

= The X @-@ Files : The Album =

The X @-@ Files : The Album is a 1998 soundtrack album released to accompany the film The X @-@ Files . Released on June 2 , 1998 , the album features songs by various artists , including several who had contributed to the earlier album Songs in the Key of X : Music from and Inspired by the X @-@ Files , and consists mostly of cover versions or reworkings of earlier material .

The X @-@ Files : The Album received mostly positive criticism upon its release , and charted in several countries worldwide , recording a peak position of number 5 in New Zealand .

= = Production = =

Although The X @-@ Files : The Album is the soundtrack to the 1998 film The X @-@ Files , only one of the album 's songs ? " Crystal Ship " by X ? is actually heard during the film , briefly playing on a jukebox during a brief scene . The album 's producer , David Was , intended to match the film 's tone rather than using the songs as content , leading to several of the artists involved contributing material which would seem " uncharacteristically eerie " compared to their usual work .

Many of the songs on The X @-@ Files : The Album are cover versions or reworkings of earlier material ? singer Sting collaborated with the group Aswad to perform a reggae cover of " Invisible Sun " , which he had earlier recorded with The Police ; Filter 's " One " is a rearrangement of a song made famous by Three Dog Night ; while Foo Fighters contributed a new version of their song " Walking After You " . All but one of the album 's tracks are exclusive to the soundtrack , with Björk 's " Hunter " having been previously released on the 1997 album Homogenic . Several of the artists on the album 's roster ? Foo Fighters , Filter and Soul Coughing ? had previously contributed material to Songs in the Key of X : Music from and Inspired by the X @-@ Files , the soundtrack album which accompanied the television series ; however , Chris Carter , creator of The X @-@ Files , stated before the album 's release that although " there are some similarities " between the records , " there are different artists and a different flavor " .

The inclusion of a track by the group Ween was spurred by fact that The X @-@ Files star David Duchovny had first met then @-@ wife Téa Leoni through their mutual appreciation for the group ; while The Cranberries were approached about contributing material after Carter saw them performing on a tour of the United States . The Filter cover of " One " was deliberately constructed by Was once he realized that Duchovny had ad @-@ libbed the song 's opening line during one of the film 's scenes . The album 's final track ? a cover by Dust Brothers of Mark Snow 's opening theme for the television series ? features a hidden track which plays after a period of silence . The track features a spoken word segment by Carter which explains the series ' overarching mythology up to the film 's release .

The European and Japanese releases include an extra track , " Tubular X " by Mike Oldfield . This is a variation of Mark Snow 's " The X @-@ Files Theme " incorporating elements of Oldfield 's Tubular Bells .

= = Track listing = =

= = Release = =

The X @-@ Files : The Album was first released on June 2 , 1998 , with international releases occurring between July and October that same year . The soundtrack appeared in several charts upon its release , reaching a peak position of 26 in the United States ' Billboard 200 albums chart , 21 in Austria 's Ö3 Austria Top 40 , 27 in Australia 's ARIA Charts , and 5 ? its highest chart position ? in the Official New Zealand Music Chart .

= = Reception = =

The X @-@ Files : The Album has received generally positive reviews . AllMusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine awarded the soundtrack four stars out of five , calling it " the best alt @-@ rock soundtrack of the summer of 1998 " . Erlewine felt that the album was more polished and well @-@ produced than Songs in the Key of X ; however , he noted that this came at the expense of the earlier record 's " quirky " and " off @-@ kilter " aesthetic . Erlewine singled out " Beacon Light " and " Hunter " as particular highlights of the album . Jim Rogatis of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times rated the album one @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half stars out of four , finding the album to be predictable and " phone [d] in " ; he highlighted the songs by Filter , Foo Fighters , Björk and Ween to be particular low points for him .

Writing for Entertainment Weekly , David Brown rated the album a B ? , finding that it " isn ' t eccentric enough " compared to the film or series . Browne found that the contributions by Noel Gallagher and Ween matched the tone of The X @-@ Files , but felt that Tonic , Filter , Sting and Aswad had been included out of commercial rather than artistic interest . Keith Phipps of the The A.V. Club considered the soundtrack to be less interesting than the accompanying film score , finding the album 's roster to be formulaic and several of its tracks to not be particularly " revelatory " or " radical " .