

BONG 26



THE depeche MODE FAN CLUB

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Photo by Michaela Olexova



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Intro

Hello everyone!

Welcome to another issue of Bong magazine.

First of all, we would like to thank everyone who has sent in messages of goodwill for Dave. We have received lots of letters and cards, which have all been passed on to him personally. He is very appreciative of everyone's support, and wants you all to know that he is fine.

There have been a lot of rumours about Depeche Mode getting together to record some new material. Martin has written several new songs, and the good news is that the Band are about to start recording. By the time you read this, they may well have already started. However, there have also been a few reports that there will be a new album out in the New Year, and the truth is that nobody knows yet when anything new will be released. Obviously, everyone is looking forward to the new project.

Congratulations to Martin and Suzanne, who had another daughter on 21st August. They have called her Ava Lee, and Martin is, of course, a very proud and happy father. Best wishes from all of us.

In this issue of Bong we are finally bringing you the results of Bong Member's Poll that we published in Bong 22, the aim of which was to find out about your feelings and experiences from the Devotional Tour. We have received many replies with some interesting observations and suggestions, and it has taken a long time to pigeon-hole all your answers.... Thanks to everyone who sent us their contributions.

With Bong 27, we will be returning to Archives, a section we started in Bong 24. We thought it would be a good idea to have all of Depeche Mode's albums reviewed in the magazine, which would be interesting for new fans of the Band, as well as long time devotees. There will be two album reviews in each issue, by different people, including Daryl, selected journalists and of course you - the fans. So please send us your reviews of "Speak And Spell" and "A Broken Frame" before Christmas and we'll print the best ones in Bong 27. Remember, they don't have to be "track by track" or professional reviews and should be between 200 and 250 words long. Writers of the ones we publish will also receive some small surprise gift. We're looking forward to hearing from you, so get writing.

As some of you have suggested in your letters, we have decided to show the covers of the back issues of Bong magazine which are still available, rather than just list the numbers, and we hope this will make it easier for you to choose which ones you would like to order.

We were very pleased to hear how much everyone enjoyed this year's convention, and we would like to thank everyone who came and took part in what turned out to be a brilliant night. More about the event later in this issue.

That's all for now. Please keep your letters coming in as we need your opinions and suggestions, but please remember to write your name and address on each page of anything you send us.

Until February, keep moding!

dm/live

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Pressed In Black

Dear Bong,

I've just read an article about David Gahan trying to commit suicide. I'm very frightened. Because I know that the only person in the world who can find a meaning in David's life is he himself. David is not a God. He's a person and he has the right to choose between life or death. I can't influence him in this matter, but I do hope he chooses life. I'm sure he's worth it as well as anybody else. Besides, I don't know if angels can sing... May life be with you David Gahan.

Frida Hill

Atvidaberg, Sweden

Dear Bong,

I don't usually go in for Hero-like worship of bands, but Depeche Mode have always been there for me. Whenever I've hit major lows they've helped me through. Unlike most of the other rubbish around they really mean something, to me, and others. I am greatly saddened to hear about the events surrounding David Gahan - will the British music press actually be satisfied that Depeche Mode are "for real"?

I was most sorry to hear about Alan's departure, but these new events have really hit me. Though I adore Depeche Mode and their music, I'd rather see David as happy, fit and well. Please don't become another Kurt Cobain or Rickey Edwards. I know that I must sound like a pathetic teenager (I'm not) and am ill-qualified to pass judgement, but to a person who I

look upon as a very dear friend, please look after yourself David.

DM fan

Lincoln, England

Dear Bong,

I heard that Dave Gahan tried to commit suicide. Do you know if this is true? Is he okay? After the initial report on Radio 1 I have heard nothing else and received no letter from you so I was beginning to wonder and hope that it wasn't true.

I would also like to support Brian French from Dundee (Bong 25) when he was saying that there were no DM gigs in Scotland. Why was this? All of their shows were too far away for me and many other fans to get to. If you guys go on tour again, please, please come to Scotland - we love you up here.

Vikki Brown

Fort William, Scotland

Editor's note: Thank you for your concern about Dave. As you will have seen in Intro he is fine now. Regarding shows in Scotland, there just hasn't been a suitable venue available, during the last two British tours, which is a real shame, because Scottish audiences are among the best.

Dear Bong,

Lots of things have already been written about Alan Wilder's departure. However, I thought you wouldn't mind if I raised the subject one last time, drawing also your attention to that old "are you worthy of

being called a DM fan" subject.

Some time ago certain fans complained against misjudgement and rejection of the fans who, as if establishing a hierarchy, believed themselves more devoted than the rest for they had followed the Band for years and their collection included all kinds of rarities.

Now it is happening again. Someone exposes how he feels about Alan leaving the group and gets a reply that goes something like: "...saying that, you shouldn't call yourself a DM fan..."

I find this not only ridiculous but extremely disrespectful. Who's got the right to judge people's opinions? Who is right or wrong when it comes to likes and dislikes? Please, correct me if I am mistaken but I did not think that any special requirements had to be met to become a fan. The fact that we enjoy the same music does not mean that we must enjoy it the same way. I thought it was just about having fun, instead of starting a sort of "fanatical war".

Marisol Diaz

Valencia, Spain

Dear Bong,

I have just heard a terrible thing about Dave and I was very sad. I just want to tell you that I will always be here to support you no matter what happens.

I can't help you but if I could I would do it. I always listen to your songs which help me from my sadness everyday. Take care of yourself Dave. I know you are strong. I hope to see you



Scan by Maudy

soon in Paris again.

Azedine Souchi

St. Michel sur Orge, France

Dear Bong,

Like Fraser Mitchell mentions in his letter (Bong 25), "Best of Depeche Mode" really ought to offer the ardent fans a little something else.

"The Singles 1981-85" covers the first four teen releases, is there going to be "The Singles 1985-95"? The Best of.... should

containing six extended remixes. The regular music buyers can buy the regular release (cassette or CD) and the fans can have something special. If it is released on vinyl, so much the better.

Tom Evison

Luton, England

Dear Bong,

Don't you think that following the other bands' fan club example, it would be a good

released on a few bootlegs, including Martin's demos of "Shake The Disease", "Sacred" or instrumental version of "The Sun And The Rainfall" etc. But why do we, the collectors, have to pay so much money for them? Can't you really issue a few tracks for us as a special gift?

Pawel Gliwa

Stargard Szczecinski, Poland

Editor's note: In reply to both Tom and Pawel; we would love to be able to give the fans something special in the way of a record containing different versions of songs, and if we can get our hands on something, we will. However, it wouldn't be fair to put out something of "bootleg quality". Obviously, we have no control over bootleg recordings, and how much you pay for them.

Dear Bong,

I just want to congratulate Martin on covering Leonard Cohen's "Coming Back To You". The cover is brilliant and it is fantastic to hear Martin's voice again on a new material. This cover really shows that Martin's voice is unique and that Martin is gifted with a very strong ability to put extreme feelings into a song. It really makes me happy....

Kim D. Schau

Aabenraa, Denmark

come when Depeche Mode have done their best - and there's much more to come.

As for that little something for the fans, may I suggest taking an idea used by Ultravox. Their "The Collection" (1984) best of album was issued in a limited vinyl format with an extra disc

idea to issue a special CD for your members? Reading your previous Bong magazines, we can find a lot of information about their early and unreleased tracks. I think that everyone would like to possess their rare tracks, not only the old ones. Some songs have been already



Photo by Anton Corbijn



Everything Counts

After Bong 25 went to press, we discovered yet another connection between Martin and Spirit Feel. Apparently, Martin's wife Suzanne, performs a spoken vocal on the track "Wisdom Of The Ages" on Spirit Feel's self-titled album. However, for the American release of the album, it has not been possible to get clearance for the use of these lyrics, so in the States, this track will be replaced with the Mystic Span Mix of "Rejoice", which, as you know, Martin re-mixed with Paul Freegard.

A French Channel France 3 used "Get Right With Me" and "Rush" as background music during a show called "40° à l'ombre".

"Never Let Me Down Again" and "Pleasure, Little Treasure" were used in a repeated episode of Miami Vice named "Death And The Lady" on cable TV UK Gold on 20th August.

"Nothing" was used for about ninety seconds in a series called "Booker" which is broadcasted on TV in Argentina.

In the German news-magazine "Focus", there was an interview with Steffi Graff. When asked about her favourite music she answered: Depeche Mode.

In the small hours of Saturday 19th August, the satellite channel Pro 7 showed a programme about sexuality called Liebe Sunde, the intros to "Condemnation" and "One Caress" were used in a feature on bondage.

On Friday 22 September, "Leave In Silence" was played on BBC's "Rock'n'Roll Years" (1982) over a report showing the Argentines leaving the Falkland Islands.

A trailer featuring "I Feel You" is currently being shown on MTV Europe. The trailer refers to Depeche Mode as being one of the all time classic bands.

A photograph of Dave is included in a new book by renowned photographer Albert Watson. The book is entitled "Cyclops".

A snippet of the "Enjoy The Silence" video is being used in the VH1 "...for all seasons" trailer.

On 18th September, "Just Can't Get Enough" was played on BBC's "Rock'n'Roll Years" (1981) over a "New Romantic" report featuring Adam Ant!

"Never Let Me Down Again" was featured twice in one

episode of "The 21 Jump Street" series called "Out Of Control".

A re-run of MTV's "The Real World II" on August 31 featured a few small excerpts of "Just Can't Get Enough", played to emphasize the seven new roommates' excitement on spending a morning in the new house together.

Many thanks to Nazanin Vassighi, Peter Karoly, Darren J. Duncan, Kim Schan, Mario Vella, Karsten Glien, Laetitia Nougues, Ian Green, Mariela Rios 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 0171-833 5570

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



agents

Judging from all of your responses, there are a lot of you out there interested in getting into the music business.

Thank you for all of your follow up questions on my first article on promoters. I will try to address them in future Korner's.

As a promoter is the local person or organisation contracting to have the band appear in a given city on a given night, the agent is the band's representative, who contacts these promoters and negotiates the contract for the show.

Initially, an agent works closely with the band to develop an itinerary for the entire tour. There are many factors involved in this, from the best time of year to be playing in a particular territory, particularly when it has to be considered whether to play indoor or outdoor shows, to how long after an album release it is best to tour in certain countries.

The agent also has to work closely with the band's production team whilst developing the itinerary. It would be difficult to play a concert in Madrid on Friday followed by a show in Moscow on Monday, when it's a five day drive for the equipment, not allowing for hold-ups at borders. Don't laugh, worse booking mistakes have been made.

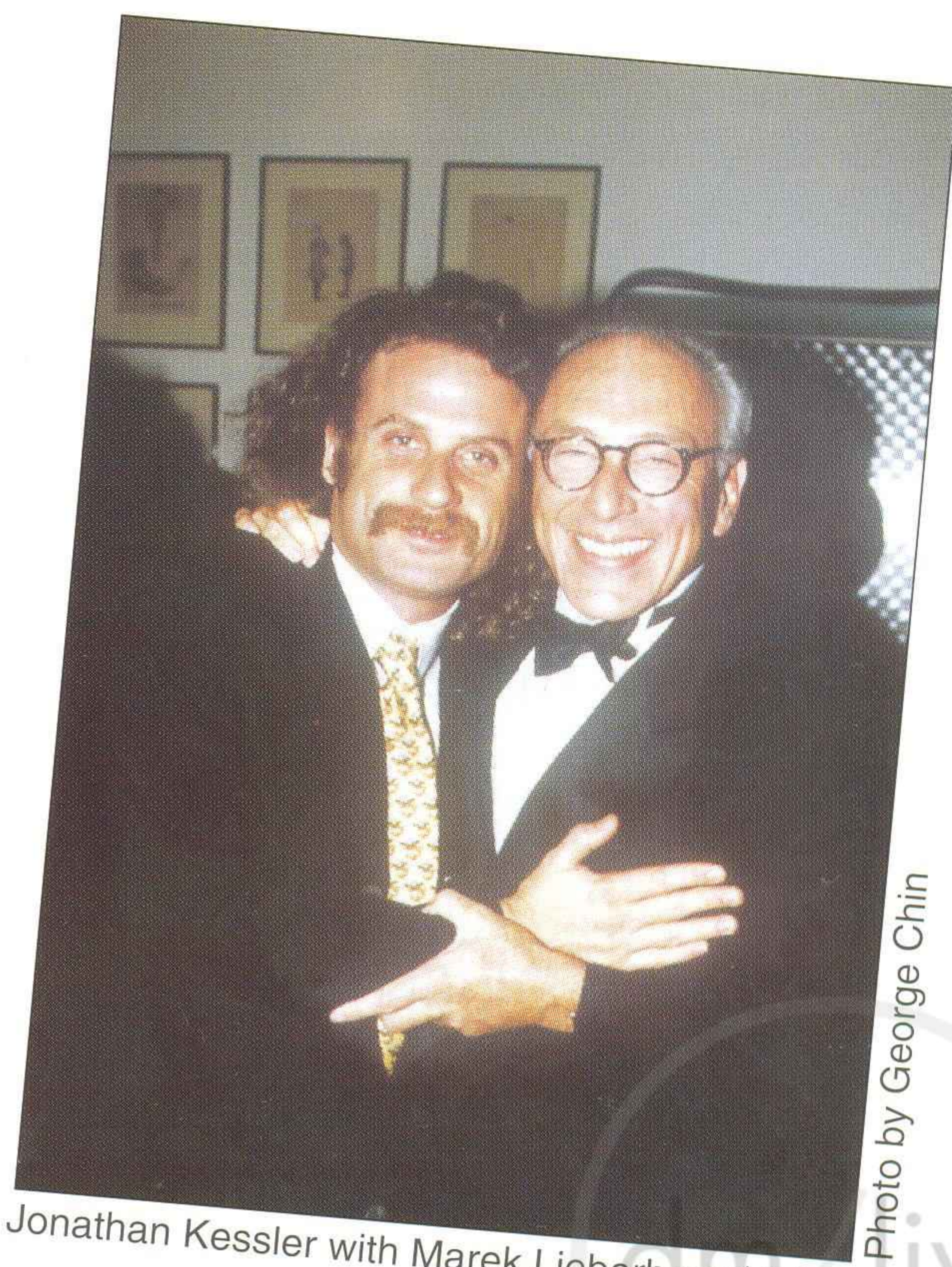
It is also necessary for an agent to understand the band's detailed requirements in order to put on the show. These are outlined in a "rider" attached to the main contract, and cover everything from the venue's ability to accommodate the production equipment to the provision of refreshments in the band's dressing room. (If any of you have been fortunate enough to get backstage after a Depeche Mode concert, and an agent has been present, you could be forgiven for thinking that one of his chief tasks is to drink 10% of the band's beer). We must not forget, of course, that the agent is also responsible for negotiating the band's fee, and it must be said that a contract's financial clauses can be complex enough on their own.

In the United States or Europe, the band's fee is usually a percentage of the box office receipts, less the show expenses. There is often also a certain guaranteed amount which the promoter must pay, regardless of sales.

However, when touring in more remote parts of the world, the deals become a bit more complex. First of all, would a £ 2,500 guarantee to play a show in South Africa be a good deal? Probably not, if it would cost £ 10,000 to fly the band, crew and production equipment to the show. Fees for these more remote parts of the world typically encompass all of the costs in getting the band to the various locations, as well as the expenses incurred while staying there. Secondly, what currency should a contract be in? and what if there is a drastic shift in the exchange rates between the time of contracting, and the actual show date? Agents develop complex contractual clauses to ensure that their clients do not get financially ruined by the declining value of one currency in relation to another. Lastly, who do you call if the promoter in New Guinea decides to take off with the box office receipts from that night in a newly acquired Lear Jet, instead of paying the band? Not that this is too common, but using a series of deposits, letters of credit and other financial guarantees, agents have done their best to minimise this risk.


Some of these factors have become so complex that agents have begun to specialise in particular remote parts of the world. It is not uncommon for the booking of a world-wide tour to be divided among two or three agents for each of these particular regions.

This piece would not be complete if we did not thank the agents who helped make the last Depeche Mode tour so successful. In the United States, Canada and Mexico, Tom Ross and Carole Kinzel and all the rest at Creative Artists Agency. In Europe and the rest of the world, Harvey Goldsmith, Andrew Zweck and company at Harvey Goldsmith Entertainment.



Jonathan Kessler with Marek Lieberberg (right)

Photo by George Chin

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Marek Lieberberg

as recounted by Daryl Bamonte



After the successful launch of a new feature in the last issue of Bong magazine, Kessler's Korner, you will all be aware of the role of a promoter. Sometimes the relationship is strictly business, but in some cases, as with the promoters that Kessler listed, there blossoms a good friendship between a band and the man "who is responsible for everything involved in having a band appear on a given night"

One such man is the German promoter Marek Lieberberg who was in London on September 12th to celebrate 25 years in the music business. He must have dealt with a thousand acts in that time, so it was indeed an honour for Depeche Mode to be one of the few bands invited, and an even greater honour to be a member of their staff and be asked to attend. Mind you, we may have been invited partly for our entertainment value....

