



THE RISE AND FALL OF HOT DOG AND SNEAKER GOOSE

Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose were one of the mega-bands of our time. From early solo and group acclaim, this trio of mega talents became the ultimate folk-slap-bass-funk-synth-driven-electronic-beats-gangster-rap band for the briefest but most prolifically spectacular of times. A brief flirtation with Christian rock, and then Catholic doo-wap saw them launch a short-lived reality show, 'Super Band' but with multiple side projects, a well-publicised fall-out and the lead singer's short replacement by David Hasselhoff, it couldn't last.

This collection of *Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose* mega-hits is a fitting testament to a band one critic uttered about in awestruck dumbfundi-ty: "They think they're soooooo cool..."

EARLY DAYS

An extraordinary group of individuals in their own right, Justin Barrie, Behzad Emami, and Mel Edwards were already well established before the sum became a whole.



L-R: Justin Barrie, Behzad Emami, Mel Edwards (File Photo)

Justin started the earliest as lead barrieton in the *St Eddies Saints*, the all-boy acapella group. They had a minor hit in the clubs with 'Can-berr-a.' The group later disbanded in legal disarray when they were sued by Van Halen, in part due to the fact that 'Can-berr-a' was a blatant rip off of 'Panama.'

This was to be Justin's defining moment. Capitalising on the craze for harmonic minimalist electronica, Justin formed one-half of *Barrie-Master*. His love of synth took full flight during this highly creative period. Later, as a member of the *Passiona Trick Crew* he travelled schools performing speaking rhyme poetry with his Casio Distortion Synthesiser.

But music wasn't enough for this racontreprenur-ial-cack-hack. A sojourn into journalism bought him the connections and wealth of anecdotes that became the legend: "I'm Justin Barrie, bitch!" This period provided significant material for major hits to come, and were known in the industry as 'You Can't Make This Shit Up' classics.

For Mel, fame was an elusive wascal. An original member of ABBAM it was her height that inspired the Napoleonic hit, Waterloo.

Later editions of the single saw the 'M' dropped from the band name. A similar fate followed from her time in Guns 'M' Roses.

As the original Blondie, hits like 'Denis' (later re-recorded by Debbie Harry with an emphasis on the French pronunciation) and 'One Way and It's My Way' (again re-recorded, this time as 'One Way or Another') flowed from her mechanical pencil. When her newly found lazy-feminism manifested in a refusal to straighten her hair she fought to change the band name to "Curlie". The band parted ways.

Iranian-Tuggeranongese wunderkind, Lil Behzy had hit after hit. 'Ayatollah You So' began it all and was number one with a regime-backed bullet. He finally achieved international stardom with world-wide hits 'Shah-Tupaya-Face' and later, 'Shah To the Heart'. But rebellion was inevitable. As inspirational lead of N'Shalah, a highly Americanised-boy band with an unusual mix of hot-funk-soft-rock combined with Irish-folk-new-age-spiritualism they won fans across the globe until they spilt over the ubiquitous "creative differences."

The early, but stunted, success of Justin, Behzad and Mel saw them searching other means of support as the sought to pursue their true loves.



Bosley Woofenstien (Hot Dog)

Gary Coog (Sneaker Goose)

Call it fate, call it kismet, call it plain ole co-inky-dink, but these three unique personalities and talents came together in the most unexpected of places.

MAKING OF A SUPER BAND

In this authorized excerpt from the unauthorized biography, 'Hot Dogs Get Eaten and Your Sneaker Goose is Cooked: Story of a Mega Band' by Norman Mailer, the band is formed:

"It was a common sight in the office, with the body of an ex-cyclist, a penchant for regaling tales of misspent youth, business acumen, and consultancy mind-tricks, he had the fresh-faced upturned faces of the Team Room fairly and squarely in the palm of his hand. He was 'The Man Who Grew Up Everywhere' and his name was Justin.

Into this midst came a plucky young MBA student, Iranian-born, Tuggeranong-raised Behzad, "انتفج مالس". Justin quickly took Behzad under his wing, slowly teaching him his Jedi ways.

Some weeks later the band found their final member when a plucky older-than-Bhezad-younger-than-Justin Mel entered the Team Room with a cheery "Hoi, oim Mael, from Noouy Ziland."

As the masses exited to the Front Room, it was a mutual and serendipitous realisation that they all knew the words to Queen's, 'Don't Stop Me Now' (or the 'Mr Fahrenheit' song) that instantly bonded the trio. From that point on, they began rehearsing, jamming, spit-balling, tooling and retooling material that was going to make them the envy of the known universe. They were indeed, on their way to Mars, on a collision course, a satellite out-of-control; they were quite literally about to oh-whoa-whoa-whoa-woah ex-plode."

THE HITS

In the short time they were together, *Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose* created a back catalogue most would kill for. Some did. From their first hit, 'That Ain't Awesome, That's Boo-shit, Man' and the equally successful B-side, 'Red Shoe Friday' they never looked back. Hit after hit came, the incredibly popular and oft-turned disc, 'Oooooohh, Oh, Have I Not Told You My Story' was re-released an incredible 58 times, in one month alone.

