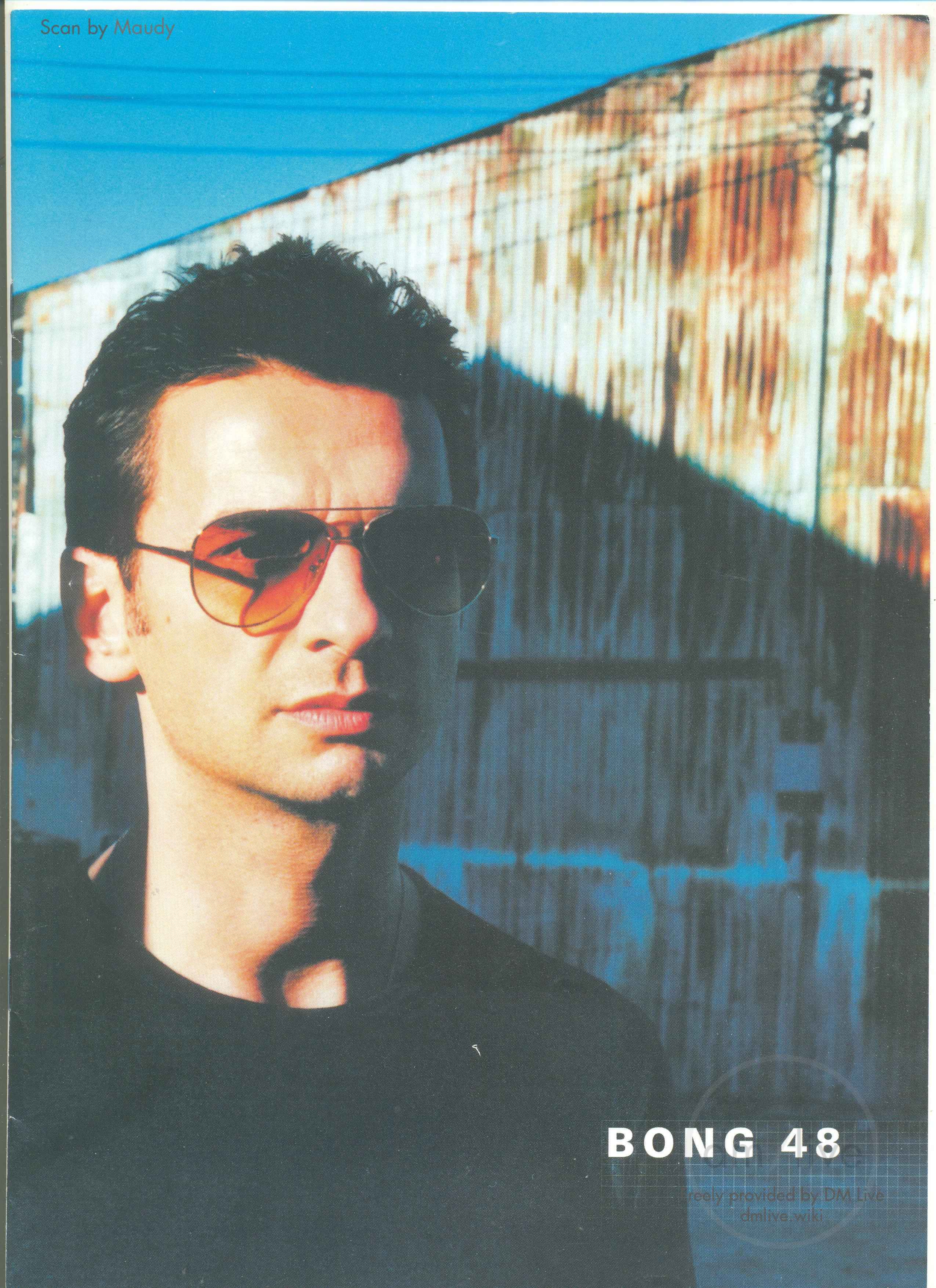


Scan by Maudy



**BONG 48**

freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Intro	3
Everything Counts	4
Excited By Exciter	8
Press On Mode	10
Stars In Their Eyes	11
Pressed In Black	14
Competition Time Again	16
The Story Of Depeche Mode	17
Exciter Tour	21
Blasphemous Rumours	22
Pen Pals	23
Contacts	23
Classified	23
Exciter	24
Ads	26
Bong Shop	27

Special thanks to Jonathan Kessler, JD Fanger, Nicola Meighan of Mute and Tony Wood of the BBC for their help with this issue of Bong.

Cover photos by Anton Corbijn

Copyright © June 2001 BONG Magazine, London, England. Produced by Michaela Olexova. Edited by Lynn Newcombe. Approved by Depeche Mode. Repro & Typo Drasnar®. Printed by BONG Magazine, London, England. All rights reserved. Nothing appearing in BONG may be reproduced without written consent from the publisher. The publisher disclaims any responsibility to return unsolicited matter, and all rights in portions published therefore remain the sole property of the magazine. Statements expressed within are not necessarily the opinions of BONG, Depeche Mode, or BONG members. BONG, P.O. Box 2581, London, W1A 3JY England.

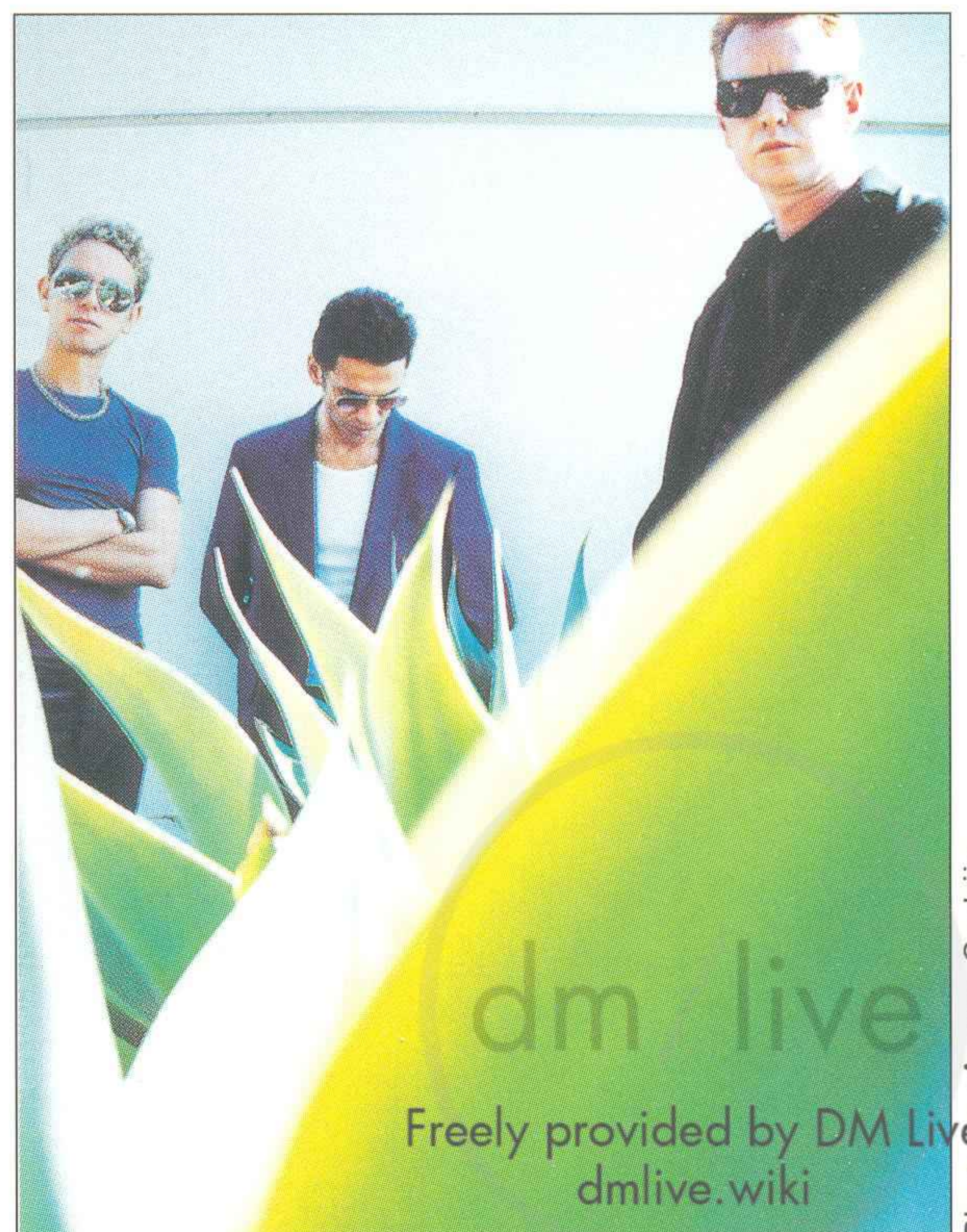


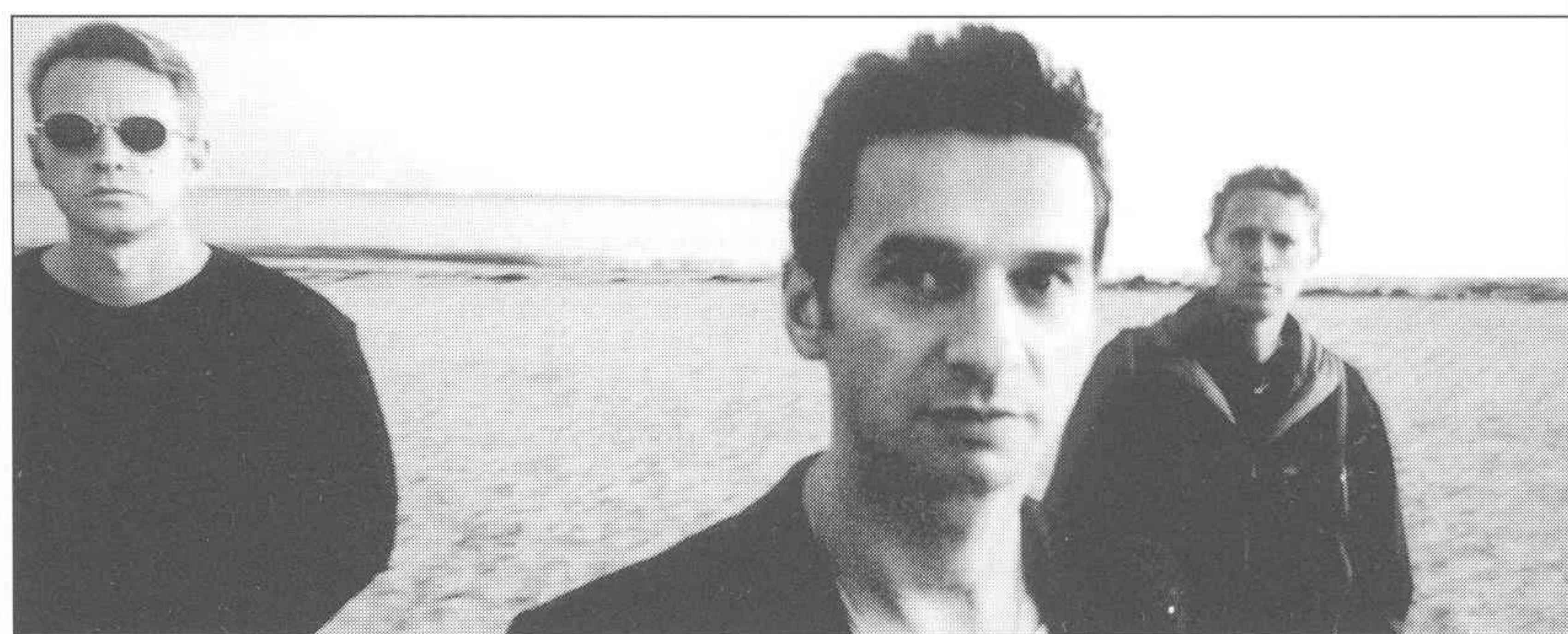
Photo by Anton Corbijn



# INTRO

## It's Bong time again!

Just how exciting is the life of a Depeche Mode fan? There may be long periods of hearing nothing from the Band, having only your videos and CD's to keep you going until some new material is released. Alternatively you can check the Internet for news or attend various parties and conventions. Then there's Bong Magazine where you can keep updated on all the latest from the Depeche Mode camp and even make new friends.



Your waiting came to an end this time around when the Band started working on their new studio album, which has already been released! Hopefully your collections now boast the first single and the album, with the second single soon to be released - as well as a worldwide tour to look forward to. What more can you ask for?

We are, as always, going to follow the Band every step of the way during the upcoming months, giving you a chance to take a look behind the scenes, along with some exclusive photographs. You'll get a taste of what's to come inside of this issue, which is of course, completely dedicated to "Exciter" and therefore some of the regular features had to be taken out, but don't worry they will be back in the next edition of Bong.

**Until September - keep moding!**

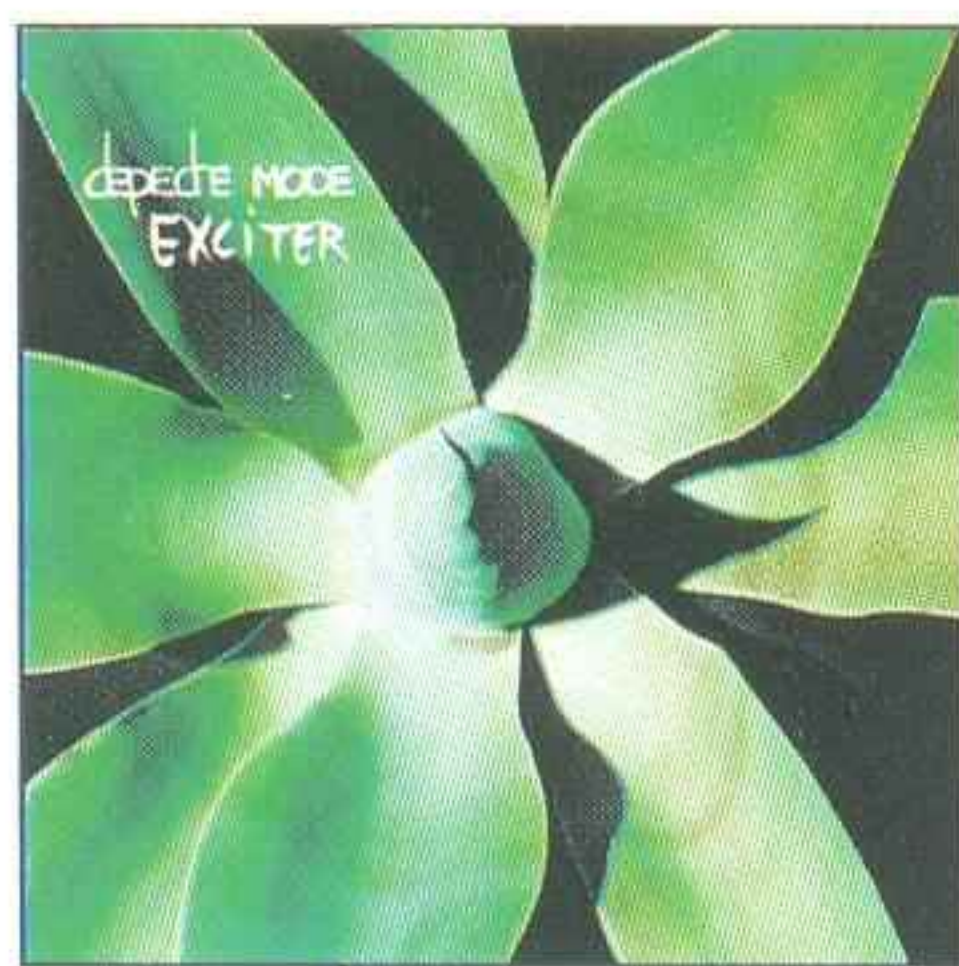
dm/live

Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki

3



# EVERYTHING COUNTS



## Exciter

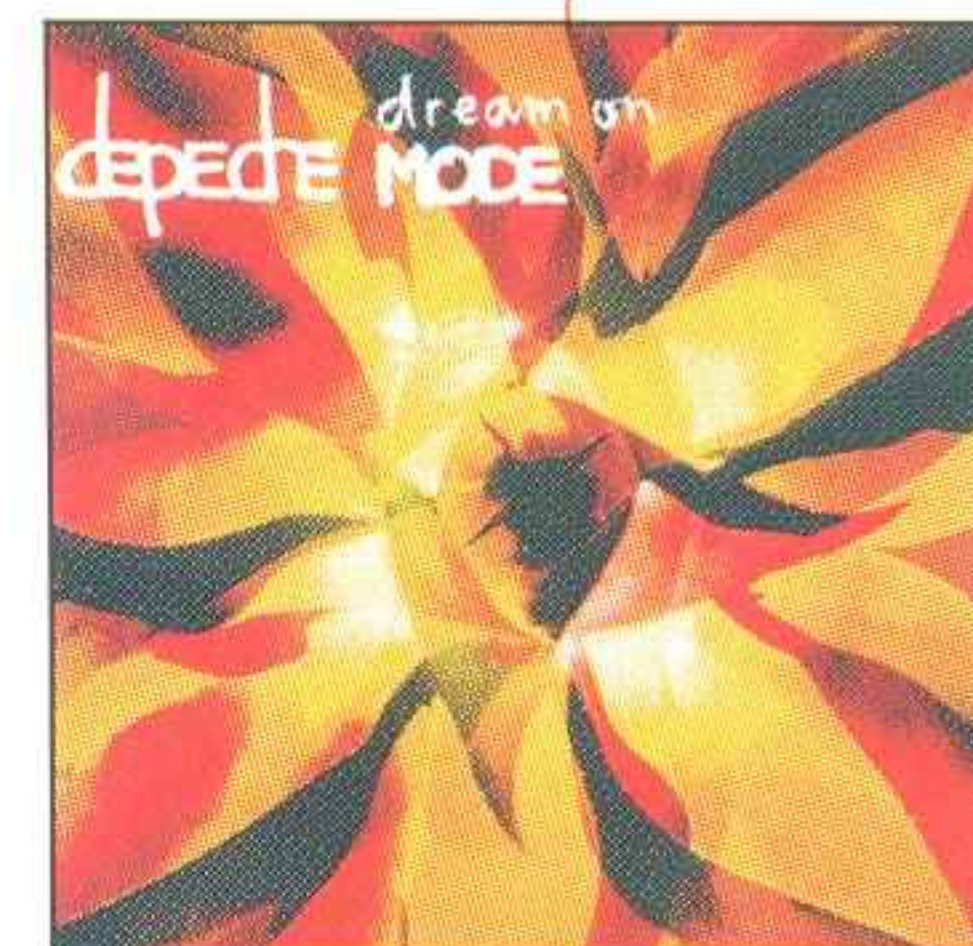
The excellent and highly anticipated new album

"Exciter" was finally released on May 14th in UK/Europe and May 15th in US/World. It is the tenth studio album for Depeche Mode and is destined to climb straight to the top.

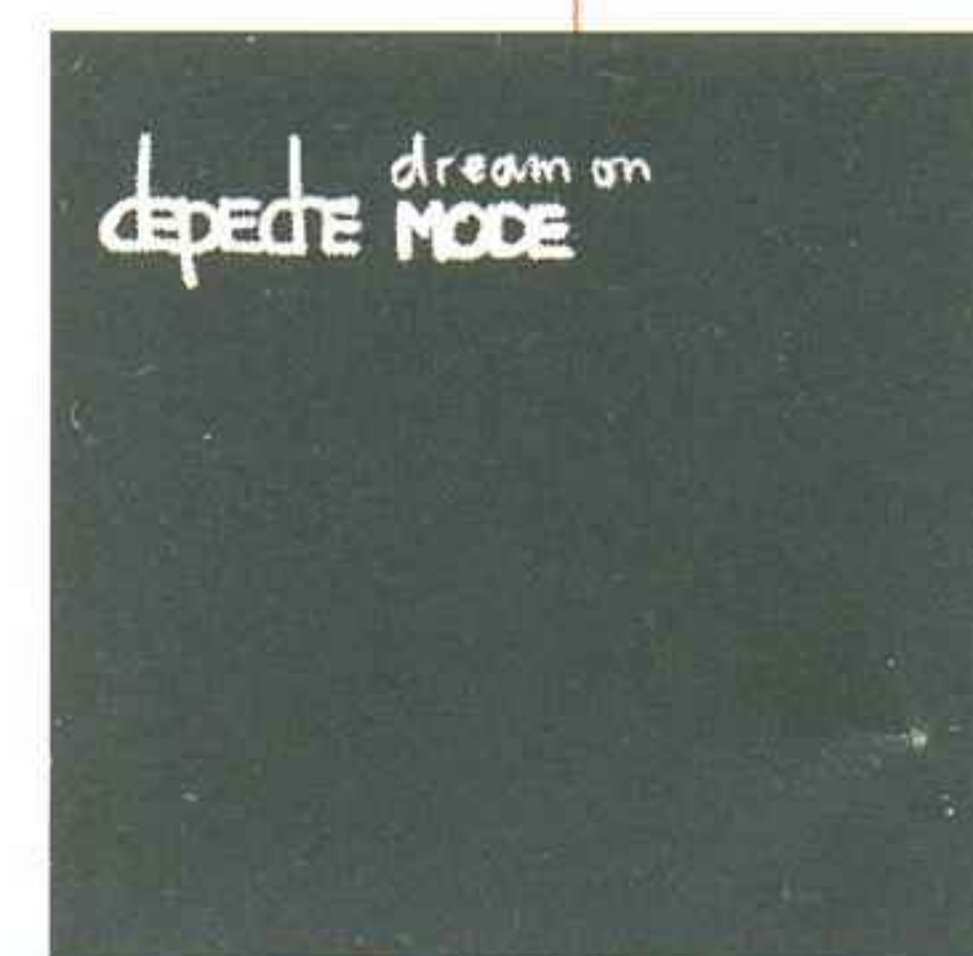


## Dream On

The first single to be released from "Exciter" was the opening track "Dream On" which went on sale on April 23 in UK/Europe and April 24 in US/World. There are quite a few UK and US commercial and promotional releases available and you can find their full listing at: [www.depechemode.com](http://www.depechemode.com).



During February, Stephane Sednaoui shot the video for this song in the desert near Barstow, California. Martin recalls the band's collaboration with Stephane: "When he initially sent over his treatment for the video, it was clear he grasped the different moods of the song."



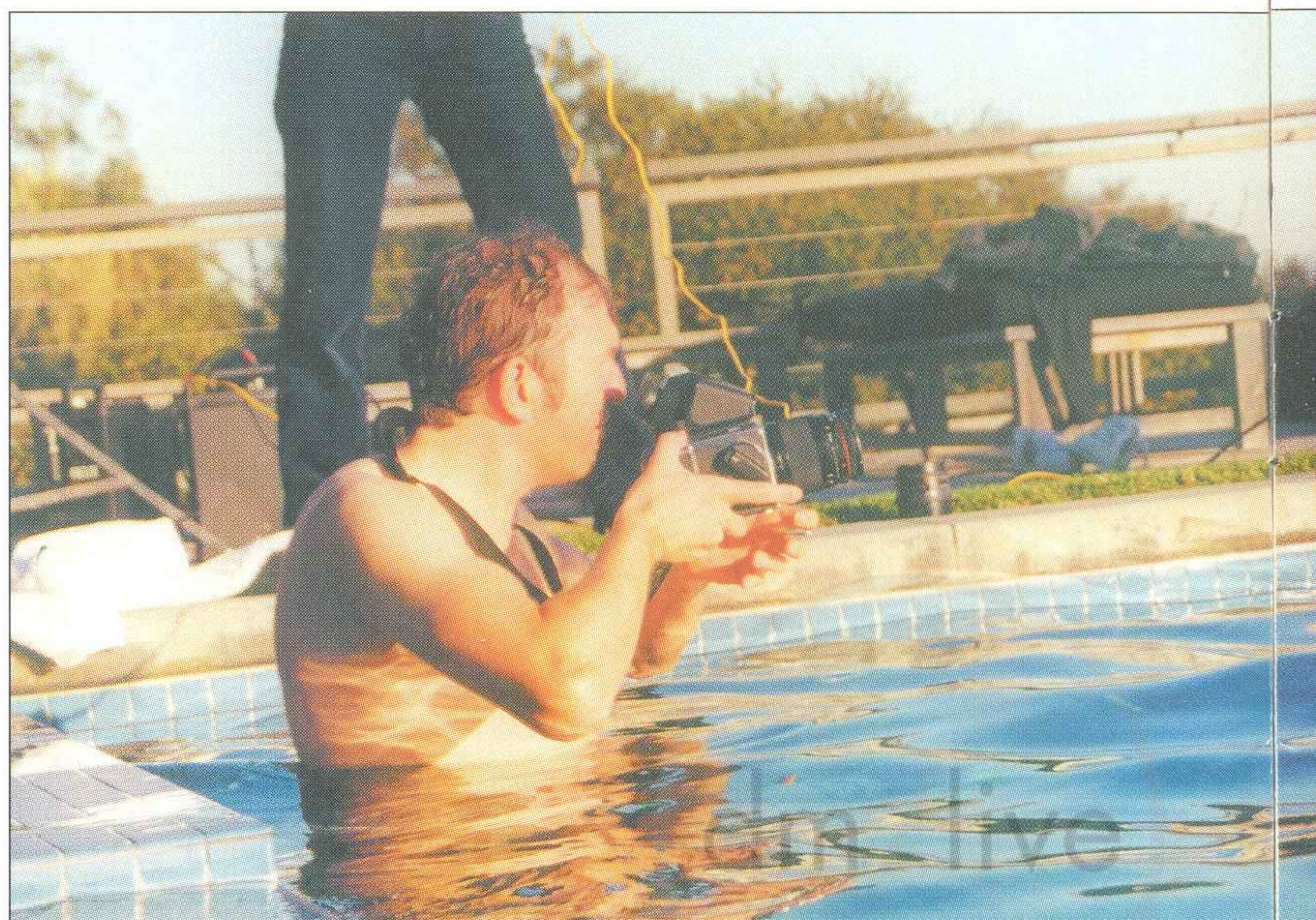
The best news so far is that "Dream On" entered the German Top 100 Single Charts on pole position and became the first number one single for the band in Germany since "People Are People" (1984)!

