



(At the bottom, you'll find a Soundcloud playlist featuring the songs mentioned in the piece.)



## AMY REID

As a high school student growing up in Parkville, Amy Reid frequented local punk and hardcore shows, but the constant barrage of mostly men performing aggressive music felt stifling to her creativity.

"It made it seem like [pursuing music] was going to be impossible to do," Reid said.

Moving to Baltimore to attend the Maryland Institute College of Art a decade ago proved to be transformative, she said. There, she explored a wide array of music, from all-piano compositions to niche dance music like Chicago footwork.

**"That's where my music exists: the middle ground of pop and organic club music."**

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The experience set Reid on a path that led to her first solo album, September's "Hirsute." With dance music drum patterns and synthetic instrumentation, Reid's music oozes R&B sensuality on tracks like "Only Tonight" and "Threshold," but beneath the surface lies an emotional vulnerability that's hard to shake.

It all avoids clear characterization, but for the 29-year-old Better Waverly resident, it taps into the music that means most to her.



Singer/songwriter Amy Reid works in her Better Waverly studio. (Amy Davis / Baltimore Sun)

“That’s where my music exists: the middle ground of pop and organic club music,” she said.

**Listen to:** “Knife,” a song that replaces typical percussion with the sounds of actual knives, glass and swords

**What’s next:** Releasing videos from “Hirsute”; finish recording the next record by Chiffon, her R&B group with Chase O’Hara; full-band performance of “Hirsute” at Motor House on Jan. 6