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Photo by Anton Corbijn

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. INTRO .

Welcome to issue 33 of BONG magazine!

We hope you all had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the sun wherever you were. As there were still some details about the forthcoming single to be confirmed, you've had to wait a little longer than usual for this issue - read on for the hottest news!

Celebrating their birthdays recently, Dave, Fletch and Martin would like to thank you very much for all your birthday cards and good wishes you sent via BONG!

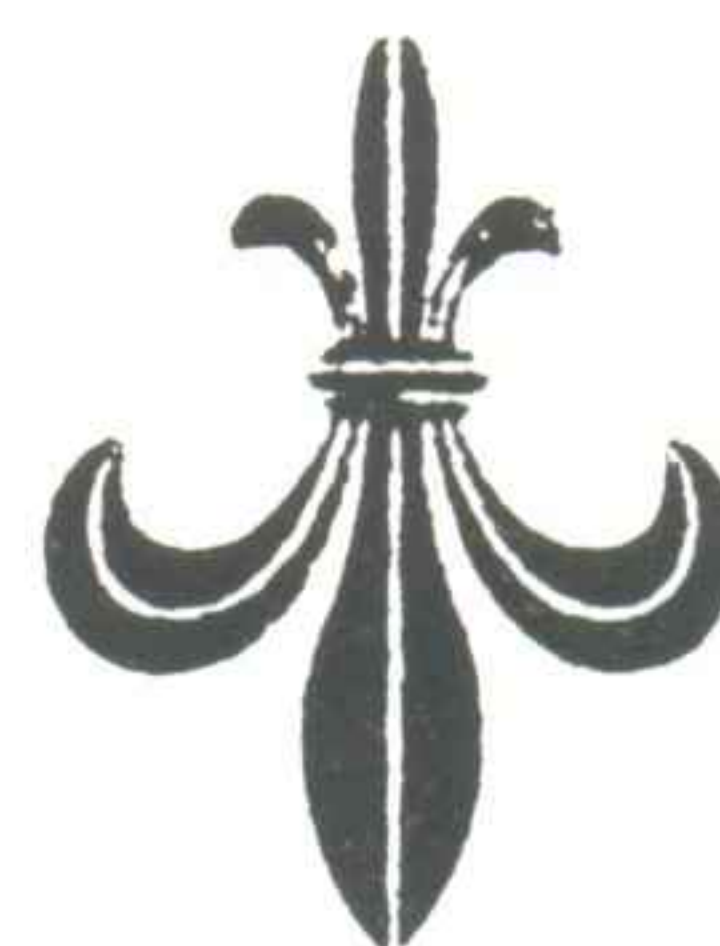
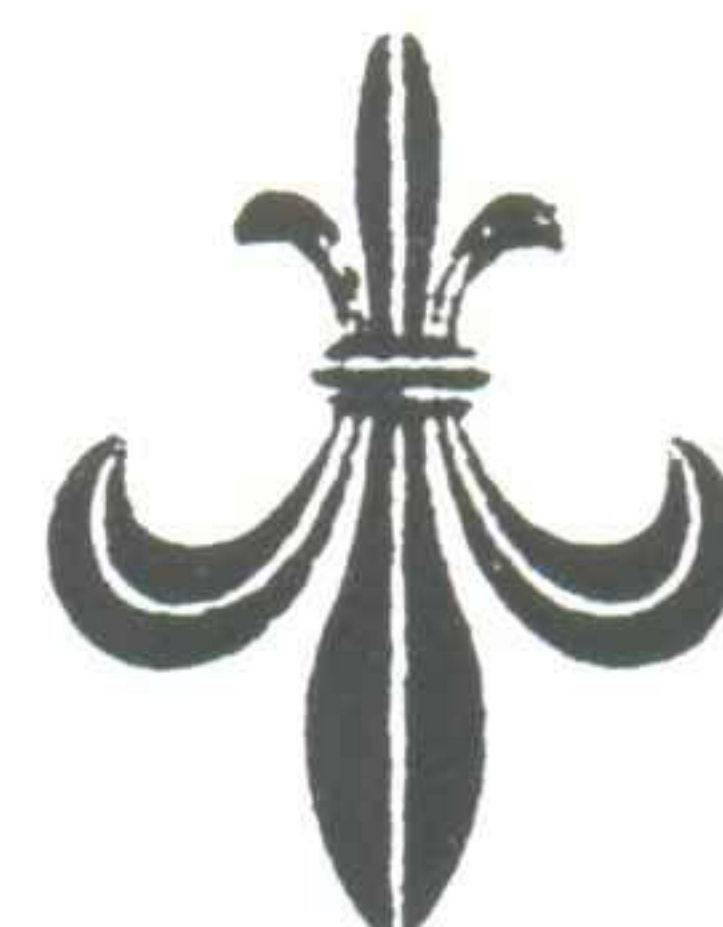
We've been absolutely swamped by your letters since the release of "Ultra" expressing your opinions and views on the new album. Your reactions were mostly positive but we did receive some negative ones. You'll find a good selection of both inside this issue giving you some idea of what fellow devotees think of "Ultra". We are very happy to say that "Ultra" has attracted many new fans from around the world and the number of new BONG members is increasing day by day.

In this issue's 'Archives' we are featuring reviews of SOFAD Live, but since this section has become very popular we would like it to continue by concentrating on Depeche Mode video cassettes. So once again, grab your pens and review the first two videos: "Live In Hamburg" and "Some Great Videos". We'll be waiting for your contributions in no more than 250 words and before the end of October please. A small gift will be sent to everyone whose review we print.

Please note that Michaela now has her own e-mail address, so if you wish to e-mail us your contributions, comments or opinions for publication in Bong magazine, then send them to Michaela directly, at: <flexible@tnet.cz>. However, membership and subscription enquiries should still be e-mailed to Lynn, at: <dm_fan_club@mutelibtech.com>.

The Depeche Mode International Fan Club Convention in Prague is getting closer! Saturday October 11th is the day and it's definitely something to look forward to! There are more details (including a change in the venue) further on.

That's about it for this issue, see you in December.



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EVERYTHING . COUNTS

Useless

The fourth single from "Ultra" will be "Useless". The gently funky song with the moaning guitar riffs underlining Dave's beautiful lead vocals, and Martin's backing vocals, is scheduled for release on October 20th, except in the USA, where it will be released on October 28th, but as a special package.

The Band were in North Wales at the end of August, shooting the accompanying **video** at an old lead mine, with Anton Corbijn directing. The performance video was shot in colour, and for many people, will be the first opportunity to see Martin sporting his new cropped haircut.

"Useless" will be released on the following formats:

CDBONG28 -

- "Useless" - Remixed by Alan Moulder and Daniel Miller
- "Useless - Escape From Wherever: Parts 1 & 2!" (Additional production and remix by Barry Adamson)
- "Useless - Cosmic Blues Mix" - (remixed by Paul Valentine)
- "Barrel Of A Gun" - Video - (playable on PC and Mac with CD ROM capabilities)

LCDBONG28 -

- "Useless - CJ Bolland Ultrasonic Mix"
- "Useless - The Kruder & Dorfmeister™ Session"
- "Useless - Live" - Recorded at Adrenalin Village on 10th April 1997
- "It's No Good" - Video - (playable on PC and Mac with CD ROM capabilities)

12BONG28 -

- Side A
 - "Useless - The Kruder & Dorfmeister™ Session"
- Side AA
 - "Useless - CJ Bolland Funky Sub Mix"
 - "Useless - Air 20 Mix" (Remix & Production by Carl Craig 4 Planet E, Detroit)

General

On March 2, "Pleasure, Little Treasure" and "Never Let Me Down Again" (Aggro Mix) were used in a Danish program called 'Supergeil'. The programme was about young people in government.

On Friday March 21, "Painkiller" was used as background music during a report about 'Mr. Bizz', a show on French Fun TV.

"Painkiller" was chosen by RTL2 as background music for advertising the movie series 'Die Jungen Wilden'.

On Sunday March 2, a programme called 'Focus TV' on the German TV station Pro 7 used snippets from "Stripped" (Highland Mix) throughout a report on young people who race cars dangerously on the motorways.

One Saturday in April "Policy Of Truth" was played in its entirety during an episode of Beverly Hills 90210 which was about cheating in exams.



Photo by Deirdre O'Callaghan

This year's summer was fairly quiet, lots of relaxing and free of promotional activities. The Band went off for their **holidays** in August - Fletch visited Majorca, Martin spent some time on St. Croix in The Virgin Islands and Dave was in Santa Monica.

After the holidays the band's first public appearance was made by Fletch and Dave at a German **gold disc** presentation on 31st August in Berlin during the International Broadcasting Fair (IFA).

Depeche Mode are the first ever band, domestic or international, to have achieved **three number ones** in Italy, with singles taken from the same album.

Dave recently sang "Song For Europe", for inclusion on a **Roxy Music** tribute album to be called "Dream Home Heartaches - Remodelling Roxy Music". Also playing on the track are John Taylor and percussionist Victor Endrizzio. The album should be released in a few weeks, but we are told it may be possible to buy the CD on the Internet before it is in the shops. Proceeds are to go to a children's charity. We have been trying to get more information before going to press, but this is all we know at the moment.

On 23rd February the show called "Weiss Der Geyer" presented the video of "Barrel Of A Gun" on the German channel MDR.

To launch the new album "Ultra", the German Radio 1 Live on FM 102,4 held a Depeche Mode Special on Friday, April 11. The programme called 'Cult Complex' included new and old songs, interviews and gossip on the Band.

On Wednesday May 21, "It's No Good" was used as background music for a report on swimsuits on the French channel 'Canal +' in a programme called 'La Grande Famille'.

On Friday 11th April, 'Bisquithalle', a club in Bonn (Germany) held a special Depeche Mode night, playing only Depeche Mode. What a blast!

Also on Friday 11th, the German TV station RTL aired a short report about Depeche Mode in a star show called 'Exclusiv'. It showed clips from "Enjoy The Silence", "It's No Good" and "Barrel Of A Gun" also a short interview with Dave.

On 20th April, "It's No Good" was played for approx. 1 minute for a Singapore sports programme called 'Sporting Life'.

On 7th May, the German music channel Viva broadcast a programme about the history of Depeche Mode together with an interview by the Band in a show called 'Jam'.

"Barrel Of A Gun" was used on French TV as background music to advertise a cup final match between Guingamp and Nice. A very important cup in France - apparently.

An extract of "Barrel Of A Gun" was used for a movie "Umarmung Mit Dem Tod" on German TV SAT 1.

'Tylko Rock', a Polish monthly magazine published an eight page spread on the history of Depeche Mode in their June edition, including reviews of all their albums.

On May 10, the Band appeared on a German TV show on RTL called 'Samstag Nacht' (Saturday Night) performing "It's No Good".

On May 10, RTL's 'Punkt 7' featured a short interview with Martin.

On May 5, 'In Strict Confidence' released a mini CD called "Collapse" featuring a cover of "Stripped".

In May, the German TV Sat 1 used an excerpt of "Barrel Of A Gun" to promote their TV-series "Der Grosse TV Film".

A Polish Auto Moto TV magazine is occasionally using fragments of different songs as background music for an introduction, breaks etc., including DM's "Master And Servant".

On 13th May, a guitarist of guest band Anthrax, on the Sky One TV comedy series 'Married With Children', was wearing a "Violator" T-shirt.

The Big Breakfast used a clip of the "Home" video as part of a Zig & Zag 'Alien Alarm' on Wednesday 18th June.

"Devotional", "101" and "Strange Too" are often played on the Czech TVs 'Prima' and 'Nova', to replace certain sport matches cancelled due to a bad weather.

"Little 15" was covered by a French band called Charts. They used it as the B-side for their own single "Libre Enfin" from 1995. The result? Pretty good!

Extensive interviews with the Band were published in the following French papers and magazines: L'Indic, Play Record, Les Inrockuptibles, Keyboards, Rock & Folk, Rock Style, Noize Unlimited.

On Monday 30th June, there was a Depeche Mode special during a programme called 'Rock et cetera' on the German radio DLF. It featured a 45 minute interview with Dave and Martin as well as playing the new songs from "Ultra".

The Polish radio station RMI FM broadcast a long interview with Depeche Mode on May 28-30.

Many thanks to Andrea Hellner, Samantha, Stephen Freddy, Inga, Laetitia Nougues, Nicolas Lannoy, Marc Borgstedt, Stewart Montgomery, Michael Spurný, Andreas Denner, Hilde Peeters, Marek Grzesiak, Colleen Seyboth, Valerie Bosc and to anyone else who sent in contributions. Please, keep the information coming in and don't forget that Everything Counts!

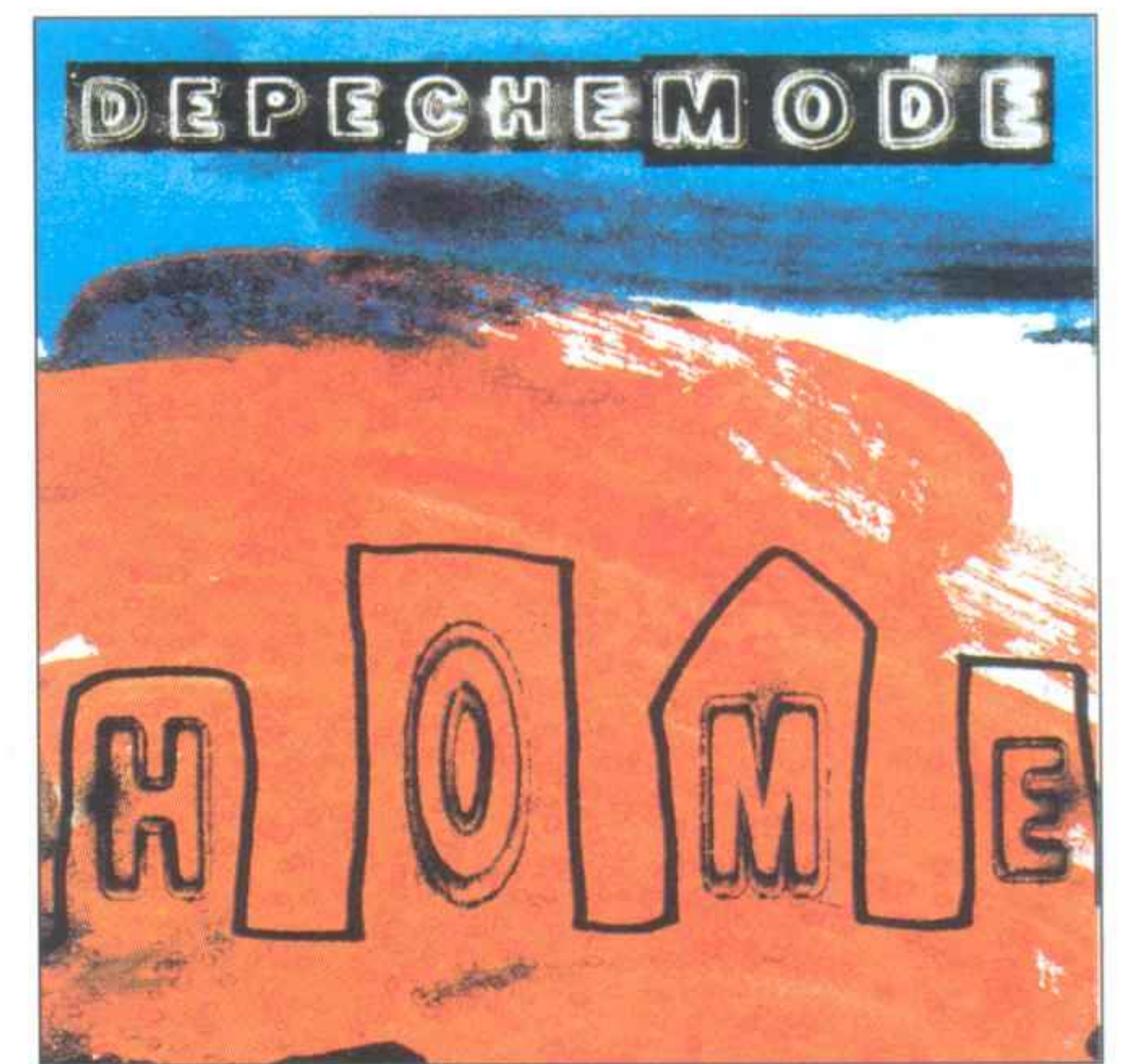
Depeche Mode Info Line

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

To find out more, please dial 0171-833 5570 but 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.

Depeche Mode Official Web Site

On 13th May 1997, Depeche Mode launched their official web site on the world wide web. Visit the site at: <http://www.depechemode.com>.



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PRESSED IN BLACK

Dear Bong,

My husband was the winner from California to be an extra in the "It's No Good" video. It was the most awe-struck fascinating two days of my life. The guys were so nice. Although they were busy with shooting the video, they still took the time to talk a little bit with each of us and were happy to let us take pictures. Dave looks absolutely fantastic!! Even better then the pictures you guys printed in your last two issues. Healthy and absolutely beautiful!!

Also thanks for the magazine, you educate many of us DM fans who are always looking for more information on the band.

Luciana Vasquez

Laguna Miguel, USA

Dear Bong,

I recently made an interesting discovery concerning the DM track "Agent Orange", which I am sure devotees know to be the name of the war chemical project during the Vietnam war, this chemical being devised by the US military. At the end of the track there is a code transmission. Once decoded, it reveals a distress signal used by the US military during Vietnam. It reads...."If anybody can hear this please help!"

Christopher Davis

King's Lynn, UK

Dear Bong,

I just want to say a few words about the happiness I felt listening to the extraordinary album "Ultra". It's really wonderful, magical....much better than I could ever expect!

I had a great chance to see my favourite band live on Monday April 21 on a French TV programme called 'Nulle Part Ailleurs'. They played the two new singles "BOAG" and "ING" and I must say that the performance was so very powerful. I was even happier when I learned there are no other shows planned for this year.

Thank you, thank you so much Depeche Mode. You are definitely the best!!!

Laetitia Nougues

Idron, France

Dear Bong,

It was quite interesting to see the new "Home" video. It looks very different to any other Depeche Mode videos and I've also overheard it wasn't directed by Anton Corbijn. Could you please bring some light into this by giving away more details?

Mark Stewart

London, England

Editor's note: As mentioned before in Bong 32, the video for "Home" was directed by Steve Green. The reason they used Steve as a director was that Anton wasn't available to shoot the video, and since the song is quite different, and Martin sings the lead vocal, it seemed an ideal opportunity to try something different.

Dear Bong,

I have been collecting Depeche Mode for many years and I'd like to ask some questions which may also be of interest to other DM collectors.

Last year, I found a UK release of the red 1983 "Everything Counts + live tracks" maxi single numbered A0057 at a London record fair. Does anyone know how many series (A, B, C,...) were released and how many singles made up each series? Have the green "Love In Itself" and the blue "Get The Balance Right" been numbered the same way? The German company Intercord issued numbered

copies of these records too, but I don't think they numbered the records the same way as the UK ones, did they? Thanks to anyone who can help me!

Michele Andina

Ponte Tresa, Switzerland

Dear Bong,

I recently purchased a Bogus Brothers megamix of The Doors. Martin Gore helped with the mix that's called "Door To Door". He also helped Daniel Miller remix a song named "Queer" by the band Garbage. Does anyone know of any other mixes done by Martin, or any other members of Depeche Mode?