As we arrived at Bibendum, it struck me that this place had a lot of doormen.....oh no.....it was a black tie job.....lucky I put a jacket on. We were greeted at the door by trapeze artists and magicians and were ushe

red through and given champagne and microscopic sandwiches that had a posh name. I quickly checked the guest list. Gordon Sumner.....then I noticed that someone had written STING in biro....just in case no-one knew. Mark Knopfler....hmmm....did Marek say 25 years or fifty?....

We went upstairs to the dining room. Very civilised. Nice little jazz quartet playing, not too loud either. Master of Ceremonies was an old gentleman in a scarlet jacket and the manner of a judge (didn't see a panty line though, M'lud....). "The Judge" welcomed various dignitaries (including Fletch and Martin, who were indeed being dignified at this point), and we sat down to enjoy some fine fayre, and the treat of hearing twice Eurovision winner Johnny Logan singing, and still looking like a teenager (ahhhh...what's another year eh, Johnny?).

The jazz band were later joined by a female singer who was introduced by the Judge as coming straight from Broadway. As Bibendum is just off Fulham Broadway, I remember thinking how convenient it was for her. After quaffing several bottles of fine wine, I decided (after much prompting from Martin) that it was time to dedicate a song to Marek. A free-form Jazz-Gloria Gaynor-AnyOldPisshead ensemble ensued (although I doubt I was able to say it at the time...), and only modesty prevents me from claiming that it

Celebrates 25 Years In The Music Business

Venue: Bibendum, Fulham, London

brought the house down.

Returning to my seat, accepting the applause of my fellow diners, I felt a tug at my shoulder and heard a gruff geordie voice mumble something. I spun around, fearing a vicious assault from one of Newcastle Uniteds notorious Toon Army, only to be greeted by a demure STING, hand outstretched and offering congratulations. I regained my composure enough to blurt out "Cheers Gordon!", instantly regretting it.....

Then, as if not to be upstaged by an unknown, STING took the stage himself, and performed a reworked version of



Photo by George Chin

Marek's wife, Fletch, Martin, Marek and a fire eater (left to right)

his Quentin Crisp tribute "An Englishman in New York", only this time he had cleverly reworded it as "A German in London", a piquant rebirth for an already irresistible lyric. (He was a school teacher, after all.....).

As the wine began to flow, so did the conversation. In some corners you could see deep, intense business discussions going on, with deals being struck and hands being shook. In other more jovial quarters Martin had set fire to his shirt (and skin) and managed to effortlessly break a very expensive marble table completely in half (I vouched for him - he barely leant on it.....). The rest of the organisation? JD, Fletch and I were our usual respectable selves. Jonathan Kessler, as always, protested intense jet lag, but I'm sorry Franksy, you do not get jet lag while crossing London and your behaviour was inexcusable.....

A memorable night, and one worth writing about.....



Photo by George Chin

Daryl "singing"



I Met That Bloke From Depeche Mode Once

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.

Get your memories together and send us your letters and photographs to our usual address and please, don't forget to mark everything with your name and address. We look forward to hearing from you as soon as

I am now 27. I have been a fan since 1985 when I saw the cover of "Singles 1981-85" and thought it looked interesting. I bought the album and suddenly recognized some tunes heard on the radio now and then. Anyway, from that moment I was a DM fan.

This story begins on 2nd October 1990 when I



Photo by Jens Bay

Fletch and Martin in Copenhagen, 1990

was in Copenhagen for my 3rd concert of DM (also 1986+1988). I had never seen anyone from the band "live" - only heard from friends who knew someone who had run into DM in the streets or at a club... On the way by bus in



Photo by Jens Bay

Dave in Copenhagen, 1993

Copenhagen, the bus stopped at a crossing and guess who stood there among the pedestrians - Andy and Martin! My heart missed two or three beats as I got my camera ready to shoot, then I rushed off the bus to meet the guys just to say hello. But they were too busy to write any autographs. Instead they took a time so I could get at least a good picture. Then they went on, leaving me in heaven!

On 27th May 1993, the Band were to do their S.O.F.A.D. gig in Copenhagen. I went there two days ahead just to be in town. I found out that they would arrive from Brussels on the day before the concert so I went to the airport hoping for the best and expecting a huge DM crowd, but didn't find anyone at all. A very friendly customs officer actually showed his arrivals list. Fortunately there was only one VIP arrival from Brussels that day, but it was five hours later that day. He also told me where the plane would stop and where the limos would pass the gates. Yes, he was a very nice man! I didn't dare going back to Copenhagen so I spent five hours in the airport.

Finally, the plane arrived. The party went out and into the cars waiting. I watched all this at



Photo by Jens Bay

Fletch and Martin in Copenhagen, 1993

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Scan by Maudy

the gate where they eventually had to pass. Still, I was the only one there - amazing! Then the cars moved and passed me. I hoped to get some shots, but there were black windows all over. Suddenly, just as they had passed me they stopped, a bodyguard went out and called me. He asked if I wanted autographs. I couldn't believe that they had actually stopped - just for me. Anyway, of course I wanted autographs. First Dave signed a blow-up of the S.O.F.A.D. cover - he was nice. Then onto the next car - here were Andy and Martin, they also signed the cover. Then I showed them a 20x30 cm enlargement of the 1990 photo which I had brought, just in case, and asked them to sign that as well. They did and also had a good laugh, especially Martin as they recognized themselves. Unfortunately I missed the first car with Alan, but I thanked them for stopping.

After the concert, I went backstage as I had managed to get myself a backstage pass. I talked to Martin briefly and once again thanked him for stopping at the airport.

The day after the gig I had nothing to do but wait for the train home. So I decided to hang around the hotel. There was a huge crowd there - 80% were Metallica fans as the Band had just checked in. Two hours later the three limos arrived. Now I knew what would happen. Depeche Mode had to leave Copenhagen! I went to talk to the driver of the first car and he told me that he had been driving for Dave all three days and that it was actually Dave who had asked them to stop at the airport because I was the only one waiting. Of course, that made me happy. Thanks Dave. Then the Band went into the cars and to the airport.

That was the end of three very exciting days around the gig. Who knows what's gonna happen next time. One thing is for sure - I'll be around!

Jens Bay
Give, Denmark

On 11th April, 1995 I was at the Beverly Center shopping mall in L.A. and I had the good luck to run into Dave Gahan there. I was with two other people who are also Depeche Mode fans. We were on the escalator going down and I looked across and saw Dave on the other side going up. I couldn't believe my eyes. We went back up and when we caught up with Dave, asked if it would be OK to get an autograph. He said sure. We only



Photo by Robert Broj

Dave in Prague, 1993

spoke with him briefly but I was so happy to meet him after loving Depeche Mode so much for about nine years now. Before, the closest I had got to DM was the 11th row at one of their concerts, so it was very exciting to finally be face to face with Dave. I was afraid that he probably wouldn't want to be bothered, as he probably gets asked for autographs a lot, but he was very nice about the situation.

Kristin Norby
Los Angeles, USA

We met Depeche Mode at the hotel they were staying in after their Prague concert on June 18, 1993. We were not sure whether it was really the right hotel or not but we had a good tip so we stayed and waited. After some time, the doors opened and Andy with Martin entered the lobby. We approached them, asked for signatures and if we could take a photograph. We talked for a while with both of them until Dave and Alan's arrival at the hotel. We then had a chance to ask Dave about their tour and for his autograph before the security intervened. Soon, we left the hotel.

Robert Broj
Prague, Czech Republic

dm/live

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JUDAS

Words and Music by Martin Gore

Slowly, ad lib.

a tempo

(1.) Is sim - pli - ci - ty best

or sim - ply the ea - si - est? The nar - row - est path

is al - ways the ho - li - est. So walk on bare - foot for me, -

suf - fer some mi - se - ry if you want my love,

if you want my love. (2.) Man will sur -

vive the hard - est con - di - tions and stay a -
- fil your wild - est am - bi - tions, and I'm sure you

live through dif - fi - cult de - ci - sions. So make up your
will lose your in - hi - bi - tions. So o - pen your

Gb /G Bbm /A

mind for me, - walk the line for me, - if you want my
self for me, - risk your health for me, -

/Ab /G Gbmaj7 To Coda F-10

love, if you want my love.

Ab Ebm F-9 Bbm

I - die talk and hol - low

Gb/Bb Ebm 1 7 Bbm

pro - mi - ses; cheat - ing Ju - das - es, - doubt - ing

Gb/Bb Ebm Absus4 Ab

Thom - as - es don't just stand there and shout it, do some - thing a -

Db Ab Db

bout it.

Ab D. al Coda CODA /G

(*) You can ful - If you want my

Bbm/Ab /G Gbmaj7 Bbm/G Repeat ad lib.

love, if you want my love, - if you want my





Monday, 2nd October sees the release of a record which has been greatly anticipated and much talked about since the beginning of 1995. **Nick Cave and Kylie Minogue**, called "Australia's greatest living performers" by The Independent newspaper, present "Where The Wild Roses Grow". "Where The Wild Roses Grow" is a chilling love song in which "He" murders "Her", where both victim and murderer recount their side of the story, backed by the rich and haunting music of The Bad Seeds. Written by Cave specifically with Kylie in mind, the single has already received outstanding reviews across the whole spectrum of the British music press, from the Melody Maker to The Face and i-D and even from the teenage pop magazines. The single was produced by The Bad Seeds, Tony Cohen and Victor Van Vugt.



Recorded in Melbourne and London earlier in the year, "Intoxicated Man" is the new album from **Mick Harvey**. The multi-talented Harvey is best known as a founder member of The Birthday Party, Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds and Crime & The City Solution. He has also scored film and television soundtracks and appeared as a producer and guest musician on a host of other recordings, most recently PJ Harvey's last album "To Bring You My Love". "Intoxicated Man" is a collection of songs from the pen of Serge Gainsbourg, the French maverick composer and bon viveur. The tracks have been given a fresh sense of urgency by Harvey's expansive instrumentation, English versions of the

lyrics (most of which were translated by Harvey himself, in collaboration with others), and the presence of Anita Lane's unique and expressive vocals on several of the songs.



"The Singles" - **Inspiral Carpets** video - To complement the recently released compilation album, Mute announced the release of "The Singles" Video Compilation on Monday, 30th October. Kicking off with the '95 promo for the re-released "Joe", the video runs through 15 of the Inspirals' singles, including the aggressive, chaotic mayhem of the "I Want You" video featuring the surly presence of Mark E. Smith stalking amongst the tuxedo-wearing 'Carpets as they belt out the song's ferocious garage punk. This is the first time that it has been possible to buy these videos from one of Britain's best and most consistently successful bands.



Having had a full four weeks off playing live the hardest working man in dance music, **Moby**, has a clutch of European gigs supporting the Red Hot Chili Peppers this month which take in Dublin, London, Manchester, Brussels, Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne, Stockholm, Rotterdam, Paris, Zurich, Milan and Barcelona.

dm/live

Freely provided by DmLive
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CONVENTION DIARY

1:00pm - Lynn has just made us a nice cup of coffee and we are sitting down to have the last run through of tonight's programme. "Are we really going to have enough time for all these competitions?" she wonders, I try to convince her that we will have no problem fitting it all in. We didn't last year and the fans loved it. Ticking off all the prizes we are taking with us to Camden Palace tonight, we realize that we need a much bigger box to put them all in.

The DM Fan Club Convention Sunday 1st October 1995 Camden Palace London

2:30pm - We are all set to leave. Lynn calls for a cab but after waiting for 10 minutes they call back to tell us that there isn't a cab in our area. Great! Now we have to wait for at least another half an hour. Lets hope all the people we arranged to meet outside the venue at 3:00pm are still waiting.

3:10pm - We've made it! Only 10 minutes late, but no-one is here yet anyway. Two foreign girls kindly offer to help us move our stuff into the venue. Thanks again.

3:15pm - The guys from MESH, the band that are playing tonight, are here and we are trying to arrange to have the back door opened so they can move all their equipment on to the stage.

3:40pm - The soundcheck should start soon. The local technicians are here but what about the guy from Camden Palace's management who is supposed to turn on the electricity for us, shouldn't he be here already? "We had a late night yesterday and have no idea what time he'll be here", is the reply we get.

4:00pm - Our friends, Anne-Marie, Paul, Laurie, Pete, Gavin, Tom, Tracy and John who have volunteered to help us out tonight are all arriving along with our DJ Paul. We start to set up the stalls for the t-shirts and raffle tickets.

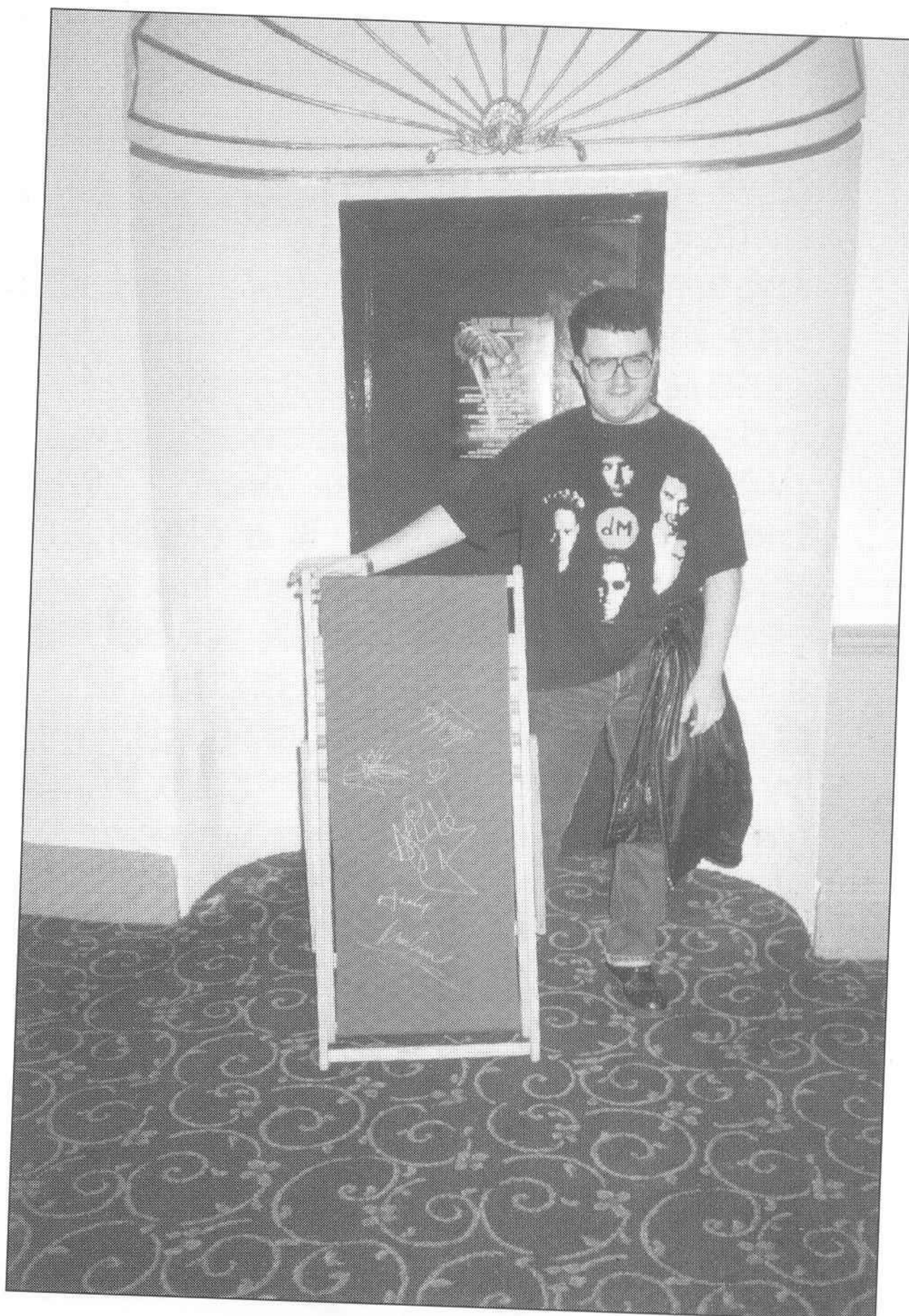
4:30pm - The bloke from the management is still not here and neither are the security people. At the same time we find out that there is no video screen available. It seems that everything is working against us but we are staying cool...

5:00pm - Only one hour to go before the doors open. The manager has finally arrived which is a great relief for all of us. The guys from MESH are ready to start their soundcheck. There doesn't seem to be any problem with the sound, so they leave for a while to grab something to eat. Our DJ Paul Green also looks pleased with everything....

6:00pm - and so are we, but not for long. Just as we are about to open the doors, we find out that the bars are not ready and some of the staff is still missing. "Is anyone around here responsible for all this?" we ask, as usual nobody seems to know. Some people make me wonder sometimes.

6:20pm - There are hundreds of people waiting outside, we can't hang on any longer, so WE decide to open the doors. The fans are flowing in, buying themselves raffle tickets and t-shirts in the foyer, greeting old friends here and there, then they enter the darkness of the Camden Palace itself with music throbbing loudly around the walls and a big screen with the word BONG projected on to it with lasers. We would rather have a video but it's better than nothing.

