

= The Beacon Street Collection =

The Beacon Street Collection is the second studio album by American rock band No Doubt , released in March 1993 . It was released independently by the band under their own record label , Beacon Street Records . It was produced by No Doubt themselves and recorded in a homemade recording studio in the garage of their house on Beacon Avenue in Anaheim , California , from which the album takes its name . Additional recording and mixing were done at Clear Lake Audio in North Hollywood , California with engineer Colin " Dog " Mitchell .

The album was released during a time in which the band were receiving little attention from their record label , Interscope Records , and were not getting a chance to record a second album . Interscope were disillusioned with the band after the commercial failure of their first album , No Doubt . No Doubt had written large numbers of songs and knew that they would not make it onto any Interscope album , so they built their own studio and recorded the album there . Two singles were released from it : " Squeal " and " Doghouse " on 7 @-@ inch vinyl .

The album sold over 100 @,@ 000 copies in 1993 , over three times as many as their first album sold . This success ensured that Interscope financed the band 's third album , Tragic Kingdom , which was a massive success , selling 16 million copies worldwide and attracting extensive interest in the band . The Beacon Street Collection was re @-@ released in 1997 as part of the band 's back catalog .

= = Background = =

No Doubt released their self @-@ titled debut album in 1992 , a year after being signed to Interscope . The group 's blend of upbeat brass @-@ dominated songs and funk @-@ style bass riffs came at a time when most of the United States was in the thrall of grunge music , a genre whose angst @-@ ridden lyrics and dirty sound could not have contrasted more with the atmosphere of most of the songs on No Doubt 's pop @-@ oriented album . Not surprisingly , the band lost out to the now @-@ ubiquitous grunge music and the album was a commercial failure , with only 30 @,@ 000 copies sold . In the words of the program director of KROQ , a Los Angeles radio station on which it was one of the band 's driving ambitions to be played : " It would take an act of God for this band to get on the radio . "

The band started to work on its second album in 1993 but Interscope , having lost faith in the band , rejected most of its material and so it was paired with producer Matthew Wilder . Kanal then ended his seven @-@ year relationship with Gwen , saying that he needed " space " .

= = Music = =

A large number of songs on The Beacon Street Collection were written by Eric Stefani , who left the group before their third album was recorded . This gave the album a similar sound to their first album , No Doubt , in which Eric Stefani had collaborated in the writing of all the songs . Because the lyrics in Tragic Kingdom were written mainly by Gwen Stefani about her experiences in life , the style of music changed from what No Doubt had previously produced . Tom Dumont explained the change in sound in an interview for Backstage Online :

" Well , there is a reason that the sound of our music has changed and it 's not because we 've sold out , easy for me to say . Eric , our keyboard player used to write most of our songs . He was the main creative force in the band for many years . And at a certain point after that first album came out , he had this personal thing , like he didn 't like touring , he didn 't like all that stuff . He just liked to sit down and write songs . That 's him . He 's the artistic side , the total Mr. Creative .

Well what happened is when Eric decided to leave the band it left the song writing to us , me , Gwen , Tony , the rest of us and it 's a really natural thing for our song writing style to be different than Eric 's . Just we 're different people . I mean we 've learned a lot from him and he taught us a lot of things about song writing , but we write simpler music . We have a simpler style . We 're not quite Genius like him I think . This album was our first attempt. it was Gwen 's first time really writing

all the lyrics herself so to me , it went the opposie from selling out we have done something that is even more personal . In the past , Eric was writing songs about his life and having Gwen sing them . Now we have Gwen singing and writing about her own experiences . "

= = = Production = = =

No Doubt became frustrated at the lack of progress they were making with Interscope , who were proving unreliable in their support of the band . Instead , they built their own studio in their garage on Beacon Avenue in Anaheim , California Although the band had knowledge that they didn 't want any songs to be released in an Interscope @-@ distributed album , they recorded The Beacon Street Collection in their studio and Clear Lake Audio in one long weekend . Their independence shocked their company representative , Tony Ferguson , who had assumed they were recording a third single .

