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Cover photographs by Marina Chavez.



# INTRO.

### Hello everyone and welcome to Bong 36!

The most exciting piece of news since Bong 35 is, of course, the announcement of the tour. We hope you've all been able to get your tickets. We are printing a list of the tour dates, so far confirmed, in Everything Counts, where we are also happy to be able to give you some more information about the forthcoming single, and the Singles album.

As this issue is the Summer edition, we hope you'll get plenty of time over the holidays to read it several times over......and maybe drop us a line with your suggestions, comments and articles.

This issue of Bong also features Depeche Mode's press conference, which was held at the end of April in Cologne, Germany, and includes a transcript of the questions and answers from this event, taking a closer look into the tour, the recording of the new tracks and life in general.

This issue contains the final part of 'Walking In Their Shoes', and the conclusion to our series of video reviews with "Strange Too - Another Violation" and "Devotional". We've also managed to squeeze in some new features although we've had to leave out 'Bootlegs & DJ Mixes' and 'Blasphemous Rumours' due to lack of space, but they will be back in Bong 37 together with some fresh stuff.

There are two competitions in this issue, one for your imagination and one for your knowledge of Depeche Mode and their touring career. Together with the Band, we've decided to throw in some very special prizes, including a chance to meet Martin, Andy and Dave in person during the tour!!!

Finally, we would like to say 'thank you' to Anne Berning from Intercord, Philip Blaine from 1500 Records, Gerard Myers and Digger Barnes from Mute for their enormous help with this issue of Bong.

That's all there is from us for now. Keep your letters and e-mails coming in - it's good to know you are out there!

Until September, keep moding!

# The International Bong Convention

Hurry up and put the last Sunday of October 98 in your diaries!

To fill in a break between the European and US legs of the "The Singles Tour 86-98" we have decided to hold this years Bong Convention on Sunday October 25th! We have already booked the Camden Palace, London for this occasion from 4.30pm till late.

You will be able to listen to Depeche Mode music (including the new material), watch videos, dance, buy some merchandise, take part in a raffle, grab some give-aways, and win some fabulous prizes in competitions like Mastermind, Karaoke, Videomix.....and generally have a good time!!!

Tickets cost £10.00 each and are available from Bong or at the door on the night. To receive your tickets, please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to BONG and enclose a self-addressed envelope for prompt delivery.

Let's get the Camden Palace moding once again! We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

dm/live

### EWERVTHING

At last! The long-awaited tour has been announced, coinciding with the new singles album "The Singles 86-98". The tour will be entitled "The Singles Tour 86-98" and was formally announced on April 20 at the international press conference in Cologne, Germany (more details on page 13).

The Band are already making preparations for their tour. At the moment they are considering stage set ideas from various designers. There will also be some extra musicians accompanying Depeche Mode on stage, who at the moment include Christian Eigner on drums and Peter Gordeno on keyboards. There will also be a couple of backing singers.

The Band were back in the studio at the beginning of March to start recording some new tracks to be included on the double CD album. The first recording session took place at Eastcote Studios from 9th March till 10th April, continuing at Abbey Road from 13th April till 1st May. We were allowed to sneak in during one session and judging from the material Andy played for us, prepare for yet another big surprise from the guys!

The new single is called "Only When I Lose Myself", featuring Dave on vocals, and will hopefully be released in the first week of September. There will be at least two CDs and maybe even a 12". The single will also feature two more new titles, "Headstar" and "Surrender". More details on the exact release date, formats, etc. will be available in Bong 37.



Photo by JD Fanger

"The Singles 86-98" should be released at the end of September, and will include all the Band's hits over the past 12 years, together with the new single. The track-list hasn't been finalised yet, but these are the proposed songs so far:

"Stripped"

"A Question Of Lust" "A Question Of Time" "Strangelove" "Never Let Me Down Again" "Behind The Wheel" "Everything Counts" (Live) "Personal Jesus" "Enjoy The Silence" "Policy Of Truth" "World In My Eyes" "I Feel You" "Walking In My Shoes" "Condemnation" "In Your Room" "Barrel Of A Gun"

> "It's No Good" "Home" "Useless"

"Only When I Lose Myself"



dm/live



Fletch found some time in between recording and hopped on a plane to Sweden to see Chelsea play Stuttgart in the "UEFA Cup Winners Cup" final on May 13th. It was held at the Rasunda Stadium in Stockholm and the Swedish music channel Z-TV used this occasion to get an exclusive interview with him.

Mo Wax Records has released a limited edition 12" single featuring a previously unreleased remix of DJ Shadow's version of "Painkiller". The track is called "DJ Shadow vs. Depeche Mode - Painkiller - Kill The Pain Mix" and is one of the mixes that wasn't used on the B-side of "Barrel Of A Gun".

Those of you with access to the Internet might have noticed that earlier this year the official Depeche Mode web site launched a special contest offering a signed ULTRA jacket for a prize if you come up with the "best" title for the new singles compilation album. We thought you might be interested to know that there were more than 8,000 entries from all over the World. Although the Band had already decided to call the album "The Singles 86-98" by the time all the entries were compiled, there were many entries which got it right, and some really weird ones too! However, Per Niska from Sweden was chosen at random as the Grand Prize-winner and gets the jacket. Congratulations!

### Promotion

Following the press conference in Cologne, Depeche Mode gave an interview to Radio 1 (UK), which was transmitted on April 21, on their lunchtime show. The whole programme was dedicated to Depeche Mode, which is very unusual. Andy was also interviewed by Gary Crowley for his show on XFM (UK) on April 23.

The British channel ITV also transmitted an interview with the Band on their show 'London Tonight', just a few hours after it had been completed at the press conference in Cologne. They also used some footage from the actual event.

A Depeche Mode special, including an interview with the Band, coverage of the press conference, videos and competitions, was shown on April 26 by BBC2 as part of the music programme 'The O-Zone'.

#### General

The string quartet supporting Savage Garden's concert in Sydney on 7th February performed a richly emotional version of DM's "Sweetest Perfection" as their final track.

DM are featured in hard and heavy music magazine KERRANG dated March 14th 1998. The article relates to K!-style bands who appear on the forthcoming DM tribute album "For The Masses". It just goes to show the global influence DM have, even on metal bands!

Depeche Mode reached 7th position in the category 'The Best Band of 1997' in the readers chart compiled by a Polish monthly magazine 'Tylko Rock'.

"It's No Good" made No. 27 on KROQ's 'Top 106.7 Songs of '97'!

"The Love Thieves" was used in an episode called "Mercy" from the American series "Nikita" (with actress Peta Wilson).

A TV programme about bootlegs and pirate recordings was shown in March on BBC1, and it contained an interview with Andy Franks talking about DM bootlegs. There was also a clip of "Never Let Me Down Again" from the "Devotional" Tour. At the beginning of his interview, Andy said that Depeche Mode are as famous in Europe as The Spice Girls are in the UK!

On April 9th, Hungarian TV showed an episode of the series called 'Parker Lewis' which featured a character who was trying to raise some money for charity by selling Depeche Mode tickets!

On April 16th, the intro to "Barrel Of A Gun" was used by a Danish TV-station during a sports feature about skiing in the Arctic regions.

The "Barrel Of A Gun" video, amongst others, is used in the intro of a music show called 'SOS' on the Czech TV station Prima, which is shown every Saturday morning at 10am.



Photo by JD Fang

### Scan by Maudy

On March 17th, the Polish radio station ESKA Wroclaw broadcast a special edition of a programme called: "Industrial Establishments of Radio Eska" (Zakłady Przemysłowe Radia Eska) and dedicated it all to DEPECHE MODE! For an hour, Piotr Welc (Radio Eska's DJ) and his special guest Krzysztof Saganowski (a fan of Depeche Mode) were playing B-sides, bootlegs and live tracks. They discussed the Band's plans for this year (tour, new album, etc.) also mentioning conventions and parties held by the fans.

On January 13th, the German TV channel Pro 7 used "Painkiller" to promote a US thriller called 'The Hot Spot - Spel mit dem Feuer'.

"Barrel Of A Gun" was used several times during an introduction to the new Danish bicycle team in the weekly sports programme called 'Illustreret Sport' on Danish TV2 on April 16th.

"Useless" was used as background music on MTV for the 'US Top 20' on January 27.

The German pay-TV channel Premier used segments of "Policy Of Truth" in a portrait of German football player Mehmet Scholl of FC Bayern Muenchens. Premier did a different portrait of him some months back, which also featured "Policy Of Truth".

"It's No Good" was used as background music on 'Friends' while Rachel, Phoebe, Monica and Chandler were in a strip club. This episode was shown in the USA on Thursday, February 5th.

BBC 1 Wales used "Enjoy The Silence" in the sports programme 'Wales on Saturday' which concentrated on Welsh/English rugby game.

On April 6th, two instrumental excerpts from "Barrel Of A Gun" were used in a programme on Danish TV2, about a tough ski race called 'The Arctic Circle Race'.

On April 14th, 'Melrose Place' a series shown on Danish TV3, played "It's No Good" for more than three minutes without any interruption, during the intro of it's 177th episode.

On Sunday 8th March, the German TV station ARD repeated a thriller from 1991 called 'Die Männer vom K3' (The men of K3). "Pimpf" and snippets from "Agent Orange" and "Nothing" were used throughout the film.

"Leave In Silence", "It's No Good" and "Barrel Of A Gun" are occasionally used in the background for film trailers on Spanish TV T5 or A3.

"It's No Good" charted as the 2nd most successful song in the Top 30 for 1997 on 'Fun Radio', the most popular Slovak radio station. It was outrun by No Doubt's song "Don't Speak".

A night show called 'Journey Through Polar Dreams' on the Spanish radio station Principales 40 has recently begun using "Nothing To Fear" in the background for their music news.

In the March episode of 'Never Mind The Buzzcocks' on UK TV, someone asked: What do Dave Gahan and Tommy Lee Jones have in common? One of

the guests suggested that it might be that Dave comes from Essex and Tommy Lee looks like an Essex girl (he had blonde hair in the picture shown). Obviously not the right answer....It was that both of them overdosed on drugs and had died for few minutes.

On Monday 4th May, Danish TV's Channel 1 used "Just Can't Get Enough" at the beginning of a consumer programme about the lack of petrol in Denmark due to a strike and some of the consumers methods to get their hands on the last of it.

Many thanks to Kevin Jee, Lena Hamborg, Krzysztof Saganowski, Gavin Dwyer, Tim Plachner, Sutherland Smith, Cari Feinstein, Michael Spurný, Leighton Owen, Angela L. Maxwell, Mads Mikkelsen, Per Hedahl, Peter Faustmann, Maria A. Barral Paniagua, Kristoffer Karlsson, Marek Grzesiak, Andrea Z. and to anyone else who sent in contributions. Please, keep the information coming in and don't forget that Everything Counts!

### Depeche Mode Info Line

The Fan Club has its own information line, regularly updated to provide you with any new information as soon as it happens, i.e. latest DM news and forthcoming

Bong activities.

To find out more, please dial 0171-486
9044 but please note there is only one line, so if the number is busy keep trying - don't give up! The maximum price for any individual call to this line should not be more than 25p.





Here is a list of the dates which were confirmed at the time of going to press. Any updates will be put on the Info Line as soon as they are confirmed.

