

= Beautiful Garbage =

Beautiful Garbage (stylized as beautifulgarbage) is the third studio album by American @-@ Scottish alternative rock band Garbage , released on September 27 , 2001 by Mushroom Records . Marking a departure from the sound Garbage had established on their first two albums , Beautiful Garbage was written and recorded over the course of a year , during which time lead singer Shirley Manson chronicled their efforts weekly online , becoming one of the first high @-@ profile musicians to keep an Internet blog . The album is marked by expanding on the musical variety , with stronger melodies , more direct lyrics , and sounds that mix rock with electronica , new wave , hip hop , and girl groups . The album 's title is taken directly from a lyric in the song " Celebrity Skin " by Hole .

Released three weeks after the September 11 attacks , the album suffered from lack of promotion , mixed reaction from critics , and the failure of its lead single " Androgyny " to achieve high chart positions . Despite faltering in major markets , Beautiful Garbage debuted at number 13 on the Billboard 200 , while topping the albums chart in Australia and peaking within the top 10 in multiple European countries . It was named one of Rolling Stone 's " Top 10 Albums of the Year " .

= = Background = =

The origins of Beautiful Garbage came from a three @-@ day September 1999 recording session during Garbage 's world tour in support of their second album Version 2 @.@ 0 . The sessions resulted in " Silence Is Golden " and " Til the Day I Die " , which were written for a proposed B @-@ sides album . Both songs were loose and organic , contrasting the very dense layered production that featured on Version 2 @.@ 0 . " Silence Is Golden " in particular had been written with an odd structure for a Garbage song : a 6 / 8 shuffle that progressed to a straight 4 / 4 beat .

The sale of the band 's North American independent record label Almo Sounds to Universal Music Group in early 2000 put the B @-@ sides album on hold ; Garbage decided to simply start work on recording their third album instead . Garbage began writing and recording the album at their own Smart Studios in Madison , Wisconsin in April of that year . " The only vision we had was that we wanted it to sound different , " recalled guitarist Duke Erikson about the influence that the two new tracks had cast , adding that the band wished to evolve the chemistry that the band had developed from touring the previous two years .

= = Composition = =

More diverse than their first two studio albums , musically more melodic and lyrically more direct , Beautiful Garbage featured electronica fused with contemporary hip hop , with influences coming from 1980s new wave to 1960s girl groups . Garbage acknowledged the broad span of sounds and styles , which included Prince , The Rolling Stones , Blondie , and Phil Spector . Regarding the melancholic lyrics , Manson stated they happened because after two years touring " we were very isolated and removed from our lives " , so when writing the lyrics , " I felt an overwhelming sense that I need to reinvest in my ' relations ' " .

Drummer Butch Vig stated that the album is a " much simpler record than Version 2 @.@ 0 " : " All of the songs sort of came from us playing live downstairs [in Smart Studios] with guitar , bass and drums ... That was the only conscious decision we made ? to make the songs simpler . Some of the songs are still layered in spots ; compared to the last record , there 're about half as many tracks . As far as sounds go , it 's basically drums , bass , some heavy guitars and Shirley singing . " Erikson agreed that a more organic sound and simplistic approach with respect to production is embodied by the final mix of the album . " A lot of songs took shape in just a few hours as opposed to a few months with the last record . [...] Some of the songs obviously took a long time , or we wouldn 't have been in the studio for a full year . But a lot of them happened very quickly . ' Silence Is Golden ' we recorded basically in three days and it was done . ' So Like a Rose , ' for the most part , was recorded in three hours . I think we spent a lot of time just trying to resist adding stuff to [the new album] . Because that was our tendency on the other two records . ? On the lyrical content of the

songs , Vig remarked that " [Manson 's lyrics] aren 't specifically responses to the industry , but they could be read that way . Shirley has said that , for example , ' Shut Your Mouth ' is about all the bullshit that 's out there , but it 's also a sort of note to self to keep your mouth shut , because she says she 's the biggest , most opinionated loudmouth of anyone around . So they work on multiple levels . "

Garbage decided the best way to start writing the album was to set up their recording equipment , guitars , keyboards , drum kit and a sampler and " jam " as a group . Their improvisation led the inspiration of a few songs such as " Shut Your Mouth " , where the band played for three hours while Manson spontaneously composed melody and lyrics , while " Breaking Up the Girl " came from both Erikson and Vig strumming acoustic guitars in the studio lounge . The band felt that it was foremost that the new songs worked on an emotional level with Manson 's vocals and lyrics . The initial sessions ultimately led to around 32 song ideas to develop further .

