



BONG 51



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Cover photos by Anton Corbijn

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Photo by Anton Corbijn

INTRO

Hello! It's a BONG time again!

Welcome to the spring edition of Bong Magazine. In this issue we have brought back some of our regular features such as Pressed In Black, Mega Devotee File, Bootlegs and your favourite, Competition Time Again.

However, we do have some sad news, as we have to inform you that it has been decided that production of Bong Magazine will end with the next magazine, Bong 52, in June. Over the past few years, the band's award-winning website has evolved to the point where it is able to provide up to the minute information, which can be accessed by a huge audience in every corner of the world. We all feel that this is the way forward in keeping everyone up to speed on what's happening with Depeche Mode.

It goes without saying that Andy, Martin and Dave, as well as all of us here at Bong, thank you all sincerely for your loyal support as subscribers to Bong, and we are all very sorry to have to give you this news. We hope, however, that you will understand our position. We also feel rewarded personally, for being able to produce this magazine and share the devotion for Depeche Mode with all of you over the years.

Members who have paid subscriptions beyond issue 52 will, of course, receive appropriate refunds.

The band themselves are currently taking a break following the "Exciter Tour", and there are no further tour plans at present.

It is hard to believe that this time last year we were announcing dates for the "Exciter Tour"-the year has gone so fast!! The same can be said for this year's Bong Convention in Basildon - one minute we have months to prepare for it, and the next it's sold out and virtually round the corner. Only a couple more weeks to wait until we pack our bags and wing our way down to Basildon and enjoy a fabulous weekend dedicated to Depeche Mode and their music. We can't wait to meet you all and keep moding until the early hours! There are going to be several new contests and some special DM prizes to be won - so get ready! Please note that this event is completely sold out and there will be no admission on the door.

Finally, we are about to start production on the final issue of Bong (No. 52) due out in June and we would like to make it as special as possible for you to treasure, so we are giving you a chance to make your own personal wish list of what you would like to see in the final edition of Bong! You can send your requests and thoughts to the usual post or e-mail addresses by the beginning of April please.

Until June - keep moding!

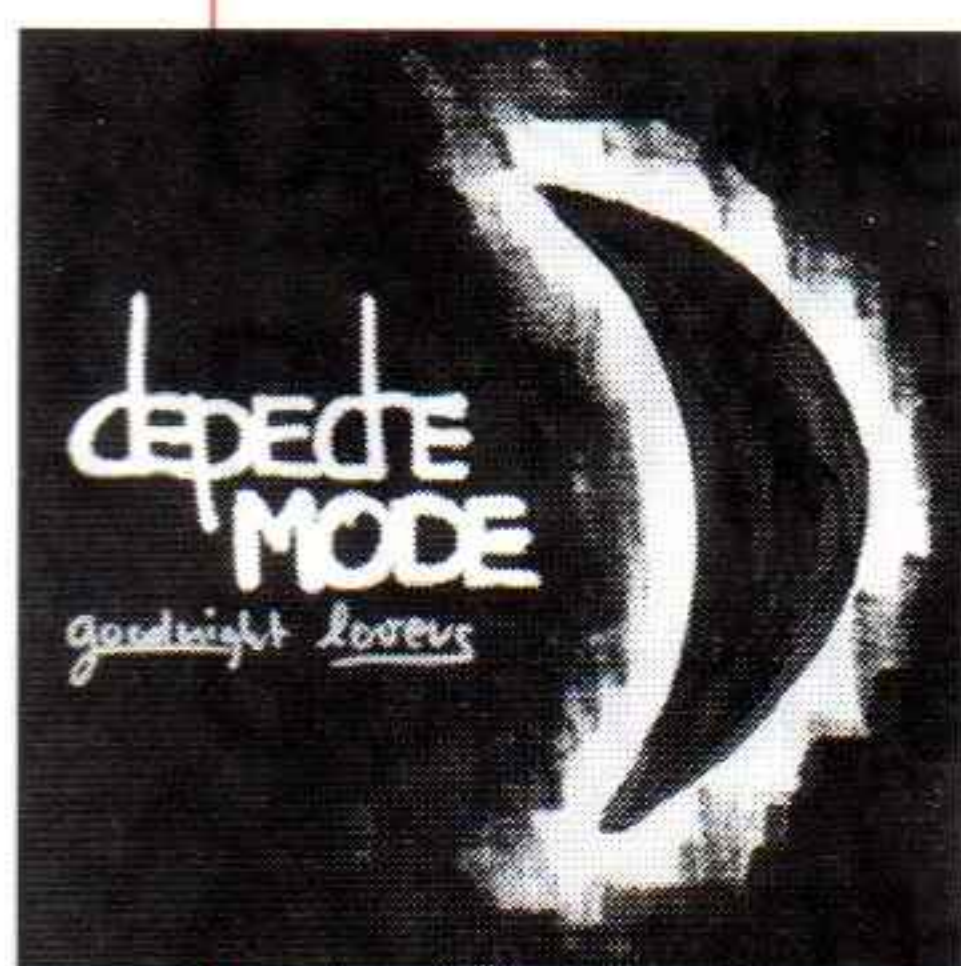
dm/live

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EVERYTHING COUNTS

Goodnight Lovers

"Goodnight Lovers", the fourth single from "Exciter", was finally released on February 11. There is no US release of this single planned.



"Goodnight Lovers" (Bong 33) is available on several CD and vinyl formats including a one-track radio promo CD (3'48) and a commercial CD featuring "Goodnight Lovers", "When The Body Speaks" (Acoustic Version), "The Dead Of Night" (Electronicat Remix) and "Goodnight Lovers" (Isan Falling Leaf Mix).