#### SEPTEMBER

WED. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	TARTU (ESTONIA)	SONG FESTIVAL GROUNDS
THU. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	RIGA (LATVIA)	SONG FESTIVAL GROUNDS
WED. 9th	HELSINKI	HARTWALL ARENA
FRI. 11 <sup>th</sup>	COPENHAGEN	MULTI HALL
SAT. 12th	GOTHENBURG	SCANDINAVIUM
SUN. 13th	STOCKHOLM	GLOBE
TUE. 15 <sup>th</sup>	PRAGUE	SPORTS HALL
WED. 16th	VIENNA	STADTHALLE
FRI. 18th	BERLIN	WALDBUHNE
SAT. 19 <sup>th</sup>	BERLIN	WALDBUHNE
SUN. 20th	ERFURT	MESSEHALLE
TUE. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	BRUSSELLS	FOREST NATIONAL
WED. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	STUTTGART	SCHLEYERHALLE
FRI. 25 <sup>th</sup>	ZURICH	HALLENSTADION
SAT. 26th	BOLOGNA	PALASPORT
SUN. 27th	MILAN	FORUM
TUE. 29th	LONDON	WEMBLEY ARENA
WED. 30th	LONDON	WEMBLEY ARENA

#### **OCTOBER**

F	FRI. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	MANCHESTER	NYNEX
(	SAT. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	BIRMINGHAM	NEC
ľ	MON. 5 <sup>th</sup>	COLOGNE	COLOGNE ARENA
	ΓUE. 6 <sup>th</sup>	COLOGNE	COLOGNE ARENA
-	NED. 7 <sup>th</sup>	PARIS	BERCY
F	FRI. 9 <sup>th</sup>	HANNOVER	MESSEHALLE
(	SAT. 10 <sup>th</sup>	LEIPZIG	MESSEHALLE
5	SUN. 11 <sup>th</sup>	FRANKFURT	FESTHALLE
	ΓUE. 13 <sup>th</sup>	MUNICH	OLYMPIAHALLE
-	ΓHU. 15 <sup>th</sup>	ZARAGOZA	SPORTS HALL
F	FRI. 16 <sup>th</sup>	BARCELONA	PALAU ST JORDI
5	SAT. 17 <sup>th</sup>	SAN SEBASTIAN	VELODROMO DE ANOETA

It is very likely that there will be one or two shows in Russia between the 4th and 8th September, but this is still to be confirmed.

Following the European leg, the band will be touring in North America in November and December. More details as soon as we have them.



# PRESSED IN BLACK

#### Dear Bong,

Hi there! Having the "Home/Useless" CD enhanced with music videos from "Ultra" was a great idea for its anticipated US release. The project was very well crafted and has immense media appeal. The CD has added software for you to use with it (in case you don't have one) and a list of system requirements for it to run.

The "Useless" video was an awesome one, its "in your face" Dave without the microphone stand, Andy adds flair with his presence and Martin's guitar rendering of the song is a classic one. The video also used one of the best mixes to come out of "Ultra" (Alan Moulder/Daniel Miller Mix).

ULTRA-thanks and best wishes to the band.

Jocelyn & Leslie Reyes Saipan, USA

### Dear Bong,

Could you put in a request to Depeche Mode to release a new video collection with their upcoming greatest hits CD. It would be great to have a collection from 1986 to the present with the videos that were not on "Strange" and "Strange Too". I have read in Bong that other fans want it too. I hope one comes out.

Julie Masters Colorado Springs, USA

Editor's note: The band and Mute are certainly considering this, and it is very likely that a video compilation will be released around the same time as the album.

#### Dear Bong,

A million thanks for the Christmas present! The Bong calendar was the perfect ending to what already had been a wonderful year. After reading the fans' remarks in Bong 34, I thought I wouldn't be much of a fan if I didn't contribute my comments.

First of all, I would like to commend Dave, Fletch, Martin, and of course you (the Bong staff) for making the success of DM possible. I've been a DM fan for 7 years now, but couldn't believe how much I've missed from not joining Bong sooner! In my first year as a member (entering my second), I learned more about DM and their fans that otherwise would have taken me years to find out. My only regret was not joining sooner.

I'm glad to see that after a four year absence in the music industry, DM still capture the hearts of many devotees. Although many fans praise "Ultra", I thought it didn't compare to the earlier gold or platinum albums. Don't get me wrong - I love the variety of 'moods' and rhythms in "Ultra", but songs like "Love Thieves" and "Freestate" make the album unworthy of 'platinum' status. "101", on the other hand, is a jewel. Even if it only contains live versions of previous hits, "101" proves DM are one of the few bands that can put on a great live show and rouse the crowd. It'd be interesting if another live album (with hits from "Violator" to "Ultra" - "101 part 2"?) was released sometime before the end of the century....but don't feel pressured from fans like me. With the success of "Ultra", upcoming double CD, and tour, I'm content with the way things are. So, many thanks to DM and Bong for making '97 an unforgettable year!!

Unsigned fan from USA

#### Dear Bong,

I would like to comment about the Depeche Mode Convention held in August 1997 in Los Angeles.

I went and it was held at the Palace. They sold many different items of Depeche Mode - from shirts and CDs, to some autographed items. They had lots of new and old stuff. They even had a separate room that showed DM videos on a big screen while you sat down and talked

to friends. It was from 5pm till 11pm. All in all it was fun and well worth \$20.

Sarina Ng

Rancho Cucamonga, Ca, USA

### Dear Bong,

Do you know if the Ultra launch party held in London last year has been shown on MTV? If so, where can I get it, or does it only exist as a collectors item?

Benny Joergensen Denmark

Editor's note: MTV have shown a tiny clip of the London Ultra Party, but this was recorded with a hand-held camera, and is not commercially available.

### Dear Bong,

I'm a DJ at a local radio station, and for my first show, I played 3 1/2 hours (3-6am!!) of Depeche Mode - a Depeche Fest. I played everything from 1981 to 1997 - even "Just Can't Get Enough". As far as I know, it was well received.

Gavin Dwyer Summer Hill, Australia

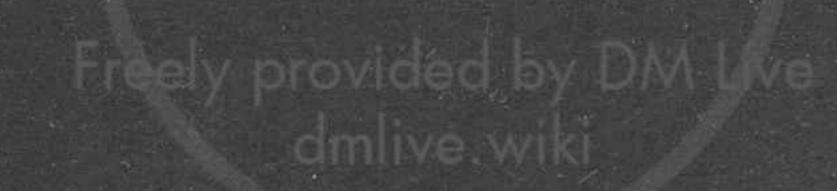
Editor's note: Well done Gavin! Keep it going.

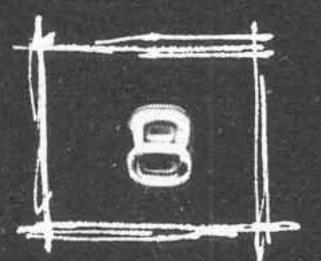
### Dear Bong,

I know it's only early days yet, but I thought I'd write to you with a few suggestions of who I think should support Depeche Mode on their forthcoming tour, or at least their dates here in the UK. My choices (in order of preference) are as follows: Sneaker Pimps, Komputer, Garbage and last but not least Recoil.

In my opinion, I think any of the above bands would make the perfect support act for Depeche Mode and their fans.

Russell Dilnot Birkenhead, UK







#### Dear Bong,

I just wanted to thank all the Band's members for making such a wonderful album and especially Martin for being the best songwriter in the World!

I have just joined the Fan Club, but I already regret not to have done it earlier. I am a 23year old girl and a fan of Depeche Mode since 1987. I would like to answer to people who said in Bong 33 & 34 that "Ultra" was not as great as many fans were thinking. I know that everybody is free to say what he thinks but I don't understand why this album is not considered one of the best albums of Depeche Mode. Dave has never sung as he does on this album, his voice has never been more beautiful....

People should making stop comparisons between "Ultra" and other albums like "Violator" and "SOFAD". "Ultra" is very unique and different from what DM have done in past. The Band have changed with time and so have their

minds. What would people say if they were to listen to the same kind of songs again? They would say: "How boring Depeche Mode are!"

I'd like to end this letter by saying that I am impatiently waiting for the end of this year when Depeche Mode start touring again. It will be the first time that I'll be able to see them, so you can understand my impatience.

Sandrine Schmitt Saint Germain des Fossés, France

#### Dear Bong,

The two videos, "Barrel Of A Gun" and "It's No Good", on the "Home" CD singles are amazing to see. Mute Records always surprise us fans with new ideas and formats with what they can do to records & CDs. I am already looking forward to the Greatest Hits 86-98 CD later this year with a couple of new singles!

Roger Thomaz Johannesburg, South Africa

#### Dear Bong,

I would like to comment on Tom Evinson's letter from Bong 35 regarding the usage of a common Depeche Mode logo/symbol....

I think that the rose from the single or album covers is very well known even by the people who don't listen to Depeche Mode, but it doesn't mean that it's the best symbol for the Band. I believe the awareness of Depeche listeners' Mode's sound and melody is much more important in this respect.

Marek Grzesiak Poznan, Poland

Editor's note: In Bong 35 when this subject was raised, we promised a competition....so turn to page 17 for details of how you can enter and win!

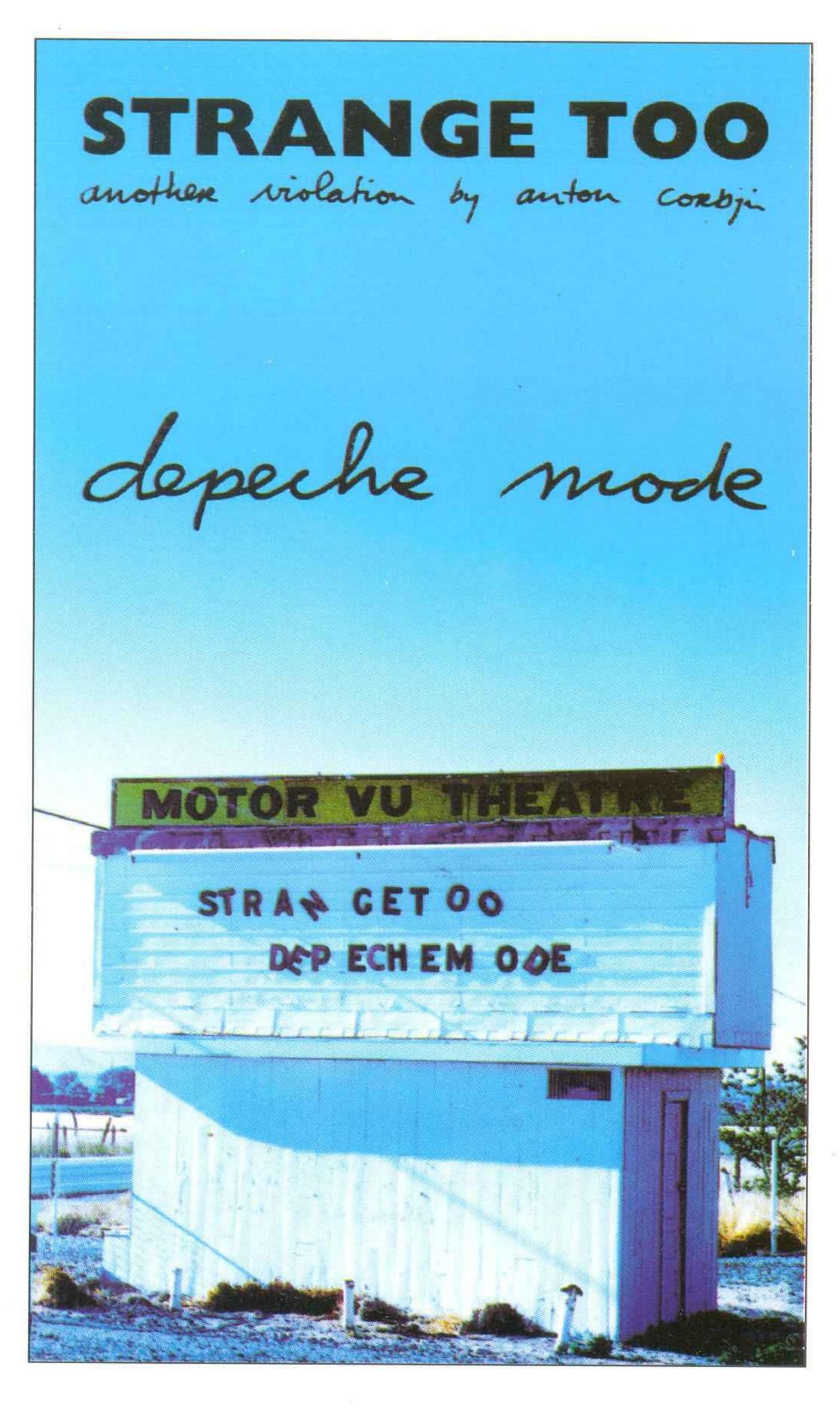


"Strange Too" showcases "Violator" with more sex than the other videos. The videos within are framed by the band watching themselves at a drive-thru. Who expected the band at a bordello in "Personal Jesus"? They certainly are not the rosy-cheeked lads from "Some Great Videos". "Clean" focuses on Martin, even though he does not sing in it. This is an erotic video about a song that is not sexual, say, like

"World In My Eyes". The video is Voyeuristic. To begin with, the woman closes the drapes to exclude any audience. The audience are the fans, the band watching from the drive-thru, and even the projections on the wall. This video best reflects the name of the album, since Martin and the woman's privacy is being violated. Dave Gahan in an interview said that the album got its name because the band had in mind a name that suggest pornography or a heavy metal record. If the attractive woman wore any less clothes, this video would qualify as soft porn. In fact, there might be some fans who imagine themselves in the girl's position. Anton Corbijn is presenting Depeche Mode in a more bolder light than any video in "Some Great Videos", in ways fans should enjoy.