7:00pm - "Good evening Camden Palace and welcome to the Depeche Mode Fan Club Convention". I don't know why I agreed to do this again. The thought of a few hundred people staring at me makes me nervous even though the lights prevent me from seeing them. Now that bit is over, the Convention is officially opened. I can see for myself now just how many people there really are. I recognize a few familiar faces, not only from Britain but from Germany, France, Spain, Holland, everyone is dancing and the atmosphere is fantastic. I think I am going to enjoy tonight.



by Michaela Olexova

7:30pm - It's time for the first competition of the evening - DM Remix. Unlike last year, we decide to allow more people to enter this competition. Everyone has a chance to grab a bit of paper which is available at the front of the stage, get a pen and listen to a minute long extract of ten Depeche Mode songs. The overall winner is Chris Plant who wins a signed 12" record of "A Question Of Time". There were four runners-up who also won prizes.

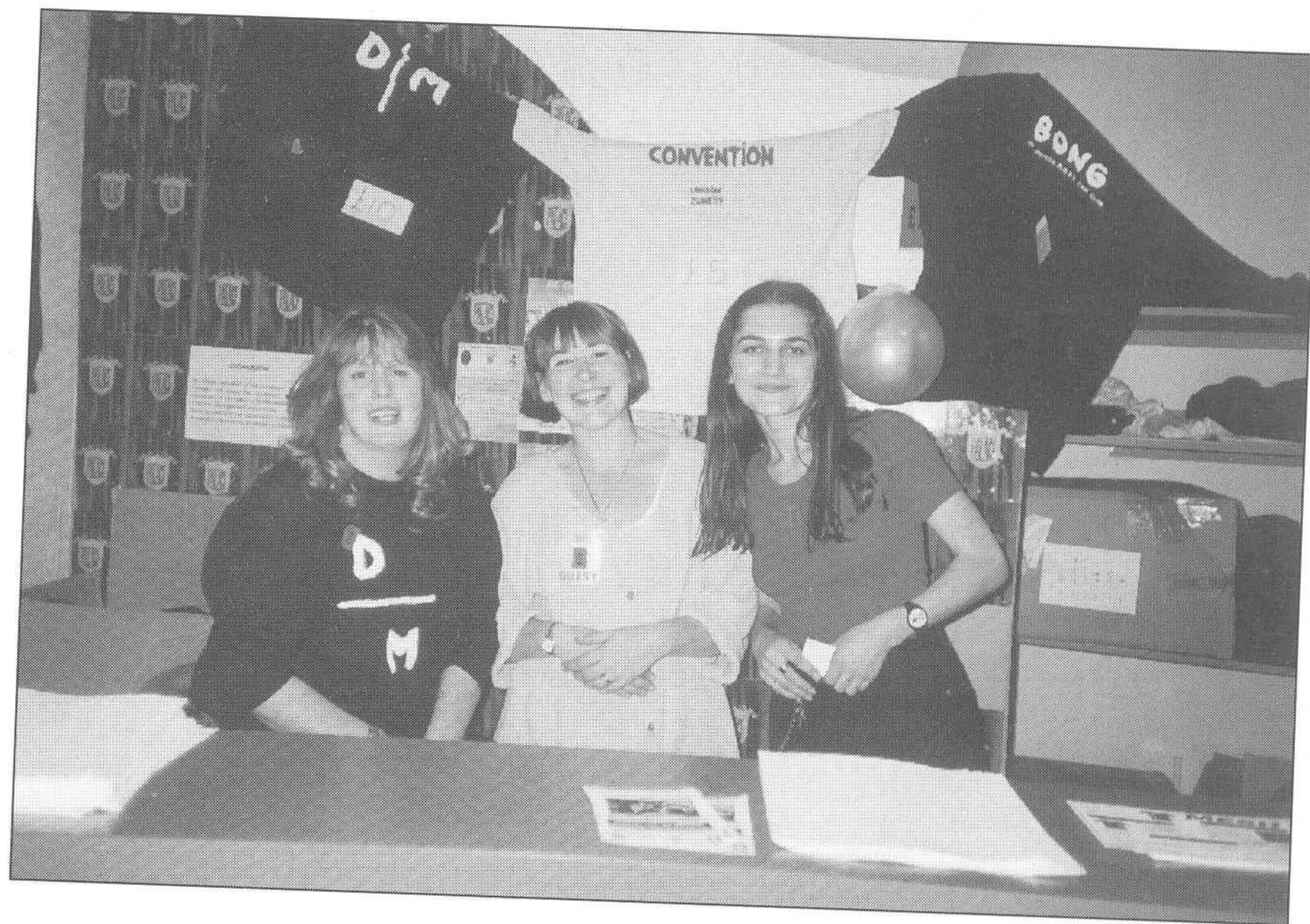
8:00pm - MESH take the stage, full of energy and enthusiasm. They come complete with an army of fans and an excellent reputation...but what will Depeche Mode fans think of them?

8:30pm - From what I can see everyone is really enjoying the show - MESH (Mark, Richard & Neil) are giving it their all with songs from their mini album "Fragile" and the audience loves it. What a success, it seems we were right in thinking they would be a good choice for our convention.

9:00pm - It is the last call for the Mastermind competition. Questionnaires containing ten pretty hard questions were given out to everyone at the entrance. Now its time to have them back and check the answers. In the meantime fans have a chance to request their favourite tunes in the Request Hour. It was a very popular spot and apologies to everyone who didn't get their request played.

9:30pm - The lights are up and its time for the raffle draw with the help of our friend Laurie. There is an air of excitement, everyone wants to win something no matter how small. We start from the bottom of our list of prizes, which includes a signed song sheet and photographs, and work our way up to the top prize which is Alan's leather stage suit, won by Gwen Den Ouden from Holland. Congratulations!

10:00pm - We are finally into the second round of the Mastermind Competition. There are only five people through from round one, they are Hank Mees, Antony Mew, Angie Trafford, Chrissy Cleemput and Chris Plant. They are given five very hard questions and the winner is Antony Mew and he wins the actual deck-chair which was used in the video for "Enjoy The Silence", which has been signed by the band. I can't remember the last time we had such a brilliant prize.



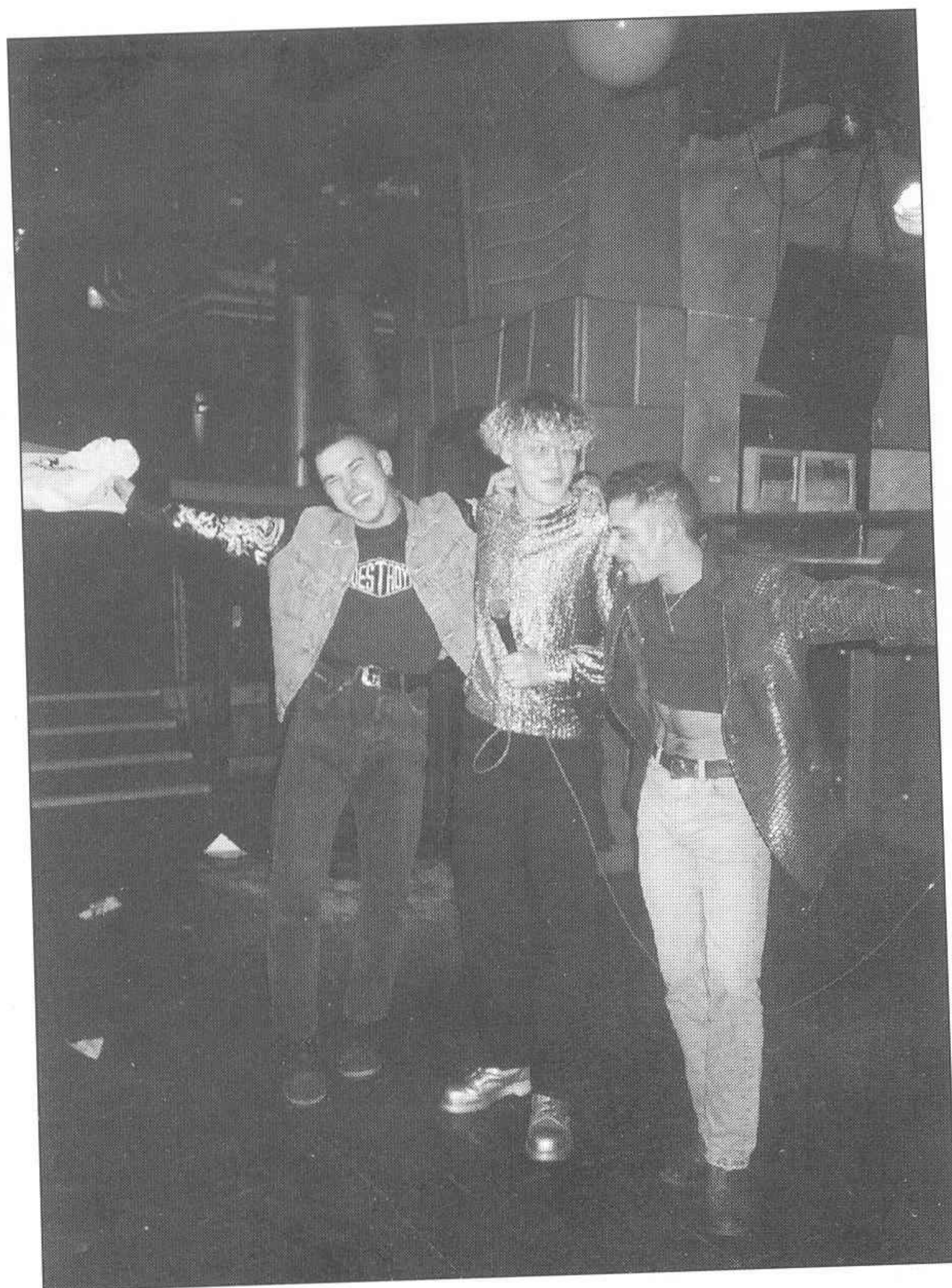
10:30pm - Karaoke time. You've guessed it - we got a bit bored with the look-a-like competitions, and decided to try something else. This turns out to be a lot of fun for everyone, we can only allow the contestants to sing half of the song so we can fit everyone in. Half an hour and 14 singers later the audience has to choose three winners. They are Luis from Spain who comes third with his performance of "Personal Jesus" and wins a drumstick signed by Alan, Peter from Germany comes second with "Enjoy The Silence" and wins a signed tour programme, but Willie from Germany comes first with "Somebody" and wins a signed copy of Strange, a book of photographs by Anton Corbijn.

11:15pm - Only 45 minutes left to go. Enough time for some more DM music, dancing and to throw some give-a-ways into the crowd, we have tons of tour passes and promo postcards, so everyone has a chance to take at least one thing home with them. It is nice to see all those Grabbing Hands!

11:30pm - I have a question for you. How many Dave look-alikes do you think can fit on one stage at the same time? Too many to count from where I am standing, and a multitude of nationalities too....

12:00midnight - Where has the time gone, I have no idea it is this late. Does it really have to end? Oh well.... "Thank you for coming and hope to see you soon."

00:10am - Nearly everyone has gone and the place looks so empty. The guys from MESH are packing away their gear and so are we. We move all our stuff outside and wait for our cab to take us and anything we have left over back to our office. There are still some people hanging around. Two fans have just thanked us for organizing a great evening and it feels nice....worth every minute.



-In Our Eyes

This page is here to inform you about the activities of the fan clubs that exist all around the world and work locally for Depeche Mode fans in that particular area or country. It is open to every fan club who wants to share some of their experiences from their conventions or parties. We also welcome any photographs to go with your stories. All contributions should be sent to the usual Bong address.

Please note, the official DM Fan Club BONG is not associated with the activities expressed here, doesn't take part in the events and therefore takes no responsibility.

Martin's birthday in Lithuania

Martin's birthday is celebrated in Lithuania every year. This year there was a great party organized in Kėdainiai, the centre of Lithuania, by a local DM Fan Club. When my friends and I arrived, there we saw a cosy and nicely decorated dancehall with several pictures of DM and Martin hanging on the walls. The party started at about 10pm. I don't think all the fans were there because of another party in the nearby town. Some of the fans just didn't have a chance to come here. But everyone in Kėdainiai seemed to be in the mood for a great time. We were dancing until midnight and it seemed that everyone wanted to show the best they could. At midnight, we sang "Happy Birthday" and traditional Lithuanian song to Martin. All the fans could dance again or watch DM videos later on. I think "Photographic", "Personal Jesus" and "Never Let Me Down" again were the songs everybody liked the most that evening. There were some competitions held too that night, i.e. - two groups of the fans had to give tasks or questions to each other. It was great and very original, with a great sense of humour. Later on, these groups had to act to any of the DM videos. They chose "Pimpf" and "Enjoy The Silence". The party was very nice and it ended at about 6am. And I have to say that all the devotees I met there were very friendly and we had a great time together. So I'd like to send my regards to all my new friends. See you next time!

Jurga Raskauskaitė
Alytus, Lithuania

More Than A Party!

We started setting up in afternoon. Everybody was

extremely nervous and excited as we all knew it was going to be a great evening. What more can you say about DM music being played all evening!!! Pro Disco's came at about 5pm to set up the lights and excellent sound system. While myself and fellow devotees in Evolution (our fan club) put posters up and finished the stage design. We started playing eighties music when the devotees started to arrive at seven, and by this time myself and Robert had begun to test the beers out! Eight o'clock arrived, the lights went down and dry ice filled the stage. We played the intro which was "Rush" to start off with and Pro Disco's controlled the lights and strobes which were similar to the ones used on the Devotional Tour. The atmosphere was amazing, everybody was on a high, and on the tenth anniversary of "Shake The Disease" as well! What more could we ask for, we had the fans, the music, the only thing that was missing were Depeche Mode themselves! The Intro finished and we mixed into "In Your Room", this is when everybody started to head for the dancefloor. We continued to play loads of rare DM material, which included Razormaid and demos as well as some of the old favourites like "Photographic" and "Just Can't Get Enough". The favourite song played that night was "Never



Photo courtesy of Jurga Raskauskaitė

Let Me Down Again" as well as "World In My Eyes", "Enjoy The Silence" and "Halo". We also had some freebies thanks to everybody at Mute and various rare DM memorabilia for sale. It was such a great night for the masses that I would like to end by saying a big thank you to everybody, especially Lynn Newcombe, Bong, Mute Records and of course to Depeche Mode, who if it wasn't for them we would have nothing to look forward to!!!

Tony Lewis
Peterborough, England

dm/live

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— Competition Time Again —

As we thought, last issue's competition proved to be an easy one and, from the number of answers we received, you coped with it quite well. The song title you were searching for was "Get The Balance Right". Originally, we thought of having only one winner but because of such a high number of entries we changed our minds and decided to pick three winners at random. They are Claire Debuire, France, Nazanin Vassighi, USA and Terry Dormer, England and they will receive Fan Club T-shirt each. Congratulations!

This issue's brain teaser might seem a bit more difficult but we are sure there will be as many correct answers as there were last time. All you have to do is to find ten titles of the DM's songs that are hidden in the anagrams and send your answers to our usual address before Christmas. Please don't forget to mark your postcard or envelope "Competition Time Again". Good luck!

