The Depeche Mode Fan Club

Freely provided by D/W

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Cover photographs by Michaela Olexova.

Magazine edited by Lynn Newcombe.

Back Issues

2,12,13,14,16,17,18,19 and 20 are still available. If you live in the UK or have a BFPO address the cost is £ 1.75 (US \$3.75) each.

All back issue prices include Post and Packing. Make Cheques/Postal Orders payable to The Depeche Mode Fan Club and send to the usual address.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the convention in Hamburg on September 23 has unfortunately been canceled.

The Mute Bank

From August 1, Mute Records will be opening its own mail order department, known as the Mute Bank. You can phone Steve Moore from 10am-6pm on: 081-964 0029 for more information or to order anything from the Mute catalogue.

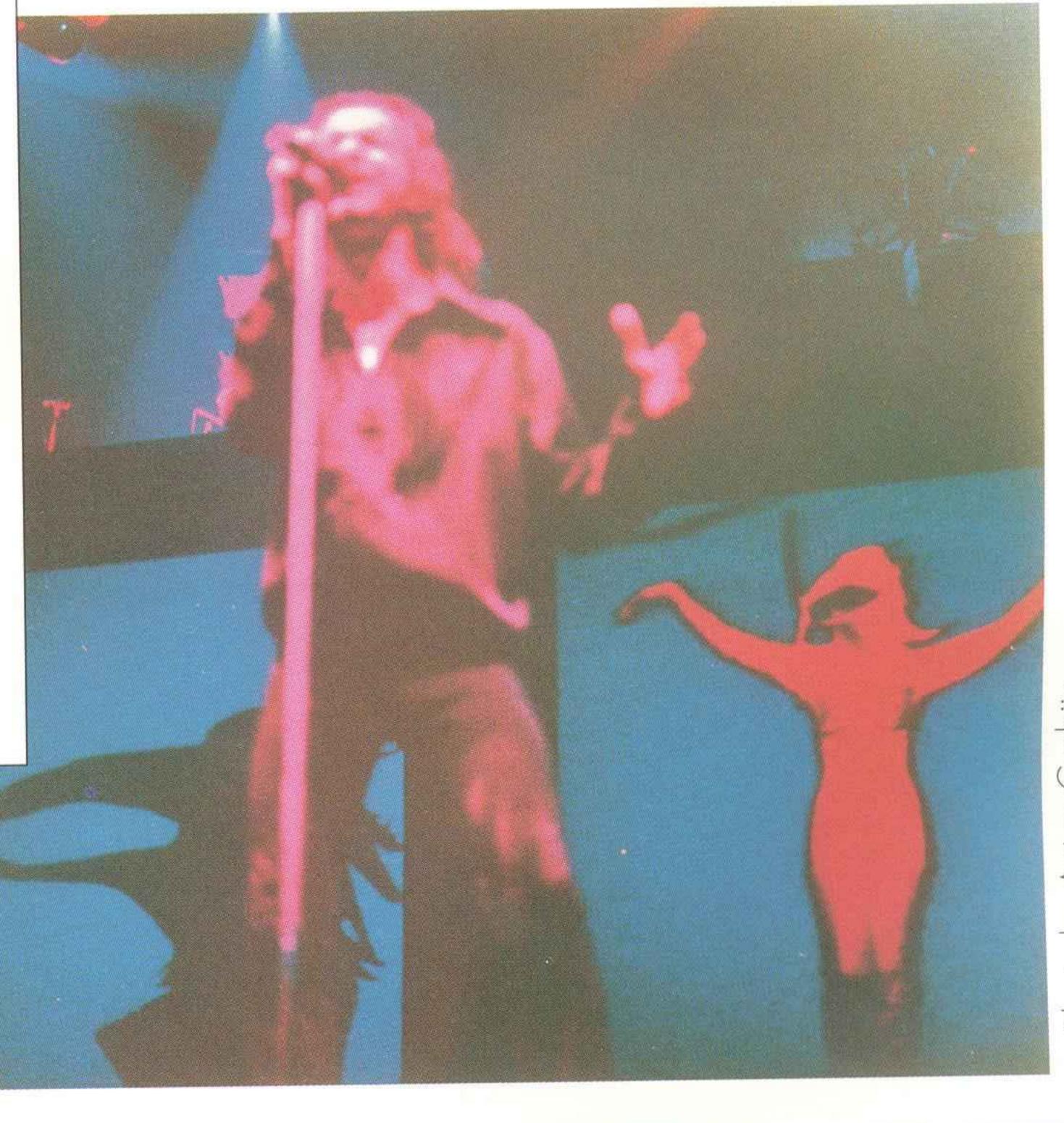


Photo by Anton Corbiin

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-Info

Welcome to issue 21 of BONG magazine.

We hope you all liked BONG 20. Thank you for your letters and comments on all the changes made to the magazine, the response was very encouraging. The most popular appear to be the new sections we created and the use of colour, which will remain an integral part of the magazine from now on.

Another change some of you may have noticed is that BONG is now being produced in The Czech Republic by Michaela Olexova. Michaela is based in Prague and has, for several years, been involved in a fan-club there called DM Friends and their magazine HALO. We are confident that bringing production back to Europe will ensure the future punctuality of 4 magazines per year (not 3 as previously suggested in BONG 19).

Unfortunately, we were not able to include "Ask Anton" in this issue of BONG, as he was in America for a photo session at the time the magazine was in production, and considerable delays would have been incurred had we waited for his return. Please be assured that your questions to Anton and his answers will be printed in BONG 22 instead.

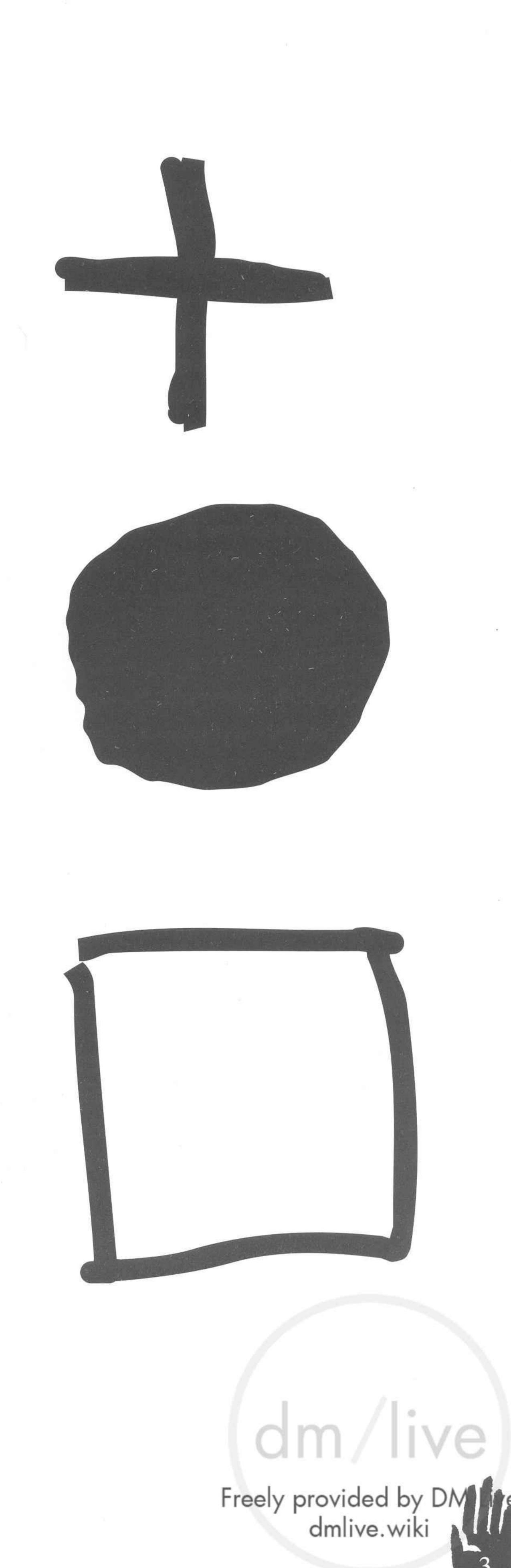
Thanks to everyone who sent in birthday cards and gifts to David, Alan, Fletch and Martin. They will get them as soon as they return from the North American leg of the Tour.

Congratulations to Andy and Grainne Fletcher on the birth of their son Joseph on 22nd June 1994. Best wishes from all of us.

Anyway that's about all from us at the fan club for now. Don't forget, keep your letters and comments coming in, and remember if you do send anything to BONG please mark all pages clearly with your name and address, especially if you are writing to separate sections of the magazine. Thanks:

A special thank you to everyone that came and took part in the fan club convention and made it a great night.

Until October, keep moding!



Devotional Tour US Summer 1994 DIM

DATE

May

Thursday 12
Saturday 14
Sunday 15
Tuesday 17
Wednesday 18
Friday 20
Saturday 21
Tuesday 24
Thursday 24
Thursday 26
Saturday 28
Sunday 29
Tuesday 31

June

Wednesday 1 Friday 3 Sunday 5 Wednesday 8 Thursday 9 Saturday 11 Sunday 12 Tuesday 14 Thursday 16 Monday 20 Tuesday 21 Thursday 23 Friday 24 Sunday 26 Tuesday 28 Wednesday 29

July

Friday 1 Monday 4 Wednesday 6 Thursday 7 Friday 8

CITY

Sacramento, CA
San Francisco, CA
Concord, CA
Las Vegas, NV
Phoenix, AZ
Laguna Hills, CA
San Bernadino, CA
Salt Lake City, UT
Denver, CO
Kansas City, KS
St. Louis, MO
San Antonio, TX

Houston, TX Dallas, TX Biloxi, MS Charlotte, NC Atlanta, GA Chicago, IL Cleveland, OH Columbia, MD Wantaugh, NY Toronto, ONT Montreal, QUE Boston, MA Holmdell, NJ Saratoga Springs, NY Philadelphia, PA The Pittsburg, PA S

Columbus, OH
Detroit, MI
Cincinnati, OH
Milwaukee, WI
Indianapolis, IN

VENUE

Cal Expo Amphitheatre
Shoreline Amphitheatre
Concord Pavillion
Aladdin Theatre

Irvine Meadows Amphitheatre
Blockbuster Pavillion
Park West Amphitheatre
Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre
Sandstone Amphitheatre
Riverport Amphitheatre
Civic Center Arena

Woodlands Pavillion Starplex Amphitheatre Mississippi Coast The Paladium of Carowinds Lakewood Amphitheatre World Music Theatre Blossom Music Centre Merriveather Post Jones Beach Amphitheatre Kingswood Montreal Forum Great Wood P.A.C. Garden State Arts Centre Saratoga P.A.C. Spectrum tar Lake Amphitheatre

Polaris Amphitheatre
Pine Knob Music Theatre
Riverbend Music Center
Marcus Amphitheatre
Deer Creek Music Center



Everything Counts

A new song set was created for the final leg of the Devotional Tour and was presented to audiences in South Africa, the Far East, Australia, South America, US and Canada. The set was more simple with an emphasis on music, rather than on the visuals. You can find further details in the

special review from Canada in this issue. The songs performed include: "Rush", "Halo", "Behind The Wheel", "Everything Counts", "World In My Eyes", "Walking In My Shoes", "Stripped", "Condemnation", "I Want You Now", "In Your Room", "Never Let Me Down Again", "I Feel You" and "Personal Jesus". The first encore consisted of "Somebody" and "Enjoy The Silence". "A Question of Time" was chosen for the second encore and the final song.

Thousands of fans had a chance to hear and see new version of "Condemnation" during this part of the tour when it was sung by Martin instead of Dave with the accompaniment of Alan's piano.

"Policy Of Truth" was also featured at some concerts as the second encore and "Waiting For The Night" and "Clean" were played once during the second show in Brazil.

Olympia Stadium in Sao Paulo (Brazil) was the first venue where Daryl Bamonte was to perform with Depeche Mode as a stand in for Andy Fletcher. When he was about to leave the hotel for the show carrying a keyboard, one of the hotel guests, apparently very nice old lady, said: "I hope you're



Photo by Anton Corbijn

much better than the band we had down here last night." At first, no-one knew what she was talking about but when they found out that she had mistaken Daryl for a member of the resident hotel band. They found it very amusing.

The final show of the tour turned out to be very unique. Not only did everyone want to say 'Good bye', which they did, but a series of unexpected events towards the

end of the show made it extra special for everyone, starting with a big surprise for the band, especially Alan, when during "Somebody", Alan's piano opened up, and Jez, one of the band's backline engineers, appeared from inside the piano, climbed out, and calmly walked off the stage. Then

during "Personal Jesus", the guitarist of Primal Scream joined Martin in the quitar solo and some of the DM crew sang along with Samantha and Hildia...Reach out and touch faith! By this time the atmosphere was so moving that Dave decided to jump into the audience during the encore, and literally dived into the sea of fans for the last time on this tour. The next day however, Dave experienced severe chest pains and was later found to have a bruised and haemorrhaging fractured

rib. The good news is that he is feeling well and is on the mend.

While touring, the members of Depeche Mode celebrated their birthdays. Dave spent a night in Los Angeles together with some mates who joined him for a curry and some beers. Alan celebrated in Texas by getting pissed.

The shows in Toronto, Chile and Madrid were considered as the

After printing the charts information of "S.O.F.A.D." in the last issue of BONG, we have decided to bring you some more details on the singles from this album and their positions in the international charts. Here are the highest positions the singles reached since their release:

	I FEEL YOU	W.I.M.S.	CONDEMNATION	IN YOUR ROOM
Australia	37	74	78	40
Austria	7	29	-	
Belgium	2	10	11	4
Canada	4	13		_
Czechoslovakia	9	7	1	7
Denmark	2	5	9	5
Finland	7	3	8	2
France	5	23	-	28
Germany	4	14	23	24
Greece	7	7	6	3
Ireland	6	15	19	15
Israel	10	7	10	2
Italy	7	5	11	72——
Norway	3	S S		40
Portugal	7	3	7	s -
Spain	1	6	9	4
Sweden	2	8	3	2
Switzerland	4	26	38	14
Turkey	2	6	17	18
U.K.	8	14	9	8
U.S.A.	37	69		
Pan European	2	9	18	9

band's favourites of the Devotional Tour. They found it hard to name just one as there were so many good shows and the whole Devotional Tour was all together brilliant!

You may have noticed that MTV hasn't been showing the video for "In Your Room". Apparently, certain bondage scenes were not expected to pass broadcast standards and practices so the video was banned from MTV's broadcast. Unfortunately, the video couldn't be edited as the band were rehearsing for the South African and Far East leg of the tour at the time.

As for the 7" of "Walking In My Shoes" mentioned in BONG 20,

we have received some more letters on this subject, and it would appear that such a format is on sale in various countries. Please note, those are unofficial releases and the quality might be very poor.