## I Feel Loved

"I Feel Loved" is going to be the second single from the album with the official release date on 16th July. The video, directed by Anton Corbijn, was shot during the week ending Fri 27th April, in Santa Barbara.

## Tour Rehearsals

After the public announcement of the "Exciter Tour" at a press conference in Hamburg, Germany on March 13, the band were busy with the tour preparations. They finished two weeks of rehearsals in London during May, without Dave, who was rehearsing on his own in New York. The whole band reconvened the following week in California for full rehearsals, before going up to Quebec for production rehearsals.



Anton Corbijn in action...

Freely provided by DM Live  
[dmlive.wiki](http://dmlive.wiki)



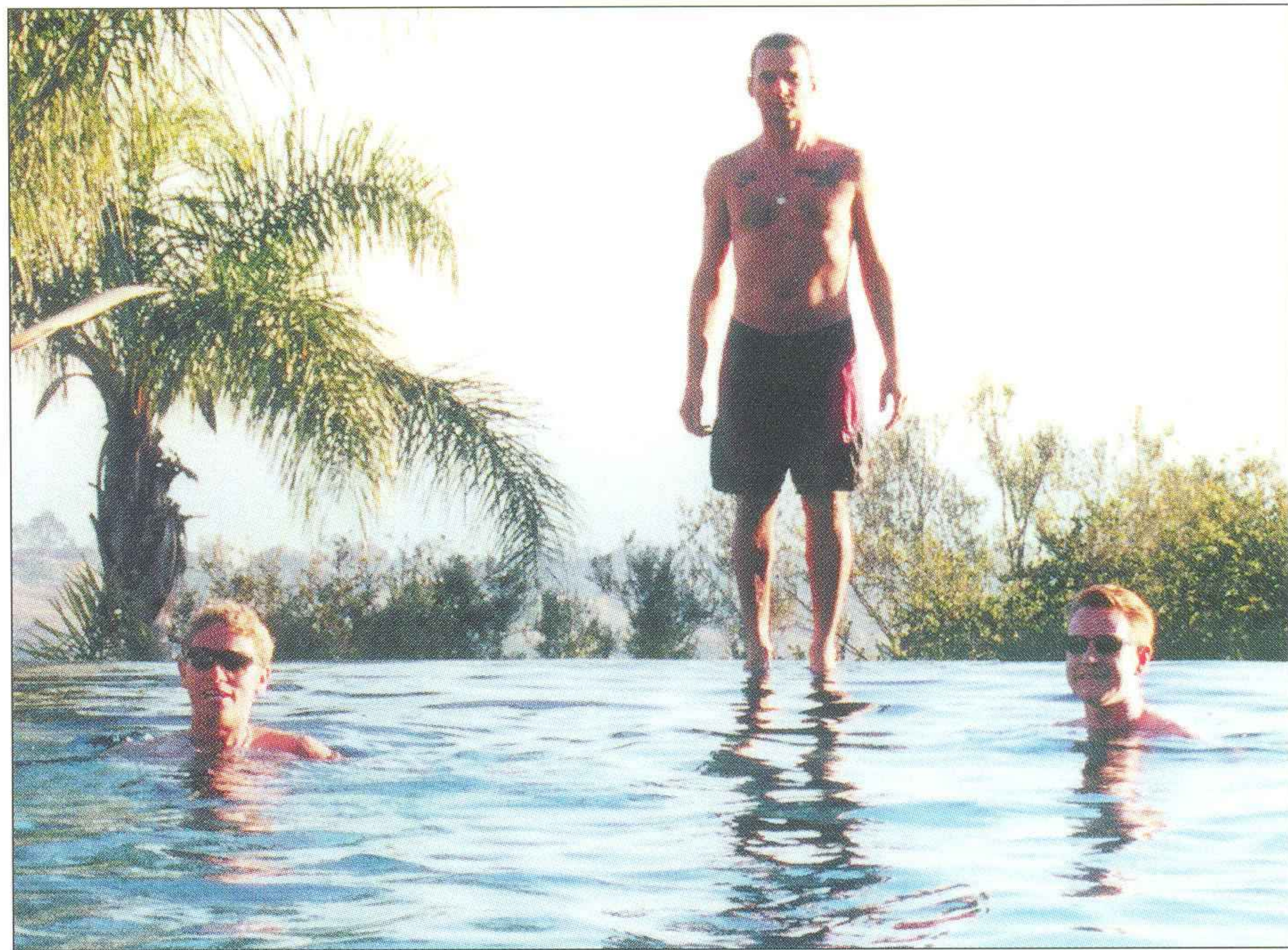
## Exciter Tour

The massive tour will see Depeche Mode in 24 countries over a five-month period. The "Exciter Tour" launches in Quebec City on June 11 and the final show is to take place in Istanbul, Turkey. It is going to be the band's first ever performance in Turkey - Martin commented: "We consider it our good fortune that our concert itinerary has expanded. Performing in front of new fans for the first time is an added bonus and inspires us to keep pushing forward creatively."

The "Exciter Tour" will again feature the innovative stage design and unique visual element of Anton Corbijn, whose work Dave describes as: "Always weird, very Anton. Anton is someone who doesn't merely listen to our music, he gets inside of it and interprets it in a way that always surprises us."

Fletch reveals: "We started with a list of 100 potential songs to perform, narrowing it down to 25. We're actually wrestling with the decision of which songs from 'Exciter' will make the set list right now."

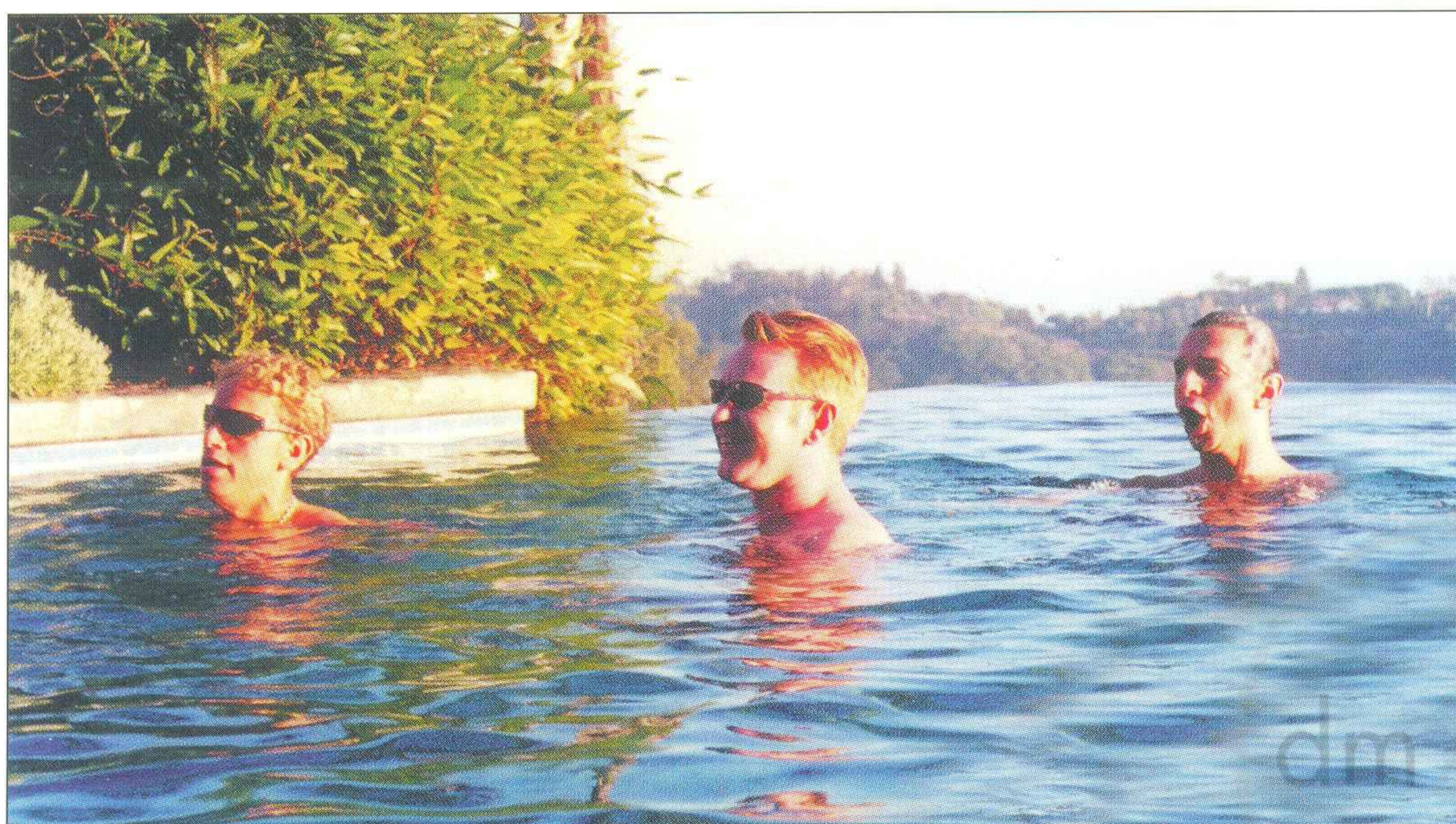
Martin, Fletch and Dave are welcoming the return of the musicians who accompanied them on their last tour: Christian Eigner (drums), Peter Gordeno (keyboards), and Jordan Bailey (backing vocals). Jordan will be joined by newcomer Georgia Lewis.



Let's take another photo!

## Merchandise

The Band's record company Mute has produced a variety of exciting merchandise and promotional stuff to support the new album in the media and retail outlets. You might be lucky enough and win something from the following list by entering our contests in this or future issues of Bong: DM logo posters, Exciter 30x20 posters, Exciter 60x40 posters, Exciter T-shirts, Exciter post-it notes, Exciter mugs, Exciter stickers, DM jackets, DM stickers, DM promo presentation boxes (incl. album, EPK, stickers, etc.), Exciter 20x20 artwork boards, Dream On postcard, Dream On 30x20 posters, Dream On 60x40 posters.



Martin, Fletch and Dave in front of a camera...

All three photos by Jonathan Kessler



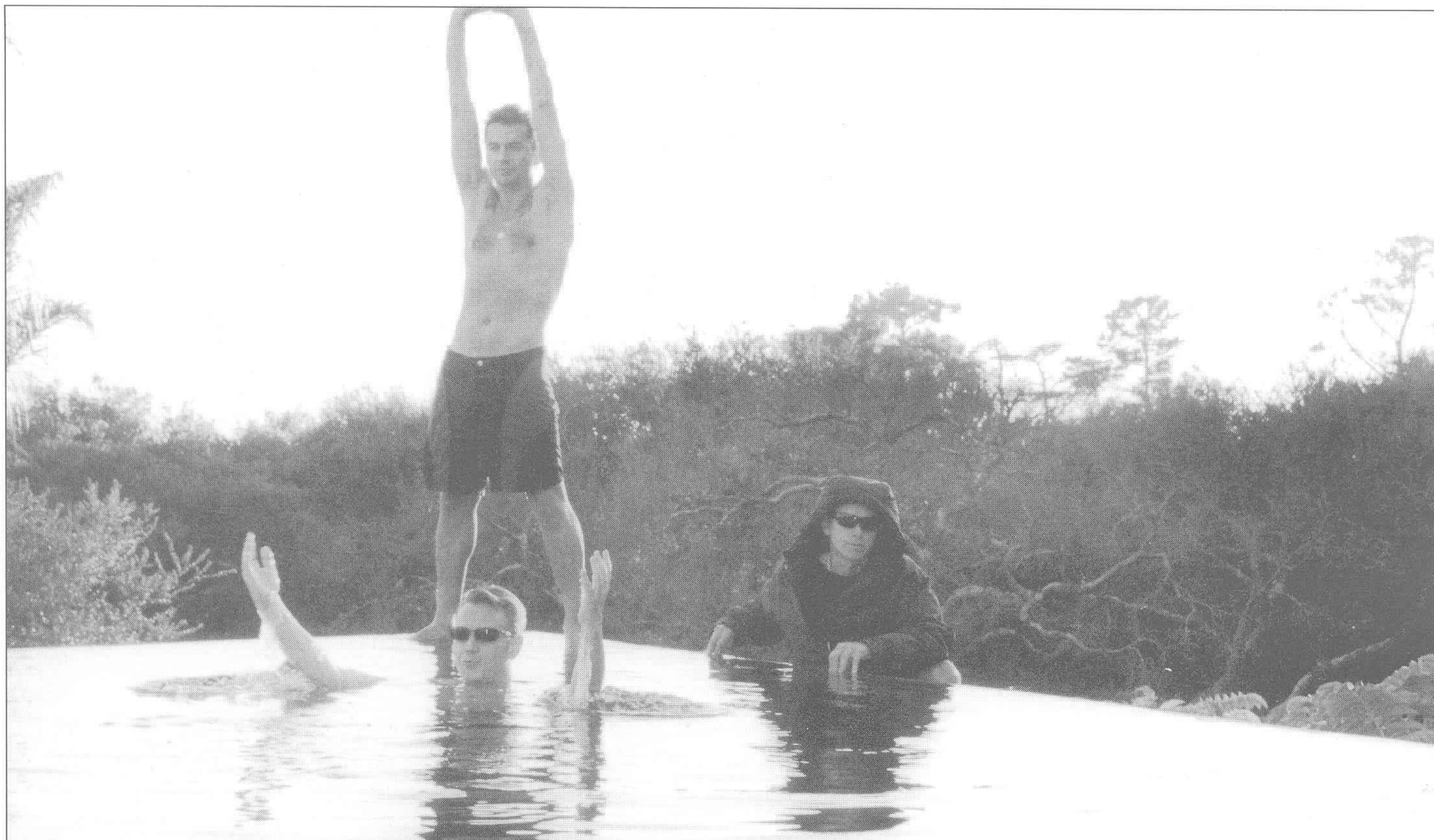


Photo by Jonathan Kessler

We enjoy this so much!

**Top Of The Pops**

Depeche Mode made a live appearance on the "Top Of The Pops" on May 4 where they performed their first single of the new album "Dream On". The Band was accompanied by Christian Eigner on drums, Martin played guitar and Fletch was on keyboards.

**BBC Documentary**

On May 7th, BBC Radio London Live 94.9FM, broadcast a special two-hour radio documentary on Depeche Mode. The documentary covers the Band's career from the beginning and includes exclusive interviews by Band members, Daniel Miller, Vince Clarke and Alan Wilder. You have a chance to read the first part of the transcript of this program in this issue.

**CD Collections**

DM's 1990 single "World In My Eyes" appeared on yet another CD of Q Magazine's Essential Collection. The CD called "Dance" was cover-mounted on the May 2001 edition of Q magazine.

Depeche Mode are one of many artists featured on the new William Orbit album titled "V.A. Remixed by William Orbit" which also includes Orbit's remixes of Nitzer Ebb or Sven Väth.

**U2 Show**

David, Martin and manager Jonathan Kessler were spotted at a U2 concert on April 26 at Arrowhead Pond, Los Angeles.

**Dream On and Exciter Hit The Charts**

Following are the highest positions for the single "Dream On" and the highest positions so far for "Exciter" across the world:

	<b>Dream On</b>	<b>Exciter</b>
GERMANY	1	1
SPAIN	1	2
ITALY	1	2
DENMARK	1	3
PORTUGAL	2	11
FINLAND	3	2
SWEDEN	4	1
M&M EUROPE	5	-
UK	6	9
GREECE	6	1
NORWAY	7	3
AUSTRIA	9	3
BELGIUM	19	1
FRANCE	12	1
SWITZERLAND	13	2
IRELAND	24	13
HUNGARY	3	-
HOLLAND	47	15
U.S.A.	85	8
CANADA	-	3
ICELAND	-	2
AUSTRALIA	-	20
CZECH REPUBLIC	-	1





**General**

On Friday 2nd February, the German/ French TV Channel Arte showed a report from the opening of Mute's new offices in Berlin on its weekly musical program "Tracks". It must have been the same program that was shown on Viva 2 in September, which included an interview by Daniel Miller. He said he was very proud to work with such brilliant and faithful artists as Depeche Mode or Nick Cave. The program featured a small interview with Nick Cave and a few seconds of the young DM in their "Master & Servant" video.

The German music TV Channel VIVA 2 held a special Depeche Mode Day on Sunday 22nd April featuring an exclusive new interview with the Band along with a varied selection of their videos and the road movie "101". The program also included an interview with Anton Corbijn, who gave his personal views on each of the videos he has directed for Depeche Mode. Depeche Mode Day was repeated on the weekend of May 12, prior to the album release.

On February 11, the Slovak TV Channel Markiza used an excerpt of "Useless" as background music during a performance of male strippers on the "love and sex" program called "Laskanie".

A few seconds of "Enjoy The Silence" were used as background music on the Sky News Channel on February 6.

"See You" was used by BBC2 UK in the intro's round of "Never Mind The Buzzcocks", a celebrity music quiz, which was shown on February 26. Most of the panel recognised it, but couldn't name it.

On Sunday 2nd February and Friday 13 February, a local French TV Channel TV Breizh, broadcast a Depeche Mode concert which had taken place during the "Elixir Festival" in Brittany in 1985.

During February, "Barrel Of A Gun" was used as background music in the TV adverts for Sky Sports new season of Rugby Super League.

A large yellow banner with Depeche Mode written in black letters, was noticed in the audience during a live broadcast of the soccer match Roda JC versus PSV Eindhoven, the Dutch league quarterfinal cup on SBS6 TV Station, on Wednesday 14th February.

Interviewed in the London Metro, a free newspaper given out at Tube and Railway stations, Caprice revealed that Depeche Mode were one her favourite bands.

On March 8, the German TV Channel RTL used "In Your Room" (Zephyr Mix) and "It's No Good" in their daily show "Explosiv".

Every Friday, the Italian TV Channel TMC2 broadcasts a programme about video directors called "X-Frame" and on March 16, the show focused on Anton Corbijn's work. Nearly all of his videos were played, including the ones he directed for Depeche Mode. Short interviews with Anton and

Martin Gore were also shown to emphasise his unique style and his role as a "visual mentor" for the band.

In the middle of March, Depeche Mode were interviewed for the Italian TV Channel TMC2 and on March 23, an excerpt from that interview was used during a programme called "X-Frame" (see above paragraph) which featured Stéphane Sednaoui's. Martin talked briefly about the "Dream On" video.

The Italian MTV programme "Week in rock" featured a long interview with Martin, Dave and Fletch. The programme was aired on Friday 23rd March but should be repeated in the near future.

On Monday 19th March, the ITV UK quiz "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" they asked "Which of these phrases means the state of affairs that currently exists? A: Del Amitri, B: En Vogue, C: Depeche Mode, D: Status Quo? This question was worth £2,000.

The intro to "Love Thieves" was used over and over again for one of the topics discussed in an ITV UK television show called "Tonight with Trevor MacDonald".

"Who is the sexiest front man alive?" was February's question of "ranking of the month" a feature on the website sputnik.de. You could choose between Dave Gahan, Brian Molko, Ville Valo and others. Dave made it to the top with 98%!!

Members of the German Depeche Mode Mailing List "Insight" and the "Exciter-Forum" (message board) voted for "Dream On" along with other Depeche Mode songs in the listener's chart of various radio stations. "Dream On" made it to the top in its first week on the listener's chart of "Jump" a German radio station, followed closely by "Policy Of Truth", "World In My Eyes", "Never Let Me Down Again" and "Enjoy The Silence" in the Top 20. The listener's chart of Radio FFH saw "Dream On" on the fifth position.