= = Recording = =

Smart Studios had upgraded their mixing console to a Trident A @-@ Range model , which the band used extensively . The band tracked directly onto analogue tape using a Studer tape machine , which was then dumped into Pro Tools digital audio workstation . Overdubs and mixing were carried out in Pro Tools .

Vig kept the drums and percussion simpler than before . Percussive tracks were recorded through a thirty @-@ year @-@ old Roger Meyer compressor to color the sound (Vig : " It 's really saturated and distorted , but in a very musical way ") . Some tracks however were fairly scrutinized : an instrumental break in " Til the Day I Die " incorporated reverse tape effects . Vig was not satisfied with his " swing " on a 6 / 8 groove written for a falsetto vocal Manson had recorded on " Can 't Cry These Tears " , so he recruited Matt Chamberlain to play the part . The recorded sequence incorporated Chamberlain 's contribution , some of Vig 's performance and some light programming . Chamberlain also performed a " chopped @-@ up " drum pattern for " Cup of Coffee " and a " bitchin ' funk groove " on " Confidence " .

Much of the recorded guitar work was heavily processed , the band using a Line 6 Pod for melodic parts and embellishments : for example , for the middle eight of " So Like a Rose " , Erikson played a Les Paul with an E @-@ bow through the Pod , while the synth @-@ like intro to " Parade " was created by layering an acoustic guitar part with a clean electric guitar . A tremolo effect on " Can 't Cry These Tears " was inspired by 1960s production techniques . The amp modelers were used to pre @-@ effect the recording prior to Pro Tools , in order to prevent phasing . For electric guitar recording , the band utilized cabinet miking ? four microphones recorded the output of a Marshall amplifier . Acoustics were recorded using a single Blue Bottle microphone . Daniel Shulman , who had performed bass guitar on Version 2 @.@ 0 and the band 's two world tours , spent two separate weeks laying down bass parts . Shulman was given freedom by the band to come up with parts and be creative , creating new basslines on the verses of " Androgyny " and " Nobody Loves You " . Shulman revisited " Silence Is Golden " , breaking up the straight eighths of the coda to make it more interesting .

Due to Manson 's growing confidence and technical skill , the band decided that her vocals did not require much treatment ; " Shirley was singing so much better , and she was coming up with melodies that were longer and had more range to them ... there wasn 't any point in doing a lot with it . On something like ' Nobody Loves You ' she sings really low on the verse , almost at the bottom of her range , and then and the end she 's singing three and a half octaves higher , almost in falsetto , as the song turns into a big wall of sound " , Vig remarked . Manson 's original guide vocals were used in the final mixes of several songs ; the vocal on " So Like a Rose " was recorded on the first take . On some songs , however , Manson 's vocal was subject to Pro Tools plug @-@ ins and post effects . " Til the Day Die " featured a digital " scratch " -effect , created by printing her vocal to DAT and using whatever edited passes sounded good . On " Can 't Cry These Tears " , the four vocal parts were triple @-@ tracked using different mikes , while a guitar riff was matched to her voice for a section of " Breaking Up the Girl " . On " Cherry Lips " , her entire vocal was sped up and heavily

EQ 'd . On slower songs such as " Drive You Home " , Garbage were not overly concerned with phrasing and pitch , giving it " a rawer quality " . Manson improved on her guitar skills and played more guitar in the studio and live on stage for the eventual tour .

Garbage finished recording Beautiful Garbage at the end of April 2001 , and spent a month completing the final mix (some songs had gone through as many as 40 rough mixes) . Final EQ , compressing and sequencing on the album was handled by Scott Hull of Classic Sound in New York . Despite running a competition on their website to name the album , Manson 's own working title , inspired by a lyric in Hole 's " Celebrity Skin " , won out . The album artwork came from Garbage 's wish for it to be " something organic " ; The band came up with the fractured rose idea , thinking that it worked well with the album title . Garbage contracted London @-@ based designers Me Company to create the visuals .

= = Release = =

Preempting the worldwide release , on September 27 , Beautiful Garbage was released in Japan through Sony Music featuring two exclusive bonus tracks : " Begging Bone " , the B @-@ side of " Androgyny " , and " The World Is Not Enough " , their James Bond theme from the film of the same name . In Australia and New Zealand , the album was released by their label FMR .

On October 1 , 2001 , Beautiful Garbage was released worldwide , with the North American release the following day . Mushroom Records issued the album on five formats within the United Kingdom : a standard edition CD , a limited edition specially packaged CD (in a fold @-@ out rose shaped holder and plastic slipcase) , double LP , cassette and MiniDisc . Mushroom licensed the album to PIAS Recordings for release in Western Europe and through their distributor Playground Music in Scandinavia ; PIAS pressed their own standard CD , ' rose @-@ pack ' CD and double LP formats for the continent . In the United States , Almo Sounds and Interscope Records released Beautiful Garbage on CD , double LP and cassette . Interscope 's parent company Universal Music Group released the album in Canada .

