

John Fletcher aka Ecstasy was a Rapper, MC, producer, writer and artist. He was a member of the Hip Hop group Whodini

(John “Ecstasy” Fletcher, Jalil Hutchins and Drew “GrandMaster Dee” Carter.

Ecstasy grew up in Brooklyn with his twin brother....in the Wyckoff Gardens Projects in Boerum Hill. He met Jalil in Gowan’s Projects and they quickly became friends.

After Jalil recorded a song for Mr. Magic, the group was signed to Jive records. At first they produced songs like “Magic’s Wand and “The Haunted House of Rock”.

The singles received significant air play on Mr. Magic’s Radio Show. Ecstasy began to emerge as a rap sex symbol with a smooth rap voice

and his signature **Zorro Style Hats**. Ecstasy’s vocals were distinct and innovative in rhythm and style format.

GrandMaster Dee joined the group as a DJ and quickly gave the group a talented, yet skilled DJ Presents....who could also rap.

Some of the groups early recordings was produced in London in 1983 when Ecstasy was just coming out of High School.

Conny Plank produced the groups first singles, he also produced Kraftwerk....and the group toured for a while in London before their success in the United States.

In 1984, Ecstasy recorded a second album with Whodini called “**Escape**” which was produced by Larry Smith.

The album went platinum as their singles each reached the top ten on the music charts.

The album produced hits like “Friends” “The freaks come out at night” and “Five minutes of Funk”.

This is the album that made **Whodini** a household name. Five minutes of funk also became the theme music for Video Music Box, with Ralph McDaniels.

Whodini quickly became the adult RnB Hip Hop group, with their style of dress and story telling.

They lit up the Fresh Fest Tour with **RUN DMC** and Russell Simmons as their manager. Amongst a sea of hard core rap and turbulence, Whodini stood in the middle of the street and gave Hip Hop substance.

They were the first group to use dancers (**UTFO**) in their stage performance. They helped launch the careers of UTFO and Jermaine Dupri.

In 1986, Their album “Back in Black” produced “Funky Beat” with GrandMaster Dee rapping and “One Love” which became a hit song for the ladies.

Ecstasy Lyrics;

“The Words Love and Like both have for letters, but their two different things all together

Cause i’ve liked many ladies in my day but just like the wind they all blown away”.

In The Video of “**One Love**” you can see Ecstasy talking to the group members about his one love.

Ecstasy and Whodini also toured with Public Enemy, LL Cool J, Beastie Boys and The Fat Boys.

In 1987, They Headlined the Def Jam 2 Tour with Kool Moe Dee, DJ Watkins & MC Tony Tee and Eric B and Rakim.

In the 1990's, **Fresh Gordon** helped produced songs for the group on their fourth and fifth albums.

In 1996, Whodini signed with **Jermaine Dupri's** label, Columbia Records distributed by So So Def Recordings.

Whodini created a national following and made significant inroads in urban radio....at a time when Hip Hop was seldom heard on the radio.

In 2007, Whodini was a honoree at the VH1 Hip Hop Honors. In 2012, they were inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

In the same year, they were presented the **ICON** award by the underground music awards.

In 2018, the group was awarded the Hip Hop Icon award at the Black Music Honors Ceremony in Tennessee.

Ecstasy and Whodini, recorded 6 albums and 14 of their singles reached the American Billboards top lists. Four of the albums were certified platinum.

In 2020 Ecstasy passed away, but he will forever be remembered as the most flamboyant, sex symbol, smooth rapper of all time.

Written by Tony Tee aka Tony Paris