1. MAY THE RAT RAP ON (4,4,1,5)
2. YOU SING THE SAD HIT (3,6,3,4)
3. NO FUSS WITHIN (3,4,2,3)
4. WHEN HE BEHELD IT (6,3,5)
5. VERY CUTE, THIN SONG (10,6)
6. HIT NOT GONE FAR (7,2,4)
7. ALL THE NINE RATS HAD FUN (3,3,3,3,8)
8. CAN THE BEAR GET LIGHT (3,3,7,5)
9. DAM FINE M. GORE (8,2,2)
10. SIT DONT GO HOME (9,2,2)



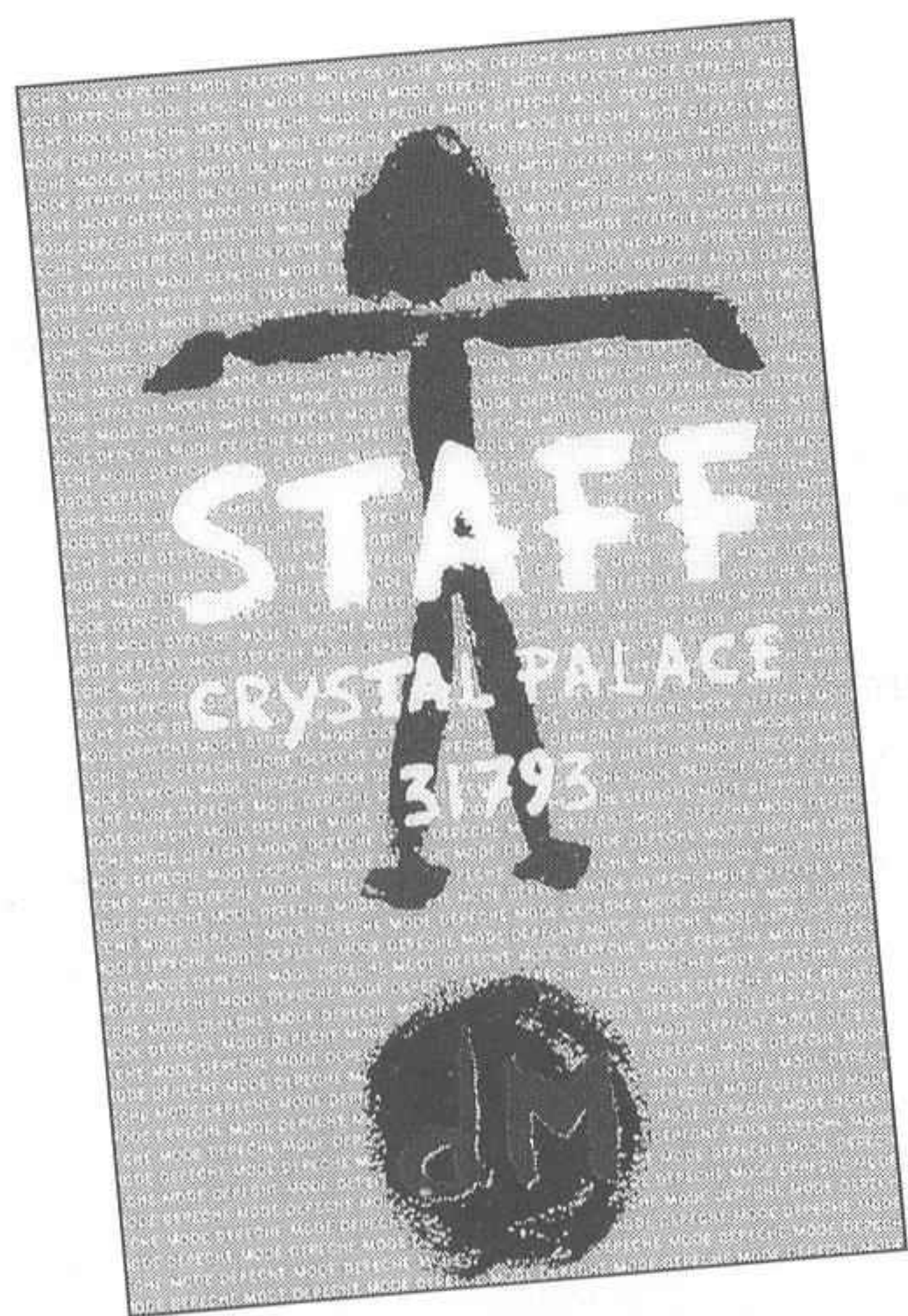
Photo by Michaela Olexova

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bong member

After processing all the answers and information we have received from you, here are the results of the "Bong Member's Poll" that was published in Bong 22. There were 113 fans who participated and we would like to thank them all for taking part and helping us to create this ultimate list of facts, observations and suggestions from the Devotional Tour. The Band may well find some inspiration for their next tour from this outline..... Who knows?!? Enjoy reading.....

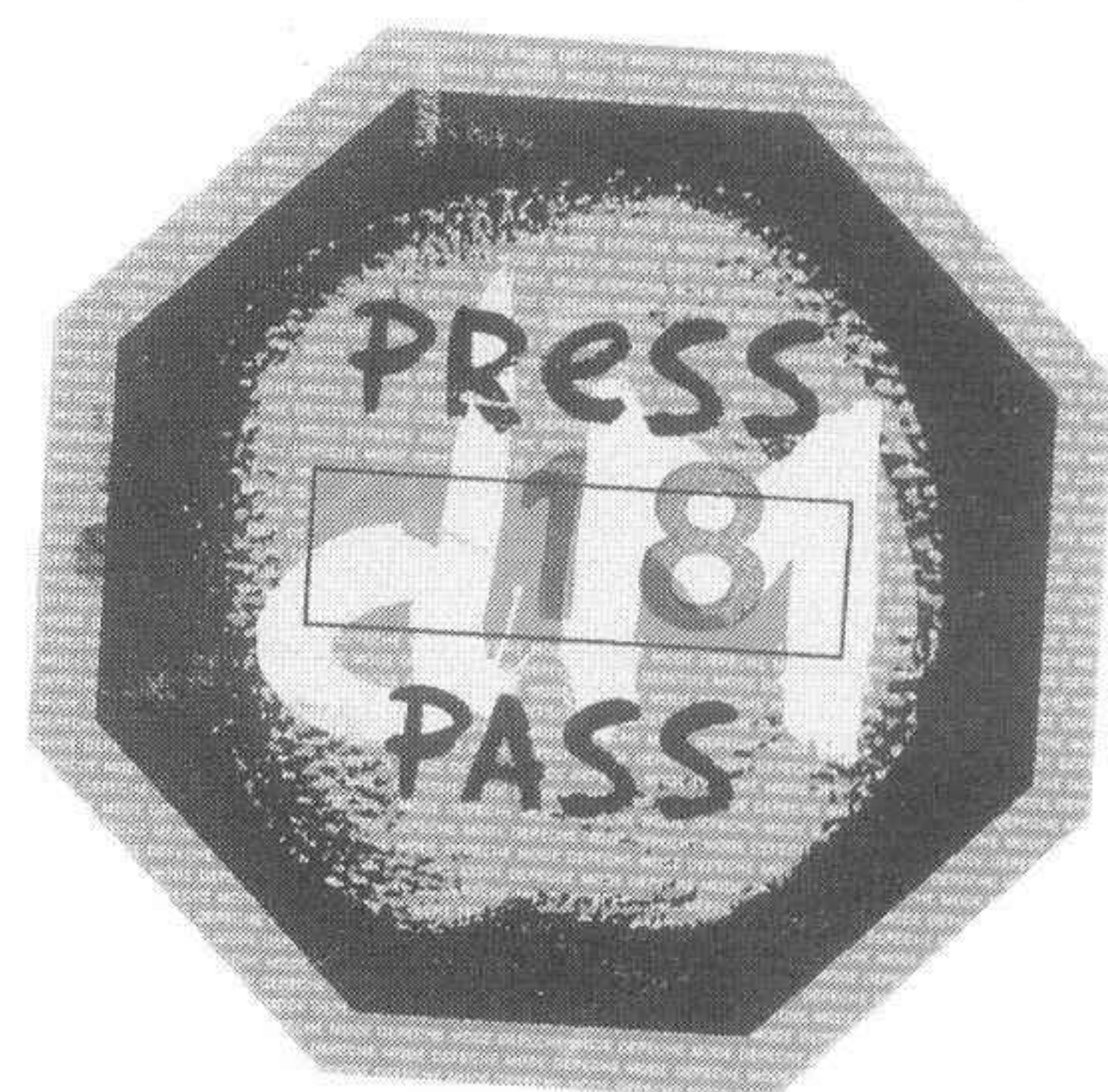


The respondents stated many different countries and cities in Europe where they attended concert but also named far-away destinations such as Buenos Aires in Argentina, Brisbane and Sydney in Australia, various places in the USA and Canada and Johannesburg in South Africa. However, Crystal Palace in London seemed to be the most popular venue of all.

For the majority of fans (103) it was easy to get their tickets for the concert but 10 of them had a problem.

Booking Agencies proved to be the best place to obtain tickets for the concert as stated by 39 participants. 27 fans bought their tickets at a record shop, 11 at the tourist info bureau but 36 people got their tickets from somewhere else - i.e. Fan Club.....

The price you paid for your tickets varied from country to country and from the place of purchase, but this table should give you a rough idea how much the tickets cost.



The cheapest tickets were be purchased in middle and Eastern Europe, the mid price goes for the rest of Europe. The States and the rest of the world are left with mid to a little bit higher price of the tickets, again depending where you bought them....

What did you think of the venue?

- a/ excellent 51
- b/ good 46
- c/ could be better 12
- d/ bad 4

The overall favourite was Crystal Palace in London.

....98 of you didn't have a problem finding the venue but the remaining 15 did have some difficulties....

Range of prices	% of buyers
from £ 8 to £ 12	5%
from £ 13 to £ 17	27%
from £ 18 to £ 22	59%
from £ 23 to £ 27	4%
from £ 30 to £ 40	3%
over £ 40	2%

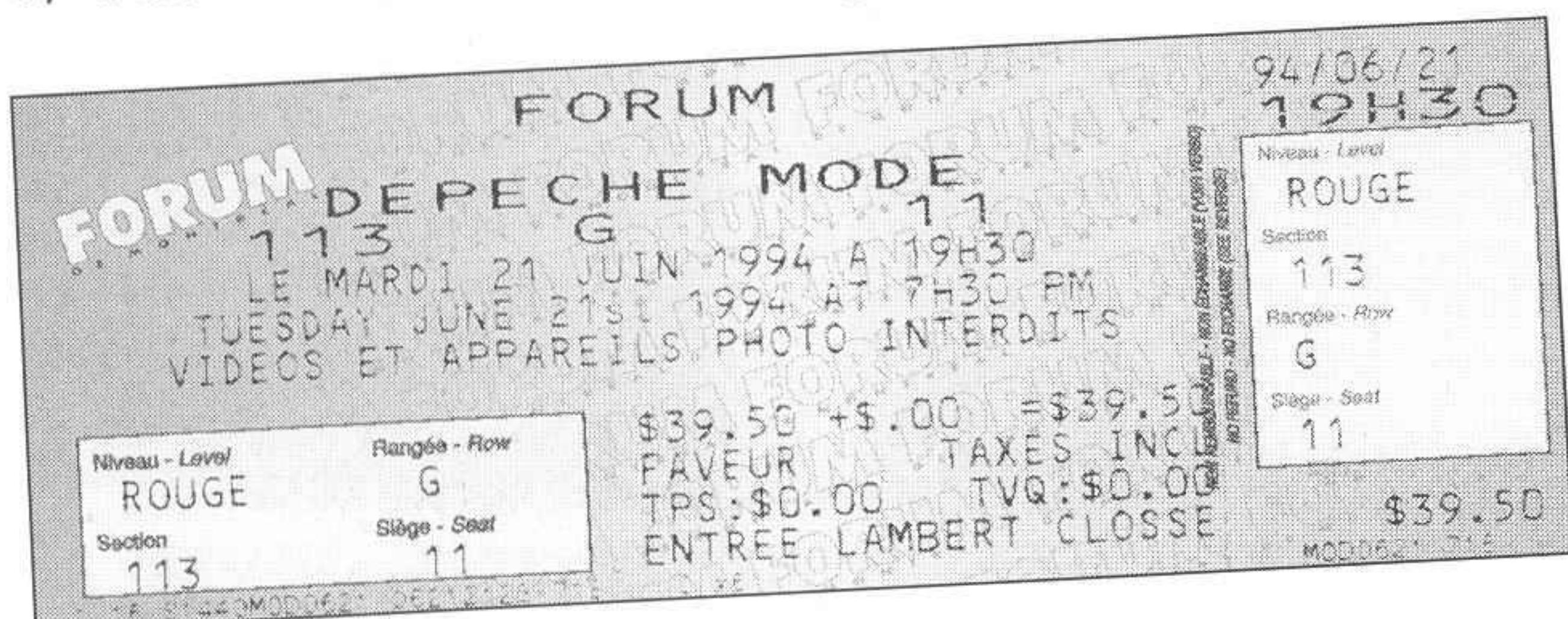
Most of you said that the venue was opened from one to three hours before beginning and therefore didn't have a problem in getting there in time for the show.

How was the sound quality?

- a/ excellent 72
- b/ good 31
- c/ could be better 10
- d/ bad 0

You didn't seem to have any problems in buying refreshments before or during the show, although 17 of you think otherwise.

....85 of you spent the concert in the arena, 19 on the gallery and only 9 somewhere else....but no matter where you watched from you were able to see the stage from your position....



Among the bands which you saw supporting Depeche Mode on the Devotional Tour were Marxman, Sisters Of Mercy, Miranda Sex Garden, Dub Syndicate, Stabbing Westward, Primal Scream, Spiritualized and The The to name but a few from your list, but it would appear that you were not happy with these choices, as the following figures will show. 45 of you thought the supporting acts were bad, 36 that they could be better, 25 thought they were good, but only 7 said they were excellent. Also judging from your answers Marxman seemed to be the least favourite band, followed by The Sisters Of Mercy and Miranda Sex Garden.



ember's poll

...but here are your suggestions of the bands you would like to see next time as DM's support:

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| Nitzer Ebb | Primal Scream | Blur | Front 242 |
| The The | New Order | Camouflage | Kraftwerk |
| Erasure | Carter USM | U2 | OMD |

...or some of you said: "Don't care as long as they're good"; "Anyone but not a rap band"; "Nobody, I hate supporting acts"; "No preference - I just go to see DM"; "Why doesn't DM play for 2 1/2 hours like Pink Floyd without any supporting bands?"; "A band with similar music to DM"; "It doesn't matter, only DM count"



...12 out of 113 were lucky enough to get backstage and in all the cases the pass was either given to them or they asked for one....

...15 out of 113 managed to meet Depeche Mode in person, either at the venue, hotel or in town....

What did you think of the lights?

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| a/ excellent | 82 |
| b/ good | 29 |
| c/ could be better | 2 |
| d/ bad | 0 |

The guys from security seemed to handle their jobs quite well as 98 of you didn't have any problems with them and when you eventually did come across any security they were friendly and helpful in 33 cases, 66 didn't have any experience with them at all, and 14 of you said they were mean.

And what did you think of the songs Depeche Mode performed during the Devotional Tour?

Top 10 of the best songs

1. I Feel You
2. Higher Love
3. In Your Room
4. Enjoy The Silence
5. Personal Jesus
6. Walking In My Shoes
7. Never Let Me Down Again
8. World In My Eyes
9. Everything Counts
10. Behind The Wheel and Stripped

This is a chart of the songs you missed during the tour:

1. Strangelove, 2. Just Can't Get Enough, 3. Clean , 4. Black Celebration, 5. Shake The Disease, 6. Blasphemous Rumours, 7. Master And Servant, 8. A Question Of Time, 9. One Caress, 10. People Are People

...81 out of 113 found the tour merchandise expensive but there was a large selection, 17 of you found it cheap and with a large selection and 15 of you thought it was nothing special....

And this is how much you spent on the merchandise:

Range of prices	% of buyers
nothing	12%
from £ 5 to £ 15	13%
from £ 16 to £ 25	27%
from £ 26 to £ 35	10%
from £ 36 to £ 45	10%
from £ 46 to £ 55	8%
over £ 55	20%

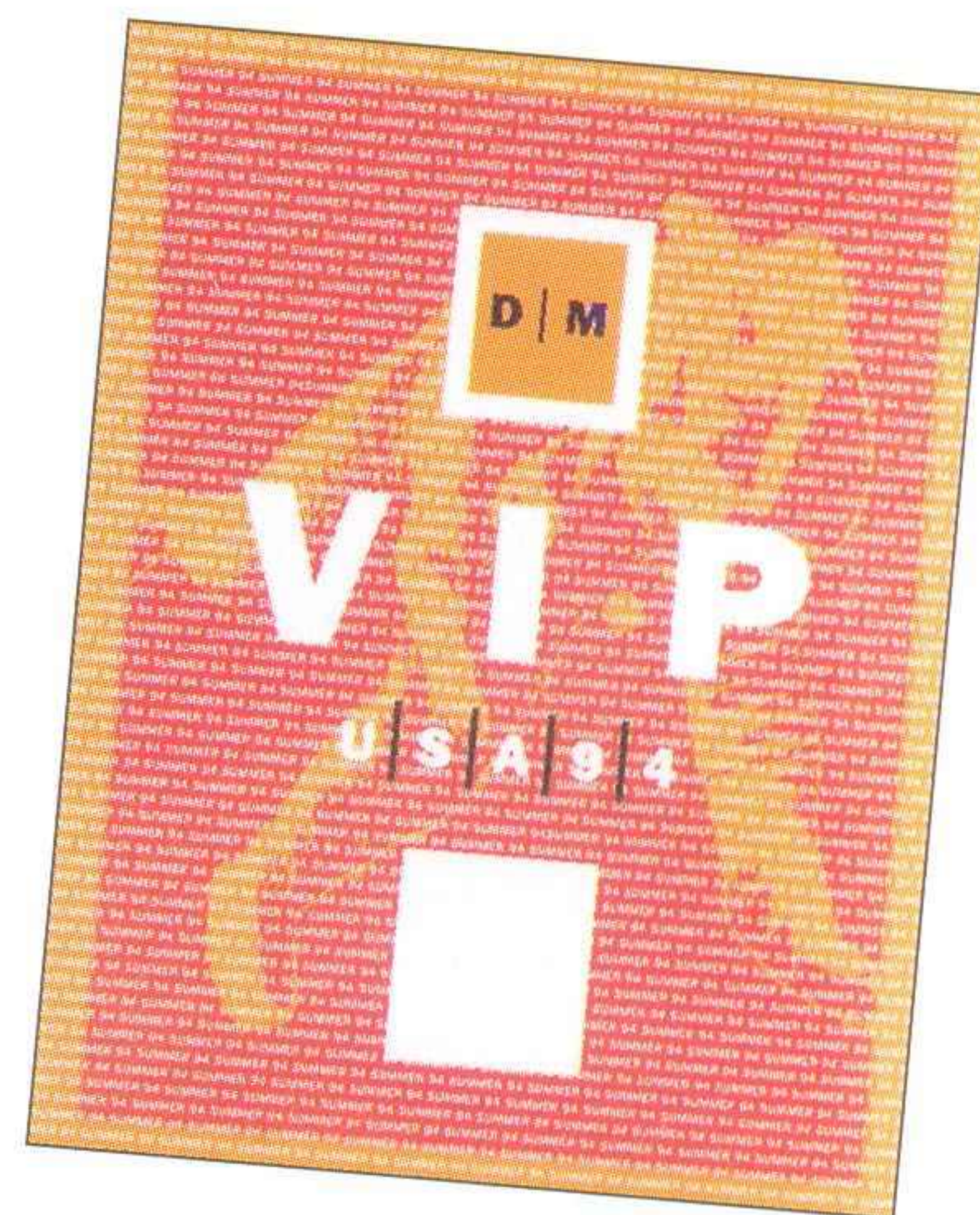


What did you think of the stage set?