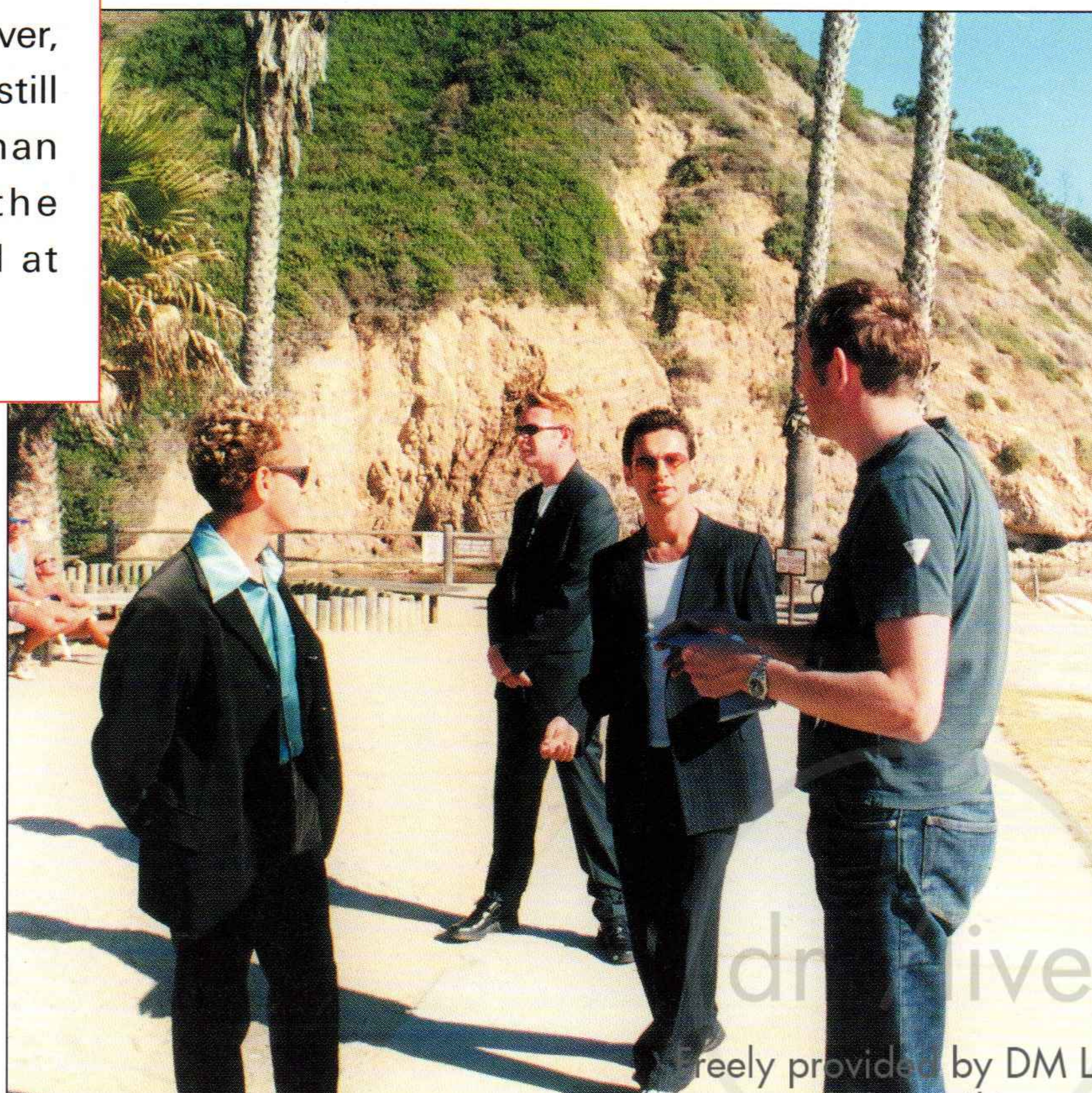
Record enthusiasts can now add to their collections with the classic black vinyl (UK release) and the red 12" vinyl (German release) – this is a limited edition of 9,000, 3,500 of which will only be available in Germany. However, no matter where you buy it, it is still going to be the imported German edition. The full details of the above releases can be obtained at www.depechemode.com.