Some of you may have found in the shops a double CD called "Australia Live 1994" which reached No. 2 in the Tower Records imports chart. This CD was released by Mushroom Records but don't expect live recording of any Australian concert. This set only contains the original studio version of "S.O.F.A.D." and "S.O.F.A.D." Live. The 2CD is priced at £ 22.99 if you are interested in buying it for your collection.

Martin has covered a Leonard Cohen song for an upcoming Cohen tribute album. Other artists scheduled to appear on the tribute include U2's Bono.

Believe it or not but "One Caress" was chosen by 'Thee Vampire Guild' to be featured on their compilation of vampire songs, the first compilation of its type ever. Mute Records have agreed for them to use the original version of the track. The title of the album is "What Sweet Music They Make - Thee Vampire Guild Compilation Vol.1" and was released in June 1994.

When German synthesizer-pop band Diesel Christ managed to get their hands on a pre-released



tape of Depeche Mode's "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" album, their world began to crumble. Their favourite band just couldn't be allowed to sound like that! So Diesel came up with a contrasting alternative: "A Tribute to Depeche" was the answer to their heroes' new style. Under the name of Diesel Mode the German copycats recorded every note of "S.O.F.A.D." in the style that they had wanted to hear it in the first place - as pure synthesizer music. This product is freely available for comparison and it's legally correct. The only condition was that it had to be released after the original had been released. Apart from that they paid the usual GEMA fee.

"I Feel You" (babylon mix) was used as a background music for the nomination of an actor William Baldwin (Sliver) in the category 'Most desirable male' during this year's MTV Movie Awards. Also, "Rush" (spiritual guidance mix) was the accompanying nomination of Denzel Washington for the movie 'The Pelican Brief' in the same category.

In April, the commercial TV channel in Latvia used an extract from "World In My Eyes,, in a programme about the life of prisoners.

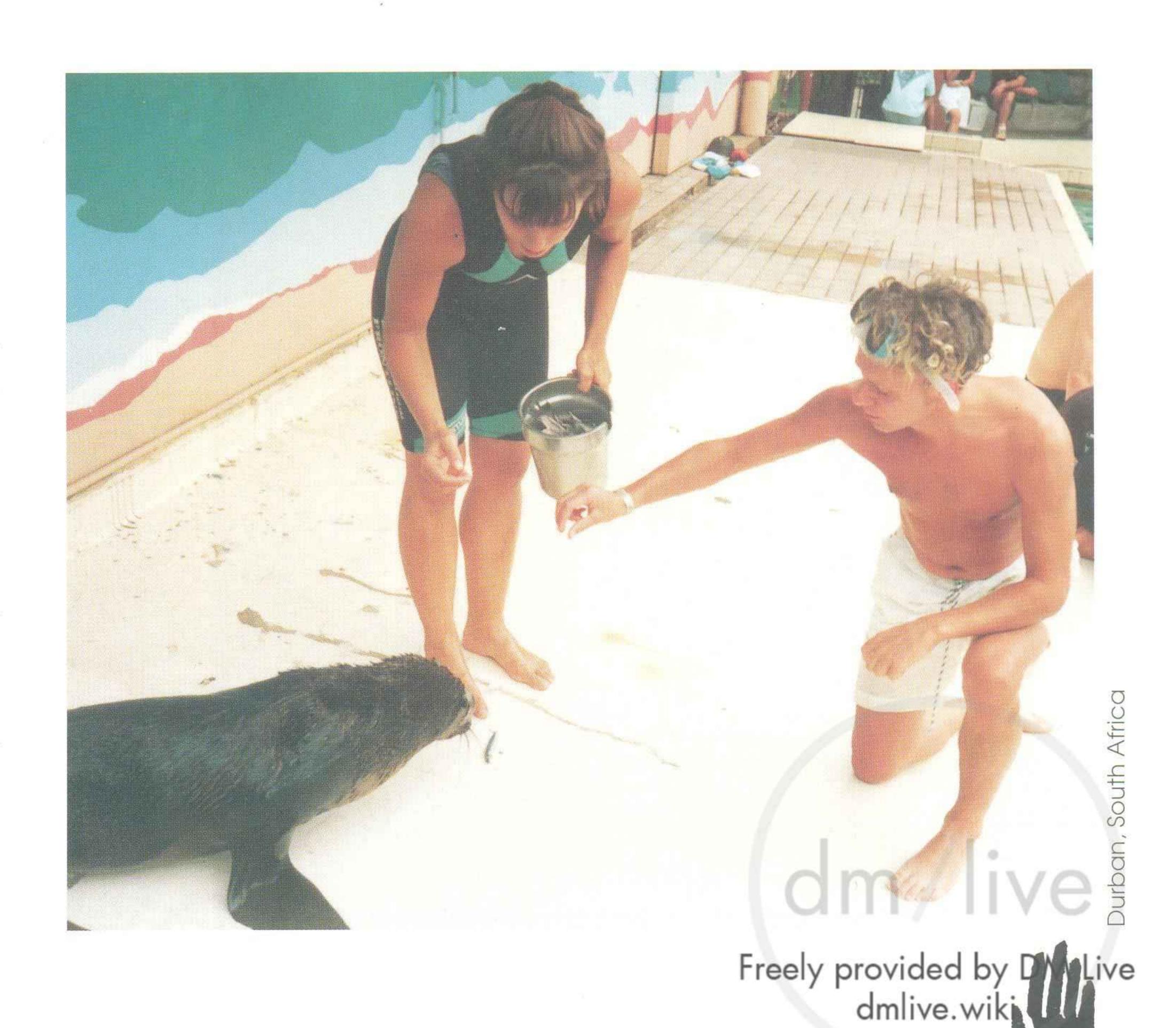
The May edition of 'Holiday' programme on ABC TV in Australia used "In Your Room" for the first 30 seconds of a segment about Kalbarri in Western Australia.

In April, 'Nomad 'on SBS TV featured a special on the Balanescu Quartet. During this special, the quartet performed in front of a screen which had four symbols hanging behind them. Those symbols were very similar to the 'metal men' seen during the Devotional Tour.

Dave Gahan has been in the Australian soap 'Neighbours'! Well, perhaps not in person - but his picture was on the cover of VOX magazine (January'93 edition) that Brad was reading in the May 19 episode.

Ever since the release of "Violator" in 1990, "Clean" has been played every morning to open the news at 6:30 on the Swiss radio station DRS 3. On Saturdays, the same radio station uses "Blasphemous Rumours" for the cultural service and information on current concert dates.

Many thanks to Alexander Dubanevich, Marisol Diaz, Gavin
Dwyer, Robert Broj, Debra
Mercer, Rebecca Howald and to
anyone else who sent in the
contributions. Please, keep the
information coming in and
dont forget that Everything
Counts!



In June I was fortunate enough to see Depeche Mode in Canada. Here's my review of the shows in Toronto and Montreal....

After touring last year in the States and Canada, Depeche Mode came here again for the final leg of their leg of their Devotional Tour. Shame we can't say that 'again' about Europe where a few more concerts before this tour is over would be highly appreciated by the Depeche fans.

Although the tour was rolling down in the States for most of the time, two concerts were planned in Canada. The first show was organized for Monday June 20 in Toronto and the second one on the following day in Montreal.

The humidity that was surrounding the Toronto area eased a little on Sunday to everyone's relief 'cause spending some four hours in sweat at the time of the

Monday's concert was held in Kingswood stadium at Canada's Wonderland quite a long way from the city centre. The name of the area was more than appropriate... When the fans started arriving in the afternoon and had to pay an extra \$C28.00 just to get in to the 'Wonderland' where the stadium was situated they really couldn't stop wondering., why they were being charged to enter the amusement park as their intention wasn't to go on the rides but to get to the arena to see Depeche Mode? Maybe the low point of the day for some but the highlight was yet to come and by the time the lights went on everyone had forgotten about the nuisance at the entrance for sure.

show would be unbearable for all of us.

The venue with the capacity of 14 000 was sold out weeks before the show. The radio station CFNY - 102.1 in Toronto had been organizing some competitions for the fans throughout June apart from the promotion of the gig. Most of the fans



by Michaela Olexova

won tickets and access to the backstage barbecue that was held before the show. They also won the 1994 DM Tour CD released by Sire especially for the States as well as the Primal Scream CD. Unfortunately, the band arrived too late to meet the winners but I'm sure those 35 plus people had a great time anyway.

The Chicago-based quintet Stabbing Westward opened the night at 7.30 pm and introduced the audience to some tracks from their debut album 'Ungod'. The pulsing rhythms of the industrial music were exchanged for rocking and rolling Primal Scream shortly after 8 o'clock. You



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Photo by Michaela Olexova

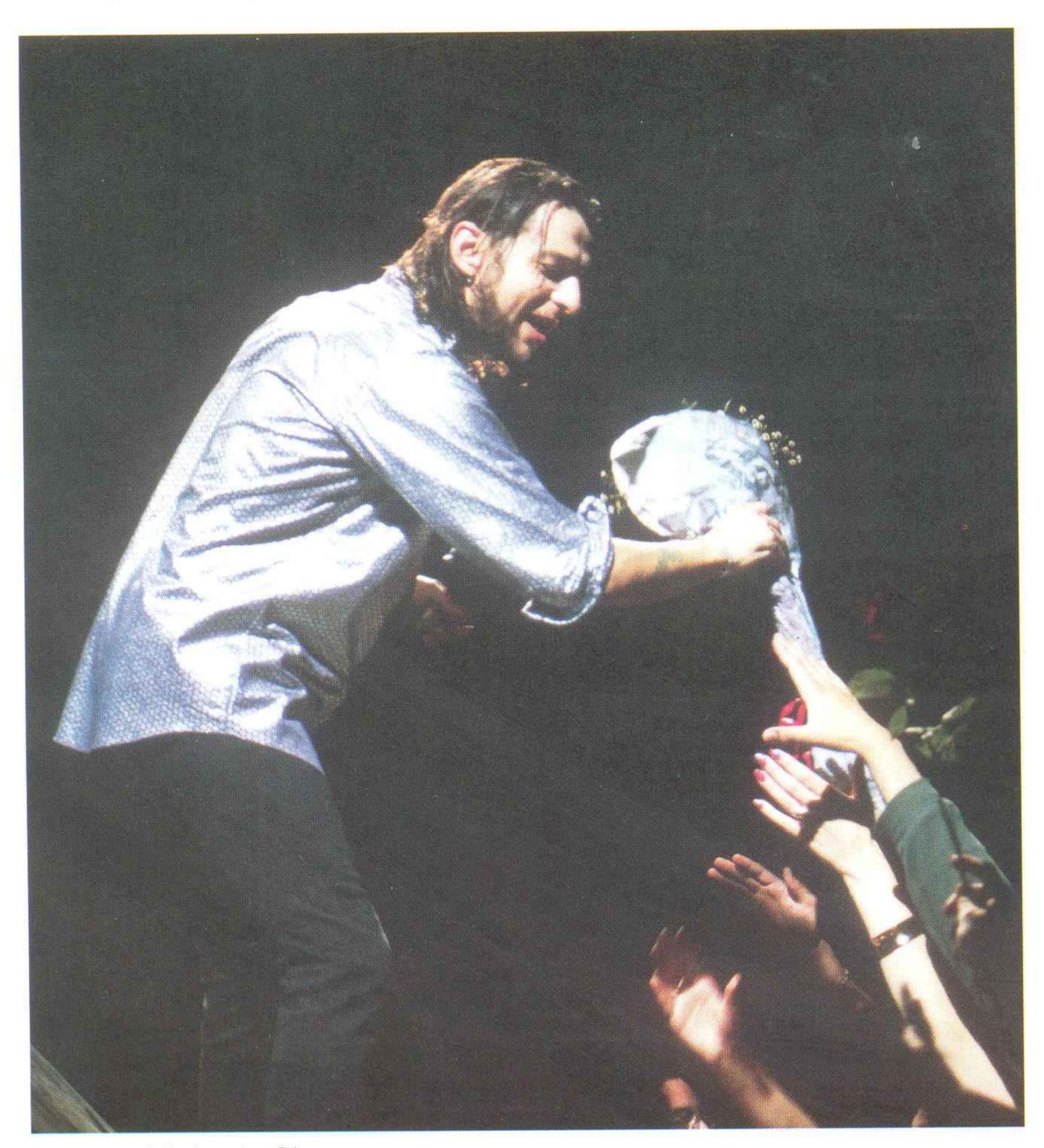


Photo by Michaela Olexova

me up with such a strong pieces as "Somebody", "I Want You Now" with some house music beats and "A Question Of Time" in a very new 'rocky' version. The biggest surprise of the show was when after the first tones of "Condemnation", it was Martin who came on stage with his microphone and started to sing. I didn't know what to think! The only thought that came to my mind was that Dave was saving his voice for the second part of the show.

about the stage set which the fans in Europe didn't get a chance to see as it was completely changed and a new one was made especially for this leg of the tour to present something different to the audience that had already seen Depeche Mode last year. It was made more simple and raw. Those nine screens that formed the second-level stage last year disappeared. Alan's drumkit and keyboard were

for Two Nights to Fall

could hear the songs from their latest album performed almost in the same order but presented in a hugely entertaining way on stage which turned the audience on, so everyone was dancing around and enjoying themselves long before the Modes went on.

Trying to describe the whole performance of Depeche Mode that night would be very difficult and subjective as I didn't have a chance to discuss the show with many other fans and everyone sees and feels things differently, no doubt. What's got to be said is that the guys were brilliant, witty, powerful, magical, funny (especially Mr. Gahan himself) and also tender, but aren't they always? I must admit that I missed the opening "Higher Love" but a new version of "Rush" took everyone by storm and set the concert in a dynamic pace. Depeche Mode dug deep into their back catalogue to co-

situated in between Martin and Daryl's keyboards during the whole concert, just the piano was brought in for a couple of songs. Also the two large screens and the 'metal-men' weren't the part of this set any more. You could see one huge screen in the background where all the films and images were shown in a new artistically improved style.

The show came to an end at 11pm. The atmosphere was so fantastic no-one could reconcile with a fact that the whole thing was over. Not even the band members who found the crowd sensational and enjoyed the show as much as they did. The next show in Montreal with more than 16 000 tickets sold, proved to be the same.... Depeche Mode are a very big and hot band in the USA and Canada! Always were and always will be!

REACH OUT



WORLD VIOLATION TOUR

May' 90 USA

June' 90 USA, Canada

July' 90 USA, Canada

August' 90 USA, Australia, Japan

September' 90
Belgium,
Germany

October' 90

Denmark,
Sweden,
Germany,
Switzerland,
France,
Holland

November' 90
Germany,
Spain,
France,
Italy

Composition by Bryan Do, USA

1. Your Own Personal Jesus

"Let me take you on a trip, around the world and back, and you won't have to move, you just sit still..." That's exactly what Depeche Mode did as they took the world on a very pleasant trip and showed them the 'world in their eyes'. It was August of 1989 when an English paper ran an ad that simply stated, "Your own Personal Jesus" and gave a telephone number. Callers were treated to the sound of the new single from Depeche Mode, a band that for the last decade has continually grown in stature with legions of fans which now number in the millions throughout the world. "Personal Jesus" was an ingenious piece of work which went on to become one of the best selling 12-inch discs in American history, selling over a million copies and easily becoming the best-selling single in the Warner Brothers catalogue. It certainly looks as if Depeche Mode has found a little personal 'Jesus' of their own. The trip continues as the world eagerly awaited the next album.

