

# *L'Rain*

## **SELECTED PRESS – 2017 to Present**

### [New York Times](#)

"...one-woman studio band...that's a sea of loops: guitar arpeggios, synthesizer burbles, endless layers of vocal harmony."

### [The New Yorker](#)

"For the Brooklyn-based experimental artist L'Rain, mourning resembles gauzy free jazz and twinkling shoegaze melted into a hazy stew of ambient music and found sounds."

### [Pitchfork](#)

"Taja Cheek's debut album slips nimbly from one genre to another as she peels back layers of mourning ...the album seems to happen all at once, all the time, its vividness and simultaneity as cutting as its intertwining melodies."

### [Teen Vogue](#)

"Songwriter and frontwoman Taja Cheek references R&B as frequently as she touches on post-punk and avant-garde rock...but rather than creating new ways to categorize its sound, L'Rain rejects labels and revels in the freedom this unconventional music provides."

### [Nike Women Instagram Campaign FW18](#)

### [Village Voice](#)

"This isn't the hazy bedroom pop of Shugo Tokumaru or Ariel Pink. Instead, Cheek lands somewhere nearer to the crisply stacked multi-instrumentalism of Panda Bear or even the Flaming Lips, where sounds crash into each other like a controlled collision."

"There is a debilitating trendiness surrounding a certain brand of feminism that prizes visibility as its main goal. I'm generally disinterested in that," said Taja Cheek, a/k/a L'Rain"

### [Time Out New York](#)

"...the endlessly talented Taja Cheek brewing her totally singular atmospheric, soul-inflected soundscapes as L'Rain. Expect intricately arpeggiated jazz guitar, tight drumming chops and plenty of psychedelic tape loop ambience."

### [Time Out New York \[in print\]](#)

"Why we love her: Melding spiraling tape loops, intricately arpeggiated jazz guitar, eerily lilting vocals and tight drum chops, L'Rain charts a genre-hopping terrain all her own."

### [Interview Magazine](#)

"...the self-titled record is full of lush, ambient soundscapes layered over spoken-word samples and reverb-drenched jazz vocals. The result is a kind of multi-textural sonic collage and a nuanced reflection on love and loss."

### [Stereogum](#)

"...twinkling R&B keyboards [and] soaring sheets of vocals"

### [Creative Independent](#)

Interview with Editor Brandon Stosuy.

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### [Afropunk](#)

"A swelling orchestra of lush soundscapes and hypnotizing, layered melodies.... Soft spoken, at times, but pulsating with warmth...a gripping roller coaster of unexpected sounds and emotions..."

### [Bandcamp Daily \[feature\]](#)

"All of *L'Rain* is imbued with this undercurrent of spirituality; it's not necessarily a mourning or a lamentation, but a wonderment at the cosmic forces that quietly shape the events we often think are coincidences. It's a magical record, one that's equally sad, curious, fascinating, and radiant."

### [Tiny Mix Tapes](#)

"...filled with experiments in looping, field recording, layered vocals and guitar arpeggios that call to mind the best moments of Stereolab or Frank Ocean's *Endless*."

### [Nylon](#)

"... ballad-like percussion and dreamy melodic guitars, all underscored by gentle vocals that crescendo over the flurry of instrumentation."

### [V Magazine](#)

"For R&B songstress Taja Cheek—aka L'Rain—channeling her grief into a creative output was the key to survival. Her debut album *L'Rain*, a dedication to her late mother, premieres tomorrow: ahead of its release, we asked Taja to take us through the LP track-by-track."

### [Oh My Rockness](#)

"Think pretty pastoral "math-rockian" synth soundscapes meets super smooth vocals meets, say, an angel chilling on a cloud playing a saxophone and you just might be thinking right!"

### [Hype Machine](#)

"A [year-end list favorite](#), the debut from Brooklyn's Taja Cheek is 'a kaleidoscopic combination of electronic shoegaze, experimental R&B...' "