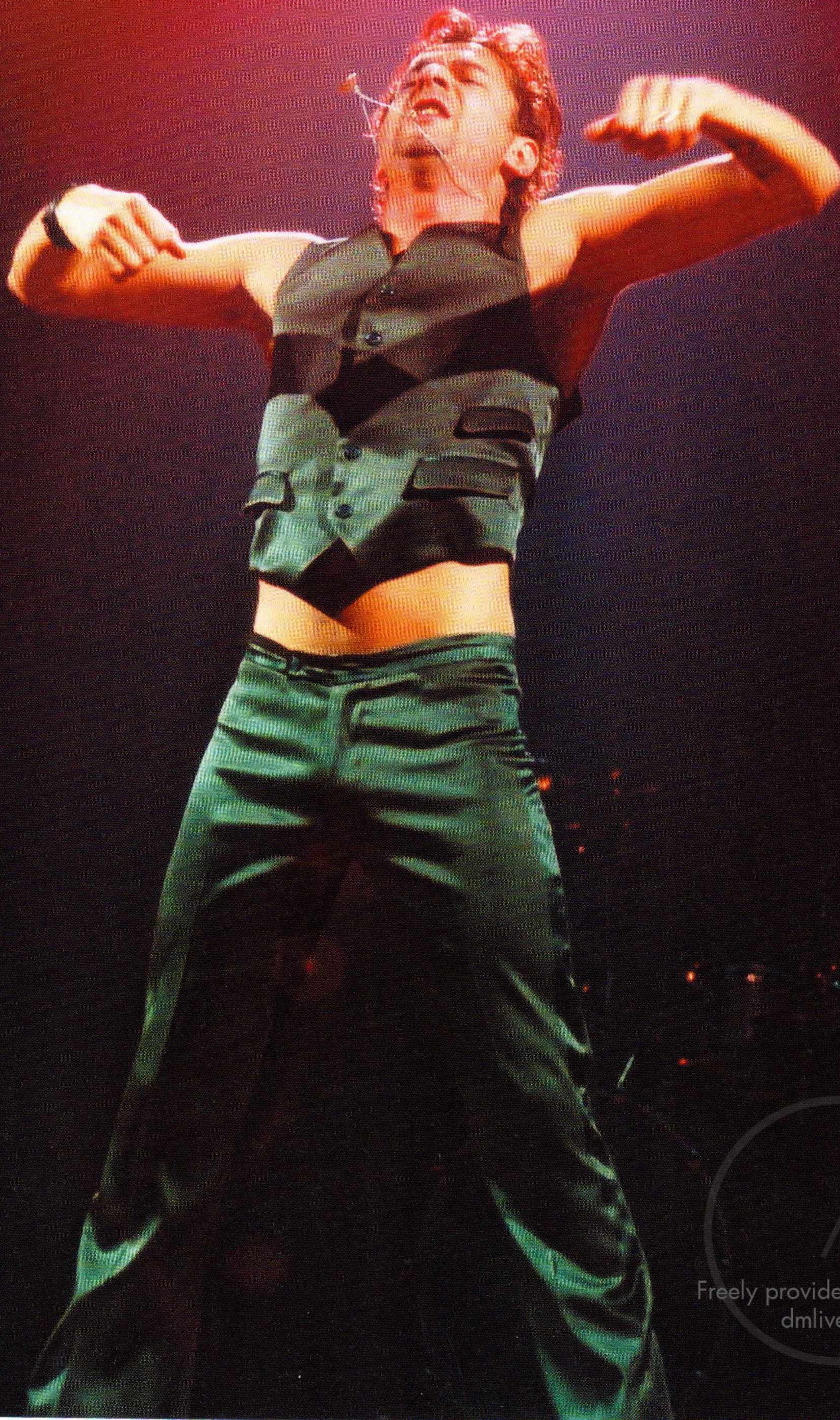
US Grammy Nominations

We are proud to announce that Depeche Mode have received two nominations for this years' Grammy Awards in the categories of "Best Dance Recording" for "I Feel Loved" and the "Best Remixed Recording/Non-Classical" for Danny Tanaglia's remix of "I Feel Loved". Since the ceremony coincides with the deadline of our magazine, we won't be able to bring you the results. Therefore, we suggest you to check out the Band's official web site at www.depechemode.com following the live broadcast on February 27 to see whether Depeche Mode made it!

Echo Awards Nominations

The Band have also been nominated for this years' Echo Pop 2002 Awards, the events' 11th edition. Other acts competing with Depeche Mode in the category "Best International Rock/Pop Band" include Bon Jovi, Destiny's Child, REM and Westlife.





An Austrian TV ad for Ford Focus, broadcast in September featured "Dream On" as background music.

On September 13, the American music station VH1, aired a commercial for Tower Records store with "Personal Jesus" being played in the background. It was advertising sale-priced CDs, including DM's "Violator".

In October, British Airways flight magazine "High Life" published a three-page spread on Depeche Mode - including an interview with Dave and a full-page picture.

Early October, Depeche Mode were featured on the cover of "Hot Tickets" (a free listings guide with the London Evening Standard newspaper) and included a double-page spread inside.

The producers of the German "Quiz Show" (TV Channel Sat 1) must be huge fans of Depeche Mode, as contestants on the show (October 22) were asked yet another DM related question: - Which band had a hit in 1990 with the song "Enjoy The Silence"? The possible answers included: Camouflage, The Police, Pet Shop Boys, Depeche Mode, The Cure and Massive Attack. Unfortunately, the given answer was Camouflage.

The following question was asked during a German Quiz Show "Der Schwächste Fliegt" on October 8: - Which British band had hits with "People Are People", "Useless" and "Stripped"? Unfortunately, these contestants also gave the wrong answer.....The Beatles!!

On December 21, the following question was asked on the Austrian TV (Channel ORF2) "Millionen Show" to win 150.000 EURO: - In which band is Christian Eigner the drummer?

The possible answers included: Depeche Mode, R.E.M., Pink Floyd, U2. The contestant had to stop because he didn't know the answer.

On September 9, an excerpt of the instrumental version of "I Feel Loved" was played in the background during a scene in the British soap opera "Eastenders"

On October 22, the German regional TV Channel tv.nrw, broadcast a story about mine-divers from the "Ostsee" using snippets of "Never Let Me Down Again"

On November 3, only Depeche Mode songs were played in the first hour of the Bulgarian National Radio Station. The songs included "I Feel You, Dream On", "Rush", "Enjoy The Silence" and "One Caress".

In November, a section of the "Useless" intro was used during a programme called "Driven" on Channel 4 (UK), at the start of a Porsche/BMW/TVR road test.

Actress Lysette Antony was a guest on the "The Big Breakfast" (UK Channel 4) on November 7, promoting her new serial drama called "Night and Day". They showed a snippet of "I Feel You", which of course, she appears in. The host still got the name wrong, calling the song "I Feel For You"!

On October 25, there was a report about dog racing on a German TV magazine called "K1-Das Magazin" using "Master And Servant" as background music.

"I Feel Loved" appears in a new French comedy movie called "Tanguy". It is directed by Etienne Chatiliez and stars many French actors such as Andre Dussollier. The song can be heard during a party at the main characters' flat where the guests are seen dancing to it.

In November, a section of "Personal Jesus" was used in a trailer for a programme about dangerous cult groups on the TV Channel, UK Horizons.

As a prelude to the Milan show, an Italian TV Channel Viva, broadcast an interview with Andy Fletcher during a night show called "Gecko" on November 9.

"I Feel Loved" was used as a backing track advertising forthcoming programmes on Sky's UK Gold Channel seen throughout October, November and December.

On December 18, an excerpt of "Dream On" was used to begin the final episode of "The Charmed Ones" a series on Danish TV3.

The UK Channel ITV1's football highlights show "The Premiership" used "Dream On" in their trailers over Christmas and New Year. They also used "Dream On" during their football coverage of The Worthington Cup on January 9.

On Sunday 27th January, the German TV channel ARD used "Freelove" as background music in the broadcast "Lindenstrasse".

Many thanks to John Rulton, Timo Gronbach, Claudia Sterlini, John Rulton, Laura Iwanenko, Gary Lornie, Stephen Hickson, Daniela Vorndran, Sarah Golding-Keanne, Maria Milenkova, John Rulton, Nicole Kizina, Lauren Paterson, Lena Hamborg, Stuart Pritchard, Sabine Erdmann and to anyone else who sent in contributions. Please keep the information coming in and don't forget that Everything Counts!

dm/live

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PRESSED IN BLACK

Dear Bong,

I'd just like to say how fantastic the "Exciter Tour" was. My boyfriend and myself have travelled Worldwide to see it on numerous occasions. We come from just outside Glasgow in Scotland, and have seen them in New York (not cheap! but worth it!) and Berlin (best thing I've been to and seen in my whole life!).