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| a/ excellent | 94 |
| b/ good | 16 |
| c/ could be better | 3 |
| d/ bad | 0 |

Here are your favourite top 10 video/film images that accompanied some of the songs:

1. Walking In My Shoes
2. I Feel You
3. Stripped
4. In Your Room
5. Enjoy The Silence
6. Never Let Me Down Again
7. Judas
8. Condemnation
9. Personal Jesus
10. Rush



What did you think of the background singers?

- | | |
|--------------------|----|
| a/ excellent | 58 |
| b/ good | 43 |
| c/ could be better | 9 |
| d/ bad | 3 |

... 60 of you went to a concert in a group of people, 39 in a couple and only 14 of you went alone...

...but don't worry this all is going to change next time !!!

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Blasphemous Rumours

Considering the fact that not everyone can get hold of all the newspapers and magazines with DM interviews, reviews and gossip, we have created this section with the aim of bringing you some of the most interesting bits that were published on DM not just in the press but also on TV and radio. This should give you an idea of what was said or written about Depeche Mode worldwide and how popular the band is in that particular country.

If you would like to take part and help us make this section as colourful as possible, then send us copies of any relevant articles you may find in the newspapers of your country together with an English translation to the usual Bong address and mark your envelope "Blasphemous Rumours". We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Devotional Tour - Spain

"The British band gave one of the best shows of the year. If it wasn't for the Depeche Mode T-shirts, the concert would have finished as a nude party. The musical bath that Depeche Mode offered last night was almost supernatural."

El Mundo, Spain (July 16, 1993)

Songs' Interpretation

"I think Dave has his own interpretations of the songs and I think it's the same as with the fans. Sometimes he doesn't necessarily see them in the same light as I do, but I don't think that matters. I still think he feels passionate about them as well. If I say to him: Your idea of what this song is about is wrong and this is what it's about, maybe it would take away the magic that he feels from the song."

Martin Gore (1993)

Ambitions

"I think we'd like to do a film score at one stage, a proper film score, not just a few songs for a film but the whole lot basically. But it's sort of fitting the timing in really in between records. I think that's an ambition that's unfulfilled. I think we'd like to play...well I'd personally like to play Russia at some point 'cause we're very popular in Russia and so it'd be good to play there."

Andy Fletcher (1993)

Personal Jesus

"They've done really really well. They've done what we wanted to do, but didn't have the guts to do - the two month tours in America, slogging away until you make it. "Violator" is a mysteriously great album. I always wanted to hate them because they were rivals, then they made this great album. We met them once in Sheffield, and they've got this reputation now as rock'n'rollers, but they were really quiet and they all went to bed early!"

The Human League,
Melody Maker
(February 18, 1995)

A Broken Frame

"I must admit to have a weakness for Depeche Mode, finding their "Just Can't Get Enough" playful, eye-catching, dancing and unpretentious. It was yet a long time, something

like one year since the leader Vince Clarke left to found Yazoo. "A Broken

Frame" might give the reason to everyone to find the use of synthesisers very pedant, boring, devoid of ideas etc. We might also think that they let their keyboards play without a control. We can if really necessary remember "The Meaning Of Love" which contains a bit of energy and melody. Just enough to make a single. But not an album. Despite a beautiful sleeve featuring a kolkhoz woman cutting wheat under a stormy sky."

Rock'n'Folk, France (January 1983)

S.O.F.A.D.

"Naff title, great record, with Britain's own forgotten heroes producing electronic heaven which treads the thin line between gospel

and sex, depending on to whom you think they are singing lyrics like: 'Well I'm down on my knees again/and I pray to the only one/who has the strength/to bear the pain/to forgive all the things that I've done.' It's an intense, solid sound which has depths that will keep you listening time and again."

Lancashire Evening Post, England
(March 27, 1993)

DM Fans

"Few bands, if any, has such a loyal audience, it's just a matter of adoration. Take the 'sing-along' for example. It is not only that they know the refrain, they know every word in every song and all of the audience sings along. Devotion is total. Why, one can ask, when you have always considered Depeche Mode being a boring group, unless you share the proportionately common admiration for Martin Gore as a song writer."

Danish Newspapers (1993)



Music Influence

"I listen to as much music as possible all the time, everything, lots of things - classical stuff too. I think it's really important to get out and see the bands and go to gigs and listen to music and totally be involved in it all the time because otherwise, it's just too fake."

David Gahan (1993)

DM Fans & S.O.F.A.D.

"You really have to give our music a few listens. Once you're a Depeche Mode fan you're a fan for life, but you have to get into our music over a long time. If you listen to it once people say 'Oh, that's just depressing', but if you listen to it a few times you get in touch with it. I think this album is perhaps one of our most optimistic albums for a long time, lyrically anyway."

Andy Fletcher, Honolulu Star Bulletin, Hawaii (March 24, 1994)

Devotional Tour

"The scenery of the stage set takes places on two levels. On the second one you can see Gore, Wilder and Fletcher behind their cybernetic machines, able to assemble pre-recorded tapes, sampled sounds and infinite chords, sweet or hammering depending on the cases. The first one is practically Dave Gahan's hunting reserve, unrecognizable with his Christ-like beard, thin and springing discotheque preacher who collects screams of impudent adoration at every little run or minimum pelvic movement."

La Repubblica, Milano, Italy (June 6, 1993)

Thanks to everyone who sent us a contribution for "Blasphemous Rumours". We look forward to some more information on Depeche Mode from the press in your country.

DM Songs

"Our songs don't have the 'I love you, you love me' blandness you hear on the Top 40. We are an antidote and we aim to be alternative."

Andy Fletcher, The Straits Times, Singapore (February 28, 1994)

Depeche Mode

"If singer David Gahan's sexy gyrations are ever more incongruous alongside the band's essentially cold sound, they're also more human as are the increased use of real guitar and - best yet - real drums!"

Los Angeles Times, USA (May 23, 1994)

Devotional Tour - Salt Lake City

"Gahan's good humour and energy contrasted with his subdued bandmates, including the ever depressed Martin Gore, who occasionally moved from behind his synthesiser and strummed an electric guitar."

The Salt Lake City Tribune, USA (May 1994)

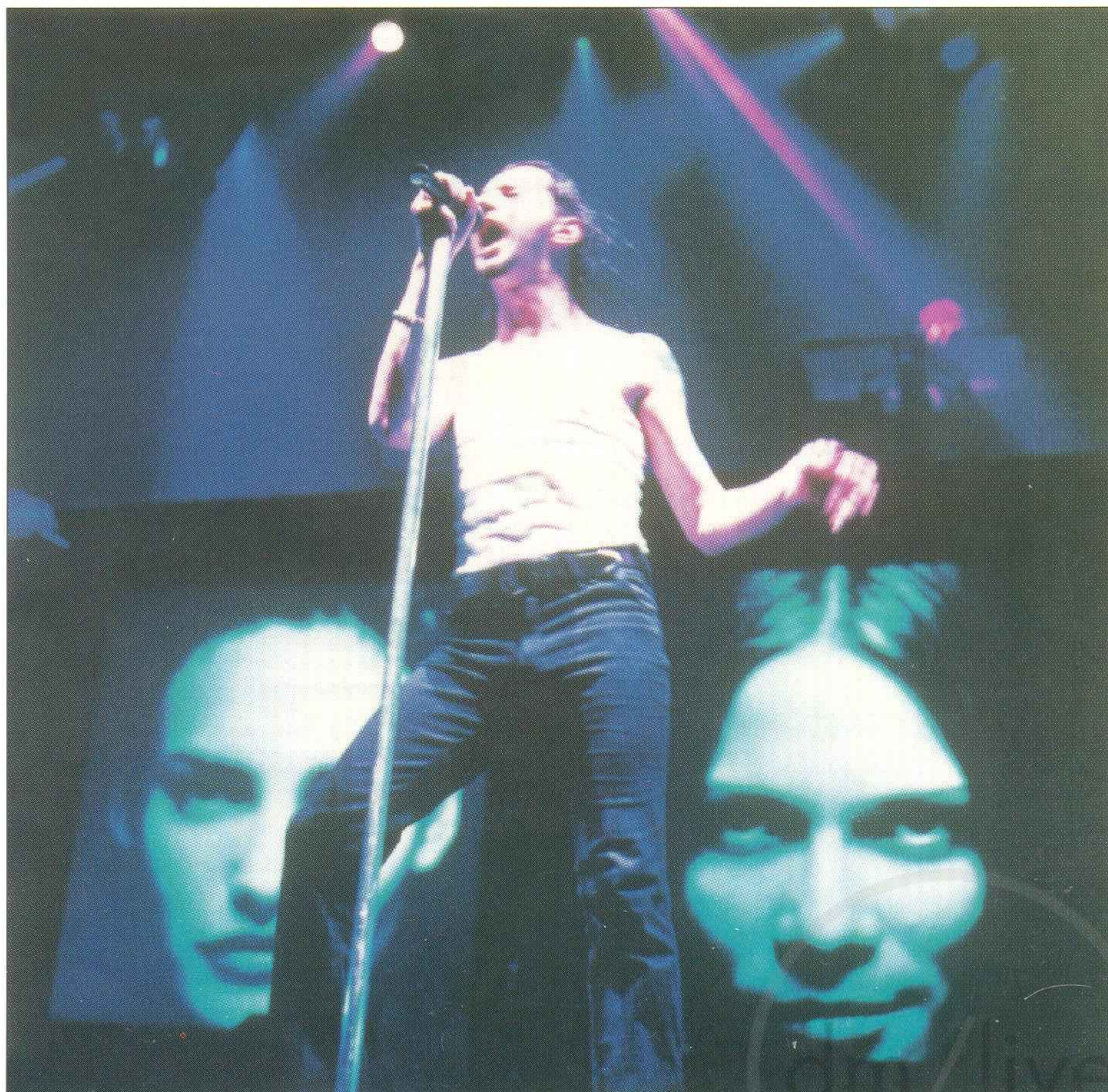


Photo by Anton Corbijn

Classified

Rare DM, Erasure etc. for sale, including X1 and X2 box sets, numbered 12" and 7". Please send S.A.E. for list to: Simon Goodfellow, 51, Hrington Dr., Parkhall, S-ON-T, Staffs ST3 5 SU, England.

Help me, please! I would like to buy Bong issue no. 17. Please, please, please! It's very important for me. Please, write to: Marina Grassi, Via Brunelleschi N°51, Cinisello Balsamo, 20092 Milano, Italy.

I am desperately looking for anything about DM on videos - a TV interview with DM that was broadcasted by satellite at the time of release of "S.O.F.A.D." or DM appearance on MTV or any other TV all over the world. I am also looking for rare videos such as "Little 15", "The Meaning Of Love", "Dangerous" and "But Not Tonight". All tour programmes from 1981 until 1990 and anything else about DM - articles, photos, posters, CDs.... Please send your list and prices to: Mariela Rios, Rod. Pena 36.3° "B", Cap. Fed., Buenos Aires, Argentina.

I am looking for the CD's: "Catching Up With Depeche Mode", DM Box Set 4 (US only) and DM Japan Box Sets X1 & X2. Please; send your offers to: John Marco Nielsen, C/O Pedersen, Kejlstrupvej 72, 8600 Silkeborg, Denmark.

I have a fully autographed Violator calendar which I would like to swap for anything by Depeche Mode. Please send offers to: Russell Dilnot, 87 Freemans Way, Deal, Kent, CT14 9DQ, England.

For sale: Rare East German LP "The Greatest Hits". Send offers to Arne Wojciechowski, Dorfstrasse 08, 17039 Neverin, Germany.

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.



Photo by Anton Corbijn

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Pen Pals

Marilina Mauri
E.Zeballos 1445 1°B
2000 Rosario - Sta. Fe
Argentina

Hello! I'm an almost 20 year-old Depeche devotee (since 1987/88) willing to share my devotion with other Modies. I like music, travelling, sports, languages and having fun. If DM is your Personal Jesus, don't just stand there and shout it, get writing about it. Please, write to me in English, Spanish or Italian. I'll reply to all letters. See You.

Alexey A. Samusev
Polyarnie Zory 2-15
183032 Murmansk
Russia

We are two students, 20 years of age and we live in Murmansk. We are both fond of music, travelling, computer science and of course Depeche Mode. There is only very little information on Depeche Mode here in Russia and we would like to get in touch with other DM fans from all around the world.

Jennifer Marciniak
Rt. 2 box 254
Orange Grove
78372 Tx
USA

Hello! I'm a 17 year old and have been possessed with Depeche Mode for over five years and have collected all of their albums plus remixes, the Devotional video, the special limited edition interview disc from 1982 and Martin Gore's Counterfeit e.p. I am by far the biggest Devotee in the US and am looking for the biggest Devotees from England and the US. If your world revolves around DM and Martin is your Somebody, write to me and I will answer! Promise!

Mathias Brattberg
Odengatan 16
360 70 Aseda
Sweden

Hello! Do you like electronic music? Do you love to be on concerts? If you do! Why don't you drop me a line so we can share our interests. Maybe we can exchange some music too?!? I am a 21-year-old guy from Sweden and I am really into electronic music, for example: Front 242, Kraftwerk and Mesh. Of course I like Depeche Mode but I don't adore them like many others do.

Clara Penelas Ecija
C/Ezequiel Solana 73 4°B
280 17 Madrid
Spain

Hi! I'm an 18 year old devotee who would like to hear your feelings about DM, Alan and Dave. Write to me soon!

Jose Luis Herreza Molina
Avda/Hnos Machado 87, 31

460 19 Valencia
Spain

I'm a 23 year old male. DM fan since 1984. If you want to meet me or exchange some material: tapes from 1981 to 1994, articles, videos, etc. than write to me. I'm looking for devotees condemned to slavery and moding for years. Please, write to me soon.

Silvana Romano
Ituzaingo 1120
Villa Ballester (1653)
Pcia. De Buenos Aires
Argentina

Hi! I'm a devotee girl of 18 who'd like to get in touch with other fans from all over the world to share our faith and devotion. So, if you think you need somebody in this World Full Of Nothing, here I am I'll be waiting for you, so write soon!

Rodrigo Jorde Vendzell
Avda 1° Mayo, 15. pta 5.
Valencia
Spain

Hello! I'm an 18 year old devotee. I am looking for pen pals who like DM - for changing tapes and videos, photos and articles from all around the world. If you want to receive information or list of my material from Spain, write to Beatmaster.

David Woodward
45 Stonerwood Avenue
Birmingham B28 0AX
England

Hi, me is Dave, 26 year old boy also into Kraftwerk. Wanting to swap info, CDs, vinyls etc. With people out of the UK.

Darren J. Duncan
62 Lisavon Street
Belfast BT4 1LH
Northern Ireland

Hi, I am 20 years old and would love to write to DM fans all over the world. Here in Northern Ireland, we are dying breed. I'm also into art, painting and all kinds of films. I promise that I will reply to all your letters!

Tony Lewis
31 Marne Avenue
Walton
Peterborough PE4 6AJ
England

Hi! I'm 24 years of age and would like to hear from lots of Depeche Mode fans. I've followed them for a Question Of Time and I can feel all you Devotees out there that just want to have More Than A Party. So why not write to me as I am a firm believer.

Suanur Sonsson
Masholar 6
111 Reykjavik
Iceland

Attention, DM fans from all around the world. I am a boy of 23 years, DM fan of 13 yrs and simply want pen pals from all over the world who loves DM like I do. I also like Marc Almond and Erasure. Hope to hear from you all soon.

Contacts

Stephen Stewart reach out and touch me...H.L.

Andras from Hungary, are you out there?!? I miss you, please write to me. I'd love to hear from you again. Thanks once more for the articles, here's my address in case you've lost it. All my love Kate Carsley at 35 Carlins Ave, Ewloe, Deeside, Clwyd, CH5 3RF, N. Wales, UK.

Dave look-a-like in jeans jacket, I was standing behind you at the Bong Convention in Camden Palace (a short girl with blonde hair in black leather jacket) while we were queuing inside. You were talking to my friend and he was wearing a T-shirt with Dave on it. Please contact me, I would like to have a word with you. Lisa, 23 Hall Lane, Hendon, London NW4 4TJ.

