

= Since I Left You =

Since I Left You is the debut studio album by Australian electronic music group The Avalanches , released on 27 November 2000 . It was issued on Modular Recordings and produced by The Avalanches ' members Robbie Chater and Darren Seltmann ( under the pseudonym Bobbydazzler ) . The album uses sampling extensively , containing an estimated 3 @, @ 500 samples from various genres of music . The album was created in two separate near @-@ identical studios by Chater and Seltmann , exchanging audio mixes of records they sampled .

After the album 's positive reception in Australia , the duo considered an international release ? its date was held back until 2001 in both the United Kingdom and North America and appeared in slightly altered forms . The delay and changes occurred so that the group could obtain permission to use the samples or use replacements . Five singles were released on the album , " Electricity " , " Frontier Psychiatrist " , " Since I Left You " , " Radio " and " A Different Feeling " . The group promoted the album by organizing headlining tours in Australia , Europe and the United States .

Since I Left You was issued to favourable reception , it peaked in the top 30 on the ARIA Albums Chart , number 12 in Norway , number eight on the UK Album Charts and , in the United States , at number ten on the Top Electronic Albums chart and in the top 40 on the Top Heatseekers chart . At the ARIA Music Awards of 2001 it won in three categories : Breakthrough Artist ? Album and Best Dance Release , Producer of the Year for Bobbydazzler . The Avalanches won a fourth award , Breakthrough Artist ? Single for " Frontier Psychiatrist " . Since I Left You became one of the best reviewed albums of the 2000s . In October 2010 , it was listed at No. 10 in the book , 100 Best Australian Albums .

= = Production = =

Since I Left You is the debut studio album by The Avalanches . They started recording in 1999 and had used the working title of Pablo 's Cruise . The duo primarily worked with a Yamaha Promix 01 and Akai S2000 samplers . The band 's members , Darren Seltmann and Robbie Chater , spent hours sampling music from vinyl records to create the songs on the album : Chater estimates that there are over 3 @, @ 500 samples . After sampling and arranging , the pair would swap their tapes , listen to each other 's ideas and expand on whatever they had heard . Despite working separately , both Chater and Seltmann had nearly identical studio set @-@ ups .

Initially , Seltmann and Chater were not planning for an international release . They were not concerned with copyright restrictions and so did not keep a list of which tracks were being sampled . According to Chater they " were really unorganised and were just sampling on the fly as tracks progressed ... We had no idea the record would get such a wide @-@ scale release so we saw no need to keep track of what we were using ? we were definitely guilty of harbouring a ' No @-@ one 's going to listen to it anyway ' sort of attitude . " The sources spanned many different styles of music and sampled artists include : Françoise Hardy , Blowfly , Sérgio Mendes , Raekwon , Wayne and Shuster and Madonna . Seltmann felt that " [ t ] he more rejected and unwanted the record that a sample comes from , the more appealing it is , I guess it 's almost a reaction to rare record finding , but occasionally things like ' Holiday ' come up " . He described how making sample tapes for each other created some samples which were intended as " funny samples " that they had no original intention to get clearance for . In particular , Madonna 's song " ' Holiday ' was one of those where we put something together , ended it with ' Holiday ' and all had a big laugh . It ended up where we couldn 't live without it so I guess we just had to make that one work " . Later , Seltmann and Chater had a few problems when trying to clear all the samples . One sample that had to be removed was from Rodgers and Hammerstein in the intro that featured harps and girls singing . After checking clearances , " [ t ] he album is slightly different to its original form in that it had a whole new introduction , which apparently was really recognisable , so we had to take that off straight away " . The group played their songs to flatmates to get input on which tracks were worth including on the album . " Electricity " was the first song the group felt that worked ; it was a last @-@ minute addition to the album as The Avalanches felt the song " still sounds good " . In early 2000 ,

Seltmann ( as Dazzler ) and Chater ( as Bobby C ) finished production on the album , using the pseudonym Bobbydazzler . It had received the official title , Since I Left You in March 2000 .

= = Style and themes = =

Since I Left You was originally developed to be a concept album . Chater described its initial theme as a love story , " an international search for love from country to country . The idea of a guy following a girl around the world and always being one port behind . And that was just because we had all these records from all over the world , and we 'd like to use all that stuff . " The concept album idea was abandoned when the group felt they should not make their themes too obvious . The album 's sound was in response to dance music at that time , that Chater felt was " about big drums , big production : think of a record like the Chemical Brothers " Block Rockin ' Beats " , with those amazing drums , and how huge those records sounded " . The Avalanches felt their early music could not compare to that sound and desired a recording with less bass that was influenced by 1960s music such as The Beach Boys and Phil Spector .

= = Release = =

As Since I Left You was being recorded , The Avalanches had trouble choosing songs to be released as singles , finding them not sounding as good outside the context of the album . On 13 September 1999 they issued " Electricity " as a four @-@ track 12 " vinyl single in Australia ( on Modular Recordings ) and as a two @-@ track 7 " vinyl single in the United Kingdom ( on Rex Records ) . Chater felt that Modular was very patient with the group releasing the record . On 21 August 2000 , the next single for the album was " Frontier Psychiatrist " which was issued by Modular in Australia in both a four @-@ track and two @-@ track version . The initial release date for Since I Left You was going to be 11 September ; however , it was delayed due to issues with sample clearance . On 27 November the album was issued in Australia with plans to have a world release in early 2001 . The later release date outside Australia was due to additional sample clearances needed for international markets . To celebrate the album 's release in Melbourne , the group had a boat cruise party through Port Phillip Bay . In February 2001 they released the album 's title track in Australia and followed in July 2001 with " Radio " .

