

Erik Sanden Discography:

2023 Buttercup, *Grand Marais*, LP
2022 Buttercup, *Specks*, LP
2021 The Silos, *Puede Ser/Range Life*, Single
2020 *Live Ballast*, LP (with Julia Barbossa Landois)
2020 Demitasse, *Perfect Life*, LP
2018 Demitasse, *Powercouple*, LP
2017 Buttercup, *Battle of Flowers*, LP
2014 Demitasse, *Blue Medicine*, LP
2012 John Singer Sargent, *Self-titled*, LP
2010 Buttercup, *The Weather Here*, LP
2010 Cold Cuts, *Bedlamb Sampler*, LP
2009 Athens v. Sparta, *The History of the Peloponnesian War*, LP
2007 Buttercup, *The Head Sits Down on the Top of the Head*, EP
2007 Buttercup, *Living Again*, EP
2007 Buttercup, *The Captains of Industry*, EP
2006 Buttercup, *Hot Love*, LP
2005 The Mechanical Walking Robotboy, *Slow*, LP
2004 Buttercup, *Sick Yellow Flower*, LP
2003 *Goodbye Blue Monday*, DVD
2000 The Mechanical Walking Robotboy, *Baby, Baby, Baby We're All Doomed*, LP
1997 Pacifico, *Self-titled*, LP
1996 Lowdown Son, *Nothing, Nowhere*, LP
1995 Evergreen, *Bandera/Last Detail*, Single
1995 Evergreen, *The Year of the Down Dog*, LP

Recent Performances:

December 2023 "Nov 1." original song performed with the San Antonio Philharmonic

March-April 2023 *Grand Marais* 12 song cycle, tour

Feb 2020 Demitasse *Perfect Life*, Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, San Antonio, TX

Nov 2019 Luminaria *Buttercup ASMR* installation with Alejandro de Hoyos, San Antonio, Texas

March 2017 *Battle of Flowers* Record Release, the Empire Theater San Antonio, TX

April 2016 *Rock and Roll Journey*, Buttercup at the Majestic Theater, San Antonio, TX

October 2015, *Buttercup at 7am*, Cobalt Club, San Antonio, TX

November 2015 *Plato's Drums*, installation piece with Chris Sauter for Luminaria San Antonio

April 2014, *Live Ballast*, live performance with overhead projector and original songs, Santa Barbara Museum of Modern Art

November 2013 PechaKucha *Memories of Tacoland* w/ illustrator Ryan Parker San Antonio, TX

October 2013 *Culo De Oro* w/ Julia Barbossa @ Texas Biennial, Dallas, TX.

Sept 2013 *Buried, Not Dead* live reading w/ Julia Barbossa @ Artpace, San Antonio TX

March 2013 *Stray Sunbeam* one month residency @ The Liberty Bar San Antonio, TX

Feb 2013 Grand Marais @ testsite, Austin, TX

Nov 2012 Grand Marais @ Artpace, San Antonio, TX

Erik Sanden Musical Biography

Erik Sanden is a musician and artist currently living in Texas.

After majoring in English at Trinity University, he toured North America with his popular group *Evergreen*, including a stint opening up for Canada's *Tragically Hip*. The band dissolved in 1997 and Sanden began his first major music/art project, *The Unables*, in which members were challenged to play instruments outside of their abilities and comfort zone. The result was a musically gifted, but feeble "band" that had over 50 different revolving members, including Hunt Sales, one time drummer for Iggy Pop and David Bowie.

In 1998, Sanden created *Dial-a-Song*. He wrote and recorded a new song each week using an old tape answering machine. People from around the country became regular callers and in 1999, Sanden twice performed a live *Dial-a-Song* where he played the same song live, singing directly into the phone to whomever called over a 24 hour period.

The scores of songs generated through the *Dial-a-Song* project became the basis for *Buttercup*, a band Sanden formed in November 2000. NPR called Buttercup's sound "jangly art rock for the left side of the brain" and audience members soon came to expect the unexpected. In 2003 Buttercup launched a yearlong performance art piece called *Grackle Mundy*. This was a weekly performance in art spaces, where the band guaranteed that no two shows would be alike. They delivered innovative performances including a live talk show and an "Audience of One" where individual audience members were therapeutically prescribed songs depending on their musical needs. Inspired by the work of video artist Bill Viola, one show was broadcast via live feed television monitors placed in the bottom of four 55 gallon oil drums. Groups of audience members gazed down into the barrels to see the show. This performance was later shown at the Finesilver Gallery (San Antonio) and was featured in the documentary, *Goodbye Blue Monday*. Buttercup went on to form Bedlamb Records and played extensively across the US, selling over 15,000 records.

In 2007 Sanden also produced three records (in just one year) for Buttercup, taking the reigns as sound engineer and producer. This was his first experience with the technical side of the recording process.

Sanden has written hundreds original songs. He opened up for Jonathan Richman, Elliott Smith, Rhett Miller (the Old 97s), Ian Moore, Jad Fair, The Apples in Stereo, Salim Nourallah, Foreigner, Huey Lewis and the News and Willie Nelson. He was featured on the *John Singer Sargent* record (*Kirtland Records*) alongside Ben Kweller, Sarah Jaffe, and Chris Walla of *Death Cab for Cutie*. He also performed for the third time at the Fusebox Contemporary arts festival in Austin Texas -- this time collaborating with artist Julia Barbosa Landois in their performance piece, *Culo de Oro*, which examines sex, masculinity, and the tourist mentality along the Texas/Mexico border. *Culo de Oro* was also featured this year in the Texas Biennial. He and Julia are now writing a new piece with original songs that will be performed in April 2014 in Santa Barbara, California.

Most recently, his original song "Nov. 1" was scored by Mari Maurice for 65 instruments and was performed live by the San Antonio Philharmonic on Dec 16, 2023.