

EVENTS

Kanye West can't get beyond petulant on 'The Life of Pablo'

BY CHRIS RICHARDS
THE WASHINGTON POST

There are at least three kinds of loudmouths in this world: agitators, trolls and Kanye West.

Agitators usually believe what they're saying. Trolls never do. As for West, the man only ever seems capable of acting on his hottest impulses — so, good, bad or ugly, his music always feels like absolute truth.

ALBUM
REVIEW

On his seventh album, "The Life of Pablo," the truth hurts bad. West has always been brilliant at pulling his volcanic energies into artful focus, but here, he sounds every bit as distracted as he does on Twitter. It's a cluttered mood-swing of an album that only sticks its neck out in the most superficial ways.

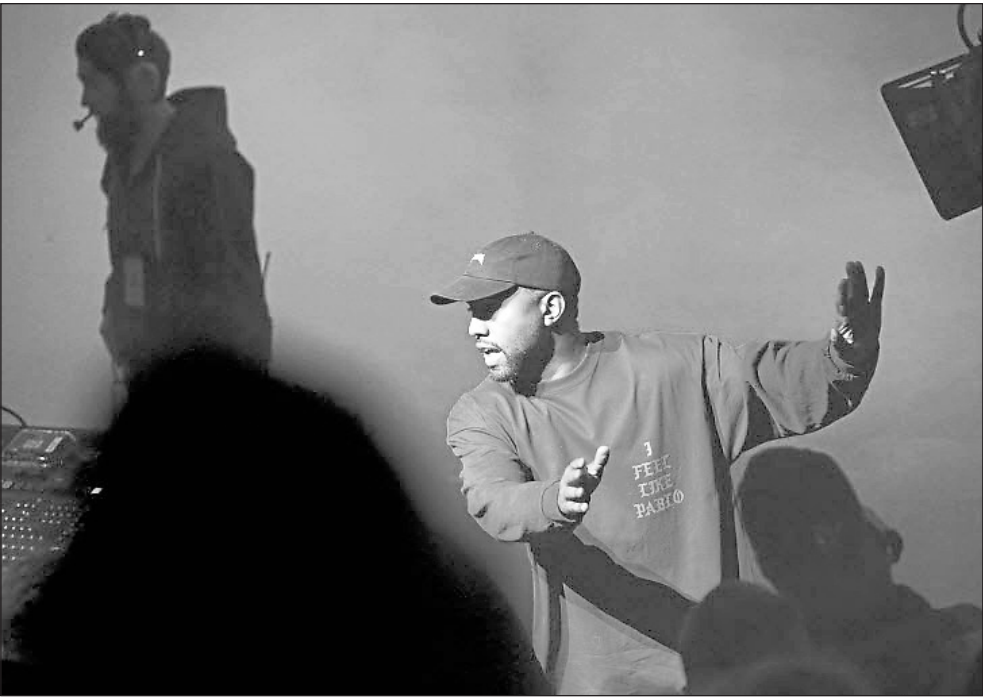
Of course the maestro would disagree. After months of digital hyper-hype, West rolled this thing out on Thursday afternoon at a listening party held on the floor of Madison Square Garden. He also happened to be unveiling his new fashion line, so he beamed the entire party out in a simulcast to neighborhood multiplexes across the planet. Then, once

the music was finished, he pointed up to the MSG Jumbotron where he shared the trailer for a video game in which his late mother ascends to heaven on the back of a winged horse. "It's not regular," West said of his multi-platform project from the Garden floor.

True. But was there any greater psycho-spiritual nourishment to be absorbed from this disjointed spectacle beyond the fact that it could and did happen? All of that dreams-really-do-come-true talk doesn't cut it anymore — especially from an auteur who has been dreaming bigger, weirder dreams than any other A-list pop star for more than a decade now.

Album after album, West's music has pushed all of pop forward by taking big risks, and sadly, the riskiest sounds on "The Life of Pablo" — which finally dropped in the tiny hours of Sunday morning — are the ugly things that tend to jump out of his mouth.

There's one line about Taylor Swift that you've probably heard about by now: "I feel like me and Taylor might still have sex / Why? I made that b— famous." This is, of course, a creepy reference to that night back in 2009 when West declared that Beyonce



ANDREW KELLY | REUTERS

Kanye West directs people during his Yeezy Season 3 Collection presentation and listening party for the "The Life of Pablo" album during New York Fashion Week last Thursday.

deserved some meaningless trophy more than a girl who was already well on her way to becoming the biggest pop star alive.