= = = Singles = = =

In 1994 , before recording of the album had even begun , No Doubt released two seven @-@ inch singles for their fans . The first was " Squeal " , a song written by Eric Stefani , detailing a criminal 's reaction to her partner 's betrayal to the police . They had agreed to be " in this together " but , after he " squeals " , she resolves to " kill the narc who wrote it and said it [that she was guilty of a crime] " . The single 's B @-@ side was " My Room Is Still Clean " , written by Tony Kanal and recorded live at the Icehouse in Fullerton , California on February 13 , 1993 .

The second single was " Doghouse " , written by Eric Stefani . It is about a man who is bullied and dominated by his girlfriend and is unwilling to force the situation to change . The song uses the metaphor of a dog and its master to illustrate the nature of the relationship , saying that she had got him " by the reins " and he has been " conditioned " by her . The single 's B @-@ side was " You Can 't Teach an Ol ' Dog New Tricks " , written by Eric Stefani .

= = Reception = =

= = = Significance = = =

On its original release in March 1995 , The Beacon Street Collection was only available in local record stores in Orange County , California and at No Doubt 's shows . Its rawer sound proved popular with the band 's fans and the band 's first batch of one thousand copies sold out within only a few months after its release . Interscope realized the band 's potential and allowed them to record their third album , Tragic Kingdom in various Los Angeles studios , " wherever they could get a deal on a studio " . During a recording session , the band was introduced to Paul Palmer , who was interested in mixing the new album . He owned his own record label Trauma Records , which was associated with Interscope . Interscope willingly sublicensed the project to Trauma Records in 1995 and Tragic Kingdom got the personal focus that comes from a small company .

By the end of the year , 100 @,@ 000 copies of The Beacon Street Collection had been sold , over three times as many as their first album , No Doubt . These sales were mostly due to the release of Tragic Kingdom , which was released seven months after The Beacon Street Collection in October 1995 . Tragic Kingdom was a massive commercial success , reaching sales of over 10 million in the United States and 16 million worldwide , peaking at number one on several charts and being certified " diamond " (10 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 units = Diamond album) in the US and Canada and " platinum " in the UK and Australia . This success created an extensive interest in the band 's back catalog so , in October 1997 , The Beacon Street Collection was re @-@ released on Interscope .

In an interview with Axxess Magazine in April 1996 , Gwen Stefani described the release of The Beacon Street Collection as " one of the best things [they] ever did because [they] were able to take some songs that would have probably gotten lost and document them " .

== Critical ==

Allmusic called the album " finer than the [band 's] debut " , and described it as containing more of a " raw sound inspired [...] by punk " than the style of No Doubt 's first album , which was heavily " synth and new wave " . Entertainment Weekly , in 1997 , called it " more focused than Tragic Kingdom " with " reggae frat @-@ house grooves and perky horns " , and complimented " Gwen 's feisty Kewpie @-@ doll wail " and the " swaying ballads " , attributing it to " the band 's willing spirit " . Rock on the Net retrospectively called the album " a raw expression of their sound " and describing it as " 80s punk with 90s grunge .

== Track listing ==

== Credits ==

== Personnel ==

Gwen Stefani - vocals
Tom Dumont - guitar
Tony Kanal - bass
Adrian Young - percussion , drums
Eric Stefani - keyboard
Phil Jordan - trumpet
Eric Carpenter - saxophone
Additional personnel
Bradley Nowell - vocals
Gabrial McNair - percussion , trombone
Gerard Boisse- baritone , tenor , soprano saxophones

== Production ==

Producer : No Doubt
Engineers : Ray Blair , Tom Dumont , Colin " Dog " Mitchell
Mixing : Tom Dumont , Nicholas Hexum , Colin " Dog " Mitchell , No Doubt , Scott Ralston , Adrian Young
Mixing assistants : Nick Hexum , Scott Ralston , Adrian Young
Mastering : Robert Vosgien
Advisor : Albhy Galuten
Design : Gwen Stefani
Layout design : Matt Wignall
Liner notes : No Doubt

== Release history ==

All information is from the Allmusic page and No Doubt 's official website discography .