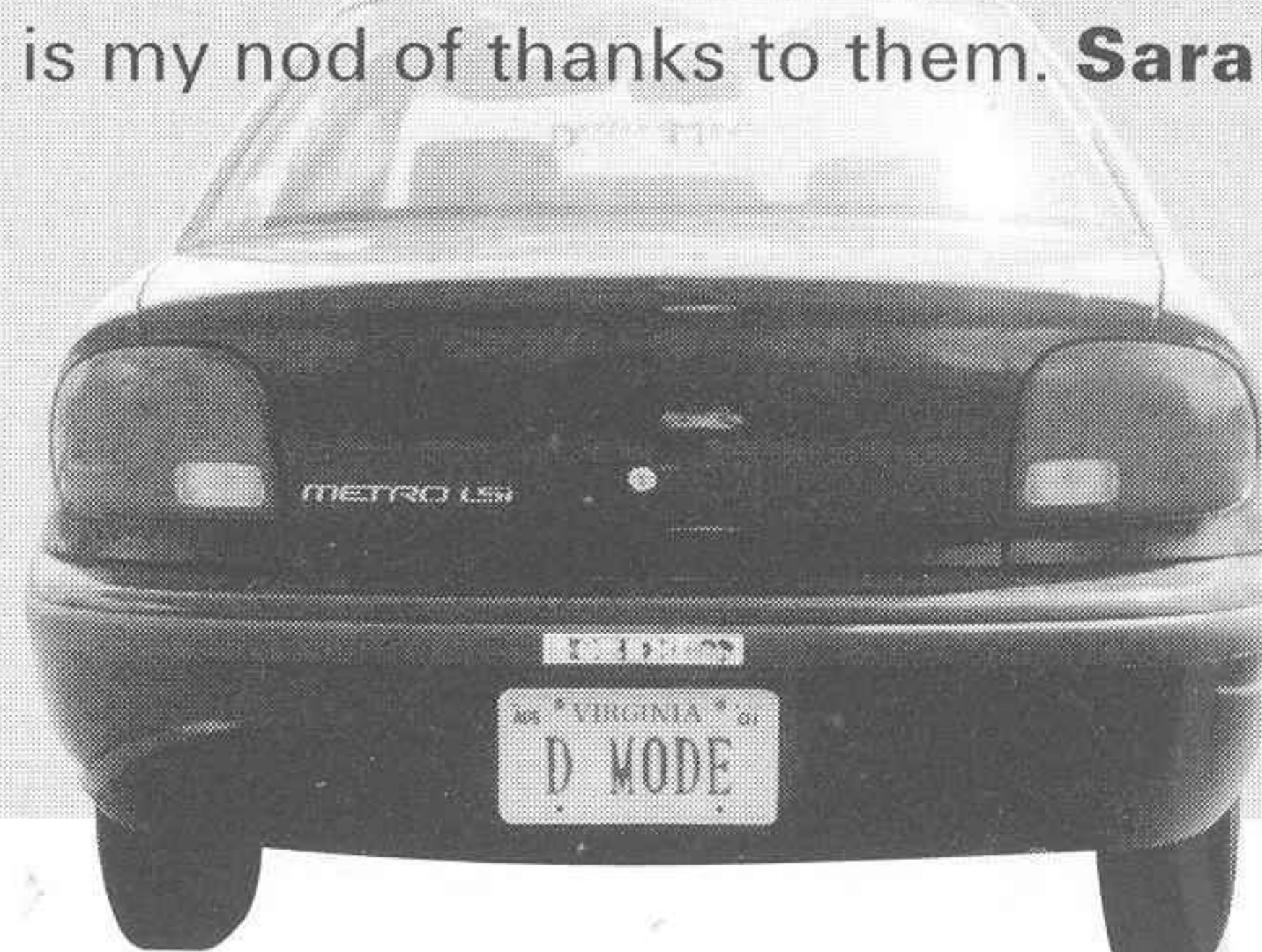
*Many thanks to Jane Voiret, Carin Cullen, Richard van der Meer, Robert Broj, Stephen Hickson, Andrew Drennan, Claudia Sterlini, Sarah Marshall, Scott Butler, Brian Weihe, Valentina Moggia, Mariska Heijnen, Michelle Preston, John Rulton and to anyone else who sent in contributions. Please keep the information coming in and don't forget that Everything Counts!*

**EVERYTHING COUNTS PLUS**

**A chance to win!**

You now have the chance to win some DM related prizes for a short story/article and photograph showing how influential Depeche Mode are in your everyday lives. There must be lots of places (restaurants, houses, etc.) or things (car number plates, boats, etc.) and even pets, named after our threesome. Let us know about them...we can't wait to see what you can come up with! All contributions should be sent to our usual address or via e-mail to: [flexible@volny.cz](mailto:flexible@volny.cz)

The picture shows my Mode-mobile. It is amazing how often a car will pull up beside me while on the freeway and shout "I love Depeche Mode, too!" or the like. I've loved Depeche Mode for so long now and this is my nod of thanks to them. **Sarah Le Claire, Norfolk, USA**



*DM T-shirt and a badge go to: Sarah Le Claire, Norfolk, USA*

dm/live

Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki



by Maudy

I have heard the new album and initially I wasn't greatly impressed. After a few listens it has grown on me with the exception of "The Dead Of Night" which I hate (what was Martin thinking?). Of the others "Dream On" and "I Feel Loved" are the stand out tracks and I believe "I Feel Loved" is going to be the next single. The album as a whole has a really laid back feel to it. Even my wife likes it and she hates DM!! Also, the Bertrand Burgalat version of "Easy Tiger" is superb as a B-side to "Dream On". **John Brown, Glasgow, Scotland**

I would like to let you know that I was privileged to have bought the album "Exciter" on the 5th May 2001. What a bonus, nine days earlier than expected? What to say about the album? There aren't enough words to express my feelings towards the band's brilliant work of lyrics, voices, emotions and instrumental sounds. Depeche Mode never fail to surprise and please us fans and supporters. Future songs which I think would do very well as singles would be "Freelove", "I Feel Loved" and without doubt my favourite "I Am You". Dave's voice keeps surprising us with songs like "When The Body Speaks" and "The Sweetest Condition". A new style of singing these songs so differently. Let's not forget Martin's talent for writing these songs and Andy for keeping the band together and organising matters. **Roger Thomaz, South Africa**

Well, "Exciter" is a surprising album. I think the problem is that we were used to albums influenced by Alan Wilder. Up until "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" every Mode album was mixed by Alan to some extent. When "Ultra" came out, its sound had quite a lot of overlap with "SOFAD", in terms of style. At the time, I'm sure, every Mode fan was amazed that Depeche Mode could take another album, and a tour, after all the strife and emotional angst that had built up during the

1990's - and late 80's. That was a relief, but the question was what would happen musically without Alan Wilder's input? "Ultra" was unclear: it had bits of "SOFAD" as well as new ideas... Well, "Exciter" is definitely new. I've listened to it a couple of times and I agree it has certain similarities to "Black Celebration". It varies a lot from track to track. However, it does bear a lot of influence from the "quieter is louder" camp which so influenced Depeche Mode's associated "Nine Inch Nails" on the last album "Fragile". Very few tracks hit you in the face. Gone is the bravado of previous albums, but retained is lyrical strength, indeed improved. Instead you have an uneasy mix of styles - mostly acoustic (maybe - oh dear - "Garage"), but with a few references to earlier dance shapes. I can think of "Behind The Wheel" when I hear the glorious "I Feel Loved". There is a definite feel of "Music For The Masses" but I think, as yet, where Depeche Mode are going is unsure. The album is new ground, in terms of music and life-style. Everyone in the band has matured, through thick and thin (and some have left), but Depeche Mode endure. I've been a fan for nearly 20 years (yes, I'm an old codger) but I still revel in Depeche Mode's twists and turns. **David S. Stevenson, Leicester, England**

Exciter is brilliant!! After "Dream On" I thought the album was going to be mellow, then I heard "The Dead Of Night"...that's got to be a single! Dave's voice has so much atmosphere on this album and as already mentioned "The Dead Of Night"...how good does Dave sound on that track!! "When The Body Speaks", "The Sweetest Condition", "Goodnight Lovers"...oh, what the hell, the whole album is just superb!! It usually takes me a few listens to pick out my favourite tracks, but on this one I love them all and within a short space of time. I have been playing it non-stop since Monday. It's been at home, at work and in the car, if I had a CD

Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki



player on my bike it would be played on that as well!! Every single track is of Depeche Mode's usual quality. When I listen to the album of some other bands I find that it can be a little boring and only listen to certain or my favourite tracks at one time. I find that because Depeche Mode have two excellent singers, the fact they break the album up with some instrumentals make the album easier to listen to. I could go on about "Exciter" for hours... Could you tell the boys that they have truly done it again?! **David Swainsbury, Degenham, England**

**B**een a while since I talked about Depeche Mode. Not too many friends of mine like Depeche Mode. Well, the new album is out and I got it and listened to it seven times already... and have to say this is Depeche Mode I remember!! Fresh sounds, fresh voices...you can hear the perfection on this album! New, back to electronic sound, this album will do really well!! Hope the rest of the fans will feel the same way. **Marcin Malkowski, Toronto, Canada**

**O**uah! What a great song! The comeback of Depeche Mode at last! And what a comeback! "Dream On" is magic! We can hear the real Depeche Mode sound! Depeche at their best! It sounds like a song out of "Violator" and I like it! Congratulations! You get better and better with years! **Laetitia Nougues, Idron, France**

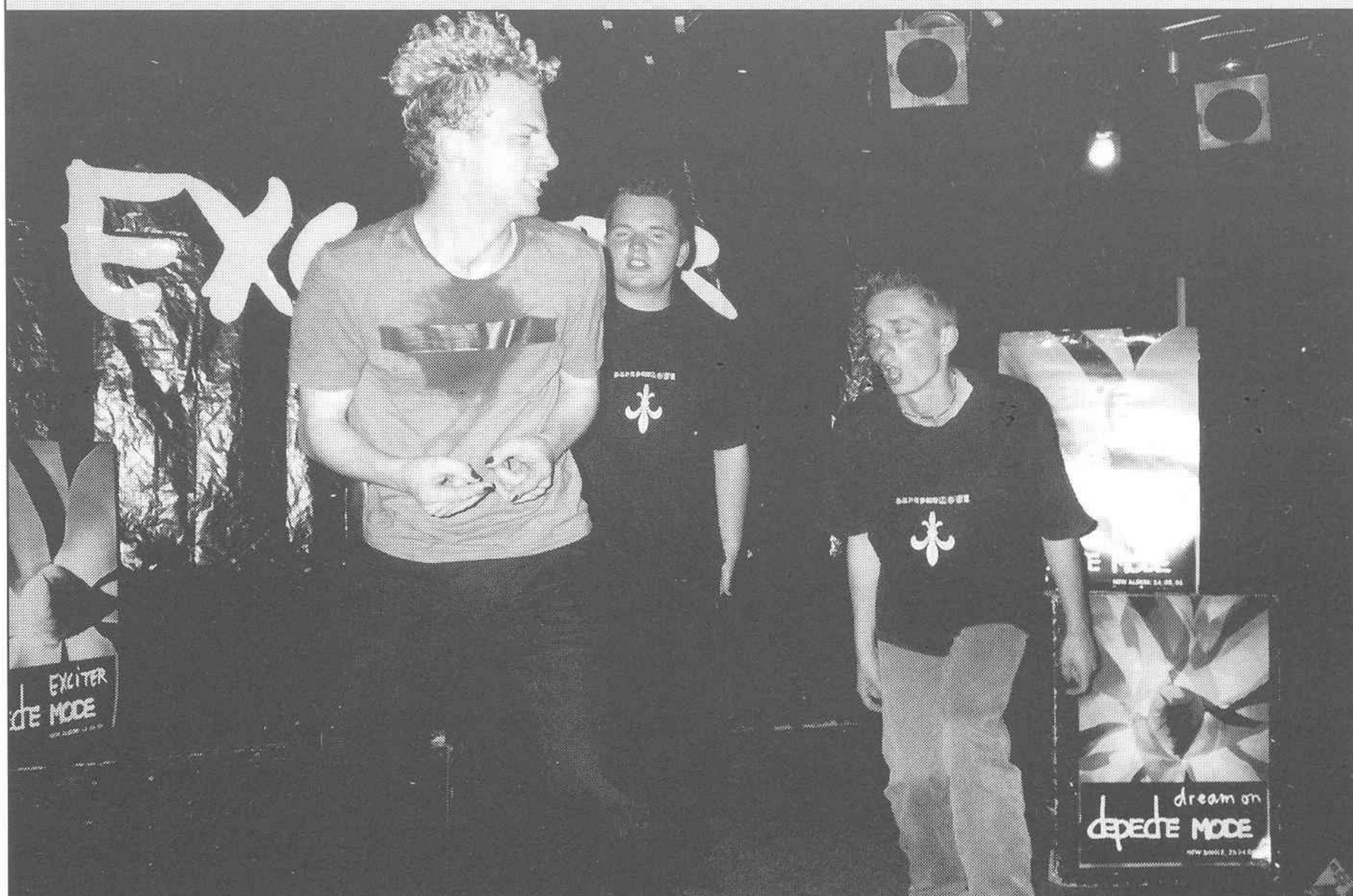
## EXCITER PARTY

by Michaela Olexova

It happens every time a new album is about to be released and you find yourself at one of those parties. You should however know there is a slight difference between them. If you are lucky enough, you end up at a party organised for the stars themselves, other VIP celebrities and most importantly the people from the media. But if you are even luckier you see yourself at a party organised by fans for fans. It might be a bit low key but you are usually in for much more fun and excitement!

I asked myself just recently how many events I have already experienced but had forgotten all about, when I entered the club Rock Café in Prague on Saturday 12th May where the "Exciter" party was to be held by the Czech fan club Depeche Mode Friends. About an hour into the night when the club got packed by devotees, I realised that it was a great opportunity to find out what fans think about the new album and more...The only question that kept me wondering and still does is why the DJ played the new album so little at the party called "Exciter"?

Never mind, I was too busy enjoying the general atmosphere and talking with the fans who found my four "easy" questions too "difficult" to be answered, as they had to express themselves in only one word....See for yourself!



1. How would you describe the new album "Exciter" in one word?
2. Could you name one song from "Exciter" which stands out for you?
3. Could you name one song, which you would like to hear live on the "Exciter Tour"?
4. What comes to your mind first when someone says Depeche Mode?

Peter Fijolek, Poland (24 y.)

1. Exciting
2. Shine
3. Walking In My Shoes
4. Love for music

Olda Sahajdak, Czech Republic (25 y.)

1. Nice
2. Freeloze
3. Walking In My Shoes
4. Alan's departure

Robert Broj, Czech Republic (27 y.)

1. Star
2. Shine
3. Never Let Me Down Again
4. Life

Alena, Czech Republic (23 y.)

1. Exceptional
2. Freeloze
3. Strangelove
4. Music

Rafal Kaluza, Poland (25 y.)

1. Cool
2. The Dead Of Night
3. Walking In My Shoes
4. Life

Pawel Bucki, Poland (18 y.)

1. Incredible
2. The Dead Of Night
3. Never Let Me Down Again
4. Devotion

Piech Tomek, Poland (17 y.)

1. Intimate
2. I Am You
3. Here Is The House
4. Life

Silvie Zabranska, Czech Republic (18 y.)

1. Different
2. When The Body Speaks
3. Barrel Of A Gun
4. Everything



# Depeche Mode album in fo

# Press On Mode

- LIVING ABROAD MAGAZINE (12/02/01)** > an article on the 80's featuring a small interview with Martin Gore
- RHYTHM (March 2001)** > reader's letter on drum kits mentions Depeche Mode
- NME.COM (March 2001)** > a news story on the upcoming tour
- MUSIC365 (March 2001)** > a news story on the upcoming tour
- NME.COM (March 2001)** > a news story about the webchat on March 7th
- MOJO (March 2001)** > a news story on the forthcoming album
- MUSIC WEEK (03/03/01)** > the new single "Dream On" on the Music Week playlist
- BOYZ (03/03/01)** > Caprice's first celebrity crush was on Dave Gahan of Depeche Mode
- FONO (07/03/01)** > the new album "Exciter" on the Fono playlist
- 7 (07/03/01)** > a news story on the remixes for the single with colour pictures
- NEWS OF THE WORLD (11/03/01)** > a news story on the forthcoming single with two colour pictures
- PLAYLOUDER.COM (14/03/01)** > a news story on the upcoming tour
- MUSIC365.COM (16/03/01)** > a news story on the forthcoming tour
- NME (17/03/01)** > a news story on the upcoming tour
- KERRANG! (17/03/01)** > the album "Violator" featured in Deftones' Chino Moreno "it changed my life" feature with a pack shot
- TIME OUT (21/03/01)** > a listing for Wembley show in October with colour picture
- KERRANG! (24/03/01)** > Chino Moreno from Deftones' talks about five covers the group has done including DM's "To Have And To Hold"
- DJ (26/03/01)** > a single review receiving 5/5 from DJ and 5/5 from Terry and Craig, resident DJs at Fabric
- MEZZMUSIC.COM (28/03/01)** > a news story on the forthcoming album
- PLAYLOUDER.COM (30/03/01)** > a news story on the upcoming tour
- MUSIC WEEK (31/03/01)** > an artist focus on Depeche Mode with picture
- TIME OUT (04/04/01)** > a three page feature, including images from the "Dream On" video shoot
- UNCUT (April 2001)** > a news story on depechemode.com previewing new material from the forthcoming album and an article on David Bowie featuring a quote from Martin Gore with colour picture
- THE FACE (April 2001)** > an article on flipflopflyin.com website feat "minipops" of Depeche Mode
- ROLLING STONE (GERMANY), (April 2001)** > a five page feature on Depeche Mode.
- KINGSIZE (April 2001)** > a mention of Depeche Mode in "in the studio" news section with picture
- GEAR (April 2001)** > a fashion portfolio "The Collection" featuring Dave and eleven other coolest men in America by photographer Robert Maxwell
- VIRTUALLY ALTERNATIVE (April 2001)** > a four page article on the Band
- BILLBOARD (19/05/2001)** > a two page feature on the Band
- UNCUT (May 2001)** > a cover story featuring an exclusive 18-page interview with the Band, including a variety of old and new photographs
- MUSIKEXPRESS (May 2000)** > a five page cover story in German on the Band and the new album
- KEYBOARD (May 2001)** > a six page cover story on the Band
- CMJ NEW MUSIC MONTHLY (May/June 2001)** > a six page cover story on the Band
- REVOLVER (May/June 2001)** > a five page interview with each band member

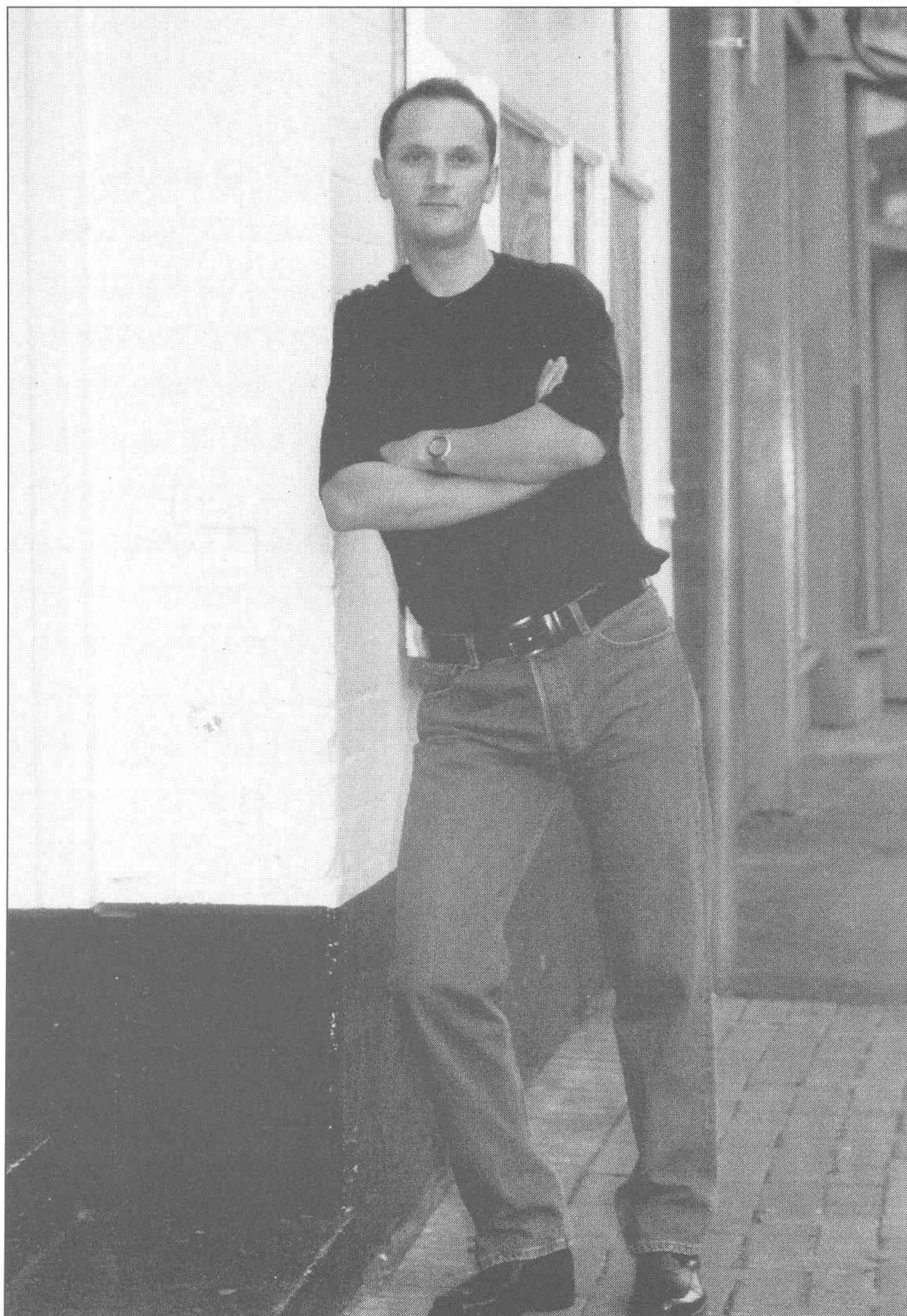


For the benefit of those who live outside the UK, "Stars In Their Eyes" is a very spectacular and popular show, in which five ordinary members of the public, who have a talent of sounding like a particular famous singer, get to "be that famous singer" for a few minutes on national television. It's difficult to even get an audition for this show, and you have to be exceptional. **Jez Bailey** is one such person and this is his story:

My night as Dave Gahan on

# Stars IN THEIR THEIR Eyes

Saturday 19th May 2001



Having watched "Stars In Their Eyes" for many years close friends have always said that I should apply for the programme. I have been a fan of Depeche Mode since the early 80's it is fair to say that the band formed part of my adolescence. Just ask my Mum!!! Although the programme is based around sounding like a famous person, people have told me I look like Dave - I'm not so sure!

As far as I was aware Dave Gahan had never been done and although I say it now I genuinely felt that I would at least get a first audition. After all in order for the show to continue it needs new acts. I applied for the programme back in May of 2000 (along with 30,000 other hopefuls) and sent a tape of three songs, all a capella covering the bands 20 or so years. They were "Just Can't Get Enough", "Enjoy The Silence" and "It's No Good". Who'd ever thought then that I would actually get on the show and perform as my idol! I sent the tape off and to be honest tried to forget about it never thinking that I would hear anything.

Sometime in July the programme called and said that I had an audition. Of the 30,000 applications they only audition 400, so to get this far was in itself a great achievement. This was just so exciting but also quite scary. The production team selected "Just Can't Get Enough" as the song because they felt it was the most commercial - a song that a lot of people would know. I went to the audition following a meeting at work dressed in a Business Suit! I went in the room and there was a table with the production team i.e. Producer, Executive Producer and Camera man!! It had been a long day for them at this stage and they must have been thinking what have we got here? I'd practised the song along with some choreography because as we all know Dave is a performer and doesn't just sing on the spot. Off went the jacket and tie and I just performed the song as best as I could. I don't think they could believe what they were witnessing but you have to make an impression so that they remember you. Later on the Producer told me that the performance did help to get me to the second stage.



The second audition was to be held at Granada TV in August. I was told that they only second audition about 100 people. Of that they are only looking for 52 (50 contestants and 2 reserves). I just had to go for it and so performed the song again, but this time there was a room full of people, including Producer, Make Up, Choreographer, Costume and 3 cameras. When I finished the number they said thank you and that was it. The following day I flew to the States for a family holiday and tried as hard as I could to not think about what might be. It was actually on the last day of the holiday that I phoned home to be told that there was a letter from Granada TV. I told my friend to open it and WOW I had made it!!! Well all I can remember is dancing around the living room shouting I'm going to be on TV!!!

The next stage was to visit Granada for "Routining" which is where they tell you the format and explain all the processes that I would be going through. It was then that it started to dawn on me just what I had achieved and that this was going to be an experience of a lifetime - to perform my idol on National TV. It was also at this stage that I went into Costumes/Make up and recorded the song to the arrangement composed by the Musical Director. As each song is limited to 2.30 minutes they have to cut certain segments. Within the "Stars" team they have a research department who collate the history of the band along with video footage. Attention to detail is of paramount importance. We sat down and went through all the material they had of the early days along with all my memorabilia and decided on the costume etc. The first problem we hit, was that being 33, my hair is slowly falling out and it was therefore decided that a wig would be required. A wig fitting in London then followed along with a visit to the show Choreographer to finalise the routine. The finished routine was not that different to the one I performed at my first audition. The Choreographer thought that it was great! It was then just a question of practice, practice, practice!!

The show was to be recorded in November 2000 over a full weekend. Upon arriving I was shown my dressing room and there on the door were those two words written on a gold star "David Gahan". I immediately did the "we are not worthy" actions from Wayne's World!!! This was just so surreal, here I was about to perform as the man himself, something that just seemed like a dream was about to turn into reality. I had mixed emotions, excited, nervous and very apprehensive. It was also an opportunity to meet my fellow contestants, who were 'Kylie Minogue', 'Julie London', 'Cliff Richard' and 'Axl Rose'. You do seem to forget that there has to be a winner but as far as I was concerned I was going to achieve what I set out to achieve and that was it. I was then introduced to Matthew Kelly who is a genuinely nice chap who makes you feel very much at ease. Then again he has been through this many times. To perform on TV is something very few people have the opportunity to do, but to perform as your idol is just fantastic. I was assigned a chaperone who's job it was to look after me and make sure I had everything I needed. They really do treat you like Stars to such a point that I actually started to believe I was Dave Gahan.

The first day was a technical rehearsal where each act performs his/her number five times. This is for the lighting, camera positions and an opportunity to work on the stage and walk through those "Famous Doors". Putting on the costume/wig I have to say that I was so excited about the whole thing and couldn't wait to record the show. This was going to be the best thing that I have ever done!!! Much to my delight the Producer had decided to have three keyboard players on my set, which looked superb with my own lighting rig. All part of the attention to detail.

Day 2 started with me having my wig fitted and then cut and styled. Following Make Up I then put on the costume to complete the transformation. The finished item looked superb with as much detail as possible. More rehearsals follow giving all the contestants a chance of winning but it is down to the studio audience on the night who goes through?? Throughout the day there are opportunities to have five minutes, a few pinches just to make sure it's not a dream and to try and keep a level head.

The recording took place on the Sunday evening with the studio audience, along with your four guests.