Yes, West's previous albums each have their share of gross-out rhymes like this, but they've never felt this petty, this fixated on settling scores that already seemed long settled. Maybe

it's because the music itself is usually dumping so much magic into our ears, we can't always feel our eyes rolling up into our skulls.

That isn't happening on "Pablo," at least not consistently, with the album's most magnetic moments coming from West's producers and guest vocalists. The under-rated Kelly Price generously

throws her lung-power into the gospel futurism of "Ultra-light Beam," Young Thug's maniac yawp graces the upbeat "Highlights," and the sonic gristle of Madlib's production on "No More Parties in L.A." is stunning. Other cameos — from the Weekend, Post Malone, Chris Brown — range from meh to bleh.

The all-over-the-place-

ness might sound refreshing if it didn't sound so familiar. Instead of taking his next giant step forward, West has belled up to the Vitamix, blending every chapter of his career into an atemporal smoothie-swirl.

Across these 18 tracks, we hear echoes of his darling: the neo-boom-bap of 2004's "College Dropout"; the ambitious wallop of 2005's "Late Registration"; the feel-greatness of 2007's "Graduation"; the heart-sick vulnerability of 2008's of "808s & Heartbreak"; the sour majesty of 2010's "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy"; the gnarly burn of 2013's "Yeezus." But it only ever feels as good as an echo can feel.

And even while he's giving his most nostalgic fans that old thing back, West still finds a way to needle them on "I Love Kanye," an acapella track where he rhymes, "I hate the new Kanye, the bad mood Kanye, the always rude Kanye, spazz in the news Kanye ..."

These are quick, clever little bars, but there's one Kanye that the rapper fails to mention: the next Kanye. That's the one everybody always want to hear. And he's not here right now.

Things to Do

BANGOR — Bangor Toastmasters, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, first and third Wednesdays, Beal College, 99 Farm Road.

BANGOR and ELLSWORTH — Bangor YMCA's Vegas to Camp adult prom postponed to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, newly winterized Bangor YMCA Wilderness Center at Camp Jordan, 101 Camp Jordan Way, on Branch Lake. Open to people 21 and older, featuring DJ Disco, hors d'oeuvres buffet and cash bar in the center's King Dining Hall; door-to-door shuttle service by reservation. Tickets \$35 per person, \$50 per couple, \$250 for table of 10. Tickets available in advance only at the Y, 17 Second St., Bangor, or online at www.BangorYMCA.org. All proceeds support Y programs and services.

BANGOR — Contradance with Ed Howe and Lincoln Meyers playing and Dugan Murphy calling, Friday, Feb. 19, Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St. Beginners' session, 7:30 p.m.; dance, 8 p.m. Cost \$8 per person. 941-9727, bangorcontra.org or bangorcontra@gmail.com.

BAR HARBOR — Verse Unleashed! Poetry Slam, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, Jesup Memorial Library. 288-4245 or kchagnon@jesuplibrary.org.

BAR HARBOR — Make faux-birchbark canoes and learn about the friendship between the young Franklin Roos-

evelt and Tomah Joseph, a Passamaquoddy birchbark artist and guide, 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Jesup Memorial Library. Children invited to bring an item reminding them of time they spent with a friend. 288-4245 or kchagnon@jesuplibrary.org.

BELFAST — In honor of Black History month, the Peace and Justice Group of Waldo County will present the documentary "The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975," 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17, Abbott Room, Belfast Free Library, as part of Community Forum series. Swedish television journalists documented the unfolding cultural revolution for their audiences in Sweden, having been granted unprecedented access to prominent leaders such as Angela Davis, Stokely Carmichael and Black Panther founders Bobby Seale and Huey P Newton. Free, but donations accepted. Meredith, 338-5089.

BLUE HILL — Jessica Woiderski of Cultivating Community, Jo Barrett of Land for Good and Erica Buswell of the Maine Farmland Trust talk about the collaborative efforts to help transition refugees and other immigrants from farming in their home countries to farming in Maine, 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, Halcyon Grange Hall, 1157 Pleasant St., North Blue Hill. Free and open to all. Light refreshments provided. 326-9082.

