonía. Que se lo digan a Seward o **The Suicide Of Western Culture**, que dejaron a buena parte de los presentes con cara de sorprendidos y ojos de plato, gracias a directos a la altura de cualquier competidor que les retase a un pulso dentro del festival, epidérmicos y sobre todo inesperados para quienes no habían oído hablar de ellos. Que se lo digan a Furguson, asaltados por un sello discográfico japonés al minuto de dejar el escenario. Que se lo digan a Ninette & The Goldfish, que consiguieron diversas fechas por el país. Que se lo digan a Me And The Bees, que se lo digan a Oso Leone... Ya no somos el hermano pobre (me refiero en cuestiones musicales, claro está) de Europa. Empezamos a jugar en las mismas condiciones que muchos otros y cada día son más los que, más allá de nuestras fronteras, descubren que no somos un país tercermundista en cuestiones de calidad musical. Ha costado, así que no podemos dar marcha atrás. Pero la participación catalana promovida por el Institut Ramon Llull en The Great Escape suponía solo una pequeñísima parte de todo el evento. Había mucho más, algunas decepciones, algunas sorpresas, pero bastantes confirmaciones. Aunque, por encima de todo, la sensación de que este tipo de eventos son francamente inabarcables. Muchos grupos tocando a la vez en distintas partes de la ciudad, poco tiempo para llegar de un escenario a otro, por muy cerca que estos estén.

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With a name like The Suicide of Western Culture, it is difficult not to sit up and pay attention to a band, especially when you are told that they are proficient in "the noble art of butchering carefully immortal keyboards, guitar pedals and *lofi* drum machines". I have to be honest, I'm not entirely sure what that means or how one becomes a master in such an art, but after listening to the new album *Remixes*, I kind of get it.

Spanish duo The Suicide of Western Culture occupy that glorious space between electronic and indie music and have played alongside artists such as Animal Collective, Cut Copy, Orbital, and Darkstar. After tearing up the festival scene in Spain and the rest of Europe this summer, they have their sights set on a US tour.



They have a truly dark sound, as you'd expect from their name, and it reminds me of 6 a.m. on a massive night out when you begin to savour the epic proportions of the evening while cultivating the fantasy that it can last forever.

Their eponymous debut album *The Suicide of Western Culture* attracted the attention of some of the biggest artists in the band's native Spain, as Guillamino, Lasers, Rusty Warriors, Brunetto and others lined up to produce their *Remixes* album.

You can watch the video of the Triángulo de Amor Bizarro Sr. remix of "The End of Luxury" below. It has some incredible cinematography and I'd recommend sticking around until at least 2:40 when it speeds up.

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