**alt. ‘Abeyance’ Album Bio**

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*Abeyance*: a state of temporary disuse or inactivity.

More accurately, the polar opposite to Adelaide rockers alt.’s modus operandi, emerging from a turbulent few years armed with rejuvenated focus and ferocity, as well as their debut full-length album *Abeyance* ready to stupefy the senses and catapult one of the city of churches’ brightest stars further into the spotlight.

Set to release their debut album via Resist Records and SharpTone Records, 2022 culminates the swift years alt. have spent honing their signature brand of punk, pop, electronic and alternative rock since first erupting onto the scene back in 2019. An amalgamation of the sharp light and shade of Bring Me The Horizon, the dark pop magic of Billie Eilish, the lush flow of Post Malone and the emphatic gloss and the affable grit of Don Broco, alt.’s expansive journey stems back to their debut single *insubordinate*, with the accompanying video dropping on the Dreambound YouTube channel in 2019, and subsequent music videos for tracks *Chasing Safety*, *Nothingwithoutyou* and *Pariah* collectively snapping up over 200,000 views and counting.

Releasing their hotly anticipated debut EP *dysfunctional* in 2020, alt. further established their status as rising heavyweights, with critics resoundingly praising the EP’s versatility, instrumentation, energy and sparkling production. Working with the likes of Trenton Woodley (Hands Like Houses), Jimmy Alexander and Luke McKenzie (Awaken I Am), Zachary Britt (Young Lions, Dream On, Dreamer), Chris Lalic (Windwaker) and producer Callan Orr (Dream On, Dreamer, Young Lions, Bad/Love) on *dysfunctional* to bring the enthralling and eclectic seven tracks to life, *dysfunctional* has since gone on to clock over two million streams since its release.

Translating their modern sonic nostalgia into unforgettable live experiences along the way, 2020 offered alt. the chance to perform their debut EP for fans in their hometown, with the band going on to join the likes of Belle Haven and Bad/Love on their respective national tours in 2021. But it’s in 2022 that alt. have ramped up their legendary live shows to towering new heights, accompanying Northlane in June for the group’s national Australian tour alongside Plini and Sleep Token, as well as joining Aussie icons Karnivool, Cog and sleepmakeswaves for an unforgettable evening at Thebarton Theatre in Adelaide in August. With an ever-growing fanbase and a knack for crafting bold and infectious creations, alt. are already household names to many, with 2022 set to take the burgeoning alt. legacy to unimaginable new heights courtesy of their debut album *Abeyance*; but this impending new album itself stems back to extremely early days for the band.

“We actually started writing songs for *Abeyance* just before *dysfunctional* came out,” says alt. vocalist Dan Richards of the new album’s conception. “Two of the songs that are on *Abeyance* were being written just before *dysfunctional* was released. The ideas for this record have been around pretty much since before people even really knew we were a band”.

With ten tracks lying in wait on *Abeyance*, alt. run the gamut of the human experience and sonic flexibility, from the electronic bounce of the introductory *PARASITE* to the glistening menace of *A.D.D*, oscillating rock and sparse pop-fuelled hip hop on *THE ONLY GOOD THINGS* and the soaring emotives of *BETTER OFF LEAVING*. Equal parts multifaceted, confident and dynamically cohesive, *Abeyance* ultimately also finds alt. unequivocally exploding beyond their comfort zones, with one key track proving to be the integral key to unlocking this latest sonic chapter.

“We didn't really know what *Abeyance* was going to sound like initially,” Richards reveals of the album’s early days. “The first two songs that we had for *Abeyance* were polar opposites from each other, they were *WRAITH* and *BETTER OFF LEAVING,* the former being pretty much the first proper track and the latter being the last song on the album. We started off trying to fill in the gaps between those at first, but a few songs after that we really found what we wanted the sound to be - and it all really started with *A.D.D*, that was the first song we wrote that we were like: ‘Yep, this is the sound of *Abeyance!’*”.

Initially recording seven songs designed to release as a follow up EP to *dysfunctional*, the ultimate *Abeyance* end product saw alt. team up once again with some of their previous collaborators, including significantly levelling up pre-production with returning Melbourne-based producer Callan Orr.

“We were just going to do a second EP - then we got told to do an album,” reveals Richards. “So we wrote three more songs, including *PARASITE*, and went back and recorded those songs. We worked with Callan Orr in Melbourne for the whole release again, but this time we did more pre-production with him. With *dysfunctional* we did pre-production with other people and then recorded with Callan; this time we did most of that with Callan.

“We also worked on a couple of songs with Marcus Bridge of Northlane, Landon Tewers from The Plot In You, Zach Britt from Dream On, Dreamer and Trenton from Hands Like Houses. Outside of that, it was mostly in-house, we beefed up songs with Cal and he recorded, mixed and mastered everything”.

Wielding songs capable of breaking hearts, shattering speakers and bewitching ears at every twist and turn, *Abeyance* expertly flexes alt.’s staggering technicality and flourishing grasp on vivid modernity amongst moments of sentimental flair. And while lyrics like “*I just wanna feel right / Truth is that I’m broken*” or “*I cannot see without you and me”* dole out plenty of the alt. sentimentality witnessed on earlier releases, *Abeyance* marches defiantly into the dark, emerging with cathartic vigour and unwavering relatability.

“There was a big focus on having the variation within the sounds on the album because that's always something that we want to do,” says Richards of the oscillating styles throughout *Abeyance*. “We don't want every song to sound the same. Lyrically on a personal level, *Abeyance* is very open for interpretation, but the songs do have a meaning and the whole album has a meaning as a whole: it's like being stuck between not really loving the world that we live in, but then also having a fear of death. It’s like: ‘I don't love this, but I don't want *that* either’. It's just being stuck in a tricky situation, and I feel like people will relate to a lot of these songs”.

A band firmly blazing the trail for the newest generation in the heavier melodic scene, alt. are primed to once again affirm their status as gripping genre-defiant experts of the highest order; and *Abeyance* is the irresistible fruition of a group entirely in tune with who they are at their core.

“We are probably more excited than we’ve ever been about *Abeyance* just because I feel like we've got some good support behind us,” shares Richards. “We feel confident about this release and that shows in the tracks. I feel like something that *dysfunctional* didn't have was that confidence. And I feel like this whole album isn’t us wondering what we sound like. Instead, it’s us declaring: ‘We know this is our sound, and this is it’. And we are hitting it all guns blazing”.

“It's always daunting, putting this thing that you've spent two and a bit years working on,” Richards concludes. “I just hope that people enjoy the journey of it and enjoy what it's all about. And hopefully it helps some people who can take something away from it and what they need of it in their own lives”.

*Abeyance* is out <insert date here> 2022 via Resist Records and SharpTone Records.

**ALT. IS**

**Dan Richards** Vocals

**Simon Aistrope** Guitar

**Daniel Wells-Smith** Guitar

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