During the time from their previous LP "Music For The Masses", Depeche Mode had little time to rest. The Music For The Masses tour had ended in June of 1988 and it was but a few months after that when the band found themselves back in the recording studios. Martin Gore had just released his solo e.p. "Counterfeit", and began concentrating on new lyrics for the next Depeche Mode album. For their new LP, the band enlisted the help of a new producer, Mark "Flood" Ellis and legendary mixer, Francois Kervorkien. Work began in Milan, Italy at the Logic Studios, then shifted to Axis in New York, London's Church and Master Rock Studios, and ended at Puk Studios in Denmark. What resulted was the emergence of a new LP marvelously titled "Violator", which was immediately engulfed by the music industry and to this date has sold well over 6 and 1/2 million copies throughout the world.



TOUCH FAITH

2. World In Their Eyes

On March 20, 1990, Depeche Mode appeared for a promotional autograph signing at the music store The Wherehouse in West Los Angeles and what transpired was beyond anyone's imagination. Over 10,000 fans overran the music store to catch a glimpse of the modern rock giants and were simply too much for the security staff to handle. Fearing a riot, the band was proptly dispatched back to their hotel by order of the L.A. Police Dept. which sent in over 130 officers to disperse the crowd. "It was pretty scary," Dave Gahan recalls. "It was an out of control situation, but it worked out great for our (new) record." Indeed it did.

On every TV station was the headline caption - English rock band Depeche Mode stopped the traffic at Beverly and La Cienega today. Although the band was forced to depart early, the fans were treated to a special cassette release of "Something To Do" (metal mix), which was given free to its L.A. area supporters via a KROQ radio giveaway.

The signing was intended to launch the new LP "Violator", and launch it did. The album arrived exactly a decade after the band signed with Mute Records and showed music goers everywhere the world in their eyes. The LP quickly rocketed to platinum in several European countries including their homeland of England just months after its release in February. In France, Canada, and the U.S., "Violator" went double-platinum in sales. What was perceived to be a landmark year for the band turned out to be a complete world domination of the music industry.

3. Enjoying The Silence

"Violator" was a monster hit and climbed to No. 2 in Britain and No. 7 in the United States. The world stood in shock as the momentum of the new LP boosted "Personal Jesus" back into the music charts six

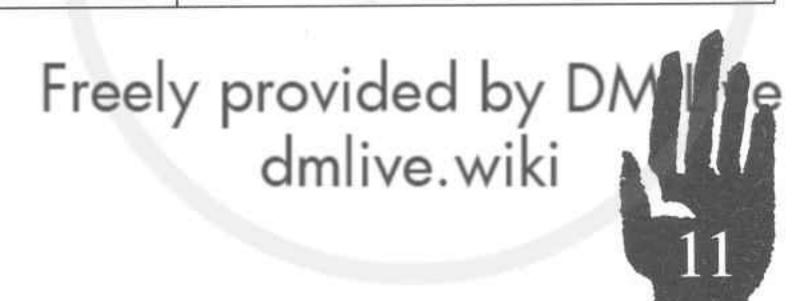


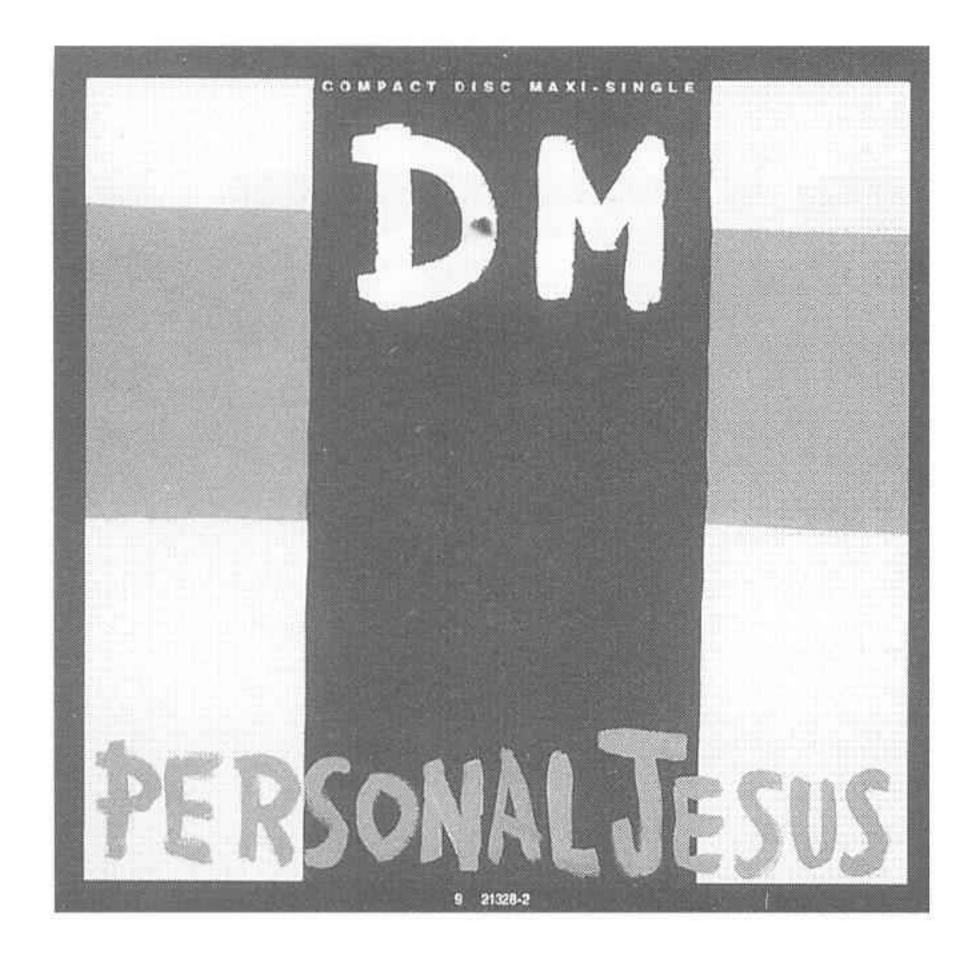
months after its initial release, peaking at No. 1 on several U.S. alternative radio stations. MTV had long since adopted the song's stunning video directed by photography genius, Anton Corbijn (of U2 and R.E.M. feme), and excerpted another mini-movie titled "Strange Too-Another Violation".

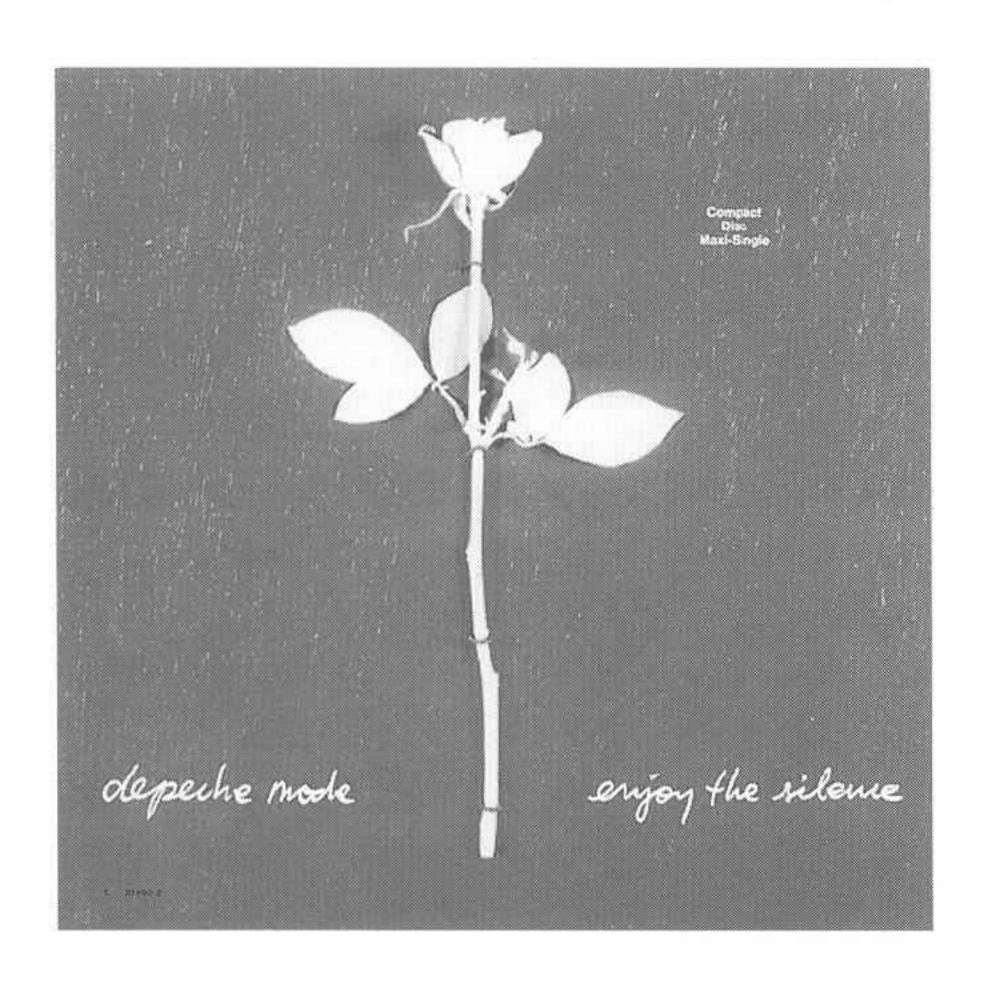
The second single from the new LP "Enjoy The Silence", was another million selling single that was released on February

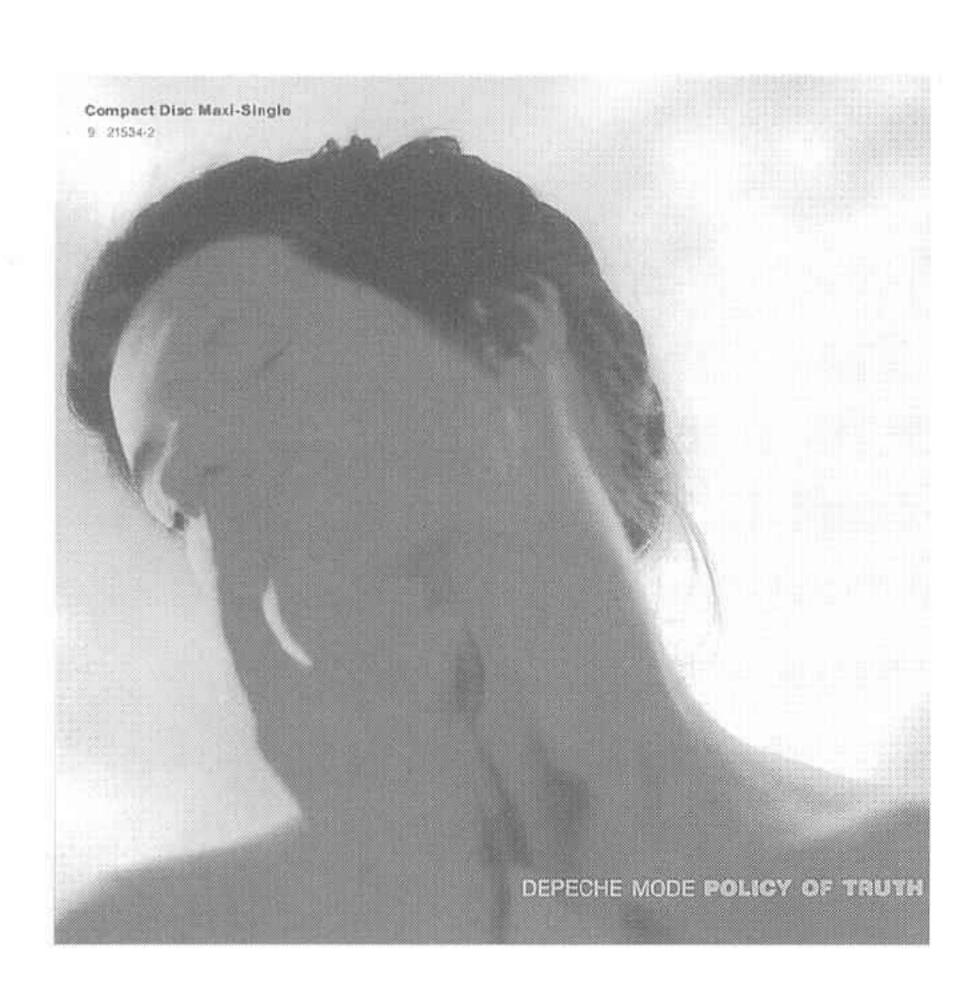
VIOLATOR			
Gold	Platinum		
Italy	UK		
Sweden	USA (double)		
	Austria		
	Belgium		
	Canada (double)		
	France (double)		
	Germany		
	Ireland		
	Spain -		
	Switzerland		