I personally had never been to a concert before the Madison Square Garden gig. I'm only 21 you see and have always been too young to attend Depeche Mode gigs and there are no other bands worth going to see. As this was my first tour, I have to say that the experience was fantastic, words can't even begin to describe the enjoyment and euphoria my boyfriend and I experienced in Berlin (Waldbuhne). I actually cried during Dave's fabulous vocals on "When The Body Speaks".

**Jean
Scotland**

Dear Bong,

I still feel I should share my thoughts and feelings on the "Exciter" album with the other fans, although I purchased and listened to it for the first time a while ago.

Just when I thought it couldn't get any better, Depeche Mode prove that the creative juices are still flowing, and more freely than ever before. The sultry, sensual voice of David Gahan flares with the passion of a lover silent no more, unleashed and unhindered. I find myself inspired by the profound lyrics of the eternally prolific Martin Gore, whose words express the inner movements of the soul. "Exciter" is like an invitation to

wrap oneself in its warm, infectious vibes and allow one's mind to transcend to higher levels of consciousness, where every sense is heightened and the body delights in seeing the soul take so much pleasure.

After listening to the music, hearing each word and feeling each beat, every nerve in my body pulsates with feverish ecstasy, every pore soaks in the romantic aura emanating from a voice so tender as to leave me breathless. All emotions are stirred and settle into different regions of the body, like floating particles moved by the current of a stream. The feeling that remains is not easily shaken. David, Martin, Andrew, the beauty of the mind, body and soul of your music never ceases to enthrall me. Vive le Depeche Mode!

**Angela Mead
England**

Dear Bong,

First of all, I would like to say that I really love Depeche Mode, so don't misunderstand me when reading this. What I just want to know is why the Band always release two single CDs with just three or four tracks on it while other bands do six to ten on only one CD? I think that the fans like myself are the idiots if they buy it. OK, it is a marketing strategy, but I want an answer to why Depeche Mode release so much more mixes on promotional CDs (which are mostly much better than that bushwacka-techno-nonsense). I am so glad to have some promo CDs, but for example the "morel's pink noise mixes" - you will be lucky to get it for \$80 on

ebay.com or from the black market. Who has so much money for only one single CD? And who are the people who earn all the money? I guess Depeche Mode will get nothing and Mute or Reprise won't see any of the money either. But the dealer on the black market gets richer and richer. For what? Does Mute lose any money if they decide to put the promo mixes on the regular CDs? Is it more expensive to put 14 mixes on two CDs instead of only three or four on each one? I think not! I think even the fans would eventually spend more money on the official releases if the offer was equal. I have over 150 CDs in my collection but it's no fun collecting them any more, when you know you'll never get all of the DM releases including promos.

**Christian Weiser
Frankfurt, Germany**

Dear Bong,

Hi, I am a 41 year old mommy who has been a fan of Depeche Mode for years. As a result, my kids, 11, 14 and 21 are also fans. We love that deep bass sound! My husband and I jam to the "Personal Jesus" CD on a regular basis...

**Tracy Corrigan
Pataskala, Ohio, USA**

Dear Bong,

Well, Los Angeles was in three figure highs when I got there!! What a great sister to collect me from the airport and put me up for a week and most of all to have a 111 section seat ticket for the first DM show. Depeche Mode's "Exciter Tour" must, in my view, be one of their finest in regards to stage performance and

presentation. The set added to the whole emotional experience of taking a ride with Depeche Mode on the two nights, the second night being totally blown away in section two of the floor!!

As I met Fletch, Martin, other members and Daniel Miller at some VIP party I fell into later (the first night) I had a laugh with Fletch and Martin and advised them they can expect a massive welcome from their fans in Europe as their single positions reach new highs and in new places!! I don't know how I got into the party but have put it down to faith and the friendly DM and LA people.

Anyway if you are speaking to Fletch and Martin....please tell them that I got home okay and enjoyed the second show even more. As I said, thanks to DM and Dave for keeping it going. They set a great example for Life!

Leo
Dublin, Ireland

Dear Bong,

I was an attorney who, at the end of my addiction, had a tremendous daily habit. I embezzled money from my partner to support it, and almost killed him to prevent him from interfering with my next shot. Seven plus years later, I am finally out of prison, only because I had a brilliant and tenacious attorney and because my judge had pity. Otherwise, I would have had another seven years.

In prison, I was alone. I don't make close friends easily, and there was a cultural gulf between me and the majority of the prison population. By the end of the seventh year, though, I entered into a few close friendships, after we managed to bridge the divide. In the meantime, Depeche Mode tapes kept me sane. The fabulous music is driving and devilish. The wonderful lyrics are

poetic, world-weary, self-assured, hedonistic or childishly hopeful, and the lyrics on most tracks are filtered through the person of David Gahan.

David himself once embraced or was seduced by the other side. I am glad that I came back from that dark, sucking place and that he too struggled back from it. The sensual, melancholy, scarred richness and depth of his voice, however, will always remember, encompass and reflect that immersion. His voice conveys the beauty of the continual struggle between light and darkness. It sang me a lullaby every night in prison...

Susan Fila
Baltimore, USA

Dear Bong,

Having been an avid (or should that be obsessed!), fan for 20 years now, I am extremely depressed after seeing the Depeche Mode's "Exciter Tour" in Manchester last year. Having built myself up with excitement since purchasing a ticket, I now feel utterly miserable at having to wait at least another year until the next tour is announced (I am hoping this is the case), although it must be said that, like the "Exciter Tour", I'm sure it will be worth the wait.

I was pleased when the band performed several classics such as "I Feel You" and "Never Let Me Down Again", although the highlight of the show had to be when I heard the opening line to an all-time personal favourite, "Black Celebration". However, the excitement was also exaggerated because of the fact that the last time I heard this played live was when Depeche Mode played at Whitley Bay Ice Rink in January 1988 - the first time I ever saw my idols singing in front of me!!