Christopher Bain

Whitehouse, USA

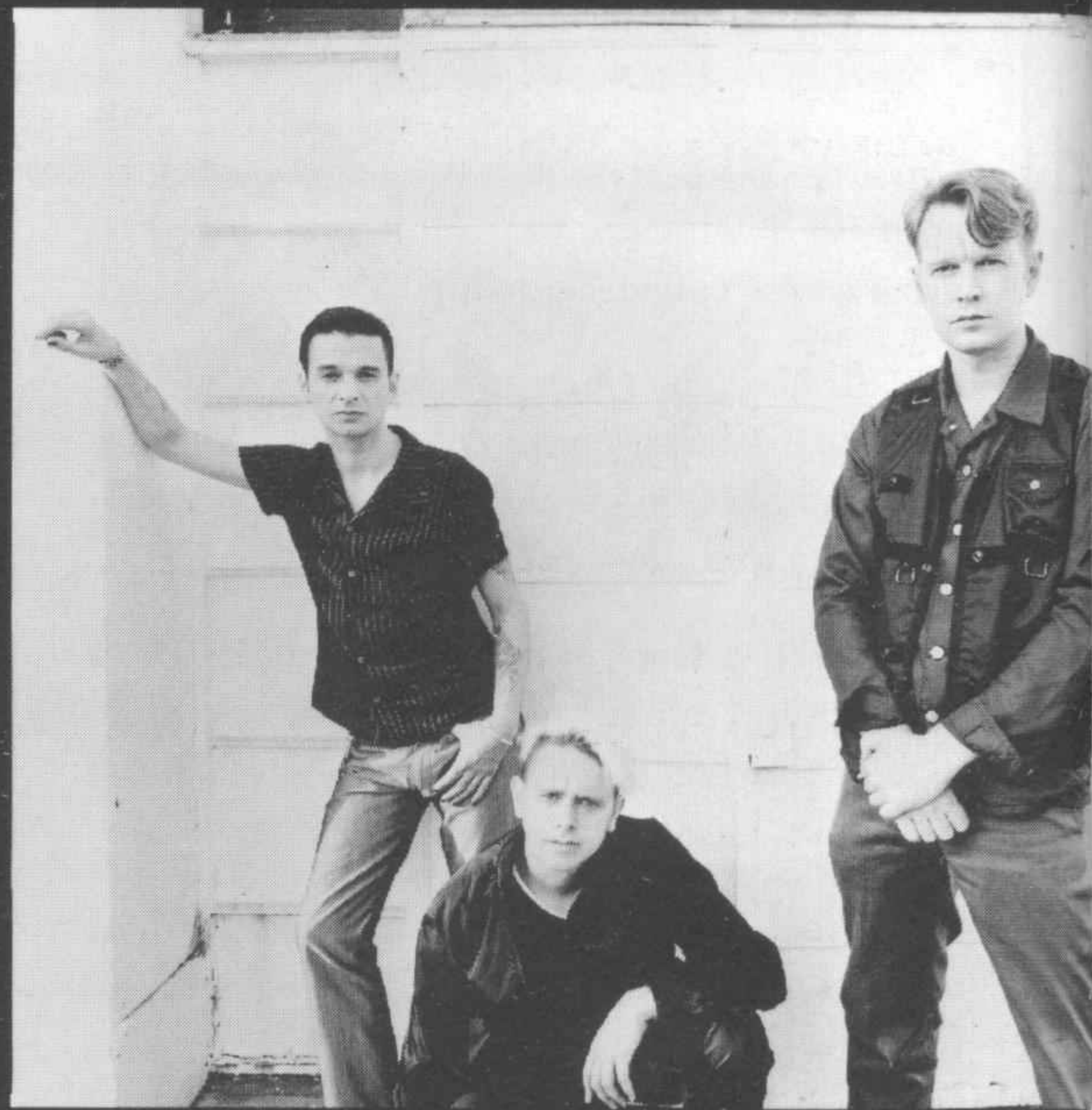


Photo by Marina Chavez

Editor's note: Martin is the only one of Depeche Mode who, so far, has turned his hand to remixing for other artists. A few years ago, he re-mixed, together with Paul Freegard, a song called "Rejoice" (Mystic Span Mix) by the band Spirit Feel, and, as you say, he worked on a remix of "Queer" by Garbage, but this was with Gareth Jones and Paul Freegard, not with Daniel Miller. However, he was not involved in the Bogus Brothers megamix you mention.

Dear Bong,

Do you know if Anton is going to make a new "Strangers" or "Strange"?

Jakob E. Kristensen

Holstebro, Denmark

Editor's note: There are certainly no plans for either at the moment, but as far as video compilations are concerned, it is likely that this idea would be considered to coincide with the release of a singles album.

Dear Bong,

At first, many thanks to Andrew, Martin and Dave for making "Ultra" - it's such a great album. I haven't had so much pleasure listening to an album for many years. I also enjoyed the video to "It's No Good" - it was real fun to watch it.

I am 24 years old and a fan of Depeche Mode since 1989. Before, I was only interested in pop music of 1988, but funnily enough, I liked Depeche Mode ever since "People Are People" and "Master And Servant". So it was only natural for me to become a real devotee a few years later. Now, my personal favourite DM songs are "Walking In My Shoes", "Useless", "Barrel Of A Gun", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Little 15", "Insight", "Rush", "Behind The Wheel/Route 66" (Live '90), "Told You So", "Death's Door", "World In My Eyes", "Love In Itself", "Sacred", "Home", "See You", "Reason Man", "Ice Machine", "The Meaning Of Love" and many others. Unfortunately, I have only been to two DM concerts (1990 and 1993), both at Westfalenhalle, Dortmund.

At last, I have noticed Andy saying in one of the recent interviews that perhaps there is going to be a new album before the year 2000. He also said that the next album could be another collection of the DM singles, but I think it would have to be a double CD, since there is just so many great singles the Band has produced.

Peter Lindackers
Oberhausen, Germany

Editor's note: We are glad you enjoy "Ultra" and pleased you have become a real devotee. It is very likely that there will be another singles album before the end of next year, and we are sure you are right about it needing to be a double CD. We will keep everyone informed as soon as we hear any more news on this.

Dear Bong,

I can't believe it's been a year since I heard over the radio that Dave had overdosed. It made me realise how selfish I was waiting for new material.

I would like to say to Dave: "Well done for going through rehab and all my best wishes for a happier future in whatever you do". I think other fans should not be so demanding of Depeche Mode and enjoy the material they've done already.

Candice
Plymouth, UK

Dear Bong,

After receiving Bong 32 and reading your request for comments on "Ultra" I would like to make the following points. I was not surprised at the usual "this is the best thing DM have ever done" attitude in Pressed In Black but I must disagree with it. Don't get me wrong, "Ultra" is a GOOD album but it's nowhere near DM's best work. Tracks such as "Jazz Thieves" and "The Bottom Line" are frankly average. There is a definite sense of incompleteness about the album that makes it difficult to get used to, this is not surprising bearing in mind the upheavals the band have been through.

My major criticism however is the single releases. All the singles themselves have been strong but the mixes on the usual 2 CD sets have been abysmal. Mute know fans will buy these for their collection but out of 8 or so tracks you are lucky to get one decent remix. "Home" was the final straw with an awful selection of mixes typified by the "Jedi Knights Remix" which bears NO resemblance to the song. I am a DM fan and I want DM music, but if I wanted to buy this kind of dance rubbish I would buy dance CDs.

Please don't think I am criticising for the sake of it, as I am a loyal fan of 17 years, but I believe some level of constructive criticism is needed to counterbalance the 'blind faith' published in Bong.

Marcus Passant
Vale of Glam, UK

Editor's note: We agree that there should be space in Bong for everyone to express their opinions and feelings, be it a criticism or a 'blind faith' as you call it. However, throughout the past couple of years we've mostly received only positive responses to what the Band were doing, even though things have been relatively quiet. Now after the release of "Ultra" the fans and Bong members are coming alive again and are more enthusiastic than ever. Although there has been a mixed bag of opinions as you can see in this issue, there are some good album reviews, and some bad ones. We are open to anything as long as it is constructive.

Dear Bong,

Thank you very much for sending me the latest edition of Bong - it was an enjoyable read and the recent photos of the band were great.

I would like to say how pleased I have been to find the lads making appearances on Top Of The Pops, the Ozone and TFI, to name a few. I hope we will see much more of them on TV in the future!

Congratulations on "Ultra". I have not stopped listening to it since it came out in April. It's such a wonderful album - you can listen to it whatever mood you may be in. I love all the songs, but my overall favourite would undoubtedly have to be "Home" - it's such a powerful song and Martin's 1st class vocals just make it perfect in every way. Please say you'll release it, so that not only those who bought the album can appreciate such a masterpiece.

Adelle Halesworth
Barrow-in-Furness, UK

Editor's note: We are happy that you like "Home" so much, especially now, since your wish has come true.

Dear Bong,

Would it be possible to tell whether the following rumours are correct or not? It would be very much appreciated.

- * Martin is releasing a new album
- * DM will be releasing The Greatest Hits including some new tracks at the beginning of 1998, followed by the world tour visiting the major cities only?
- * Is there a possibility of Dave releasing a solo album?
- * Is there going to be another 'live' album after the tour?

Many questions, I know - but please help me.

Bernard Van Isacker
Handzame, Belgium

Editor's note:

- * As far as we know, Martin isn't currently working on any solo project.
- * Depeche Mode won't be releasing a Greatest Hits album in the New Year, but it is possible that a singles album could be out before the end of next year. It's true the Band are considering touring in 1998, but it's very difficult to say at this stage where they would visit.
- * As for the last two questions, Dave isn't planning to release a solo album, and as yet there are no plans for a live album.

Dear Bong,

Imagine April 20th 1997 - my birthday, a package arrives to a floating Caribbean cruisesliner, containing DM's new single "It's No Good". Being that I didn't even know of its release, what joy it bought (thank you Anna). It was not taken off the discman that night, the silly hats + hairbrushes came out, tears, joy + DM bonding. This single will never be forgotten in my memory, it was my cabins anthem + introduced many people into the world of Depeche Mode.

Jacqui
Northwood, UK

I feel very privileged and excited to have heard the new Depeche album three weeks prior to release on a promo copy. As I've been a very dedicated fan since 1981 I've come to expect the unexpected from these three guys whom I admire greatly.

However "Ultra" was 'very' unexpected indeed, to explain my delight at such a beautiful piece of work could take forever but I'll shorten it to simply 'their finest album'. Gone were the days of tracks like "Insight" and "Sister Of Night" from Depeche I thought. Simplicity through complex sounds, and beautiful arrangements and vocals make for a truly overwhelming experience. "Home" brought tears to my eyes as I drove along to work on my first and second listens, safe in the knowledge that Depeche Mode, my greatest inspiration, were back. To all Depeche Mode fans across the world....enjoy!

Porl Emery
Thame, UK

I suspect that my opinion will be in somewhat of a minority (considering this is a fan club magazine), but I do not rate "Ultra" very highly at all. After hearing of the departure of Alan Wilder, and the problems Dave was having, I doubted the (credible) survival of the band, but was delighted by the first two singles. The visual element has, unsurprisingly, not diminished a bit. On hearing "Ultra" the first few times, I couldn't really fault the music either - indeed it sounded mercifully quite different to the usual Tim Simenon productions. I particularly liked "Uselink", seeming to start as an "A Broken Frame" B-side and become interestingly weird and '90s. No, it's the lyrics which really disappoint me about "Ultra". "Freestate" and "Insight" are the worst, examples of the shallow optimism which is becoming increasingly more prominent on DM albums. Perhaps the over-anxious, over-sincere, heart-bleeding delivery lets songs like "Home" ("....drowning in time to a desperate beat") and "Useless" ("....here I stand the accused with your fist in my face" - "People Are People", anyone?) down. Gore has forgotten that the cynical or humorous twists in songs like "Somebody", "It Doesn't Matter 2" and "Blue Dress" gave them increased

emotional power. Only "The Love Thieves" and especially "The Bottom Line" remotely live up to past glories. "The Bottom Line" is a progression, attaining perfect ambiguity between sex and religion.

Mark Symons
Barnstaple, UK

I have decided to drop a line in order to share my opinion about "Ultra" with you.

When I was reading about the hard times the boys had during the recording of "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" then again on tour and listening to that record again and again, I thought that nothing could be better. Of course, I was totally wrong!

There it is - "Ultra" - coming to satisfy our thirst for the new fresh sounds. I was sure that what they produced would be another masterpiece. I knew there would be a lot of controversy in the media, but honestly "Ultra" beat all my expectations. I adore it from the first hearing and the very first thought that came into my mind once I played the record was that "Ultra" is ultra, indeed! Ever since I've bought the album and every time I feel like listening to this music, the same divine sounds are in my ears - the sounds of "Ultra". However that doesn't mean I neglect or forget the previous albums, after all they are the reason we all love Depeche Mode so much.

Depeche are now more powerful than ever....with this latest album they gave the greatest answer to all the rubbish in the press and the silly journalists who were writing and talking only about Dave's personal life and his problems, instead of the Band and their music.

I am not going to analyse all the songs but I'd like to focus on "Sister Of Night", in my opinion the most tender song of the album. To me it's very special 'cause it's one of these DM songs that seem to shorten the distance between us and the Band....by their lyrics, music, passionate vocals and peculiar spiritual atmosphere.

I'd also like to give my humble contribution to their incredible chart success all over the world. Here in Bulgaria "Ultra" reached No. 1 in the sales chart and "It's No Good" No. 3 in the national Top 20.

The historic day I bought "Ultra" and the wonderful time I had and am still having

listening to the album are additional to the happiest moments of my life, most of which are closely connected with Depeche Mode. I just want to tell them: Thank you! I love you and I always will!!!

Maria
Kjustendil, Bulgaria

I am just writing to say I think "Ultra" is an outstanding piece of work to date, and "Useless" being my favourite track on the album.

Going back six years, I was on the border of Iraq when the ground war started and then I received a signed when, at that time, looking extremely bleak I didn't know whether piece or even alive. and they sent me the me and helped me in the ground war, my The Silence", my all time favourite. My Mum always reminds me of that time, as well as my Wife and my two great children. She said playing "Enjoy The Silence" made her feel I was close to her and not in some distant land where my life was in danger.

So thank you for everything Dave, Mart and Fletch and Bong. Good luck with everything you do from a fan who first saw your gig in the London Lyceum Ballroom back in 1981! Devoted forever!

Lenny
Chester, UK

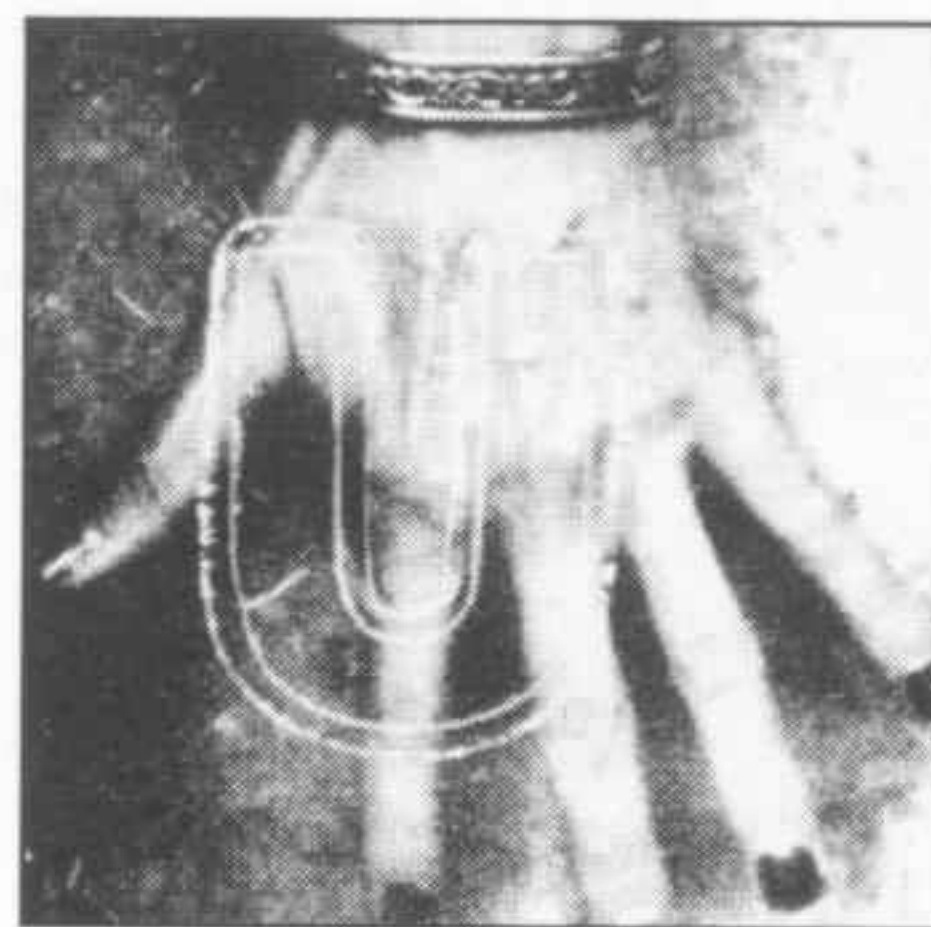
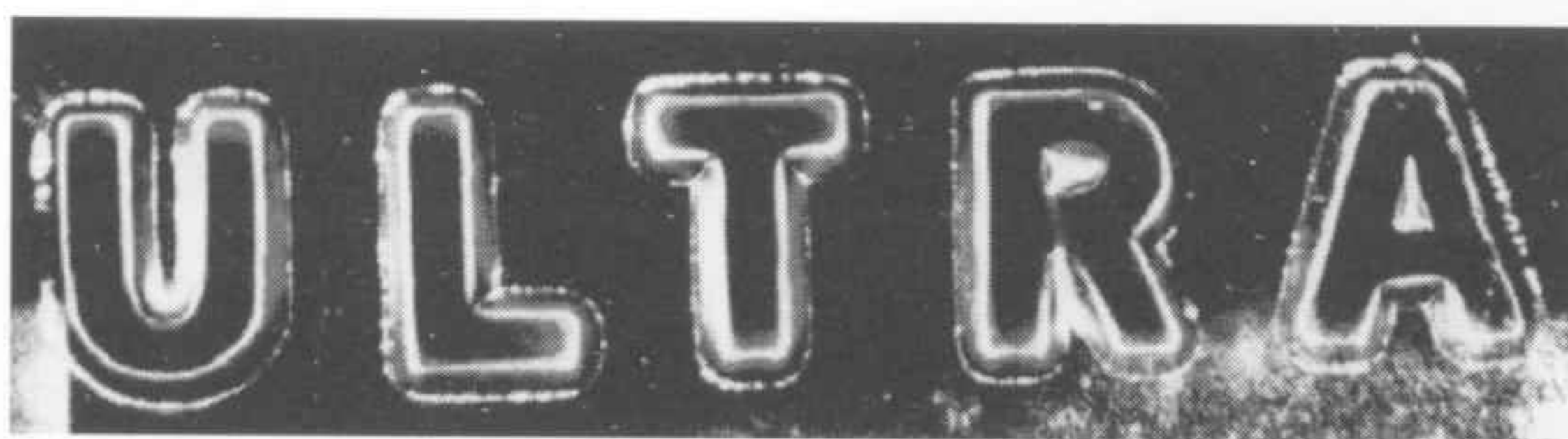


photo of Depeche Mode. It was I thought my life span was as once the ground war started I would be coming back in one When my Mum wrote to Bong signed photo it totally surprised through. While we were fighting Mum played continuously "Enjoy

Being a fan since 1982-83 I regret joining the Fan Club only last year. I've should have done it much earlier. The work you put up for us fans is incredible and I guess I must thank you for keeping us all informed and bringing us all closer together through the club.

I know that almost everyone is about "Ultra", but not me. First I would personal favourites: "Violator", and "SOFAD". In my opinion, "Ultra" is

I think that everybody is so excited for this album for such a long time. The don't get to me, except for "It's No Home". "Uselink", I like very much too for its simplistic old fashioned analogue synth feeling, but just like "Jazz Thieves" it seems to mess up the album a bit because it's so short and falls out of place.

First time listeners to Depeche Mode could get confused by this, I guess, but an old timer like me is not really surprised by the overgrown "would be" interludes. In general the remixes of the singles from "Ultra" are very disappointing, especially those of "Barrel Of A Gun" (the Underworld mixes are quite awful, I have to say). "Painkiller" is great but I think the Hardfloor Mix of "It's No Good" is the best one of them all.

Richard van der Meer
Veenendaal, Holland

"Ultra" is another landmark album for Depeche Mode. Ten years after the dark, brooding and beautiful "Music For The Masses", this is another brave leap forward. "Ultra" is both a move to the future, harvesting new sounds and features, but also a reflection on the past - recalling sounds and images Depeche Mode have used so effectively before.