Jacqueline Pierce Houston, USA Jesus" where the guys from Depeche are dressed like cowboys and the whole story behind this clip is situated on a beautiful hot desert location. This shortly turns into the dark & moody "Policy Of Truth" featuring Mr. Gahan driving in a strange dark city whose face is illuminated only by the neon lights. The song itself contains some strong guitar riffs which nicely underline the heart's emptiness writhing in this song.

### STRANGE TOO -ANOTHER VIOLATION



1990

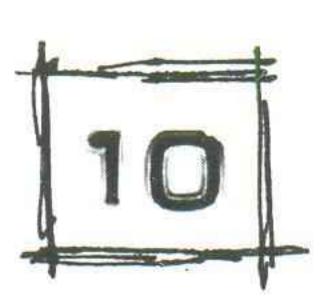
"Strange Too" is the second video compilation Anton Corbijn directed for Depeche Mode. It contains six different videos from the wonderful album "Violator". The video tape starts off with the dynamic rocky song "Personal

Next, the most sublime Mode Depeche song "Enjoy The Silence" showing Dave in the disguise of a king and superb scenery of the mountains covered with snow behind him which blends perfectly with a crystal sound of synths and guitar. "Clean" is about addiction and this time it's Martin who plays the lead role, although he's not singing. The images of the rest of the band can be seen briefly on the white screen of the empty cinema where this visual story takes place. Quite a bit of acting involves the video to the song "Halo", especially for Dave and Martin who play the parts of "the strongest man in the universe" (Dave) and "the funny clown" (Martin). And last but not least, there is a live video of "World In My Eyes" that was shot during the "World Violation" Tour

and brings back some memories of the Band's performances back then. The single video clips are joined together in a short movie watched by the Band from a car at night in the middle of nowhere.....but you certainly won't get lost!

Marek Grzesiak Poznan, Poland





This film is a merging of vision and sound that solidifies Anton Corbijn's chemistry with the band. High wall curtains that shadowed the lads in which one can only stare at the bigger than life image of them while doing "Higher Love". "World In My Eyes" is my favourite because of its new sounds and Dave's stage performance that would have to end only with a bow. "Walking In My Shoes" mystified me with it's bird-like, half woman body in it that stood upon Dave's way. The visuals are truly awesome on the massive screens that projected them, through "Stripped",

"Condemnation", "Never Let Me Down Again" and "Judas". "I Feel You" and "Rush" were undoubtedly the highlights of the show mainly because we are able to see the whole band so clearly, especially Dave, who conquered every possible space on the stage. During "In Your Room" Dave was almost taken apart by the crowd when he dived from the stage into a sea of fans. As far as the encores are concerned "Personal Jesus" had everyone gasping for air as they "Reached Out and Touched Faith" for the whole Lastly, "Enjoy The song. Silence" - a great song to finish a great night where Dave just struts himself out, much to the delight of the fans, then he grabs a sign that says "Reach Out and Touch Dave" giving it a final Depeche Mode.... Thank You!

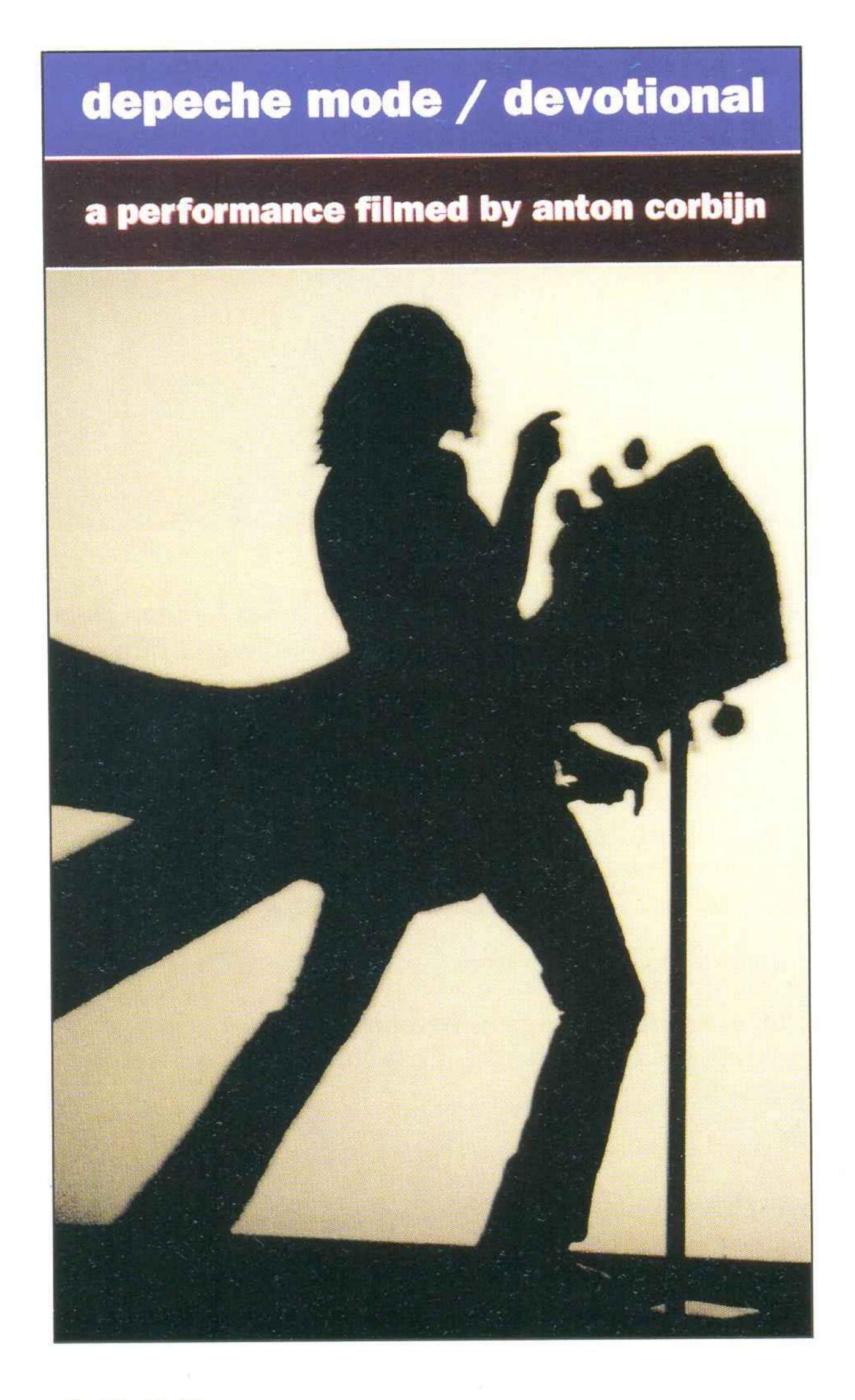
Leslie and Josie Reyes Saipan, USA

I'm sorry, but short of quibbling with the set-list, there's absolutely nothing wrong with this. Here are Depeche Mode, recorded in performance on their 1993 European tour in flawless and suitably artistic fashion by Anton Corbijn. The band's

long-time video director, Corbijn also designed the stage set - an imposing split-level stage, using grids containing large screens (images, for the back-projection of) and four large pillars swathed in industrial-type cloth (showbiz, for the prevention of). It's the combination of lighting and design that really impresses, however. There's no attempt to dazzle or be flashy – it's all kept simple and sparing, including the evocative but non-nostalgic images which enhance rather than distract, and are perfectly in tone with the music. Talking of which, the band play a set of 16 numbers, a strong mix of both recent and older material

including a couple of reworked ancients in the encores. They also introduce backing singers and – gasp! – live drums for the first time. Oh, and Dave Gahan wiggles his bum (not for the first time), and later reveals a skinny and tattooed torso. It's all faultlessly conceived and presented, and equally well filmed and edited. You can see everything clearly. There's no phoney chat between numbers (simply brief darkness or a change of lights), yet the sweat is there too, so it never becomes clinical. The audience never intrude but add to the sense of occasion, only shown as

DEVOTIONAL



1993

a fleeting image or when involved by Dave Gahan, and there's no offstage malarkey to spoil the magic. An absorbing experience even for non-die-hard fans, Devotional is a wonderful, creative example of achieving success without artistic compromise.

Ian Cranna, Q Magazine, UK (December 1993)

To be honest I am not a great fan of this sort of thing. Trying to recreate the atmosphere of a live performance on video never really works but Devotional comes close. From the opening song, the arousing "Higher Love", Dave has the audience in the palm of his hand and continues to hold them there for the next 90 minutes. Apart from a wonderful set list which includes "Walking In My Shoes", "I Feel You", "Never Let Me Down Again" and the Grande Finale "Everything Counts" (complete with compulsory audience sing-a-long). Other highlights include some great moments of Dave interacting with the audience and some realistic atmospheric shots of the stage from a crowds eye view. The

visuals of Dave on stage shot through the outstretched arms of the fans are stunning. When I sat down to watch Devotional I knew the music was going to be great but this video really catches the ambience and atmosphere of the show. From the opening scene of Dave's giant shadow projected onto a flimsy silk curtain covering the set and Anton's wonderfully weird visuals and stills appearing on the screens spanning the stage, you know this is not just your average concert footage video. So if you didn't get to see any of the shows on the Devotional Tour, this video will convince you otherwise.

Lorraine Selwyn Essex, England



6.25pm

The Band arrive in Cologne, Germany on the BA flight from London Heathrow, accompanied by Jonathan Kessler (Band's manager), Daniel Miller (Mute Records), Donna Vergier (Mute International) and Andrew Zweck (Band's tour agent).

The Band are greeted by Intercord's Anne Berning before leaving the airport in two Mercedes Limos. There are approximately 40 fans waiting for their heroes in the arrival hall but there is not enough time to give autographs.

8.30pm

After checking in at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Martin, Fletch and Dave meet up in the hotel bar, for a drink with record company representatives from Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, France, Belgium, Austria, and their good friend Marek Lieberberg, the Band's German promoter who is co-organising and co-hosting the event.

There is another bunch of devotees waiting for a glimpse of Depeche Mode!

9.00pm

Dinner is booked for everyone at the private dining room of "Garages" restaurant in the hotel. After dinner it's off to the bar for a few 'good night' drinks. There are some fans waiting in the bar and they are lucky enough to get the Band's autographs.

> > >

12.00noon Make-up time! Mart, Fletch and Dave are brushed with a bit of make-up for the press conference.

1.00pm

The Band attend a short photo session before they open their first press conference in years. The whole event lasts for about 30 minutes and hosts around 20 international journalists, 75 journalists from Germany including local promoters and 4 TV crews.

A short impromptu signing session takes place right after the press conference comes to its end, rewarding the fans for their relentless hours of waiting.

1.35pm

Additional photo call followed by a short break.

2.00pm

Fletch, Dave and Mart begin a run of face to face interviews with the international press, radio and TV, starting off with French media Rock & Folk and Magic.