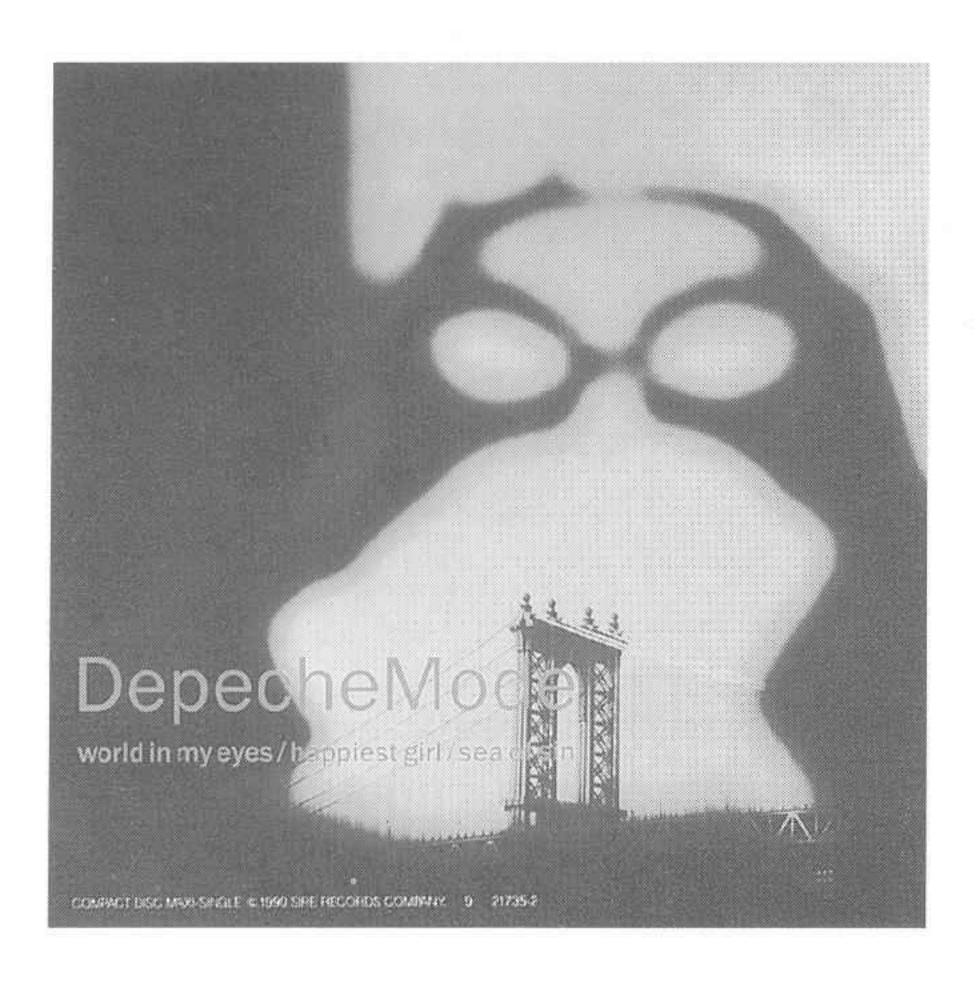
Photo by Anton Corbijn

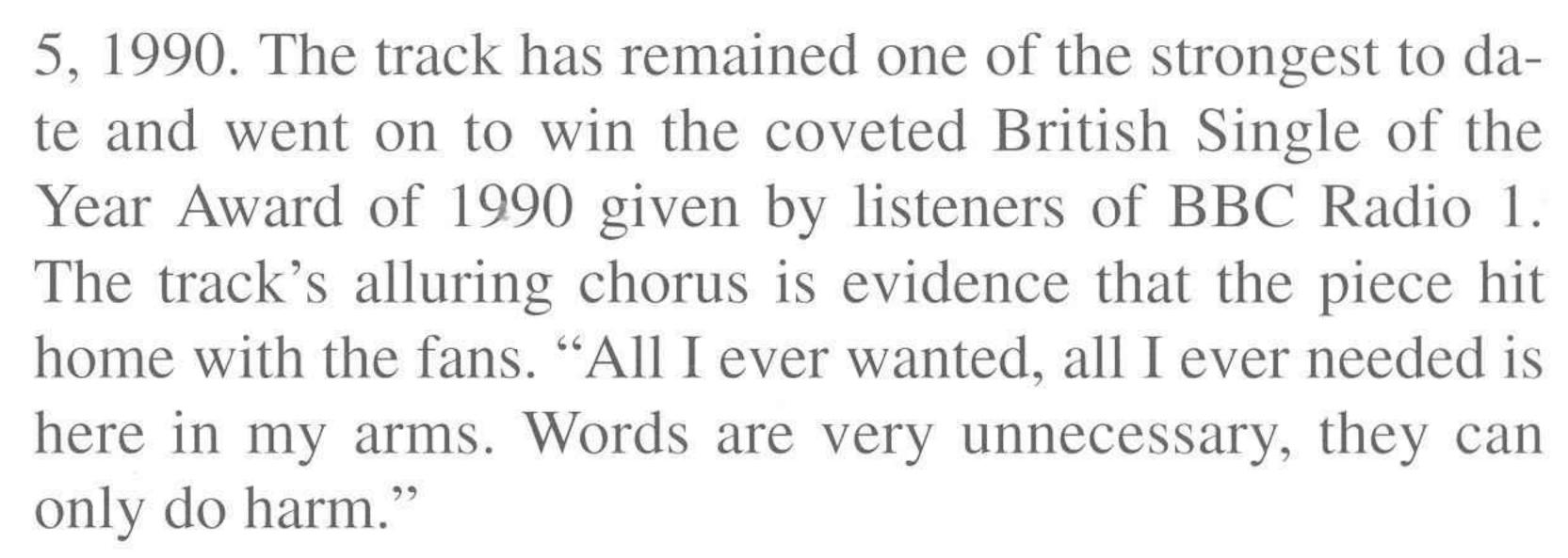












The third single from Violator "Policy Of Truth", reunited Martin Gore with his religious tones as seen in the track's lyrics. "You'll see your problems multiplied/If you continually decide/To faithfully persue/The policy of truth..." Although the single didn't fare as well in sales as the first two singles, it has become a strong underground number with club goers and youths.

The final single "World In My Eyes", was released on September 8, 1990 and sailed high into the music charts landing at No. 5. Nowhere else can you find the pleasing lyrics - "I'll take you to the highest mountain/To the depths of the deepest sea/We won't need a map believe me/Now let my body do the moving/And let my hands do the soothing/Let me show you the world in my eyes." The B-sides to the single "Happiest Girl" and "Sea Of Sin" again fared high with club goers across the globe.

4. Depeche Mode's World Violation

There was nothing that prepared the world for what was to come - Depeche Mode's new tour in support for "Violator". This was to be Depeche Mode's longest and most successful tour yet. World Violation as it was called, would take the band on a year long trip over five continents and playing to over 1,200,000 people. Tickets were bought immediately as box offices opened. In New York, 42 000 tickets were sold within four hours. Dallas' 24 000 seat Starplex Amphitheatre sold out immediately as did the World Music Theater in Tinley Park, Chicago. In Los Angeles, where the now-traditional tour closer was to take place, 48 000 tickets for the last tour performance at Dodgers Stadium were sold within one hour of going on sale, two months even before the scheduled show. Within 72 hours, a second night was added and that sold out even faster.

By the tour's end in August, the band had truly set out with what they had wanted to accomplish. They were in the drive's seat and earned time for a much needed rest. The trip was now over and it wouldn't be until Alan Wilder continued with his solo project and releasing the LP "Bloodline", that we would see any new material from Depeche Mode. However, the band had certainly staked their claim once again as the masters of the radio airwaves and dance floors. Depeche Mode is indeed "fast fashion" that will never go out of style.



-Pressed In Black -

Dear Bong,

DM live (at last)! An unforgettable experience! I went to the Melbourne show and apart from the two people standing in front of me (I think they were brain-dead!), everybody who was there just went totally berserk! Although the visual aspect of the show had to be scaled down, the performance was superb! Thank you Depeche Mode for coming down to Australia. Hope to see you again soon!

Anne Kong Melbourne, Australia

Dear Bong,

I am writing to congratulate the guys, (David, Alan, Martin and Andy), on what has been a brilliant couple of years of releases stemming from the album "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" in 1993.

When I bought the album, I was a bit sceptical as to whether it was a good purchase, as so many CDs these days are disappointing. Thankfully I got the shock of my life, "Songs Of Faith and Devotion" is the most impressive and thoroughly absorbing album I have heard for years. It is my favourite CD and the most continually played of all my collection.

Similarly, the single releases from this album have been of an incredibly high standard. Utilising such well known remix artists as Johnny Dollar, William Orbit, Mark Stent, Butch Vig, Goh Hotoda, and Brian Eno the remixes went beyond the realm of other artists and made their singles both innovative and very satisfying.

Anton Corbijn also deserves a big pat on the back for his exceptional visual work with all of the bands releases from this album. I was particularly impressed with his packaging for the "In Your Room" three CD single release here in Australia.

The biggest disappointment of my year so far was missing the Depeche Mode concert when it came to Australia. Having purchased the "Devotional" concert video I can see that I really missed a great show. I will definitely see the band live when they tour here again.

Finally, I have never been as fanatical about a band as I have become about the

music of Depeche Mode in the last couple of years. My Depeche Mode albums, singles and videos take pride of place in my collection. I am looking forward to your next album and the consistently high standard of music and remixes which I have come to expect from the band. Congratulations on what has been a truly outstanding couple of years.

Michael D. Pollard Victoria, Australia

Dear Bong,

Hi! Just a quick note...The Australian leg of DM's tour has passed, with a mild success it seems. From reports, most venues were about half to three quarters full, but the atmosphere wasn't lacking. Sydney's concert was well received by all present (including myself and my party of 8...5 from Adelaide!). Depeche pulled off the greatest concert this year. It was great to get a new version of "A Question Of Time", something most of the US/Europe probably won't get!!! And a completely revamped version of "I Want You Now". I hope the rest of DM s tour goes well. Is there any chance of DM releasing live versions of say... "Everything Counts", "Behind The Wheel", "Stripped", "I Want You Now" and of course "A Question Of Time"?

Gavin Deyr Australia

Editor's note: As far as we know, there are no plans to release any live recording in the near future.

Dear Bong,

I thought I would write to you to share my thoughts and success of this year's Bong convention in London's Limelight club.

Both myself and a fellow devotee had travelled up from Kent and were looking forward to an evening of fun, dancing and competitions. Not forgetting, of course, the music of Depeche Mode.

As usual, my companion, Stuart, entered the Mastermind. I too thought I'd have a go, after all, I have nothing to lose. What we both didn't count on, especially myself, was winning, with Stuart coming third and

winning a film reel (no film-shame) of the 1994 Devotional Tour. My prize was the "piece de resistance", a drumstick, as used AND signed by Alan, from the ongoing tour. So you can probably gather both our nights were made up by this success.

What with all of this going on, and the other events, it was quite a night to remember.

The flashing lights, smoke (lots of it too) and pumping music, I thought the Limelight, although quite a small place, was quite ideal for the number of people there. The "Devotional" video sounded excellent and the Anton documentary was very interesting and amusing in places.

The evening came to an end all too quickly, but as they say, all good things must come to an end, unfortunately.

To end this letter, I would like to thank Bong for organising such an excellent night, and for laying on food too! To Alan Wilder for the fantastic prize, to the Limelight for hosting several hundred crazed DM fans and also to say 'hello' to (sorry if I forgot names!); Stuart Chapman -thanks for getting me involved, Darren from Rainhan and his sister - sorry you had to go early, Gina from Scotland-I shall write soon and anyone else who we met that night. One final 'thank you' to Depeche Mode for the music.

Once again, thank you Bong and we both hope to see you all next year!

Andrew Hopper Margate, England

Dear Bong,

Congratulations! Bong 20 out on time and in very good order I might say, the colour is a really great idea and the material is great in fact Bong 20 has got to be the best one yet. Keep it coming the same!

In reply to Andy Hall from Birmingham whose letter was printed in BONG 20, I think what the band wanted was to keep the originality of "S.O.F.A.D." and that is why the line up is the same as the studio album, but whilst saying this I do agree that "Higher Love" would be better at the start of the live album as it is perfect start to the concerts. It just fits right, and having

seen Depeche Mode twice, once at Crystal Palace and then Sheffield, it always brings vivid memories of two fantastic days.

T. Wilcox Billingham, England

Dear Bong,

Just a quick note to all those who complain about the treatment dished out to Depeche Mode by the press. In brief - Give it a rest! Your moanings and whinging comments are so depressing - you just come across as a load of spoilt brats (although I'm sure you're not). The world would be rather boring if everyone liked the same things. Have you lot never heard of diversity? Every journalist has their own favourite band and I have to say that I found the reviews of "S.O.F.A.D." to be generally quite accurate - like many of them, I have little time for "Get Right With Me" or "Condemnation".

So to conclude, let's get a few basic points sorted out:

1. Depeche Mode are just four blokes doing a job. The fact that they are popular is an added bonus.

2. They are not Gods! They are ordinary people and I would not die for them. Ordinary, imperfect people get criticism from time to time and most of us just take it in our stride - criticism is vital for our personal development and I'm sure that it's the mixture of praise and criticism that spurs Depeche Mode onto greater things.

Freedom of Speech?

Jo Farmer Cambridge, England

Dear Bong,

I wonder if you help me. After hearing "101" several hundred times

3. Respecting other people's opinions even if you don't completely agree with them is a sign of maturity. Don't we all have the right to

ket, white frilly shirt and black jeans. Martin looked very kinky in his silver bike shorts, top and silver Docs. Alan and Andy wore black, Alan looking as, if he had walked out of a bondage shop, with buckles and zips all over his suit. The set then delved into the back catalogue of the past 10 years, mostly highlighting the past three albums. Following "Rush", we were treated to great versions of "Halo", "Behind

The Wheel", "Everything Counts" and "World In My Eyes".

After waiting for well over a year, the day was finally upon

us... Depeche Mode live in Sydney!!! I had read a couple of

articles where DM were changing/modifying their set for this

leg of the tour through South Africa/Australia/Asia. How much

The venue tonight was the cavernous Sydney Entertainment

Centre-home to many great concerts in the past. Now it was to

add Depeche Mode to its roster. Although it wasn't full to ca-

pacity, the atmosphere at 9.00 was one of hysteria. At 9.15, the

house lights dimmed, and the opening bars of "Rush" could be

heard. The crowd went wild. Dave, Marty, Alan and Andy

strode on-stage and launched into a full throttle version of

"Rush". Dave was dressed in a Victorian style lime green jac-

different would it be?

Both"Everything Counts" and "World In My Eyes" got some terrific live reworking. Then finally, "Walking In My Shoes" kicked in, with the stunning visuals by Anton Corbijn, projected on to the much-larger-than-life screen behind the band. From this point on, the screen hardly went off, and the visuals ranged from the bizarre (the female bird creature in "Walking In My Shoes"), to the religious/spiritual (during Martin's numbers) to the sensual/sexual (the torso in "Stripped" and the models in "In Your Room"). The lighting, as on the Violation Tour was a luscious mix of colour, with the emphasis this time round on strong colours like red, purple, green and blue.