Anyway, I just wanted to express my view that the "Exciter Tour" was excellent - as expected. Dave was

on fine form and looking as sexy as ever. Through all my tears and screams (I apologise to the guy on my right), I had the most exciting night but above all, I want to say thanks to my boyfriend, who despite never showing an interest in Depeche Mode, went along with an open mind and an open heart. His verdict? One of the best live concerts he has ever seen, but even better than that, he now listens appreciatively whenever I talk about my heroes. I love you Andrew!!!! Thanks Dave, Martin and Andy for producing yet another outstanding album and tour. I look forward to the next one, just don't leave it too long!

Vanessa Bolton
Durham, England

Dear Bong,

Back in the 1980's, long before e-mails and CDs, I remember purchasing "A Broken Frame" and feeling compelled to write to the record company congratulating Depeche Mode on a superb album.

Now, nearly 20 years later, a little older (37), now a wife and mother of two, my husband now a devotee, my enthusiasm and passion for the music and band is as strong now as it was back then. I once again want to congratulate the band on yet another superb album and tour. The music still continues to "touch" me on a personal level.

Having seen the band six times and watched them develop from playing "Rock City" Nottingham in front of 300 people to the stadium rock giants they are now, it makes me very proud to be a Depeche Mode fan.

The only thing missing from my adulation over the years is that I have not been fortunate to have met the band. I consider those who have met the band very lucky. Thank you Depeche Mode for the music - past, present and future. Health and



happiness to you all. Thank you Bong for all the good work - keep it up!

Lisa Hodgkinson
Nottingham, England

Dear Bong,

Just had to write and thank Depeche Mode for their fantastic concert at Birmingham NEC last year.

This was the 10th time I had seen Depeche Mode over 18 years and have to say this was definitely one of their strongest performances yet.

The whole band looked like they were having a great time, which to me is so important after the traumas of the 90's. Dave was at his very best, he'd got the whole audience in

the palm of his hand, like the true Rock God he is. As a frontman, he cannot be beaten, but I think Martin could be giving him a run for his money if he doesn't watch out. It was great to see Martin out front so much, giving his personality a chance to show at last. The performance simply oozed energy

and enthusiasm, which I think was a little lacking on "The Singles Tour". I was overjoyed that two of my all time favourites "Halo" and "Black Celebration" were included in the set - tracks I never thought I'd hear live again. The encore of "Never Let Me Down Again" with the sea of waving arms never fails to move me to tears, especially this time as I just wanted the concert to go on and on. Incredible versions of "Enjoy The Silence" and "Dream On" and poignant solos by Martin made this a totally unforgettable night. Depeche Mode proved beyond a doubt that they are still the best in the business at delivering a knockout live show. When's the next tour?!?

Vicki Jarratt

Wednesfield, England

Dear Bong,

My name is Barbara and I am a happy subscriber of the Bong magazine. I am only sorry that I haven't subscribed before, but to be honest, my knowledge of the Bong magazine was very limited.

I guess I can call myself a fan of Depeche Mode. My elder brother "infected" me with their music when I was 8 or 9 years old - now I'm 26 and my only interest in the Band was simply for their music. I've never wanted to know where do they live, what do they eat, what is their size of underwear and things like that. Their music came always the first.

However, I can't describe how happy I was when I received the latest issue, and although my English is very poor I have read it from A to Z. When I found inside the interview CD and a Xmas card with the autographs I felt almost like in a heaven. It was such sort of a happiness when the teenager meets its idols in person. I felt like I really don't need anything else to be the happiest girl in the world. Once again thank you very, very

much and I'm waiting impatiently for the next issue.

Basia Pawlowska

Warsaw, Poland

Dear Bong,

Just letting you know about the recent Depeche night we had here in Dublin at the end of November 2001. It was a huge success with 500+ attending. The D-Mode went down a storm (again) using great visuals and perfect sound.

We printed special programmes for the night this time around. The band's own re-make of the "Enjoy The Silence" video went down really well and as a result of the work put into this show we were offered a chance to play "midnite@the olympia" on March 16th (St. Patricks w/end) at one of the top small live venues around 1000+. We are also starting to get some decent media coverage, so next one should be best yet!! Thanks for all the support we are getting from all of you and see you soon!!

Gary Paul

Dublin, Ireland

Dear Bong,

I've been meaning to share this experience with Bong readers since it happened, and I'm only getting round to it now. Back in February of last year, I started seeing my girlfriend, Karen. Very quickly, Karen was aware that I had another massive love in my life: Depeche Mode! Anyway, during the course of a conversation one night, Karen casually mentioned that her sister (Nicola) - who lives in San Francisco - had been to one of the gigs on "The Singles 86-98 Tour" and had been backstage due to the fact that Nicola's friend was a cousin "of a girl married to a guy in Depeche Mode"! Very quickly, we established this was in fact Fletch, and the cousin in question was Grainne, Fletch's wife.

One thing led to another, and before I knew it, we were on our way to San Francisco for the gig on August 3 at the Shoreline Amphitheatre. Following some passport problems, we arrived - after a 6,000-mile journey from Ireland - in San Francisco. On our arrival, we met the girl (Irene, Grainne's cousin) who was about to help me fulfil one of my lifetime ambitions: see Depeche in the States, and perhaps even meet the guys! I couldn't stop thanking her! Saturday couldn't come quick enough and very soon we were heading for the Shoreline. Having got there, we had a very anxious wait, as the ticket office did not have our passes. Irene made a call to Grainne and we had our passes - we were in! Well, what can I say about the gig?? Anyone who was there knows what I'm talking about - absolutely fantastic! I was on cloud nine the entire duration. My elation grew to dangerous levels, as after the gig, we went backstage. I literally couldn't take it in. Here I was, backstage following an amazing Depeche Mode gig in San Francisco, shaking hands with Fletch, and standing within touching distance of Martin. Unfortunately, Dave didn't make an appearance, although after his performance, I'm not surprised he hadn't the energy.

An incredible experience, which will stay with me forever, and for which I want to thank firstly my girlfriend Karen, Irene, who was a star, Nicola and Chris for inviting us, and lastly, Grainne. Also, I'd like to thank the guys for an incredible evening, and for providing me with inspiration, hope and happiness when I needed it most. Thank you Dave, Martin, Fletch and Alan, for the many special moments over the last fifteen years, and I just hope and pray that we have more to look forward to.

Alan Corbett

Bangor, N. Ireland

Scan by Maudy

Dear DM Fans!

