

Beautimus and other sounds of the Nineties

We now pull out the final cargo in Tom Dyer's obscure and tenuous past: *Beautimus and other sounds of the Nineties*. Here's the lowdown.

Dyer: The songs on the album all come from the 90's and were all recorded at the now-shuttered Art Institute of Seattle (AIS), where I was faculty and later department director. I was working full-time, a dad and a student at the UW, so these were not real gigging bands; these were recording projects and I love to record! Only six of these nineteen songs have ever been released anywhere.

Beautimus was a hot rocking combo made of former students, folks from bands I had recorded and old pals. I had written this batch of songs and decided it would be big fun to pull something together and lay down some tracks. They were all better players than me – I liked that and we got things done fast. We even made a video for *The Prize*, which fortunately remains hidden in the mists of time. After the project was wrapped, we played one glorious show at The Sunset Tavern in Ballard opening for the Green Pajamas.

Gravy was a short-term studio-only beast with Scott McAllister and Dave Wheeler – these two songs are our collected works. They were made up all on the spot – no practice or planning, just glory. Marcel Rom was a friend of Scott's who happened by and we got her to sing on "Satellite."

B.L.O.G. (bunch of lame old guys) **1&2** were a faculty/staff bands tossed together over the between-quarter breaks. I mostly provided the songs - general mirth ensued. While most of the songs were written in advance, there was nothing resembling rehearsal involved – get the basic idea, hit record! Overdub a few bits, mix and head for the bar across the street at the Edgewater Inn (yes, the Beatles fished from their windows and Led Zep did the nasty with groupies and mud sharks there). "Heavin' Tiny Sandwiches" was a hidden track on *The Young and The Restless* compilation on the school's 3:23 Reckerds label. A music video of "We Are B.L.O.G." was entered in the AIS faculty show and put on endless loop in the gallery, much to the consternation of the receptionist.

It was only when I pulled this release together that I realized (duh) the whole thing was tied to the Art Institute in the 90's. The front cover is a self-portrait I created for the faculty art show – using a picture of me taken by a student, a Fender amplifier schematic and a NASA photo of Saturn. The entry was black and white and about 4 feet tall – big head! The back-cover photo was taken by a then-student on the roof of AIS – the inside picture was taken backstage at John Denver's show at the Moore Theater. He was on the AIS International Board of Advisors and I was there on official business. The young people in the photo were students of mine who were working the show. The packed house of grannies loved Mr. Denver.

This release empties the Tom Dyer closets of yore. Sleep easy.

- EPK: <https://greenmonkeyrecords.com/artist-tom-dyer/>
- Bandcamp: <https://greenmonkeyrecords.bandcamp.com/album/beautimus-and-other-sounds-of-the-nineties>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Tom-Dyers-Unpopular-Music-479699182040939/>

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Beautimus

1. Life is Perfect
2. Saturday
3. Must Have Lost My Mind (For A Minute)
4. 1 Time, 2 Time
5. Rhonda
6. The Prize
7. Across The Water
8. Julianne
9. Forever (for Fred Kroll)

Gravy

10. Zig Zag Red
11. Satellite

B.L.O.G. I

12. Crank It Up
13. Call On Me (#2)
14. I'm Your Man
15. Heavin' Tiny Sandwiches

B.L.O.G. II

16. X-ray
17. Into The Light
18. I Wanna Talk About It
19. We Are B.L.O.G.

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