Hi Daniel-Dave and cousin! Thanks a lot for the taxi and for helping us to find the right bus stop. We really enjoyed your company. See you.

Hi Rob Wernli from San Diego! Are you still alive? Write to: Arne Wojciechowski, Dorfstrasse 08, 17039 Neverin, Germany.

Many greetings to all my pen pals all around the world and thanks for the great friendship! Stay depeched! Arne from Germany.

Anja, I have faith, I will find, the Mercy In You!

Conspiracy of Hornchurch, residing in the Black Tulip, and anyone else who reads this. I still say give me a thumping dance mix over a vocal ballad anyday. Reply if you dare. Yours, Norman Normal.

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".

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".

— Bootlegs & DJ Mixes —

Classic Techno Niagara Mixes - Vol. 2

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This is a limited edition of 1000 copies only. The running time is 70:14 and the track listing goes like this: "Just Can't Get Enough", "Master And Servant", "Nothing", "Route 66", "Never Let Me Down Again", "World In My Eyes", "Photographic", "Deathwish", "T.O.M." (Megamix), "But Not Tonight", "Behind The Wheel", "A Question Of Lust". They are all excellent remixes, although "Behind The Wheel" (Instrumental) and "T.O.M." (Megamix) get a bit tedious. "Just Can't Get Enough" is the best track here, with an excellent middle section where the song slows down and then speeds up joined by happy crowd noises, very well mixed. "Never Let Me Down Again" is another good mix. It starts with someone trying to tune in a radio and then the song comes crashing in. Half way through it mixes into the Aggro Mix from "Music For The Masses" before going back to the remix. "Route 66" is just a combination of "Behind The Wheel" and "Route 66". "But Not Tonight", not far off original Extended Mix on PRO-A-5242 box set album. "A Question Of Lust", not far off the Mimmal Mix of PRO-A-5242 or original version. "World In My Eyes", complete with electro samples and scratches - a great mix. "Photographic", not far from album track camera noise samples, basic but a good mix. "Deathwish"? Does not seem to appear on my CD. I double checked. A new version of "I Wish I Was Dead" from "Speak And Spell". Another happy housey remix.

DJ's Revenge

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This a an excellent CD for which I paid £ 15. There are 12 songs including: "Photographic" (Some Bizarre Edit),

"Personal Jesus" (Kazan Cathedral Mix), "Just Can't Get Enough" (Disconet Mix), "A Question Of Time" (Class-x Mix), "Behind The Wheel" (Disconet Mix), "Get The Balance Right" (Class-x Mix), "Little 15" (Bogus Brothers Mix), "Dreaming Of Me" (Discotrax Mix), "Pleasure, Little Treasure" (Razormaid Mix), "Behind The Wheel" (Razormaid Mix), "Strangelove" (Razormaid Mix), "Dangerous" (Art Of Mix). Most mixes

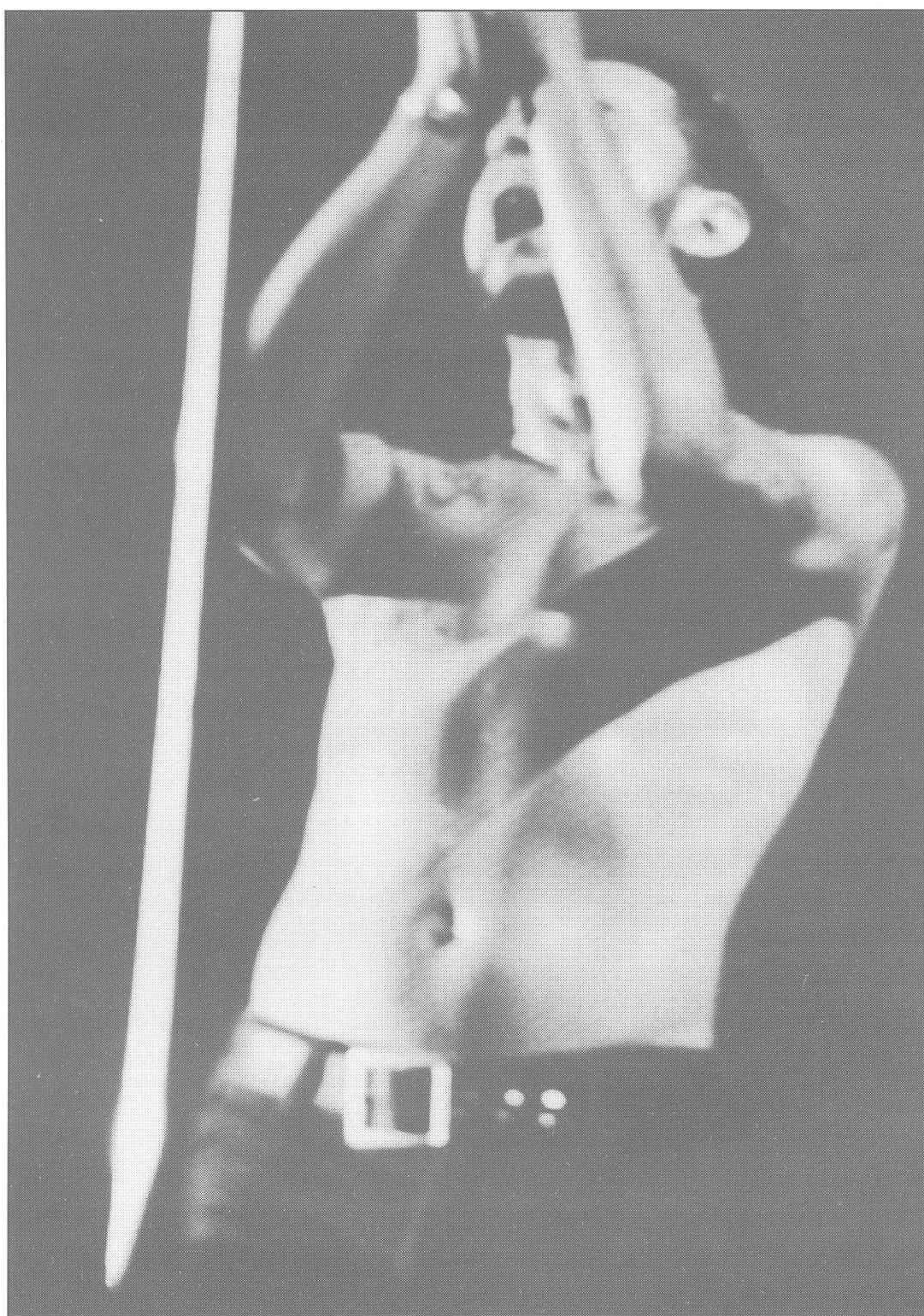


Photo by Michaela Olexova

have already appeared in Bong if my memory serves me correct. Great mix of "Personal Jesus" and the Bogus Bros do it again on "Little 15". More Razormaid Mixes.... Good mix (if not too long) of "Dangerous". "Just Can't Get Enough", not far from Schizo Mix. "A Question Of Time" and "Behind The Wheel", not much difference from original released mixes. "Dreaming Of Me", good mix, extra bassline over original song makes this mix work. Razormaid mixes up to

their usual standard of great mixes and better quality this time round. "Get The Balance Right" is very good mix too.

The 10th Strike

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This excellent CD features: "It Doesn't Matter Two", "Enjoy The Silence", "Black Celebration", "Two Minute Warning", "World In My Eyes", "Halo", "Told You So", "Policy Of Truth". These are by far the best remixes I have heard. Pick of the bunch would be "It Doesn't Matter Two" and "Black Celebration". Good mixes of "World In My Eyes", "Policy Of Truth" and "Halo", although they sound like most bootleg remixes of "World In My Eyes", "Policy Of Truth" and "Halo". Wierd Mix of "Enjoy The Silence", very bluesy and laid back until the drums thud and synths kick in - excellent! "Told You So" - whoever remixed this must have been hyper active, total revamp, very good mix, buggier to dance to. "Black Celebration", deep bass line and fast drum breaks totally transform this into what I would say could be a very good club mix. May be a little bit too jungles, though. "It Doesn't Matter Two", slow hip-hoppish drum beats, slow ambient start with swirling mind noises, excellent. "World In My Eyes", could be an instant club hit, if released. It is very moody until real song and drums kick in. "Two Minute Warning", good mix, although it does get a bit tedious.

DM Fan

England

Devotional Tour/Swiss Devotion

Format: 2CD

Origin: Italy

This double CD contains: "Higher Love", "Policy Of Truth", "World In My Eyes", "Walking In My Shoes", "Behind The Wheel", "Halo", "Stripped",

dm/live
 Freely provided by DM Live
 dmlive.wiki

"Condemnation", "Judas", "Death's Door", "Mercy In You", "I Feel You", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Rush", "In Your Room", "Personal Jesus", "Enjoy The Silence". This CD was recorded live at Zurich on May 21, 1993. The CDs contain all the songs performed at the show. But it has the worst sound quality of the CD I have ever heard. I would be ashamed to sell a recording of such a bad sound quality. Save your money, don't buy it!

Mr. Blue
Paris, France

Live For Devotees

Format: 2 CD

Origin: Unknown

This CD was recorded during the Devotional Tour in Lausanne on 3rd June 1993. I bought this copy in the second hand record store in Copenhagen. The CDs feature 19 songs. The sound quality is terrible and I would rate it 4 out of 10. Don't buy this one.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol.1

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

Volume 1 features 12 tracks, six of which are remixed by Razormaid. The highlight of the CD is "Halo" (Uncomfortable Mix) and "Behind The Wheel" (Dubmix). The entire CD sounds as if it was recorded from a tape. You can hear a lot of background noises.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol.2

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

Volume 2 also features 12 tracks, but it offers a better selection of tracks and a much better sound quality than the first CD. Among the best tracks are: "A Question Of Lust" (Robert Margouleff Mix), "But Not Tonight" (Robert Margouleff Mix), "Enjoy The Silence" (Hollywood Mix) and the On-U-Sound remixes of "Just Can't Get Enough" and "Photographic". I could definitely recommend this one.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol.3

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

Volume 3 features 10 brilliant songs including: "I Love, You Love, Me Love" (Martin's Solo), "Down In The Boomdocks" (Martin's Solo), "New Mode Meca'90 (Megamix featuring all tracks from Violator). This is, in my opinion, the best CD in the Ultra Rare Trax series.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol.4

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

Volume 4 contains 12 tracks. The highlights: "Just Can't Get Enough" (Rubber-band Mix), "To Have And To Hold" (Icelandic Taster Mix), "Enjoy The Silence" (Hot Trax Mix). A very good CD. I bought all four Ultra Rare Trax CDs in Flensburg, Germany. They cost me approx. 12 each.

Peter Philipsen
Farem, Denmark

Classic Beats - Vol. II

Format: CD

Origin: Germany

This CD contains 10 songs. Four of them are DJ remixes and quite boring. The 911 remix of "Walking In My Shoes" is actually one of the worst remixes I have ever heard with the intro repeating all over the mix. The rest of the CD contains "official" remixes. The soundquality is excellent and the CD is worth buying for the Atmosphere Mix of "Death's Door". Tracklisting is as follows: "Strangelove" (Future Mix), "Enjoy The Silence" (Future Mix), "Halo" (911 Remix), "Walking In My Shoes" (911 Remix), "Death's Door" (Live Milan'93), "Get Right With Me" (Edit), "Nothing" (Zip Hop Mix + Dub Mix), "Death's Door" (Atmosphere Mix) and "Behind The Wheel/Route 66" (Mega Dub). Information for collectors: I don't know if the following subject has been raised up before but I found out and I would like to share it with the rest that there are actually two different versions of "Happiest Girl" (Kiss-a-Mix). The one on the 12" and the CD are not the same. The CD version is bit shorter while the one on the 12" is faded out (Japanese CD contains the 12" version).

Johan Ostberg
Hallsberg, Sweden

Forbidden Fruits - The Hedonist Mixes

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This CD includes 8 tracks: "Never Let Me Down Again" (Groovy Waxmix), "Enjoy The Silence" (Violation Mix), "The Strange People", "I Feel You" (More Fun Mix), "Strangelove" (Fresh Ground Mix), "Policy Zoom Megamix", "Mix Of Faith & Devotion", "Master And Servant" (Power Mix). The CD is very good quality and has very good sound, but the only thing is "I Feel You" (More Fun Mix) is the same version as The Trukish Slaughter Mix from the "S.O.F.A.D." - Strange Versions, and the "Enjoy The Violation Mix" is taken from Adrian Sherwoods On-U-Sound

12" DM magamix part 2. The CD is good stuff even though not original DM releases. It cost £15 from Camden, London.

M. Broadhurst
St. Neets, England

A Break In Stuttgart

(World Violation 1990)

Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This bootleg was recorded live in Stuttgart, Martin Schleyerhalle, on October 15, 1990. This is limited edition of only 101 specimens. It features 15 tracks including: "Kaleid" (Intro), "World In My Eyes", "Halo", "Shake The Disease" (Vocal), "Everything Counts", "Master And Servant", "I Want You Now", "World Full Of Nothing", "Policy Of Truth", "Enjoy The Silence", "Strangelove", "Personal Jesus", "A Question Of Time", "Behind The Wheel" and "Route 66". The cover is a black and white photo of the band from 1990. The sound quality is not always very good. From time to time, you can hear some people from the audience talking. The only funny thing is that a breakdown occurred when DM started to play "Shake The Disease", so Dave had to sing the whole song along with the audience which sometimes begins to whistle! Almost all the songs are very good remixes from Depeche Mode. "I Want You Now" and "World Full Of Nothing" are played by Martin acoustic. I paid £ 19 for it and enjoy it a lot because it's an original concert!

New Life

Format: CD

Origing: Luxembourg

This CD was recorded live at Paradiso Theatre in Amsterdam in 1983. It contains 9 tracks including: "Pipeline", "Get The Balance Right", "More Than A Party", "Love In Itself", "Told You So", "Photographic", "New Life", "Everything Counts".... The sound quality is very good and the price not too high. I paid £ 19 and consider it to be worth buying!

Odile Boinot

Cannet-Rocheville, France

Thanks to everyone for sending us your contributions for our "Bootlegs & DJ Mixes" section. We appreciate it as much as the fans. Having reviews of bootlegs is an invaluable help and can save a lot of mistakes and money when buying. We look forward to receiving more of your Bootleg reviews.

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 organized we'd like to hear about it. Please, send us all the details to the BONG address.

Depeche Mode
Fan-Club
Francais
Boite Postale 92
93310 Le Pre Saint
Gervais
France

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

DMF
Apartado de
Correos 42064
Madrid 28080
Spain

Strange
Beata Mezya
ul. Utariska 10/6
60748 Poznan
Poland

Depeche Mode
Friends
P.O.Box 239
160 41 Praha 6
The Czech Republic

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

Long Play
P.O.Box 18
109 147 Moscow
Russia

Faith FC
P.O.Box 25281
East Rand
Withfield 1462
South Africa

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

workHard
apdo. correos
12.283
46020 Valencia
Spain

Supports
Stephanie Fagel
42 rue du Molinel -
MBE 195
59800 Lille
France

DM Devotees
A.D. 1154
Vilnius 1
2001
Lithuania

Rush
Crabethstraat 15
2801 AL Gouda
The Netherlands

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

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

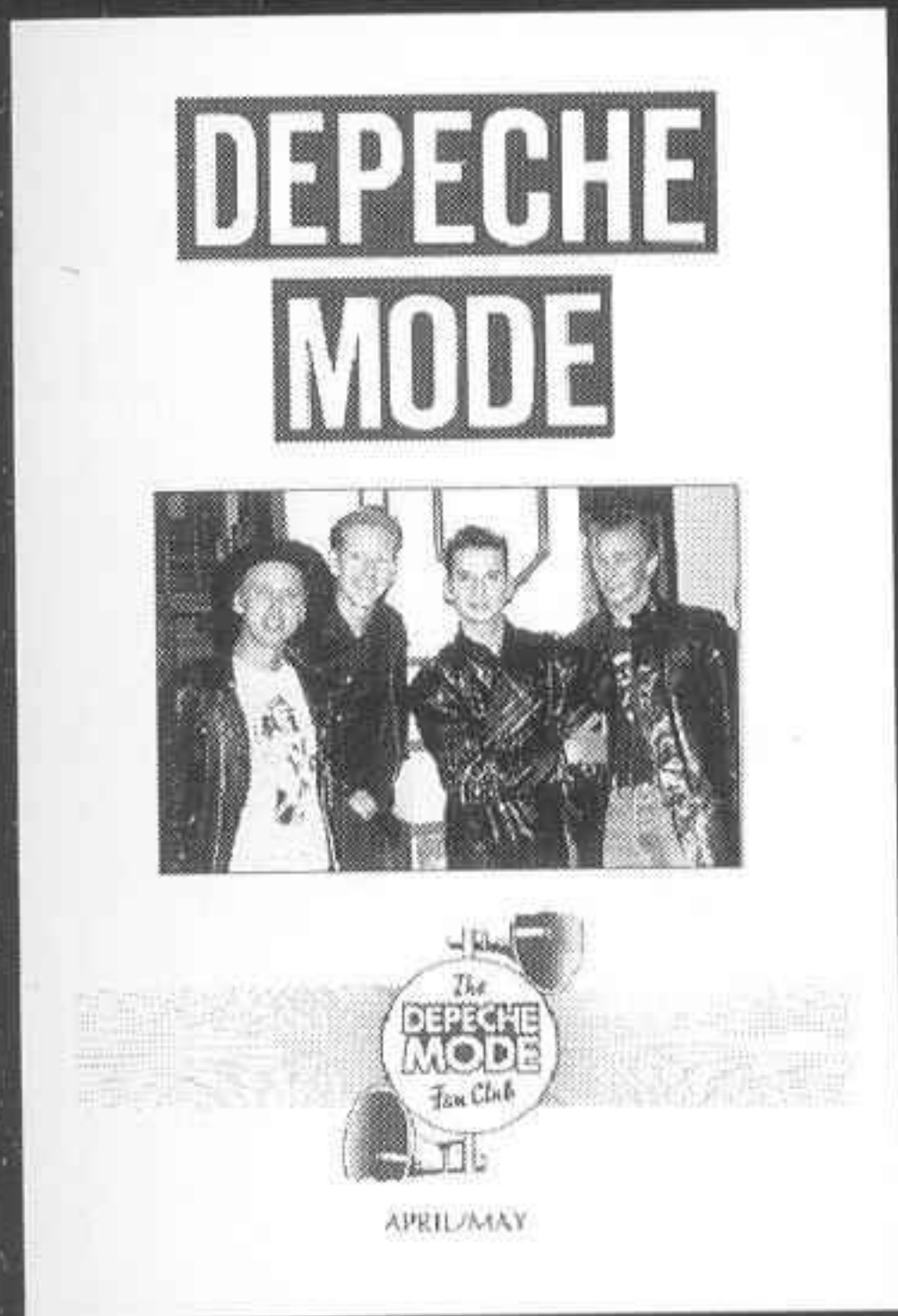
Late November. Bigger place. More people. More watts. We open earlier. It is going to be something more than a concert. We have official CDs, posters and books available for those who want to buy or simply listen to their favourite music by Depeche Mode, Camouflage, Red Flag or And One. Later on, we have Karaoke contest. Who wants to sing "Policy Of Truth" and "A Question Of Time"? We have some prizes for you.... After that, we would like to introduce you to some guitar/drum based bands. Doesn't all this sound promising enough? If you would like to take part in this event, please contact us on: dMentia Fan Club, 14128, cp 41080 Sevilla, Spain or phone on +95-464-2655 and ask for Yamuza.