I then had the opportunity to tell my family all about the proceedings thus far. The whole show takes about 4 hours to record. It begins with each contestant doing their little chat with Matthew Kelly which I felt was the worst part of the two days. As each contestant does their chat they go through into Make Up and then Costume. Uttering those famous words "Tonight Matthew I'm going to be David Gahan from Depeche Mode" made me feel very proud as if this was my personal tribute to a fantastic Front Man. I just hoped my performance lived up to it and fellow DM fans could say, "Great Job". Standing in my dressing room in front of the mirror with 10 minutes to go I have to say my legs were beginning to go. I just kept telling myself enjoy it and give it your best! Then the 5 minute call came and I was taken to the "Famous Doors". During rehearsals this is very disconcerting because with all the lights and dry ice you cannot see where to go. You have to count seven steps, which takes you to the top of the stage. Miscount and you could look rather silly!!

Finally it was time, I stood behind the door, nervous and excited but I knew if it didn't go well I had a second chance. Yes, each contestant has two opportunities to perform their song. This means that for the final version that you see on TV it should show you off in the best light. The guy who controls events behind the door asked me to grip his arm with both hands to relieve any tension but also as I was using a radio mike if you are

nervous the mike shakes and the nerves show on camera. I then heard the words "Tonight singing live Jeremy Bailey is David Gahan". I walked through the doors and the nerves seemed to vanish. Having performed on stage for many years and being a vocalist you learn to cope and just go for it!! The audience seemed to love it, and at one point the keyboard players all raise their hands and clap and the audience did the same. It was the biggest high for me and I'm not ashamed to say it but I could have cried such

was the emotion of it all. The second time went really well and I could have carried on all night. When I came off stage if I could bottle that feeling and market it I would be a rich man!! I was just so excited and felt that I had entertained the audience. I felt that I had done my job and couldn't have performed it any better, hope all those DM fans agree!!

The rest of the evening is spent waiting for all the contestants to finish and then it's time for the vote... We were all sitting there on the couch hoping we would be the one walking through the

doors. My heart was beating ten to the dozen as they say and then the winner is announced...which was 'Kylie Minogue'.

As far as I was concerned the last six months had been fantastic and I can always look back and say that I was the "First" person to perform as "David Gahan" on National TV, an experience I shall never forget. So if there are any more budding "Dave Gahan's" out there, go on go for it!!





# PRESSED IN BLACK

## Dear Bong,

Guess what? On Wednesday 28th February as I was in the middle of brushing my teeth having the RTL radio on, all of a sudden, without any warning ...."gling gling gling gling gling", so to speak....I could hear a few familiar and already addictive notes. It was "Dream On"!! The whole song!! It must have been played for the very first time on a French radio station for sure. Needless to say that I almost choked on my toothbrush! Of course, I rushed to the stereo to put a cassette on and record the song. I'm sure my Darling Kitty still hasn't recovered from seeing me dash in the corridor just as if I was a wild demented mad cow!! This song is sooo good!! "Exciter" is going to be such another killer. And now here we go again! At 9.52pm sharp "Dream On" is played again on RTL in the programme "Zique Web" and I'm recording it again. I will not be able to sleep now!! The music and words are just great, not to mention Dave and Martin's voices!! Oh My God, they're playing the song a second time and I'm recording it yet again!! I love these guys from the RTL radio station!!

Also to let you know, the boys were in Paris on March 15 to do some promotional work. A friend of mine went to the hotel where they were based and managed to talk all three of them and also got them to sign their autographs!! They were all very nice

and sweet. Why do I live in the south of France, so far away from Paris?!

**Jane Voiret  
France**

## Dear Bong,

Well I would just like to say that it is absolutely fantastic that Depeche Mode are back on the music scene. A lot of fans have been waiting in anticipation for the new single, which is brilliant may I add, from the band. Dave as usual has excelled himself with his dark, sexy vocals on "Dream On" as he does with all of the songs he sings. Depeche Mode can certainly show popstar wannabees how to do it professionally!!

May I just take this opportunity to congratulate Martin, Dave & Andy on the superb single, can't wait for the album, and it's great to see them back. I hope this is the start of many more things to come.

**Dawn Akerman  
Slough, England**

## Dear Bong,

Is there a particular reason why Depeche Mode management excludes Dublin, Ireland as a venue for their new world tour? Irish fans are constantly overlooked and forgotten when world tours are planned. I am totally convinced Depeche without doubt would easily sell out several nights in Dublin. The band would also be energised from the uniqueness of an Irish gig and the positive energy the fans have

being waiting years to show. It's always the topic on the street when a tour is announced: Are Depeche coming or not? You know the answer to date. I am very willing to travel abroad for a concert but most are scheduled mid-week or fall on a Sunday in the UK. This is a disaster for flight bookings and work schedule. I would beg management to reconsider booking Dublin as a venue should extra dates be confirmed. Are Irish fans always going to be a non-runner with the management preferring our European and American neighbours? My wife and I are fans since their beginning and would pay anything to see the band live before they truly decide never to tour again. Please convey my concerns if possible to band management or the power that saves, before it's too late. Reach Out And Touch Faith?!

**Mark Griffin  
Dublin, Ireland**

## Dear Bong,

I am a huge fan of Depeche Mode. I am really looking forward to the upcoming tour but I have a problem. As with "The Singles Tour", "Music For The Masses Tour", "World Violation Tour" and a couple of others, they have decided not to visit the Republic Of Ireland where I happen to live. This means I again have to spend a lot of money and some holiday time from work to see the band I supported on their smaller tours to The Republic Of Ireland when they were a small band trying to



gather together a loyal fan base. I can see no reason not to come here because the last time they played here in 1993 they got a very large crowd. There are three or four tribute bands who are quite honestly crap, but they still pull a good crowd so there is obviously good support for the band. I would like a reason for again snubbing the fans over here, many of which cannot travel to foreign lands to see the band for various reasons.

**Chris Nicholl**  
**Clondalkin, Ireland**

**Editor's note:** Unfortunately there are many other countries which are not included on the tour, so your frustrations are shared. The organising and planning that goes into such an extensive tour is immense - timetables, technical requirements, availability and location all have to be taken into account when destinations are decided. So you have to understand it is simply not possible, logistically, for the Band to visit everywhere they would like to.

**Dear Bong,**

Hope you are keeping well and enjoying Depeche Mode back on the scene of topping the charts, well in most countries. In Ireland they entered at No. 24 with little or no airplay on stations. The country-wide station has played single mix on programmes "Chart & Rock Show" and to my surprise the Bushwacka Tough Guy Mix was mixed in with a live broadcast from a top nightclub a number of weeks ago. I expect the record to go up this week as more airplay is pushed from me and others.

On Saturday 3rd March in Dublin a party was held to

celebrate the music of some twenty years of Depeche Mode. A hundred plus attended with a hardcore of 30-40 staying till the death at 2.00am. Although the venue lacked in full DM decor and nightclub feel, everybody was there, including locals, a number of foreign students and tourists. Even the barmaid who caught DM during "The Singles Tour" in the U.K. booked herself to work in the DM room. Besides the bits and pieces, in the following sets were played and greatly appreciated as there were little or no requests: music of faith & devotion (live album and live tracks from the singles), "Black Celebration" (with a "Dressed In Black" intro), 4 for Gore ("Somebody" - requested by an American Tourist, "A Question of Lust", "Judas", "Death's Door"), "Route 66" (Beatmasters started off the "mode til you drop" session). Depending on how Depeche Mode events, tour and Bong parties unfold before planning the next event. Although there are about thirty people wanting to do something real soon again!!

Just recently, I found something interesting in my mother's house...Sony Tape Rock book from 1983-4 covering all those bands including Depeche Mode as their "Construction Time Again" album was just released. The author states that we can expect to hear more from these as they seem to have transformed to a serious act... It is two pages with three photos.

**Leo Sheridan**  
**Dublin, Ireland**

**Dear Bong,**

I'm really so but so "Excited" that you can't even imagine.

I have to confess that I have done something very bad.... I have downloaded the "Exciter" album from the web. It's that I just couldn't wait any longer. But don't worry I'm going to buy it as soon as I can!!

What I've heard is not only the very best Depeche Mode album, but music that I've been waiting for, for a long long time. That is different music, something new, something nobody can explain, even Depeche Mode themselves. It's a revolution of sound!

I'm of course an absolute fan of Depeche Mode, however I try to be objective, at least

I've tried. I'm also a fan of Roger Waters, Pink Floyd, Police, etc., but I have never ever listened to something like "Exciter".

**Valentin Remedi**  
**Argentina**

**Dear Bong,**

Just a little note to say a big thank you for organising the priority ticket allocation for the tour. It's much appreciated by us all that you make the effort to do things like this for us, it must have been a hell of a task. I had two friends here at work all trying to get through for me, it took us over an hour, there must have been a major phone meltdown, so many fans, so few phone lines. But it was great to be able to book tickets for all the UK venues in one hit and the seats were good, we are well pleased....Though my credit card is a bit sick! We saved quite a bit in booking fees this way, and not to mention time, as I didn't have to wait around calling the other venues. Anyway thanks again.

**Tracey McLaughlin**  
**Enfield, England**



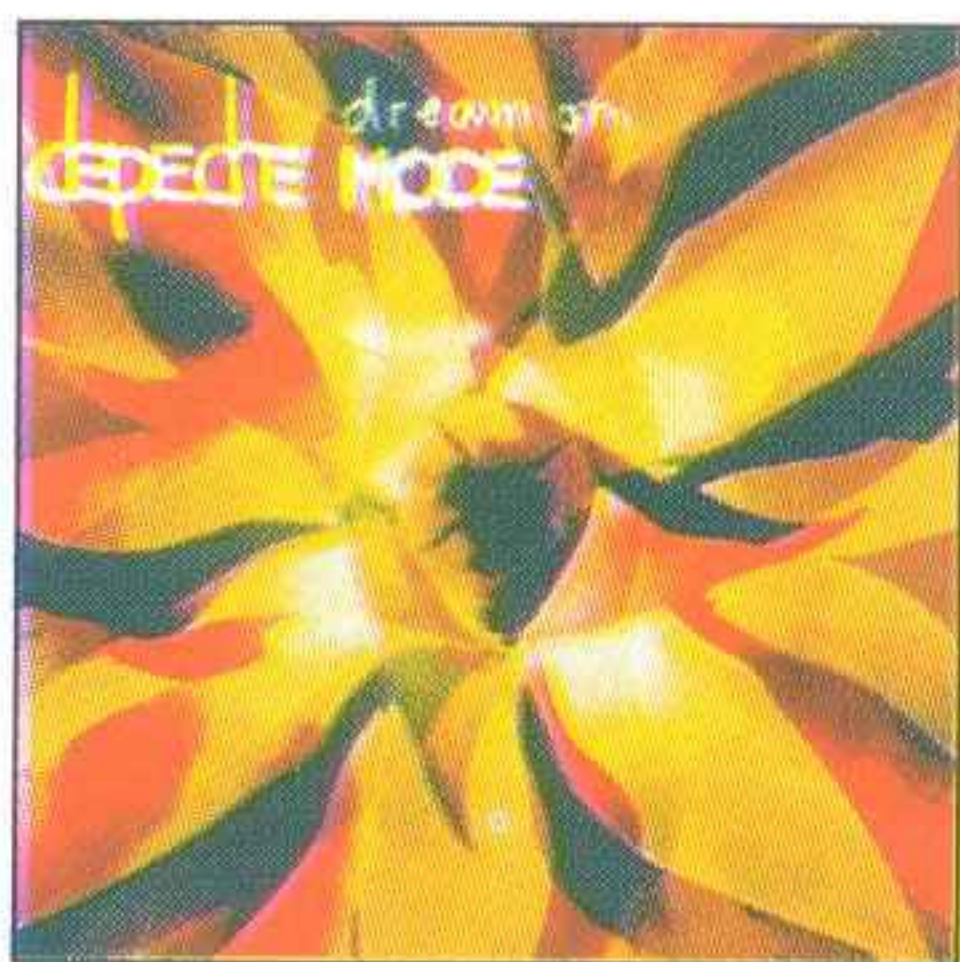
# COMPETITION TIME AGAIN

competition time

The DM puzzle in the last issue was a big success judging from the number of entries you sent in. You might have spent a while seeking the hidden titles but the correct answers have proved again your excellent knowledge of Depeche Mode lyrics. The titles of the hidden songs were: "Dream On", "Comatose" and "Lovetheme".

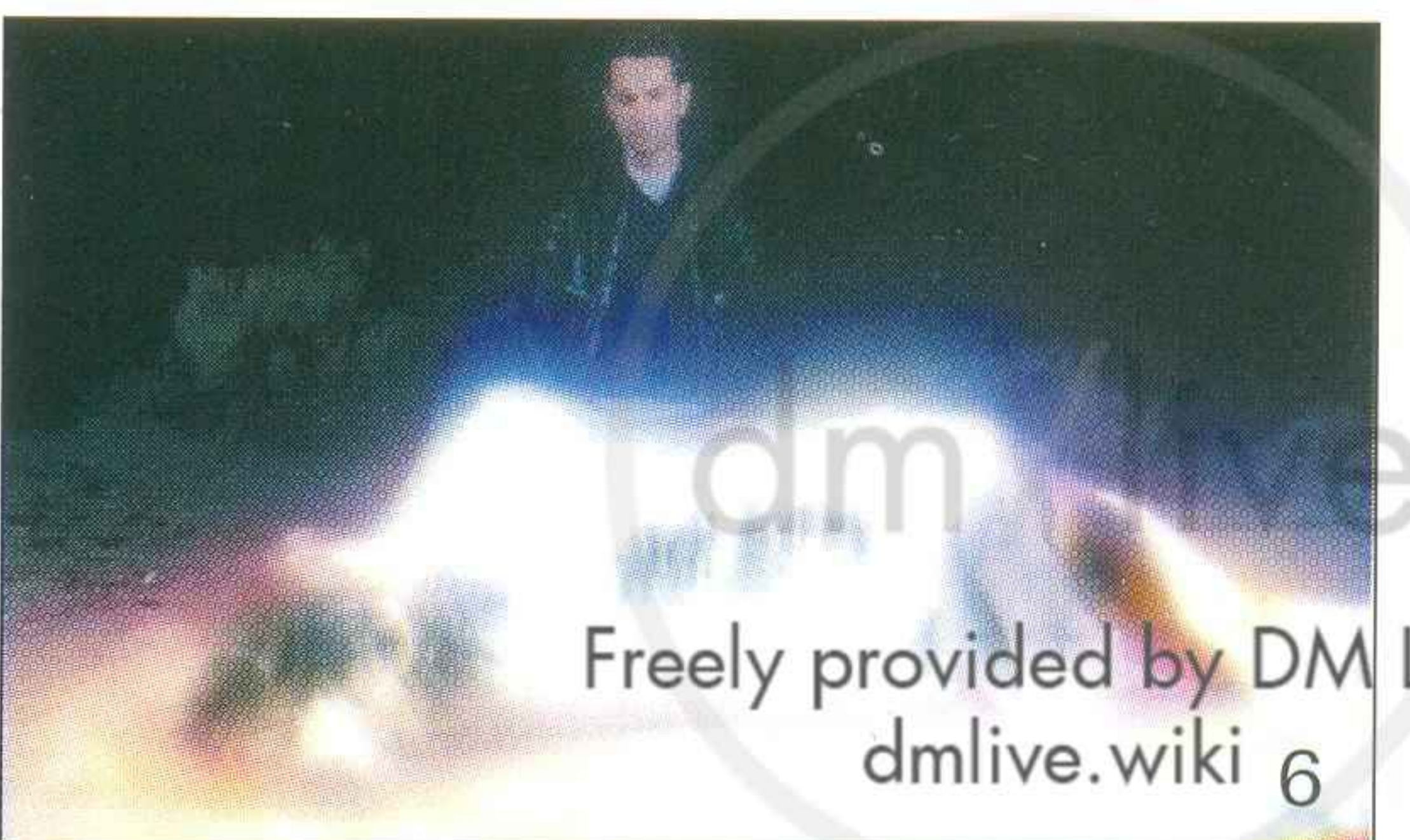
Cheryl Hunter, Beckenham, UK; Paul Wood, Detroit, USA and Timo Gronbach, Ilshofen-Obersteinach, Germany are the three lucky winners who will receive a promo CD of the single "Dream On". Congratulations!

In this competition, you don't need to demonstrate your knowledge of Depeche Mode or their music, what you need is a great sense of observation. Why?



We have selected six images from the "Dream On" video and mixed them up. All you have to do is to put them in order of their appearances in the actual video. Then just send

us your chosen line of numbers (each of the images are marked). So if you would like to win your own copy of the "Dream On" promo CD, grab a pen and send your answer to the usual address before the end of July. Good luck!



Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki 6



**YOU'RE LISTENING TO LONDON LIVE 94.9 - I'M GARY CROWLEY, AND THIS IS THE DEPECHE MODE STORY...**

Over the next 2 hours we'll be celebrating the phenomenal rise and rise of one of the UK's most important and influential outfits.

As the punk era gradually faded early in 1980 and the excitement surrounding electronic pioneers such as Kraftwerk escalated, Gary Numan and Spandau Ballet were forging two completely different musical directions. Whilst Numan and indeed David Bowie explored and championed the electronic scene, Spandau were leading the New Romantics. At the same time, the Pretenders made Brass in Pocket the first number one of the new decade.

Watching and absorbing from afar were three teenagers from Basildon, Essex. Unemployed Vince Clarke, Andrew Fletcher, an administrator for a life insurance company, and Martin Gore, a bank worker in the city, formed a guitar-based band by the name of Composition of Sound. As was the trend of the time, Composition was not their sole project - all three of them were active with other bands around the time. Martin had the added advantage of being the owner of a synthesiser.

Andy Fletcher recalls how he, Martin and Vince knew each other, and how they became converts to synths: "I was actually at school with Martin and Vince was quite involved in the church, this was from the age of about 11 or 12. We used to regularly go to church and there was a whole group of young people sort of praising the Lord basically. So I knew Vince from that and Martin from school but we all lived about 300 or 400 yards from each other. We started off as a conventional band. I was playing bass, Vince was playing guitar but Martin did have a synth, which even to this day, I think is a bit weird because he's actually a really good guitarist and he still isn't a good keyboard player but then we liked the idea and then Vince got a synth and then he made me get a synth as well. At the time, punk had sort of ended and new wave had come and gone and there was this new scene, with early Human League, Kraftwerk, Visage and Steve Strange and this new romantic thing and people were really getting into synthesisers. But I think the main reason why it suddenly became popular at that time was because previous to that, to buy a synthesiser it was very, very expensive - the Rick Wakeman style synthesiser. But what happened in about 1980/81 you could buy

## the story of

a monophonic synthesiser for about £150. You didn't even need an amplifier, cause all you did was stick it into a PA system, so it was really easy. We used to carry them around in suitcases to gigs."

But the band were still a 3-piece, with Vince on vocals - a role he was never completely comfortable with. The man who would become the fourth member and voice of the band was Dave Gahan, an art college student who had been through his fair share of part time jobs.

Vince is in no doubt why the band took Dave on: "Dave Gahan was the local fashion accessory of Basildon. He was the New Romantic. He was rumoured to have attended the club Blitz in London, so it was all very glamorous. So, we decided to get him in as a front man because he was flamboyant and extrovert and very, very confident. So, we auditioned him."

Modest as ever, Dave himself insists the band were destined for glory the moment he came on board: "I always felt like I was a big star in my own right, right from the

beginning to be quite honest...if ever there was two men and a dog there in the pub."

A couple of weeks after joining Composition of Sound, Dave spotted a French magazine by the name of Depeche Mode, and the band adopted the tag. With Vince writing the material, they continued to gig extensively. London Live's Robert Elms, a major player in the Spandau movement of the time, was witness to one of the first Depeche live performances - in the strangest of locations: "This place was above a greengrocers or a dry cleaners or something. It really was. It was a room 8 ft by 10 ft with about 10 people in it with silly haircuts and baggy trousers. I thought there can't be a band playing here. We went in and then these four, frighteningly young boys, I mean I was young, I was only 18 or 19 and these looked like my little brother. These were skinny, school kids basically standing around some ten bob keyboards. They started to play and I thought this is really good, they are going to be terrible, cause that's what you hoped, it was like going to see the opposition football team and they started to play and they weren't terrible."

Whilst Martin and Fletch carried on with their day jobs in the city, Vince and Dave spent their time trying to get record companies interested in their exploits.

In the autumn of 1980, armed with a demo tape, they turned up at Rough Trade in West London and had their first meeting, albeit brief, with the man who would later turn out to be their mentor - the founder of Mute Records, Daniel Miller: "I was at the Rough Trade shop and the late Scott Piering, who became very well known as a radio promoter and a very important part of the independent music industry said 'Daniel you might be interested in these guys'. There was these horrible, spotty little new romantics, and I hated new romantics with a vengeance at the time, and I had some problem with the printing of the Fad Gadget sleeve and just looked at them and thought I don't need to listen to this stuff now and went off to whatever it was. Then about, it must have been within weeks or maximum a couple months, Fad Gadget was playing at the Bridge House in Canning Town and Terry Murphy, the guy who booked the Bridge House, had booked Depeche Mode to support. Now I didn't know...the two things hadn't clicked in my mind at all, but anyway

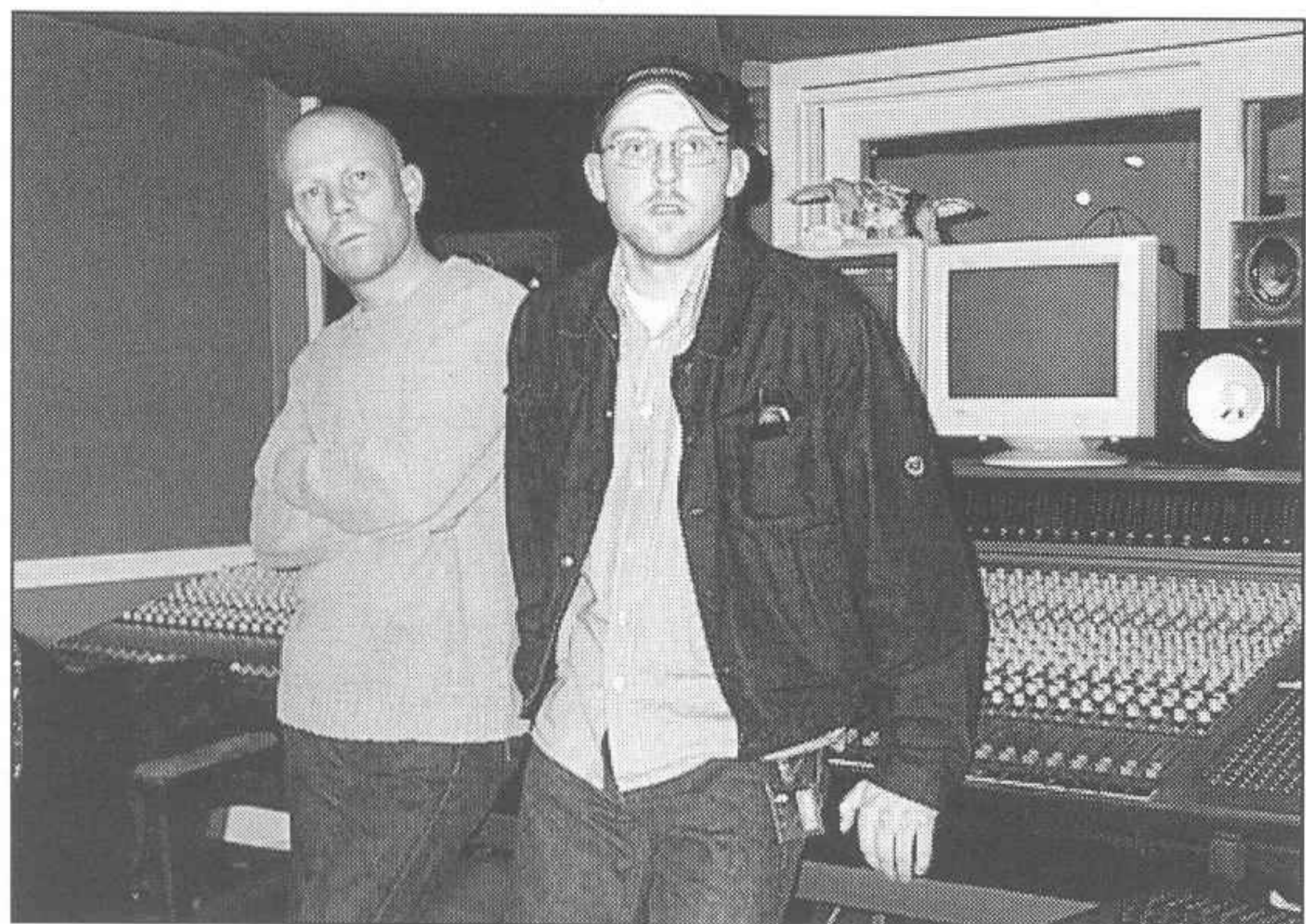
## DEPECHE MODE

**On May 7th at 3.00pm, BBC Radio London Live 94.9 broadcast a two hour documentary - "The Story of Depeche Mode". Producer Tony Wood, who has followed the Band's career from an Essex pub to the biggest stadiums around the world, said, "I've gone all out to make sure that the programme is a fitting celebration of the one the country's finest bands". The show was narrated by presenter Gary Crowley, whose involvement with the Band began early on in their career - when as a Radio One DJ he never missed an opportunity to plug Depeche Mode. More recently, he has interviewed the band for the EPK for "Exciter" and is also the author of the "Exciter Tour" programme notes. You can hear the documentary in it's entirety on the website [www.depechemode.com](http://www.depechemode.com) but for those without Internet access, we've decided to print the transcript which we have split into three parts as it was quite extensive.**



that's the connection with Fad Gadget, that's when I first saw Depeche at the Bridge House in Canning Town."