BREWER — The Skyliners playing big band music for dancing, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Next Generation The-

atre, 39 Center St. \$8. 989-7100.

BREWER — Bangor Singles Club dances, 8 p.m.-midnight Fridays, Brewer Eagles Club, 22 Atlantic Ave.: Prairie Dogs, Feb. 19; Wild-woods, Feb. 26. Marilyn, 827-5751.

BREWER — Storytime for preschool children and caregivers, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 16, 17, 23 and 24, Brewer Public Library. Read, sing, do crafts and have a snack with Miss Shelley. 989-7943.

ELLSWORTH — The Barn Arts Collective presentation of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 18-19, The Grand. All parts performed by four actors. \$12, \$8 children 12 and under. 667-9500 or grandonline.org.

ELLSWORTH — Concert by international Scottish fiddle champion and multi-style violinist Mari Blackin, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Flexit Cafe & Bakery, 192 Main St. Advance tickets, \$15, acadiatradschool.com/concerts or \$20 at the door. Presented by The Acadia School of Traditional Music and Arts.

ELLSWORTH — Fiddle and guitar workshops with Boston-based violinist Mari Black and guitarist Owen Marshall, noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Moore Community Center, 133 State St. \$30. acadiatradschool.com/learn.

FORT KENT — Northern Maine Medical Center Guild monthly business meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 17, Northern Maine Medical Center, 197 East Main St. Guest speaker nurse Dennis Bouchard on the importance of organ donation. 834-1353 or j.fortin@nmmc.org.

GLENBURN — Glenburn Lakeside Riders Snowmobile Club baked bean and casseroles public supper, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, West Glenburn Community Club, corner of Ohio Street and Phillips Road. Baked beans, macaroni and cheese, chop suey, hot dogs, cole slaw, drinks and dessert. \$7, \$20 family four or more.

LINCOLN — Pat Kimball, executive director of

Wellsprings, presenting "The Other Drug: Alcohol," 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, Gillmor's Restaurant.

OLD TOWN — The Friends of Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Sunkhaze Cafe series: Erynn Call, raptor specialist, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Old Town Public Library, 46 Middle St. Free. Donations accepted. Sunkhaze.org or Facebook/ FriendsofSunkhaze.

ORONO — Ukulele group meeting, 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, Orono Public Library, 29 Pine St. Bring your own uku-

lele, or borrow one from the library. To sign up or for information, 866-5060.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR — Tea party, 2-3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, Southwest Harbor Public Library. 244-7065.

UNION — Open hours with Vose Library tech experts, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, at the library. Bring devices for hands-on learning, or use library devices to learn general skills. 785-4733 or voselibrarian@voselibrary.org.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Tuesday prime time

