

= Tomahawk ( album ) =

Tomahawk is the debut studio album by American experimental rock band Tomahawk . Recorded after a meeting between vocalist Mike Patton and guitarist Duane Denison , the album features members of Faith No More , The Jesus Lizard , Helmet and Melvins . The band toured with Tool in support of the record , but were not well received by Tool 's fans .

Released on October 30 , 2001 , through Patton 's record label Ipecac Recordings , Tomahawk has received positive attention from critics , with most appraisals drawing attention to the versatility of Patton 's vocals . The album charted in both Australia and the United States , reaching a peak of number 20 in the Billboard Independent Albums countdown .

= = Production = =

For Tomahawk , the band is composed of Mike Patton , vocalist for Faith No More and Mr. Bungle ; Duane Denison , guitarist for The Jesus Lizard ; Kevin Rutmanis , bass player for Melvins ; and John Stanier , drummer for Helmet . Patton and Denison met in 2000 at a Mr. Bungle concert in Nashville , Tennessee , and began exchanging music . From there , the two began to jam together with a view to releasing an album . Patton described the new group as " the closest thing to a rock band I 've been involved with for a while " .

The band hired Joe Funderburk to produce the album ; Funderburk had previously worked with Emmylou Harris and The Judds . The album was released through Ipecac Recordings , the record label owned by Patton and Greg Werckman . Ipecac is also home to Rutmanis ' band Melvins , whose vocalist and guitarist Buzz Osborne had previously collaborated with Patton as a member of Fantômas .

= = Release and reception = =

Tomahawk was released on October 30 , 2001 . The album was supported by a tour in which the band supported Tool ; however , Tools fans were unreceptive to Tomahawk and frequently booed their performances .

Writing for AllMusic , Blake Butler rated Tomahawk four stars out of five , describing the album as " moody , violent , beautiful , sarcastic , vomitive , silly [ and ] heartstopping " . Butler praised Patton 's versatility , calling the vocalist " a complete and utter musical visionary , and a mind @-@ blowing and standard @-@ warping genius " . Pitchfork 's Luke Buckman award the album a rating of 7 out of 10 , similarly highlighting Patton 's vocals as exemplary . Buckman called Patton " one of the greatest male vocalists around today " ; and felt that " Flashback " and " Cul de Sac " were among the album 's best songs . Mark Reed of Drowned in Sound rated the album 8 out of 10 , noting the " wit " and " style " of the songwriting . Reed felt that the album was among the most conventional of those recorded by Patton , but still described it as featuring " supercatchy , earstretching vocals , dark lyrics rich in black humour , swathes of crunchy guitars and some of the most unusual rhythms to be played by human hands since time began " .

Writing for the Boston Herald , Butch Lazorchak rated Tomahawk three stars out of four , finding that it " makes mincemeat out of the new @-@ metal Johnny @-@ come @-@ latelies " . Lazorchak described the album as having " an updated ' 70s hard rock approach that echoes Blue Öyster Cult at its sinister best " , and found the opening song " Flashback " to be a " head @-@ crushing pleasure " . Reviewing a leg of the album 's supporting tour for The Irish Times , Peter Crawley felt that " Sir Yes Sir " was a highlight of the album , due to Patton 's " dark utterings " and Rutmanis ' " drilling bassline " . Writing for CMJ New Music Monthly , Dana Buoniconti compared the album to the soundtracks of David Lynch 's film and television work ? specifically likening " Honeymoon " and " Sweet Smell of Success " to the Twin Peaks theme . Buoniconti found Tomahawk to be " unsettling and unwholesome " , but " thoroughly appealing " .

= = Track listing = =

All songs written and composed by Tomahawk ( Mike Patton , Duane Denison , Kevin Rutmanis and John Stanier ) .

= = Personnel = =

= = Chart performance = =

Tomahawk reached its highest chart position on the United States Independent Albums chart , reaching a peak position of 20 and spending two weeks in that chart . It also reached a peak of 31 in that country 's Top Heatseekers chart . It spent one week in the Australian ARIA Charts , reaching number 37 .