After arranging to see Depeche for a second mind-blowing time, Miller was convinced of their pedigree, and decided he wanted to work with them: "I went backstage and said 'let's put out a single' and they said 'ok then, alright'. That was it. There was some kind of conversation, with me saying 'you could be a pretty big pop band, what you're doing is fantastic, it's really new but it's still pop.



Tony Wood with Vince Clarke

We've never had a pop hit. But I really believe in what you do. Let's put out a single and see how it goes. I don't want to tie you down to anything more than that because I don't know what I can do.' That was it really, it was as simple as that."

But the appeal was mutual - the band would soon be the subject of major labels seeking their signatures, but Vince Clarke and the boys had already decided that

Mute was where they wanted to be: "I don't know, we just felt that we wanted to make a record, we didn't want to get involved in a big record company and Mute Records at the time was incredibly credible. It had Fad Gadget, there was the Normal, Silicon Teens and all the kinds of records we were listening to."

Daniel Miller and Depeche Mode hit the studio to record the track "Dreaming Of Me", and in the same session produced "Photographic" which became the band's contribution to the legendary Some Bizarre futurist album. But this new level of success didn't go straight to their heads. Martin and Fletch decided to continue with their day jobs, coming into the studio when they could get away from the office.

Daniel Miller recalls: "Because Fletch and Martin were still working, Vince, me and Dave were there, Vince learnt really fast about technology and I knew a bit more about it when we started cause I'd been doing it a bit longer. He picked it up really fast and he started to lay down the tracks and I was helping him with the sounds and then Fletch and Mart would come in with a take-away from their city jobs. Martin would go down and play the machine saying 'oh no, do I have to go in the studio, oh alright then'. Martin was obviously very musical. You could get him in the studio for five minutes and he would play something that would bring a track alive, even if it wasn't the lead line. I remember, he had a Chinese take-away in one hand and he was playing the synth with the other hand, just wanting to eat his meal really and not wanting to do anything."

"Dreaming Of Me" was released as their first single on 20th February 1981, peaking at number 57 in the UK charts. It gave both Miller and the band a firm base on which to carve out a plan for a second single. That record turned out to be the massive "New Life", which shifted half a million copies and climbed to just outside the top ten. The single also gave them that coveted first appearance on Top of the Pops!

The success of "New Life" convinced Fletch and Martin to make Depeche Mode their full time occupation, and they promptly resigned from their jobs in the city. The prolonged spell in the charts of "New Life" meant that despite them having already recorded the follow up single, they had to wait almost four months before they could release it. During the stop-gap, the New Musical Express decided to put Depeche Mode on their front cover. Vince Clarke's noted absence from the interview indicated what was soon to come from the band's songwriter. But why did he not take part?

"Basically, the whole thing went to my head and suddenly everybody, me included, assumed that the reason things were going well was because of our own great talent and I'm not sure why I stopped doing interviews, I think because I got fed up with what everyone else was saying. Well everybody had a right to put their oar in, I suppose I got jealous with everyone else putting their oar in."

On 7th September, the band released their third single - the unforgettable "Just Can't Get Enough", which gave them their highest chart position so far. Peaking at number 8, they'd broken into the top ten for the first time.

Vince Clarke: "Everything happened for us very, very quickly. We had these massive egos by that time and you know sitting inside the van was intolerable for all of us. We were all intolerable to each other. We were all pretty young, it all just went to our heads."

Ironically, Vince had had enough, and announced he was leaving the band. Shock waves went through the music press. But Dave, Martin & Fletch had no doubt in their mind that they wanted to continue.

Andy Fletcher: "I've known Vince since the age of 5. He's been one of my best friends and again it was like 'I'm leaving the band' - 'ok then fair enough'. It wasn't a big thing. Then Vince said 'I'm going leave but I'm going do the tour'. It was very amenable. 'I'm going to continue to write songs for you'. It was all very nice. We should have been really worried. But we weren't."

Vince played his last gig with Depeche Mode on 16th November 1981, the same month that Mute released the band's debut album, "Speak And Spell". On the whole, the record was well received by the critics, and it went on to reach number 10 in the UK album charts.

But now Vince had left, there was the small matter to be resolved of who would start writing the band's material. Martin Gore took up the reigns as chief songwriter - a discipline he was not unfamiliar with. Having written songs since the age of 13, the band were confident of his ability and would soon be proven justified in their belief.

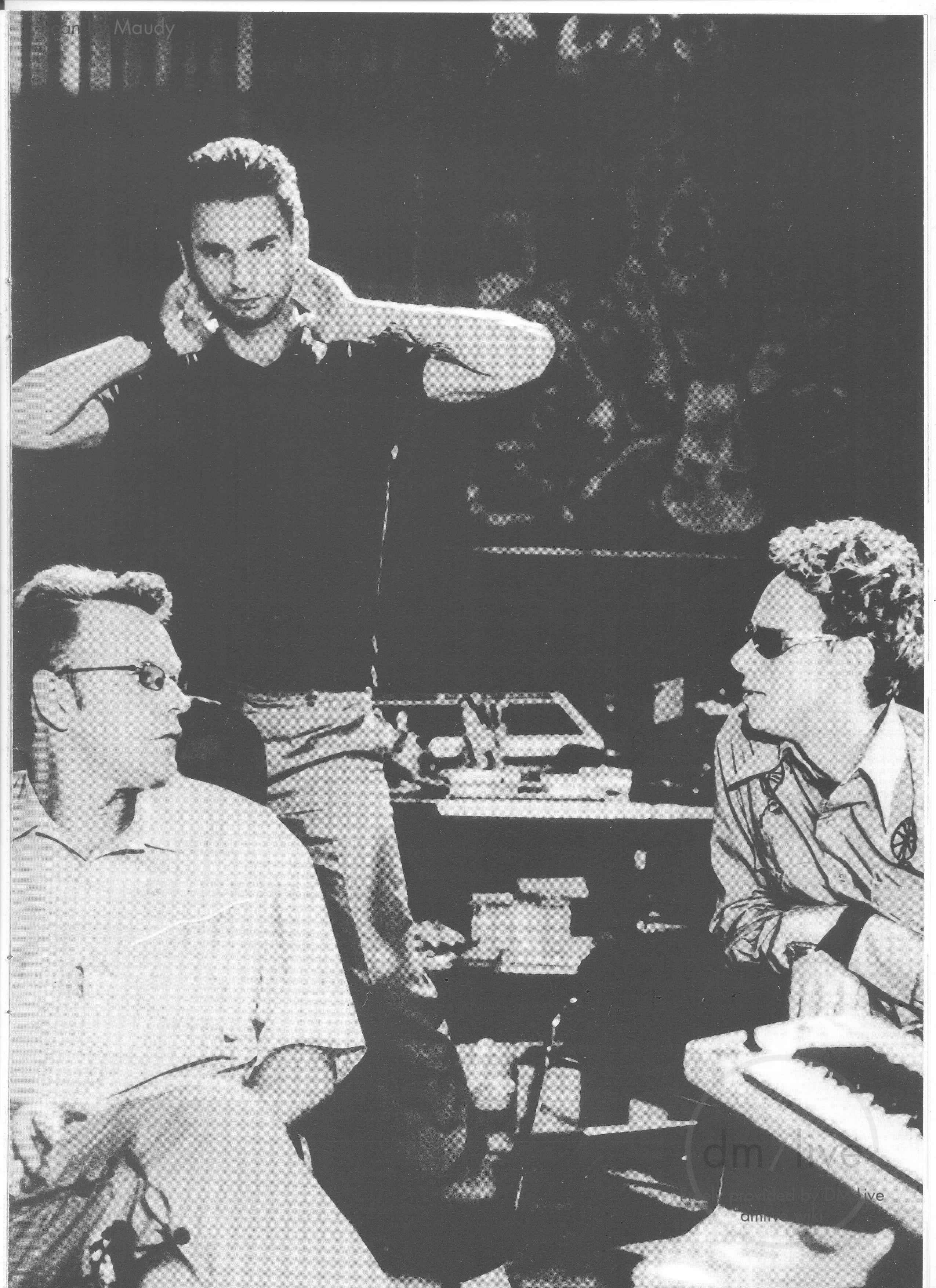
With no intention of finding a permanent replacement for Vince, the band did however need a deputy to perform live work for a forthcoming American tour that had been booked for January 1982.

Fletch remembers the recruitment process: "We put an advert in Melody Maker. Electronic group needs new keyboard player. Daniel sort of vetted them and the funniest thing, they had to be under 21."

Up stepped West London boy Alan Wilder, who made it onto Miller's shortlist.

Andy Fletcher: "Well, Daniel met the people first, then we had an audition at Blackwing. It was down to about five people, heaven knows the ones Daniel booted out. The funny thing is, Alan lied about his age. He was over 21 but he was easily the best. There were some real Depeche Mode fans there but Alan is a really great classically trained musician and we went 'what you have to do, you have to play this little one...' 'de de de' but the hardest thing, you have to sing this as well'. We were going 'what, that's amazing, in two seconds he's done that!'. It was really funny. We put him on about £50





dm/live  
powered by DM Live  
dmive.com



a week, plus expenses. He came to New York - I remember, it was so funny. He had a little jacket on and a woolly scarf and I think New York was minus 40 degrees."

But even after becoming the successful candidate, Alan remembers that in those early days, trying to fit in with the band was not an easy task: "It was difficult to integrate myself because we came from different backgrounds and I sensed there was quite a tension there as Vince had just left at such a crucial time for the group. I think they felt quite nervous about bringing in a new person at that stage. They also felt they had something to prove to Vince and to the press. Nobody thought the group would be able to carry on having lost their chief song writer. So initially, they employed me as a sort of part-time member. Someone who could appear on the TV shows, who could go on tour, play the parts live, all this sort of thing. But they didn't really want to be seen as bringing in some musician to take over and take control, so I didn't partake in any of the studio sessions for another nine months after that."

With Alan recruited as their live session player, Martin, Fletch and Dave returned to the studio, as a 3-some, to record their first single without Vince Clarke. "See You" was the end product, and it gave them their highest chart placing so far, peaking at number 6.

In between touring, the band, still as a three part set up, released "Meaning Of Love" and locked horns with Vince Clarke's new outfit Yazoo, which saw him team up with Alison Moyet on the release of the classic "Only You". Vince's song reached number 2 in the charts whilst "Meaning Of Love" was perched at number 12. The twist behind it all was that Depeche had rejected "Only You" when Vince offered it to them following his departure from the band.

In the Summer of 82, the three band members recorded their second album, "A Broken Frame", whilst Alan continued to be frustrated that he wasn't allowed to contribute in the studio. Some protagonists claimed the band were still trying to prove a point to Vince that they could carry on without him. Whilst the band are defiant that wasn't the case, Fletch agrees the album was an unusual experience: "It was a bit of a weird album that, because a lot of songs Martin had written when he was 14 or 15, like 'See You' which he'd written when he was 15, 'Photograph Of You' and 'Meaning Of Love' he'd written when he was very young. Already they were starting to get to a more darker side, so it was a bit of a weird album. You had half pure pop and half really odd. I suppose it was an album of getting to grips with Vince not being there. But it had some good tunes in it."

Whilst the album made the top 10, the studio trio decided that Alan should now become a full time member of Mode...and by the end of '82, they were back to being a foursome again.

The enigmatic "Everything Counts" - taken from the next album, "Construction Time Again". The band brought on board engineer and experimentalist Gareth Jones and together with Daniel Miller, charted new territory in technological advances.

Daniel Miller: "We were all very keen on pushing technology, the electronic music side, and the sounds, as far as we could, and trying to be original and create our own sound for Depeche Mode, rather than just sound like lots of other groups. Because we started to work with sampling around that time, it was just coming to the fore and because they'd been listening to bands like Test Department and more experimental things, we pulled all those elements together and tried to keep it in a pop format but using very interesting context sounds, textures and things like that. I think it succeeded and it's a very good experimental pop album."

Importantly, as Fletch explains, the entire Depeche unit took the project to Germany to produce the final cut on the album: "We mixed that album in Berlin and this was the start of Depeche Mode

branching out of Britain. We'd grown up in Essex, hardly any of us had ever been out of Essex or London for a long time, so going to all these new places was so interesting for us, especially Berlin in those days. The studio overlooked the wall, guards with binoculars watching us, we were playing the music on this big patio and it was a really good feeling...you were on the edge. All these weird people. When people say about Martin's clothes and how we were dressed in those days, living and recording in Berlin did have a big impression because there were so many weird and interesting people there."

After the release of the album, the band set off on tour again. Before long they were playing to crowds of 10,000 people around venues in Europe. The signs were beginning to show that Depeche Mode were building a firm and committed fan base.

Martin Gore: "The fans are...what's the word...most of our fans are crazy. They're so dedicated, they'll go out on day one and buy the records. We often suffer because of that, we do have such a huge fan base, so the record obviously just drops after that but they are fanatical."

The bonus that came with touring was that the Depeche Mode phenomenon in America was really beginning to gain momentum. By early 1985, the band were playing to sell-out crowds there almost every night. Fletch believes that Depeche bridged a gap in the music scene over in the states: "America had missed punk. Not in New York and LA, but generally, American radio and American youth had missed punk, and didn't really have new wave or anything like that. So basically, in the early 80's, they were still listening to Chicago, REO Speedwagon, that sort of progressive yuk. What happened is the kids started desperately looking around for something. They started to buy UK imports, of which we were one of the bands. Then these college radio stations went on to start playing alternative music, and we were considered to be alternative, because we were different to what they had been forced to listen to up until then. So all this started in 1985 and we were one of the main groups caught up in it. Now, bands like Limp Bizkit cite us as their influences. Although we don't sound anything like them, when they were growing up we were one of the only alternative bands around".

KROQ is one of the most influential radio stations in America and subscribed to the Depeche revolution. Based in Southern California, their emphatic support gave the band serious credibility and headway in the US. One of KROQ's main presenters was Richard Blade. He believes that Depeche Mode's appeal in the states was their unique blend of Kraftwerk-like melodies, and Martin's unmistakable lyrics - a combination finely exemplified in "A Broken Frame", that struck a chord with thousands of Americans: "From their second album onwards, people started to wake up to them and then with their third album it was just all over. Suddenly the phones at KROQ were going absolutely nuts, people were saying 'we love this band' and unlike Duran Duran who were happening at the same time and Spandau Ballet, it wasn't 'oh my god, I love Martin Kemp' or 'oh my god, I love John Taylor' this was 'oh my god, I love the music of Depeche Mode'."

In some unlikely places, Depeche Mode were experiencing similar escalation in their popularity. Radio presenter Yegor Shishkovski was one of the first DJ's in Russia to play Western music - he's adamant that the band had already started building a firm following there after their first two albums. In explaining just how big they are in Russia, Yegor is happy to stick his neck out: "I will risk and say that Depeche Mode is the biggest band in Russia since the Beatles and it's obviously different music, different times but they are the biggest artists since the Beatles. I can't think of anyone bigger than they are, not only a band but I can't think of any artists."

(to be continued...)

Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki



# NORTH AMERICA

DATE	CITY	VENUE
<b>June 2001</b>		
Mon 11th	Quebec City, Canada	Colisee Pepsi Arena
Wed 13th	Ottawa, Canada	Corel Centre
Fri 15th	Montreal, Canada	Molson Centre
Sat 16th	Toronto, Canada	Molson Amphitheatre
Tue 19th	Minneapolis, USA	XCEL Energy Center
Wed 20th	Milwaukee, USA	Marcus Amphitheatre
Fri 22nd	Chicago, USA	World Music Theatre
Sat 23rd	Detroit, USA	DTE Energy Center
Sun 24th	Cleveland, USA	Blossom Music Center
Wed 27th	New York, USA	Madison Square Garden
Thu 28th	New York, USA	Madison Square Garden
Sat 30th	Philadelphia, USA	First Union Center

## July 2001

Sun 1st	Boston, USA	Tweeter Center for the Performing Arts
Tue 3rd	Wantagh, USA	Jones Beach Amphitheatre
Thu 5th	Washington DC, USA	Merrifweather Post Pavillion
Sat 7th	Ft. Lauderdale, USA	National Car Rental Arena
Sun 8th	Tampa, USA	Ice Palace
Mon 9th	Atlanta, USA	Hi Fi Buys Amphitheatre
Fri 13th	New Orleans, USA	UNO Lakefront Arena
Sat 14th	Houston, USA	Cynthia Wood Mitchell Pavillion
Sun 15th	San Antonio, USA	South Texas Amphitheatre
Tue 17th	Dallas, USA	Smirnoff Music Center
Thu 19th	Las Cruces, USA	Pan American Center
Fri 20th	Albuquerque, USA	Journal Pavilion
Sat 21st	Denver, USA	Fiddlers Green Amphitheatre
Mon 23rd	Salt Lake City, USA	E Center
Fri 27th	Portland, USA	Rose Garden Arena
Sat 28th	Vancouver, Canada	Pacific Coliseum
Sun 29th	Seattle, USA	Gorge Amphitheatre

## August 2001

Wed 1st	Sacramento, USA	Sacramento Valley Amphitheatre
Fri 3rd	Concord, USA	Chronicle Pavilion at Concord
Sat 4th	San Francisco, USA	Shoreline Amphitheatre
Sun 5th	Santa Barbara, USA	Santa Barbara Bowl
Wed 8th	Las Vegas, USA	The Joint
Fri 10th	Phoenix, USA	America West Arena
Sat 11th	San Diego, USA	Coors Amphitheatre
Tue 14th	Los Angeles, USA	Staples Center Arena
Wed 15th	Los Angeles, USA	Staples Center Arena
Sat 18th	Anaheim, USA	Pond

## EUROPE

Tue 28th	Tallinn, Estonia	Song Festival Grounds
Wed 29th	Riga, Latvia	Skonto Stadium
Fri 31st	Vilnius, Lithuania	Vingis Park

### September 2001

Sun 2nd	Warsaw, Poland	Horse race track
Tue 4th	Prague, Czech Republic	Paegas Arena
Wed 5th	Berlin, Germany	Waldbuhne
Thu 6th	Berlin, Germany	Waldbuhne
Sat 8th	Hamburg, Germany	Trabrenbahn
Sun 9th	Leipzig, Germany	Festwiese
Tue 11th	Vienna, Austria	Stadhalle
Fri 12th	Budapest, Hungary	Kisstadion
Sun 16th	Moscow, Russia	Olympiski
Tue 18th	St. Petersburg, Russia	SKK Arena
Wed 19th	Helsinki, Finland	Hartwall Arena
Fri 21st	Stockholm, Sweden	Globe
Sat 22nd	Oslo, Norway	Spektrum
Sun 23rd	Copenhagen, Denmark	Parken Stadium
Tue 25th	Amneville, France	Galaxy
Wed 26th	Cologne, Germany	Kolnarena
Thu 27th	Cologne, Germany	Kolnarena
Sat 29th	Munich, Germany	Olympia Halle
Sun 30th	Munich, Germany	Olympia Halle

### October 2001

Tue 2nd	Nürnberg, Germany	Eishalle
Wed 3rd	Stuttgart, Germany	Schleyerhalle
Thu 4th	Zurich, Switzerland	Hallenstadion
Sat 6th	Oberhausen, Germany	Arena
Sun 7th	Antwerp, Belgium	Sport Paleis
Tue 9th	Paris, France	Bercy
Wed 10th	Paris, France	Bercy
Thu 11th	Frankfurt, Germany	Festhalle
Sat 13th	Barcelona, Spain	Palau St. Jordi
Sun 14th	Madrid, Spain	La Cubierta Bullring
Wed 17th	London, UK	Wembley Arena
Thu 18th	London, UK	Wembley Arena
Sat 20th	Manchester, UK	MEN Arena
Sun 21st	Birmingham, UK	NEC
Tue 23rd	Lyon, France	Halle Tony Garnier
Wed 24th	Milan, Italy	Forum
Thu 25th	Bologna, Italy	Palamaguti
Sun 28th	Athens, Greece	Basket Ball Arena
Tue 30th	Istanbul, Turkey	Abdi Ipekci Arena



# 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.*

## **Depeche Mode**

"Few artists can claim they're making a fresh start after two decades, but Depeche Mode, a band who have 'gone the distance', in singer David Gahan's words, are doing just that."

**Alternative Press  
(January 2001)**

## **Exciter**

"As ever, Gore's lyrics address love as suffocating sickness, addiction as pleasure, sexual longing as psychosis - although the clammy cold turkey references in tumbling doom-waltz 'The Sweetest Condition' pack a special resonance in the wake of Gahan's chemical travails."

**Stephen Dalton, NME.COM  
(May 2001)**

## **Exciter**

"Their new album 'Exciter' is a mature masterwork from the enduring electro-pop band. Vocalist Dave Gahan has never sounded better - Bono, eat your heart out - and the songs are emotionally rich and decidedly low-key. The single 'Dream On' and the throbbing 'I Feel Loved' are among the highlights of an electronic/ acoustic set that is superbly downbeat."

**Lancashire Evening Post  
(April 28, 2001)**

## **Exciter**

"The big picture here, though, is love. 'Lovetheme', 'Freelove', 'I Feel Loved' and 'Goodnight Lovers' are titles that tell their own tale. Ultimately, it's about redemption - personally and musically. If this isn't their masterpiece, well it's damn close."

**Padraig Collins, Irish Times, Ireland  
(May 16, 2001)**

## **Exciter**

"Blame it on the sunshine, or the settled wife-and-kinds lives of all three members, but 'Exciter' is the most optimistic record the band have made in 20 years."

**Dorian Lynskey, Q  
(June 2001)**

## **The Dead Of Night**

"The most hilarious diversion here is goth-metal stomper 'The Dead Of Night', a rampaging Godzilla of sci-fi glam-rock which sounds like a Panzer division invading a Marilyn Manson gig."

**Stephen Dalton, NME.COM  
(May 2001)**

## **Exciter**

"It's easy to forget that these Essex, England, unlikelies have been around as long as R.E.M., U2 and Duran Duran. But unlike those titan troupers, they never made an embarrassing album (live discs aside) and never became so huge that they overstayed their welcome."

**Barry Walters, Rolling Stone  
(June 7, 2001)**

Freely provided by DM Live  
dmlive.wiki



# CONTACTS

Lena: Thank you for brightening up my life for the past two years. You're the best gullet! Looking forward to all the tihl's of the future. Fjollan C.

Exciter greetings are sent to: my dearest honey Yasmin, ultra Denise, my favourite phonecaller Peter, all members of the German Insight mailing list "we are family", Gahan sisters Diana, Gea, Isabelle, Tina, Andrea, on-line friends Yoly, Hanna, Michael, Craig, Gilles and Madeleine, party people Andre, Thomas, David, Tessi, Michael, Karin und Maren! Let's have more than a party on the Exciter Tour. All my love goes out to Dave, Martin and Fletch for being the best band on earth!! Yours all Nad(ine) from Germany.

Big thanx to Andrea aka Billybob and Alice for a great nite in Birmingham!! Leo

DM fan would like to start a photograph collection of DM fans from all over the world, interested? If so, send a photo and a brief description of yourself to: Russell Dilnot, Flat 8, 5 Cearns Road, Prenton, Birkenhead, Merseyside CH43 1XF, England.

