



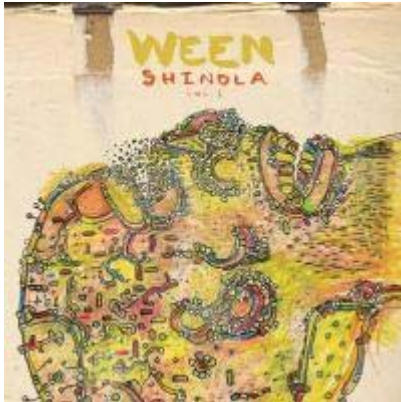
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## Ween: Shinola Album Review

Submitted by [Meredith](#) on Wed, 09/27/2006 - 8:05am. [Album Reviews](#) | [Experimental Pop](#) | [Miscellaneous](#) | [Rock](#)

### Image



### Artist

Ween

### Album

Shinola

### Review

Long before Navin R. Johnson, as played by Steve Martin in *The Jerk*, found out what his "Special Purpose" was for, his father gave him some advice about life:

Father : Son, now that you're going out into the world, there's something you should know. You see that?

Navin : Yeah.

Father : That's shit. And this, shinola.

Navin : Shit, shinola.

Father : Son, you're going to be all right.

Gene and Dean Ween must have had similar discussions during their childhood as well, for *Shinola* is anything but shit.

For most bands, the release of a B-sides/rarities/unreleased disk is a signaling of the end. It's generally a way to cash in ones chips before a band's entire bubble bursts and the fans interested in buying anything from them dissipates to virtually no one. For Ween, it was more likely a combination of two things: First, a way to give the fans properly mastered, high quality versions of songs that have been traded and circulating for years; and secondly, to shut up their fans while they work on a new album.

With Ween, either you know them and love them, or you have poor taste in music. It is really that simple and the twelve tracks on *Shinola* prove this yet again. Starting off with the dirty and raw "Tastes Good on th' Bun", a track previously released as part of the *Craters of the Sack* Internet-only album, we are welcomed to what is going to be something very brown. From here on out, things go a variety of ways. There are the upbeat tracks, the love songs, the funk, the instrumentals and slow hazy "jams" and even a Jewish prayer.

One of my more favorite Portland memories was last fall when I was hanging out at Union Jacks

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and was able to witness a girl strip to the second song on the album, "Boys Club". That girl earned some extra money from me because of this song. I feel she should write Ween a thank you letter for this! In fact, everyone should write Ween a thank you letter...and pick up *Shinola* and everything they have released while at it.

--Review by the Goa Constrictor

**Artist homepage**

<http://ween.com/chocodog/ween/>

**Rating**

9

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