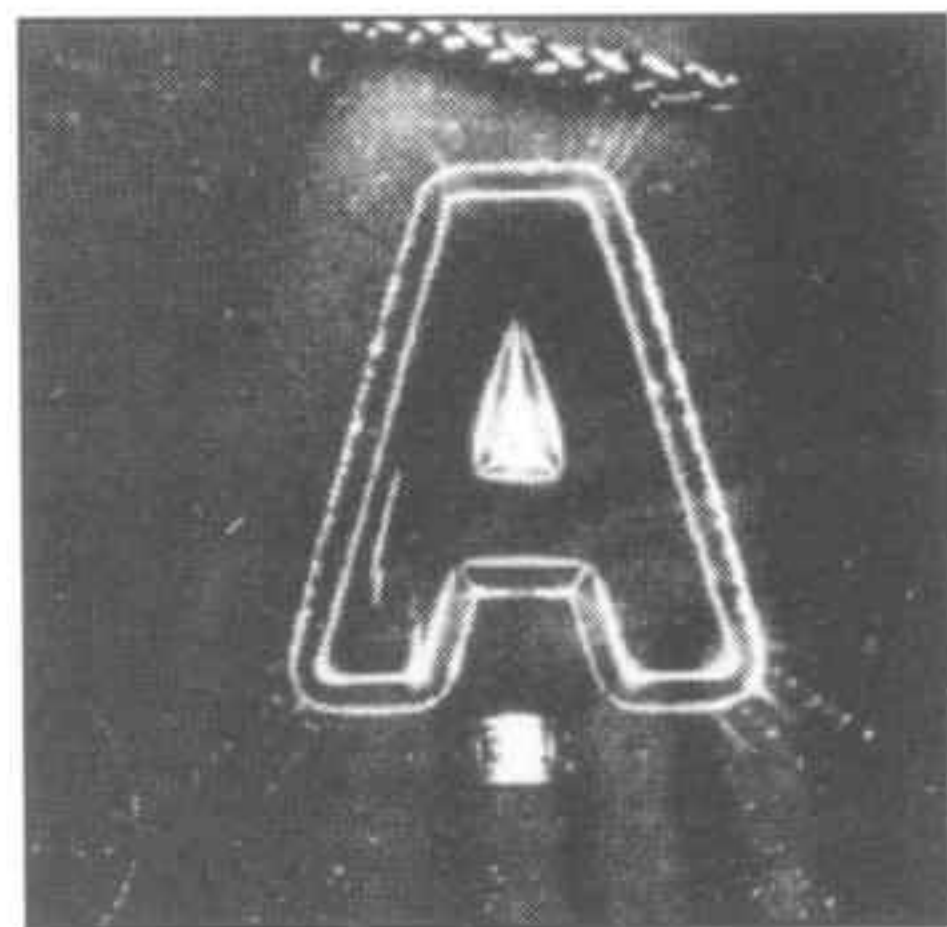
The backdrop for "Ultra" is Martin's traditional (for DM) interest in sex and religion with new grappling with fate and self-determinacy. "Barrel Of A Gun" sums up the greater part of the album: "Whatever I've done/Been staring down the barrel of a gun" - the choices you make are to some extent pre-determined. This song also reflects Dave's addictions, and perhaps Martin's problems with alcohol: "A vicious appetite visits me each night...." "Barrel Of A Gun" is soaked with beautiful, and rather sad, images reflecting the struggles the band and its individual members have had since before 1993. "Barrel Of A Gun" is a clever and often subtle song despite its heavy-handed title.

"The Love Thieves" continues the theme of love lost or laboured over. The song is a sumptuous testament to relationship traumas and personal desire. Rhymes of 'whaler', 'jailor' and 'tailor' are little Martinesque treats. These rhyming schemes place "The Love Thieves" up there in lights with "Never Let Me Down Again's" 'houses' and 'trousers'. Great!

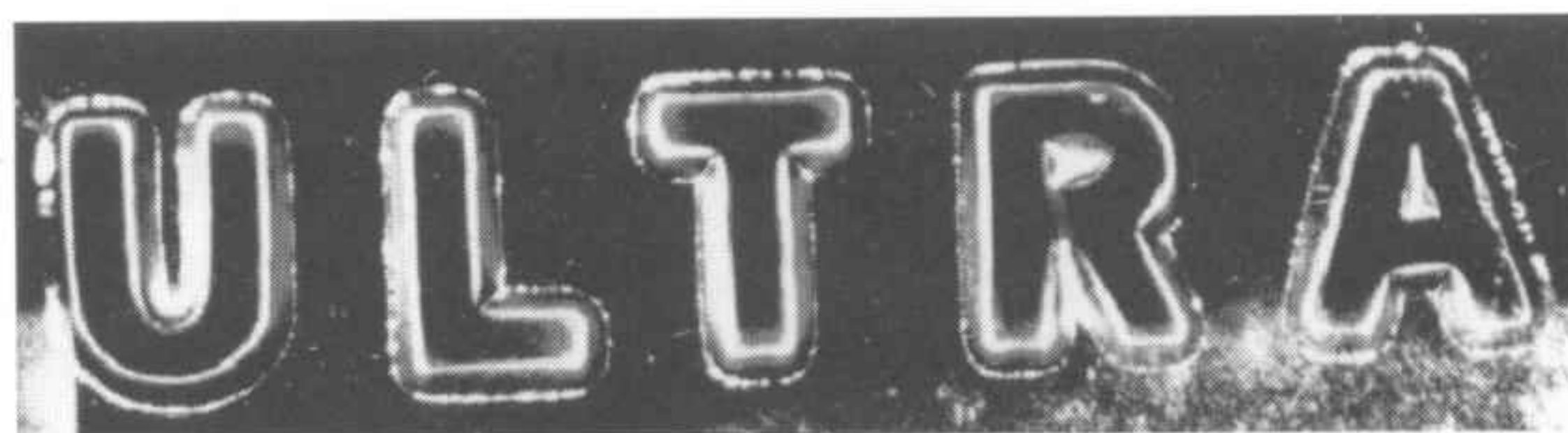
"Home" is gorgeous. Perhaps the guitar at the end is a little too much, but it does not detract from a cleverly written song. The 'Grantby' mix may be superior to the album version by cleverly captioning the ascending bass line, which was somewhat reminiscent of that in "Behind The Wheel".

"It's No Good" is "Ultra's" "Enjoy The Silence". Bouncy, dance orientated and a great lifter of mood. "Uselink" and "Jazz Thieves" also recall "Violator's" used links. Subsequent tracks draw away from the past and strike out on newer ground. "Useless" has a strong Rock foundation moulded to Depeche Mode's style with strong inputs from On-U-Sound's Keith Leblanc and Doug Wimbish. "Freestate" has an interesting Country and Western, and Blues overtone. Was this inspired by DM's trip to South Africa?

Perhaps my current favourite is "The Bottom Line". A heady mix of Jazz and Blues with, again, a slight Country and Western touch. Very mellow indeed. Again, fate features heavily in this song. In some ways this track sums up the



enthusiastic like to mention my "A Broken Frame" not that great.... because we waited songs in general Good" and



themes of "Useless" and "Freestate" and concludes the album.

"Sister Of Night" broods on its own in the second half of the album, while "Insight" carries the album away in a similar vein to "Higher Love". Ambient, anthem-like and up-beat. "Insight" should be great to join tunelessly into at concerts. "Q" felt that many of the tracks sounded incomplete. However, that is the beauty of this album. Like "Music For The Masses" before it in 1987, it closes off the past and begins sampling tentatively, the future.

Subtle, carefully crafted harmonies, tender experimentation. This is the beginning of a new life for Depeche Mode. Streamlined and ready to conquer a new millennium.

David Stevenson
Norwich, UK

First, I'd like to thank the Fan Club for putting together such a wonderful magazine for us and for our much loved Depeche Mode. I've been a fan for over a decade now which was started by listening to KROQ growing up in L.A. and Depeche Mode is still my No. 1 band. The band has put together some really amazing music over the years and in my opinion, it just keeps getting better.

The band certainly has not lost their edge with the new album "Ultra". It's classic Depeche Mode, with David Gahan's great vocals, Martin Gore's exceptional lyrics along with that distinct Depeche Mode sound that really separates them from the rest. I'm just glad that they are still making incredible music considering what they have gone through over the years. Long live the music, the life, the fans, and Depeche Mode.

Mike Cuenco
Montgomery, USA

They've done it again, haven't they?! "Ultra", I mean.

Who else could produce an album, which can inspire so many different feelings - laughter, tears, and even goosebumps (Insight)!

Verdict - more than worth the wait! Fan-bloody-tastic!

Michelle Snares
England

dm/live
Freely provided by DM Live
dmlive.wiki

I met that guy from Depeche Mode once....the venue - HMV, Oxford Street, London....the occasion - a personal appearance by the band to autograph copies of "Music For The Masses".

Ten years ago now but I remember the evening. I can't describe the buzz in the air at events like this. It felt like being at one of their concerts...being amongst other excited fans....the familiar songs playing from the loud speakers. And this time there was a chance of getting that much closer to the band. Maybe exchange a few words.

As the photos show, I gave Dave a testing time with my name...."That's D.I.A.N.N.E., Dave; I've got two "N's" in my name", I said!! He got the spelling right, handed back my album and I moved onto the next - Alan, I think. Then Fletch and Martin.

A good night, a big grin on my face and a signed album for my collection....

Dianne Harvie

Bury St. Edmunds, UK

I've been a DM fan since 1985 when I heard "Shake The Disease" on the radio and fell in love with it. I noticed the different sounds and approach to music, melody, danceable and meaningful, Depeche Mode had.

I must say I've been quite lucky to have met Depeche Mode, especially Martin, on various occasions - I've always considered him a special person and I still do. I was very pleased to meet Martin on 27/10/87 outside a well-known hotel in Rome the day of the gig during the "Music For The Masses Tour" and get his autograph and pictures of him. At that time I unfortunately didn't get a chance to go backstage. Also, I couldn't get a picture with him as many people were there!

The pictures attached were taken at two different times. The one I have red hair in was taken on the occasion of the "World Violation Tour" in Rome (1990), backstage. The other one was taken in London in late 1992 in a Soho nightclub where Martin used to go and also myself regularly, because of the excellent atmosphere, interesting people and music that they played there.

Additional note: thanks to the same passion for Depeche Mode, in 1987 I met my best friend Fabiaha outside the hotel where the band stayed - she's still my best mate!!!

Daniela Pula

London, UK

It was 11th July 1993 around 8pm and five crazy DM fans were waiting for their big moment... Each of us won the backstage pass either through a radio or newspaper contest. We were waiting for quite some time as one of the band members was delayed. Then we were finally picked up by the band's personnel and led backstage of the José de Alvalade stadium. Everybody was very excited! We almost felt as the big stars ourselves!

Finally, the last door and we were to see our idols! But there was no-one in there when we walked in. So we were asked to sit down and wait a few more minutes. We were all very nervous and the waiting didn't help it either. But then, there he was, Dave in person, passing by and heading to a nearby bathroom. He looked at us, gave us a smile and disappeared again. Three minutes later

we saw Andy, followed by Alan and Martin, coming to greet us.

We were introduced to the boys. I was mistakenly introduced as one of the members of the Portuguese DM Fan Club but they seemed to be quite happy with that. After this we could take pictures, ask for autographs and talk to the band.... So I used this opportunity to approach Dave. I brought along a picture from my archives showing Dave when he was only about five years of age and so I wanted to know if that was really him. When Dave looked at the photograph he was really surprised but then he confirmed that it is him. "Yes, it is me!", he said. "Where did you get this? These fans are crazy, they've got everything!" He kept looking at the picture and showed it to the rest of the band saying: "Look, that's me!" I also had a chance to pass the best regards on to Dave from several other Portuguese fans who were not as lucky as me to get backstage. Martin was also given a tape with a recording of Madreus, a Portuguese band, from one of the other fans.

We hanged around at backstage for about 18 minutes and then it was almost 'Devotional' time. The concert itself was very special in two ways - there were no curtains at the intro of "Higher Love" as it was quite windy that night and when Dave gave Martin a big kiss at the end of the show. It seemed that not only Depeche Mode fans enjoyed themselves that wonderful night in Lisbon....

Ana Martins

Codex, Portugal

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

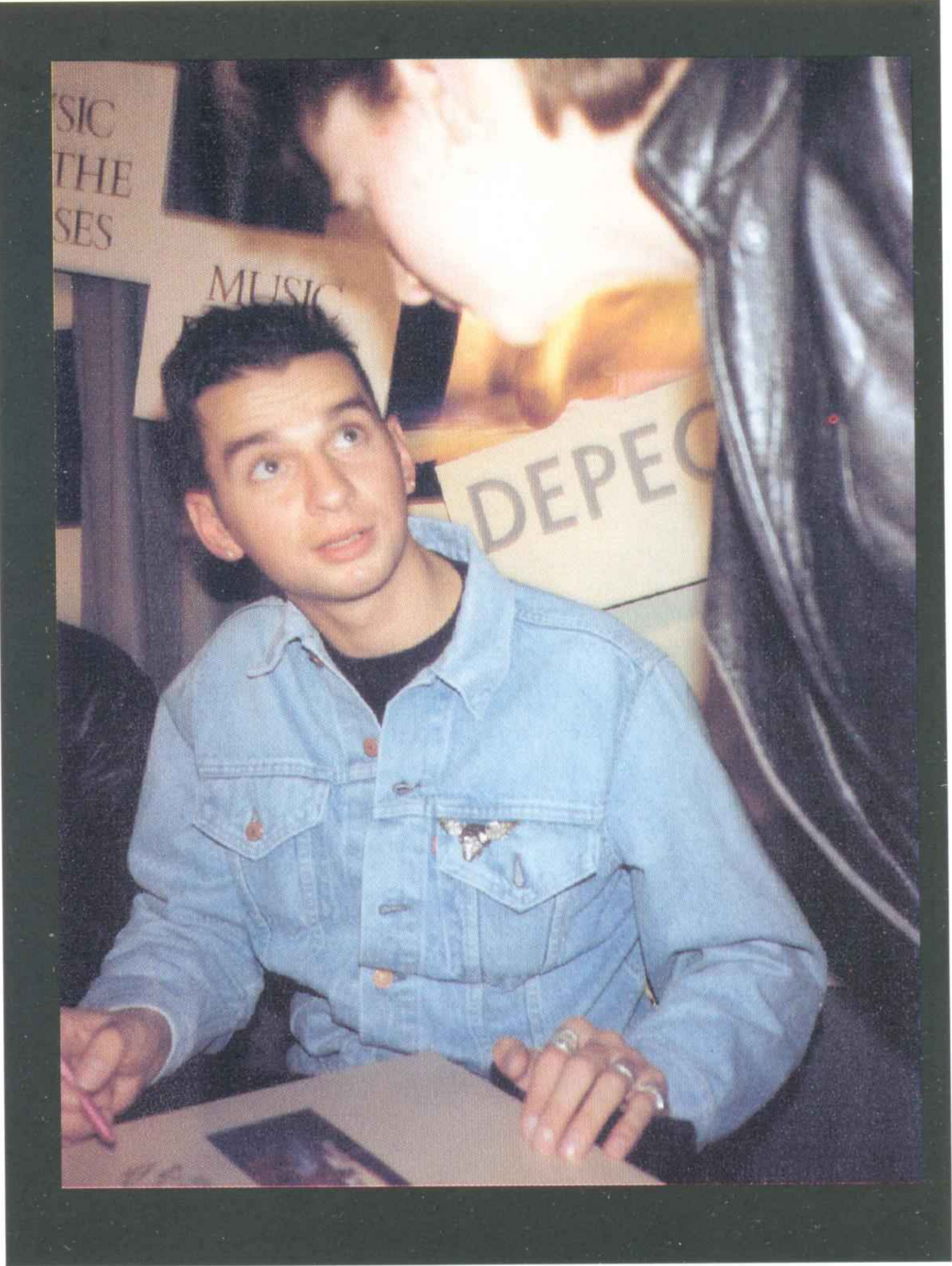


Photo courtesy of Dianne Harvie and Daniela Pula

Use!

♩ = 94

Capo 1

Em G# C#maj7

Em/B# Em G#

C#maj7 Em/B# Em

Well it's a - bout time
Watch the clock on the wall
Here I stand the ac - cused

it's be - gin - ning to hurt,
feel the slow - ing of time,
with your fist in my face,

time you made up your mind
hear a voice in the hall
feel - ing ti - red and bruised

Em/B# Em G# C#maj7

just what is it all worth.
e - cho - ing in my mind.
with the bit - ter - est taste.

Em/B# B# C#

* All my use - less ad - vice,
All your stu - pid i - deals,

B# C# B#

all my hang - ing a - round,
got your head in the clouds,

all your cut - ting down to size,
you should see how it feels

C# D#

to Coda

all my bring - ing you down...
with your feet on the ground.

1. C# 2. C#

B# C# B#

C# D#

ess.

Words and Music by Martin Gore

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D. # al Coda

CODA

All your stu-pid i-deals,

got your head in the clouds,

you should see how it feels

with your feet on the ground.



A theme melody for the upcoming James Bond movie "Tomorrow Never Dies" is being composed and recorded by the music chameleon Moby. The song will be released as a single on October 20 and will contain remixes by artists such as Danny Tenaglia, CJ Bolland, Oliver Lieb and Da Bomb. Talking movies - Moby is putting together a compilation of the songs that he originally wrote for the films and that were previously released on the various soundtrack albums. The compilation is to be called "I Like To Score" and features songs like "Go" (Twin Peaks), "New Dawn Fades" (Joy Division cover from Heat), "God Moving Over The Face Of The Waters" and other tracks from Double Tap, Scream or The Saint to name just a few.

It seems now that the long awaited single "Rain" from the Erasure's last album comes out on September 29. Apart from the original version, it will feature a special remix of the song "Sometimes" as well as a dub mix of this year's hit "In My Arms".

Highly acclaimed and ambitious band Einsturzende Neubauten let their latest album "Ende Neu" (Sep 8) be interpreted by other artists. The main aspect of "Ende Neu" is the process of artistic creation and the process of interpreting someone else's thoughts with one's own techniques. Ten different artists (Barry Adamson, Alec Empire, Thomas Fehlmann, Panasonic and Jon Spencer among others) with varying musical backgrounds try their luck with this band which has moved and influenced them in a variety of ways. Einsturzende Neubauten will undertake an extensive tour of Europe this autumn, which takes in some of the larger continental festivals.

dm/live

Photo courtesy of Monica Lepping



Wednesday morning, 7th May 97, I got to work and couldn't think of anything else other than Depeche Mode! I told my boss that I had to go to Cologne to see my heroes and believe it or not, he gave me the day off! Thank you!

I arrived in Cologne around lunchtime and went straight to the hotel where the Band were staying and where my friend had already booked a room for us. When I met her the first thing she said was: "Guess what? Our room is only two doors from Dave's suite, I couldn't believe my ears, but it was true. Poor Dave...."

It was about time to leave for the RTL studios for the rehearsal. There were only about 40 fans and so it was very intimate. The atmosphere was really brilliant. Depeche Mode had to perform "It's No Good" twice and after they were done we had a chance to get their autographs and take some pictures. It was a very small studio and we all got a chance to chat to everyone.

After this short break they performed "It's No Good" again and suddenly Dave wanted to sing "Barrel Of A Gun". Martin wasn't quite in the mood for this and murmured: "Oh, yes and why not "Boys Say Go" as well?" I agreed and asked them to perform "Useless" and "Home" too.

Everybody laughed and then they sang "Barrel Of A Gun" just for us.

When we got down to the lounge again, hundreds of other fans were there screaming crying and climbing on chairs and tables to get a glimpse of the Band. They got tired of that quite soon and left. As

it already was quite late at night, we went back to the hotel and ended up at the hotel bar with Martin, Fletch, the crew and about 15 other fans.

After some time, Martin and a few other fans went to a nightclub called Apollo, but Jenny and I were too tired, so we decided to stay. What a good choice we made! It was only Jenny, myself, the crew and Fletch who stayed in the bar and what a great time we had! Andy was very nice and a great person to talk to!

All in all, we had a brilliant time but I would like to mention one thing that really made us angry...It was the RTL that didn't treat us very well and when we saw the show on TV we couldn't believe what they did to the Band's performance we saw during the rehearsals. I think they better fire their technicians!

Now I would just like to thank everyone who made this possible. A big kiss to Jenny and a cuddle for JD. Hope to see you all very soon again.

Lots of strange and higher love!



GERMANY MODES ON

by Monica Lepping



BOOTLEGS

AND.

DJ. MIXES

Get The Message Right

Format: LP

Origin: Unknown

Now, I would like to refer to Giacomo Solazzo's letter from Bong 29. The tracklisting of the bootleg "The Real Rare Tracks" is very similar to the one I bought two years ago. This LP is called "Get The Message Right" and the tracks on it are: "If I Ever Change", "I Confess", "Russian Radio", "Discovery", "1,2,3, (One-Two-Three)", "Save Me Tonight", "Tell Me Why?", "Seasons", "The Flight", "If I Ever Chance (Dance)" and "Tell You So". When I heard these songs the first time, I knew at once none of these tracks could be from Depeche Mode and neither "Tell Me Why?" nor "Tell You So" are the well known tracks from the "Construction Time Again" album.