Watch out for the DM after show party, which is going to be held for the fans after the Depeche Mode concert in Istanbul on October 30! If you want to be there and don't know how to join us than mail us for more information at: DMinTR-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please note that we are not responsible for ticket sales but can provide all the information about the gig. See yaaaaa in Istanbul!

Part II of a celebration of Depeche Mode music will take place and I can assure you this is going to be big! Programme as follows: Depeche Mode tribute night, live band, DM dance, and exclusive videos. The date hasn't been decided as yet but should be around mid to end of July from 8pm till late. Cover charge. Late bar. Free Prize Draw. For more details please keep an eye on DM.COM messageboard/G101 or DELION.

*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".*

# PEN PALS

**Susy Barona**  
**Via Valeriana 89**  
**23015 Dubino - Sondrio**  
**Italy**

I am 23 years old and Depeche Mode are all my life. I am looking for other DM lovers from anywhere in the World. I welcome English speaking fans as I am studying the language and need some help. Please, be patient with me because my English is terrible now. I also listen to Nick Cave, Einstürzende Neubauten and Recoil. I am looking forward to hearing from you!

**Russell Dilnot**  
**Flat 8**  
**5 Cearns Road**  
**Prenton, Birkenhead**  
**Merseyside CH43 1XF**  
**England**

Hi, I am 34 and have been into Depeche Mode for more than half my life. I would love to hear from DM fans who live in my region (I can't be the only one, can I?) or other fans around the world who (like myself) feel they've got no one else to share their views and thoughts on Depeche Mode with. I'm also into The Divine Comedy, Shack, Doves, Recoil, Sneaker Pimps, Woody Allen films and Father Ted. Hope to hear from 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".*

# CLASSIFIED

I am selling my DM private collection of CDs, videos, books, photos, etc. Please send one IRC or S.A.E. for reply to: Mar Jimenez, Angosta del Carmen 15, 4A, 29002 Malaga, Spain.

Having seven DM CDs and still longing for the new "Exciter", but the dream of all dreams is to own a copy of "Route 66". I didn't buy the single for "Behind The Wheel" way back when, not even sure it was available in the US. So what do you recommend a fan of 15+ years do to get a copy for my collection? Please contact: Lisa

Have you any idea where I can get a T-Shirt from the "Devotional Tour"? The one with "Devotee" on the back! Feel free to email me at: dmoder101@hotmail.com

*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 CANNOT accept any advertisements for bootleg records, CDs, tapes, videos, etc.*



Another four years have gone. Looking back on the last decade I have to say that Depeche Mode appears to show up periodically in my/our life. The period that we have left behind wasn't as doubtful as the one before considering that none of the members left the band, Dave started a new life and we the fans became richer with the experience of "The Singles Tour" and with this two decades have ended quietly...

It's always very exciting when a new album comes out. It's a kind of excitement that one can't compare to anything else in the world. The variety of songs gives great satisfaction after a long and exciting waiting period, it marks the end of an era when we first listened to the material of a new album. Feelings fade into a memory making room for something new and yet unknown...

I know it is a weird thing to say but each and every Depeche Mode album is a milestone in my life. As Depeche Mode grows older, I do too. We are growing older and wiser together... I don't know what it is going to be like if there will be no more milestones... and I wonder how I'm going to go on without them alone...

I still remember when I listened to my very first NEW album. It was "Black Celebration" (1986). As I look at the cover of "Exciter" I realise I was only half as old as I am now. A flower. Where have I seen this flower before?! I know... "Magnolia" - the movie which was about forgiveness.

The second song starts in a very calm and melancholic mood... **"Shine"**. A clear synthesiser base, easy bass, and a brilliant vocal. Dave invites us to an imaginary journey - "...we are learning to fly, we used to get by". The more verses pass the more this song gets whole. As an angel descends from above - "... my angel coming in a brilliant white". The calm is broken by the claiming and demanding words of the burden! The meaning of these words gets stamped very deeply on my mind. It is a mixture of the feeling of selfishness and forgiveness - "...somebody has to shine for me"! The oncoming verses only bring a breeze of calm. The burden is confirmed by Martin's lavish voice and by the implacable avalanche of the synthy notes.

It slowly pulses into the next number which is **"The Sweetest Condition"**. Rhythmical bass, electric guitar, thrilling rhythm, real Dave Gahan voice, moody synthesiser and an inimitable Martin Gore vocal - a Depeche Mode trademark! Well, I didn't expect this! I didn't expect everything to be in place...nothing is missing! Even Mr. Alan Wilder couldn't have done better - Mark Bell proved himself! "...Wandering around in silent wonder, What chance did I have" Positive energy fills my body and soul. The next refrain is fulfilled with an unprovoked wave of effects. The drum solo in the middle gives me the feeling that I might be listening to the best song of the album! The question is



# EXCITER

Reviewed by Lajos Borbély, Hungary

I can't get it out of my head how similar these two words - "Exciter" and "Violator" - sound! I hope it's content has similarities too... Let's see then! The CD starts slowly and I hear the first few notes...in time a gate opens up slowly letting another one close for good.

Can you feel a little love? The question that opens up the album. **"Dream On"**'s echoing refrain. Sequencers, guitar and a few wonderful synthy notes... just like in "Personal Jesus". That's how it starts and carries on just as fast as it started. As Dave sings, I can't help noticing that the words are very similar to the ones of "Barrel Of A Gun" - "...what you take won't kill you, but careful what you're giving". The second verse of the song gives me a familiar feeling: I feel how the song heats up and a real Depeche Mode touches me! As Dave and Martin sing the words it lingers on - "... can you feel a little love?" That's what I was really missing from "Ultra", Dave and Mart singing in duo! The vocal ends up with Dave's tenderness - "...dream on". After the guitar vs. vocal interlude there is the third verse, which ensures me that Martin still believes in fate, even if he curses it sometimes - "...blame it on your karmic curse". This song ends with a splendid duet - "...dream on"!

given - "...how I suffer the sweetest condition". Now, I know what Martin meant by that Dave's voice has a real aggression...I stand still!

Heartbeat, cello, sub-bass, guitar...this is **"When The Body Speaks"**, the current lyrical song. The first few lines leave little doubt about the strong meaning of this song - "...what the flesh requires, keeps the heart imprisoned". I find myself in the sensuality of the first verse - "...I'm just an angel, driving blindly, through this world". The begging words of the mid-verse and the conclusion powered by Martin's robust voice brings tears to my eyes... Oh, I pray too much! After the mixture of groovy acoustic and string arrangements the song and the feeling slowly fades away. The beauty of the song touched me deep inside.

The next song is **"The Dead Of Night"** where the sound-effects run to an extreme limit and it gives an almost heavy-metal feeling to the song or rather Marilyn Manson crossed with Nine Inch Nails!! Rhapsodic synthy effects and Dave's insistent voice...then suddenly the whole thing turns into a jazz/rock opera scene(!) - "...all that we live for, you'll regret". Another change of pace and style when the refrain comes in. The style of this song is just as unusual as



the meaning of it - "...heavenly oversights, eating from silver spoons"! And that's not all! There are more verses and more sudden changes of styles and by the end of it, with an evil laughter it is complete chaos. This is probably the most diverse and innovative song on "Exciter". This song would have made the perfect first single, but most likely it will stay a bright spot of the album.

**"Lovetheme"**, as the title shows, is an instrumental track, a soothing interlude. Even though it's hardly longer than two minutes it is nevertheless very relaxing and enjoyable and contains a bit of a mysterious "far-east" feeling at the end. I wonder what kind of love it is promising us...!?

Well, we don't have to wait long for the answer. **"Freelove"** is the next song. It seems that Mark Bell's distinguishing mark on this album are the computer-game alike sound effects, but luckily a pulsative synthesizer sound proves that Martin is still in charge. The song starts with a "crying" synth tones and Dave's angel-like vocal is heard now while the synthesizer and the guitar play in a calm unison. After this strange introduction finally the song begins. The lines of the first verses create an almost magical atmosphere - "...I can see the pain that you're frightened of". And there is that thrilling voice in the refrain - "...let's make it clear, that this is free love". The guitar effect and the synthesizer base of the scoring reminds me of the harmonium version of "Enjoy The Silence" and then I find out Dave compares them, too! A little up-beat added and we have a hit-single! Hopefully that's what we are going to hear on the single version! First, the strings strengthen the mid-verse "...you've got to take this moment". Then all instruments take part under the modified refrain. I get the message - "...we are only here sharing our free love". The melody fades away relatively suddenly...leaving us with a sense of beauty!

Quiet drums...**"Comatose"**. Strange title for a song but now I understand why... Martin's voice breaks the rumbling of the drums. I almost died for a track sung by Mart! I'm curious! The secrets of our souls are being analysed here - "...comatose, almost you've got me dreaming". At the end of the first verse Martin "looks up" to the sky singing - "...here I believe, dreams never deceive". Then get back to the refrain. I simply love it when Martin's voice can be heard alongside his vocals...that's not my fault! After the end of the second verse the song surprises me with an unexpected feeling... I feel like I am going into a coma...at least, comatose.

I'm being torn from my coma by an aggressive stir of drums and synthy notes - **"I Feel Loved"**. Such a powerful entry! Dave's voice is grabbing and alarming. What an aggression - "...it's the dark night of my soul". The atmosphere caused by the synthy base brings back the mood of "A Question Of Time". The sequencer tones of the second verse push the dance beat into jump. The "crying" synthesizer theme is rumbling my blood - I feel the bass inside me! Depeche Mode is alive again! The last part of the song is much more refined; the sequencer plays the main part - "...comes the feeling of inner bliss". But again, the ending is complete madness! Perfect single!!

The following song also starts with a quick pace and then a lovely-sounding acoustic guitar joins in - **"Breathe"**.

Another Martin song. "A real kind of torch song from the 50's", as Mr. Gore describes it or maybe "Twin Peaks" after-feeling?! Or maybe both of them. As the air is filled with Martin's voice, in my head I see that red curtain blowing in the wind, of course that Angelo Badalamenti feeling is present. "...I have to hear it from your lips, say it's not so". God! I can't believe how good the second verse is! There is that pacing bass - "...I want to know, the depths of your mind". And the mid-verse - "...breathe love". While the song plays I'm day-dreaming. It's another great hit after "Home" and I'd like to hear that at a concert, too! The song ends with those typical scales of Martin.

**"Easy Tiger"** is the second instrumental "block" which is the short version of "Dream On" b-side...very moody! Lively synthy notes brighten up the tolling of bells. In many ways this could be the twin of "Uselink". And as it gently fades away...

...appear the first few cords of **"I Am You"**. Mysterious atmosphere, slow sub-bass... kind of seqvens vs. computer from the dark side of the soul. In other words, Recoil meets The Dust Brothers (FightClub). I love it! Dave's suppressed voice tells us about an odd relationship - "...no escaping from the mess we're in". Another moody song. I remember David's comment on the album: "Could have been songs from various different years". It really feels like deja-vu and it takes me back to the past. I want this moment to last forever - "...I am yours eternally"! Dave's voice gets stronger here - "...we've no alternative, no, no, no"! At the end of second verse the vocal press the irreversible fact into my mind - "...I am you and you are me"! The synth-strings give me a moody feeling. I really like the way music can express beauty. The paranoid beat of the drums suddenly stops.

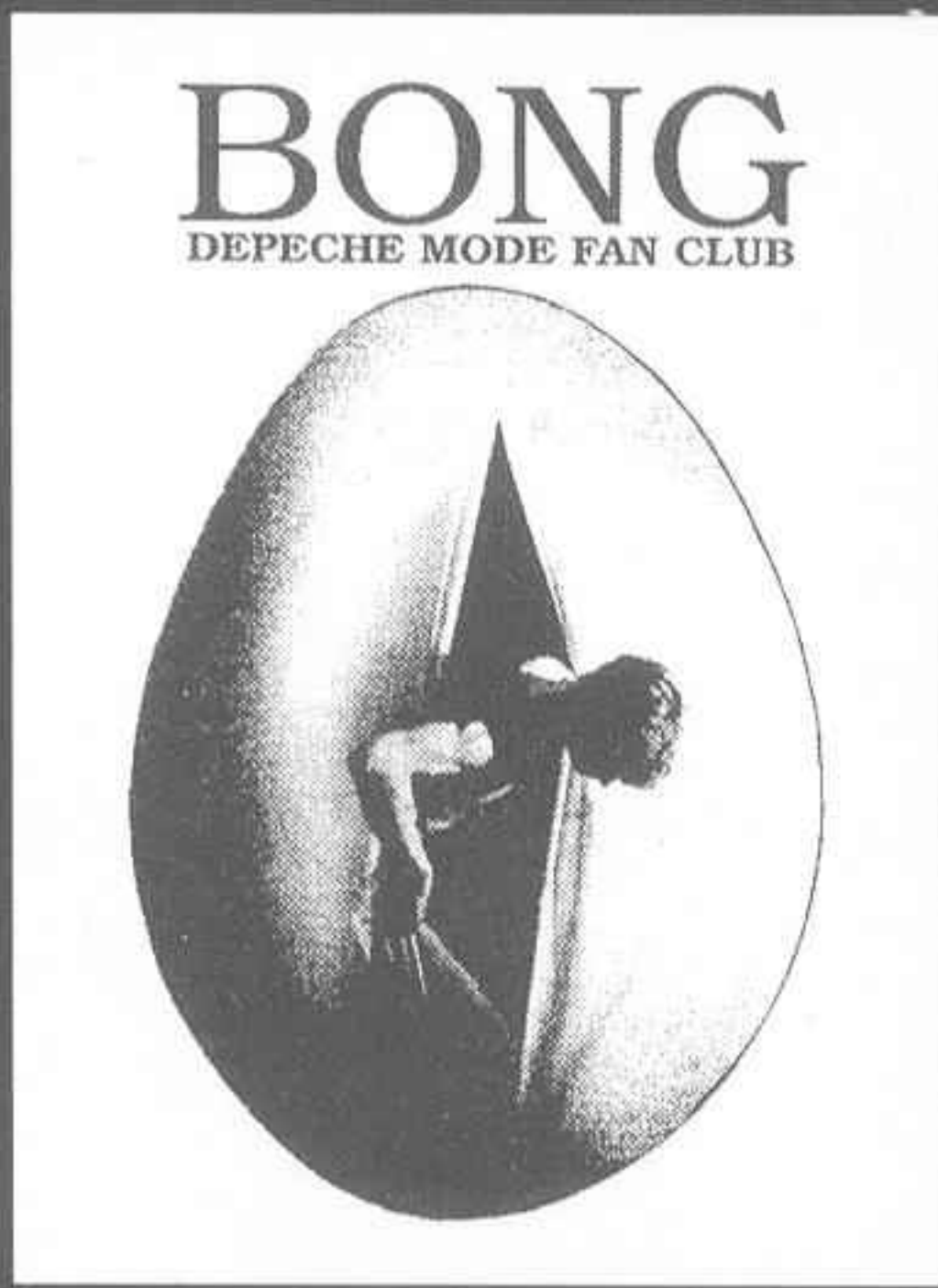
Percussion...ambient...sssssss... **"Goodnight Lovers"**. Velvet Underground meets Depeche Mode. This is the last song of the album, it now feels much calmer than before. Here, somewhere in the heart of me. Dave's whispering voice is escorted by Martin's humming. I find deep thoughts like - "...when you are born a lover, you're born to suffer" and old-fashioned personal messages like - "...all soul sisters and soul brothers". In the second part Dave plays his voice really nice and the punch-line of this lullaby is not missing either - "...you don't even have to give me the time of day". A traditional and beautiful gospel presented by Dave & Mart closes this song and the whole album at once. Dave bids us to be silent... Sssssss

That's the end of the album. The CD stops spinning. Usually I'm sad at this stage but now I feel more squeezed than sad. I got tired. It was too much. I need time to absorb it. It's very rare for me to take in such huge amount of pure emotion... I'm sitting on the milestone... I felt positivity in the case of "Ultra". But now with "Exciter", I feel beauty. I'm sitting on the milestone...smiling...I'm happy. I'm glad that I couldn't feel the gap that Alan caused when he left. And I'm happy because the duality of my soul found satisfaction...Depeche Mode and Recoil. I'm happy. Wounds are healing for good. I'm sitting on the milestone...and I'm thinking which way I should go now?! Will there be another milestone on my way... Maybe...

"You can take your time, I'll be waiting in line". Sssssss...

