

## Best of the 1990's

By Stephan MacLeod

**warning:** these albums were actually made in this decade

### The KLF - Chill Out

An ambient masterpiece from the guys that tricked Tammy Wynette into singing about justified and ancient ice cream delivery vans. However, there are no cheesy songs on this album. Actually there are no songs, just atmospheric soundscapes made up of ambient synth, plundered media clips and sound effects.

### Forest for the Trees -

#### Forest for the Trees

The genius behind the Beck anthem, Loser, had a mental breakdown after that song and made one of the most original pop albums since the Beach Boys, "Pet

Sounds." This album is angst and irony free, so it stands out among most

releases made in the 90s.

### The 6ths - Wasp's Nest

Stephen Merrit, of Magnetic Fields, composed a bunch of organic pop symphonies, took a handful of indie rock singers, and made one brilliant album.

### The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion - Experimental Remixes EP

Without a doubt, this six song EP is the best album to carry Jon Spencer's name. The remixers include, Dub Narcotic, Moby, GZA and Killa Priest from the Wu Tang Clan, and other artists with definite "cool" credibility.

### Belle and Sebastian - If You are Feeling Sinister.

The Boy with the Arab Strap. Tigermilk, and all

four of their EPs. Everything B&S have released since 1996 is magical. They sound like Donovan, only less fruity.

### Ron Sexsmith - Ron Sexsmith, Other Songs, Whereabouts

It wouldn't be fair to choose one of Ron's albums in this list because I think all of them are superior to almost everything released in this decade. He reminds me of a humble version of Morrissey.

### Moby - Everything is Wrong

The first good, cheesy, dance record ever made. Actually it's much more than that. Moby attempts classical, punk, thrash metal, disco, and ambient music successfully and it's all on one album.

### The Replacements - All Shook Down

The Mats last album sounds more like Paul Westerberg's first (and best) solo album than their previous work. It's a lot better than his actual solo work. Released in 1990, this album is 9 years ahead of its time. In a more perfect world, the Goo Goo Dolls would be out of work and Westerberg would be raking in the millions of dollars that rightfully belongs to him.

### The Pharcyde - Bizarre Ride to the Pharcyde

Hiphop reached its peak with this album. These original west coast B-boys had their own style, incredible mic skills, and they had super funky samples. I have no idea what happened to hiphop after the Pharcyde released this album. I guess everyone realized that it couldn't get any better than this so they just gave

up.

**Ween - 12 Country Greats**  
Dean and Gene are too talented to be a novelty, and too insane to be taken seriously. For this album they hired a bunch of famous Nashville session musicians (some have worked with Bob Dylan, and Elvis Presley) and put their obscene twist on country music. "Piss Up a Rope" is a classic.

### Aphex Twin - I Care Because You Do

Richard D. James claims to be an insomniac, tank driver, who lives in a bank vault. His music videos cost millions of dollars and are hardly ever seen because of their disturbing nature. At a live show in New York all he did was put sandpaper in a blender. His obsession with his own face has graced almost all of his record covers since "I Care Because You Do." Oh yeah, his music is brilliant.

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# Fiendish! Hilarious! Classic!