'Why Can't People Replace the TP at TP!' was a poignant protest song and saw them increase their following amongst the sanitary set. 'Osteo Joe,' their first yodelling number and unexpected hit in the gay clubs of lower South Canberra, was a heartfelt plea for acceptance of all types of treatment. Top ten hits flowed: 'King of Tubes,' 'Bathroom Bandit,' 'He-

man Loves Shira Like The Rash Loves Behzad,' 'T.I.B.,' 'Flat White, a Latte and Nothing For Me,' 'I'm Gonna Make You De-Visible,' 'It's all Polemia to Me.'

An ill-advised foray into punk and thrash produced minor hits, 'Fuck Comic Sans' 'Like A Dog' and 'DYE HIPSTER DYE.' But it was when they chose to venture into power ballads, and the resulting semi-autobiographical tribute to Ele, 'Taking Off My Pants to Unlock the Door (To Your Heart)' emerged. It was to be their biggest hit. No one could touch them.

BREAKING UP THE BAND

But it couldn't last. Rifts started to appear in the well-fabricated façade the band had become. Justin refused to attend an event, claiming "family commitments." Later publicity stills were released

that tried to cover-up his absence.



But the fans knew.

Behzad and Mel also suspected Justin's initially mild Relevance-Deprivation Disorder had progressed, and was the real reason for his waning focus. This was later compounded when they overheard Justin sharing stories with others.

When confronted, he shrugged^{©MarkThompson} it off with a "Yeah, my heart wasn't in it though." Some weeks later, lyrics by Mel were unceremoniously track-changed within minutes of distribution. The final bizarre straw came when Justin insisted on being known by his stage name, "Justine."

It was after prayer, reflection and lawyers the three mega talents made the toughest decision of their lives and at 5pm, 31 August 2011, *Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose* ceased to be.

Travel well, friends. Travel well.

I hardly think there is any need to swear I think we should de-swear this a little.

Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose
Watch out they're on the loose,
One's a genius, one is a douche,
But together they're fightin' for truth.

Though it works in terms of your rhyme structure - I thought Sneaker Goose should come first.

They know they're shit and it always gets done,
It is what it is and then they have fun.
They hate BS, Adrian and The Rash,
The perks are plain; they don't care about cash.

I would have thought "understand their intent and have empathy for their position but disagree with their methodology".

That's Hot Dog and Sneaker Goose,
Dynamic duo and their context of use.
They fight the fight and give it some hell,
They're biggest fans are Justin, Behzad and Mel.

So they love themselves? I'm not sure of the existential parameters of characters being central, and their own biggest fans (though clearly everyone is connected).

Original lyrics by Mel, annotated by Justin (Library of Congress)

Date: Monday, 15 August 2011
Subject: It's about respect, man

Hi Mal,

I just wanted to say that getting someone's name right is pretty much a sign of basic human decency. It's about dignity and self-respect.

Shane - I copied you in because I know this issue is important to you.

Justine

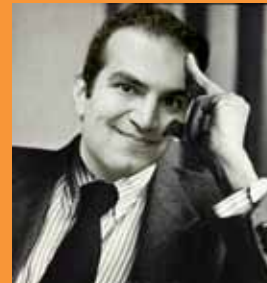
Justine's final email before the split (Vatican Library)

WHERE ARE THE NOW?



Justin's empire continues unabated with Machiavellian Entreu-prises. Team DMA, the winningest team in pro-cycling saw him win the Tour De France an incredible five times; his training consisting of occasional bike rides and a diet of chocolate macadamia biscuits. His series, 'The Twiit' plays in 42 countries and is translated into three languages – English, American and C++.

Mel, a long-time Simpsons-Seinfeld sympathizer, briefly joined the notorious cult, SimpFeld. Insisting everything could be linked back in some way to a Simpsons or Seinfeld episode, she was trampled by a Spider-Pig-Man (it later turned out to be just some fat kid). Success came in the form of the trademarked tilde ~ Renamed the "eee-yyh" symbol she currently makes ~\$12,000 every time someone can't be bothered saying "approximately."



Behzad, who lost the use of three fingers through a knuckle cracking incident also turned his hand, so to speak, to behind the scenes. He was the mastermind of successful boyband duo 'Bennetts 'n' the Rash' as well as developing the "million-dollar-a-month" consultancy model. But he's also been an active philanthropist, founding the Polemic Society, battling to eradicate the scourge of those unable to de-vomit after expressing opinions.

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ORIGINS OF A SUPER GROUP



Original bad-boy, Jussie Cash was lead barriertone in the St Eddies Saints

As one-half of BarrieMaster Justin's love of synth was born



Original member of ABBAM, fame initially eluded Mel when the other members chose a different direction



Lil Behzy had hit after hit, charming the world with gems like 'Shah-Tupya-Face'



"I'm Justin Barrie, bitch!"

Original member of Pseudo Echo, and co-writer of hit 'Funky Town', one of the areas where Justin grew up.



Guns 'M' Roses dropped the M but Axl's vocal style was pure Mel

As the original Blondie, it was only when she wanted to rename the band 'Curlie' that they parted ways



N'Shalah wowed the world with the party anthem, 'Let's Get Behzy'