

= Ysbeidiau Heulog =

" Ysbeidiau Heulog " (pronounced [?s?b?idia (?) ?h??l??] ; English : " Sunny Intervals ") is the twelfth single by Super Furry Animals . It was the only single to be taken from the album Mwng and was released as a limited edition 7 " vinyl on the band 's own Placid Casual label on 1 May 2000 . It was the band 's first single to chart outside the UK Singles Top 75 peaking at number 89 . The Welsh language song has been described by singer Gruff Rhys as " throwaway pop " and likened to the music of ELO , The West Coast Pop Art Experimental Band and Os Mutantes .

Critical reaction to the track was generally positive with some reviewers comparing the song to the work of Roxy Music . The track appears on 2004 's singles compilation album Songbook : The Singles , Vol . 1 but is not included on the DVD release as no music video was made .

= = Themes and recording = =

Singer Gruff Rhys has described " Ysbeidiau Heulog " as " throwaway pop ... old time pop music " , likening the song to the work of ELO and going on to claim that it is a tribute to late 1960s pop bands such as The West Coast Pop Art Experimental Band and Os Mutantes . Rhys has stated that his lyrics are about " looking back at a bad time which had the odd good moment " and that " If there 's any song that doesn 't sum up [Mwng] it 's [' Ysbeidiau Heulog '] ! " The track was recorded in 1999 at Famous Studios , Cardiff and was engineered by Greg Haver . Overdubs were added at Ofn studios , Llanfaelog , Wales with the help of Gorwel Owen who also mixed the song at the studio along with the Super Furry Animals . B @-@ side " Charge " was recorded for an episode of BBC Radio 1 's The John Peel Show , which aired on 1 March 2000 . The track was produced for the BBC by Simon Askew and engineered by Nick Fountain .

= = Musical structure = =

" Ysbeidiau Heulog " is 2 minutes 51 seconds long and is in the key of B major . The track begins with an intro with a lead guitar melody , which plays twice , accompanied by drums , bass , distorted rhythm guitar and saxophone . The first verse begins on 14 seconds with Gruff Rhys singing the lines " Fe gawsom ni , ysbeidiau heulog , ysbeidiau heulog " with a vocoder being used on the second " ysbeidiau heulog " . This entire phrase is then repeated , with Rhys accompanied by harmony backing vocals . Throughout this first part of the verse the only instrumentation is a distorted bass guitar and drums . The second half of the verse begins at 28 seconds with rhythm guitar , playing the chords B , B , A and E twice with little sustain , joining the drums and bass , which is no longer distorted . The track breaks down for the first chorus with Rhys singing " ysbeidiau heulog " four times backed by harmony vocals and occasional keyboard noises with the band rejoining on the last " heulog " , the rhythm guitar playing an A chord on each of the word 's two syllables which are emphasised by cymbal crashes . After a drum fill an instrumental passage begins at 53 seconds . This follows the same arrangement as the intro although the lead guitar plays a melody line just once during the second half of the section , simply feedingback for the first half . The second verse starts at 1 minute 8 seconds leading into the second chorus which this time features drums fills and rhythm guitar alongside Rhys ' vocals . A short bridge plays at the end of the chorus with Rhys singing " Oedd ein cariad ni , heulog tan ddaeth glaw yn llif " . Instrumentation is sparse with a guitar , featuring flanging , playing several licks alongside bass and drums , which are heavily affected by flanging . The bridge leads into the third and last chorus , which follows the arrangement of the second chorus although this time the drums feature flanging . The track ends with an instrumental outro similar to the intro . The outro begins at 2 minutes 16 seconds and features a second lead guitar with a wah @-@ wah effect playing licks alongside the main lead guitar and saxophone . After the guitar melody has played twice the main lead guitar stops playing and the track begins to fade out .

= = Release and critical response = =

" Ysbeidiau Heulog " was released as a limited edition 7 " vinyl single on the Super Furry Animal 's own Placid Casual label on 1 May 2000 . It was the band 's first single to chart outside the UK Singles Top 75 peaking at number 89 . It received a generally positive response from critics . The track was awarded ' Single of the Week ' in the May 10 ? 16 , 2000 issue of the Melody Maker by guest reviewers the Dum Dums who gave the song a perfect five @-@ star rating and claimed that it is a " summery , karaoke @-@ pop hit " . Pitchfork Media called " Ysbeidiau Heulog " the best track on parent album Mwng and described it as a " decidedly retro number that combines the swingin ' sounds of the ' 60s with some high @-@ tech vocal effects " . In a 2006 feature on the Super Furry Animals ' back catalogue Incendiary Magazine called the track a " clever slice of pop " . In a play on words on the track 's meaning in English , Drowned in Sound stated that " Ysbeidiau Heulog " was Mwng 's " sunny interval " and wouldn 't feel out of place on 1999 's Guerrilla . Both the NME and Rolling Stone likened the track to the work of Roxy Music with the former calling it " happily woozy " and the latter claiming it is a " spunky , sax @-@ spiked bop " . The NME also placed the track at number 33 in their single of the year list for 2000 . Yahoo ! Music described the track as a " playground free @-@ for @-@ all ... frazzled and psychedelic " . Art Sperr , writing for Rock 's Backpages in December 2000 , was critical of the track , calling it " flimsy " . The track appears on vinyl and CD copies of the band 's singles compilation album Songbook : The Singles , Vol . 1 but is not included on the DVD release as no music video was made .

= = = Accolades = = =

= = Track listing = =

All songs by Super Furry Animals .

7 " (PLC02)

" Ysbeidiau Heulog " ? 2 : 52

" Charge " ? 3 : 19

= = Personnel = =

Gruff Rhys ? vocals

Huw Bunford ? guitar

Guto Pryce ? bass guitar

Cian Ciaran ? keyboards

Dafydd Ieuan ? drums

Gary Alesbrook ? trumpet

Matt Sibley ? saxophone

= = Singles chart positions = =