

In Tune

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KEVIN WOOD & FROM THE NORTH, "Malfunkshun Monument" (Wammybox) ☆☆☆☆
— Before Pearl Jam helped Nirvana take grunge mainstream some two decades ago, Andrew Wood and Mother Love Bone were poised to do the same thing. But Andrew died in

the spring of 1990 and Mother Love Bone never realized their potential. If you're looking for an example of Andrew's songwriting chops, check out brother Kevin Wood & From the North's "Malfunkshun Monument." This 13-track CD features previously unreleased lyrics from Andrew with all the music written by Kevin as a tribute to his late brother.

Vocalist Shawn Smith (who could make a living singing Lenny Kravitz tunes) breathes life into standout tracks "Goodbye Just In Case," "My Luv," "Another You (Mirror of Guilt)" and "Make Love to My Heart." There's also new version of "Man of Golden Words," one of my favorite Mother Love Bone tracks, and a guitar solo-centric instrumental "Monument" that underscore just how talented Andrew Wood really was. (JS)