= = = Beautiful Garbage mixer = = =

The CD formats of Beautiful Garbage contained an enhanced element which users could access and remix four tracks from the album : " Shut Your Mouth " , " Androgyny " , " Breaking Up the Girl " and " Cherry Lips " . Created in conjunction with Sonic Foundry , using a customized version of their drag @-@ and @-@ drop ACID Pro music sequencer software , the remixes utilized samples and loops taken directly from the album masters . The enhanced section could be accessed when the user was online ; a simplified version of the software featuring only " Androgyny " loops was accessible when the user was offline .

Interscope Records and Sonic Foundry launched a competition in November 2001 , in which fans were invited to remix " Androgyny " by downloading free ACID Xpress software . Entrants could then upload their work to a specially created website (www.acidgarbage.com) to stream their mixes online . The winner received copies of Sonic Foundry 's audio software ? ACID Pro , Sound Forge , and Vegas Audio ? and five loop libraries .

= = Tour = =

Garbage marked the release of Beautiful Garbage by performing an in @-@ store set in Chicago 's Virgin Megastore on October 2 , 2001 . Garbage began touring the album as the opening act on the third leg of U2 's Elevation Tour from October 12 in Notre Dame , Indiana , into Canada and through to October 24 in New York City . Before last show , Vig collapsed from the effects of food poisoning and contracting hepatitis A. Rather than cancelling the scheduled shows , Garbage recruited Matt Chamberlain to replace Vig for the remainder of the year . Garbage performed a series of underplayed headlining shows in Europe during November , beginning in Trondheim , Norway and ending in London , England , on November 14 . Garbage then returned to North America for the final

Elevation tour Southern State shows , from Kansas City , Missouri on November 27 through to the last show in Miami , Florida on December 2 . At the last show , U2 drummer Larry Mullen , Jr. played drums on " Only Happy When It Rains " . Garbage wrapped up 2001 by performing at the Not So Silent Night radio festival in Los Angeles , California .

The Beautiful Garbage tour started in earnest in January 2002 in New Zealand and Australia , when Garbage joined the Big Day Out festival . In between the festival shows , Garbage headlined two concerts in Melbourne and Sydney . Garbage then spent ten days in Japan , performing four headline shows in Osaka and Tokyo .

Garbage launched a headline UK tour on April 1 , 2002 in Portsmouth , a run that included an acoustic performance in Edinburgh and headlining MTV 's 5 Night Stand . The band were supported on the UK dates by Kelli Ali . Beyond the UK , the run extended to a number of shows in Cologne , Amsterdam and Bourges . On April 19 , Garbage returned to play a six @-@ week itinerary of North American dates . Beginning in Toronto , the tour was routed down the Eastern Coast of America , over to the Midwest and then onto the West Coast . The jaunt ended with two night stint in Los Angeles . Garbage were supported by Abandoned Pools and on some shows , by White Stripes ; during the tour , Vig was taken ill (later diagnosed as Bell 's Palsy) and was replaced again by Matt Chamberlain . Garbage wrapped the North American tour dates on June 6 in Mexico City .

A month @-@ long European trek began June 10 in Madrid , covering major festivals including Glastonbury and Roskilde . Matt Walker stood in for Vig for the rest of the summer . Garbage performed two shows in Nice and Lyon supporting Red Hot Chili Peppers , and a further two headlining French shows in Lille and Paris with Mercury Rev as support . The European leg ended at Espárrago Rock in Spain on July 12 . Throughout the run , Manson was dogged by vocal problems , leading to the cancellation of a few festival appearances . After a six @-@ week break , Garbage returned to the United Kingdom to perform their last European shows of the year ? two intimate club gigs in London .

With Vig rejoining the ranks following his recovery period , Garbage headed to Australia to perform at the four date M @-@ One festival across the country at the beginning of October . They then joined No Doubt , who were promoting their Rock Steady album , to co @-@ headline a trek around the United States ; support came from The Distillers . Kicking off on October 15 in West Kingston , Rhode Island , the tour was routed down the Eastern Seaboard , and into Southern States before heading to the Pacific Northwest region and onto the American Southwest . The tour ended on November 27 in Long Beach , California . Garbage went on to perform one further show , in Hell , Grand Cayman .

= = Critical reception = =

Beautiful Garbage received generally favorable reviews from music critics . Both Rolling Stone 's US and Australian editions named Beautiful Garbage as one of their critics " Top 10 Albums of the Year " .