Peterborough based fan club Evolution is planning a convention on February 29th at 5th Avenue Function Suite from 8pm til 2pm. There will be a live band called N.V. which will be playing DM cover songs as well as their own material. There will also be look-a-like and singing competitions. Tickets are £ 5 in advance or £ 6 on the door. So why not come and join in to the DM New Year Party. For further information, please write to: Tony Lewis, 31 Marne Avenue, Walton, Peterborough, PE4 6AJ, England or phone on 01733-261318.

Depeche Mode Friends presents "More Than A Party". The event is going to be organized on 25th November from 7pm to 5am at the rock club called Subway at Slovansky dum, Na prikope 22, Prague, Czech Republic. There are many competitions and live performances on programme, including music and video by Depeche Mode, The Cure, Front 242, Nitzer Ebb, Laibach, U2 etc.

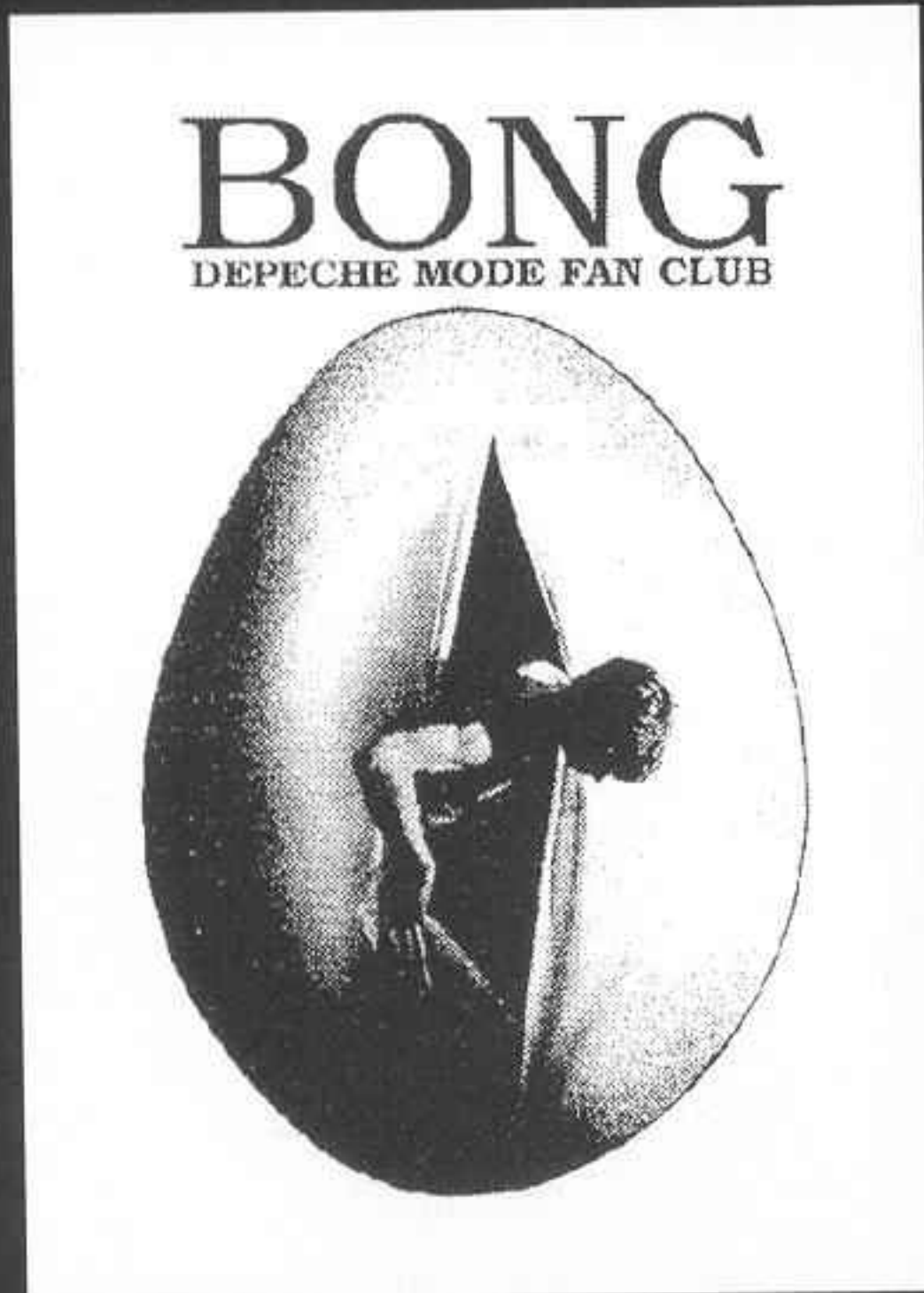


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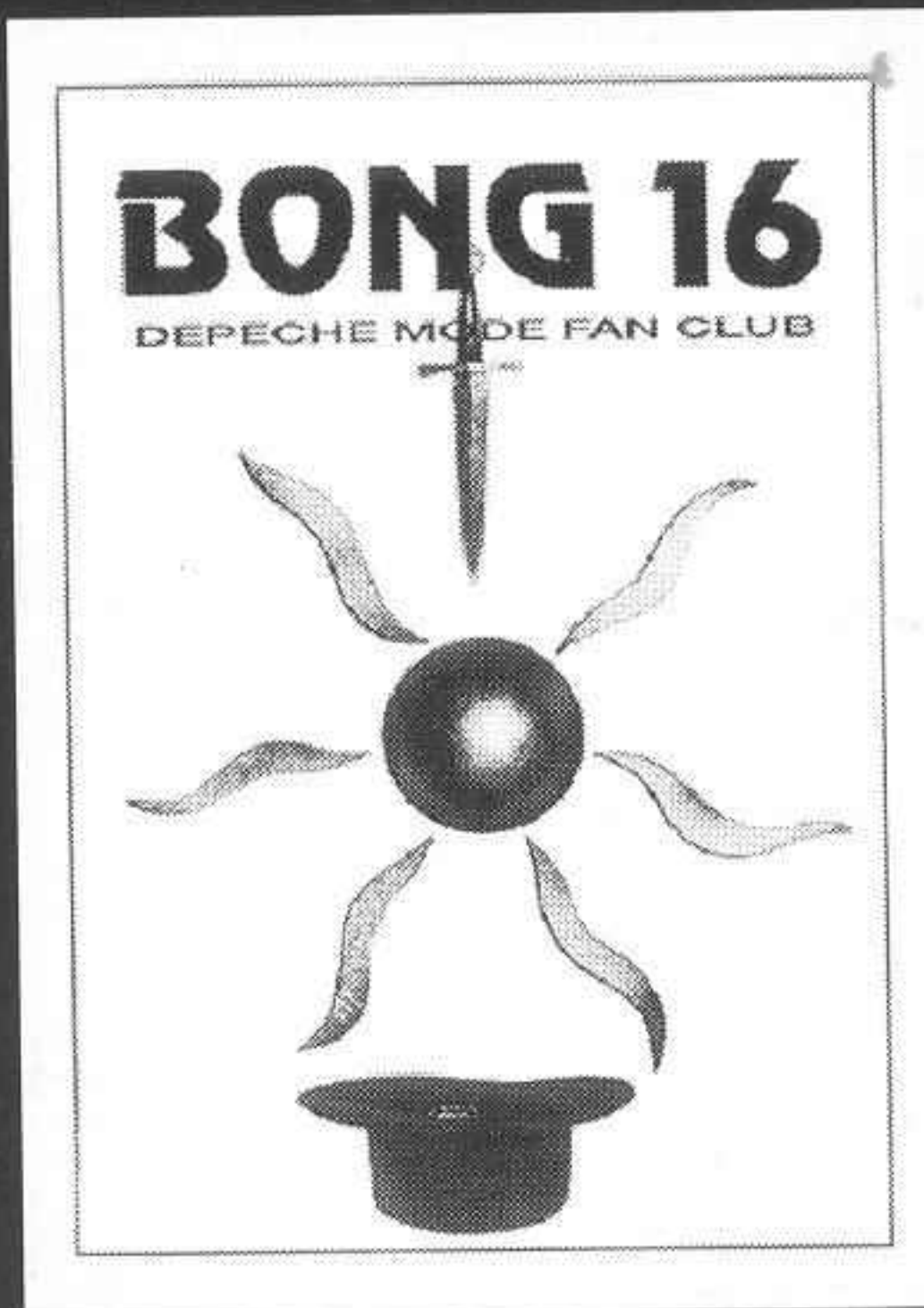
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BONG 14



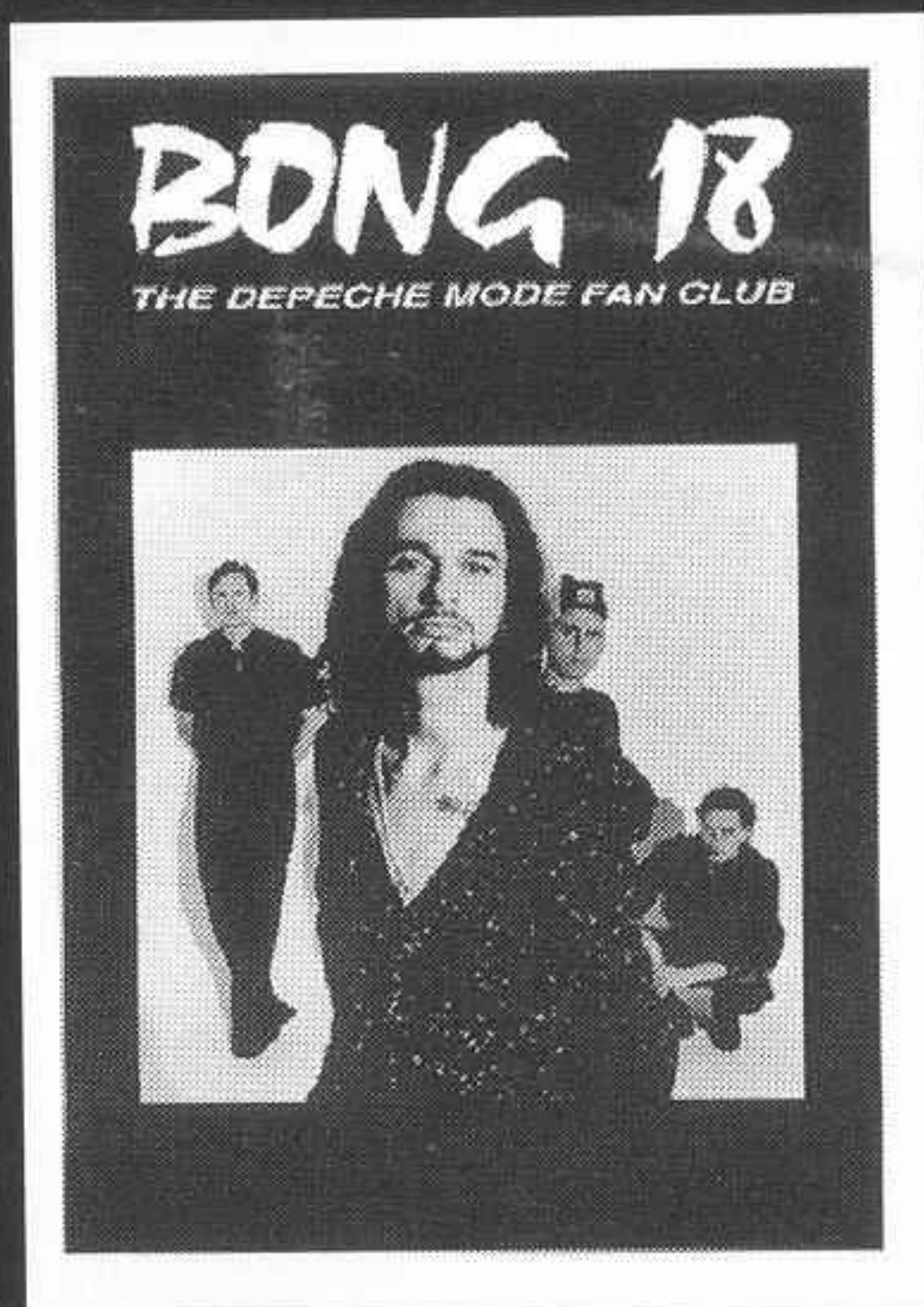
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BONG 16



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BONG 18



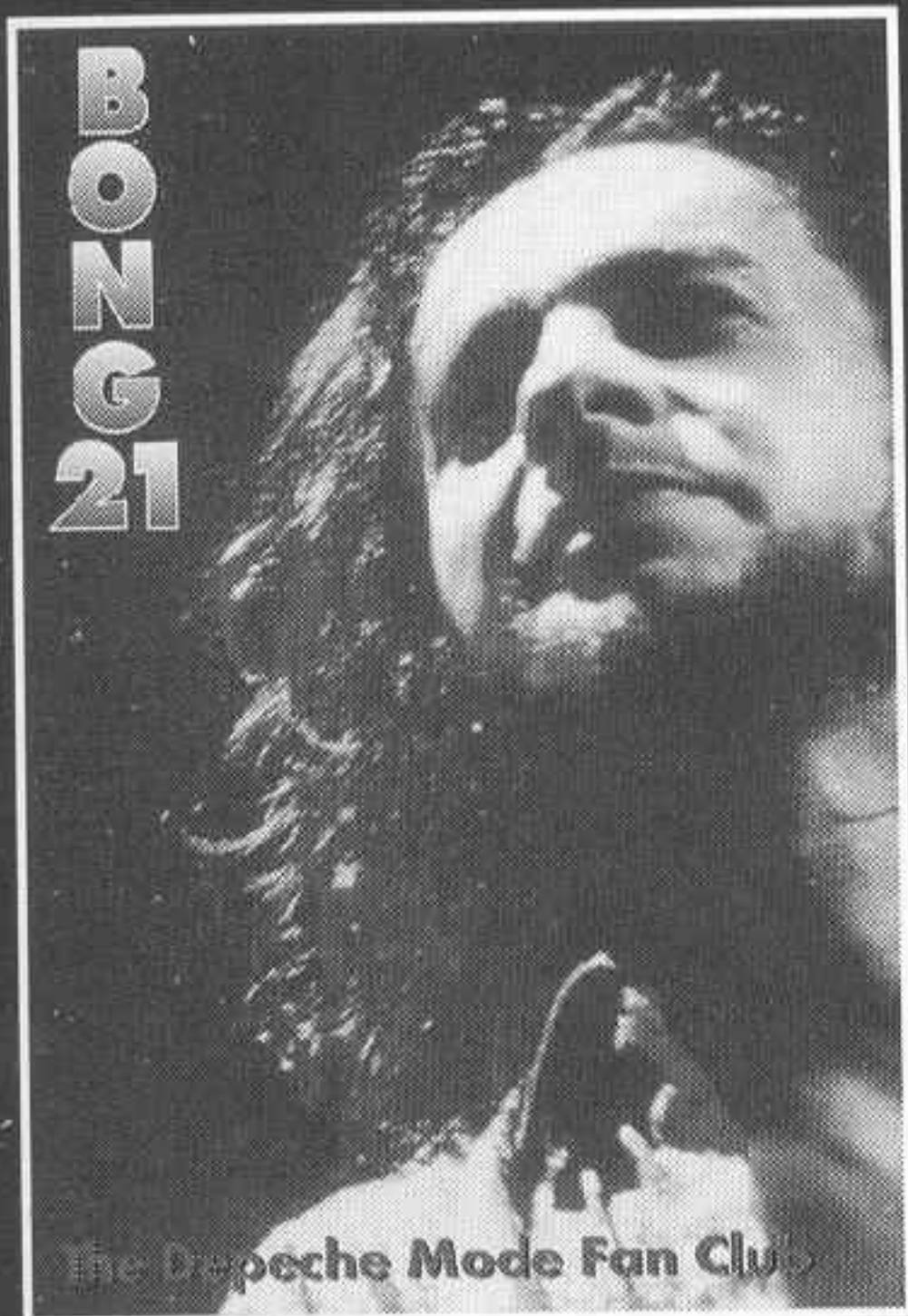
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BONG 20