3.00pm

Time to switch to UK media and complete the interviews for London Tonight, MTV, WTN, Sky, Radio 1, NME, O-Zone and Unique Radio.

4.00pm

Finally, the Band are ready to talk to ZDF Morgenmagazin, Frankfurter Rundschau, MTV, Viva (Germany) and one radio station from Austria.

5.00pm

Now, it's all over! There is just a few minutes to pack the bags and leave for the airport for the return flight to London.

6.00pm

Dave, Martin, Andy, Jonathan, Daniel, Donna and Andrew check in for their British Airways flight, then disappear out of sight.



### Scan by Maudy

"We just want to thank Jonathan Kessler, our manager, who has kept us together over the last 4 years. When we finished the last tour, 4 years ago, we thought maybe it would be the last Depeche Mode tour, but we have just been in the studio for 3 months recording new material - and this upcoming tour which we are all very happy about we think is going to be one of the best Depeche Mode tours. We will be doing all our best tracks over the last 12 years - so it will be a historical perspective and we are very much looking forward to it. Thank you." Andy Fletcher

## 20th April 1998

# DEPECHE MODE PRESS CONFERENCE

Hyatt Hotel

Cologne, Germany

# How do you feel being on the road again after such a long time?

Martin: We are looking forward to it. The previous tour was just too long for us. It was 15 months. For us to go on tour now is just right. We are doing a four month tour - to see how things go.

### Did people mind you not going on tour after "Ultra"?

Dave: Actually, I think it was pretty positive. I think people understood it would have been insane for us to take that on, at that time. I think not only would we have been cheating ourselves but also our fans because we were just not ready. It was quite a big ordeal just getting the three of us together and recording another record. You know, after Alan departed, we had to have a re-think about how we were going to work and we had to find people to fulfil the role that Alan played. It took quite a while, probably about six months during the recording of "Ultra", before we really settled in and became OK with each other. Not that we disliked each other, it was just that everybody had been through a lot of different things and it took some time getting familiar with working again.

### What can we expect from the live performance on the tour?

Andy: I think it is going to be a historical perspective with the greatest hits from 1986 to 1998 - playing all the songs that we recorded in that period. We will be doing most of the hits from that period plus a couple of earlier songs as well. It will be more of a celebration of our history.

Martin: I am working on my new dance routines as well!

Dave: A lot has happened since the last tour. There have been the Spice Girls and things like that, so we have been working very hard.

Martin: We have been watching it very carefully, I think our fans will be surprised. We're getting there.

# You've been through some troubled times? Has that been influencing the music?

Martin: We are not actually releasing a 'new' album, but there will be some new songs. I think the atmosphere that we are recording in at the moment - is a really good atmosphere - it speaks for itself, so perhaps that's the best way - it has been influenced by the fact that we are all healthy and having a good time at the moment.

Dave: I think we are all very grateful - I am - and I think I speak for the others - that we are getting to do this. We are more comfortable now and it's good to be working again.

### How many songs can we expect on the tour?

Dave: We will be playing a few songs from "Ultra", and a new song from our Greatest Hits.

Martin: When performing live, we usually play 18-20 songs, so we sat down and did the list of songs that we feel we have to play. We are at the stage now where there are about 16 songs from the last 12 years or so that we don't even argue about, and that we have to play. There are 16 songs that I think people would be cheated it we did not play, so we will build from that.

Dave: The last 16 singles and a couple of really old ones!

### Is Anton Corbijn part of the tour?

Dave: He may be involved in some of the stage show but we have not yet decided on who we are going to use. We are still looking at that. We have three different designs, and we're keeping an open mind on that - but not decided.

# It's been five years since the last tour. Do you worry about your old fans having withdrawn from you or do you have loyal fans?

Dave: I think our fans have been really loyal. I don't know why but I think we created our own little niche and our fans have stuck with us. They have grown with us as well, which is really nice. Even today, at this press conference, I think there are a few fans outside, which is very nice. I don't think it was a worry, I don't think it was a consideration. We just didn't even consider touring at all with the last record, and there has always been pretty big gaps in between our tours.

dpeshe Mod

Andy: We have been together 17 or 18 years, and have seen bands come and go all the time, but we just concentrate on trying to make our music as good as possible and by doing that I think it is the best way to actually keep your fans.

Martin: If you started worrying if there are any fans, I think you would start thinking about the music you make. I think we just make music for ourselves, music that we like and hopefully someone out there likes it and then will come along to the concerts. The music is the most important thing.

# The 80's are back in fashion now. Has this been influencing you to do this historical tour?

Andy: I don't think you could ever say we have been trendy, it's probably why we have lasted so long. It certainly helped I'm sure. We like being a band of the 90's. It just so happens our music spans the 80's and 90's, so that most of the tracks from this new album are going to be from that period.

# The last tour almost split up the entire band. Have you taken any precautions for that not to happen this time?

Martin: We've got rules that we keep. I only drink two days a week - you may laugh.

performing. For me personally, it is pretty important. If I wasn't feeling nervous then I would think there was something wrong, but yes, I am really nervous.

### How many people can we expect on stage on the new tour?

Andy: Well, we are going to use a drummer for the first time, full time on stage - an Austrian guy, Christian Eigner. He is really good and he worked with us already on the Ultra parties and TV shows. We might have a couple of backing singers and perhaps a synthesiser. I don't know.

Martin: At the moment, Tim, our producer, wants to come on stage with us for a couple of songs and scratch - whatever that is. We're not sure.

# At the beginning of your career you mainly used keyboards, then lots of guitars came in. Do you consider yourself as a Rock & Roll band?

Martin: Not really, I started playing the guitar when I was 13. I didn't see a synthesiser until I was 18, so in a way it was unnatural for me to be a synthesiser player. So when we did our list of songs, in about 80% of them I am playing the guitar because 80% of our songs have guitar, but there are songs where I play the synthesiser.

Dave: I think for me all my favourite singers and players have always been from rock and roll bands like Mick Jagger, Donny Osmond.... people like that.

You started out as a boy band. What would you like to be at the end of the 90's?

Andy: We want to be back. It's nice to be considered at the end of the 90's - to still be a credible band, a very well known band that's still making good music - I suppose!

Dave: As I said we are really fortunate that we have been able to make records over virtually two decades and there are not many bands that get to do that. That's it really. I don't think there is too much emphasis based on the 80's, 90's, 60's, 70's or whatever. We are just still making music, we still want to play and still have fans that want to come and see us - it is as simple as that.

Andy: When we started we were very young. Hopefully we are still young now.....36, is that young?

### Are you nervous about being on the road again?

Dave: Well sitting here in the lounge, desperately stopping my body from shaking....I don't know, we did a couple of performances, just playing a few songs from "Ultra" at the launch parties that we did, and it was really nerve racking. But I think it is good to be nervous, you know nervous energy can be put into

What about Diesel Christ (that's a band from Germany/Sweden doing retro covers of DM)?

Martin: I liked the idea of what they did with "Songs Of Faith And Devotion". They took the album and did it in a way that they thought we should have done it. Had they done it right - it would have been interesting. What's really nice is that before our Greatest Hits (I hate that term Greatest Hits) comes out, we have got this tribute album which comes out in the summer. You know it's really interesting, it's got contemporary bands covering our songs. Finally, there are some good bands who have decided to cover our songs, and it does not originate from Sweden.

# Isn't it a strange feeling that other bands are covering your songs?

Andy: I think you have to look at what records you are making now, and if you make the decision they are good then that's OK

Scan by Maudy

to carry on. It's getting to that stage. We think our last record was one of our best, which is really good.

Dave: As a band we are interested in working with each other and interested in making music and performing it with each other. If anything it is a compliment.

Martin: For a lot of contemporary bands to

your songs
and admit you
are an influence – is
surely the greatest honour

Any ideas about supporting bands on this tour?

you can have.

Dave: We are thinking about it, but not decided or anything. Whoever wants to support us - we decided it should be someone we dislike because they pick up a lot of spare change and they have to wear armour.

### Where are you rehearsing for the tour?

Andy: In London. It is harder for Dave as he lives in New York, but London for us, is where our families live. When you go away for 4 months, I think it is important to be as close as possible to them, before we go away.

Martin: It's also common sense. Two of us live there and there are plenty of rehearsal studios. We could go somewhere else, but common sense dictates.

## Which songs did those contemporary bands you mentioned cover?

Andy: Right across the board really, Smashing Pumpkins did "Never Let Me Down Again", The Cure have covered "World In My Eyes", Apollo 440 "I Feel You".....it's not just singles, it's also album tracks.

### How long are you planning on touring the US?

Andy: About two months. We finish before Christmas so it's a nice package. There are also likely to be a few Eastern European gigs before Helsinki, maybe Russia, which we have never been to.

# Anything new on the music side? Something new musically on stage?

Dave: Well - using the drums throughout the whole show is one. It's something we experienced on the Devotional Tour, and using

w e l l .

A keyboard player, as Alan is not with us any more. And a couple of things we did at the "Ultra" parties. It really did transform the old songs quite a bit. For me it felt more exciting to have a drummer behind.

backing singers,

which worked

### Have you been working on new songs?

Martin: We have been in the studio for the last two months, finishing off a single. When we get back tonight, the mix should be finished. It was almost finished before we left yesterday. And another couple of new songs that will go on the first single's package. So we have been working on new stuff.

### Any plans for a new studio album?

Andy: With this tour being four months, I think we all agreed we had not released as many records as we should have over the last 6-7 years. So it will be good to get an album done as soon as possible, but I can't tell you when that will be.

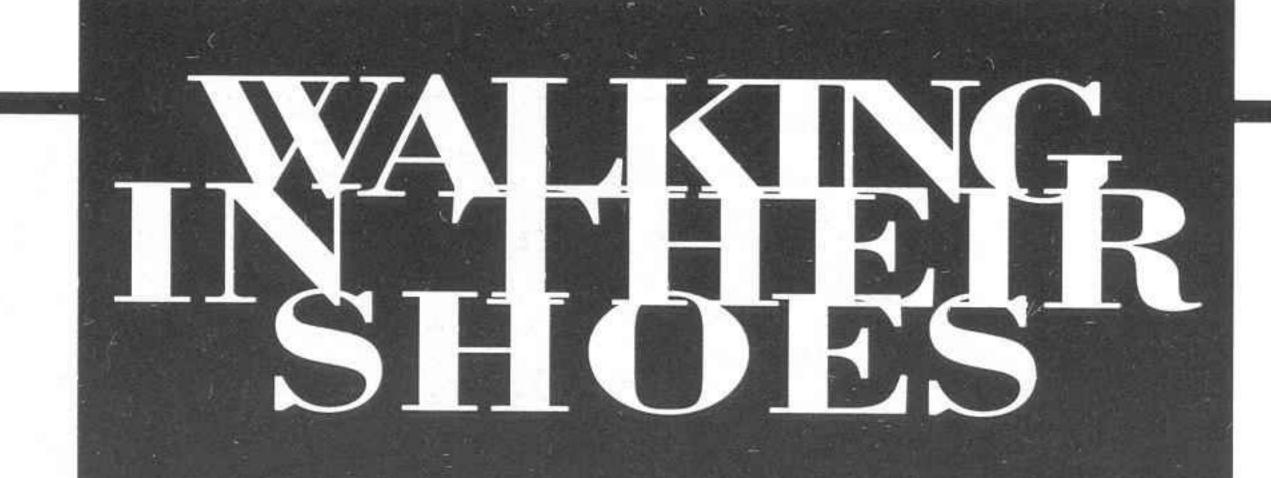
Martin: These days it seems traditional - three or four years between albums. I don't know if it will get quicker. I find it incredible to think we released an album every year of the first seven years of our career. How did we do that???

### Is your tour starting in Helsinki?

Andy: We're thinking about that, we have a lot of fans in Eastern Europe. It would be nice to do a few warm up gigs there. We don't know where yet.