As have I received a lot of questions from the Depeche Mode fan base about the MTV Best Fan Award, how it happened that I was nominated as most devoted fan and how it felt when I won it etc.? I would like to share this exciting experience with you. I want to let all the fans know that I'd like to dedicate this award to Depeche Mode fans all over the world, as they are the most faithful, the craziest, sometimes the most fanatic (Martin said) and the most honest fans I have ever known. This award is for all of us!

The following press release features most of the information on myself and my devotion, which was included in the entry form to win this award, plus some photos taken from that memorable night.

Claudia Borgwardt

how I won the best fan award



How DM Stole The MTV Europe Music Awards in Frankfurt (Nov 8, 2001) and what the other star guests had to say...

Andrea Corr (The Corrs): "I'm excited to see Depeche Mode...I love them."

Victoria Cabello (MTV VJ): "I saw the rehearsals (DM) and I think it's going to be a really amazing performance!"

REM: "We've got Blink 182 and Depeche Mode on our hallway...playing the Rolling Stones on the jukebox - it's pretty cool."

Joanne Colon (MTV VJ): "Depeche Mode really wanted to meet - I don't know who!!"

Blink 182: "Looking forward to seeing Depeche Mode."

Zane Lowe (MTV): "I love Depeche Mode."

Fran Healy (Travis): "I met Dave Gahan, he is so nice - he's so sweet..."

Ali G: "Tonight there will be over a billion people watching - well until Depeche Mode comes on!" (crowd response "Depeche Mode! Depeche Mode! Depeche Mode!")

Fred Durst (on receiving the Web Award): "I can't really believe what's happening. I think this award should probably go to Depeche Mode."

Ali G: "We should not forget how miserable, depressing and bleak things used to be just twenty years ago. Here to remind us is Depeche Mode!"

(Thanks to Emma Joice for providing us with the above details.)



The official press release

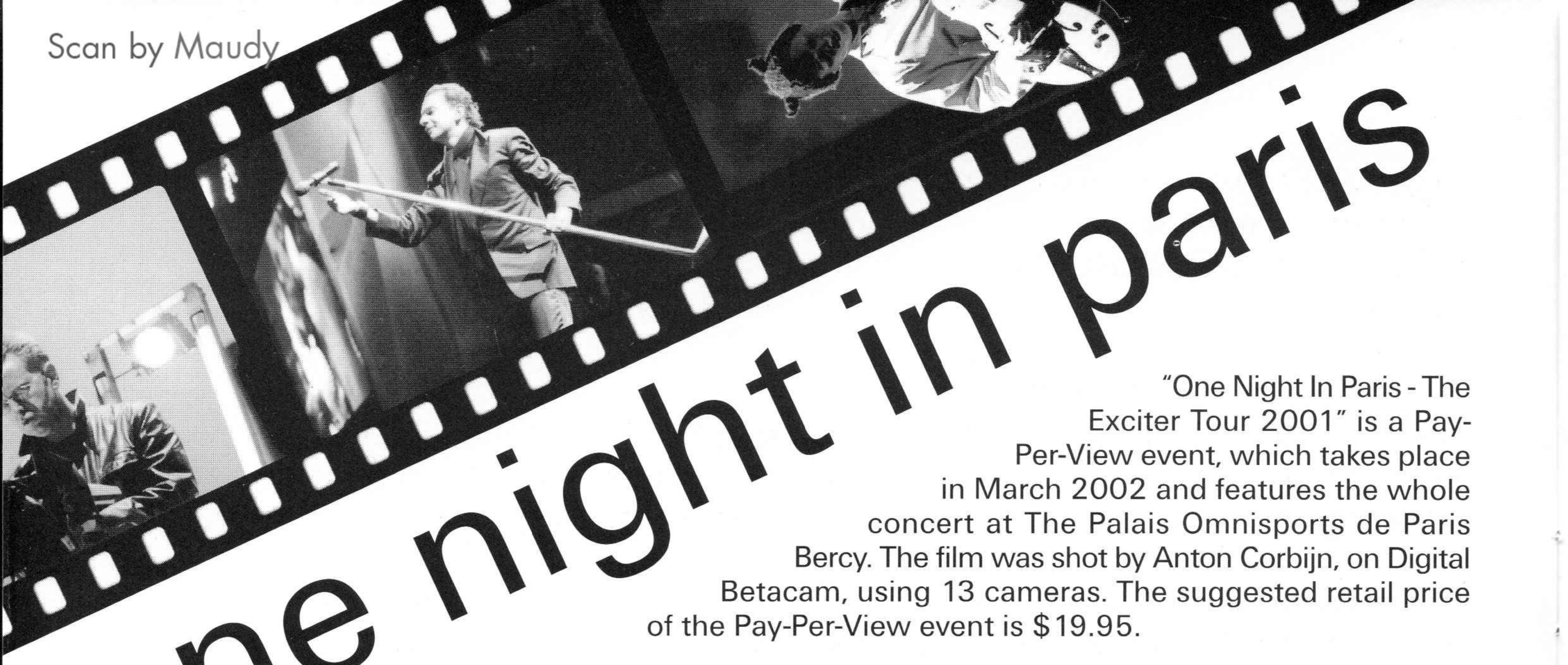
Germany Defeats the Rest of Europe and Walks Away with the Prestigious Carlsberg Best Fan Award

The winner of the prestigious Carlsberg Best Fan title was announced last night, at a glittering and star-studded event spectacular at Union Halle, Frankfurt. Thousands of entries from across Europe had been shortlisted to just five finalists, which were then judged by a panel of music industry experts. German fan Claudia Borgwardt won the unique award for her outstanding devotion to electronic keyboard masters, Depeche Mode. The award, in association with the MTV Europe Music Awards 2001, is the only one of its type that pays tribute to the fans, without whom the EMA would not be quite the same.

Claudia rose above the competition for her overwhelming passion for music idols Depeche Mode that began when she was just 12 years old. 30 year old Claudia, a self employed human resources consultant grew up in the then repressed East Berlin where she was unable to study or attend concerts of her beloved group. So at 18 years old she left her family and friends behind and fled her country alone. During this lonely and painful time Claudia's spirits were kept alive by the music and lyrics of Depeche Mode. The self-confessed star-struck fan is so devoted to the group she sports a Depeche Mode tattoo and is currently putting together a documentary on lead singer, David Gahan's life as a declaration of her love for him and the band.

