

The Weather Machine Bio

“A little bit Josh Ritter, a little bit Modest Mouse, the Weather Machine forges a stable relationship between contemporary folk-pop and more traditional pop-rock sensibilities, and are one of the current flag-bearers of the sound...”

– **Willamette Week**

“Bigger, louder, and more dynamic than their debut, and they've never sounded better” – **Portland Mercury**

“Capable of channeling a soaring energy through their performances”

– **PASTE Magazine**

The Weather Machine is the singer/songwriter and band project of musician Slater Smith. With hearty lyricism and theatrical flair, The Weather Machine’s material is known for exploring a wide territory, spanning everything from experimental post-glam to more traditional indie folk and rock.

In his Pacific Northwest home region, Smith started The Weather Machine recording in Pacific City and living in Portland, Oregon in the early 2010s, self-releasing the ‘The Weather Machine’ album debut and sophomore ‘Peach’ with his bandmates and collaborators and seeing wide success with b-side ‘Slow Dance Slow’ released through Portland label Tender Loving Empire.

Independent and self-managed, Smith made some odd creative bedfellows by collaborating with the Oregon State Parks system to promote environmentalism and the outdoors. This resulted in a viral music video in ‘Back O’er Oregon,” and a collaborative concept record called ‘The Pelican,” commemorating Oregon’s famous Beach Bill.

The Weather Machine’s success ultimately led to opening for Alabama Shakes, Lumineers, Cold War Kids, Josh Ritter, and Mt. Joy in the late 2010s. However, the onset of the 2020 pandemic forced Smith and his bandmates to turn away from touring and inward toward recording. Recorded and produced by Tucker Martine at Flora Studios, The Weather Machine’s next album is expected for release in 2022 and includes longtime Weather Machine band members and collaborators Luke Jackson (drums), Tim Karplus (guitar & keys), and André Zapata (bass).