

# DJ Amy Reid creates musical 'Utopia' centered on joy and connection

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Musician Amy Reid at her home studio in Northeast Baltimore. (J.M. Giordano/for The Baltimore Banner)

## **‘Baltimore [is] more like a village, it’s not really a city.’**

Imagine you’re sweaty, out of breath and shuffling toward the bar while the DJ is giving the dancers a rest with a slow jam. You’re gathering your wind, maybe ordering vodka lemonade or getting a vital drink of water and then Mary J. Blige’s “Just Fine” creeps into the mix. It’s subtle at first, and then all-encompassing, and revives you like nothing you’ve ever felt before.

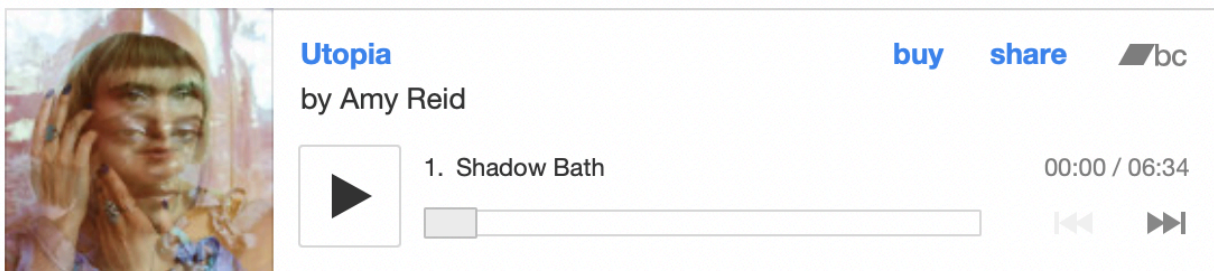
When you turn to the DJ booth, there is a small blonde person with a sharp bob having the time of her life. It’s DJ Amsies, aka [Amy Reid](#).

Reid has been creating magical dance spaces in Baltimore for years. She’s a member of the band [Chiffon](#), which has been creating electronic pop music and touring since around 2014. She supports other musicians like Ami Dang with keyboard, background vocals and synths. She will DJ your wedding, party, or b’nai mitzvah. She’s also released three projects as a solo artist. “[Utopia](#),” her most recent EP, dropped in early September.



Reid's voice is powerfully delicate. In Utopia, her voice glides over the beats. Conjuring up old disco excitement and a warm sunny morning, the EP is ideal for a walk in the neighborhood as the seasons are changing. Maybe there are trees in bloom; the friend you haven't seen in a long time notices you across the street and you pause the EP just long enough to convey how grateful you are to see them on this beautiful day.

One could call that Utopia.



Reid's solo career has been a labor of love. She records her work at Moose Records and her home in Better Waverly, using synths, keyboards and her voice to create a robust sound. Listening to the single "Shadow Bath," it's clear that Reid's pen is deft. While shadows evoke an image of darkness, or at least something blocking the light, "Shadow Bath" is an invitation to bathe in this darkness.