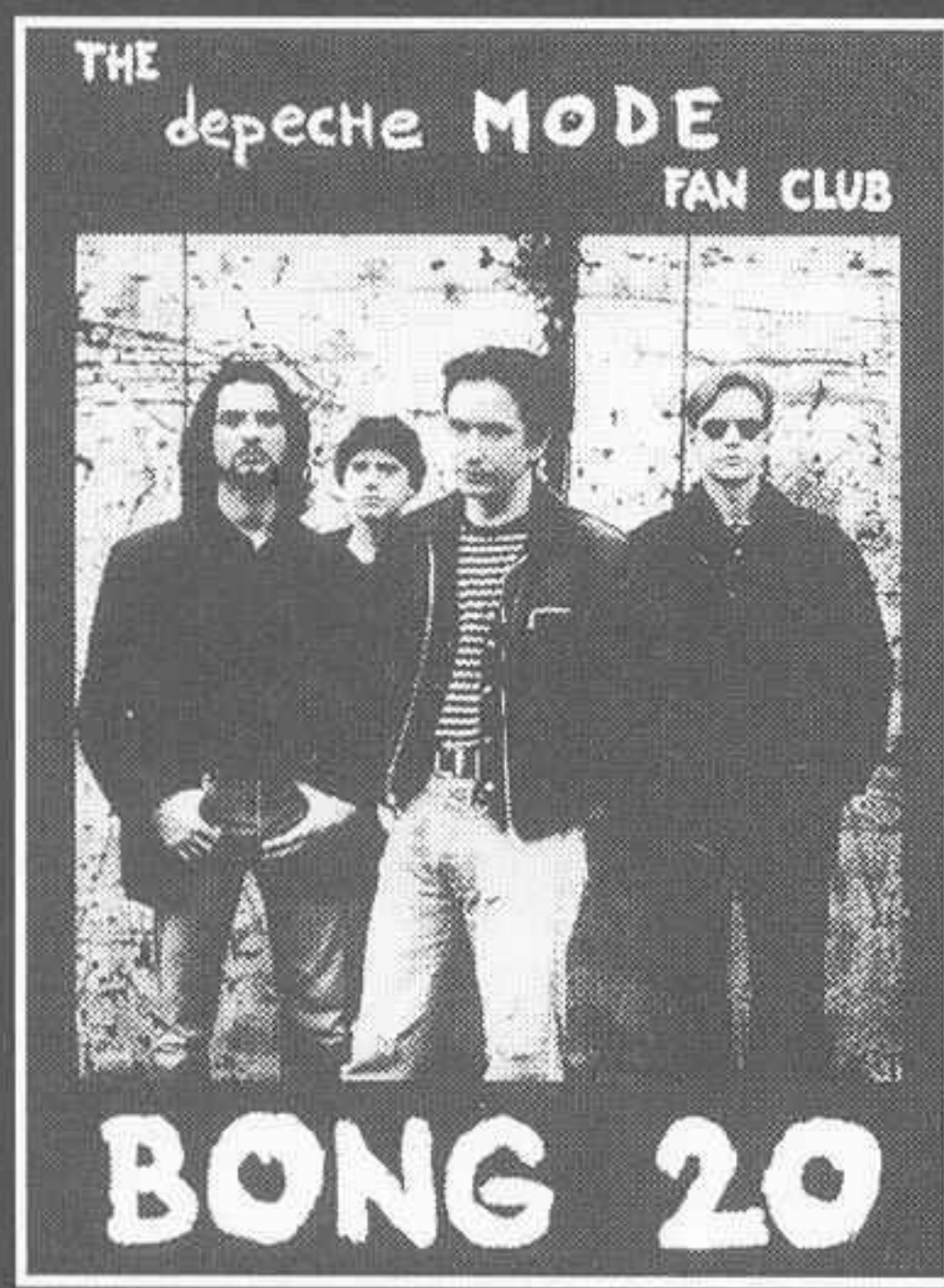


**BONG 14**



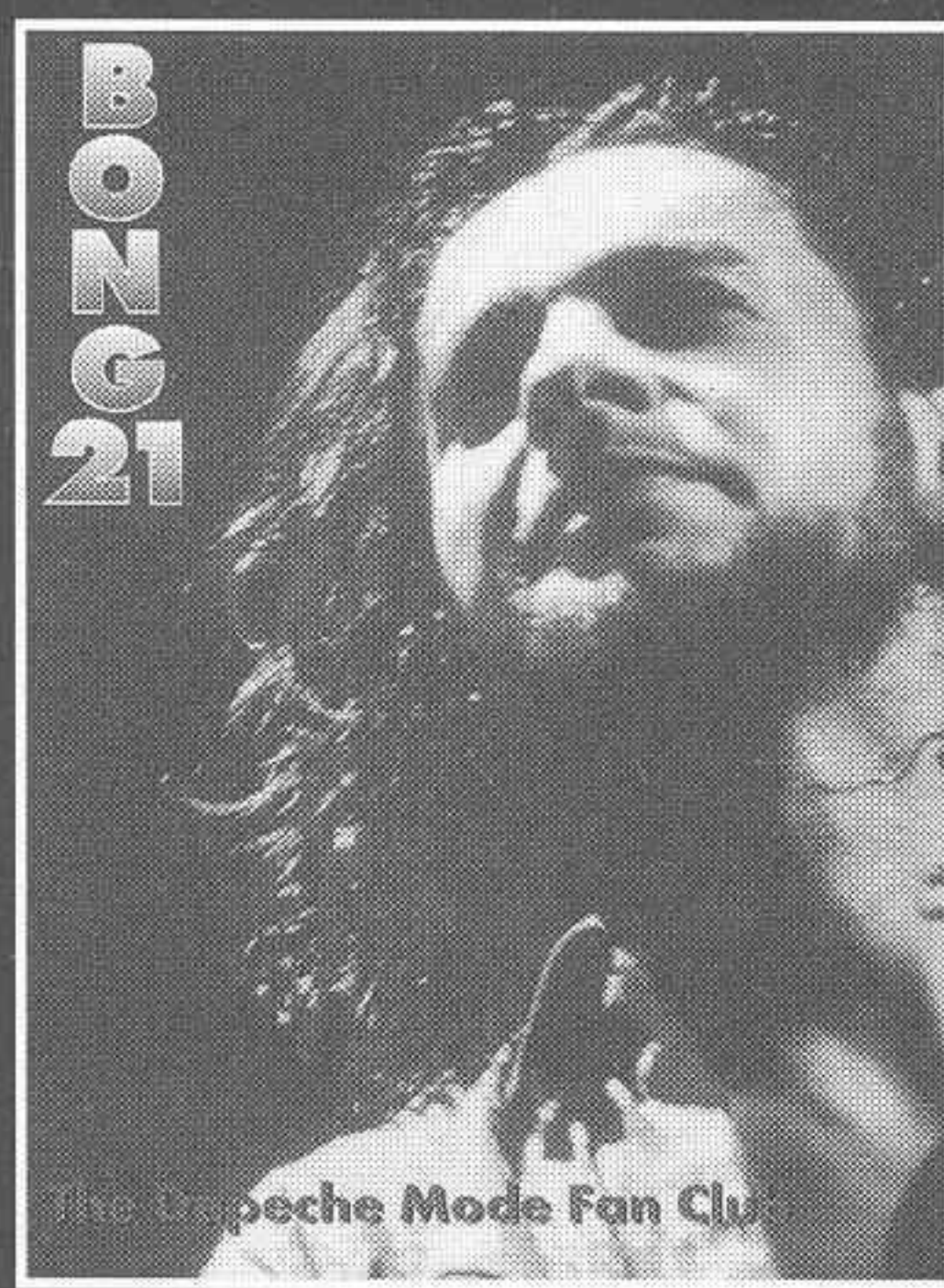
A4, b/w

**BONG 20**



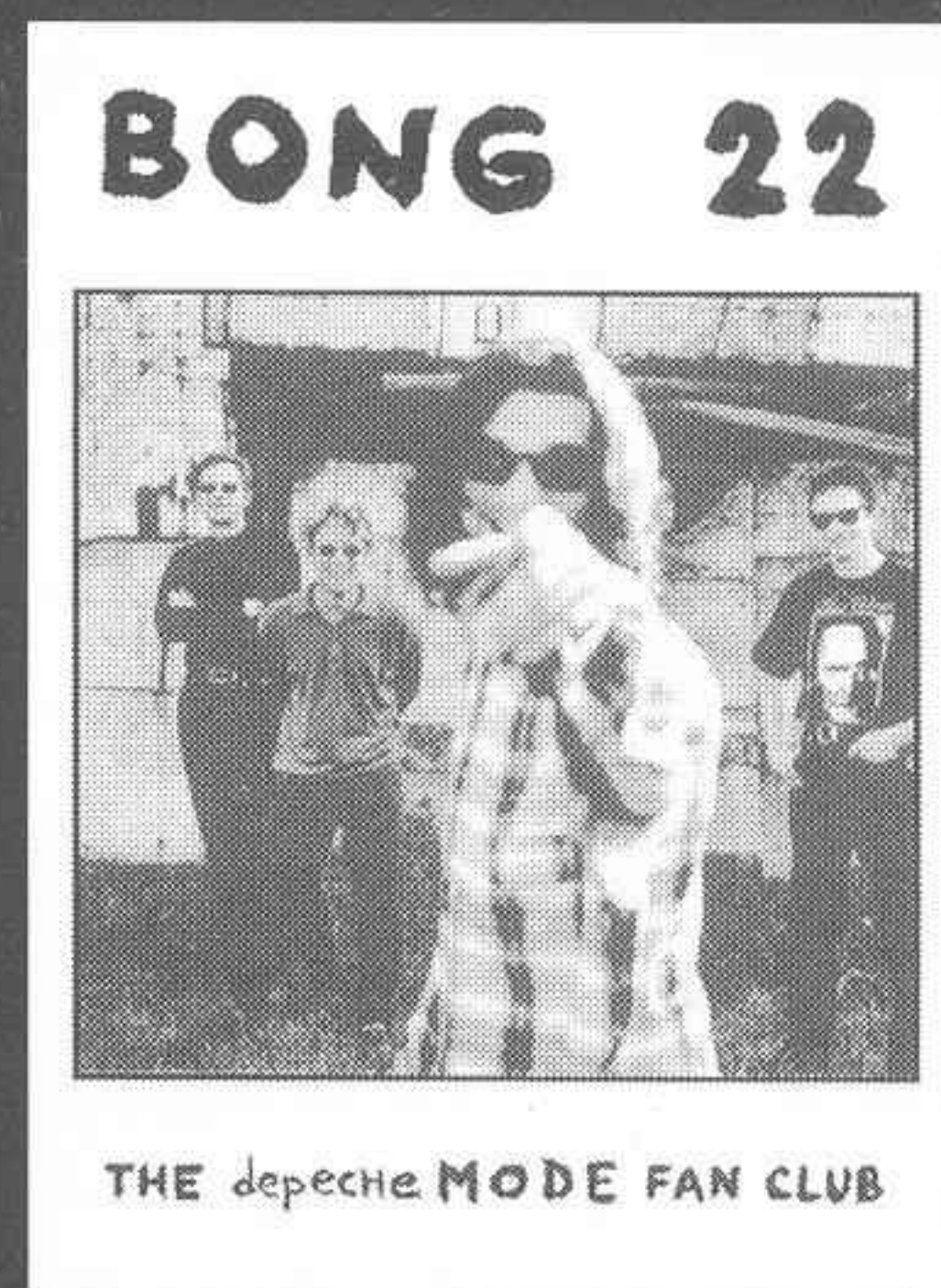
A4, colour

**BONG 21**



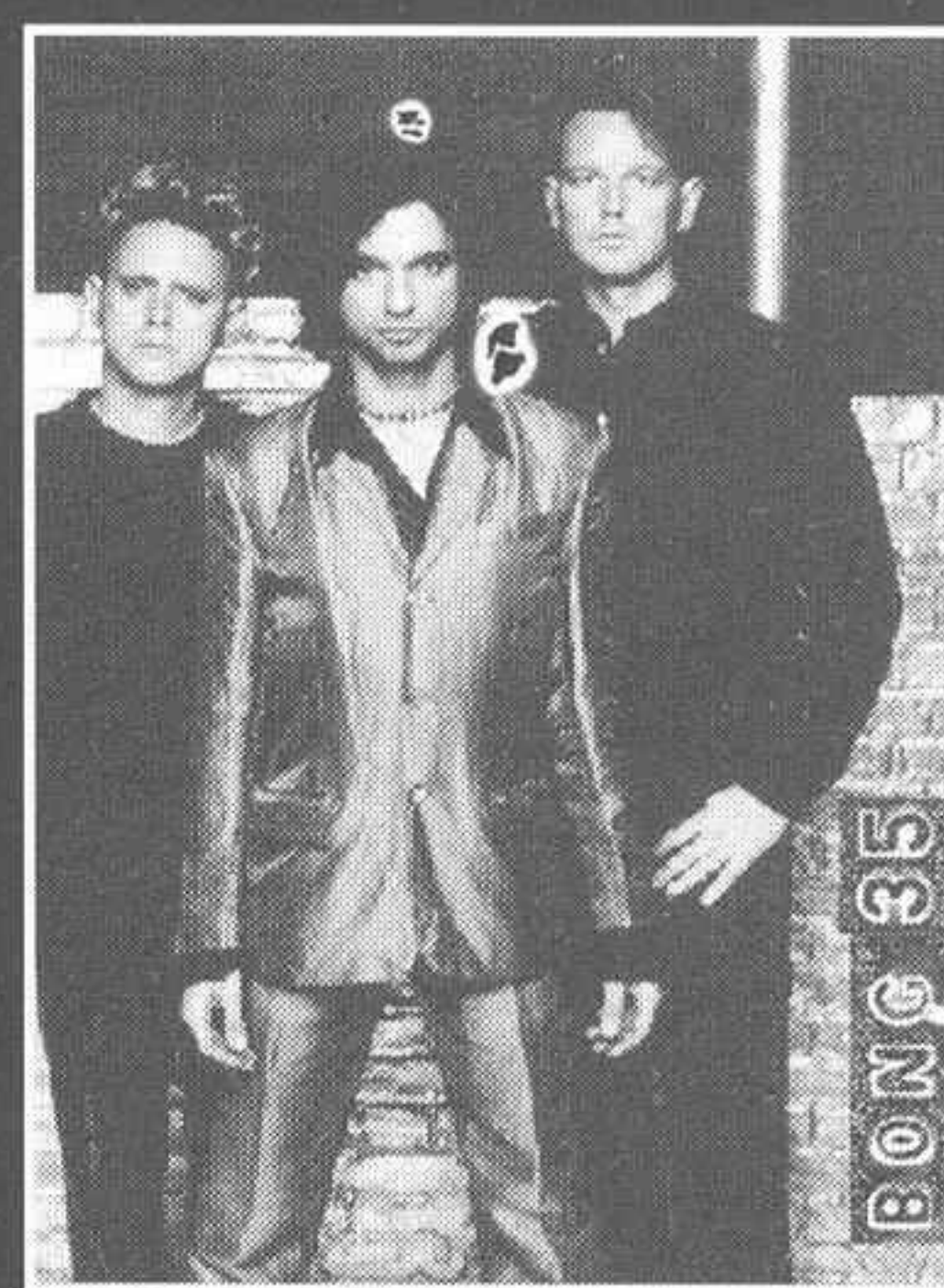
A4, colour

**BONG 22**



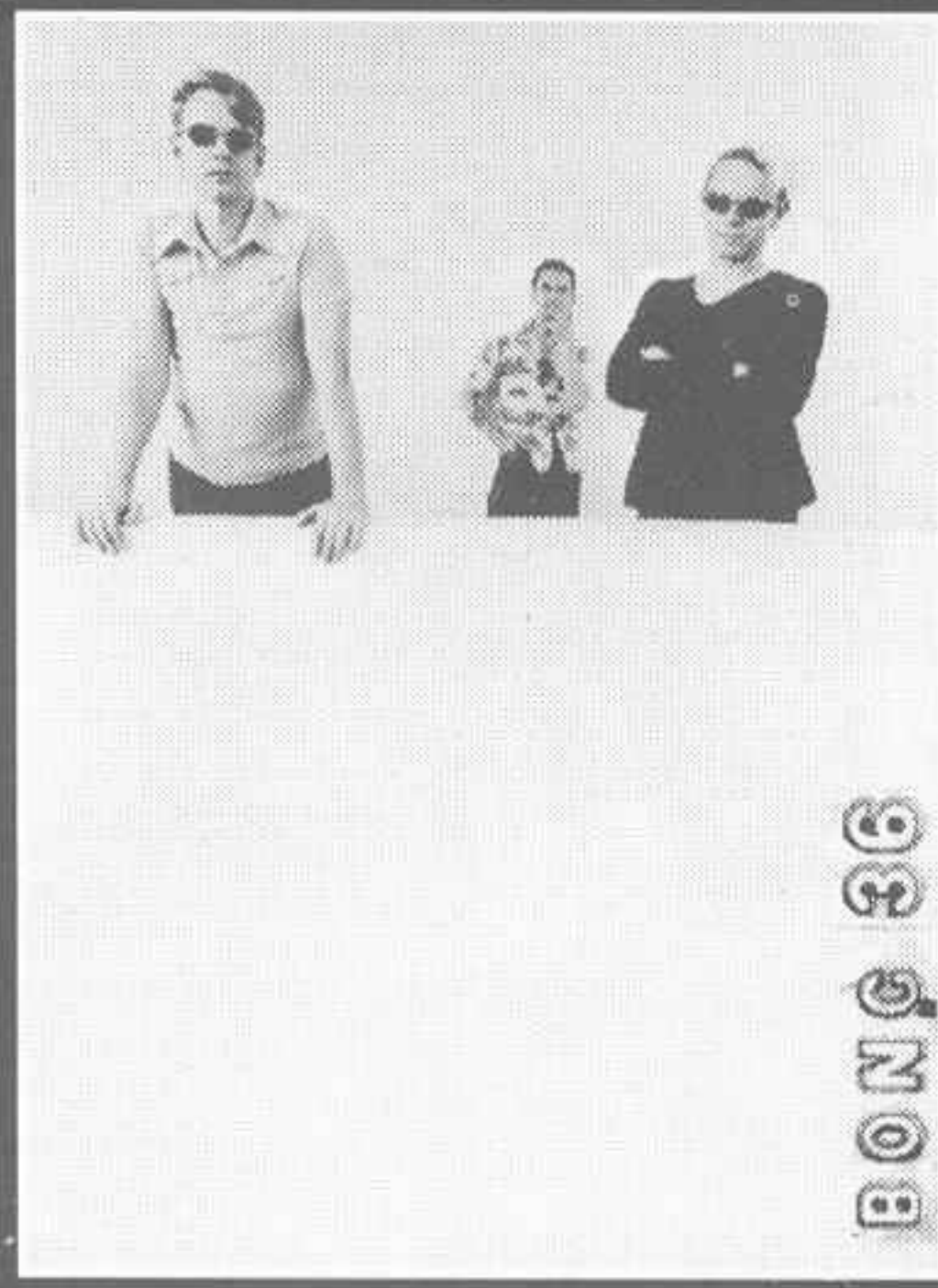
A4, colour

**BONG 35**



A4, colour

**BONG 36**



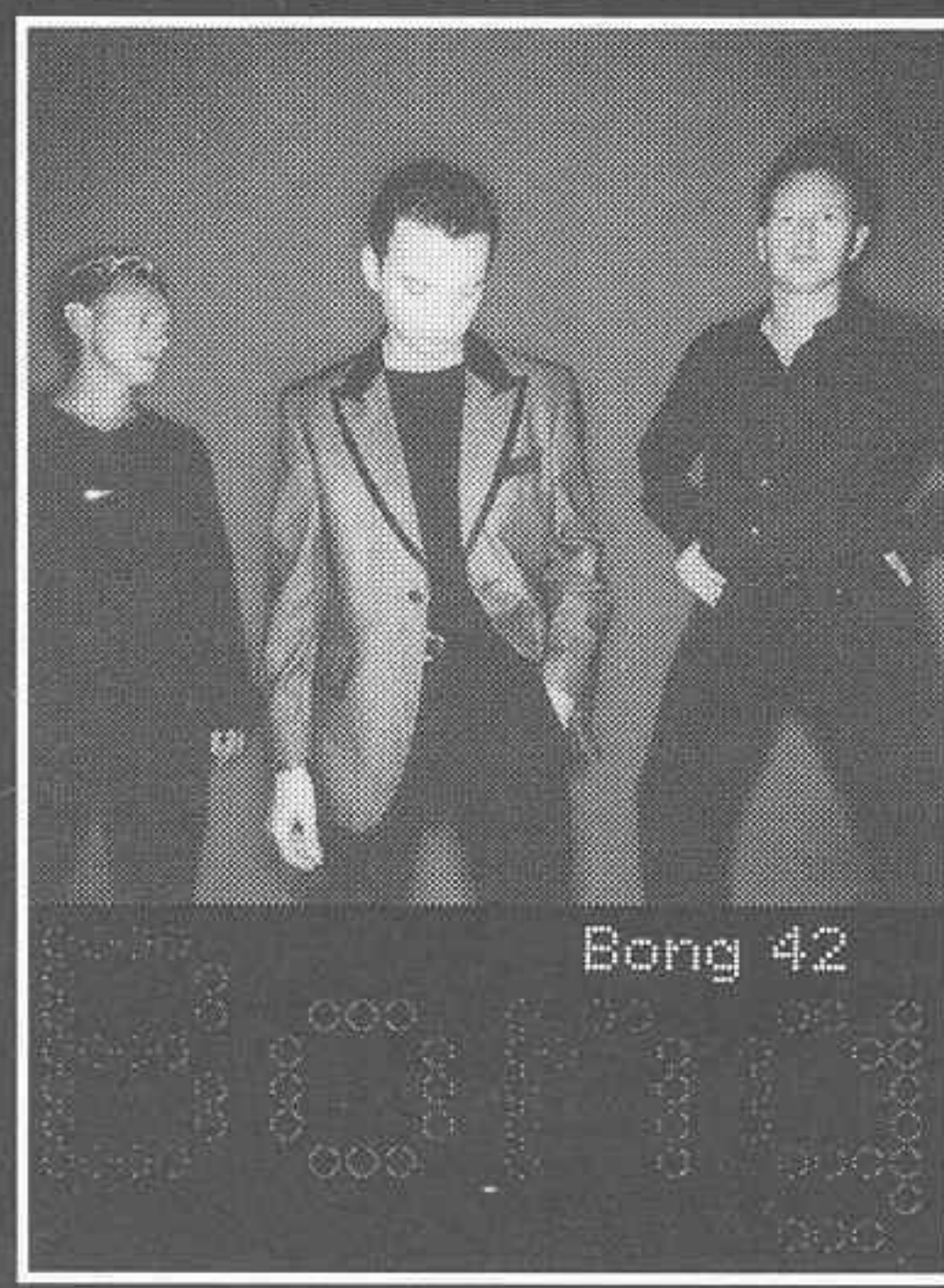
A4, colour

**BONG 41**



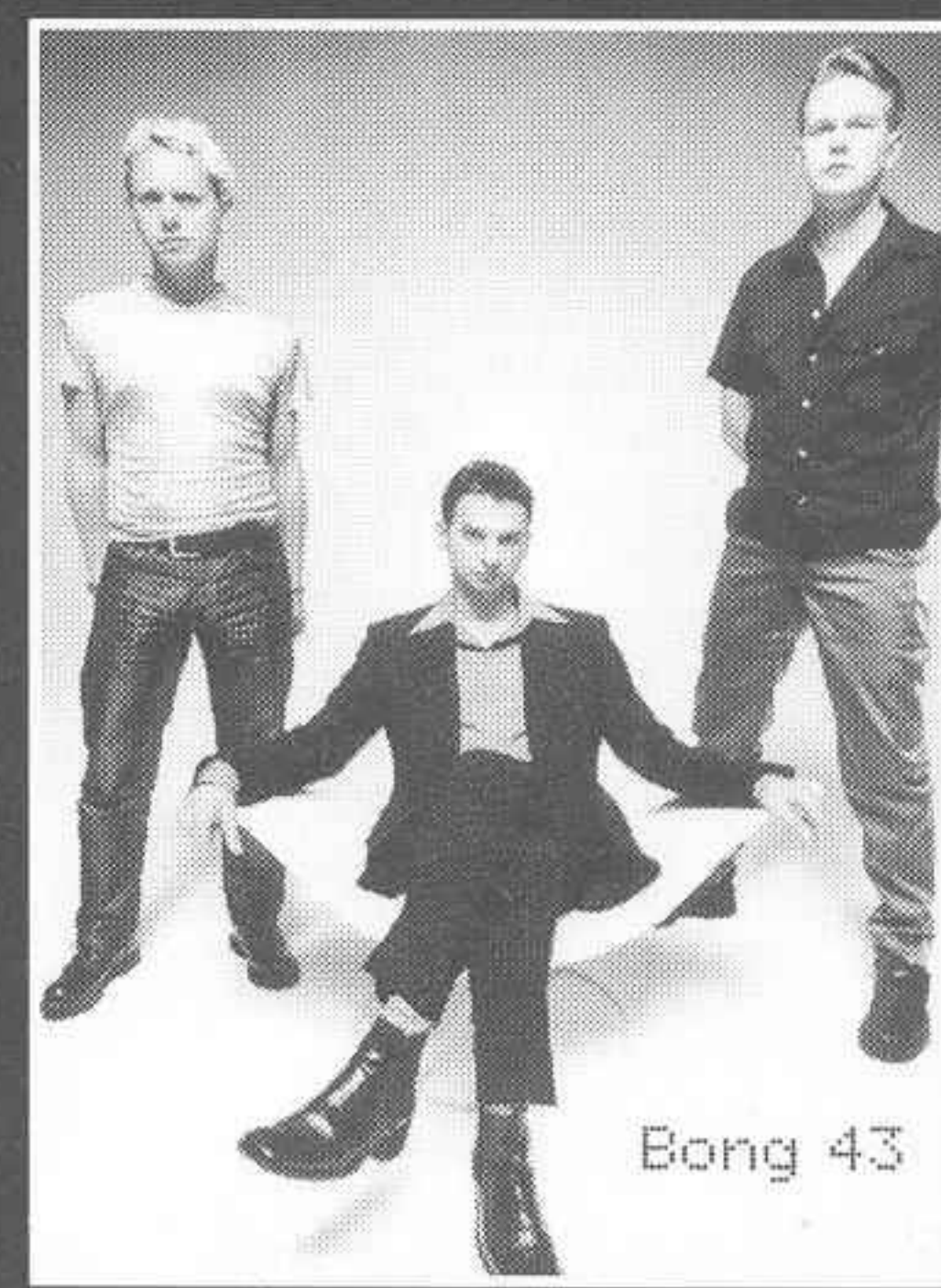
A4, colour

**BONG 42**



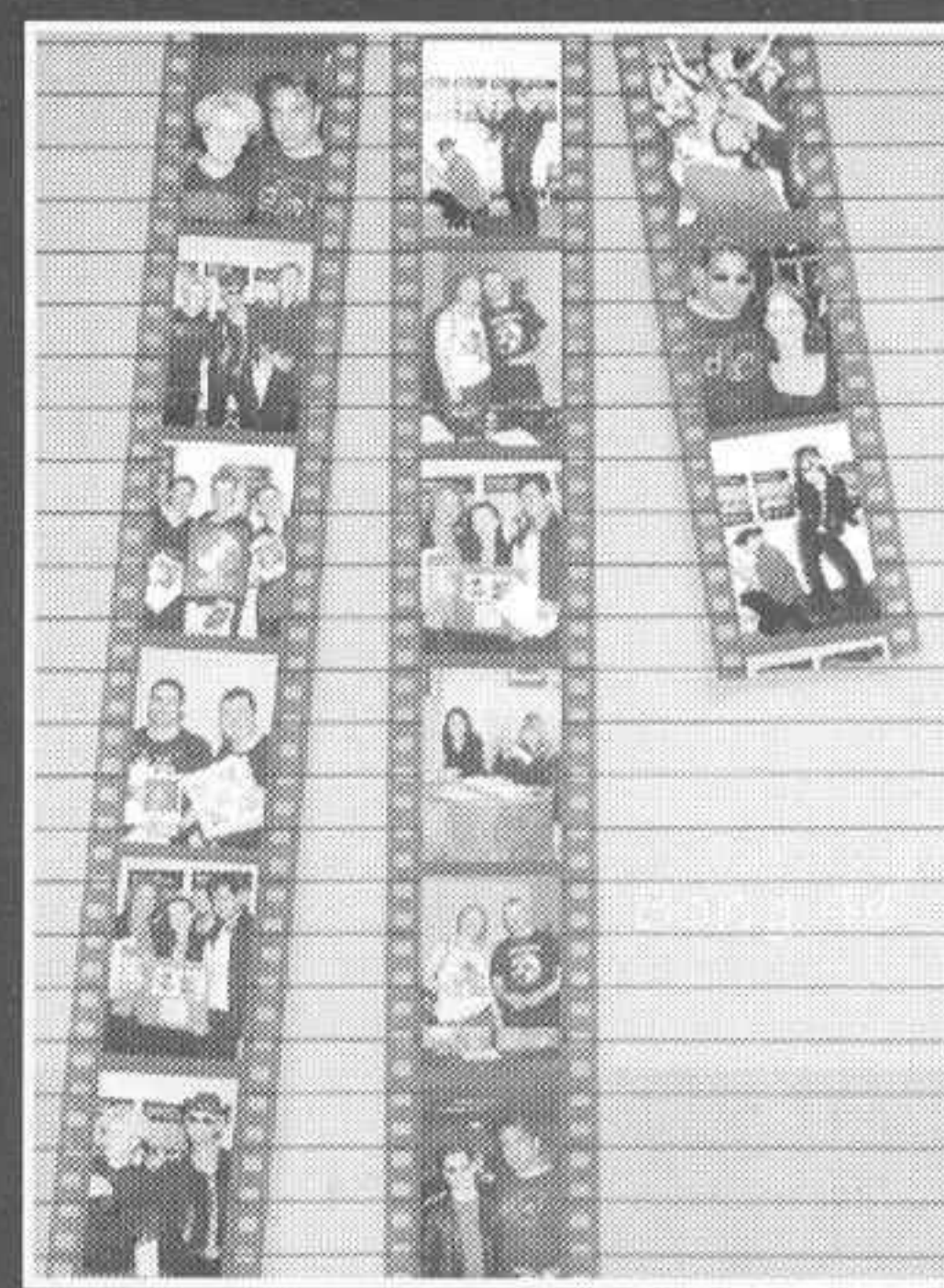
A4, colour

**BONG 43**



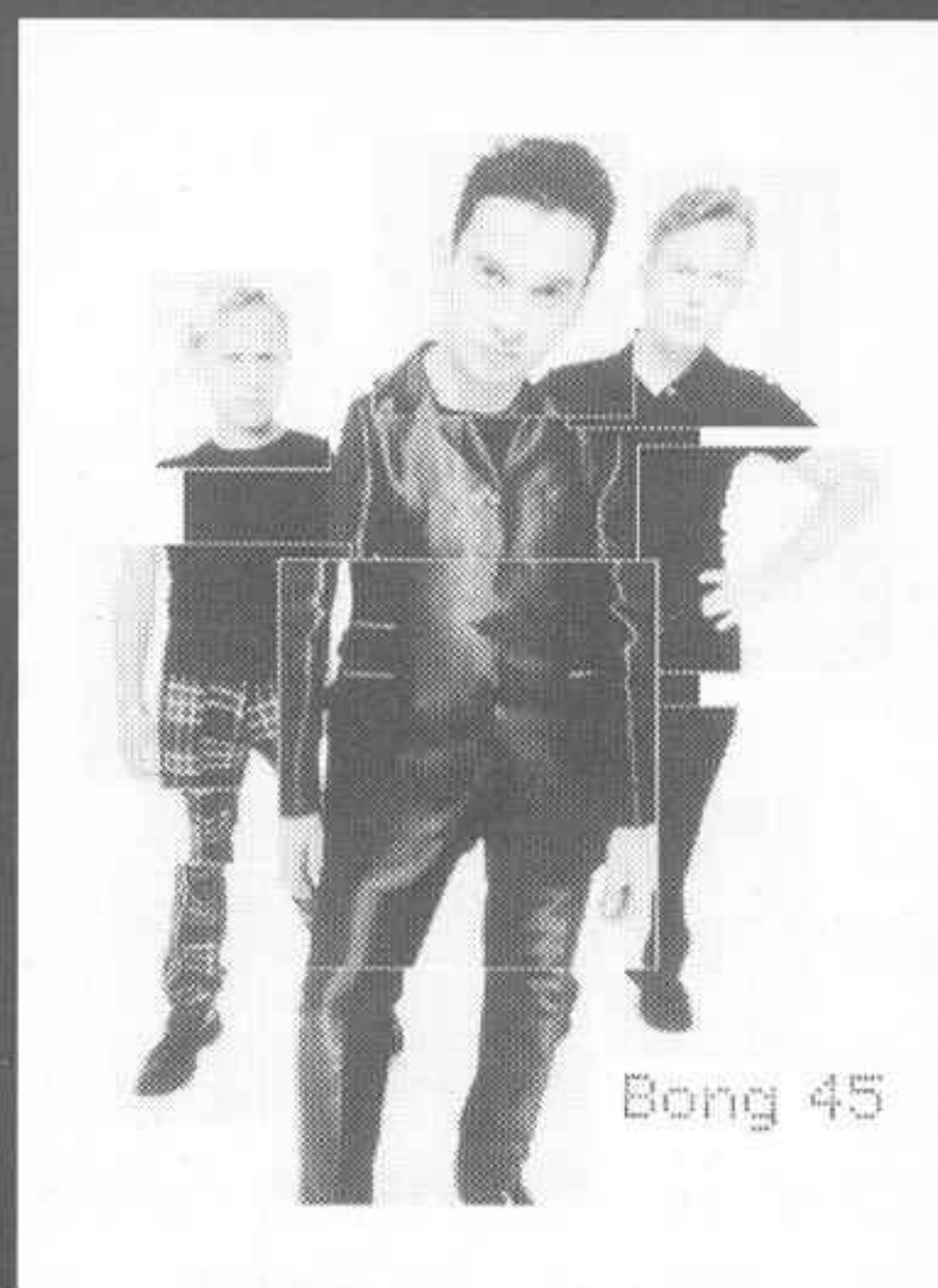
A4, colour

**BONG 44**



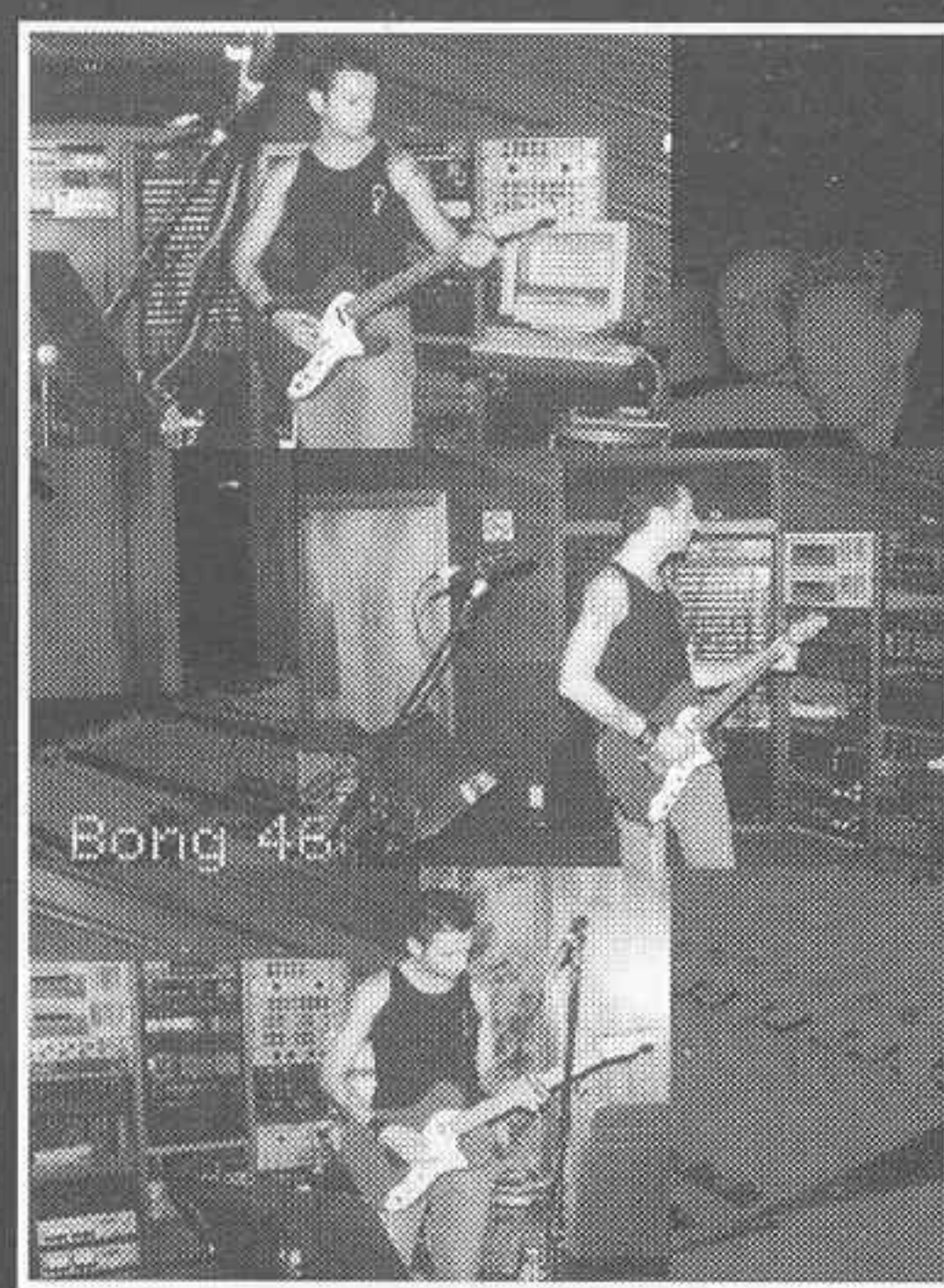
A4, colour

**BONG 45**



A4, colour

**BONG 46**



A4, colour

Item	Quantity	Price UK	Price Europe	Price O/SEAS	Total
Bong 14		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 20		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 21		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 22		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 35		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 36		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 41		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 42		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 43		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 44		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 45		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong 46		£1.25	£2.00	£2.50/US\$4.00	
Bong T-shirt 1994 (XL)		£4.00	£5.50	£9.00/US\$15.00	
Bong T-shirt 1995 (XL)		£6.00	£8.00	£10.00/US\$16.00	
Black DM badge		£3.00	£4.00/US\$7.00	£5.00/US\$8.00	
DM watch		£17.00	£21.00/US\$36.00	£25.00/US\$43.00	
				Total	

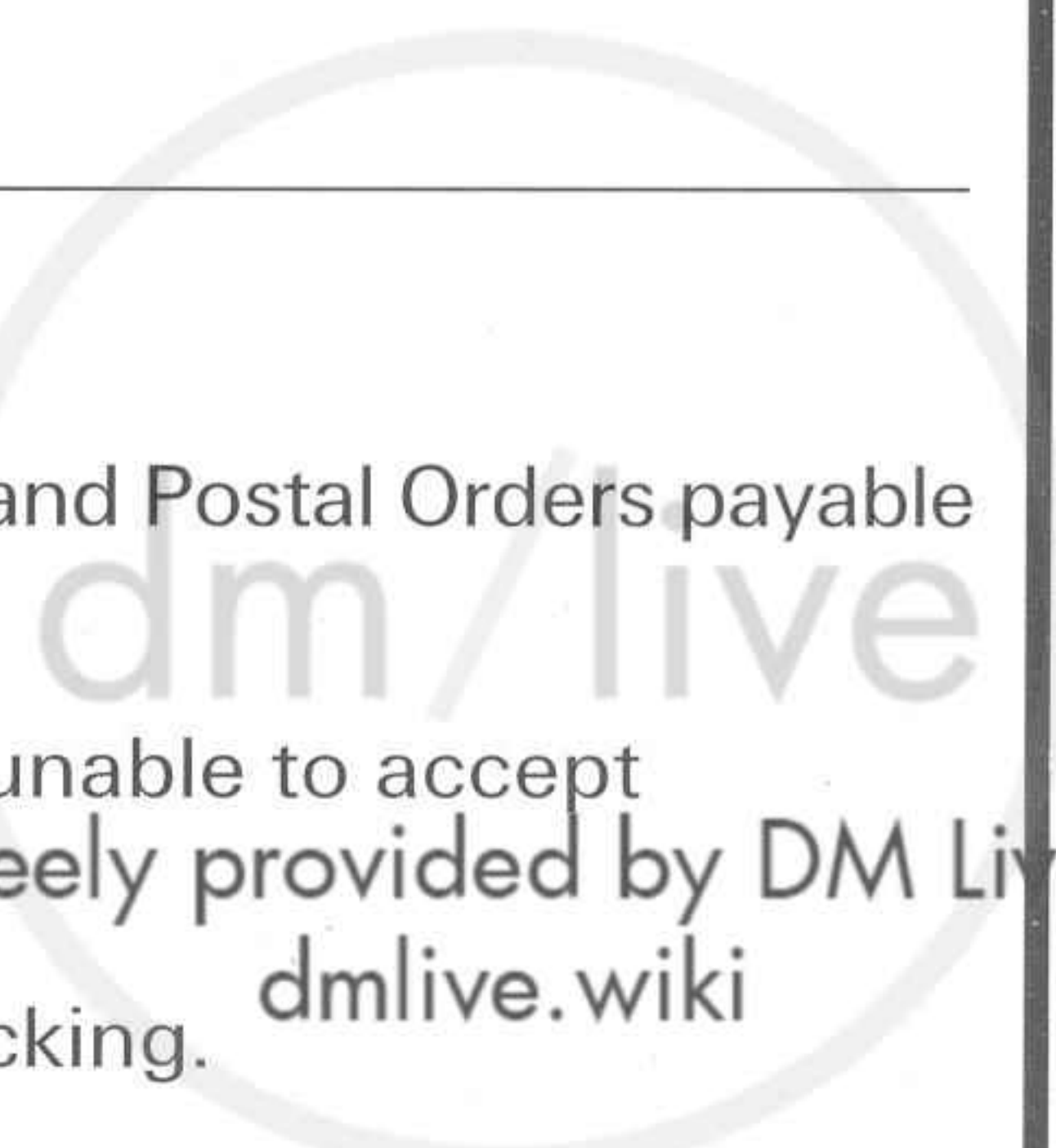
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

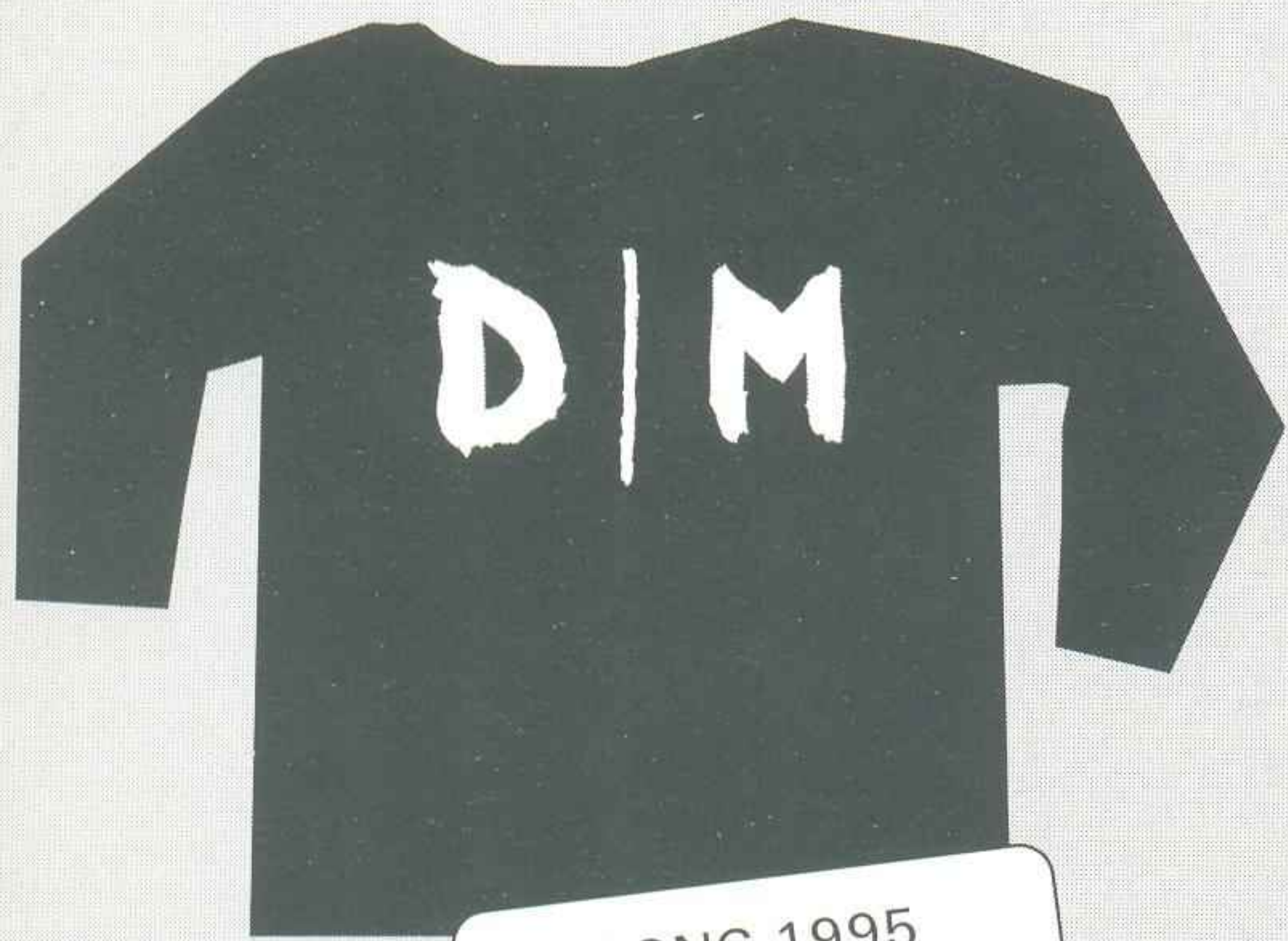