# You insisted on having a drummer and another keyboard player on stage. Do you need to play everything live on stage?

Dave: We always got attacked for years and years for doing that. We were probably the first band to do that and openly admit to doing that. Bands have been doing that for years whether Pink Floyd or Depeche Mode. For us it's very different to try and perform a lot of the stuff live, but we are using computers on stage. So it is still impossible for us to play everything live as our records are far too complex. We have to run a computer. It's a fact. Anyone with any sense will realise that.



### Devotional Tour

### South Africa 1994

February		
Wed 9	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Fri 11	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Sat 12	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Mon 14	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Tue 15	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Fri 18	Capetown	Good Hope Centre
Sat 19	Capetown	Good Hope Centre
Tue 22	Durban	Expo Centre
Wed 23	Durban	Expo Centre
Fri 25	Johannesburg	Standard Bank
Sat 26	Johannesburg	Standard Bank

### Australia & Far East 1994

March		
Tue 1	Singapore	Indoor Stadium
Sat 5	Perth	Entertainment Centre
Mon 7	Adelaide	Thebarton Centre
Tue 8	Melbourne	Flinders Park
Thu 10	Brisbane	Festival Hall
Sat 12	Sydney	Entertainment Centre
Wed 16	Hong Kong	Open Air Stadium
Fri 18	Manila	Folk Arts Theatre
Sat 19	Manila	Folk Arts Theatre
Fri 25	Honolulu	Blaisdell Arena
Sat 26	Honolulu	Blaisdell Arena

### South America and Mexico 1994

Aprii		
Mon 4	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Olympia
Tue 5	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Olympia
Fri 8	Buenos Aires,	Velez Gorsfield Stadium
	Argentina	
Sun 10	Santiago, Chile	Carlos Aponquindo Stadium
Thu 14	San Jose,	
	Costa Rica	National Stadium
Sat 16	Monterrey, Mexico	Amphitheatre
		·1점

#### USA & Canada 1994

May		
Thu 12	Sacramento	Cal Expo Amphitheatre
Sat 14	San Francisco	Shoreline Amphitheatre
Sun 15	Concord	Concord Pavillion
Tue 17	Las Vegas	Aladdin Theatre
Wed 18	Phoenix	Desert Sky Amphitheatre
Fri 20	Laguna Hills	Irvine Meadows
		Amphitheatre
Sat 21	San Bernadino	Blockbuster Pavillion
Tue 24	Salt Lake City	Park West Amphitheatre

Sat 28 Sun 29 Tue 31	Kansas City St. Louis San Antonio	Sandstone Amphitheatre Riverport Amphitheatre Civic Centre Arena
June Wed 1 Fri 3 Sun 5 Wed 8  Thu 9 Sat 11 Sun 12 Tue 14 Thu 16 Fri 17 Mon 20 Tue 21 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sun 26 Tue 28 Wed 29	Houston Dallas Biloxi Charlotte  Atlanta Chicago Cleveland Columbia Wantaugh Wantaugh Toronto Montreal Boston Holmdell Saratoga Springs Philadelphia Pittsburg	Woods Mitchell Pavillion Starplex Amphitheatre Mississippi Coast Coliseum The Palladium at Carowinds Lakewood Amphitheatre World Music Theatre Blossom Music Centre Merriweather Post Pavilion Jones Beach Amphitheatre Jones Beach Amphitheatre Kingswood Music Theatre Kingswood Music Theatre Montreal Forum Great Wood P.A.C. Garden State Arts Center Saratoga P.A.C. The Spectrum Star Lake Amphitheatre
July Fri 1 Sun 3 Mon 4 Wed 6 Thu 7 Fri 8	Columbus Detroit Detroit Cincinnati Milwaukee Indianapolis	Polaris Amphitheatre Pine Knob Music Theatre Pine Knob Music Theatre Riverbend Music Center Marcus Amphitheatre Deer Creek Music Center

You may have noticed that the tour schedule in Bong 35 was incomplete (May 19th, Lille) there was also one piece of inaccurate information (July 24th, Zeebrugge) since we printed the original itinerary by mistake. We apologise for this error and ask you to make the amendments to your list. Below are extracts from Daryl's Devotional Diary (Bong 22) giving you more detailed information on those two crucial dates......

May 19th, Lille: First gig in Lille tonight. Strange feeling, being on tour again. Funny place to start.

July 24th, Zeebrugge: Headlined the huge Belga Beach festival today. The festival is actually on the beach but Belga isn't a coastal suburb of Zeebrugge, it's actually a brand of horrible cigarettes. The band were excellent tonight, even though the man upstairs decided to turn the shower on. The crowd stayed in good spirits all the same, and to show solidarity, Dave went right to the front of the stage, and dancing in bare feet, got absolutely soaked. He seemed to have an aversion to anything metal for some reason. We had a huge power-cut backstage tonight (about the same time Dave plugged his hairdryer in...).



I just thought I had to tell you how myself and a friend met Andy on Good Friday at a bar in West London. He was watching the football while Dave and Martin were doing some vocals in a studio down the road. Andy told us the vocals were for 4 new tracks and he said Dave was sounding better than ever. He also told us, there will be a tour starting in September. After speaking to him we noticed how genuine he was. He spoke to us as if we knew him and we also had a good laugh with him which was cool.

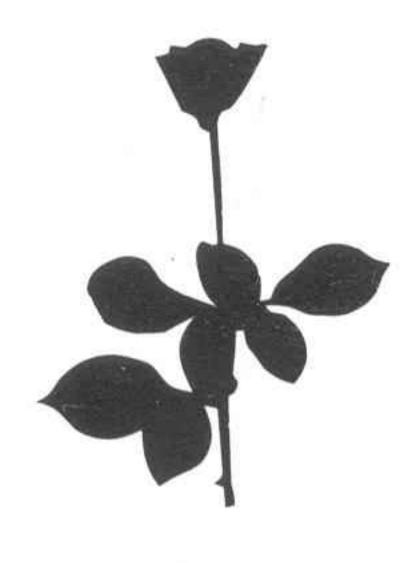
Keith Noon & Mark Walsh England If you met Depeche Mode or one of the band members and would like to share your experiences with the other fans, this is your chance. We are giving you an opportunity to tell us when and where you met the Modes and under what circumstances. You can send us full stories or simple details, whatever you prefer. We would also appreciate any photographs you have that we could print as it always makes the page more interesting and will prove to everyone that you were really there! Please, be assured that we will take a good care of your photos and return them to you on your request. Don't forget to mark everything with your name and address.

During the summer of last year I went to see my 2nd favourite Band 'U2' in concert at Wembley. I was privileged to have a pass to the private lounge bar before the concert and as it was such a warm evening I took myself and my white wine out onto the veranda and watched the masses converging beneath the twin towers. As I turned to return to the bar it was then that I saw the most wonderful vision - Dave, in his trendy brown suit looking as gorgeous as ever. Seeing Dave made my evening and my year! It was great to see him looking so fantastic. My biggest regret - I was too shy to speak to him. More Devoted than ever Dave!

Jane Russell
Staines, Middlesex

# COMPETITION

# TIME AGAIN







The answers to last issue's competition, where you had to search for the titles of three Depeche Mode's songs, were: "Get Right With Me", "In Your Memory" and "It's No Good". We decided to pick three winners this time as there were so many entries in the bag. They were Emily Cornwall from Leicester, UK; Terry Johnson from Illinois, USA and Andre Boorman from Toronto, Canada, and they win an ULTRA T-shirt each.

NEW! Following the debate over the symbol that signifies Depeche Mode, we have decided to run a competition where you will have a chance to express yourself and let us know what you think personifies Depeche Mode the best. So grab your pens and design an emblem, symbol or logo which would reflect what Depeche Mode mean to you. There were roses, bird-women, megaphones speakers and more, but we are interested in your ideas now! The Band members themselves and the staff at BONG will select one overall winner plus four runners up whose work will be published in one of the future issues of Bong. The competition is open till the end of September, so hurry up and send your entries to the usual address!!

Freely provided by Dander of the desired by Da

After a restless, worry filled night, the morning of April 2nd was finally here, too late for last minute panic attacks now, ah well, never mind....it wouldn't matter if many people didn't turn up, we'd still have a good night. After all what more could we want? We were getting together again for a night filled with our favourite music, a live band performing for us and plenty of alcohol to help the evening flow....more Mode fans to share the experience that's what!!! Billy Bob and I now understood how Tony, Rob and Kerry from Mode Evolution must have felt at their first convention - scared to death!!! This time was easier for us though because it was a joint effort with us organising the event and Mode Evolution in charge of the DJ equipment. There was no admission fee charged - more than half the cost of the night was paid for by the money paid by people who buy our fanzine 'Musings For The Masses'. We wanted to say 'thank you' to those who'd involved themselves by writing articles, sending photos/drawings or just by buying it - a convention seemed the best way to achieve this. The rest of the money we paid between us all. We arrived at The Foundry at just gone 5pm. Monochrome (Steven Heath, Jeff Hitchings and Michael Mar) who I'd nagged to play for us were already there unloading their gear. Poor lads, this was their first gig. They'd never even played outside of the bedroom before let alone in public, plus they'd only had four weeks in which to prepare....and we thought we were nervous?! To top it all they weren't being paid to play, in fact they contributed towards paying for the night, such was the enthusiasm we felt about having a night with fellow DM fans. Having previously heard Monochrome's own material and just the unfinished DM covers demo we had total faith in their abilities and knew they'd be fine.

We put the posters up (thanks to Marc) while Monochrome set up their equipment and everyone else buggered off to the nearest pub. Myself and Billy Bob stayed behind to give the band some moral support. We could've murdered a drink at this stage as our own butterflies were beginning to return. The sound check went well and before we knew it 'our lot' returned from the pub and people started to arrive. We can't remember who arrived first, but earlier when we had a mad dash to the shop for the all essential camera batteries and fags we came across a rather lost looking Ultra T-shirt and his friend. We explained directions for The Foundry and they found themselves an ale house in which to pass the time, so technically David and Karl from Tyne and Wear were the first I suppose. Everything happened so fast, before we knew it the place was filling quite nicely. The night started off with Christmas Island and a varied mix of Depeche Mode and Recoil was played from all time eras, from the very early stuff through to "Insight". I even remember Compulsion being played, such was the diversity and variety chosen. Our most vivid memories of the night are of listening to everyone's opinions on

Depeche Mode and their music. It's always so rewarding when you realise others feel just as passionately as you do, even if they look at things from a different point of view. It was really nice for us to put faces to the names of those people who subscribe to Musings. Many were surprised to find out Red and Billy Bob are women!!!

We didn't stand still for one minute, we ran round making sure all attendees had competition sheets. I went round the room dragging people up to dance, I didn't have many refusals and the dance floor proved to be a good place for introducing people to each other. One lad, James from Birmingham, had heard about the night via his friend in the USA!!! He hadn't been to a DM related event before and wasn't sure whether to turn up or not, but was so glad he did. He told us: "It's been wonderful. I've made lots of new friends, it's like finding a family I never knew I had." We were so touched by his comments we could've cried, this was one of the special things that made the night so worthwhile.

When we collected the competition entries we knew we needed somewhere quiet and private to do the marking, we opted for the ladies toilets - it was a good choice too, we didn't get any interruptions.

At 9.30pm the time came for Monochrome to take centre stage. Talk about a baptism of fire - doing DM covers to an audience of DM fans - you won't get a truer opinion, if you 'kill' their precious music they'll soon let you know. They

kicked in with "World In my Eyes" and Steve's nerves were evident. At the beginning, his vocals were tense and 'ropey'. It brought to mind DM's 'TFI Friday' performance. Fortunately Steve followed Dave's example, and he also quickly got over the difficult start and soon settled in. Next came "Walking In My Shoes" followed by "Behind The Wheel" with Jeff giving an energetic and enthusiastic lead vocal performance. For "Barrel Of A Gun" Steve took up the mike again, by now his growing confidence was clear to see and hear. Then came "Policy Of Truth" and "It's No Good". The set was completed with an excellent "Enjoy The Silence" by which time all traces of nerves had vanished, there were even a few smiles to be seen. What a shame it was the end. Monochrome suddenly seemed as if they could go on all night. Tak looked cool as a cucumber behind the keyboard and appeared to be totally relaxed throughout every song. There were one or two obvious mistakes heard, but very few when you consider this was their first effort. The mistakes just proved that the whole thing really was live. Most important of all was that every song retained it's overall 'feel'. The set was video taped and Monochrome have watched it over and over being very self critical. It was a good learning process, they now know where they want to make improvements. They've also gained the invaluable confidence they need to get out there doing their own material. There were compliments galore on the night, and we've had letters and e-mails since, giving Monochrome the highest praise. Many people said that their performance was the highlight of the convention for them. Well done lads we knew you could do it!!!