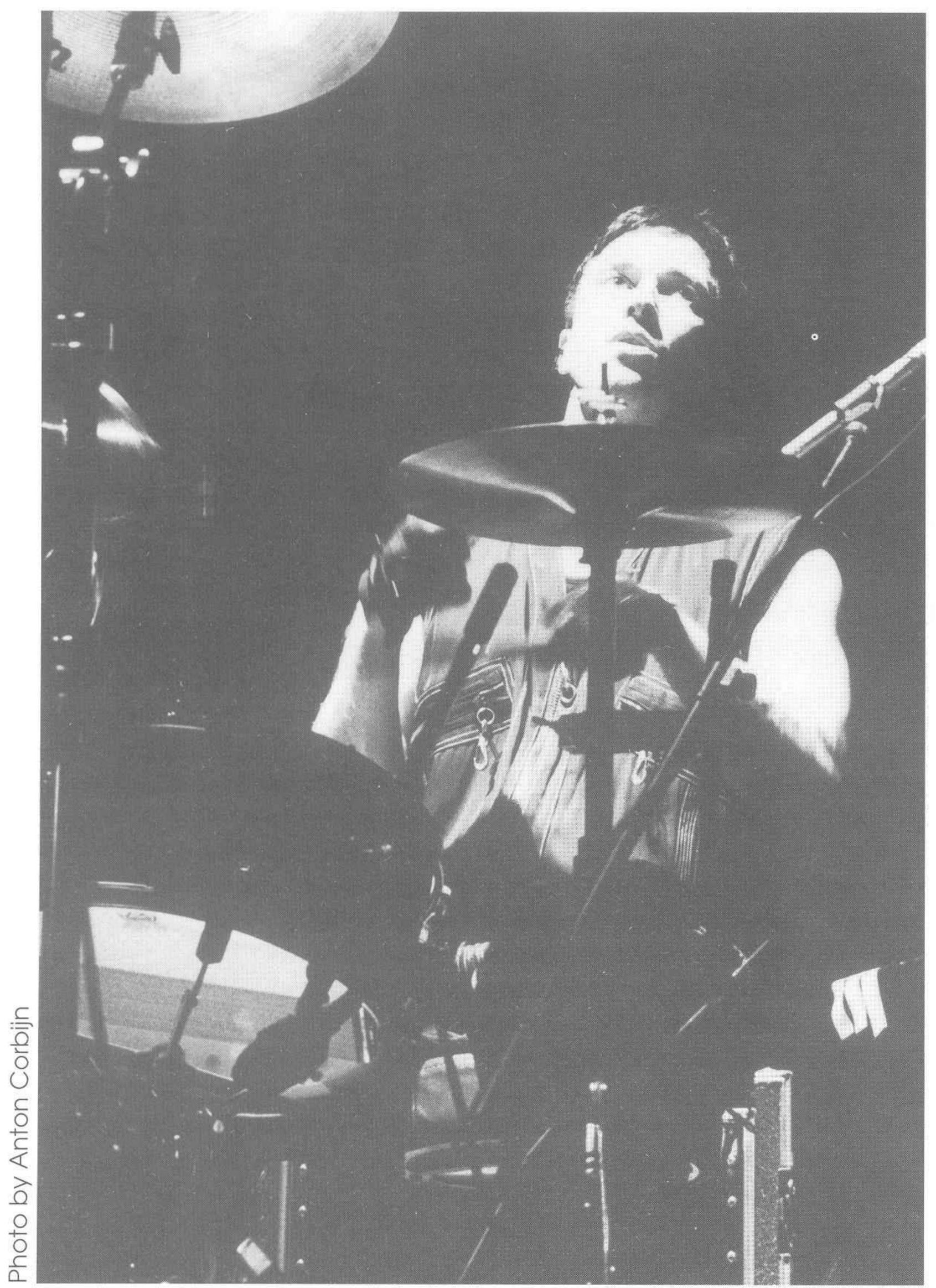
Martin then took centre stage for two numbers, "One Caress" and "I Want You Now", the latter a vastly different version than the one seen in 1990. It came complete with backing singers and a strong backbeat and the 'heavy breathing' as heard on the album version. Following Martins' short sojourn on stage, Dave returned to perform the closing four numbers -"In Your Room", "Never Let Me Down Again", "I Feel You" and an impassioned "Personal Jesus". It was these four numbers that stood out as highlights. The adrenaline was really pumping by this time and when "Personal Jesus" drew to its last bars you began to not want the night to end. Dave yelled "Good Night" to a chorus of "More, more...Encore...Depeche Mode, Depeche Mode!"

The encores were the best. Martin appeared to sing his best song ever recorded - "Somebody". The crowd sang along with him lustily and then as the first chords of "Enjoy The Silence" were to be heard everyone went completely crazy! Dave once again had us singing along in unison, enjoying his status as current 'Rock God'. Then the final songs... "Policy Of Truth" and a full blown rock-out 'grunge' version of "A Question Of Time" rounded off what could be remembered as one of the best concerts that Sydney is ever to see this year.

All in all, 17 songs over 95 minutes, is certainly a concert worthy of the hype. The atmosphere, the total professionalism that Depeche Mode display and of course the songs themselves all brought to life in audio/visual glory. My only question is...when are they going to return???

Gavin Deyr Australia







I have always wondered what was said at the end of "Black Celebration". It sounds like German and if so what is the English translation. If you could tell me I would be most grateful.

Simon Murray Newbury, England

Editor's note: We watched the "101" movie again, especially the bit at the end of "Black Celebration" but couldn't hear anything that sounds like German. If anyone else has been puzzled by the same thing and already knows the answer, please write to BONG and let us know as we are also curious.

Dear Bong,

Yes, I've yet another letter that refers to a computer mail list sent to me, its a bit of a laugh and shouldn't be taken too seriously, but I thought Bong readers might like a good laugh at DM for a change!

It reads as follows:

New from John Co. and the Lightning Man World Propaganda Network: Depeche Mode posable action figures!

*Dave (circa 1987), with short hair. Pull the string on his back and hear him scream:

"Good evening

Birminghaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaammmmm!"
*Alan, including keyboards,
drum pads, sequencers, Midi
racks, percussion and real black
leather outfit

*Rose Bowl 101 playset, with D.A.Pennebaker action figure

*Stripped playset, with sledgehammers and toy car to smash

*A Question Of Time playset, includes motorcycles with sidecar and clock rug (babies not included)
*Enjoy The Silence playset, complete with robe and folding chair

*Strange Too playset, includes drive-in screen, convertible car, and blow-up life size doll of "Giant Dave", who picks the car up

*Anton Corbijn action figure, complete with black and white camera

That's it, I hope you enjoyed it!

Matthew West Heckmondwike, England

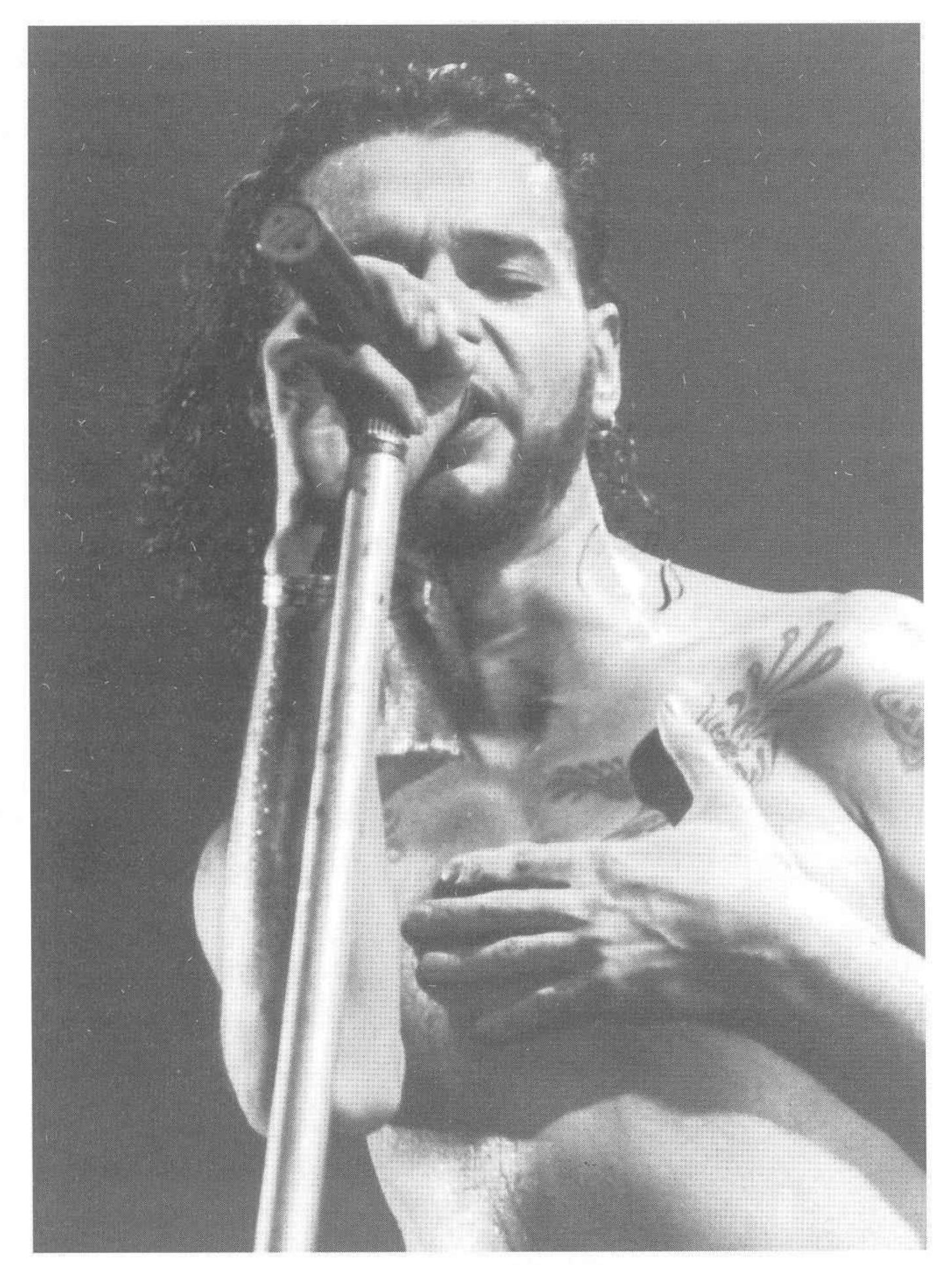


Photo by Michaela Olexova

Dear Bong,

I'd like to talk about a disease in the music industry - remixes. Some years ago all DM 12" remixes were really good. Gareth Jones, Daniel Miller and others did a good job remixing the singles. But now?

Today we have remixes done by loads of different people trying to put their ideas into the original song, making it to something completely different. Sometimes, they don't even do remixes but re-recordings of the songs with a few samples, sounds and a bit of the lyrics from the original song. What's the point? Earning more money? The DM 12" should consist of DM material not something a DJ has recorded. Who gives the permission to release all these different remixes? Does Mute? Does Depeche Mode?

Can Martin be proud of the remixes which sometimes are as far as possible from his original song? "Happiest Girl" (pulsating orbital mix) is a good example. It is impossible to recognize the original song. I've played it to many of my friends and no-one recognized it. Strange, isn't it? What I'm trying to say is, drop all the people doing unrecognisable remixes and get Gareth Jones and Daniel Miller back. I'd rather have a 12" with one good remix than one with four bad ones. Not every remix is bad. "Walking In My Shoes" (extended 12" mix) is very good and so are most of "Rush" remixes. Here is a list of the worst mixes available at the moment: "I Feel You" (swamp mix + afghan surgery mix), "Happiest Girl" (pulsating orbital mix), "Policy Of Truth" (trancentral mix), "Higher Love" (adrenaline mix), "W.I.M.S." (mode to joy + mayhem mode), "Everything Counts"

(Simenon/Saunders mix + absolut mix).

Should anyone agree with me, please write to BONG!

Johan Őstberg Hallsberg, Sweden

Dear Bong,

have been a fan of DM since 1985, and I've always thought the records they release, concerts they do, merchandise they sell have been great value for money. Until that is, the Devotional Tour. The concerts were superb, worth the money I paid to see them in Europe and England, but my complaint is merchandise. 15 pounds for a tour T-shirt is a lot of money at the best of times (although the quality is very good), but why, after a tour are they sold in HMV, Our Price, Virgin....for upto £ 5 less. The good thing about going to gigs is to buy a T-shirt and know that unless you were there, T-shirts could not be obtained elsewhere. Bands should show they care for fans who pay good money on travel, tickets etc...By pricing merchandise at affordable prices at the concerts, if they can sell them at £ 10 or £ 11 in shops, then why not at concerts?

My second complaint is why the 'all over print' shirt was sold at the concerts in the UK in December for an astonishing £ 23, when quality wise, there was no difference to the 'normal' designs? I know people are sure to disagree, but that is a massive rip off! Don't get me wrong, Depeche Mode are without doubt my favourite band and always will be, but at times, I think they can do more to help fans by not overpricing merchandise.

Wayne Kisbee Peterborough, England

Editor's note: Merchandise is always more expensive at concerts because the overheads of selling merchandise on tour are far greater than other retail outlets. In addition, the majority of venues now take a substantial commission, which can be as much as 40%. Unfortunately, this is something we have no control over.

-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 or some DM party or convention being organized we'd like to hear about it. Please, send us all the details to the BONG address.

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

DM FC
Budapest
Petofi Csarnok
1146 Zichy M.U. 14
Hungary

"Prodigy"
John E. Roberts
159 82 Darby Court
Fraser Michigan
48026-2748
USA

Diby Mode "Club" 1, rue Thiers 59 140 Dunkerque France

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

"Kaleid" Ezermals Str. 2/1-29 Riga LV-1037 Latvia Depeche Mode Friens P.O. Box 239 160 41 Praha 6 The Czech Republick

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

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

DM Club Linda Andreasson Norrskensq. 21 37151 Karlskrona Sweden

A LA MODE 20 St. Patrick St. Suite #719 Toronto, Ontario, M5T 2Y4 Canada There will be a Depeche Mode party on August 13, 1994 from 8 o'clock in Venray (Holland), organized by the Dingus DM Club. It will be a great night with lots of music and dancing and a big videoscreen with rare footage. Also there will be an opportunity to stay overnight. Besides the Dutch fans we hope to welcome a lot of German fans as the place is close to German border. For more information, write to: Miel Blok, Hogeweg 15, 5823 CD Maashees, Holland.

Apparently, there was a huge party in Hamburg (Germany) called 'Festival For The Masses' organized on the weekend of April 22 - 24, 1994. The programme included several live acts, dancing, video, karaoke, quizzes, etc. Could someone send us more information about this event? A photo would be also appreciated. Thank you.





HUNG(A)RY FOR DEPECHE MODE

by Andras Sereg, Hungary

First of all, I'd like to say thank you for letting the world know about us, the Hungarian fans that followed DM on their European tour and you could read about in one paragraph of the 'Montage' section in BONG 19.

Now let me tell you a few words about the Hungarian Fan Club itself. The first and biggest fan club in Hungary was founded in September 1987 and has been based in Budapest ever since. Shortly, the DM parties and conventions within the Budapest area became very popular and gave everyone an opportunity to meet other DM fans, listen to the DM music, dance, watch the videos and also swap the DM stuff which was hard to get in the early days. We organized some special events but only the fanatics who had a membership card could participate. The number of those who attended our conventions regularly gradually reached 2000.

'The DM laser show', another unusual event that was organized in the summer of 1988 in the Budapest's planetarium, attracted a lot of attention. Even though the FC wasn't among the organizers this time, many DM fans had a chance to see a spectacular show during which the laser lights created bizarre 3-D images based on the DM songs, mainly from the album "Music For The Masses", the latest release by DM back then.

In August 1991, we held a mega party that lasted for 36 hours. The Hungarian Television was also present at the event. I think, we could have been nominated for the Guinness Book of Records as more than 6000 boys and girls took part in this special event, and I think this number shows clearly the popularity of DM in Hungary.