Claudia lovingly accepted the Carlsberg Best Fan Award trophy in her home country of Germany during the amazing party at the magnificent Union Halle in Frankfurt. Sensational uberbabe Caprice presented the award ceremony to an audience of 1500 VIP guests. Joining Caprice were special guests including the world famous band Los Amigos Invisibles and one of Europe's best loved party stormers; Lazy Dog's DJ Jay Hannan.

Tickets were like gold dust for the event that was described as 'Probably the best pre-show awards party ever.' Carlsberg, the longest running sponsor of the MTV Europe Music Awards 2001 celebrated it's fourth year of the Carlsberg Best Fan Award during a week of fantastic music celebrations, it is the only award that pays tribute to fans of music.



one night in paris

"One Night In Paris - The Exciter Tour 2001" is a Pay-Per-View event, which takes place in March 2002 and features the whole concert at The Palais Omnisports de Paris Bercy. The film was shot by Anton Corbijn, on Digital Betacam, using 13 cameras. The suggested retail price of the Pay-Per-View event is \$19.95.

The time schedule of the Pay-Per-View broadcast is tentative and subject to change, so check the official web site at www.depechemode.com on regular basis for the latest details and development.

DirecTV (USA)

Premiere: March 8th, Channel 102 - 9 pm EST/6 pm PST
March 8th, Channel 102 - 11:30 pm EST/8:30 pm PST
All day ticket replays available for purchase on March 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 24th, 27th and 29th.

EchoStar (USA)

Premiere: March 8th - 9 pm EST/6 pm PST
Replay Event: March 8th - 11 pm EST/8 pm PST
March 9th - 6 pm EST/3 pm PST
March 12th - 5 am EST/2 am PST (ADDT)
March 15th - 5 am EST/2 am PST (ADDT)
March 16th - 10 pm EST/7 pm PST
March 21st - 5 am EST/2 am PST (ADDT)
March 22nd - 6 pm EST/3 pm PST
March 24th - 8 pm EST/5 pm PST
March 26th - 5 am EST/2 am PST (ADDT)

Note: ADDT is the "All day dish ticket". If you order the event anytime during the day, it will stay on all day until 5 am (EST) the next morning.

IN DEMAND (USA)

Premiere: March 8th, 2002 - 8 pm EST/5 pm PST
Replay Event iN1: March 8, 2002 - 12 am EST/9 pm PST
March 25, 2002 - 12 am EST/9 pm PST
Replay Event iN2: March 9, 2002 - 9 pm EST/6 pm PST
March 12, 2002 - 1 am EST/10 pm PST
March 13, 2002 - 9 pm EST/6 pm PST

TVN (USA)

Premiere: March 8th, - 9 pm EST/6 pm PST
Replay Event: March 8th, - 11 pm EST/8 pm PST
March 10th - 6:30 pm EST/3:30 pm PST
March 12th - 7 pm EST/4 pm PST
March 14th - 10:30 pm EST/7:30 pm PST

Viewer's Choice (CANADA)

Premiere: March 8th, - 8 pm (time zone unknown)
Replay Event: Times to be announced.
The suggested retail price of the Pay-Per-View event is \$19.95 (CDN). Check your local listing to confirm.

There are also some Depeche Mode TV specials planned in different countries during February and March featuring highlights from the "One Night In Paris" film by Anton Corbijn. The broadcasts, however, will not show the entire two-hour concert. The schedule of the DM TV Specials so far includes the following countries:

- Sweden - February 15th (SVT National TV)
- United Kingdom - February 20th (Channel 4)
- Australia - March 13th (Channel V)
- Switzerland - March 16th (SF2 National TV)
- Poland - March 16th (TVP1 National TV)



The official press release says...

...merging their artistic vision with onstage dynamism, the exclusive two-hour event, replaying through April 9, was directed by the pioneering band's long-time artistic accomplice Anton Corbijn at the sold-out Palais Omnisports de Paris Bercy in front of 16,000 wildly enthusiastic fans as part of their massive 2001 worldwide tour.

...Corbijn, who received a Grammy nomination for 1994's "Devotional" Depeche Mode concert film, shot the cutting-edge Paris show on anamorphic 16:9 Digital Betacam, using 13 cameras to achieve an incredible illustration of the band's intriguing and potent performance that gives viewers the sensation of actually being in the venue.

...the state-of-the-art location was chosen "because the venue itself is probably one of the best in the world," says Andy Fletcher. "We've played this venue many, many times, so for us it's almost like a second home in Paris." Noting the broad international audience in attendance, he says "Depeche Mode fans will travel from all over the world to see a concert in Paris."

Dave Gahan says that the captivating set list was chosen because "we couldn't have gone out and done another tour celebrating our past. It had to be something new. There aren't many bands that can actually say after 20 years that they're still trying to be creative." Reflects Fletcher: "As a band, we feel very lucky that our music these days, 20 years on, stands up with the music we played 20 years ago and everything since then. It's very gratifying for us to play new music in a concert that goes down as well as the classics."

..."As far as performing goes," says Gahan, "I enjoyed this tour more than any other before. I really felt it was the best we've ever played and that the musicians that were playing really brought new life to the older songs and the new songs from "Exciter". I was just floating out there." Citing the spontaneity of the Paris show, Gahan says that the inclusion of "Condemnation" was a last-minute decision. "We rehearsed it that evening before the show. You can see a real vulnerable side to the band on 'Condemnation.'"



one night in paris

dm/live

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dmlive.wiki

BOOTLEGS & DJ MIXES

First Night At The Arena**Format: CD****Origin: Unknown**

This was recorded from the soundboard at the Cologne show in 1998. The CD mentions Mute Records... so is this an official release? There are the following tracks: "A Question Of Time", "It's No Good", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Only When I Lose Myself", "Enjoy The Silence", "Personal Jesus", "Home", "I Feel You", plus three mixes available at the single releases. The sound is perfect and is just like a proper recording... I haven't had the chance to hear "OWILM" and "Home" live on CD before...so this recording wins points there. Also the versions of "Enjoy The Silence" and "Never Let Me Down Again" are really well done, thought the 2001 live versions were better. Dave seems to be enjoying himself and Martin sounds great on "Home" (still sends shivers down my spine that song). All in all a great CD. If you spot it buy it!! It's worth the money.

