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Concert review: The Shindig Festival rocks Baltimore

This past weekend, rock fans from the Maryland area and beyond made their way to Carroll Park in the historic Pigtown neighborhood of Baltimore to attend this year's [Shindig Festival](#). The Shindig is one of the few true rock festivals to grace the Northeast Corridor, and judging by the long line of people waiting around the block to get into the park well after doortime, it was a much appreciated venture for rock-fest starved fans on the next-to-last Saturday of the Summer.

The music started in the early afternoon and continued all day long from the likes of Reverend Horton Heat, The Gaslight Anthem, Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Joan Jett, and Clutch, culminating in an epic set (as usual) from Dropkick Murphys. Typical festival comfort foods and various alcoholic treats were offered all over the park. A special Jack Daniels Airstream trailer glistened in the sun as patrons ordered up Jack-themed cocktails to go with their cheese fries and chicken tenders. Local businesses like Ottobar and the Baltimore branch of the Scores Gentleman's Club were on hand as well. The famous Oriole Bird roamed the grounds providing memorable photo opps for baseball fans, while hula hoop tricks were performed on the Ripley's Believe It Or Not stage.

The best thing about this particular festival was that the band stage times did not overlap. All too often at a music festival, fans regularly find themselves having to make a [Sophie's Choice](#) between two favorite bands, foregoing one to see the other play instead. With the exception of Joan Jett's set running a bit late (which lead to a slight overlap a few songs into Dropkick Murphys' headline set) fans who wanted to catch full sets were able to swiftly make their way back and forth between the two stages without missing much of any act's first song. The lineup was also great, featuring a good mix of rock legends, future legends, and up-and-comers. The event was big enough to be impressive, but small enough that it wasn't overwhelming. Here's hoping Shindig returns next year!

Check out my photos of Shindig bands and festival scenes [here](#).

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