Peter Lindackers

Oberhausen, Germany

Your World In Our Eyes

(A Tribute To Depeche Mode)

Format: CD

Origin: Sweden

The CD contains very good and interesting cover-versions of the following tracks: Forbidden Colours: "Halo", Statemachine: "Stripped", Children Within: "Waiting For The Night", Laura Effect: "World In My Eyes", Kiethvez: "Here Is The House", Brave New World: "Shake The Disease", Daybehavior: "See You", Paradigm: "But Not Tonight", X-Act: "Barrel Of A Gun", Dark Distant Spaces: "A Question Of Lust". This is the second CD in a row of the tribute compilations and it cost me DM 30,-. The bands, covering these songs, are from all over the world. It's very interesting listening to new and different versions of my favourite Depeche Mode songs. They are not as good as the originals but I recommend it to everyone!

Andrew Denner

Germany

Barrel Of A Gun by X-Act

Format: CD single

Origin: Germany

This single is containing two cover versions of "Barrel Of A Gun" and two

other X-Act songs. Influenced by Front 242, they created a very good cover of the first DM's single from "Ultra". In fact, the singer's voice sounds a lot like Dave's.

Reconstruction Time

(A Tribute Compilation)

Format: CD

Origin: Germany

This album is a recent release and features the following tracks:

1. Amsterdam: "The Things You Said" - it's a piano accompanied song and is quite good, although I personally don't like the 'American' accent of the lead singer.

2. Battery: "Shame" (Switch Mix) - this is an up-tempo cover by an American electro group with a strong female voice and a catchy beat. The original version of this cover can be found on one of their latest albums.

3. Ionic Vision: "Work Hard" - this Belgian group, said to be the Flemish answer to Nitzer Ebb, delivers a hard-hitting and well-sampled industrial cover.

4. Simbolo: "World In My Eyes" - this is a quite strange 'made in Brazil' version using a very rough unpleasant vocal. This is the second cover they have made of Depeche Mode. Their version of "Never Let Me Down Again" can be found on their "Music From The Masses" album.

5. Kiethvez: "Photographic" (Live) - a live version of this old time classic by a favourite Swedish electro-pop band. The audience can be heard singing and screaming along.

6. Fading Colours: "Clean" - in my opinion, this is the best track on this album. This German-Polish duo delivers a sober but jolly-good version and especially the female voice takes the song to a higher level.

7. Beborn Beton: "My Secret Garden" - an up to date adaptation of this '82's song, using the extra metal sound samples, however sticking to the original.

8. Lights Of Euphoria: "Ice Machine" - a German combo of another old time favourite. An instrumental version of this cover can be found on the "Electronic Youth Vol. 1" sampler.

9. Cycloon: "To Have And To Hold" - Depeche Mode meet wave, gothic and industrial....a potential dancefloor hit.

10. The Merry Thoughts: "The Sun And The Rainfall" - influenced by Sisters Of Mercy, this is a successful re-arrangement of a classic DM song. Some of the parts remind me of Sisters' "Floodland" album, indeed.

11. Reflection: "Something To Do" - a harsh tune supported by fresh drums.

There is also a similarity with Dave Gahan's voice of the mid-eighties.

12. Inertia: "Behind The Wheel" - a hard-electro cover brings this song up to more than 135 beats p/m. The voice isn't really anything special but it's a good attempt.

13. Bio-tek: "Walking In My Shoes" - it is hard to recognise the original song here. What a shame!

14. Panic On The Titanic: "Waiting For The Night" - one of my DM favourites transformed into a rhythmic though melancholic piece.

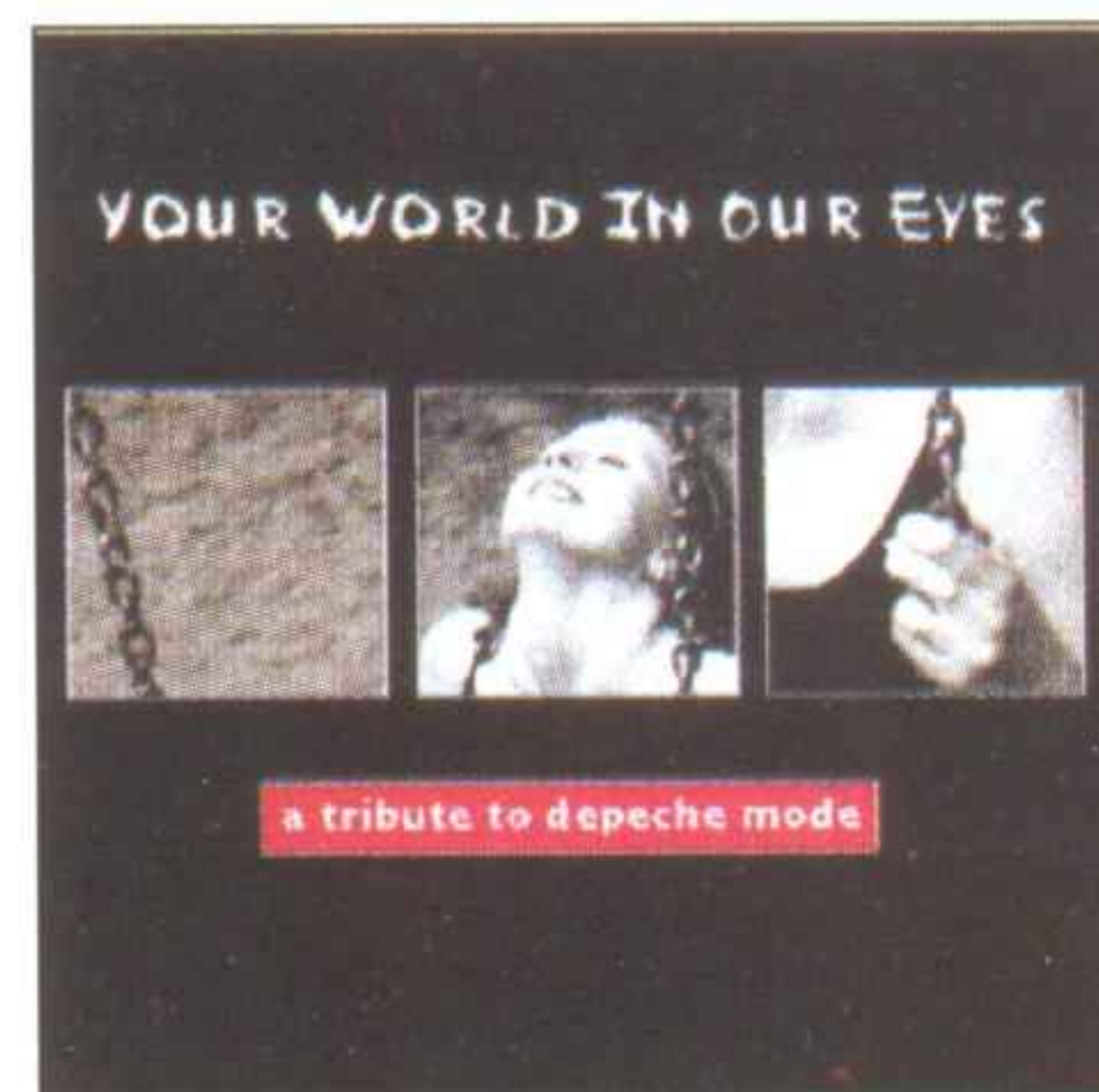
15. Black Wedding: "Any Second Now" - another successful female attempt. It gives the song an erotic and fragile feel.

16. The Escape: "Enjoy The Silence" - a strong male vocal accompanied by piano and violin. This is a masterpiece!

Bernard Van Isacker

Handzame, Belgium

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.



WALKING IN THEIR SHOES

"MUSIC FOR THE MASSES"

Europe 1987

October

Thu 22	Madrid	Pabellon De Real Madrid
Fri 23	Barcelona	Blaugrana Sports Palas
Sun 25	Munich	Olympia Halle
Mon 26	Bologna	Palasport
Tue 27	Rome	Palaeur
Thu 29	Turin	Palasport
Fri 30	Milan	Palastrusardi

November

Mon 2	Stuttgart	Martin Schleyerhalle
Tue 3	Frankfurt	Festhalle
Wed 4	Essen	Grugahalle
Fri 6	Cologne	Sportshalle
Sat 7	Hannover	Messehalle
Mon 9	Berlin	Deutschlandhalle
Wed 11	Ludwigshafen	Friedrich Ebert Halle
Thu 12	Zurich	Hallenstadium
Fri 13	Lausanne	Halle Des Fetes
Mon 16	Paris	Palais Omnisport D'Paris - Bercy
Tue 17	Paris	Palais Omnisport D'Paris - Bercy
Wed 18	Paris	Palais Omnisport D'Paris - Bercy

USA & Canada 1987

December

Tue 1	San Francisco	Cow Palace
Fri 4	Los Angeles	The Forum

Sat 5	Los Angeles	The Forum
Mon 7	San Diego	Sports Arena
Tue 8	Phoenix	Compton Terrace
Thu 10	Dallas	Reunion Arena
Sat 12	Chicago	The Pavillion
Mon 14	Toronto	Maple Leaf Gardens
Tue 15	Montreal	The Forum
Thu 17	Fairfax	Patriot Centre
Fri 18	New York	Madison Sq. Garden

UK 1988

January

Sat 9	Newport	Centre
Mon 11	London	Wembley Arena
Tue 12	London	Wembley Arena
Fri 15	Birmingham	N.E.C.
Sat 16	Whitley Bay	Ice Rink
Sun 17	Edinburgh	Playhouse
Tue 19	Manchester	G-Mex
Wed 20	Sheffield	City Hall
Thu 21	Bradford	St. Georges Hall
Sat 23	Bournemouth	International Centre
Sun 24	Brighton	Centre

Europe 1988

February

Sat 6	Hamburg	Sportshalle Alterdorf
Sun 7	Hamburg	Sportshalle Alterdorf
Tue 9	Dortmund	Westfallenhalle
Wed 10	Oldenburg	Weser-EMS-Halle
Fri 12	Stockholm	Ice Stadium
Sat 13	Gothenburg	Scandinavium
Mon 15	Oslo	Drammenshallen

Wed 17	Copenhagen	Valby Hallen
Thu 18	Copenhagen	Valby Hallen
Fri 19	Kiel	Ostseehalle
Sun 21	Brussels	Forest National
Tue 23	Lille	Espace
Thu 25	Brest	Parc Penfeld
Fri 26	Nantes	La Beaujoire
Sat 27	Bordeaux	Patinoire
Mon 29	Toulouse	Palais Des Sports

March

Tue 1	Montpellier	Le Zenith
Wed 2	Lyon	Palais Des Sports
Fri 4	Besancon	Palais Des Sports
Sat 5	Strasbourg	Halle Rehenus

East Europe 1988

March

Mon 7	East Berlin	Werner Seelbinder
Wed 9	Budapest	Sportsarnock
Thu 10	Budapest	Sportsarnock
Fri 11	Prague	Sportovni Hala
Sun 13	Vienna	Stadthalle

Japan 1988

April

Mon 18	Osaka	Festival Hall
Tue 19	Nagoya	Koseinenkin Hall
Thu 21	Tokyo	NHK Hall
Fri 22	Tokyo	NHK Hall

USA & Canada 1988

April

Fri 29	Mountainview	Shoreline Amphitheatre
Sat 30	Sacramento	California Expo

May

Mon 2	Seattle	Coliseum
Wed 4	Vancouver	P.N.E. Coliseum
Thu 5	Portland	Civic Auditorium
Fri 6	Portland	Civic Auditorium
Sun 8	Salt Lake City	Salt Palace
Mon 9	Denver	McNichols Arena
Wed 11	Austin	Frank Erwin Centre
Fri 13	Arlington	Six Flags
Sat 14	Houston	Southern Star Amphitheatre
Sun 15	New Orleans	Lakefront Arena
Tue 17	Cedar Rapids	5 Seasons Centre
Wed 18	Minneapolis	Northrop Auditorium
Fri 20	Chicago	Poplar Creek
Sat 21	Clarkston	Pine Knob Theatre
Sun 22	Cincinnati	Riverbend Theatre
Tue 24	Nashville	Starwood Amphitheatre
Wed 25	Atlanta	Southern Star Amphitheatre
Fri 27	Philadelphia	The Spectrum
Sat 28	Columbia	Merriweather Post Pavillion
Mon 30	Cleveland	Blossom Music Festival

June

Wed 1	East Rutherford	Meadowlands Arena
Fri 3	Uniondale	Jones Beach
Sat 4	Uniondale	Jones Beach
Tue 7	Mansfield	Great Woods Amphitheatre
Wed 8	Montreal	The Forum
Thu 9	Toronto	C.N.E. Grandstand
Sat 11	Pittsburgh	Palumbo Centre
Wed 15	Phoenix	Compton Terrace
Sat 18	Pasadena	Rosebowl

You may have noticed that we accidentally printed the wrong year of the "Some Great Reward" Tour on page 12 of Bong 32 and twice wrote 1995 instead of 1985. We would like to apologise to everyone who might have been confused by this printing error. Thank you.

dm/live

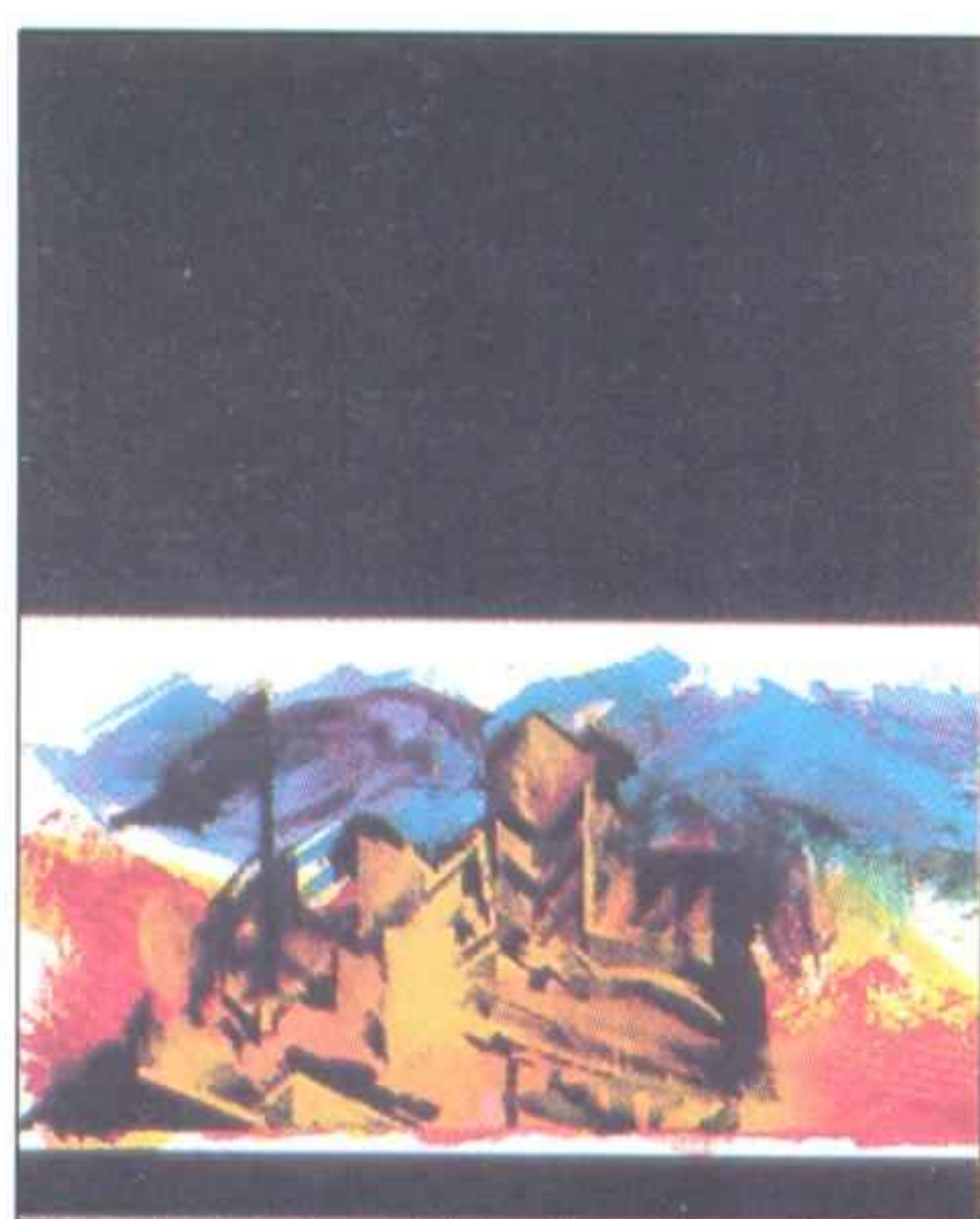
COMPETITION TIME AGAIN

Time for you all to get your brains into gear and we'll even throw in a prize!

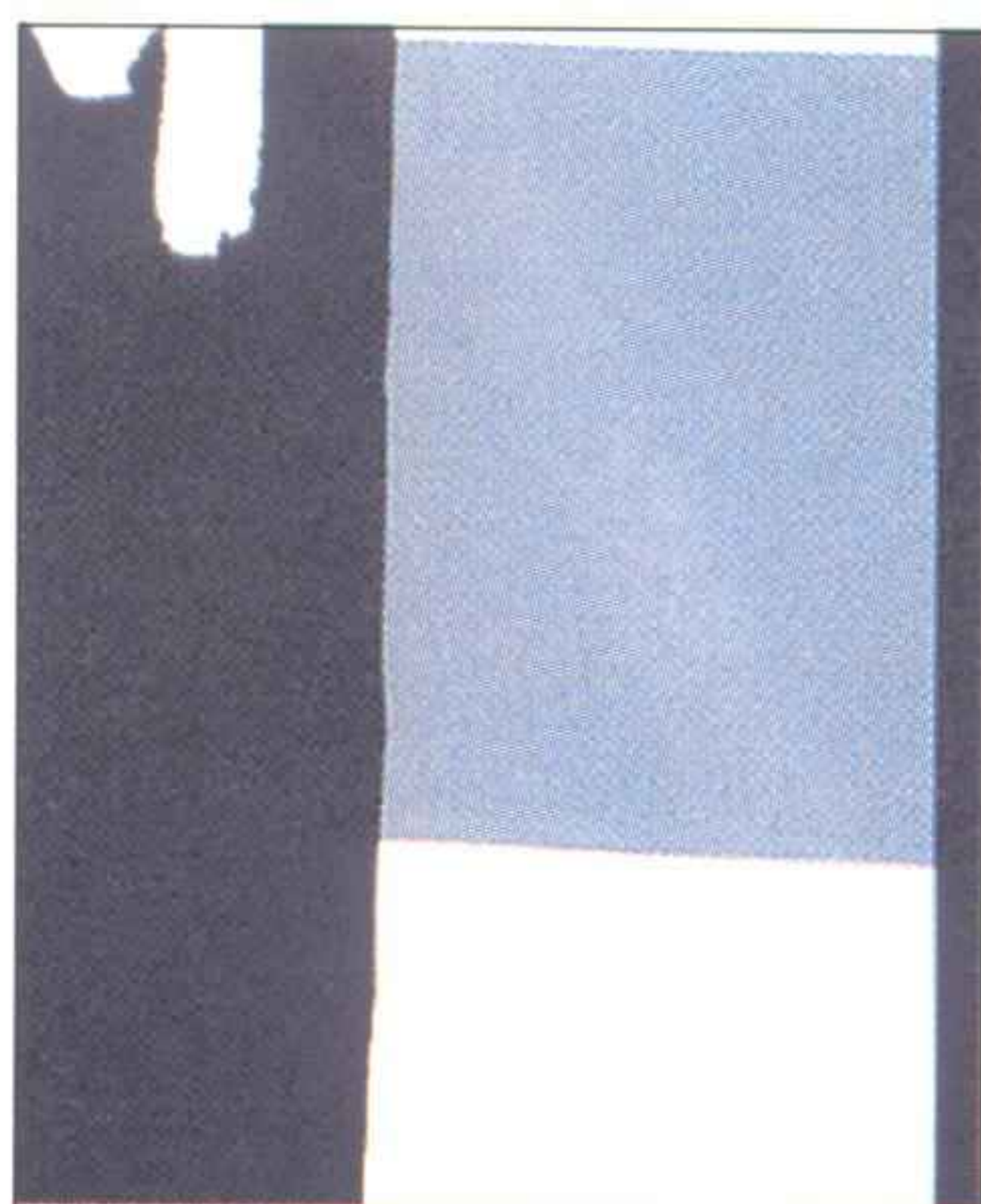
All you have to do is to identify the titles of these Depeche Mode albums and/or singles the covers of which are pictured below. Then take a letter from each title which corresponds with the number in brackets, put these letters together and re-arrange them to find the name of a classic Depeche Mode song. Easy.

