

CONCLUDING – Tired (for the Birds)

This music video operates as a thematic coda for my thesis submission. It was filmed at the onset of my PhD, shortly after registration, and edited between 2022 - 2023. The music was recorded with collaborators, and the animated sequences were produced as a work-for-hire.

Animations by: Andrew Benincasa

Recorded by: Aaron Jennings

Written and Produced by: Josh Wagner

Vocals and acoustic guitar by: Josh Wagner

Steel guitar by: Aaron Jennings

Drums, Piano, Electric Guitar, and Bass by: Cory Fay

Backing vocals by: Aaron Jennings and Cory Fay

So many elements of my project converge in this video, not least of which is the multi-modal/multi-disciplinary production. The song was written years ago, about a very different kind of grief. I always felt that it needed a third verse, and after Mom died, I picked it up again and wrote the last verse for her. The video emerged during and flowed out from the encounter with the beetles and the robin, entangling it in this anomalous experience that would come to resonate strongly with the project as it developed and mark one of the more intricate articulations of the ‘miraculous’ within my grief and practice.