In April Since I Left You was released in the UK through XL Records with the album selling far more copies than the label 's original target amount . On 28 April , it entered the UK Album Charts , which peaked at number eight and remained in the chart for 25 weeks . In late March , the single " Since I Left You " was issued in the UK and entered the charts at number 16 on 7 April 2001 . On 6 November , Since I Left You was released in the United States by Sire Records . The album charted on the US Top Electronic Albums , peaking at number ten , and on the Top Heatseekers chart , peaking at number 31 .

In July 2011 , a deluxe re @-@ issue of Since I Left You was announced that would include the original album as well as a bonus disc containing b @-@ sides , demo tracks and remixes of songs from the original album by artists including El Guincho , MF Doom , Black Dice and The Avalanches themselves .

= = = Tour = = =

To promote Since I Left You The Avalanches organised their first Australian head @-@ lining tour in October 2000 planning to head to all the capital cities . All dates on the tour were sold out . In their Brisbane show , Seltmann broke his leg in an on @-@ stage collision with bass guitarist and singer , Tony Di Blasi . In January ? February 2001 , The Avalanches toured with the Big Day Out festival in Australia , visiting four capital cities . While on tour in Europe , Seltmann broke his other leg , thereafter the rest of the tour 's shows were DJ sets . The British dance music magazine Muzik awarded The Avalanches as best live act .

= = Reception = =

Seltmann and Chater did not initially think that *Since I Left You* would receive much attention . However , the album garnered widespread critical acclaim from the music industry . At Metacritic , which assigns a normalised rating out of 100 to reviews from mainstream critics , it received an average score of 89 , based on 21 reviews . It became one of the best reviewed albums of 2001 , as well as being the highest rated dance album on that site . The album peaked in the top 30 on the ARIA Albums Chart and number 12 in Norway on the VG @-@ lista Top 40 Albums Chart . At the ARIA Music Awards of 2001 , The Avalanches won four awards from nine nominations , including Breakthrough Artist ? Album , Best Dance Release and Producer of the Year ( for Chater and Seltmann aka Bobbydazzler ) for *Since I Left You* . The fourth award win was for the related single , " Frontier Psychiatrist " as Breakthrough Artist ? Single .

Christian Ward of NME hailed it as " a joyous , kaleidoscopic masterpiece of sun @-@ kissed disco @-@ pop " , while Andy Kellman of AllMusic called it one of the most intimate and emotional dance records that is not vocal @-@ based . Marc Savlov of The Austin Chronicle found the album as surprising as " Primal Scream 's life @-@ changing *Screamadelica* was a decade ago . It 's downright shocking how fun this is " . Pitchfork Media 's Matt LeMay credited the Avalanches for developing a " unique context " for the songs without compromising their original " distinct flavor " and said that the album " sounds like nothing else " because of how the samples are employed rather than their quality or volume . Q magazine 's Gareth Grundy remarked that its clever music is delivered as engagingly as " more conventional dance sounds " and that the album " finally fulfils sampling 's original promise " of producing new , extraordinary sounds from artfully appropriated pieces of existing songs . Amy Bell of *Drowned in Sound* praised it as one of the year 's best albums .

Robert Christgau of The Village Voice was less enthusiastic and said that the Avalanches deliver " the long @-@ promised new @-@ songs @-@ from @-@ old @-@ songs trick , in which untrackable samples are stitched together until they mesh into compelling music that never existed before . Unfortunately , the music in question is string @-@ section disco . " Stylus Magazine 's Tyler Martin felt that the tracks lack innovation , nuance , and rhythmic complexity , but that several of them are exceptional . The website later placed the album at number 16 on their list of top 50 albums from 2000 to 2005 . In a retrospective review for The New Rolling Stone Album Guide , Michaelangelo Matos praised the Avalanches ' balance of " the familiar and obscure " through their sampling techniques and their " playful , airy grooves " , as well as the album 's " surprisingly resonant emotional core " .

= = = Accolades = = =

*Since I Left You* was placed in some year @-@ end polls . Pitchfork Media placed *Since I Left You* at number three in their top twenty albums of 2001 poll and number 10 on their list of top 200 albums of the 2000s , declaring the album " a masterpiece of mood @-@ setting that riffs off an ideal where getting on an airplane and landing in another corner of the world was the most exotic thing a person could do . " Q listed it as one of the best 50 albums of 2001 . The album was voted the 11th best album of the year in The Village Voice 's annual Pazz & Jop critics poll for 2001 . In 2008 , the Australian newspaper The Age assembled a panel of experts ranging from its own critics and music journalists to musicians , broadcasters , record shop owners and band managers to pick a list of definitive fifty Australian albums . *Since I Left You* was included on this list with Chris Johnston declaring the album to be " a beautiful piece of musical art made entirely from samples . " *Since I Left You* was placed at number six on The Daily Telegraph 's list of " 50 most influential Australian albums ever " . Resident Advisor declared it to be the seventh best album of the decade .

On Slant Magazine 's " Best of the Aughts " list , the album was placed at number six out of one @-@ hundred . Reflecting on the album 's reception , Chater felt it was well received because " It 's light @-@ hearted and fun to listen to and there is depth there as well . There are some sadder moments that I think has made it resonate and made it last . It does sound like a 23 year old kid in

his bedroom making a record to me , but you can hear that innocence and joy in the discovery of finding all those sounds . So that was kind of infectious for people . " In October 2010 , it was listed at No. 10 in the book , 100 Best Australian Albums . Philip Sherburne , writing for Rhapsody , said that " along with DJ Shadow 's Endtroducing , this is one of plunderphonic music 's greatest LPs . " The album was also included in the book 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die .

= = Track listing = =

= = Personnel = =

Credits according to album notes and AllMusic .

= = Charts = =