We are awaiting your answers (before the end of October please) to our usual address. Three lucky winners will be picked at random and then receive a surprise gift from our office.

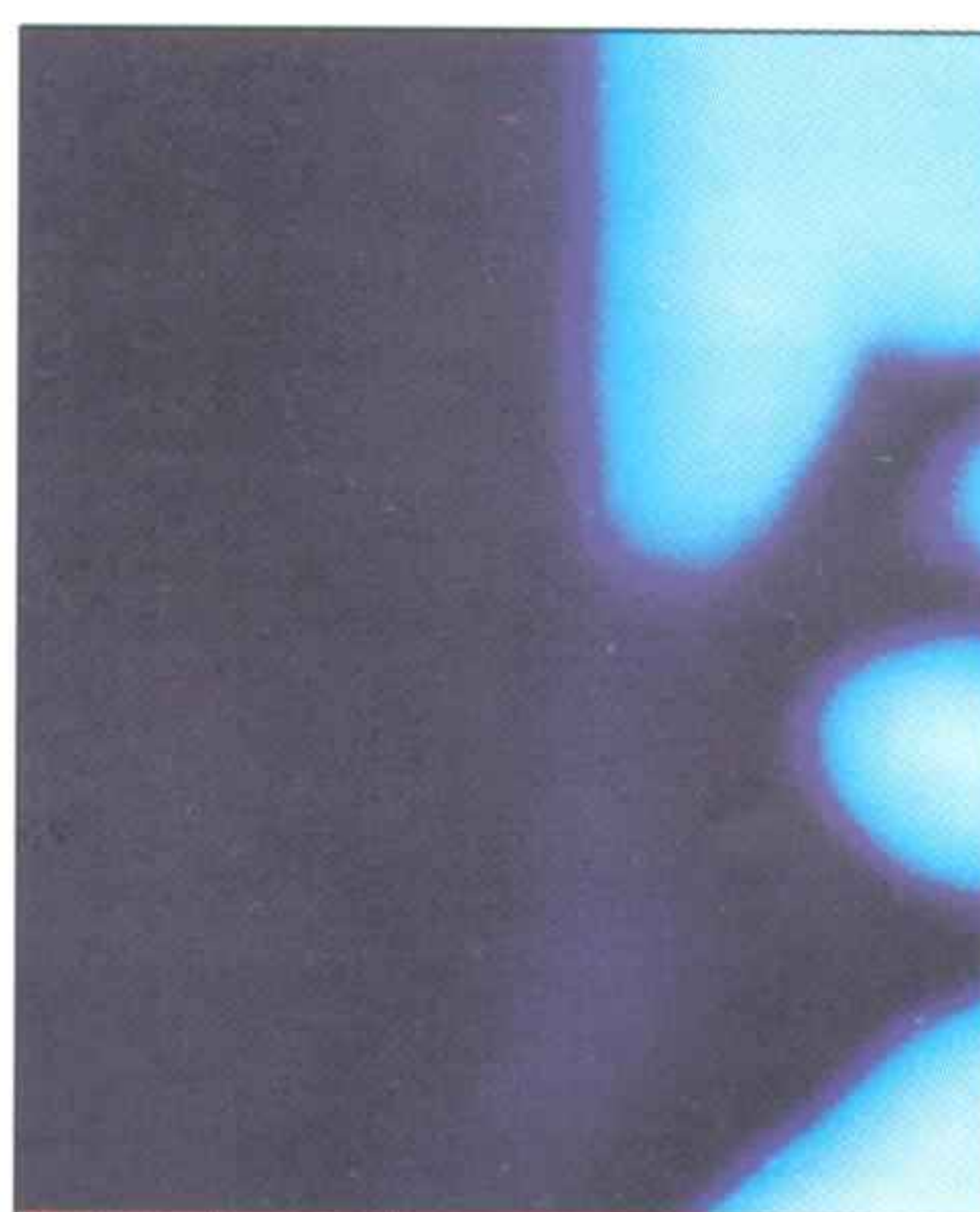
This issue's competition was created by Anne May from Ilford, England.



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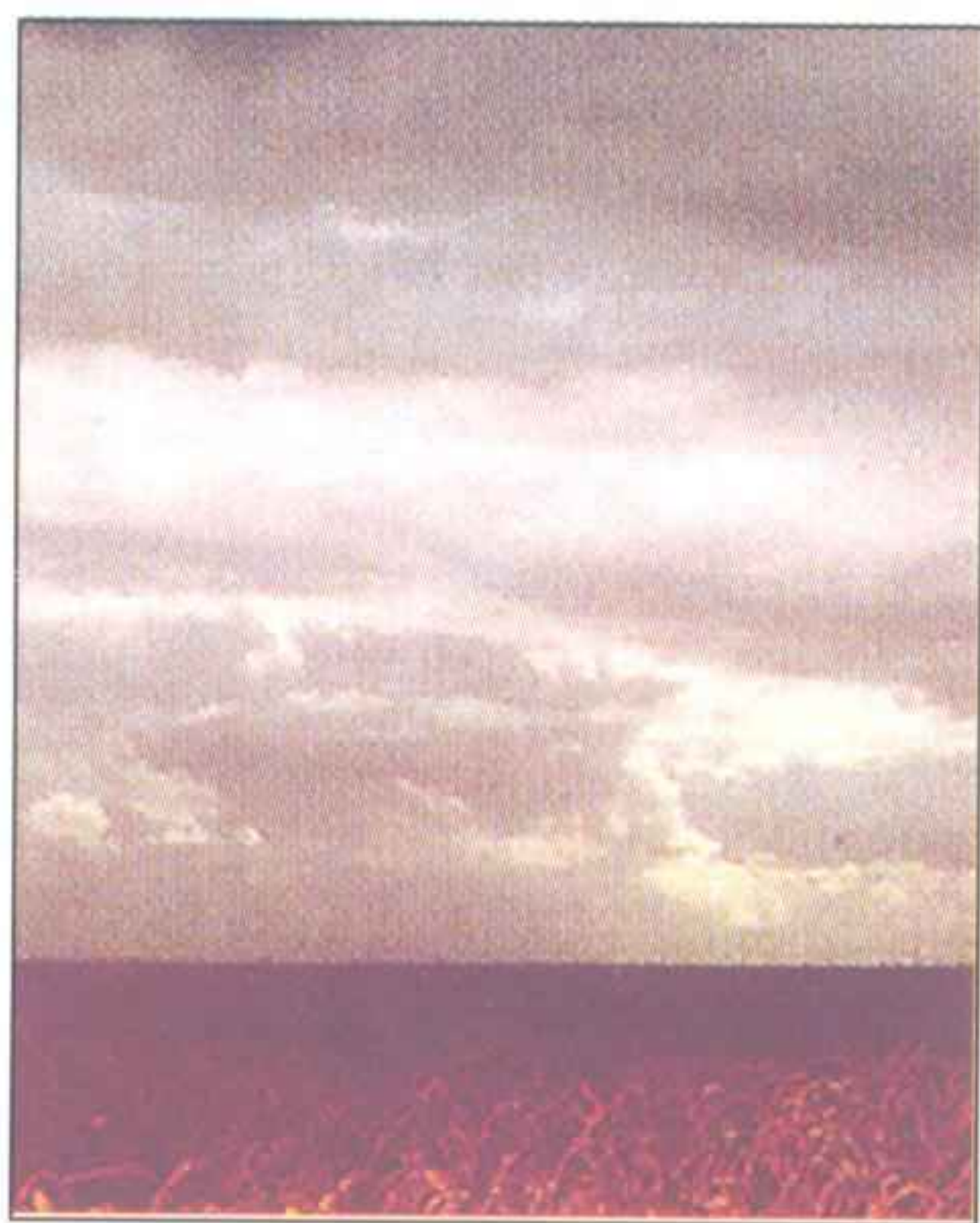
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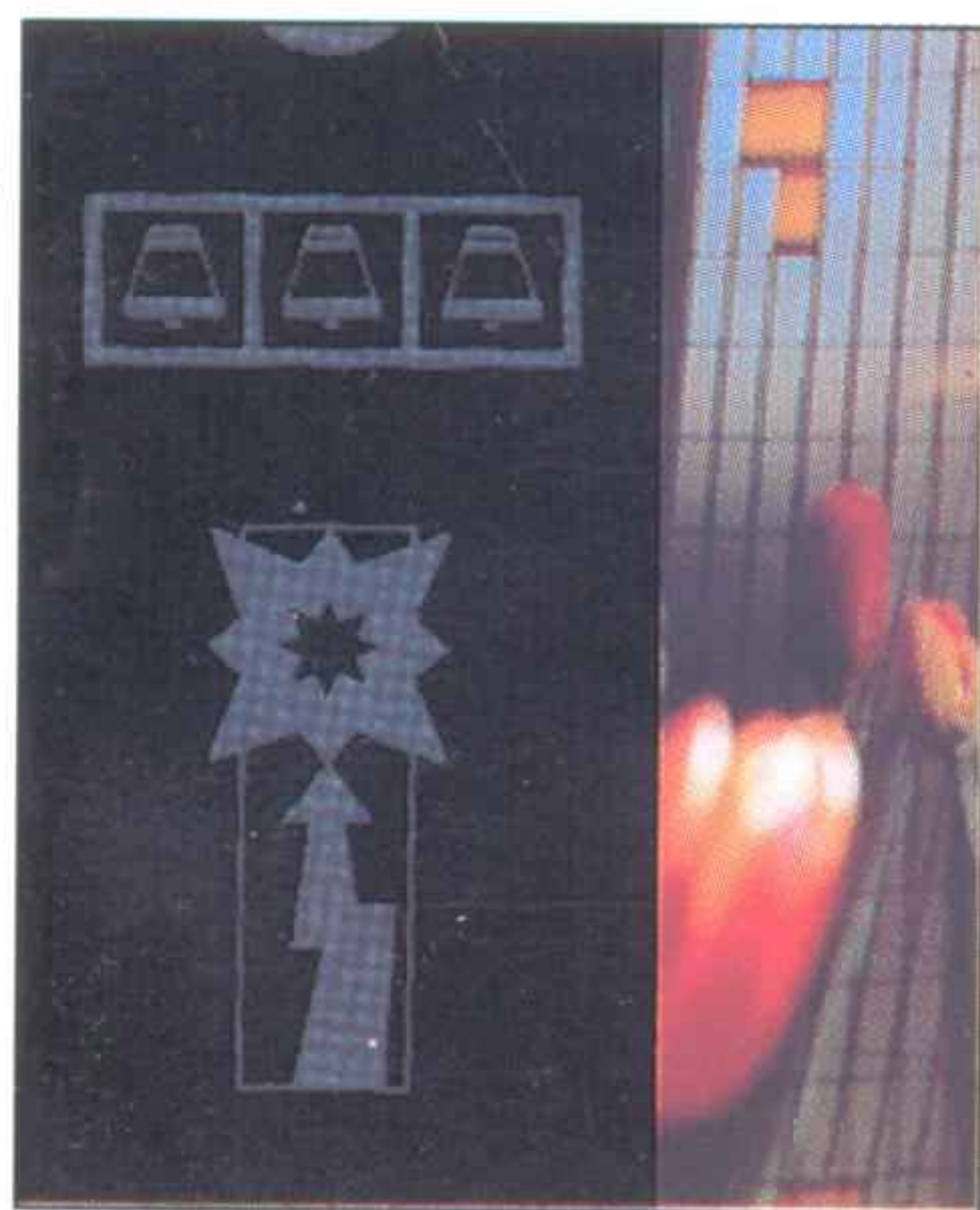
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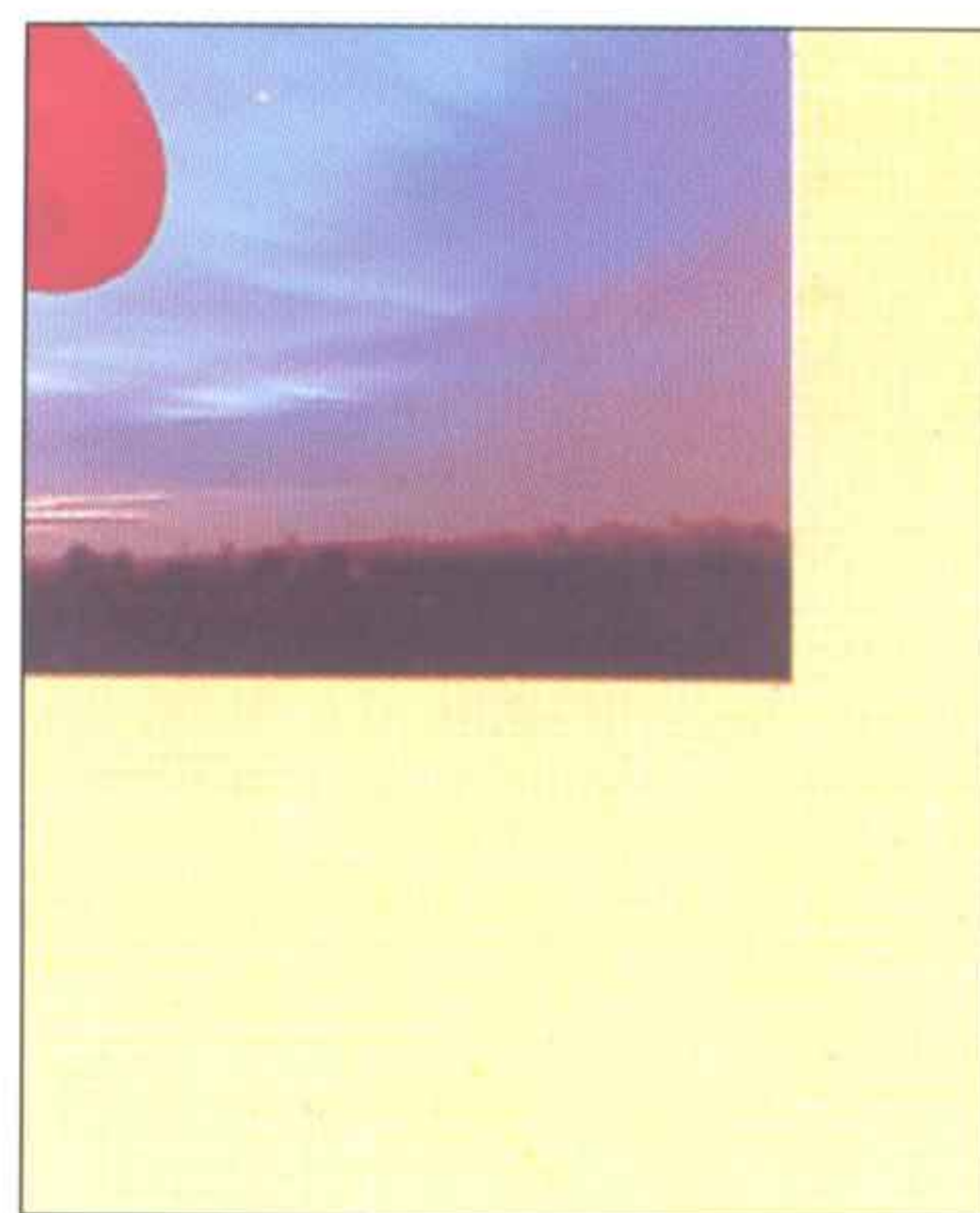
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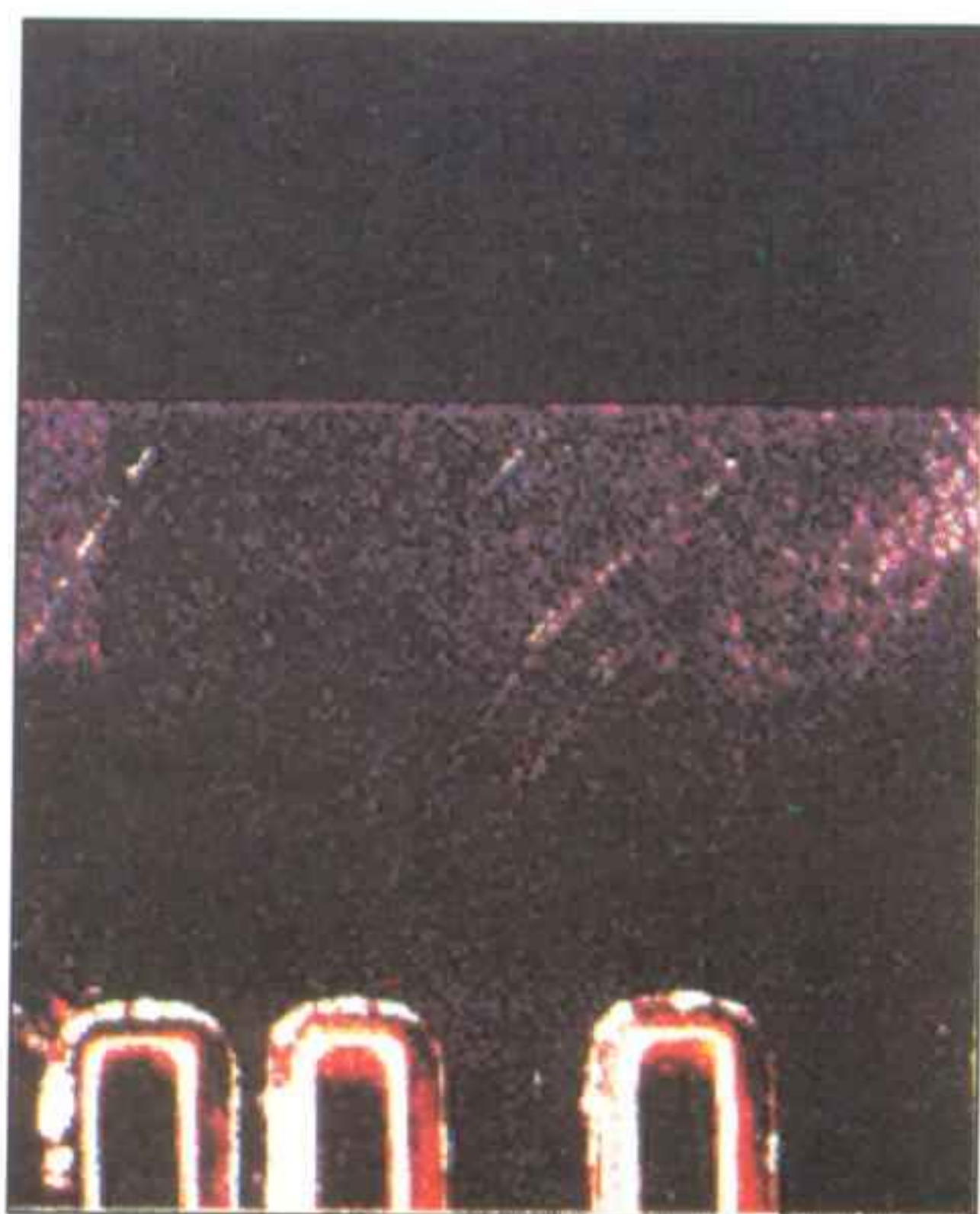
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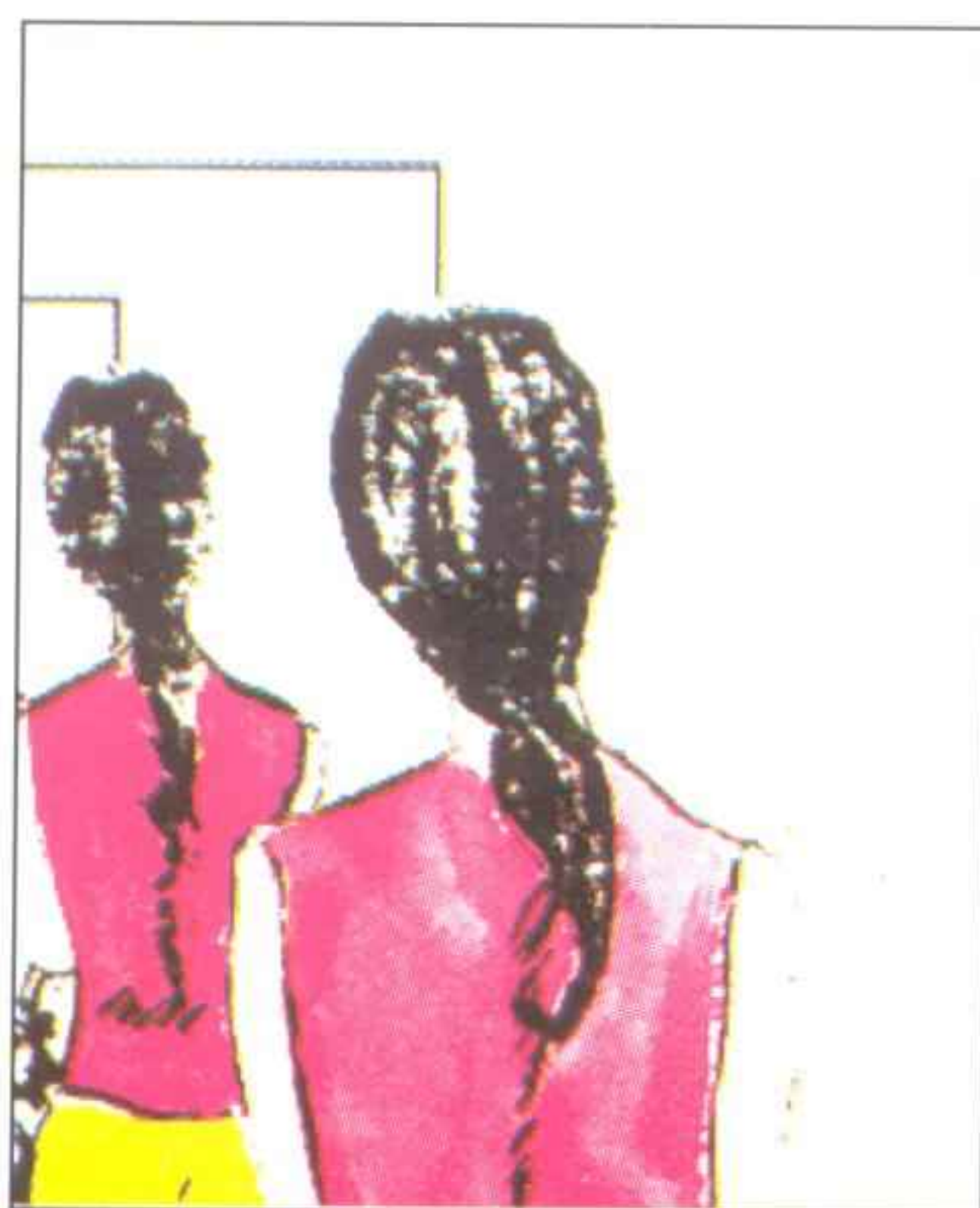
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(10)