By now, time was marching on, Christ it went so fast....we couldn't believe it was nearly over. We still had the competition winners to announce yet! We had a large number of prizes - signed drumsticks from the "Devotional Tour", a Recoil T-shirt, promo Cds, other signed items and lots more. The top three prizes went to: 1st - Tony Lewis (Peterborough), 2nd - Rob Lewis (Daventry) and 3rd - Paul Hindle (Birmingham).

The last half

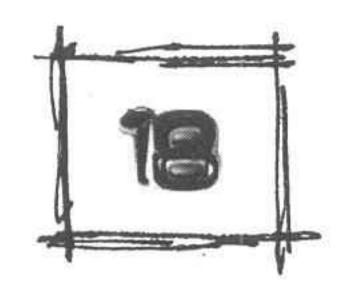
INGS FOR THE MASSES CONVENTION THE FOUNDRY, BIRMINGHAM, 2.4.98

running around and

stopped

danced non-stop. We had a wonderful time and would like to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone who was there. Our only regret was having drunk too much vodka and being so busy that we didn't take as many photos as we'd intended. We plan to hold the same event around the same time next year. We learnt a lot from this one, so the next should be even bigger and better. We'll give ourselves plenty of time to promote the event instead of the very rushed few weeks we had this time. Also and perhaps most important for the night LESS ALCOHOL (well, maybe....).

Red "Musings For The Masses" Ashton-Under-Lyne, England



### Scan by Maudy

We thought it would be interesting to take a deeper look into this project and conduct a short interview comprising of questions asked by you in your letters. So we asked Philip Blaine, one of the heads at 1500 Records who has been involved in this project since the very beginning.......

1. When was the first time the idea of releasing such a tribute album crossed your mind and was it you who came up with this project?

The first band on our label was God Lives Underwater and they used to play

"Stripped" in their live show. They always thought it would be great to get other bands to do covers and put out a tribute record. So 1500 staff went to work soliciting bands. It has taken over two years.

2. Why have you decided to produce a tribute for Depeche Mode and not some other band?

First, I have always been a big fan and they write amazing songs with unique electronic production that blends perfectly with traditional instruments. Since in the music business I have worked mostly with electronic acts like Underworld, Prodigy, Chemical Brothers, Orbital, Massive Attack etc. but have always loved more lyrical bands like Radiohead, Garbage, and The Beatles. I think Depeche Mode are masters at combining these elements.

3. What was the key in choosing the tracks and the Bands for this compilation?

We approached artists that we thought would be interested and/or would do a proper interpretation. Choosing the tracks came out from a discussion with the artists. We would make suggestions unless they had their heart set on a particular track. For example Biggi from Gus Gus said: "I couldn't see myself adding to tracks like "Everything Counts" and "People are People" so by choosing "Monument", a low profile track on the second album and definitely one of my favourites, I thought we could add something to the Depeche Mode Saga." No one could do a song if it was already done, however.

4. How much have Depeche Mode been involved in this project? Were you discussing your plans and ideas with the individual members of the Band, in order to choose the right songs and the right bands?

I have been friends with Jonathan, their manager, for many years and through him I have been able to promote events for the band in the past. During the LA Ultra party I asked Dave who he thought would be good for the record and he mentioned Marilyn Manson. Besides that I was sending songs to the band members houses whenever we got a few tracks done, but they never told us who should do what.

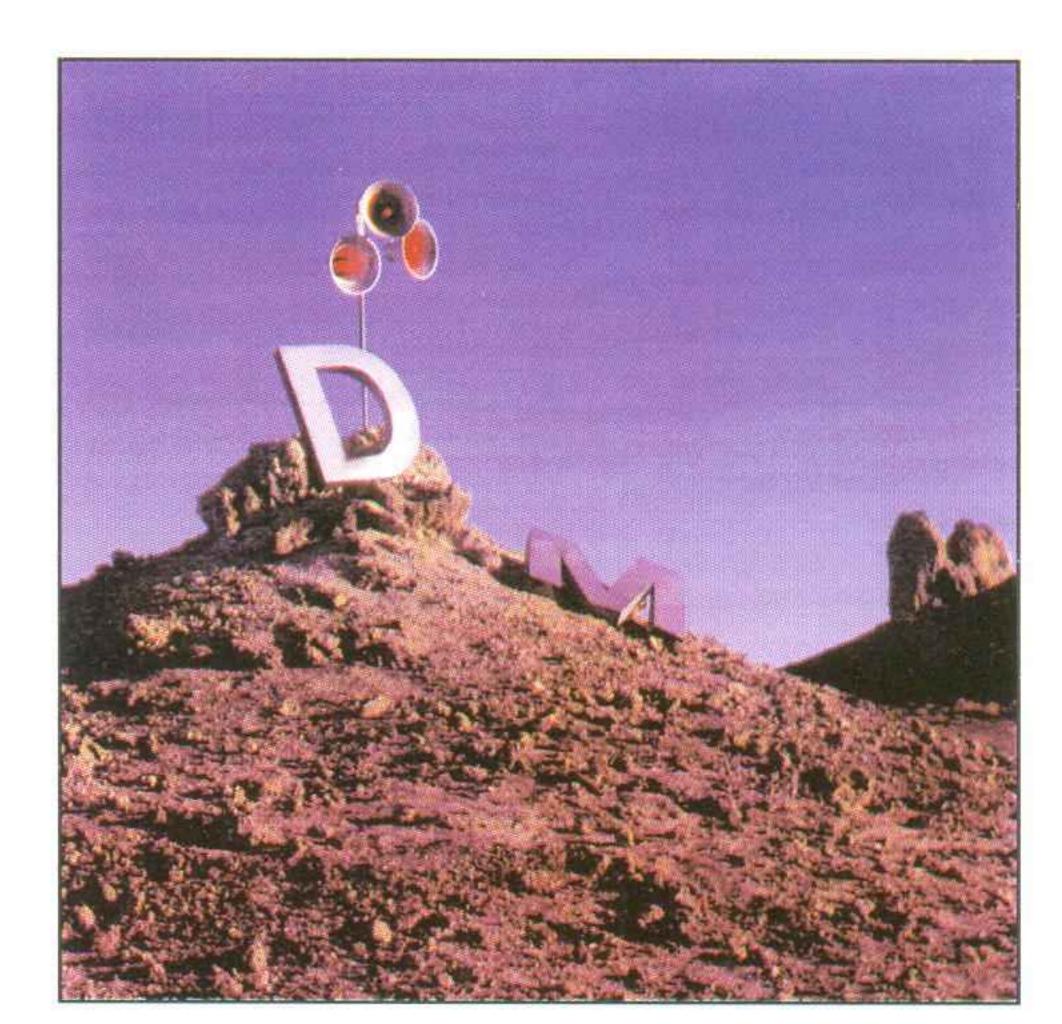
5. How wide was the variety of tracks you had to choose from for actual inclusion on the album?

When we approached an artist we would fax them the list of ALL of the songs and started from there. We also got a lot of unsolicited submissions, but unfortunately none of those made the record.

6. What other bands did you approach for the album, but couldn't make it, for one reason or another?

Nine Inch Nails and Marilyn Manson were artists who we really wanted on the record. Both of them wanted to do it and a few times it looked like they were going to do so, but time did not permit. The Foo Fighters also had an interest but scheduling problems got in the way.

# FORTHE



The Worldwide release date of the Depeche Mode tribute album "For The Masses" has been set for August 4th 1998 and will be available on CD, cassette and double vinyl under the following catalogue number: 31454 0919-2/4/1. 1500 Records have no plans, as yet, to release a single or video, but they do expect the covers by The Smashing Pumpkins and The Cure to be hot favourites on most radio stations.

The artwork for the album was done by Martyn Atkins, who was the art director on many of Depeche Mode's early album covers. The entire package is quite unique and its overall look is consistent with the band's past albums.

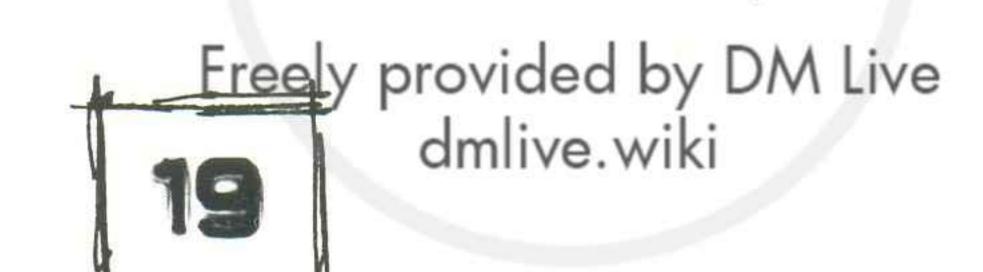
The tracklisting on this album has slightly changed since the last up-date, including a few new acts (see below) which have only recently been confirmed.

The Smashing Pumpkins - "Never Let Me Down Again"
God Lives Underwater - "Fly On The Windscreen"
Failure - "Enjoy The Silence"
The Cure - "World In My Eyes"
Dishwalla - "Policy Of Truth"
Veruca Salt - "Somebody"
Meat Beat Manifesto - "Everything Counts"
Hooverphonic - "Shake The Disease"
Locust - "Master And Servant"
Self - "Shame"
Monster Magnet - "Black Celebration"
Rabbit In The Moon - "Waiting For The Night"
Apollo 440 - "I Feel You"
Gus Gus - "Monument"

There is also a web site available www.1500records, which you can check regularly for the latest information on the "For The Masses" album, etc.

Deftones - "To Have And To Hold"

Rammstein - "Stripped"



Devotional Fan Club C/Taxonera No. 9, 2nd Floor Ferrol 15403 - La Coruna Spain

DMF Apartado de Correos 42064 Madrid 28080 Spain

Empty World 2
Paltholmterrasserne 78 F
3520 Farum
Denmark

The Hungarian DM FC
Budapest
Petöfi Csarnok
1146 Zichy M.U.14
Hungary

Mode Evolution
3 Marne Avenue
Walton
Peterborough
PE4 6AJ
England

Devotees - DM FC Rua Manuel Mendes, 21-3A 1800 Lisboa Portugal

Kaleid Ezermals Str. 2/1-29 Riga LV-1037 Latvia

DM Club Linda Andreasson Norrskensq. 21 37151 Karlskrona Sweden

Devotee MODE 42, Rue Armand Carrel 62970 Courcelles-Les-Lens France

# SATELLITE

The addresses below are printed for your information only. These fan clubs are unofficial and therefore BONG takes no responsibility for their activities.

If there is a fan club in your area, a DM party or convention being organised we'd like to hear about it. Please, send us all the details to the BONG address.