MOVIES

	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
BROADCAST	2 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	Hollywood Game Night	Chicago Med (N) (HD)	Chicago Fire (N) (HD)	News				
	4 CBC Rick Mercer 22 Minutes	Creek Mr. D (N)	The National (N)	CBC Coronation Rick Mercer					
	5 CBS Big Bang Broke Girl	NCIS (N) (HD)	NCIS: New Orleans (N)	Limitless (N) (HD)	News				
	52 CW Family Guy Family Guy	The Flash (N) (HD)	iZombie (N) (HD)	News Seinfeld	Cougar				
	6 NBC 207 Inside Ed.	Hollywood Game Night	Chicago Med (N) (HD)	Chicago Fire (N) (HD)	News				
	7 ABC Wheel Jeopardy!	Fresh-Boat Muppets	Marvel's Agent Carter (N) (HD)	News	Big Bang Big Bang				
	WAGM FOX The Insider Ent. Tonight	New Girl	Grand Brooklyn The Grinder	News					
	8 ABC Wheel Jeopardy!	Fresh-Boat Muppets	Marvel's Agent Carter (N) (HD)	News					
	MPBN PBS PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)	Finding Your Roots (N)	Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution	C. Rose					
	9 IND Marvel's Agent Carter	The Flash (N) (HD)	Marvel's Agent Carter	News-Lisa CTV News	Daily Show				
KIDS	13 CBS Ent. Tonight The Insider	NCIS (N) (HD)	NCIS: New Orleans (N)	Limitless (N) (HD)	News				
	22 FOX Mod Fam Mod Fam	New Girl	The Grinder	FOX 22 News at 10 (N)	Walk:Dead				
	33 IND M*A*S*H M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Happy Days Laverne	Hogan Hero Hogan Hero	C. Burnett				
	38 IND Big Bang Big Bang	The Walking Dead	The Walking Dead	WBZ News (N) (HD)	Seinfeld				
	NICK Paradise Henry	Henry Nicky, Ricky	Full House Full House	Full House Full House	Friends				
	DISN Girl Meets Austin	Jump In! (2007) Corbin Bleu.	Liv-Mad.	K.C. Under.	Best Fr.	Girl Meets			
	FREE Pretty Little Liars	Pretty Little Liars	Shadowhunters (N)	Pretty Little Liars	700 Club				
	HIST Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars Cnt. Cars	Forged in Fire (N)	Cnt. Cars				
	DISC Moonshiners	Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts	Moonshiners (N)	(:02) Killing Fields (N)	Moonshine				
	TLC The Little Couple	The Little Couple	Rattled (N)	Couple					
LEARN	A&E Married at First Sight	Married at First Sight	Married at First Sight (N)	(:01) Fit to Fat to Fit (N)	Married				
	ANPL River Monsters	River Monsters	Yellowstone: Battle for Life	Monsters					
	CSNE SportsNet Early	Celtics Blazers	Ski Journal Notre Dame	Sports SportsNet	Sports				
	ESPN College Basketball Michigan at Ohio State. (N)	College Basketball Florida at Georgia. (N)	College Basketball Iowa State at Baylor. (N)	SportCtr					
	ESPN2 College Basketball West Virginia at Texas. (N)	College Basketball	(:45) NHL Overtime (N)	Basketball					
	NBCSP NHL Live (N)	NHL Hockey Dallas Stars at St. Louis Blues. (N Subject to Blackout)	Sports	Red Sox Sports					
	NESN NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Columbus Blue Jackets. (N)	Bruins							
	CNBC The Profit	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	The Profit (N)	The Profit				
	CNN Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Special Report (N)	CNN Tonight	Cooper 360				
	FNC Greta Van Susteren	The O'Reilly Factor (N)	The Kelly File (N)	Hannity (N)	O'Reilly				
NEWS	MSNBC Hardball Chris Matthews	All In With Chris Hayes	Rachel Maddow Show	The Last Word	All In With				
	AMC (5:00) ** U.S. Marshals	*** The Bourne Identity (2002) (ESP) Matt Damon. (P6-13)	*** The Italian Job						
	BRV Real Housewives/Beverly	Real Housewives/Beverly	Real Housewives/Beverly	Girlfriends' Guide:Divorce	Happens				
	CMT Last Man Last Man	Last Man Last Man	* The Waterboy (1998, Comedy) Adam Sandler. (P6-13)						
	COM Tosh.0	(:24) Tosh.0 Tosh.0	Tosh.0 Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:29) Tosh.0 Tosh.0 (N) Not Safe	Daily Show			
	E! News (N)	Fashion Police (N)	Total Divas (N)	Just Jillian (N)	E! News				
	FOOD Chopped	Chopped	Chopped	Chopped	Chopped				
	FX *** Star Trek Into Darkness (2013, Science Fiction) Chris Pine. (P6-13)			The People v.	People				
	GAC Big Sky Big Sky	Big Sky Big Sky	Big Sky Big Sky	Big Sky Big Sky	Big Sky				
	HALL Last Man Last Man	Last Man Last Man	The Middle The Middle	The Middle The Middle	Golden Girls				
VARIETY	HGTV Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper (N)	Hunters Hunters Int'l	Fixer Upper				
	LIFE Dance Moms	Dance Moms (N)	Dance Moms (N)	(:06) Pitch Slapped (N)	Dance				
	MTV Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. Ridiculous.	Teen Wolf (N)	The Shannara Chronicles	Ridiculous.				
	OXY Prancing Elites	Prancing Elites	Prancing Elites	Prancing Elites	Prancing				
	SPIKE (5:00) Drive * Law Abiding Citizen (2009, Suspense) Jamie Foxx. (NR)			** Four Brothers (2005) (R)					
	SYFY ** Cloud Atlas (2012, Drama) Tom Hanks, Halle Berry. Actions in one time ripple across the centuries. (R)	Colony							
	TBN Supernat. Potters	Trinity J. Meyer	Prince Cornelius	Praise the Lord					
	TBS Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Big Bang	Big Bang Big Bang	Conan				
	TCM (4:45) *** Grand Prix	*** On the Waterfront (1954) Marlon Brando.		*** Anna and the King of Siam (NR)					
	TMC ** Pride (2007, Drama) Terrence Howard. (P6)	*** World Trade Center (2006) Nicolas Cage.		The 6th Day					
PREMIUM	TNT Castle	Castle	Rizzoli & Isles (N)	Rizzoli & Isles (N)	Rizzoli				
	TRAVEL Bizarre Foods America	Bizarre Foods America	Delicious Destinations	Goose Traveler	Bizarre				
	TRU Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers	Benzie 10 Things	10 Things				
	TVL Andy Griffith Andy Griffith	Everybody Raymond	Raymond Raymond	Raymond Raymond	King				
	USA NCIS	140th Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show (N)	Mod Fam						
	VH1 (6:30) ** Get Rich or Die Tryin' (2005) (R)	*** Bad Boys (1995, Action) Martin Lawrence, Will Smith. (R)							
	WGN-A (6:00) *** The Perfect Storm (2000) (P6-13)	Outsiders (N)	Outsiders	Outsiders					
	ENC (6:10) **** The Terminator (1984) (ESP) (R)	*** Point Break (1991) Patrick Swayze. An FBI man turns surfer to nab rubber-masked bank robbers.	(:05) ** Murder at 1600 (1997, Suspense) (ESP) Wesley Snipes. (R)						
	HBO (6:00) *** Dreamgirls (2006) (ESP) Jamie Foxx.	(:15) ** Entourage (2015) Kevin Connolly. Studio boss Ari Gold partners with movie star Vince Chase. (R)	Gonzaga: The Vinyl Richie reunites with March Lester Grimes. (ESP)						
	MAX (6:25) *** Neighbors (2014) Seth Rogen. (R)	(:05) ** Runaway Train (1985) Jon Voight. Two prison escapees become trapped on a brakeless train.	*** Mulholland Dr. (2001, Suspense) (ESP) Justin Theroux. (R)						
STARZ	(6:15) Catch Hell (2014) (ESP) Ryan Phillippe. (NR)	Billions Axe disappears	Michael Jackson's Journey From Motown to Off the Wall	(:35) Shameless Lip is called to appear. (ESP)					
	(6:20) * Sex Tape (2014) (ESP) Cameron Diaz. (R)	** The Bone Collector (1999, Suspense) (ESP) Denzel Washington, Angelina Jolie, Queen Latifah. (R)	Black Sails (ESP)	Avengers: Age					