(3)



(9)



(12)



(2)

PEN. PALS

Sophie Batin
3 Rue Gounod
01000 Bourg En Bresse
France

A big hello to all the devotees! I am a 23 year old girl from France and I have very recently subscribed to the fan club in order to share my love for Dave. Now, I am not looking for absolution, forgiveness for the things I do, but I promise you, my intentions couldn't have been purer, my case is easy to see! I'm not looking for a clearer conscience - try writing me....

Laura Iwanenko
9141 Sycamore Drive
Hickory Hills, IL 60457
USA

Hello! I am 16 yrs old and have literally grown up listening to Depeche Mode all my life. I welcome DM fans from all over the world to write to me. I promise to respond to all letters received. Some of my interests include: keyboards (synths), guitar, poetry, etc. Music I like: Depeche Mode, U2, The Cure, INXS, etc. I'd love to hear from you, so please write me!

Paul Jeffery
10 Orchard Head Crescent
Pontefract
West Yorkshire WF8 2NH
England

Hi! I'm looking for corresponding with DM fans, male'n'female from anywhere'n'everywhere. I'm 27 years young and like you, a true devotee. Other music interests include The Beautiful South, Cranberries, R.E.M. Also seeking someone to attend conventions'n'DM concerts with. So get scribbling! NOW!!

Eric Lucca
9, rue de la Trompette
4680 Hermee (Liege)
Belgium

I have been sharing my life with Depeche Mode since 1984. I like their musical concept and all the atmosphere created by every song. Thanks to Depeche Mode, I have discovered an electronic world where I have found groups like Nitzer Ebb, D.A.F., Recoil, Front 242, Front Line Assembly, Pouppee Fabrikk...and more...! If you want to share Depeche Mode and electronic music with me, write to me. P.S. I'm 24 years old.

Scott Gray
75/6 Park Avenue
Portobello
Edinburgh EH15 1JP
Scotland

Hello. I am a 22 year old Scottish guy interested in writing to fellow DM fans all over the world. I have followed them for over 8 years and would love to correspond with fellow Devotees. My other interests are travelling and sport. Write soon! Reply guaranteed!

Bettina Czeh
Donarstr. 12c
44359 Dortmund
Germany

Hi friends! I'm a 15 year old DM fan and I want to correspond with other fans from all over the world. I love Dave and I'm very happy that he's clean now, and I hope he will be forever! Write to me in German, French or English. I'll answer all the letters.

Susana Sanchez
Avenida Del Monte 18 BIS
Pozvelo De Alarcon
Madrid 28223
Spain

Devotees from Denmark (especially Copenhagen area) are wanted as I will be moving out there in mid-September. Write or e-mail me a.s.a.p. Thanx! E-mail: LAFICA69@EUCMAX.SIM.UCM.ES

Christian Sitompul
Jl. Adhyaksa 4 No. 4
Lebak Bulus, Jakarta 12440
Indonesia

I'm a 22 year old male, and I love playing Keyboards, reading and singing. Apart from DM, I also listen to Erasure, PSB, U2, Oasis, EMF, Live, Radiohead and much more. All I ever wanted, all I ever needed is to have penpals from all over the World. Feel free to write!

Katy Ward
31 Hermitage Rd
Bridlington YO16 4HF
England

Hello! I'm 15 years old and I'm mad about Depeche Mode, obviously, and U2. I have light brown hair and grey eyes. I only have 7 Depeche Mode tapes all together (but am always on the look out for more). My favourite films are The

Crow and The Lost Boys. So if you share my interests or just feel like writing to me - don't hesitate! Hear from you soon!

Jacqui
20 The Glen
Northwood
Middx HA6 2UP
England

Having been away at sea for the last 2 1/2 years I need some major DM input. If "Stripped", "In Your Room" and "Sister Of Night" make you feel like nothing else on earth - write me! P.S. I'm Little 15, doubled almost!

Sebastian Sobolewski
ul. Zamenhofa 10/9
58-105 Swidnica
Poland

I am 21 year old devotee from Poland and I am looking for other DM fans from all over the world to exchange DM news, articles and most importantly music (live/video). I have large collection of bootlegs to exchange! Write soon!

M.K. Reddi
339 Egidi Drive
Wheeling
IL 60090
USA

I'm a 25 year old Asian-Indian guy looking for a female DM companion. It would be a rush to have a girlfriend who is a devotee. I may not have a halo over my head, yet I'm no crooked love thief. Please include a photo of yourself.

German A. Burini
Dr. Rivas 525
(2000) Rosario S.Fe
Argentina

I'm a 22 years old guy from Argentina and I would like to correspond with other DM fans. I feel a big passion for live DM shows and would like to talk about it. Please, write to me in English or Spanish. See you soon!

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".

BLASPHEMOUS . RUMOURS

Considering the fact that not everyone can get hold of all the newspapers and magazines with DM interviews, reviews and gossip, here are some of the most interesting bits that were published on DM not just in the press but also on TV and radio. If you would like to take part and help us, 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. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Ultra

"As a consequence of their new-found clean lifestyle, DM have managed to produce one of their most finely crafted albums to date, calling once again on Tim Simenon to twiddle the knobs, unleashing the beast that is 'Ultra' through the harsh discordance of the first single, 'Barrel Of A Gun'. The start of the track, perhaps fittingly, appears to be a self-exorcism, banishing the lurking demons of DM's hilarious past. From here on in, though, the album has an optimistic, ambient feel, bringing into play a whole back catalogue of massive analogue textures and more than enough filter sweeps to keep the most hard-core synth freak happy."

Brett Caines, The Mix, UK
(April 1997)

Ultra

"The most remarkable thing about the new Depeche Mode release is not that it is the most listenable and diverse album the Basildon trio have produced in a career spanning 17 years: it is that the record reached fruition in the first place."

Adrian Thrills,
Daily Mail, UK
(11 April 1997)

Depeche Mode

"I have no idea if Depeche Mode is still commercial. Before, the radio stations played our songs in-between The Eagles and Journey, today we have to compete with bands like The Prodigy or The Chemical Brothers. I'm really surprised that 'Barrel Of A Gun' had such a good chart position. The track is by far the most inaccessible that Depeche Mode have ever done."

Dave Gahan, Saturn Aktuell, Germany
(April 1997)

Gascognes

"There's a restaurant round the corner from my house which is called 'Gascognes'. I thought to myself, 'I wonder if the owner is a rather portly gentleman with shock-bleached hair, an England football kit, a criminally offensive wardrobe and who sings 'Fog on the Tyne' a lot, shouts 'Whay-ay man' and eats his way through most of the menu himself?' However, it wasn't the man I was thinking of. But get this, the owner of the trendy eatery is none other than Andy Fletcher from Depeche Mode! Surely he should have called it 'Meals For The Masses'? Apparently the 'Master And Servant' side salad is just lovely."

Belfast Telegraph
(13 February 1997)

Home

"I think it is a really good track which, set alongside the previous two singles, should confirm the group is back on the map. Due to a lengthy absence, they may appear to have faded from the attention of the music industry professionals, but the general public definitely has not forgotten them."

K. K. Rider,
Programme Director
at Danish Radio ABC
Music & Media
(7 June 1997)

Depeche Mode

"I think we're going to tour next year when we're all a bit fitter. We've released a very good album and we just want to enjoy the success of that, hopefully."

Fletch, NME, UK
(March 1997)

Ultra

"This album represents all that is pioneering in English popular music. Just can't get enough? Still true."

Rob Da Bank,
Muzik, UK
(April 1997)

Ultra

"Songwriter Martin Gore has plenty of dark passion to document, having endured Dave Gahan's heroin-related suicide attempt, in 1995, and near overdose last year, as well as the recent departure of multi-instrumentalist Alan Wilder. Perhaps as a result, there are no snappy singles à la 'People Are People' or 'Enjoy The Silence' here. But moody, pulsating ballads such as 'The Bottom Line' and 'The Love Thieves' are ideal vehicles for Gahan's brooding baritone and for the band's ever-increasing sense of tender intuition."

Elysa Gardner, Rolling Stone
(April 1997)

Belga Beach Rock Festival

"In 1993 the festival was being closed by Depeche Mode. The show was very visual and began with some special effects like thunder and lightning imitations. As soon as this intro started, a real thunderstorm took off above the stage. The funniest and strangest thing was, that the audience kept standing there, very quietly, screaming 'oh's' and 'ah's'...."

Marc Klein,
Het Nieuwsblad, Belgium
(3 July 1997)

Ultra

"Crisis, what crisis? The dark tale of lead singer Dave Gahan's well-documented battle with addiction and adventures in rehab seems to haunt the sonic moods and lyrics filled with biblical references and images of fire, darkness, rebirth, etc."

The Toronto Star,
Canada
(19 April 1997)

It's No Good (Club 69 Mixes)

"One of the several tracks which made an impression in Miami (didn't they all? Ed), this has been larger than something big and chunky in New York for weeks. Beginning with a steel-hard kick drum, it stomps and drives to the breakdown, where the hook finally comes in. It's not made for the faint-hearted and those who prefer their house with more noodle than a Japanese restaurant. It's made for the dancefloor and it works like a mutha. It's no good? You must be joking."

Bill Brewster, Mix Mag Update, UK
(26 May 1997)



Photo by Anton Corbijn

Ultra

"Since they began life in the early Eighties as a rinky-dinky Essex synth act, Depeche Mode have made a virtue of moving with the times. Their last album 'Songs Of Faith And Devotion' saw them rough their edges with noisy grunge styling. Singer Dave Gahan embraced the mood with such conviction that he nearly expired from a heroin overdose. Their twelfth album embraces dance-floor trends with the aid of Bomb The Bass's Tim Simenon in the production seat. The results outstrip U2's flirtation with club sounds. The mood remains downbeat and Martin Gore's songs don't always spark, but tracks such as the current single 'It's No Good' display an imagination long since extinguished in most bands this far down the line."

Mike Pattenden, Daily Express, UK
(1 April 1997)

It's No Good

"Trademark synth stabs and Beloved-style sonic bubbles herald the second single off the twelfth development in the DM story. A characteristic delve into the darker shades of love, Dave Gahan's vocals are still capable of making your soul stir, your heart sing."

I-D Magazine, UK
(April 1997)

Many thanks to Hilde Peeters, Samantha, Mark Stevenson and to anyone else for sending us their contributions for "Blasphemous Rumours". Keep them coming!

"Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" is a product of one of the most extensive and exhausting tours Depeche Mode ever experienced. Opening with the audacious "I Feel You", the Modes reveal that they truly can rock and roll. The catchy guitar arrangement and pounding backbeat generated by live drums add a new dimension to their concert performance, yet classic Depeche elements still remain. Back up gospel vocals on "Condemnation" and several other tracks provide an elevating feeling of spirituality throughout the entire album. David Gahan delivers his best vocal performance on "Condemnation" and the energy emanating from the audience and the band is captivating. The fact that Depeche Mode do not limit themselves to one particular style of music enhances the album and gives the band a new slant in the music industry. Once techno-pop gurus, now Depeche Mode incorporate a wide variety of influences from rock to gospel to classical, attracting a broader audience than perhaps they could before. One of the most breathtaking tracks on the disc, "One Caress", combines beautifully orchestrated strings with a powerful vocal performance from Martin Gore. It is absolutely brilliant. Finally the album closes with "Higher Love", a song that is both inspiring and uplifting. "SOFAD - Live" unites all the components that formulate Depeche Mode, the old and new, because Depeche Mode have progressed to new musical horizons, audiences of all sorts can appreciate what this band has to offer: emotional and meaningful songs that are genuine and real.

Jennifer Clay
Denver, USA

As the title suggests, this live album follows the running-order and style of the original studio blueprint. By anchoring the release so literally, Depeche Mode have produced a technically impressive memory-jogger, but it's hardly an imaginative, unique document of their 1993 tour. On this year's trail across America and Europe the twin evils of stadium pomp and Dave Gahan's self-obsessed angst intruded on the dark vignettes of songwriter, Martin Gore. However, once the crass visuals are removed the musical power of their show is fully evident. Gahan's voice sounds massive on blistering versions of "I Feel You" and "Higher Love", although, irritatingly, some of the lines are lost in the singer's quest to involve the audiences in a sing-along. The band's new-found aggressive spirit is forcefully conveyed through Gore's industrial guitars and Alan Wilder's power-drumming on tracks like "Mercy" and "Rush", but their ballads remain air-tight copies of the originals, cloning the studio-takes to evocative but pointless effect.

Steve Malins, VOX (UK)
(January 1994)

"Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" for me is one of this year's best albums and the best Mode album to date, seeing them with a gothic techno rock sound that is darker than ever before. Recorded live on this year's "Devotional" tour "Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" is more of a companion to the studio album. Saying that, however, it is a very listenable album in its own right, showing just what a band Depeche Mode have become over the years. Most of the tracks come over just as well live as in the studio with the added bonus on the live album of snatches of the remixed versions thrown in. More likely to be bought by people who already have the studio album, it is a brave attempt at a live album in that it is a live version of a studio album and not just a few album tracks plus greatest hits. Depeche Mode are one of the best British bands about at the moment both live and in the studio. "Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" is testimony to this.

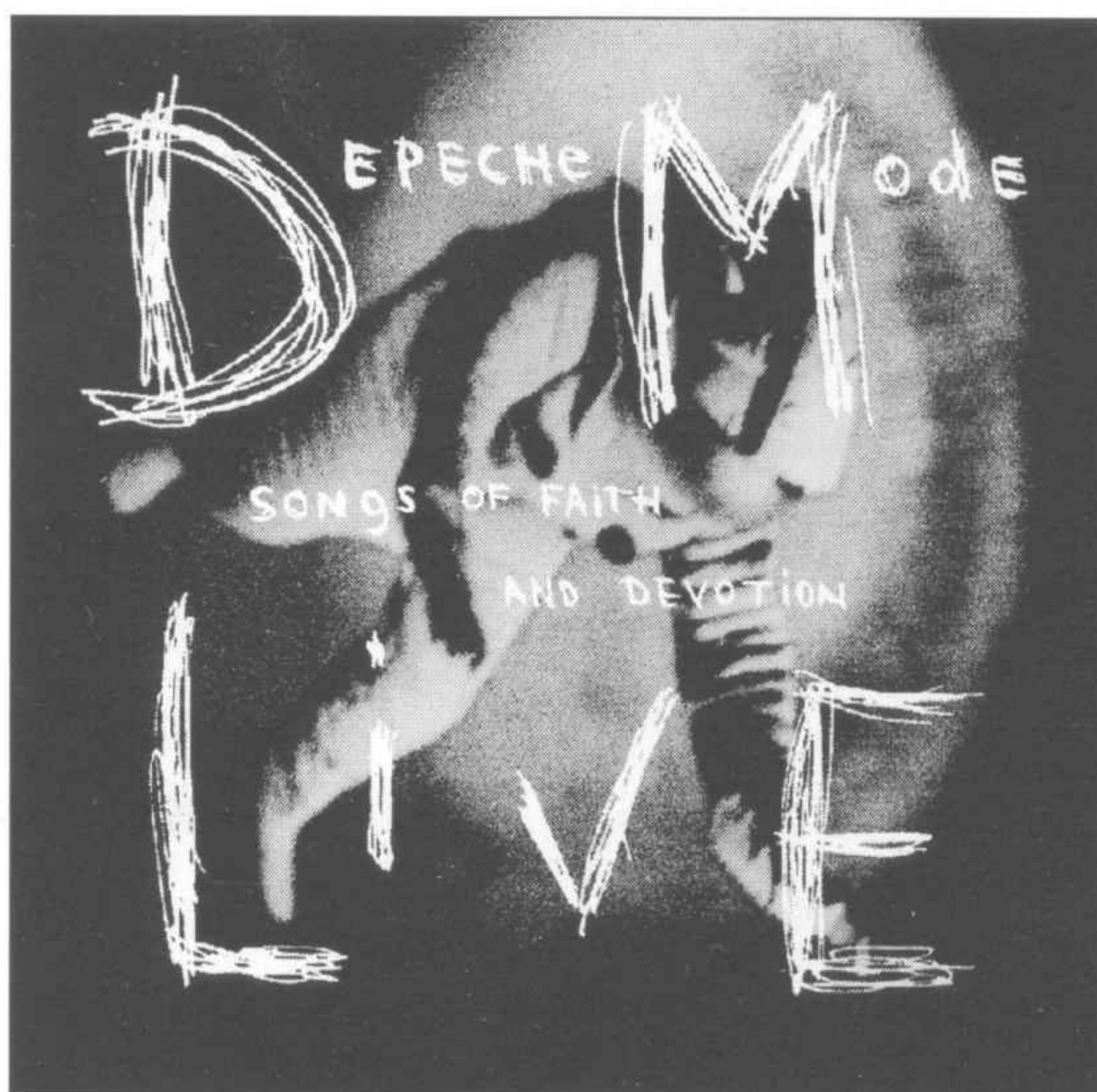
Fuse (UK)
(December 1993)

"Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" begins with the Eno mix of "I Feel You". Those who experienced this live will know how effective this was. Subtle, gradually building rhythms punctuated with industrial screams culminating in the blast of drums and the gorgeously 'horny' guitar refrain. "I Feel You" sets the album alight as it set the live show on fire. A gorgeous mix of Blues, Rock & more ambient moments, and an incredibly sexy bass and drum line. It is always difficult to translate the feel of a live set to an album. However, "Songs Of Faith And Devotion - Live" captures the mood with ease. This is not simply due to the beseeching audience, but also how the interplay of the band, notably by Dave, is captured on the recording. Depeche Mode whack it out live and this album captures the connection between band and audience. When listening to the album it is easy to recall Anton's great, surreal imagery that was used on the live set. "Walking In My Shoes" reminds us of the 'Madonna-esque' attired woman strutting across the

screens with Dave mimicking in front on stage. The little nuances of the guitar, which Martin supplements "Walking In My Shoes" with, work very well. "Condemnation" with added gospel backing booms out the heady mix of sex and religion, adored by Martin, with simplistic elegance. Once again the supplements added to the live versions work well. "Judas" with added 'heartbeats' recalls "Somebody" and testifies to the brilliance of Martin's voice. While "In Your Room" is as intense on the recording as I can remember it live. The best thing about the album is that it adds to the feel of the original. It not only captures the live performance of each song, but also the interaction of the band and audience. It also testifies to the ongoing invention within the band. This album captures what Depeche Mode are: intelligent, hard working, innovative, and damn good at performing live.