WorkHard
apdo. correos 12.283
46020 Valencia
Spain

DM Devotees
A.D. 1154
Vilnius 1
2001
Lithuania

DM Club ul. Stefana Batorego 88 m. 13 41506 Chazow Batory woj. Katowickie Poland

A la Mode 20 St. Patrick St. Suite #719 Toronto Ontario M5T 2Y4 Canada

Rush
Crabethstraat 15
2801 AL Gouda
The Netherlands

Hot Wire
German fanzine
c/o Andy Drabek
Allendestr. 66
08062 Zwickau
Germany
e-mail: HOT-WIRE@t-online.de

Devotion Apartado 5265 47080 Valladolid Spain

De.Mo.
Poltavskaya st. 2-45
603024 Nizhny Novgorod
Russia

Shake The Disease
Stefan Bülter
Paul-Grasse-Str. 23
D-10409 Berlin
Germany
(note the change of this address)

DM Fan Club BCN
Apartado de correos 3004
08080 Barcelona
Spain
e-mail: dmfcbcn@aiind.upv.es

Club For The Masses
Suipacha 463 (6-B)
(1008) - Capital Federal
Bs.As. - Argentina
e-mail: dm\_arg@hotmail.com

Ultra DM FC c/o Giovanna Siragusa C.da Conte, Coop Conte sc.2 int. 1 98168 Messina Italy

dm/live)



Satellite - Canadian FC P.O.Box 63527, RPO Capilano North Vancouver, B.C. V6V-1J4 Canada

Musings For The Masses
UK fanzine
c/o Red
159 Whiteacre Rd
Ashton-under-Lyne
Lancashire
OL6 9PS

The Estonian Depeche Mode
Fan Club
P.O.Box 26, EE2820 Turi
Estonia
www.va.ttu.ee/~marekv

# CONTACTS.

Calling all Malaysian fans! I hardly know any of you but I know that you people do exist. If you do care for the guys and the future of our music world, and feel like knowing more DM fans, please contact me at: Alicia Chong, No. 15, Jalan Indah 1/2, Taman Universiti Indah, 43300 Seri Kembangan, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia. We may even have a little convention or something over here in Kuala Lumpur!

I am looking for French/Belgian fans who would like to join me in going to the Official Bong Convention in London this Autumn (free trip to cross the Channel!). Please, contact: David Wasselin, 8 rue Regrier, 62100 Calais, France or phone on: +321-859969.

Yolanda Esanu - please get in touch with me on this Bucharest phone number: 6864912! Looking forward to hearing from you soon. Cristian Colica, Bucharest.

Ultra kisses to my best friend Maria Joao, I miss you loads! But stay devoted!! Paula Medved from Croatia! We sat in Leicester Square, smoked cigarettes, and talked about DM. I've lost your address. Please write to me!!! Hey Angie, thanks, I'll see you in Berlin with DM. Ha! Ha! To Moto – thanks for writing pal, you seem as mad as I am!?! And Ronnie, are we on for another dance frenzy in Manchester? Our spirits shall live on!! AJ. Thompson.

If you're sending a contact message, please make sure the person you are contacting is a member of BONG. Please, mark your envelope "Contacts".



### LA Convention

If you had a ticket would you go to Los Angeles for the above-mentioned convention? Well, here is your chance! We have three pairs of tickets to give-away, so if you are interested in a night of Depeche Mode madness, please send us your answer to the following question. We will pick three entries at random and you might just be the one of the lucky ones!!! Please, make sure you send us your answer by the end of July and don't forget to include your name and address.

What's the name of the venue where Depeche Mode performed their 101st concert for the Masses?

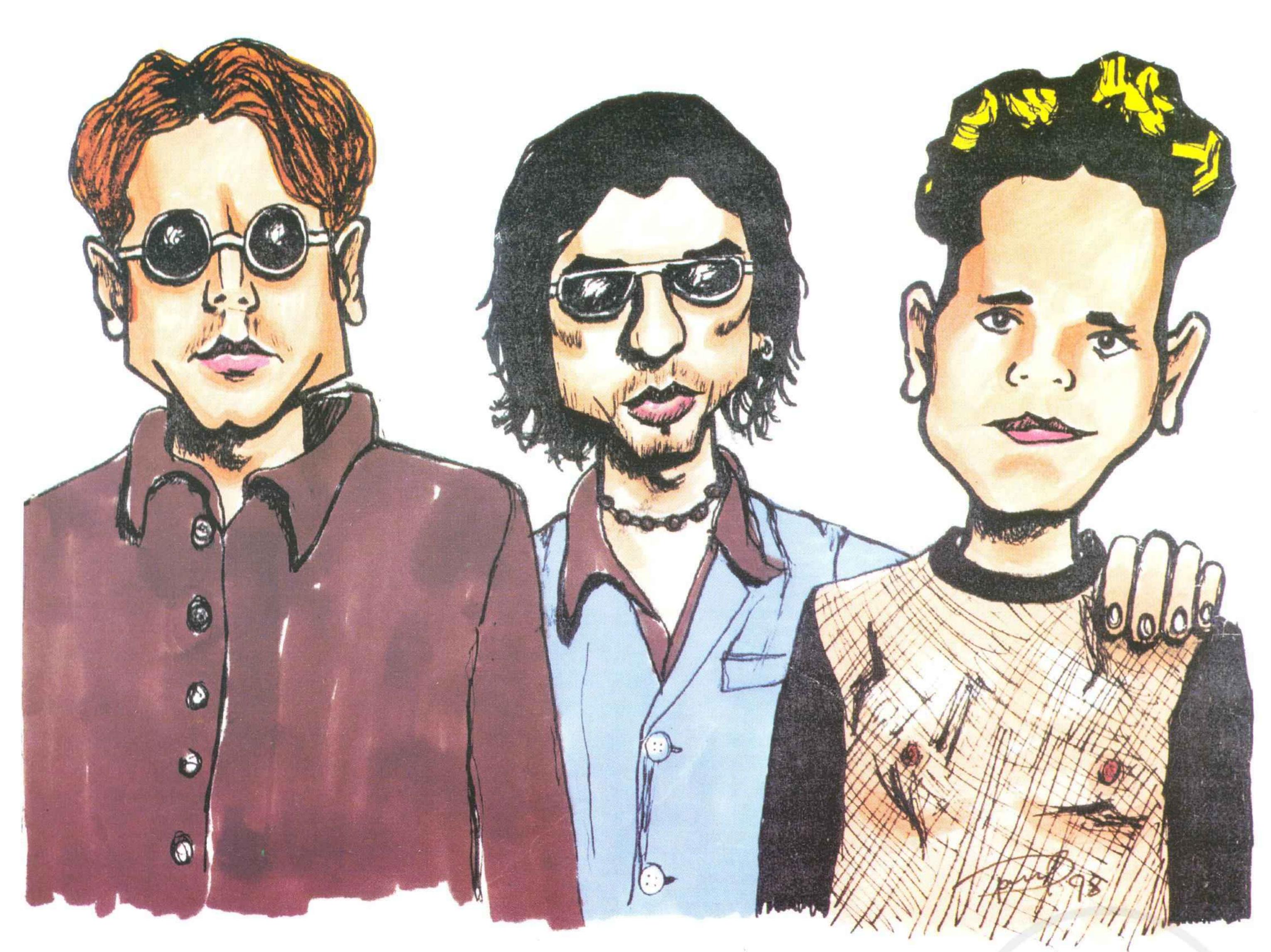
# Gall Lery

We believe there are many of you who have done DM drawings, whether now or long time ago, and still haven't sent them to us to show off your artistic talents.

We created a new section called Gallery, which is open to anyone who wants to share their drawings, caricatures, paintings or cartoons of the Band (individually or collectively) with the rest of us! So if you're one of the talented, don't wait any longer and send us your work!

We can't wait to see it! (please don't forget to mark each sheet with your name and address)

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in their drawings.



Paul Thurlby, Nottingham, UK

dm/live



# CLASSIF IED

Looking to trade/swap anything of Depeche Mode. Rare live tapes, videos (NTSC), interviews, tour programmes, demos, and memorabilia from all over the globe. As a Japanese devotee, I would like to help enrich your collection. Also into Front 242, The Cure, etc. Lots of rare Japanese stuff available. Will answer all letters to anywhere in the world! Please contact me on this address for my lists: Mototaka Fujii, 3-2-11, Midori-cho, Yamagata-shi, Yamagata-ken, 990-0041, Japan.

I'm desperetly seeking the following two video tapes: "The World We Live In And Live In Hamburg" and "Devotional". I've been trying to buy them in Belgium for over a year, but they don't seem to have them anywhere. Please get in touch - Alain Pirson, rue de la Gendormene 26, 4500 Huy, Belgium.

Collection on sale (around 100 items)!!! Please send a stamp or IRC (it will be returned with your first order) to: Markus Erben, Jägerstr. 33, 47798 Krefeld, Germany.

For sale: "Violator" Award BPI Silver Disc presented to David Gahan to recognise sales in the UK of more than 60.000 copies of the album. The award is in absolute MINT condition and of course a GENUINE ITEM!!! Serious offers only! Write to: Jan Kristensen, Enqhavevej 21 4th, 1674 Copenhagen V, Denmark.

For sale: many US digi pack CD's - "Never Let Me Down Again", "Behind The Wheel", "BOAG", "ING", etc., 7" - "Shake The Disease" (German edition - red vinyl), 12" - "Love In Itself" (Limited edition), ultra rare - "Walking In My Shoes" (12" promo, 3 tracks including Grungy Gonads Mix). If you are interested in one of these or any other rare DM items (large stock available), please write to: Tim Plachner, Heideweg 12, 57234 Wilnsdorf, Germany.

Swap: any video footage of Depeche Mode - interviews, live concerts, performances, etc. Your list gets mine. I have a newly revised video list, so contact me for trade info. I will respond to all inquiries. Please note I am only (VHS)-NTSC compatible. Send your trade info to: Melissa Smith, 5084 Jeffreys St. #202 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119, USA or e-mail me on: missstrangelove@webtv.net

Serious collectors item for sale: autographed "World Violation" Calendar - £35.00, autographed 8"x10" promo photo 1984 - mint condition - £50.00, autographed 8"x10" promo photo 1988 (same as

cover of Bong 13) - mint condition - £55.00, autographed 8"x10" promo photo 1990 - mint condition - £60.00, promo video of "SOFAD - The Listening Party" - £50.00, promo video of "SOFAD" (EPK) - £50.00. All autographed items 100% genuine. Please send your offers to: Russell Dilnot, 78, Shavingtan Ave, Oxton, Birkenhead, Merseyside L43 2LQ, England.

I am looking for any rare videos of DM's performances. Please send your offers and prices to: David Wasselin, 8 rue Regrier, 62100 Calais, France or phone on: +321-859969.

Interested in a limited numbered T-shirt from last years International Bong Convention in Prague? Then go ahead and write to: Iva Tumova, Poste Restante, Praha 419, 140 19, Czech Republic. The T-shirts are orange on black and have the word BONG in front and convention details + number on back. The price including postage is DM 19,-, \$ 9,50 or £8,-for Europe and O/Seas.



If you'd like to place an advert in this section, send us postcard with your name, address and brief description of what you want to buy, sell or swap. Please note we CAN NOT accept any advertisements for bootleg records, CDs, tapes, videos, etc.



# PENI PALS

Kirsten Paul Zevener Str. 11 27283 Verden GERMANY

e-mail: tweet.y@t-online.de

Hi there!

I'm 29 years old and crazy about the guys (esp. DAVE) since 1982. I'd like to correspond with other DM-fans from all over the world to share my thoughts about the band and exchange DM stuff. Where are the devotees, who have loved DM since the beginning of the 80's ?? Please write or e-mail me in English or German. Hope to hear from you soon. Cheers!

Trisha Barnett
621 Lynn Haven
Hazelwood
MO 63042
USA

Hi! I'm a 15 year old girl who loves Depeche Mode with every thought and every breath. I'm about 5'5" with auburn hair. My hobbies and interests include singing, songwriting, poetry, DM, Prodigy, Radiohead and more! Without Depeche Mode I have a World Full Of Nothing. The Bottom Line is write to me, Little 15!

David A. Douthwaite
100 Cheadle Avenue
Hadrian Park
Wallsend
Tyne And Wear
NE28 9QP
England

23 years old DM fan would like to get in touch with any fans living in the North-East of England. You must be out there! Look forward to hearing from you...

