



Encoded Frequencies

Initialised

DIGT Records

Two decades of guitar loops, beats, and melodies collide on Paul Whalley's stunning debut "Initialised" – a nine-track sonic statement that transforms years of accumulated musical fragments into something genuinely explosive. The Wigan-based multi-instrumentalist finally hit Alien Sound studios in October 2023, turning what began as an instrumental project into an unflinching examination of growing up in 1980s Skelmersdale. Mastered by Ride's Mark Gardener, tracks like the chilling "I See Dead Pixels" build from bass-driven foundations into overwhelming walls of sound that recall Mogwai's dynamic shifts and Godspeed You! Black Emperor's apocalyptic grandeur, while "Bad Movie" delivers Sonic Youth-inspired guitar barrages over the memorable refrain "We're just a scene, in a bad movie."

This isn't background music – it's foreground music that demands attention and rewards it generously. Whalley's guitar work layers with the precision of someone who's spent years perfecting every loop and transition, creating controlled chaos that feels both deeply personal and universally powerful. The emotional weight behind these songs – intensified by profound personal loss during the album's completion – never overwhelms the music but instead gives it gravity and urgency. **"Initialised" announces a significant new voice in British alternative music that's essential listening for anyone who believes guitar music still has vital stories to tell.**

Track Listing

- 1 I See Dead Pixels
- 2 Glitters
- 3 Afterlife
- 4 Bad Movie
- 5 Shadow In My Way
- 6 Never Know
- 7 These Streets Are Paved With Gold
- 8 Don't Dismantle Your Love
- 9 When They Come Looking For You

PAUL WHALLEY - "INITIALISED"

Two Decades in the Making - And Worth Every Moment

Some albums arrive fully formed. Others simmer for years before erupting into existence. Paul Whalley's debut "Initialised" falls firmly into the latter category – a nine-track sonic statement that transforms two decades of accumulated guitar loops, beats, and melodies into something genuinely explosive.

The Wigan-based multi-instrumentalist finally hit Alien Sound studios in Bickerstaffe back in October 2023, armed with years of musical fragments and a determination to make them whole. What began as an instrumental project quickly evolved into something far more personal – a unflinching examination of growing up in 1980s Skelmersdale, where despair and hope walked hand in hand down the same streets.

Mastered by Ride's Mark Gardener at OX4, "Initialised" doesn't just reference the post-rock and alternative rock pantheon – it earns its place alongside them. Opening track "I See Dead Pixels" demonstrates Whalley's remarkable range, building from a chilling, bass-driven foundation into an overwhelming wall of sound that recalls both Mogwai's dynamic shifts and Godspeed You! Black Emperor's apocalyptic grandeur.

"Bad Movie" delivers a different kind of punch entirely. Over a relentless barrage of guitars that channel "Daydream Nation"-era Sonic Youth, Whalley offers the album's most memorable refrain: "We're just a scene, in a bad movie." It's both resignation and defiance wrapped in distortion and delivered with conviction.

This isn't background music – it's foreground music that demands your attention and rewards it generously. Whalley's guitar work layers and weaves with the precision of someone who's spent years perfecting every loop, every transition, every moment of controlled chaos. The rhythmic foundation drives forward with purpose while melodies surface and submerge like half-remembered dreams.

The personal weight behind these songs – intensified when Whalley's mother died the day before he finished mixing – never overwhelms the music itself. Instead, that emotional gravity gives the album its power, its sense that these aren't just songs but necessary statements.

"Initialised" is the kind of debut that announces a significant new voice in British alternative music. For fans of Sonic Youth, Mogwai, or anyone who believes guitar music still has vital stories to tell, this is essential listening.

Available now – don't sleep on this one.