Tom Laskin of Isthmus wrote that the significant " sonic tweaking and abundant sampling " of Version 2 @. @ 0 is discarded as the songs are supported primarily by " bass , drum , and guitar configurations " . Observing a musical theme , it is " the band 's abandonment of digitally manipulated perfection in favor of rawer guitars and more immediate vocal performances . " He added that , overall , the album is " far less commercially accommodating than any of the band 's previous work . It embraces no particular sound or style . It comes across with ideas and commentary that challenge rather than coerce , and the playing lacks the burnished , artificial quality that 's characteristic of so much youth @-@ oriented music these days . " Peter Robinson of the NME wrote that the album was a " departure from the sound Garbage had established on their first two records " ; It is " marked by expanding on the musical variety , with stronger melodies , more direct lyrics , and sounds that mix rock with hip hop , electronica , new wave , and girl groups . " Sound on Sound described the band 's approach to recording guitars as " distinctive " , observing the " distorted crunches cheek @-@ by @-@ jowl with delicate acoustics and treated sounds which are almost unrecognizable . " Michael Paoletta of Billboard noted that audiences expecting " more of

the same [Version 2 @. @ 0] are in for a wonderful surprise . " The band eschews " disco @-@ infused electronica foundations for more straight @-@ up rock 'n'pop " . " Modern tales for modern times , sung by the vocally versatile Manson , make for one of the year 's best . " Q described it as " sharp , seductive music from a band at their peak . " Uncut called it " their most accomplished and convincing album yet . "

AllMusic 's Stephen Thomas Erlewine commented that Garbage 's penchant for absorbing elements from various genres , skillfully crafting them together is more evident in this album , in how they " approximate contemporary R & B with the sultry ' Androgyny ' , or the Minneapolis new wave bubblegum funk of ' Cherry Lips (Go Baby Go !) , ' or the bluesy PJ Harvey strut of ' Silence Is Golden . ' " This penchant is enhanced by an " unabashedly pop coating , an element that Garbage clearly revel in , as well as should the listener . " He described it " every bit as enticingly postmodern as their other albums , and it sounds distinctly Garbage " and although the fusion elements are perceptible , " they seem less like magpies , more themselves , which means Beautiful Garbage is a more consistent record . " David Browne of Entertainment Weekly observed Manson 's continued " aggressive bite " complemented by " throbbing tracks like ' Till the Day I Die ' and ' Shut Your Mouth ' " , as well as exposing " tender aspects " in " heartfelt " and " subdued " songs like ' Cup of Coffee ' and ' So Like a Rose ' . He noted however that the band 's " experiments with sonic expansion yield more mixed results " ; " They thaw their sound by adding elements of trip @-@ hop , which works for ' Cup of Coffee ' and the first single , ' Androgyny ' ... But on a record that 's more self @-@ consciously varied than 1998 's Version 2 @. @ 0 other attempts are gimmicky and less successful " ... Still , there 's just enough to salvage from beautifulgarbage . "

= = Commercial performance = =

Beautiful Garbage debuted at number 13 on the US Billboard 200 with first @-@ week sales of 73 @, @ 000 copies . It also debuted atop Billboard 's Top Electronic Albums chart , spending seven consecutive weeks at the top position . As of August 2008 , the album had sold 405 @, @ 000 copies in the United States . The album peaked at number six on the Canadian Albums Chart , and on October 12 , 2001 , it was certified gold by the Canadian Recording Industry Association (CRIA)

In the United Kingdom , Beautiful Garbage sold 25 @, @ 173 units to debut at number six on the UK Albums Chart . The British Phonographic Industry (BPI) certified the album gold on October 19 , 2001 , and by July 2007 , it had sold 121 @, @ 397 copies in the UK . It was commercially successful across the rest of Europe , reaching the top five in Finland , France , and Ireland , and the top 10 in Austria , Belgium , Germany , Italy , Norway , Spain , and Switzerland .

The album debuted at number one on the Australian ARIA Albums Chart and received a platinum certification from the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) . In New Zealand , it debuted at number two on the RIANZ Albums Chart and was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand (RIANZ) . By December 2001 , Beautiful Garbage had sold nearly 1 @. @ 2 million copies worldwide .

= = Track listing = =

All songs written and composed by Garbage , except where noted .

= = Personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Beautiful Garbage .

Garbage ? production , art direction

Billy Bush ? engineering

Matt Chamberlain ? drums (on " Can 't Cry These Tears " and " Cup of Coffee ")

Scott Hull ? mastering

Me Company ? design

Warwick Saint ? photography
Daniel Shulman ? bass

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications and sales = =

= = Release history = =