Mauricio Bacian 209-1686th Drive Apt#3C Queens Village NY 11427 USA

Greetings all Depeche Mode fans! I am a 23 year old Depeche Mode fan from New York City! I've been a fan since "Speak And Spell" and absolutely love "Ultra". Aside from Depeche Mode I like Morrissey, Enya, Prodigy and Recoil! Some of my interests are reading poetry

and literature, playing the drums, and writing to international friends! But domestic friends are always welcome! I'd like to share my views about 'The World We Live In and Live In General' with someone with an open mind. Until then...Depeche Mode forever!

Michela Grazioli Via Esterna Del Molinoo 8/A 24040 Stezzano Bergamo

Italy

Hello devotees! I'm a 16 year old girl, Dressed In Black, and looking for DM fans to share my passion. I love Dave and all DM songs. If You Want you can write me In Your Room when you are Waiting For The Night or anywhere else, but please write to me and remember: Depeche Mode are the best! See You soon.

Paul
97 Barleyfield
Clayton-Le-Woods
Chorley
Lancs PR5 8BT
England

28yr old lifelong Mode fan, wanting to hear from DM Devotees anywhere in the world, age or sex unimportant. Get writing and help me Shake The Disease of boredom. Replies guaranteed! Other interests include early eighties music.

Per Hedahl Klovermarken 20, 1.mf. DK-6400 Sonderborg Denmark

27-year-old DM maniac spreading the news around the world to all devotees. I've been walking in the shoes of DM for 14 years, and although I'm a DJ playing fast techno-tunes, I Just Can't Get Enough of the lyrics and sound of DM. So if you're just sitting In Your Room Enjoying The Silence It's No Good. Use your grabbing hands and show me the World In Your Eyes. It won't be Useless-I'll read The Things You Said (it's just A Question Of Time). Write in German, English or Danish and enclose a Photograph Of You. Now I'll Leave In Silence - See You...

Esther Czech Kleiststr. 6 D-85521 Ottobrunn Germany

I'm an 18 year old girl with fair hair and blue eyes and I lost my heart to Depeche Mode. If songs like "In Your Room", "Here Is The House", "My Joy", "Rush" and more cause deep feelings inside of you, please write (in German or English) to me. My other interests are: drawing, writing, reading, horses...Thanks!

Alexey Hizhnakov Sovietskaya 6/8, 34 410028 Saratov Russia

Hello! I'm a 21 years old and have been devoted to the Mode for over six years. I'd like to have pen pals in other devoted boys and girls. Let me see your worlds in your eyes. Age don't matter. I also like The Cure, De/Vision, Beborn Beton and especially And One. Please write in English. I promise to answer all the letters.

Alicia Chong
No. 15, Jalan Indah 1/2
Taman Universiti Indah
43300 Seri Kembangan
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Malaysia

I managed to live my life up to 31 years on earth because I found my source of life and energy, back in 1984 when I first saw the guys on 'TOTP' performing "People Are People". They have since then became the only reason I am still clinging on to this life. All you guys and girls out there who are living your lives on the same elements, please, please write to me regardless where you are from.

If you'd like to correspond with other Depeche Mode fans, send us a postcard with your name, address and a brief description of yourself and your interests. Please, mark your envelope "Pen Pals".



# now, this is fun

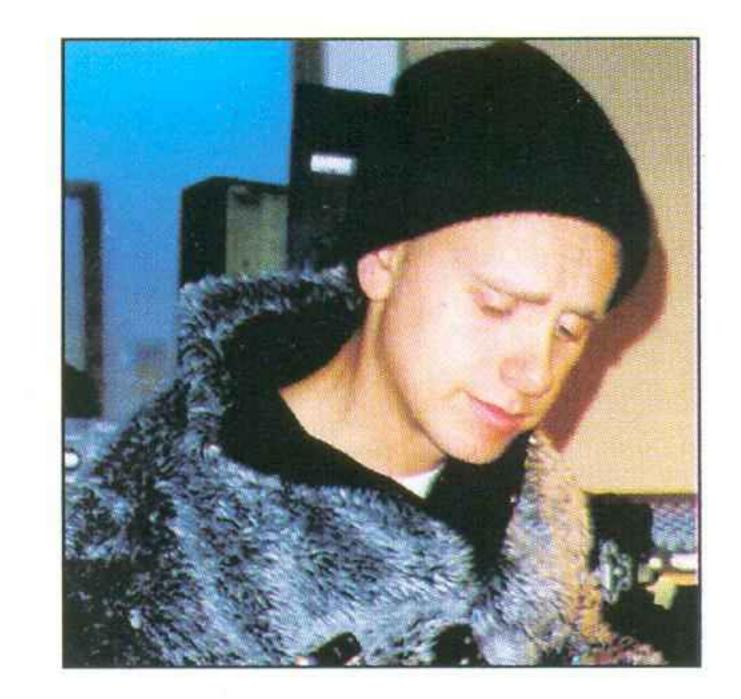
Words and Music by Martin L. Gore © 1982 EMI Music Publishing Ltd/Grabbing Hands Music Ltd

Here speaks the voice of reason
It's talking to me
Loud and clearly
And obviously
It has something to say

Here comes another sentence
It is relentless
It tries my patience
But nevertheless
It's for our concern

We can't see the benefit
So we'll ignore it
Or disobey it
And then we'll say that
This is fun
This is real fun
This is real fun
This is real fun
This is real fun
This is fun





You've got to work hard You've got to work hard If you want anything at all

You've got to work hard You've got to work hard If you want anything at all

# work hard

Words and Music by Martin L. Gore and Alan Wilder © 1983 EMI Music Publishing Ltd/Grabbing Hands Music Ltd

Nothing comes easy
And that's a fact
Nothing comes easy
But a broken back

You've got to work hard You've got to work hard

You've got to work hard If you want anything at all

Nothing comes easy
It never will
Nothing comes easy
But a broken will

You've got to work hard You've got to work hard

You've got to work hard If you want anything at all

So work hard

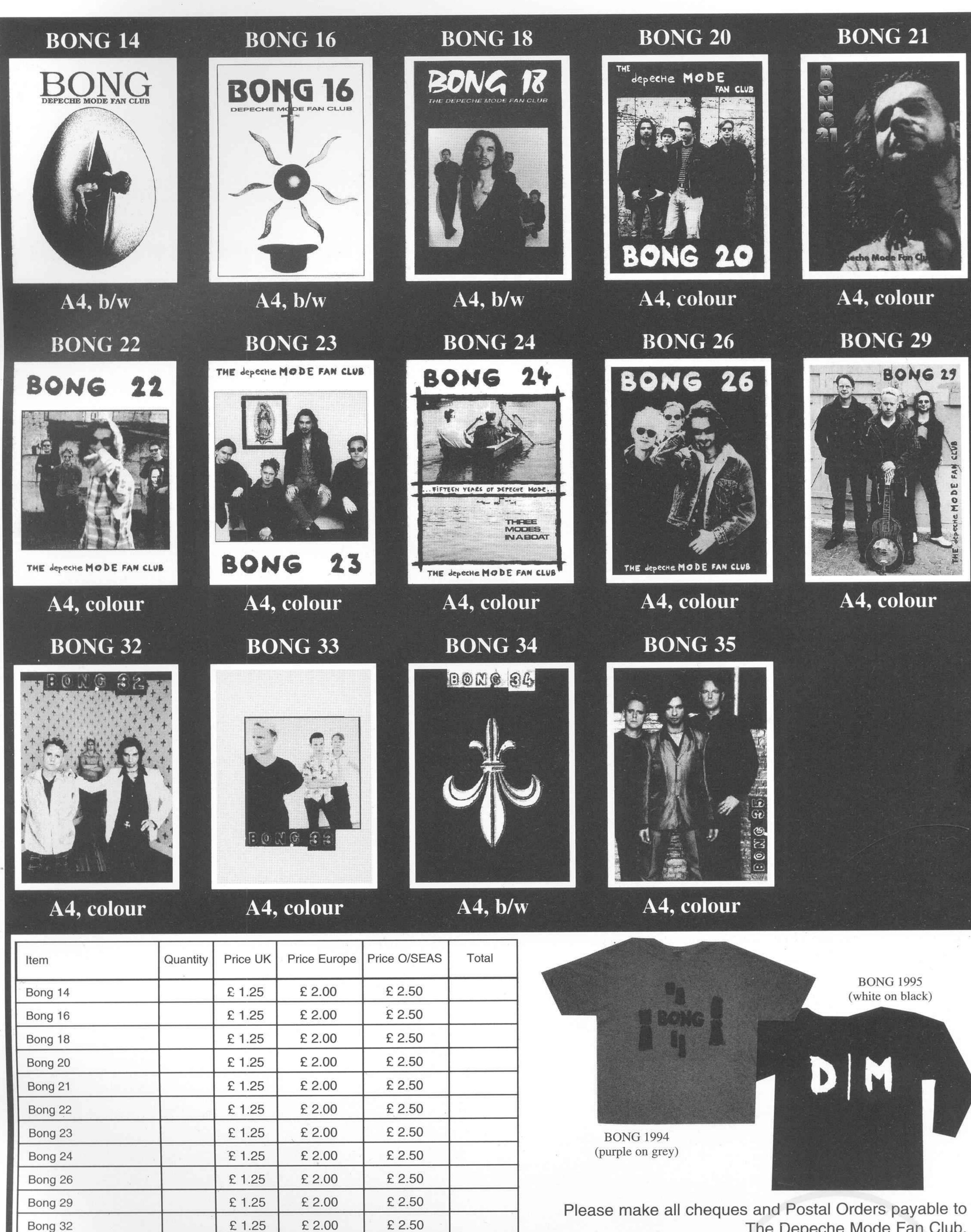
dm/live)

Going to a concert and want to meet Depeche Mode? You already have your tickets and a pal to go with but the only question left unanswered is how to get backstage? If meeting the Band has been your lifetime dream then this is one way you could make your wish come true!

1. Where and when did Depeche Mode open their "Black Celebration" Tour?	
2. On which tour did Depeche Mode perform the live version of "Behind The Wheel/Route 66" for the first time?	We've got together with the Band and come up with the following contest in which we are giving five pairs of concert goers the opportunity to meet Martin, Andy and Dave during "The Singles Tour 86-98".
3. How many nights did Depeche Mode perform in	We would like to assure the US fans that there will be another contest after the US tickets have gone on sale.  It's simple! The only thing you have to do is to answer the
Johannesburg during the "Exotic" Tour in 1994?	following questions and send your entry to the usual address before the end of August. The other two conditions are that you have to be a BONG member and already have a concert ticket for the date on which you
4. What's the name of the song from "Violator" for which the video was shot live in concert?	would be able to meet the Band.  If you answer the questions correctly and you're picked
5. What was the first song in the set on the Devotional Tour? (Not counting the intro music).	at random, we will notify you immediately, giving you full details and instructions.  We wish you all GOOD LUCK!!!
6. What is the name of the NY radio station which held the contest for the fans who then followed Depeche Mode on their "Music For The Masses" Tour?	
***************************************	Name:
7. What was the first gig where Daryl stood in as a replacement for Fletch during the "Exotic" Tour (date/city)?	Age:
······································	Address:
8. What's the name of the club where Depeche Mode were spotted by Daniel Miller in December 1980?	Tel/fax:
***************************************	E-mail:
9. Where was "Condemnation" (Live) recorded?	I would like to meet Depeche Mode
10. What band supported Depeche Mode during the summer USA '94 Tour?	in(city) on (date)
	dm/live



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Bong T-shirt 1994 (XL)

Bong T-shirt 1995 (XL)

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£ 2.00

£ 2.00

£ 6.50

£ 10.00

£ 2.50

£ 2.50

£ 2.50

£ 10.50

£ 11.50

Total

Country: \_

The Depeche Mode Fan Club. Name: \_\_ Address: Freely provided by DM Live dmlive.wiki

# BONG

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USA

NEW YORK, NY 10163

Please feel free to write to us with any comments or suggestions, enclosing a self-addressed envelope for a reply.

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or with your comments and contributions for the magazine at: <flexible@tnet.cz>

and you can visit Depeche Mode's official web site at: http://www.depechemode.com