In 1990, we planned trips to Munich and Berlin to see the 'World Violation' Tour. We have been to Nurnberg, Mannheim, Dortmund, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Cologne, Budapest (of course), London and believe it or not one Hungarian fan got as far as Los Angeles. We would have also gone to Prague as well, but unfortunately the date was changed at the last minute so it was impossible to reorganise everything. On June 25 in Stuttgart, Dave recognized some faces from our group and shouted: "The every night man!" One of our friends was pulled onto the stage in order to sing "Behind The Wheel" together with Dave. The concert in Budapest happened to be the biggest adventure of the Devotional Tour for all the Hungarian fans and also the members of DM regarded the concert as one of the best shows of the European Tour 1993. A huge review of this show and report on our fan club was featured in two issues of 'NME' last year. Some Hungarian fans even managed to meet the members of the band, Anton Corbijn and Daryl Bamonte. We were all pleasantly surprised when we found out that the video for "Condemnation" was shot in Hungary.

Since 1993, our club co-operates with the Mute Records official representative HMK Music and would like the opportunity to say how grateful we were to them for arranging our tickets for the concert in London on December 20, 1993.

Our club is getting bigger and bigger every month. By the end of the year 1994, we want to reach the number of 150 000. The person who will be the lucky 150 000th member of the Hungarian FC will get 150 000 Hungarian Forints (approx. 1000 GBP) as a bonus.

We hope that Depeche Mode will come back to Europe soon which will give us an opportunity to see our favourite band again!

One thing is sure: We will be there!



oto courtesy of FC Hungary

-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.

So far we have managed to collect information from the press in most European countries and America, but 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-Chicago

"It was difficult to tell at the end of Depeche Mode's concert Saturday at the World Music Theatre whether the kids were soaked with sweat or rain. But from the looks on their faces, there was no denying that they were having the time of their lives. The light show that accompanied the music was perfectly timed to every beat, but Mother Nature's own lightning show proved more theatrical."

Chicago Sun-Times, USA

Depeche Mode

"I think most successful groups have a sort of unique blend, if you like, that chemistry thing, and I'm sure we do have that. We've managed to delegate and allocate our roles in quite a unique way, in a way that works, and most of the time we're happy like that."

Alan Wilder

Alan V

Devotional Tour - Milwaukee

"There's something about the British techno-pop band Depeche Mode that always suggests rock on Vallium."

Milwaukee Sentinal, USA

S.O.F.A.D.

"I Feel You" has the twangy stomp of "Personal Jesus"; it's ecstatically danceable. The soulful "Walking In My Shoes" does great things with backup singers and resentment. "Get Right With

Me" experiments with scratching and chiming guitars, while "One Caress" sounds like the show stoper from a lachrymose Broadway musical. "S.O.F.A.D." documents how Depeche Mode's savvy justifies its worst instincts; like the band itself, it's gloomy, pretentious and winning."

Rolling Stone

Devotional Tour-Manchester

"With the help of two gospel-style female backing vocalists, Depeche Mode gave an inspired performance which took on the potentially impersonal surroundings of G-Mex and won."

Manchester Evening News, England

Depeche Mode

"One of the secrets of the lasting appeal of Depeche Mode is that they are different from any group and any trend. Their music is always a welcome alternative to whoever and whatever happens to be in vogue."

Philippines Free Press, Philippines

Devotional Tour-Laguna Hills

"Singer Dave Gahan suffered from slight tour fatigue, but was still in fine voice and wilder than ever. Whether he was gyrating to females in the front row, twirling a mike stand in the air, or beaming like a proud papa when the fans finished a chorus for him, Gahan exemplified showmanship."

The Orange County Register, USA

I Feel You

"We felt 'I Feel You' made the right sort of statement that we're back and it's sort of back with a bang almost."

Andy Fletcher

Devotional Tour-Los Angeles

"The band's stance was healthy in two ways. The synthesizer emphasis showed a new generation of pop fans that rock doesn't have to rely only on the traditional guitar, drums and bass instrumentation, and the lyrics were certainly preferable to the recycled sex, drugs and rock'n'roll ones."

The LA Times, USA

Depeche Mode

"Depeche Mode are enormous in Germany. El Atlantico, Argentina They're massive everywhere, really, apart from sleepy old Blighty where we're too busy having wet dreams over the joke shop sex of the Pet Shop Boys to realise that in Depeche Mode we've got the real thing."

New Musical Express, England

S.O.F.A.D.

"The melodies are deep and serious, and they rush at you so hard they knock you off your feet, packing the punch with gospel choirs and orchestras."

Lime Lizard, England

Depeche Mode

"The audience was formed by the true followers of the band. This is not common thing with other bands. For instance, during the last INXS concert in Buenos

Aires, you could see Guns and Roses or Metallica Tshirts in the audience. This time it wasn't the same. Everybody had only one name on the caps, T-shirts and banners: Depeche Mode!"

Devotional Tour

"We often get fans coming to concerts with meanings that are a million miles away from what I intended but they still seem very passionate about what they feel. I like that."

Martin Gore

Devotional Tour-Sydney

"Never Let Me Down Again" highlights their alluring mix of melodrama and pop, spotlighting an arena rock show where nearly all the songs were of nameless girls with emotional problems that the narrator could not/would not help."

The Drum Media, Australia

I Feel You

"In addition to the artistically directed scenic setups, concept footage establishes an alluring woman situated in a rustic house, suggesting her imminent sexual encounter with the singer."

CVC Report, USA

Devotional Tour-Rotterdam

"David Gahan who needed the whole stage for himself for a lot of to and fro running was standing in the limelight for the most of the night. Sometimes, it even seemed as a solo-performance."

De Volkskrant, Holland



S.O.F.A.D.

"Depeche Mode's 'Songs Of Faith And Devotion' LP entered the Billboard chart at Number One, selling 150,000 copies in its first week and becoming the only US Number One entry by a UK Independent label."

New Musical Express, England

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

Freely provided by DM Live dmlive.wiki.

Photo by Michaela Olexova

B 0 N 6

CONVENTION

Review by Tracy McLaughlin

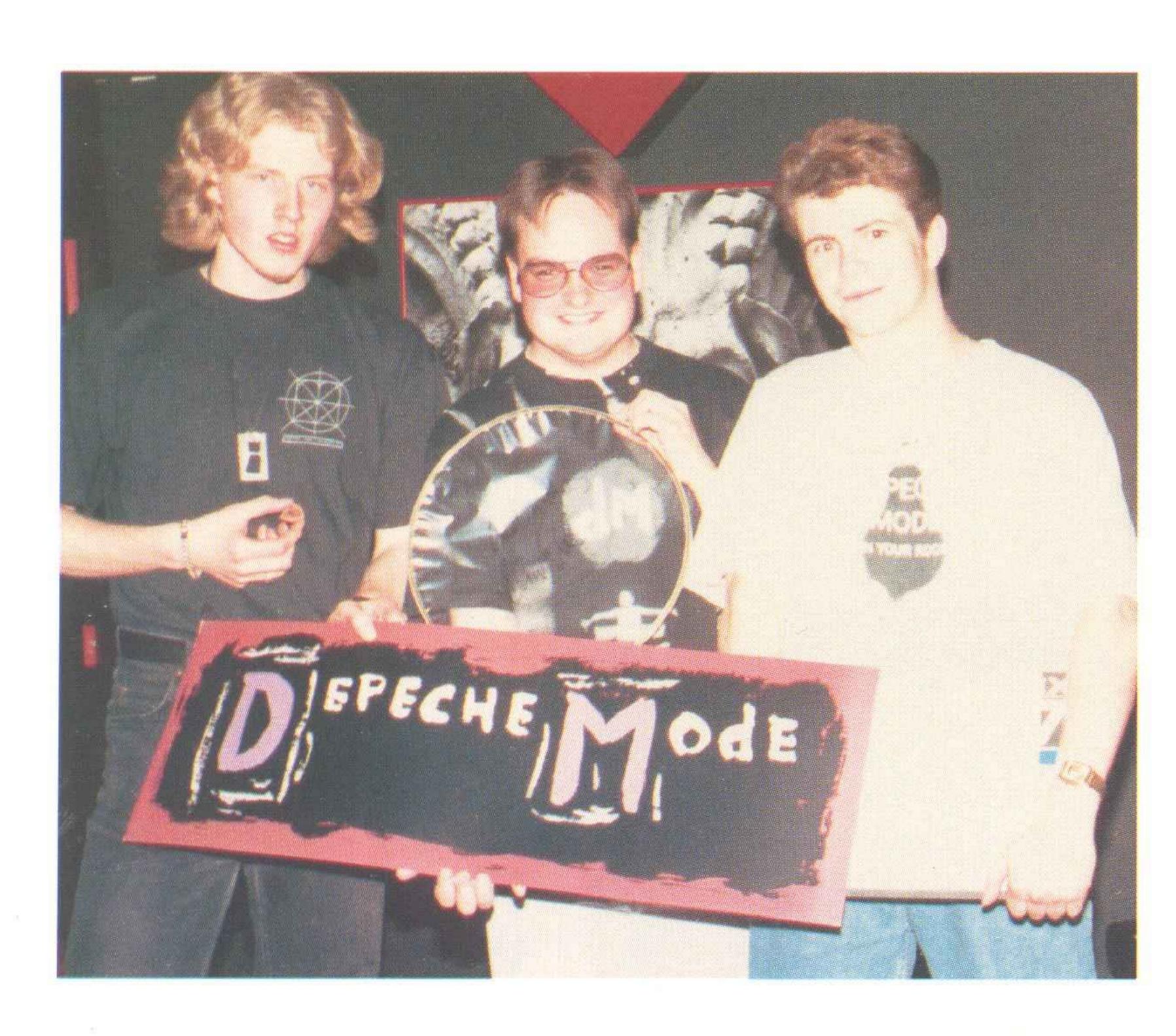
The place to be on this Sunday evening was not particularly difficult to find. All you had to do was spot a DM T-shirt and follow its wearer, then join the masses converging on the Limelight Club in Leicester Square for an evening of unrelenting Depeche-related revelry.

The fun kicked off with the "Devotional" video, the buzz in the club produced an almost concert type atmosphere, the next best thing to being there. Meanwhile the mastermind competition forms were being laboured over and if the music had been any quieter you would have heard the brains overworking, trying to remember the answers to some very tough questions like - what song does the line My mind wanders...come from! The next round was even tougher - e.g. what date was 101 officially released?

The winners definitely earned their prizes. Andrew Hopper won the first prize of a drumstick signed by Alan. Eelco Korpelfrom Holland won Martin's signed plectrum and Stuart Chapman won a film box used during the Devotional tour. All three received tour books and runners up got promo videos & posters. In between dancing and listening to some of the best DM mixes and records around we had another chance to see Anton's documentary (it was first shown at the SOFAD listening party) - an unusual look at the lads as individuals speaking frankly about their personal and professional livesvary revealing and so far away from the image of IOI.



The Limelight Club, London, June 5, 1994



There were various other competitions through the night. The remix competition, a kind of 'name that tune' on paper was won by Michael Rafledge whose prize was a giant SOFAD card. Dave Saul and Antony Mew won a Tour book & promo record respectively. The winners of the dancing competition were Trevor Tinsley and Roberta Casson who both had to get up on stage and show why they were worthy winners. They received a T- shirt & poster each.

The judging of the look-a-likes was done by a very enthusiastic audience. The loudest applause therefore the prizes went to: Dennis Grey (Dave) who won a signed calendar. A very happy Anja Kohlert from Germany won Martin's silver top & signed plectrum for looking more like him than any of the blokes! John Needell won Alan's signed drumsticks. And Jon Brown won a signed calendar for looking most like Andy.

During the evening raffle tickets were being sold by the handfuls and people hoping to win another of Alan's drumsticks, a signed calendar, promo videos and records, T-shirts etc. £ 210 was raised for a local playgroup for children with mental and physical disabilities and the draw was held at the end of the evening.

So after over 5 hours of the best music, videos, competitions and company the 1994 convention was over, so we picked another T-shirt (a bit sweatier than the one we'd followed earlier!) and followed its owner to the nearest tube station home.

Lynn and Michaela's hard work was evident all through the night, and the conventions seem to get better and better. It's a shame they don't last longer and aren't closer together, but this one was definitely worth waiting for. Thank you.



-Competition Time Again-

'Depeche Mode - Devotional' were the words hidden in our puzzle of BONG 20. It wasn't 'BONG' as some of you concluded from the shape of the puzzle, sorry. As for the competition itself, we are aware that the word 'Fools' was missing from the list of the words but the error was spotted too late to be corrected so we apologize to you.

The three winners we picked at random will receive the promo copy of "Some Great Videos". They were: C. Stevenson from East Sussex, England, Richard Aylwin from Montreal, Canada and Heiko Hamner from Berlin, Germany. Congratulations!

Some more prizes are waiting on our shelves for the three winners of this issues' competition. We need your answers by 20th September so don't delay any longer in sending them to us. Please, mark your postcard or envelope "Competition Time Again".

Today's competition was created by Marco van der Vliet from The Netherlands. Good luck!

Here we have 19 lines from 19 different Depeche Mode songs. Example: Ask myself, is it a sin 6 (There is a number at the end of each line). First identify the title, in this example the title is "Flexible", then take the sixth letter from "Flexible" which is 'B', so on and so forth, until you end up with an anagram of 19 letters which make up the title of another DM song. Identify the song and send it to the usual address.

And tell me	4	The scapegoat fate's made of me	10
You can't stop me anymore	5	Tell me you love me	
Your favourite slave	7	I need forgiveness	5
Stable but gullible	16	And that's a fact	2
Take my advice	10	Efficiency	5
It's so easy to choose	11	I hadn't gone far	3
They can only do harm	12	I will deliver	7
I taste when we kiss	8	See just how	15
So we've got none	8	I've been away too long	2
That's all there is	7		

ITEM	UK	EUROPE	O/SEAS
Bong T-shirt 1992 (XL)	£ 3.00	£ 4.25	£ 5.5
Bong T-shirt 1994 (XL)	£ 11.00	£ 12.25	£ 13.50
Bong Cap	£ 5.00	£ 6.00	£ 7.25

SPECIAL OFFER:
Buy two BONG 1994 T-shirts
and get a BONG 1992 T-shirt

and get a BONG 1993 FREE!



Prices include post & packing.

Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to THE DEPECHE MODE FAN CLUB.



-Bootlegs & DJ Mires—

Rare Mixes Format: Cassette Origin: England

The running time of this bootleg is 70 minutes and the mixes featured on the tape are as follows: "Enjoy The Silence" (Indefinite Mix), (Razormaid Mix), "It's Called A Heart" (Razormaid Mix), "Policy Of Truth" (Art Of Memorandum Mix). I paid £ 3 for this tape and the remixes are excellent, the only problem in "Master And Servant" and "Happiest Girl" is, they are slightly inferior recordings, but other than that well worth £ 3.