Thousands of purebred dogs to vie for 140th Westminster title

BY LAILA KEARNEY
REUTERS

NEW YORK — From toy-sized Brussels Griffons to 200-pound Great Danes, thousands of purebred dogs are preparing to strut their stuff at this year's Westminster Kennel Club dog show in New York, one of the world's most prestigious events for pedigree breeders.

Some 2,700 dogs from more than a dozen countries have entered the competition, which kicks off on Monday. Now in its 140th year, the show is the second-longest continuously running sporting event in the United States after the Kentucky Derby.

"It's the best time of year," said show spokeswoman Gail Bisher. "Dogs take over New York."

All are vying for the top prize of Best in Show, to be announced on Tuesday evening at the finale of the two-day competition at Madison Square Garden.

This year will mark the last show co-hosted by David Frei, who is bowing out after a 27-year reign as the face of Westminster.

Nearly 200 breeds and varieties are eligible for this year's Westminster competition. As usual, Labrador retrievers and golden retrievers have the most entries, with 51 and 50 contestants respectively. The French bulldog, with 48 bated entries, comes in third.

Seven breeds — the Bergamasco, Lagotto Romagnolo, Berger Picard, Miniature American Shepherd, Boerboel, Spanish Water Dog and

Cirneco dell'Etna — will make their debuts this year, having just been added to the American Kennel Club's registry.

After judges select the best of each breed, the top dogs are narrowed down to best of each group: hound, toy, non-sporting, herding, sporting, working or terrier. The winners go on to compete for Best In Show, the contest's ultimate prize.

Leading up to each show, Johnny Avello, director of race and sports operations for Wynn Las Vegas casino, releases his predictions for winning breeds. His pick this year is a German shepherd.

Last February, a bouncy female beagle named Miss P was named the winner, earning a trophy and a U.S. media tour.