David Stevenson
Norwich, UK

S.O.F.A.D. - LIVE



6. 12. 1993

dm/live

Freely provided by DM Live
dmlive.wiki

CLASSIFIED

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.

Looking for any kind of DM stuff, like videos, CDs etc. Especially from the "Violator" and "Devotional" tour/time. Write to: Daniel Labidi, August-Bebel Str. 118, 33602 Bielefeld, Germany.

I am looking for the people who managed to meet someone of Depeche Mode (or even all of them) after a concert or at their hotel. Thousand thanks to anyone who can help me with a detailed description of how to get backstage or any other way to meet them! Please let me have a share in your experiences. Christina Kalb, Gortenstrasse 4, 56237 Deesen, Germany.

Desperately looking for these issues of Bong - No. 1 to 13, 15, 17 particularly, 19, 25 and 30. I will pay 2,50 UK Pounds + p & p. Also searching for "Devotional" and "World Violation" Tour programmes, videos, TV appearances from all over the world, interviews, specials and Dave's photos. Please send your list and prices to: Sabrina Di Carlo, Pic' La Terra, 8 Rocca S. Stefano, 67049 Tornimparte, AQ, Italy.

Three years ago I had my whole DM 12" vinyl collection stolen when some twat broke into my house in Dagenham, Essex, while I was away in N/Ireland. I had the first ever 12" from 81 to 93 including the limited edition 12" and imports, as well as all my DM videos. I mark all my 12" with my name Dean Leonard, the date of release of the 12" and chart position. If anyone has come across DM 12"s with the above info and if they could get in touch with me via Bong I would really appreciate it. It has taken me 3 years to do this and I would really value your help as you can imagine having my whole 12" collection stolen was a kick in the balls as I spent loads of money getting my collection together. I believe the person/persons who stole them must have liked DM as they only stole my DM 12", and some Human League, Soft Cell, OMD albums. Please write to Bong with any news. Thanks for your help!

I am selling a lot of my big Depeche Mode collection (CDs, vinyls, photos, tapes, bootlegs, videos, books etc)! Also many rare stuff like X1 + X2 boxes from Japan and "Violator" promo box! Please send a SAE and ask for my lists: Arne Wojciechowski, Cölpiner Strasse 15, 17034 Neubrandenburg, Germany.

Recently a fire destroyed a portion of my DM collection and I am now in the process of trying to rebuild it with your help. Wanted: DM Tour programmes from "Black Celebration", "Music For The Masses" and "World Violation" Tours. Also looking for any memorabilia from "Black Celebration". Will either trade items or pay top prices for these items. Please write to: Jeff Douma, 2755 Lost Creek Ct., Stockton, CA 95207, USA.

Wanted: any DM T-shirts, especially the older ones from "World Violation" and "Music For The Masses" Tours. Please write to: Markus Bings, von-Misbach-Str. 34, 525 11 Geitenkirchen, Germany.

CONTACTS.

I'm working in a small independent radio station and once a week I have my own show on Electro, Industrial, EBM and Synth Music. I am always interested in new bands and labels who wants to have their music played on my programme called "PRO-TON". Send your demo (MC, CD, vinyl or DAT) and info to: PRO-TON, c/o Arne Wojciechowski, Cölpiner Strasse 15, 17034 Neubrandenburg, Germany.

Hi Matt! It's Igor. I met you at Camden Palace. I've got your pictures. Get in touch if you need them. I believe you still have my number. Bye!

Depeche send the only true friends I call mine! All my higher love and kisses to: Jasmin (my craziest honey!), Denise (my sweet sis, we'll never forget 10/4/87 - our DM meeting!), my great pals Katka, Michael, Jsabel, Solange, Joao, Faith, Katja, Fly, Joanna, Marta, Zdenka, Agnes, Manuel, Suen, David, Peter, Jozsef and Depeche Mode. Thanks for all! Hope we share our devotion for the best group ever, FOREVER! Thanks heaps Depeche Mode for being so lovely and kind to me and Denise on the Ultra release party in April. I'll never forget! Please never let us down!!! Nadine "Schmitti".

If you are French and own a Minitel, come and join the new service on Depeche Mode. It's easy! Just type 3615 code STARS, heading DM and you'll get the latest news, games and a letter section (where you can also ask questions, give your opinion, search for penpals....). Ultra kisses from DG.

I am sending a lot of greetings from "Home" to all the people out there, especially to Claudia C., Michael T., Michael R., Stefan R., Catrin S., Marc B. (Satellite, thanks for your greetings!), Mike G., Andy D. and Susen M. Andrea Hellner.

A big 'hello' to all my devotional friends - S., Chris B., Andrea H., Denise S. Nadine P., Sindy R., Zdenka, Ela and everyone else - from Satellite. Mark

Sorry for the delay! But thank you to everybody who wrote to me and apologies to those who didn't get a reply. They where so....many! All my love to Emmanuelle (France), Tomoko (Japan), Ronnie (England), Angela (Germany), Hello again Angie!, Maria (Portugal), and a special thank you to Dana (Romania) and the Japanese fans where are you?!! Write to me! My address is in Bong 19. See you all later. Anthony J.S. Thompson.

Well, it's about time to tell you, Catrin, how I appreciate our friendship. Mark

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".

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

DMF

Apartado de Correos 42064
Madrid 28080
Spain

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATELLITE

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

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

DM Club
Linda Andreasson
Norrskensq. 21
37151 Karlskrona
Sweden

workHard
apdo. correos 12.283
46020 Valencia
Spain

Devotion
Apartado 5265
47080 Valladolid
Spain

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

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

Hot Wire
German fanzine
c/o Andy Drabek
Allendestr. 66
08062 Zwickau
Germany

Rush
Crabethstraat 15
2801 AL Gouda
The Netherlands

Empty World 2
Palholmterrasserne 78 F
3520 Farum
Denmark

DM Devotees
A.D. 1154
Vilnius 1
2001
Lithuania

Mode Evolution
3 Marne Avenue
Walton
Peterborough
PE4 6AJ
England

Shake The Disease
Stefan Bülter
Zimmer 216
Suarezstr. 15-17
D-14057 Berlin
Germany

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

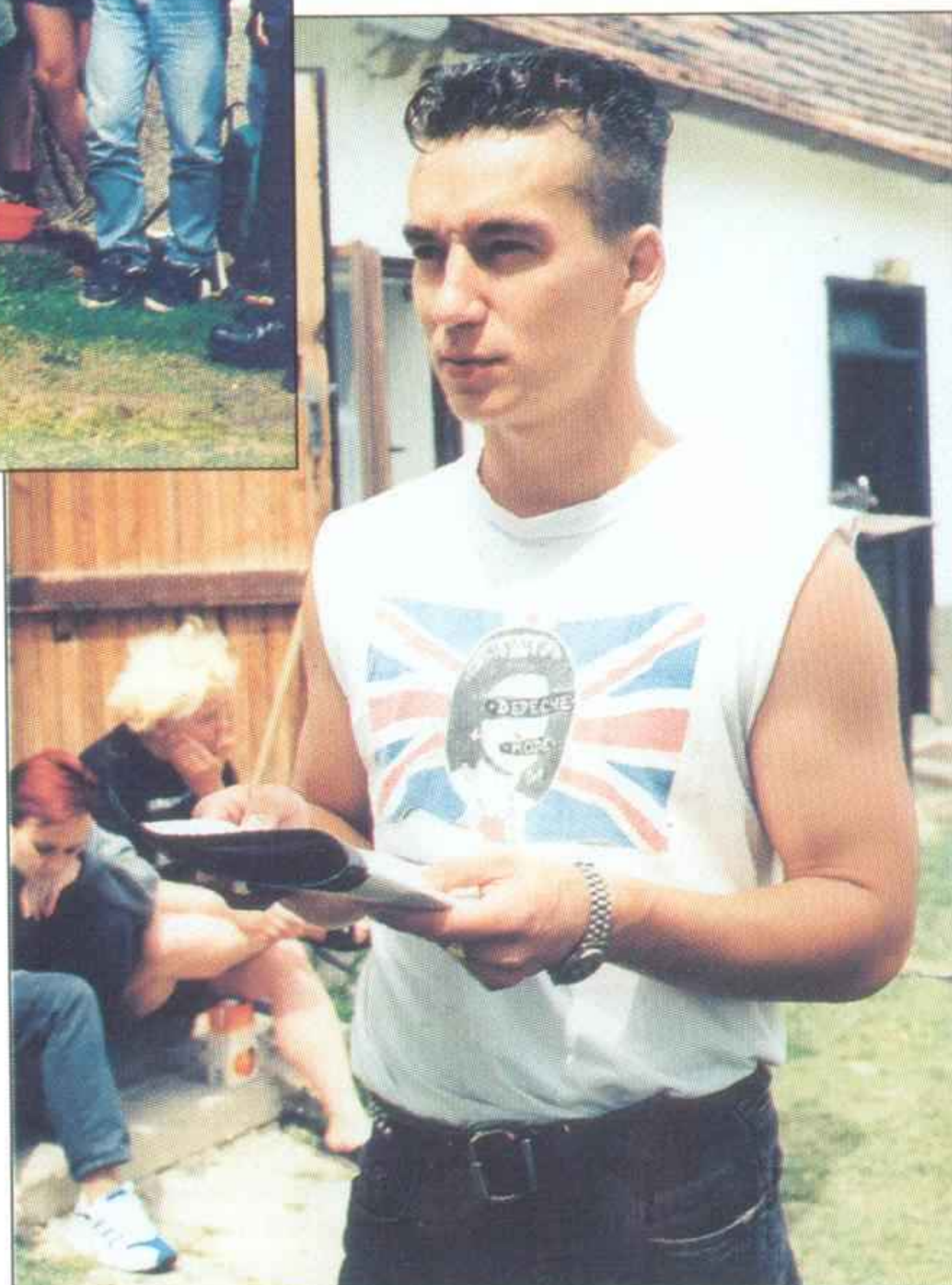
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Photos by Tomáš Martinek

Depeche Mode Night being organised later this year! Location probably Birmingham and the venue possibly a nightclub. Everyone invited to come and join in, or help out!! The night will include non-stop Depeche Mode music, drink and give-aways. Interested?!? Please don't hesitate in contacting myself: Tony Lewis on P.O. Box 417, Peterborough, PE4 6WY (send SAE).



Depeche Mode Summer Camp 97

by Dáňa Stýblo, Czech Republic

The original idea to organise some kind of summer activity for Depeche Mode fans was thought up a few years back and since then it has almost become a tradition among Czech fans. This year's Summer Camp dedicated to Depeche

Mode and their fans was organised from 28th June till 6th July in a small village Drhovle in the south of Bohemia.

The local cottage and several tents in the nearby garden were occupied by almost 100 fans from all around Czech Republic and Slovakia, including a dog, a mouse and a cat. There was lots of swimming, hiking, trips to the castles, horse riding and barbecues....for evening entertainment, dancing and Depeche Mode music, a local club was invaded regularly by all the devotees.

The whole atmosphere, companionship and the day to day activities made this event yet another unforgettable experience in the fans' lives.

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BONG P.O. BOX 1281 LONDON N19 9UX ENGLAND

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MUSICLAND

BONG 1997

BRASNA

The International BONG Convention in Prague

This year's Depeche Mode International Fan Club Convention will take place in Prague at the club Belmondo (Bubenská 1, Praha 7, Czech Republic - tube/tram station "Vltavská"), on Saturday 11th October 1997.

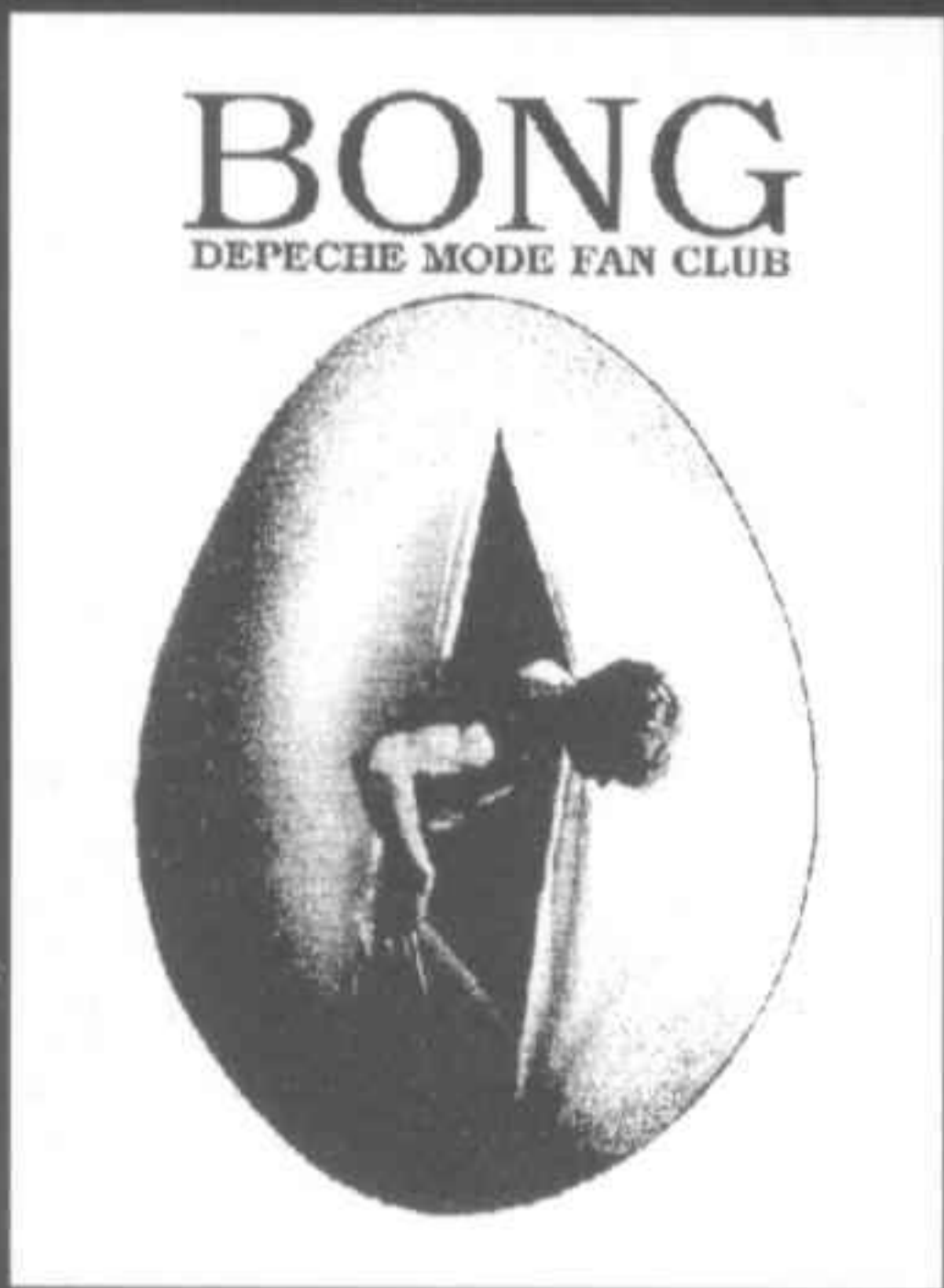
There will be two live cover bands - Decline and Lakeside Church - lots of music, videos, merchandise and give-aways also guaranteed!

The doors open at 5pm till late and the tickets cost approx. £5,00 each in the local currency (Czech Crowns) and are available at the Ticketpro box office or at the door on the night. For more information or the accommodation details, please contact Iva Tumova (Prague's production office) on her mobile +420-603-479 161 or e-mail: PTACEKK@cs.FELD.cvut.cz

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Prague!

Come and enjoy an "Ultra" evening!

BONG 14



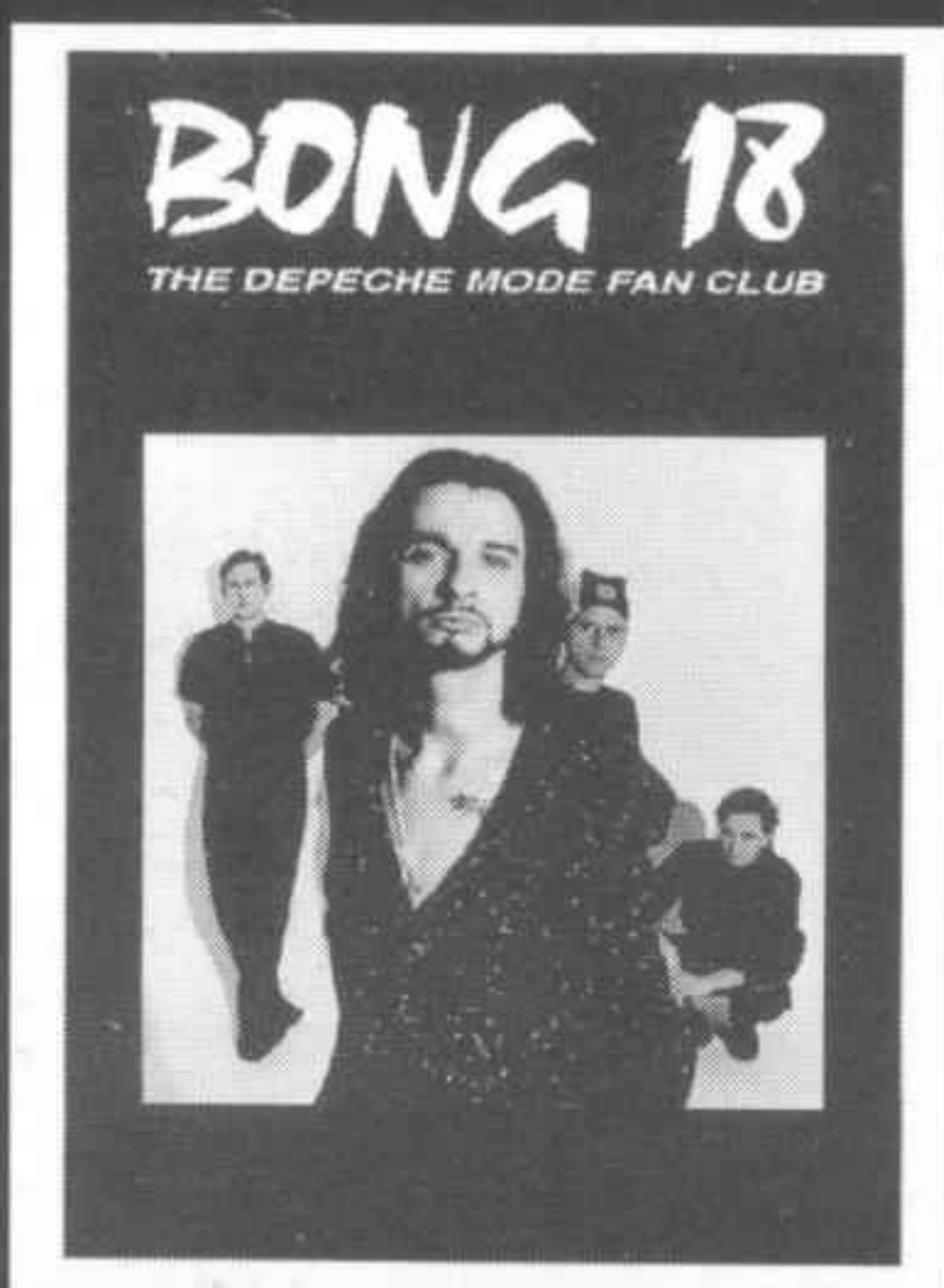
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BONG 16