Sarah Cannon Chesterfield, England

S.O.F.A.D. - Strange Versions Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This bootleg is very professionally put together. The quality is outstanding and the packaging is, well, they even had the nerve to copy the original artwork for the sleeve and just changed the colours. In the booklet accompanying the CD, two photos have been lifted from the original booklet, and they even went to the bother of copying the photo of the lingerie for the case!!! But the big question is - is it any good? Well, it certainly lives up to its 'Strange Versions' title all right. Some of the mixes ("I Feel You", "Mercy In You", "Rush") I think are very good, although they are mostly instrumental. "Get Right With Me" is irritating because it's so repetitive, and "Judas" and "One Caress" are spoiled because of unnecessary overdubbing. This has to be the most professional bootleg I've seen. I paid £ 12 for it, and I consider it to be good value.

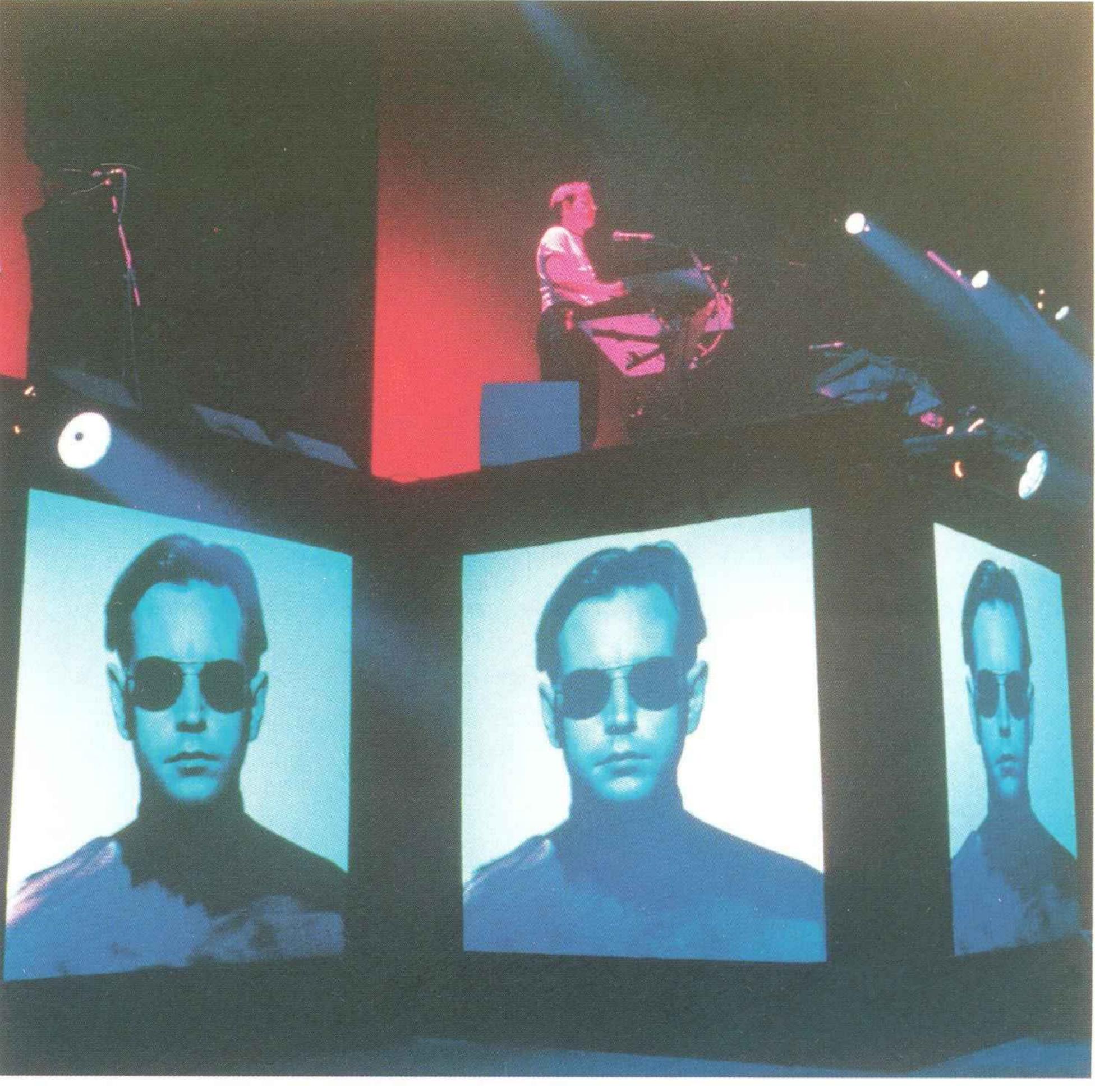
Wendy Lawson Aberdeen, Scotland

S.O.F.A.D. - Remix Format: CD Origin: Unknown

I have to totally disagree with the previous comments about this CD in Bong 19. It contains remixes of all the tracks on "SOFAD".

beat over the music which destroys the song, "Little 15" (Bogus Brothers), "Behind The "Behind The Wheel/Route 66" (Ivan Mega- and "In Your Room" just has a really heavy Wheel" (Disconet Mix), "Nothing" (Dallas mix), "Everything Counts" (Alan Moulder beat to hide the original drumline. The inlay Mix), "To Have And To Hold" (Icelandic Mix), "No Disco" (Razormaid Mix), "Master is a recent photocopied picture of the band Taster Mix), "Strangelove" (Miller Remix), And Servant" (Razormaid Mix), "People Are with the lettering put in by somebody with "Route 66" (Rodgers Mix), "Pleasure Little People" (Razormaid Mix), "Happiest Girl" a felt-tip pen and the number CD 846 888 is Treasure" (Razormaid), "Behind The

and the sound quality is average to poor. Ho- res a nice black and white picture of the wever, the mixes appear to have been done band. You could be forgiven for thinking this by someone with a drum machine in their was an official release. The tracks are as folbedroom and no ear for music. "Condemna- lows: "N.L.M.D.A." (FM Power Mix), tion", for instance, has got a really irritating "Strangelove" (Razormaid Classic Mix),



who even slightly likes DM to avoid this like the plague as it is a total waste of money.

Music For The Masses - Limited Remix Edition

Format: CD Origin: Unknown

This has to be one of the best-looking boot-

printed on the spine. I would advise anyone Wheel/Route 66" (Megamix), "Death's Door" (Skeleton Key Mix). Although a couple of tracks have obviously been transferred from vinyl, the sound quality is generally excellent, apart from "Death's Door" where the sound is very poor. The standard of the mixes is OK to very good, the Razormaid mix of "Strangelove" and the Rodgers Mix of "Route 66" in particular are excellent. Solegs I've seen. The cover is the same as me of these mixes are available on other "M.F.T.M.", but in green, and the CD featu- bootlegs though. The running time of this



disc is a whopping 77:00 and it set me back £ 14. Recommended.

Chris Sheldon Stafford, England

Higher Love Format: 2CD **Origin: Italy**

This CD features tracks recorded in Paris on June 30, 1993 like "Judas", "One Caress" and "Mercy In You". It also contains "A Question Of Lust", "Death's Door" and "Get Right With Me" from June 29, 1993. The cover and the sound quality are excellent and you can feel the atmosphere of the concert. Buy it!

Live In Liverpool Format: Video Origin: Unknown

This concert was recorded in Liverpool on November 6, 1981. The picture and sound quality are medium. This video is 45 minutes long and it only contains tracks including "Television Set" and two versions of "Nodisco". The editing is not very good though.

Martin L. Laskowski Hohr-Grenzhausen, Germany

Waiting For The Night Format: Double CD Origin: Italy

This is one of many recordings of the San Diego concert on July 31, 1990. It was very acoustic version of "Blue Dress". All in all included. I cannot recommend this CD unless you get Antony Wainwright it VERY cheap. Running time of this CD is **Bolton**, England 78:38.

The Fourth Strike Format: CD Origin: Unknown

This time it contains nine remixes which differ a lot in both sound quality and mixing. The most interesting thing, though, is the presence of two so far unreleased tracks called "Violence,, and "I Feel No Guilt" plus a demo version of "Here Is The House" sung by Martin. The CD is presented in the usual BONG 18. Because of the new tracks this it and that's cheap I think. CD rally deserves a place in your collection but if you can find them somewhere else you might want to buy that instead. Running time 72:01.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol. 2 Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

from the likes of Razormaid and Adrian "on - "Death's Door", "Mercy In You", "I Feel u-sound" Sherwood. The sound quality is You", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Rush", excellent and the cover very professional "In Your Room", "Personal Jesus", "Enjoy with a short description of each song on the The Silence", "Fly On The Windscreen" and back. Unfortunately, there is a lot of errors "Everything Counts". The concert was reon it. Although the mixes are not all that rare, corded on Alan's birthday (you can actually this CD is a very good buy - especially if you hear Dave saying this). The recording is very have just started to collect DJ remixes. If you good. I paid £ 15 for it and that's very reasoare already devoted to dj-remixes you should nable. own most of the tracks by now. Running time is 68:57.

Ultra Rare Trax - Vol. 3 Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

This compilation is a bit more interesting Origin: Italy than the other Ultra Rare Trax volumes as it This is an excellent live CD of the Crystal in addition to seven great remixes includes Palace concert in 1993. This CD features the a rare Martin Gore version of Gary Glitter's following tracks: "Higher Love", "Policy Of "I Love, You Love, Me Love" and a track Truth", "Halo", "Stripped", "Condemnacalled "Down In The Boon Docks". The CD tion", "Judas", "I Feel You", "Never Let Me also includes the classic New Mode Mega'90 Down Again", "Rush", "In Your Room", megamix and is most recommendable. "Personal Jesus", "Enjoy The Silence" and Running time is 69:30.

Lynge Munch Aakirkeby, Denmark

Violator - Limited Edition Remix Format: CD

Origin: Unknown

Although the quality of this CD is good you Some Great Mixes may of heard most of these mixes on official Format: Cassette expensive considering it only contains 15 12" releases. So don't be fooled into buying Origin: Germany tracks including the intro (Kaleid) and two this because the remaining few songs are no This cassette with a great cover contains 11 versions of "Everything Counts". The sound good with the exception of "Policy Of mixes of songs like "I Feel You", "Personal quality is not too good either and the only Truth". I paid £ 15 for this and rate it 6 out of Jesus", "Halo", "See You" and "Enjoy The positive thing is the presence of Martin's 10 only because of official DM releases Silence". The mixing is just great, because it

Depeche Mode - 6th Strike Format: CD

Original: Holland

Another release in this classic remix series. Total running time of this album is 69:09 and Philadelphia, USA it contains "Rush" (Wild Planet Mix), "Strangelove" (Powerhouse Mix), "Enjoy Waiting For The Babies The Silence" (Ultra Hot Razor Cut), "Sea Of Format: 2CD Sin" (Ultra Hot Razor Cut), "Strangelove" Origin: England (Disco Tech-Mix), "Music For The Masses" The quality of this double CD is very good (Megamix), "Fly On The Windscreen" (No- and from what I can gather it was recorded in bu-Bros Mix). Excellent! My favourites are Munich. All the songs are basically the Demetallic-like brown and black cover with the "Rust" (Wild Planet Mix) and the "Music votional Tour set. There is a picture of David same photo as the one on the front page of For The Masses" (Megamix). I paid £ 10 for on the front cover. I paid £ 25 and although

> DM - The Complete Show Live 1993 at the Ahoy in Rotterdam

Format: 2CD Origin: Holland

This album contains: "Higher Love", "Policy Of Truth", "World In My Eyes", "Walking

In My Shoes", "Behind The Wheel", "Halo", This is a compilation of 12 brilliant remixes "Stripped", "Condemnation", "Judas",

> Martijn Lemmens Veldhoven, Holland

Enjoy The Rumours

Format: CD

"Everything Counts". This CD catches the brilliance and atmosphere of the night. This is Depeche Mode at their best. I paid £ 12 for this CD which runs for over 70 minutes.

John D. Hall Preston, England

contains some totally new beats or bass lines in some songs and are totally different from the originals. Front 242, Kraftwerk and live samples are also used. If you have a chance to get it, get it! It is only available by mail order. I got it from a German guy in Berlin and paid only \$14 for it!

Dave Kingham

it's not cheap I would recommend it to everyone.

Emma Gilkison Manchester, England



-Pen Pals-

Andreas Hein Paracelsusweg 8 31535 Neustadt Germany

I'm a 24 year old, Mode fan over 10 years and I'd like to correspond with girls from all over the world who collect all the DM CDs, LPs, singles and maxis. So if you Just Can't Get Enough of DM, write to me. Please, send a Photograph Of You.

Rio Bellgore 123 Furrlongs Newport Isle Of Wight PO30 2BD Great Britain

Hi! I'm a bored DM fan with nothing much to do and I would like to write to other DM fans from anywhere of any age, gender, race. Besides DM, I also like Erasure, Pet Shop Boys, Madonna, Music is my biggest interest but l also like swimming, pubs, animals, walking. So if you're like me and Just Can't Get Enough of DM Rush for your pens and give me Something To Do. I'll reply to all.

A. Engstrom Kapellgangen 1 411 31 Gothenburg Sweden

Hello! I'm a 21 year old female who is Dressed In Black. I listen to DM,

of course, but also The Cure, Siouxies and more. I like taking photos, so if you would like to pose nude or just need a nice pen pal, write to me! I would prefer to write to people between 20-100 yrs of age from the UK.

Lucia Barakova Rovinka 1284/5 985 05 Kokava nad Rimavicou Slovakia

I am a 15 year old female who adores DM and would like to correspond with the DM fans from all over the world.

Caroline Sharley 38A Ashburnham Rd Hastings East Sussex TN35 5JL England

I am a 33 year old female who's been mad about Depeche Mode right from the beginning. If there are any male or female fans of similar age out there (i.e. older than 14) then why not drop me a line. I am willing to write to anyone of my era!!!

Jana Matikova Sidliste 738 543 71 Hostinne Czech Republic

Hi! I would like to know some DM fans from England. Apart from DM, I am interested in

languages and sport. Please, write soon.

Tatjana Vogel Tempelweg 8 30938 Burgwedel Germany

I'm a girl of 16, I like DM, travelling and having fun. I'd like to have pen pals from all over the world. Sex and age don't matter. Write in English, French or German. I'm looking forward to hear from you.

Kimberley Prior 10 Vine Street Aldershot Hants GU11 3EU England

I am 27 and a new member of BONG. I have loved DM since "New Live", and finally got around to joining! lam DM mad, lam either listening to, or watching them most of the time! They are definitely a major part of my life! My dream is of course to meet them. I'd like to write to other DM fans in this country, male or female of a similar age. Anyone who Just Can't Get Enough of DM!

Maarja Habicht Turu 7-29 EE2400 Tartu Estonia

"I want somebody to share, share the rest of my life, share my innermost thoughts, know my intimate details..." Write to a girl of 17, who likes DM more than anything else. Rush!

Petra Rousova 1472/6 J. Koziny 415 02 Teplice Czech Republic

Hello! I am 22 years old. I listen to many bands from the production of Mute Records and collect everything on DM. I'd like to correspond with the DM fans. So if you are out there, write to me.