Please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to BONG Magazine.

Please note that we are unable to accept any credit/debit cards. Freely provided by DM Live  
 Prices include post & packing. [dmlive.wiki](http://dmlive.wiki)





# BONG SHOP

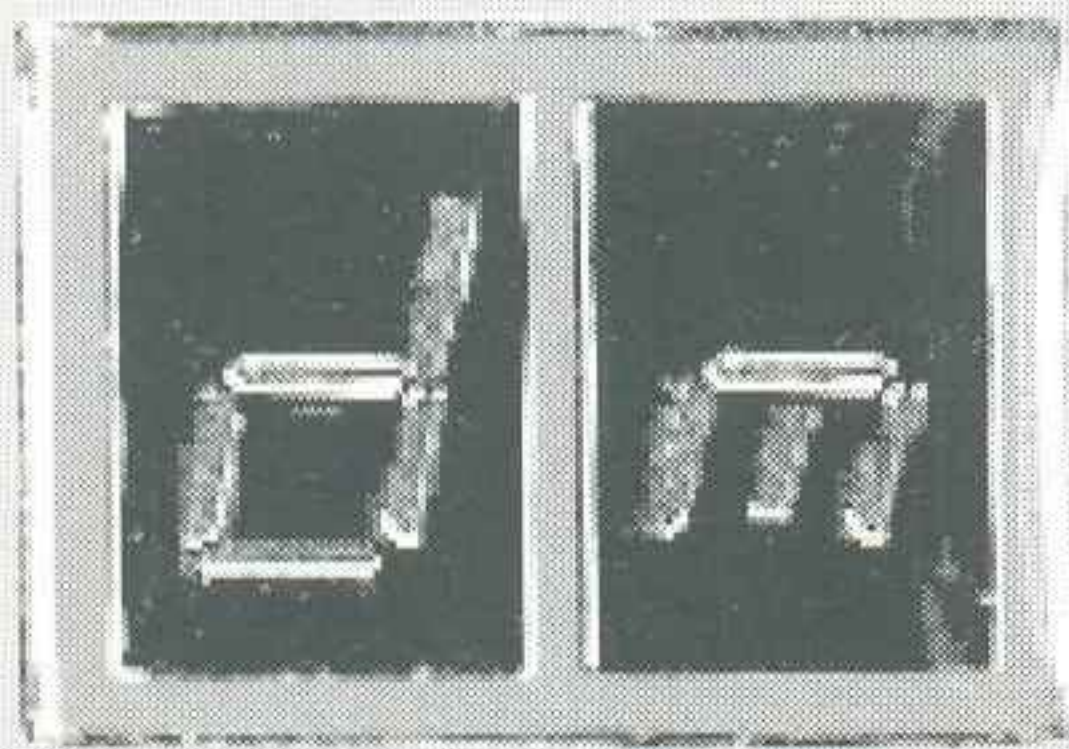


BONG 1995  
(white on black)



EXCLUSIVE TO BONG

DM watch  
Limited edition



**Black DM badge**  
This item can also be purchased  
in the DM store on our web site:  
[www.depechemode.com](http://www.depechemode.com)



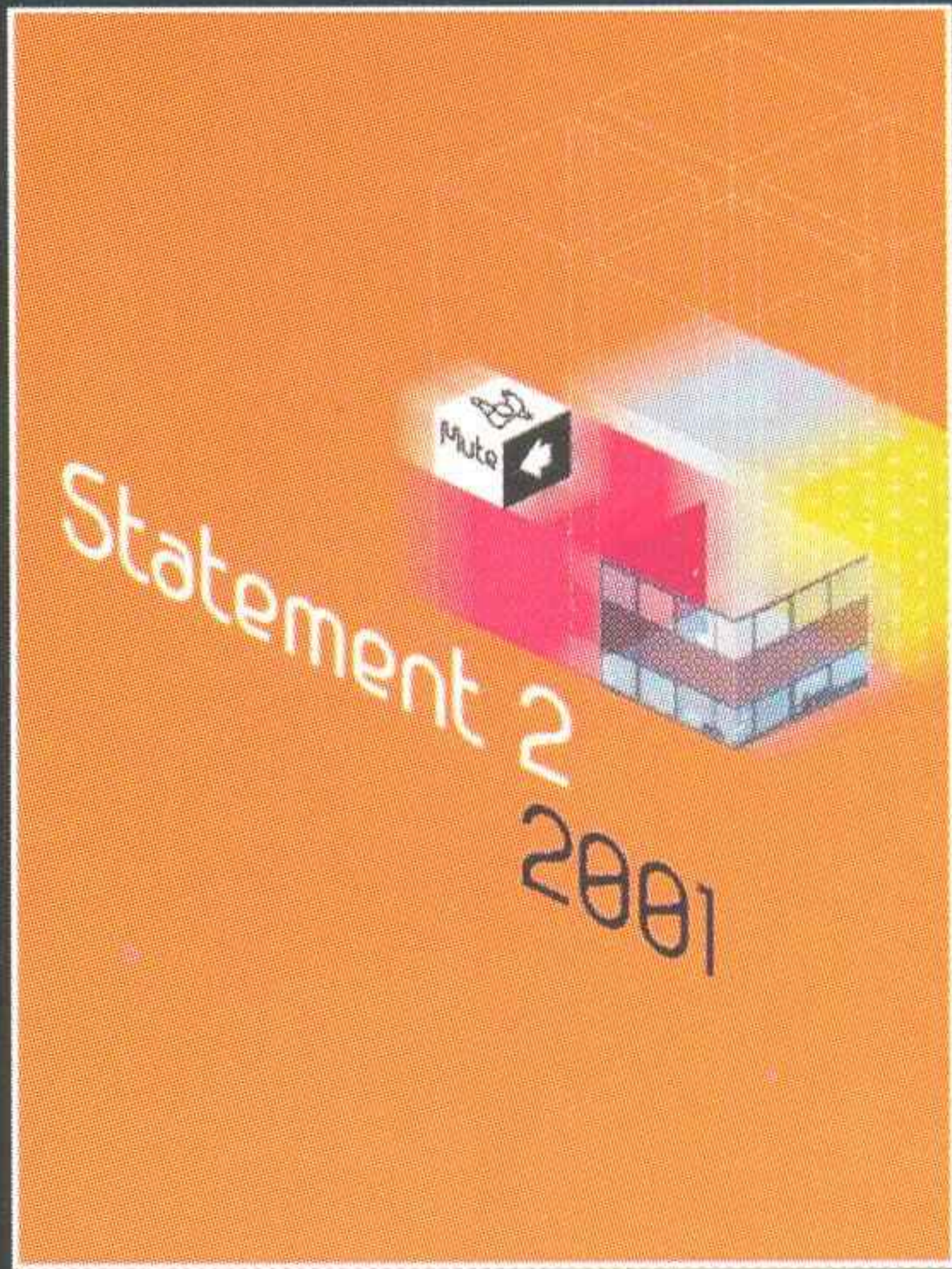
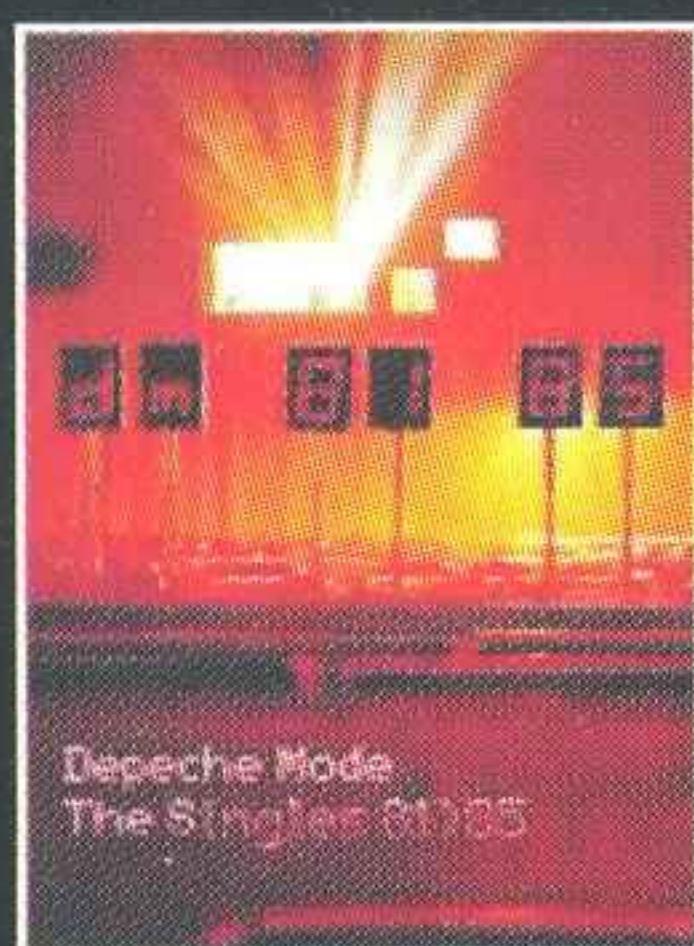
BONG 1994  
(purple on grey)

## Mute Bank Mail Order Catalogue

Fully Updated, Featuring all available Mute releases,  
Colour sleeve images, Artist Histories,  
Full track listings of albums and singles

£3.00 per copy plus P&P (or £2.55 Non EC)

£10.99 each plus P&P (or £9.35 Non EC)



Available now on Mini Disc

Payment Methods:  
VISA/MASTERCARD/EUROCARD/AMEX/JBC/SWITCH/SOLO  
Cheque or Postal Order  
(All cheques to be drawn on a UK bank and made payable to "MuteBank")

How to order:

Order online at [www.mute.co.uk/store.htm](http://www.mute.co.uk/store.htm)  
Credit Card Hotline +44 (0)20 8964 0029

Or send order to: Mute Bank, 429 Harrow Road, London, W10 4RE, UK



Postage & Packing  
UK £1.00, Europe £1.50,  
USA & Canada £2.00, ROW £3.00



# BONG

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF DEPECHE MODE

PO BOX 2581  
LONDON  
W1A 3JY  
ENGLAND

PO BOX 4596  
GRAND CENTRAL STATION  
NEW YORK, NY 10163  
USA

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

You can e-mail us with any membership or subscription enquiries at:

<bong\_magazine@compuserve.com>  
<bong@depechemode.com>

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

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



dm/live  
dm/live.wiki