A4, b/w

BONG 18



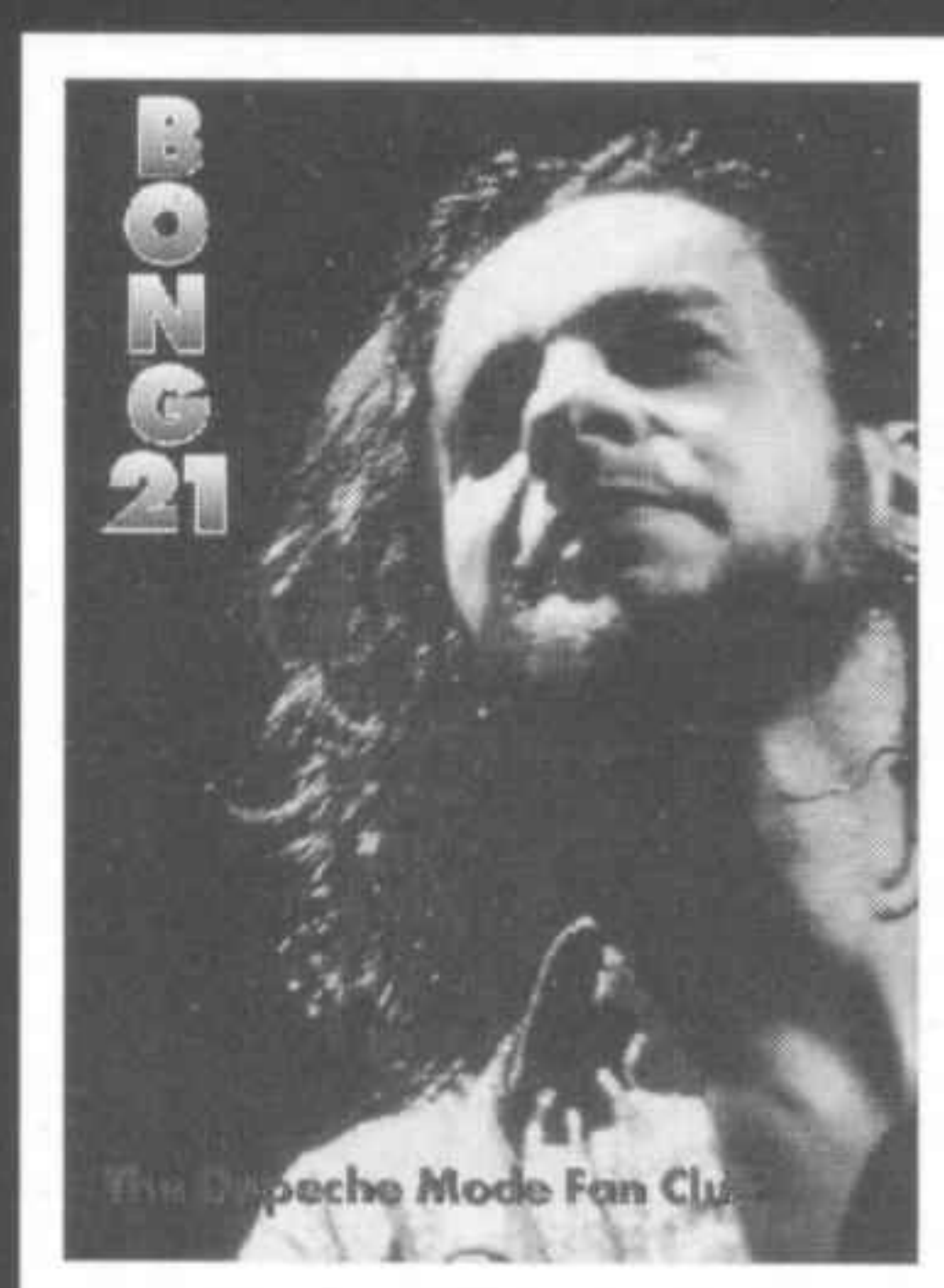
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BONG 20



A4, colour

BONG 21



A4, colour

BONG 22



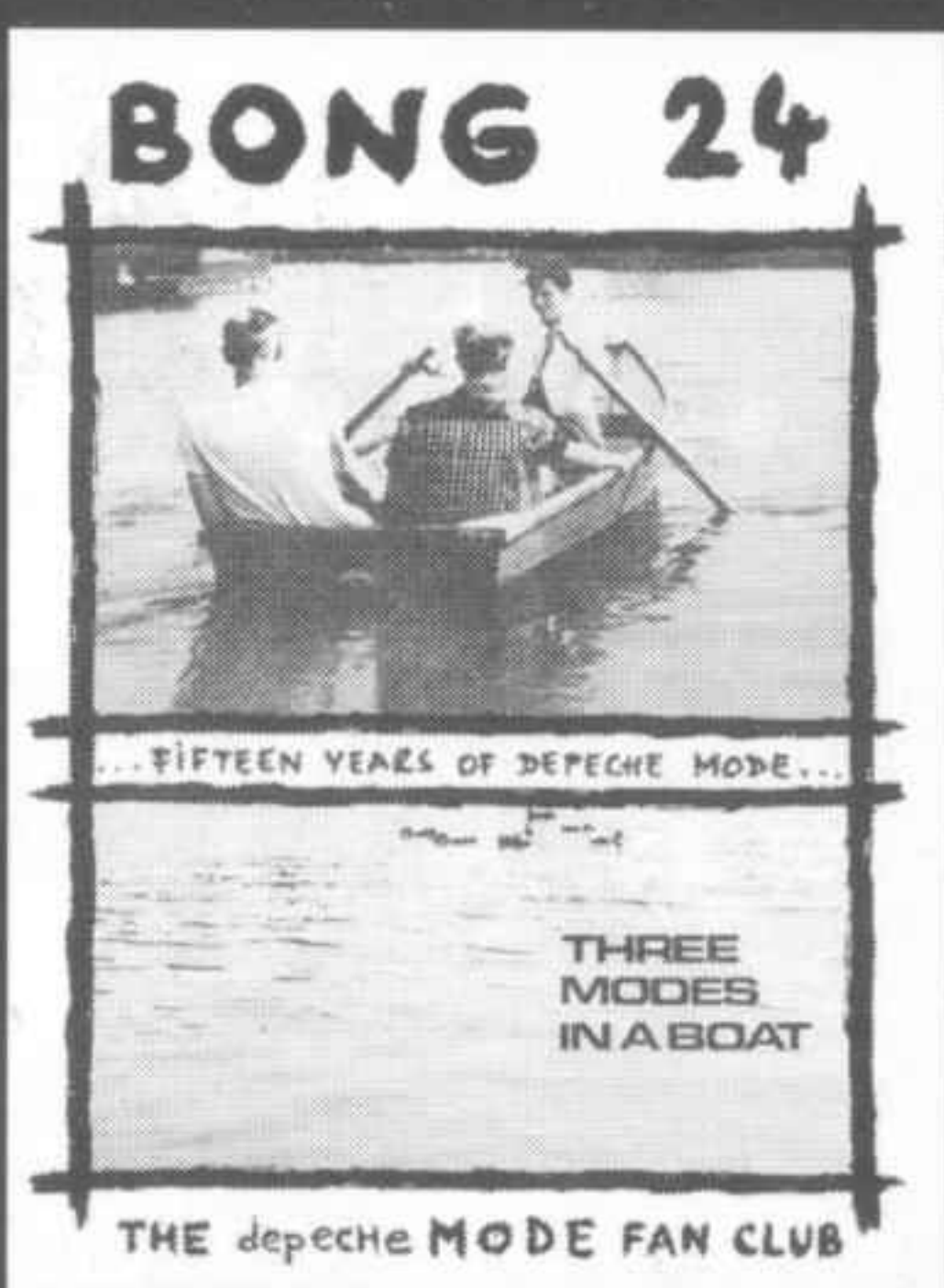
A4, colour

BONG 23



A4, colour

BONG 24



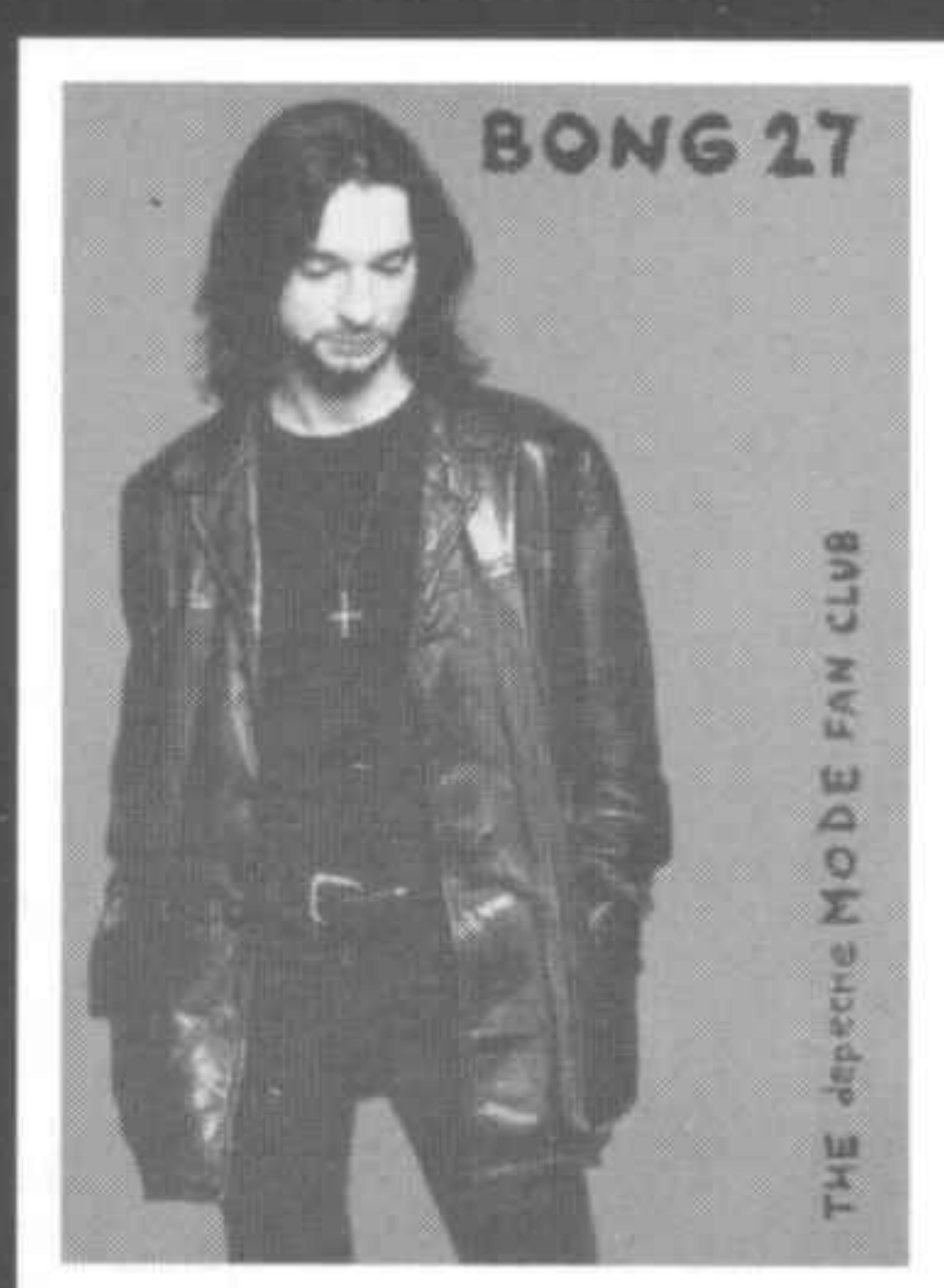
A4, colour

BONG 26



A4, colour

BONG 27



A4, colour

BONG 29



A4, colour

BONG 32



A4, colour



BONG 1994
(purple on grey)

BONG 1995
(white on black)

BONG 1997
(silver on black)

Item	Quantity	Price UK	Price Europe	Price O/SEAS	Total
Bong 14		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 16		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 18		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 20		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 21		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 22		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 23		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 24		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 26		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 27		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 29		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong 32		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
Bong T-shirt 1994 (XL)		£ 5.00	£ 6.50	£ 10.50	
Bong T-shirt 1995 (XL)		£ 8.00	£ 10.00	£ 11.50	
Bong T-shirt 1997 (S-skinny/XL-very limited)		£ 12.00	£ 14.00	£ 15.50	
Prices include post & packing.				Total	

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

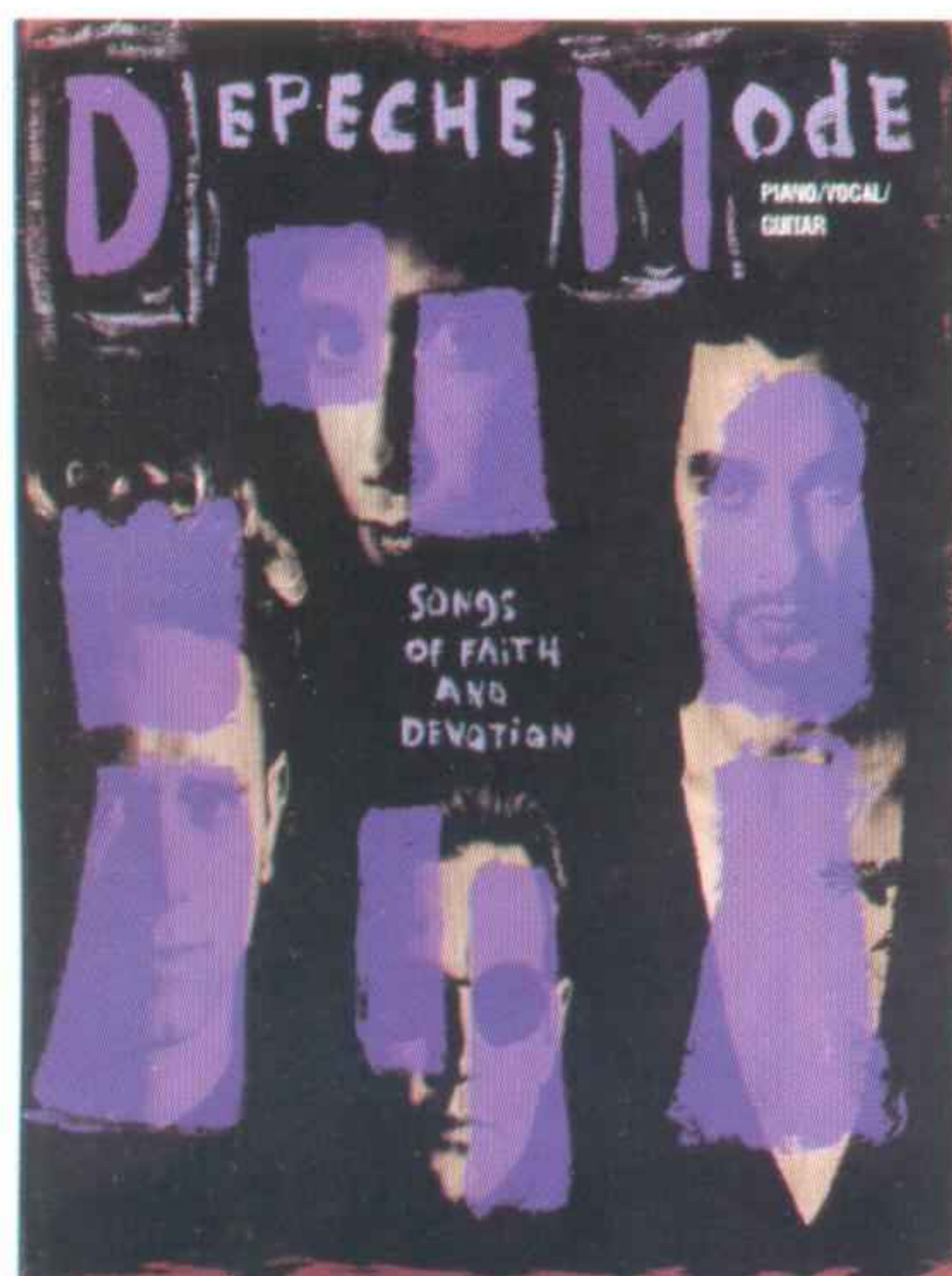
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DEPECHE MODE SONGBOOKS



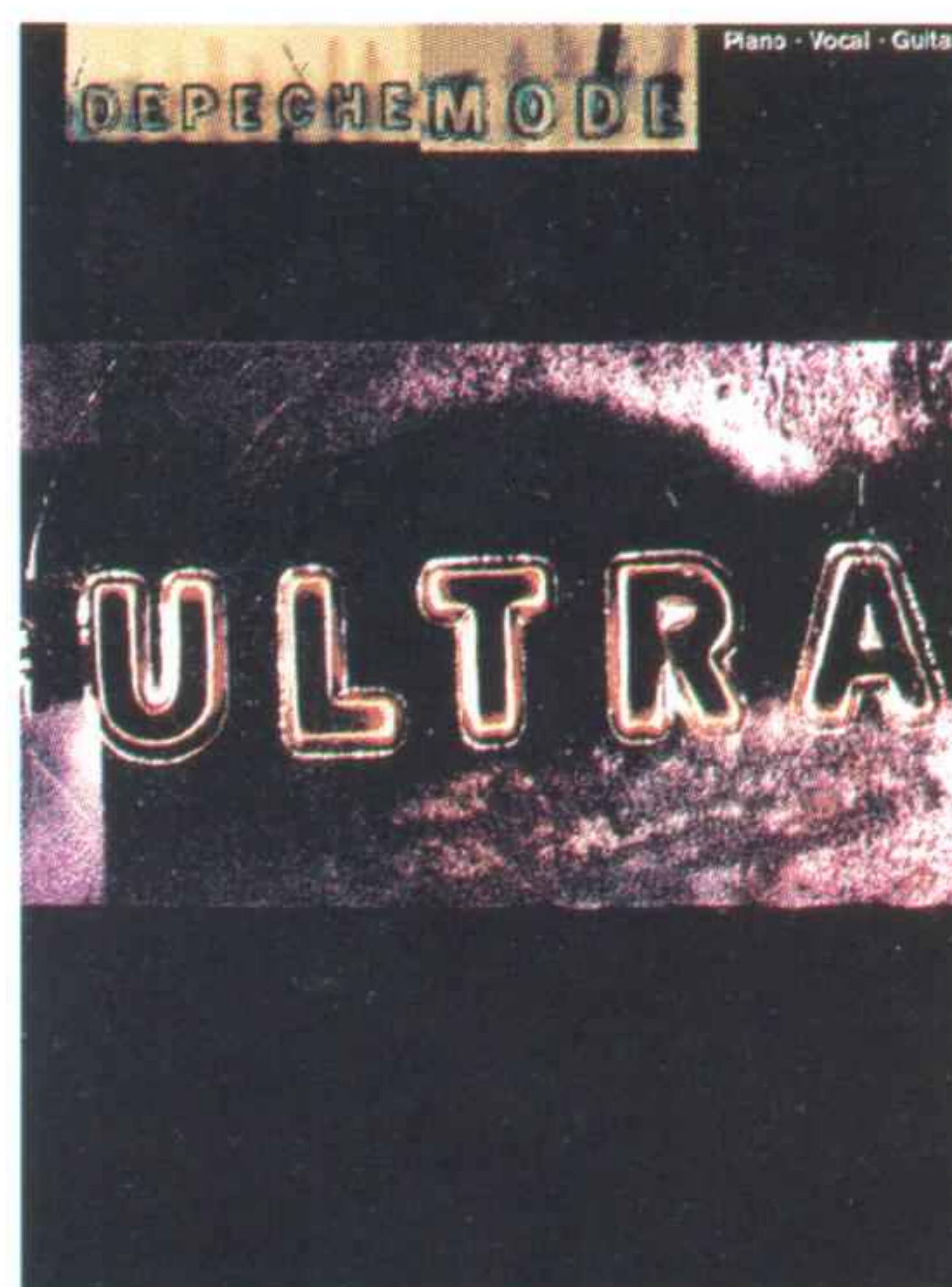
Songs Of Faith And Devotion

Ref: 18470 £6.95

Contains all 10 songs arranged for Piano and Vocal with Guitar Chord Boxes, complete lyrics and four pages of black & white photos.

Songs include:

I Feel You
Walking In My Shoes
Condemnation



Ultra

Ref: 5304A £9.95

Contains all 11 songs from their latest No. 1 album arranged for Piano and Vocal with Guitar Chord Boxes, complete lyrics and four pages of colour photos.

Songs include:

Barrel Of A Gun
It's No Good
Home

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