Hazel Snelling 4 Hopefield Avenue Kilburn London NW6 6LH England

A 25 year old seeks pen pals in Britain only, please. Likes DM, New Order and Gary Numan. Other interests: TV, reading, films, competitions. Write soon.

Andrea Műller Stuppstr. 13 50823 Kőln Germany

Hello! I'm a 21 year old German female and have been a DM fan for ten years. I also like Front 242, Nitzer Ebb, Kraftwerk, Delvision, etc. I'd like to correspond with other DM fans. If you don't like



to Enjoy The Silence, write to me. You have Nothing To Fear. Please send a Photograph Of You. I'll answer all letters.

Emma 2 Bridle Terrace Madeley, Telford Shropshire TF7 5SQ

I am a 20 year old female looking for correspondence from anywhere from anyone. I enjoy a laugh, some sort of music and I like writing and cuddly toys! I love Depeche Mode, if you're interested, write to me.

Jarda Dospisil Horni 3 792 01 Bruntal Czech Republic

l am a 19 year old male from Central Europe. I'm keen on music and sports My best music group is of course Depeche Mode but sometimes I listen to The Cure too. I have been listening DM for seven years. Depeche Mode - it's not only music but also love, faith, sex and devotion of all fans together. So if you are one of the believers, write to me.

Marjoke van den Berg Einsteindreef 15 3146 BD Maassluis The Netherlands

Where are the Dutch fans? Where are the fans over 30? Please, write to a 33 year old girl!

Robert Serafiniak Podhalanska 22/65 93-224 Lodz Poland

I'm an 18 year old

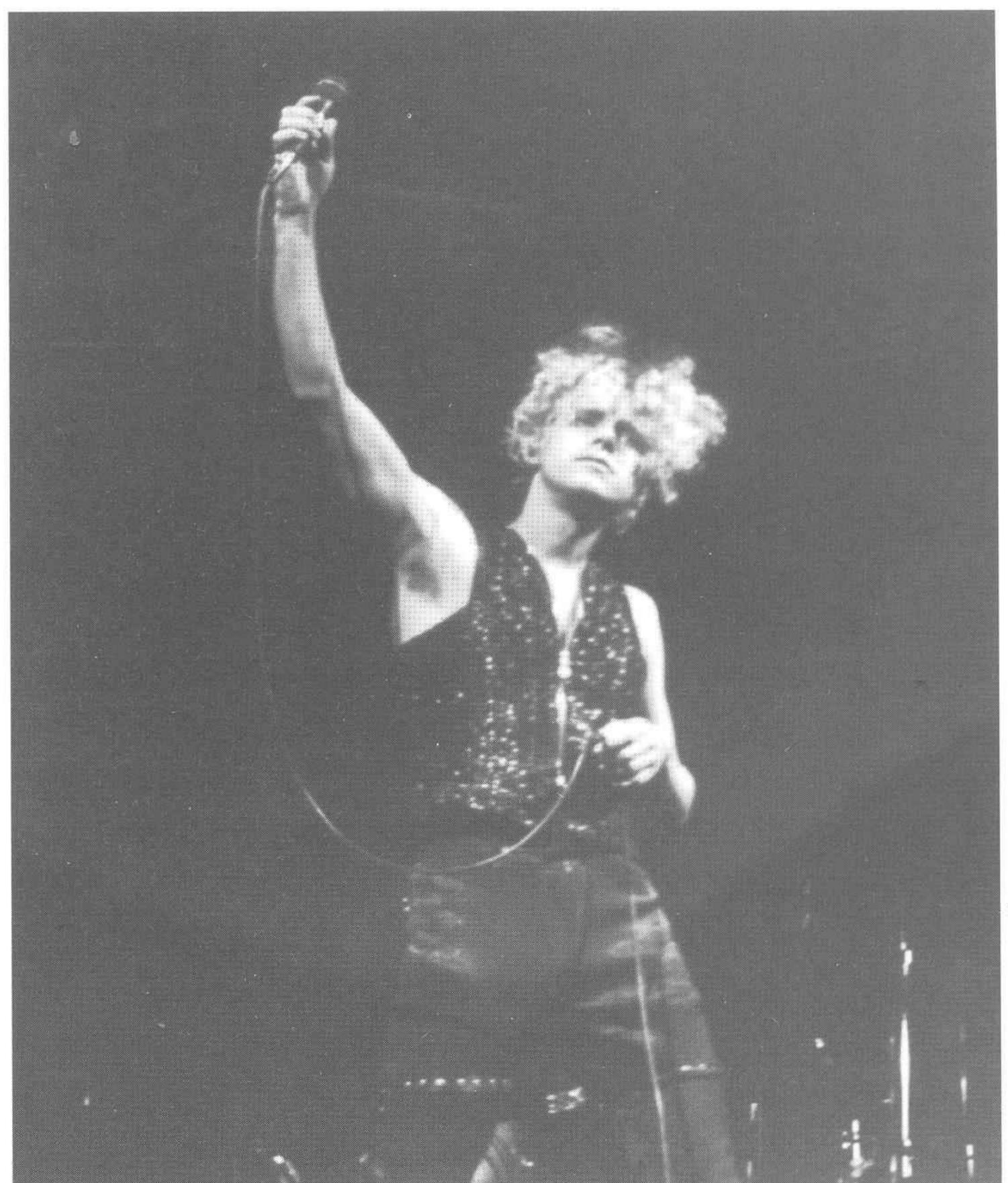
boy. I've listened to DM for five years and I'm still devoted to them. I have lots of bootlegs & mixes of DM. I would like to correspond with everyone who thinks that DM is The Sweetest Perfection. Apart from DM, I also like Clan Of Xymox, Nitzer Ebb and Camouflage. I'll answer all letters.

Jill Mitchell 13 Maxton Court Hawick Rox TD9 7QN Scotland

I'm a 14 year old girl who would like to write to DM fans. Age and sex is not important. I'll Rush to answer all letters. I can only read and write English. I also like Mission, The Cure, Ultravox, Heaven 17. Write soon!

Marcin Wojciechowski ul. Arciszewskiego 29/84 602071 Poznan Poland

Hello! I'm an 18 year old boy form Poland. I want Somebody in the universe, who write to me and take me to the highest mountains, and the depths of the deepest sea, when body and soul come together. Please, send me A Photograph Of You.



by Michaela Olexovo

Contacts

I'd like to get in touch with Dale. We first met you on the trip to Paris and we bumped into you at this years convention. We don't want to lose contact again. Please, get in touch! Vicky Hiles, 15 Shepherd Walk, Kegworth, Derby DE74 2HS, England

To my purple depeche twin! Gayly, thanks for being my best modie pal - together we'll keep on loving Depeche and crooning "Halo"!!! Love, Ali Halo Hall XXX

Erica Ramirez! Where are you? I lost your address. You wrote in your last letter (Sept.93) you'd move to Los Angeles again. Please, get in touch! Simone, Lommiswil, Switzerland

I would like to get in contact with David Mitchell. Please, contact: Christian Harris, 3 May Evans Close, Cam, Nr. Dursley, Glos GL11 5UX, England

I would like to get in touch with Sebastian Sinterhauf from Berlin. Please, write to: Andras Sereg, Yichy M.U.14, Petofi Csarnok, 1146 Budapest, Hungary

Are you still out there? To Barry Fox (San Francisco), Robert Lewis (Peterborough) and Darren Homer (Birmingham). Please, get in contact, I'd love to hear from you again. Love, Vivienn XXX

If you'd like to correspond with other Depeche Mode fans, send us a postcard with yur 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".

-Classified-

Everything about Depeche Mode from 1989 until 1994 wanted. You can write in English, German and Italian. Send your list to: Silvia Marcon, via G. Cantore No. 9, 33012 Cave del Predil, Udine, Italy

DM, Erasure, Anything Box, NE, Cause And Effect, S.O.D., Ocean Blue, "Early" TFF, Meat Beat, Front 242, Camouflage, F.L.A., New Order, 808, Red Flag, P.S.B., etc.....you like? Write! Ken Heggem, 227 S. Leigh Ave, Campbell, Ca 95008, USA

A lot of rare DM stuff for sale: vinyl, CDs and videos. Send IRC for free list to: Christel Lleemput, Kerselaarlaan 26, B-2830 Heindonk, Belgium

Depeche Mode photos for sale! I'm also interested in swapping. Please, send IRC for list to: Tobias Schulze, Konradsreuther Str. 2, 95032 Hof, Germany

Promo CDs, interview CDs, DS CDs (original) and more for sale. Write to: Cosimo de Fazio, Max-Eyth Str. 10, 71691 Freiberg, Germany

Does anyone have any idea were I might obtain a jacket like Dave's in the "PIMPF" video. A guy who got on the coach at Manchester for the Crystal Palace show had one. Also I would like to get hold

of the Violator Tour programme. Write to: Matt Wagener, 44 Wright Street, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 8BE

Looking for foreign pressings of "It's Called A Heart" on 7". I have UK, Spain, Italy, German red vinyl, Aus and both Dutch issues. Especially searching for South African issue. I'm also looking for the interview on RMF FM in Poland on April 17 with Daniel Miller, DM and Flood. I'll provide blank tape and IRC's. Also want anything on video (1986 Tour, TV performances, etc.) + back issues of BONG magazine. Write to: Johan Őstberg, Hagmarksvagen 11, S-69436 Hällsberg, Sweden

Collection of records, CDs, Tapes (official) + tour memorabilia for sale by Depeche Mode. Also items by Nitzer Ebb, Duran Duran, Erasure and Kraftwerk. Items include commercial, promos form UK, Sweden, Japan, America, Russia, Poland, East Germany, etc. For list, please, send S.A.E. to Wayne Kisbee, 56 Whitsed St, Eastfield, Peterborough, PE1 5ED, England

DM CD Singles for sale: "Master & Servant" (import), "Policy Of Truth", "I Feel You" (remix CD), "Everything Counts" (remix CD), "Strangelove" (original UK CD).

Also World Violation Tour pro-

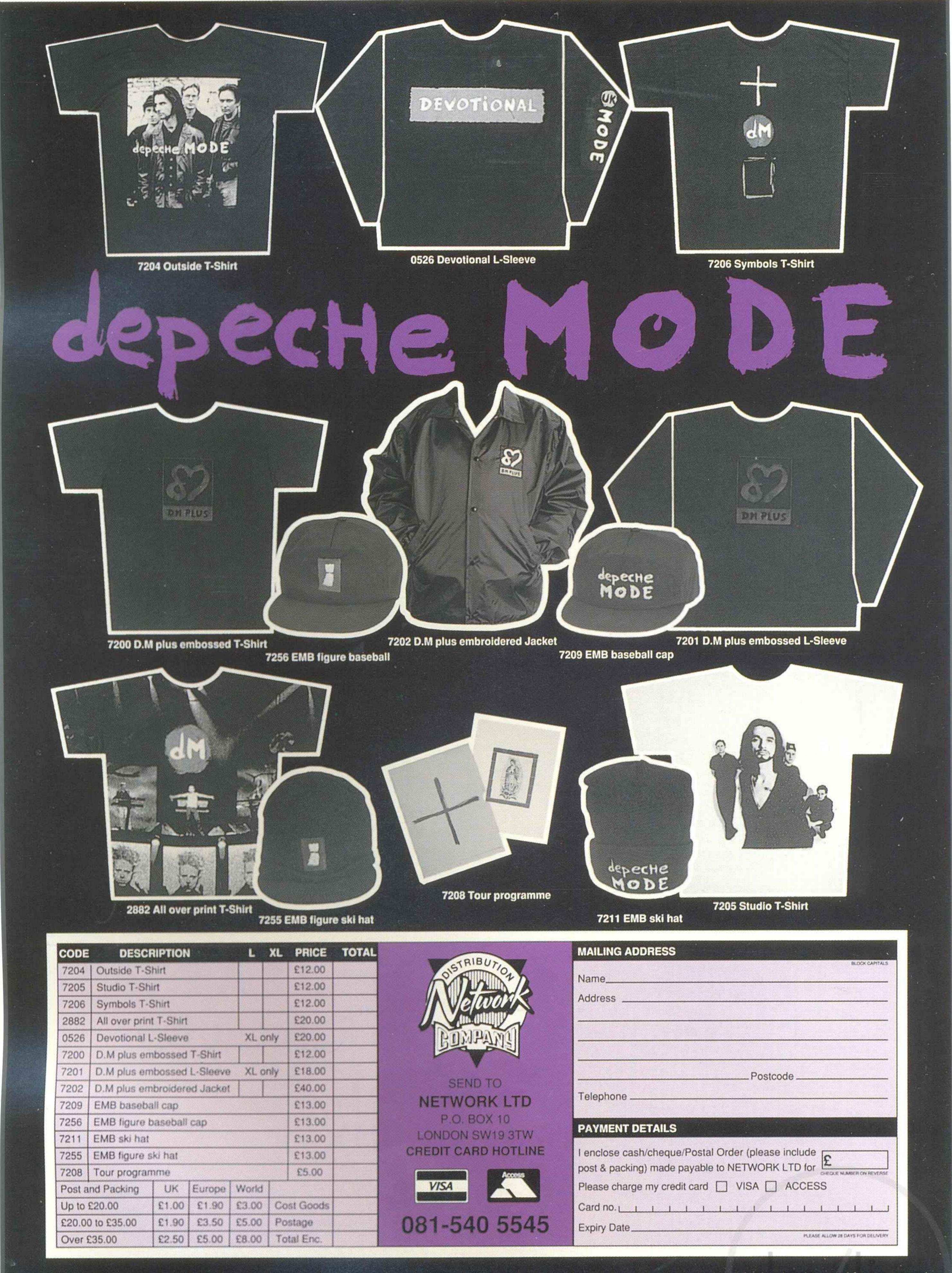
gramme, 'Strangers' book and UK 7" of "See You", "Leave In Silence", "Everything Counts", "It's Called A Heart", "A Question Of Time", "Personal Jesus" and "World In My Eyes". Reasonable offers (enclosing SAE/RC) to: Jason, 66 Vicarage Road, Brownhills, Walsall, W58 6AR, England

I am looking for Recoil CD "Hydrology Plus 1+2". Can anyone help me? Please, write to: Krokodyl, ul. Krasinskiego 9-2-3, 57-300 Klodzko, Poland

Wanted: Rare, Limited and Promotional CDs and old BONG magazines (especially before No.10). Collectors wanting to swap, buy or sell get in touch. If you live near me and just want to talk about DM, write anyway and maybe we can meet. Write to Johan Källberg, c/o Studerandebostäder, Kungsgatan 3, 602 20 Norrkőping, Sweden

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.

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If you wish to purchase photographs from the recent tour taken by Anton Corbijn please send a stamped addressed envelope to Distribution Network for free brochure and free souvenir photo.



Any queries, please, send S.A.E. to:
The Depeche Mode Fan Club,
P.O.Box 1281,
London N1 9UX,
England.