A4, colour

BONG 21



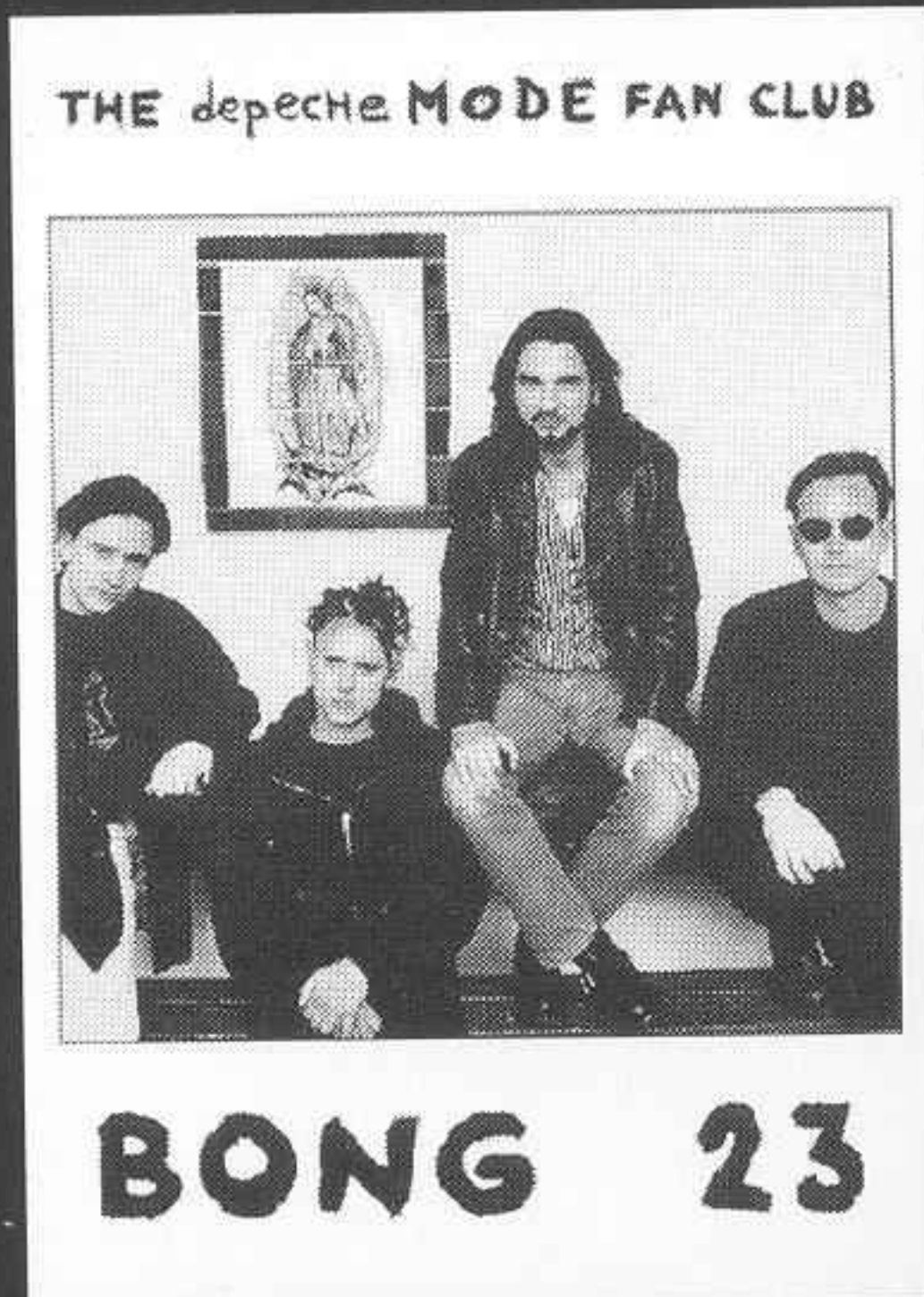
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BONG 22



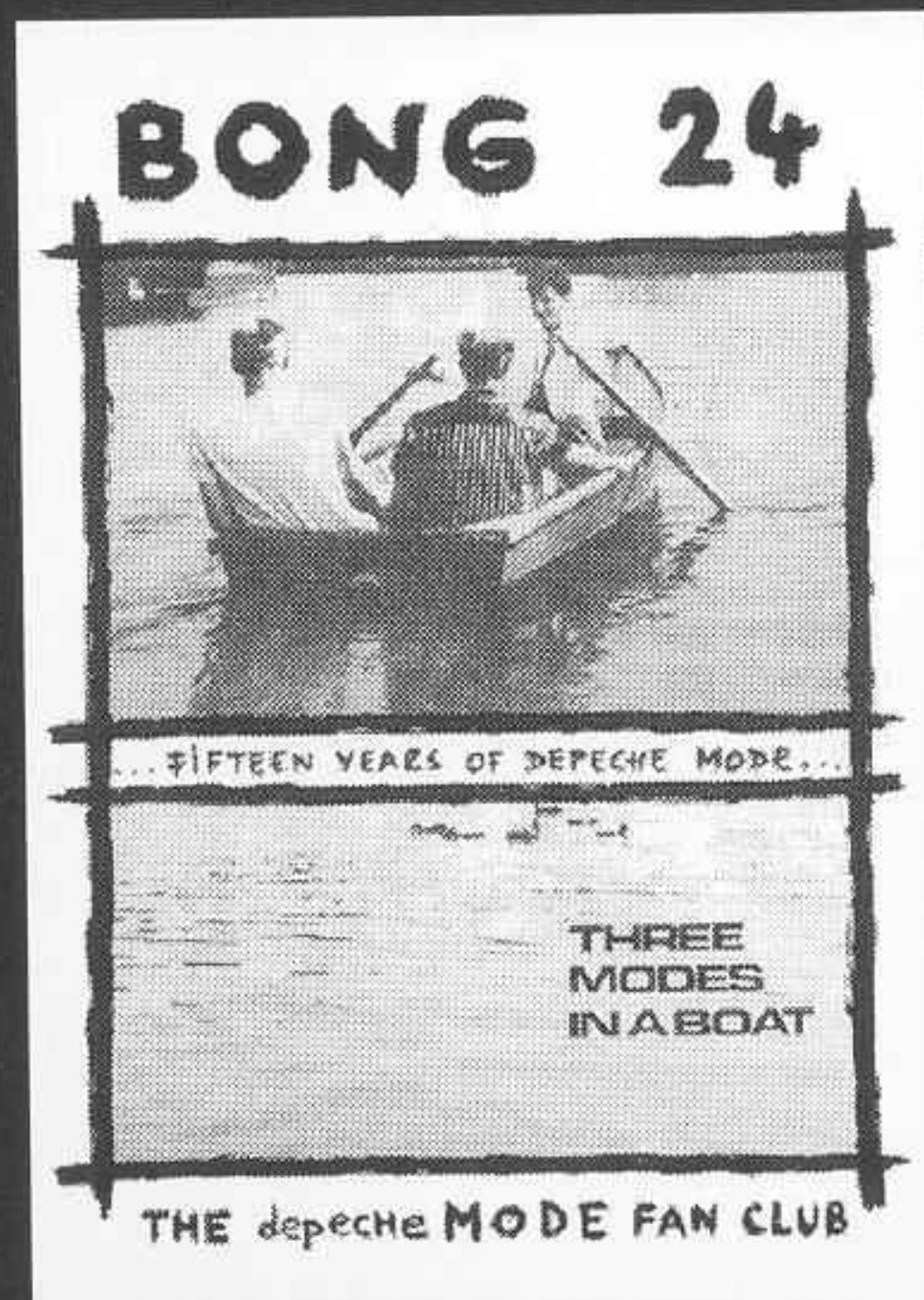
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BONG 23



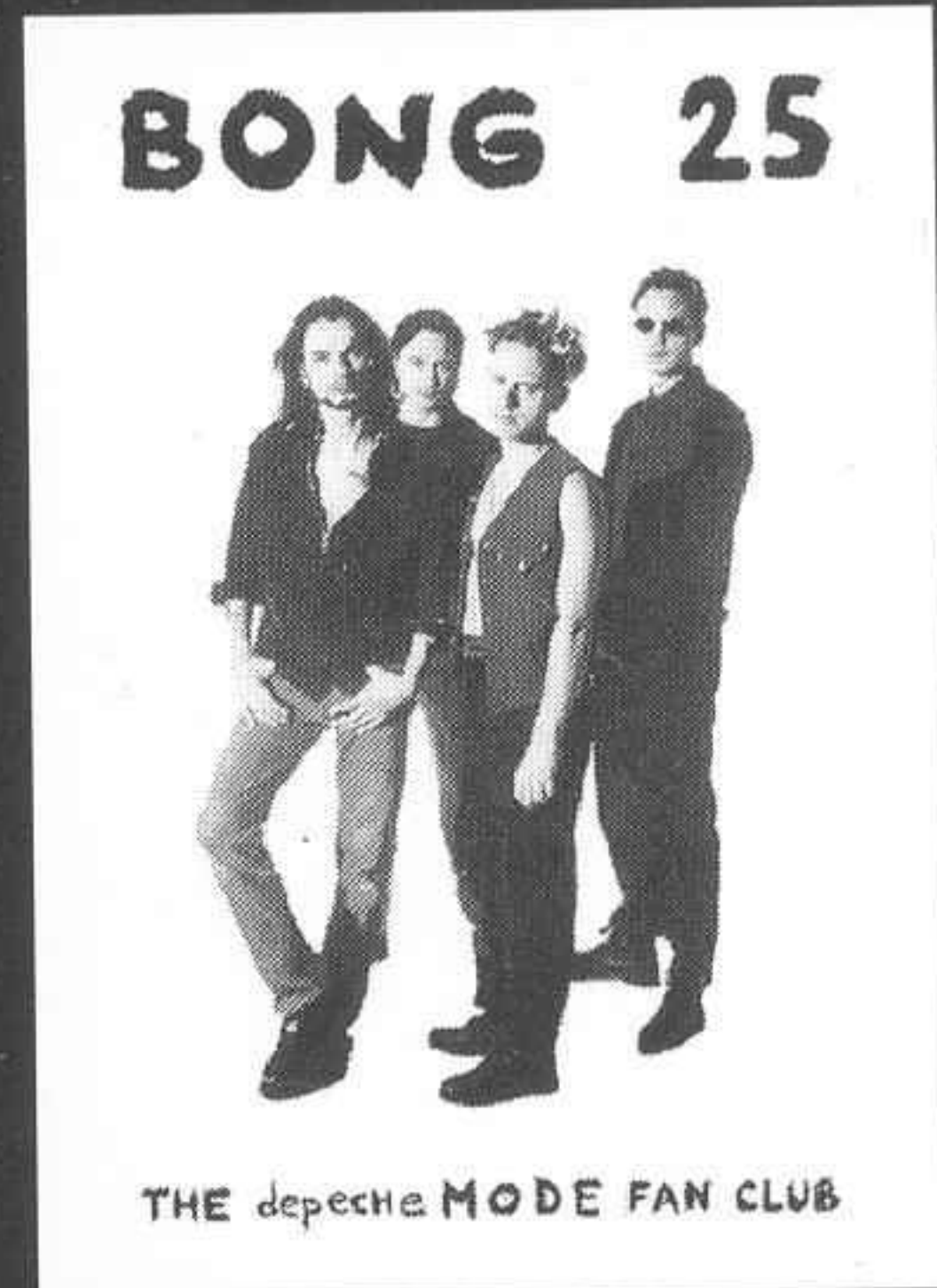
A4, colour

BONG 24



A4, colour

BONG 25



A4, colour

THE depeche MODE FAN CLUB



BONG 1995
(white on black)

BONG 1994
(purple on grey)

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(white on black)

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				Total	

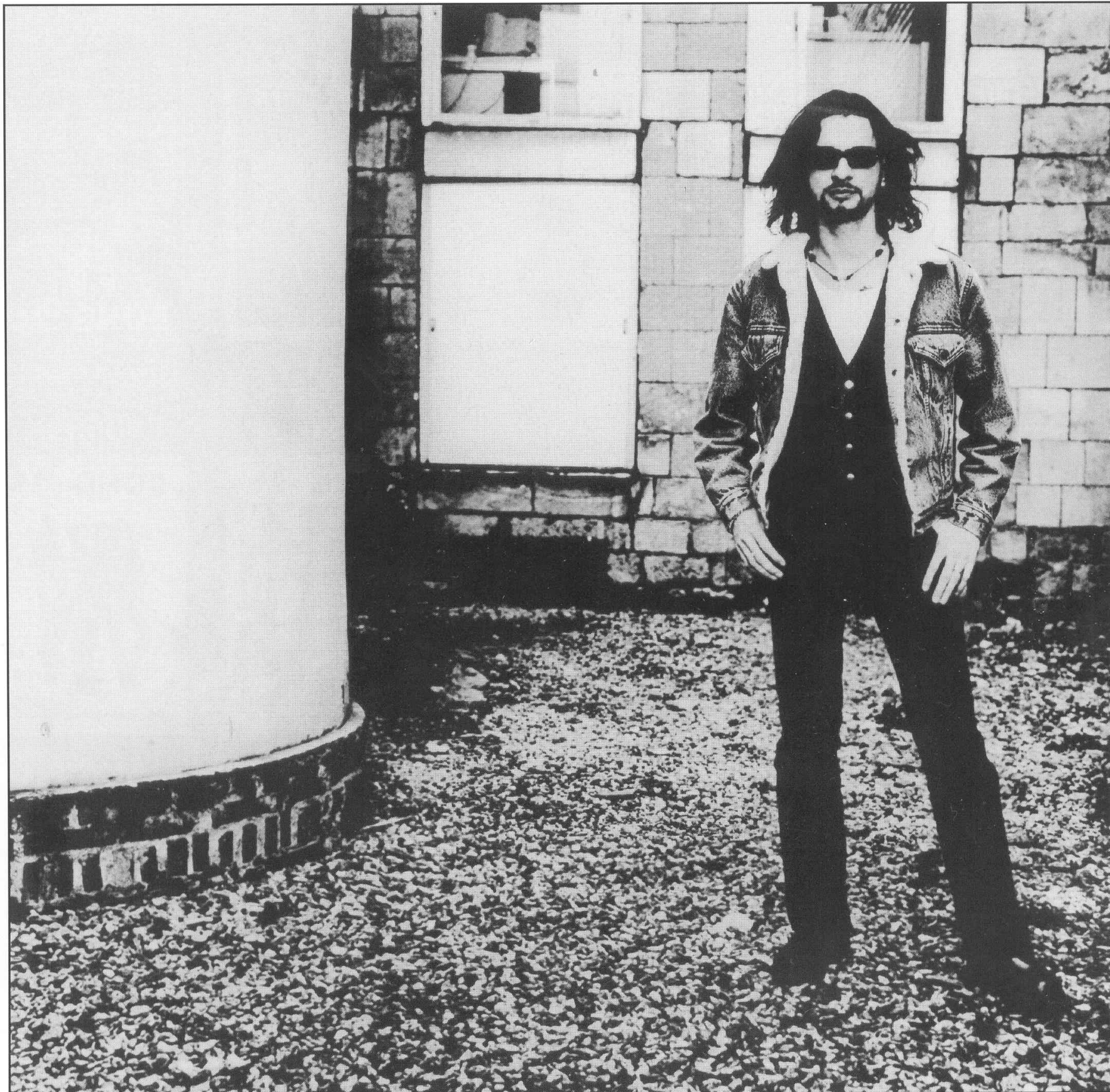
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Prices include post & packing.

Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to
The Depeche Mode Fan Club.



**Any queries, please, send S.A.E. to:
The Depeche Mode Fan Club,
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England.**

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