Coming Back To You**Format: CD****Origin: Unknown**

This is an interesting CD. It contains mixes and some live tracks from the KROQ acoustic show in Xmas 1998. It opens with "Coming Back To You", the Leonard Cohen tribute song that Martin contributed to the compilation album in 1995. The next five songs are remixes from "Violator" and "Ultra". The best are "Sister Of Night" (Triad Mix) and "Halo" (spelt Helo On The Slick 911 Re-remix). "Halo" especially is very much a 12" mix that sticks to the original song and doesn't mess with it. "Death's Door" (Ambient Mix - spelt Embient) is basically an instrumental version of the Jazz mix. "Useless" (Meddel Werx Mix) is OK...very ambient with a lot of the lyrics left out, but still quite listenable. It adds in the noise effect from the beginning of "Behind The Wheel". "Love Thieves" (Ripper Mix) is a bit boring...it has no vocals in it and adds some drum beats over the top of it...not very interesting. The live tracks are "Sister Of Night" (Acoustic) with Martin on vocals...very similar to what was heard this year, "A Question Of Lust" (Acoustic)... possibly the best version I've heard of this for a while. Very stripped back...works well. "Enjoy The Silence" (Acoustic)...now this is a great version...very tender and passionate. Dave is in fine voice and

carries it off well. Next is "Never Let Me Down Again" with Billy Corgan duetting. I'm sorry for Smashing Pumpkins fans, but he absolutely spoils the song. His vocals are quiet to start off with and he also sounds off key. I think Dave and Martin cover it quite well though!! Still, a great version... with different mixing again almost similar to this year's down and dirty version. The next two tracks are "Only When I Lose Myself" remixed by Aussie DJ Josh Abrahams. They are both good mixes...and I don't know why they didn't get released officially!! All in all a good CD...again if you see this it's worth your bucks.

Gavin Dwyer**Sydney, Australia****gavmode@hotmail.com****Exciter Tour (Berlin Sep 6, 2001)****Format: 2CD****Origin: Unknown**

This bootleg is a must have! It is a double CD recorded live on the second night in Berlin during the recent "Exciter Tour". The sound quality is the best I have known for a live bootleg and sounds like an official release! The cover is a scaled down "Exciter Tour" programme cover and features the entire DM set as well as the Fad Gadget set at the end - bargain? Well, it only cost £ 12 from the Wembley record CD fair! Martin's acoustic number is "Sister Of Night", "I Feel Loved" is performed and the emotional ultimate version of "Condemnation" replaces "Clean" in the encore. If you see this bootleg CD, buy it!

Duane Mayhew**Stowmarket, England****Written In The Stars****Format: CD****Origin: Germany**

This CD contains "It's No Good" performed live at TF1 London in 1997 and then "Barrel Of A Gun", "It's No Good", "Home" and "Useless" from the BBC Radio sessions in 1997. The CD concludes with nine songs recorded live at Cologne Arena in October 1998. The sound quality is pretty good.

Fast Fashion Vol. 3**Format: CD****Origin: Unknown**

This is a compilation of various DM mixes including: "Behind The Wheel" (Razormaid i-18 Mix), "Things Must Change" (tr 808 Mix),

"People Are People" (Razormaid), "Strangelove" (Narf-re-blinded), "Walking In My Shoes" (Grand Piano Mix), "New Dress" (Razormaid), "Personal Jesus" (Brat Mastermix), "Enjoy The Silence" (Razormaid), "Little 15" (Audio Science) and "I Feel You" (Dying Mix). All the remixes are quite good as well as the sound.

Stripped**Format: LP****Origin: Italy**

This is a picture record containing a live recording of the DM concert in Paris during the "Devotional Tour". There are ten tracks, each followed by a silence gap. The overall sound is medium and I paid 200 French francs for it.

Marie Regis**Gauchy, France****Emotion 2000 Remixes****Format: CD****Origin: USA**

This is a follow-up release to Ultra Rare Trax 6 which came out back in April 2000 and cost me 25 \$. The tracklisting is as follows: "Personal Jesus" (Reach Out 2000 Version), "The Things You Said" (Harmony Mix), "One Cares" (1994 Remix), "Behind The Wheel" (DJ 2000 Remix), "If You Want" (Extended PD Mix), "Fly On The Windscreen" (Unheard Mix), "Flexible" (Wilder Play Ground Mix), "Waiting For The Night" (Can You Feel Mix), "Master And Servant" (Dyslexic Integration), "Sacred" (Demo Version), "Monchi" (Unreleased Instrumental Demo Version), "Master And Servant" (Pre-Mix with Girls Back Vocals Version), "Stories Of Old" (Demo Version), "Shake The Disease" (ML Gore Vocal Demo Version), "Lie To Me" (ML Gore Vocal Demo Version).

Petko Pavlicic**St. Catharines, Canada**

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

Name:

Petko Pavlicic

Age:

29

Address:

St. Catharines, Canada



How long have you been a devotee?

Since 1986

How long have you been a member of Bong?

Since 1996

Your first Depeche Mode record?

"Black Celebration"

What type of memorabilia makes up your DM collection?

CDs (official/live bootlegs/DJ remixes), vinyl (mixes, 7", 12", interviews, picture discs), cassettes, videos, books, tour programs, pins, T-shirts, mugs, watches, hats...

How many items (approx.) make up your DM collection?

350+ (not including articles, photo's, posters, stickers and postcards)

Favourite items in your collection:

"The Singles 86>98" coffee mug (can't start my day without it!), lime green DM local crew T-shirt, "SOFAD" candle and incense burner

Top three songs:

"In Your Room", "Everything Counts", "Only When I Lose Myself"

Top three albums:

"SOFAD", "Black Celebration", "Ultra"

Top three videos:

"Enjoy The Silence", "Stripped", "World In My Eyes"

What was your favourite tour?

"The Singles Tour 86-98"

How many DM shows have you seen?

At least ten

What made you become a devotee?

"Stripped"

Have you seen the Band or their members in person?

No, but that doesn't mean I can't dream about meeting them in the future!!!

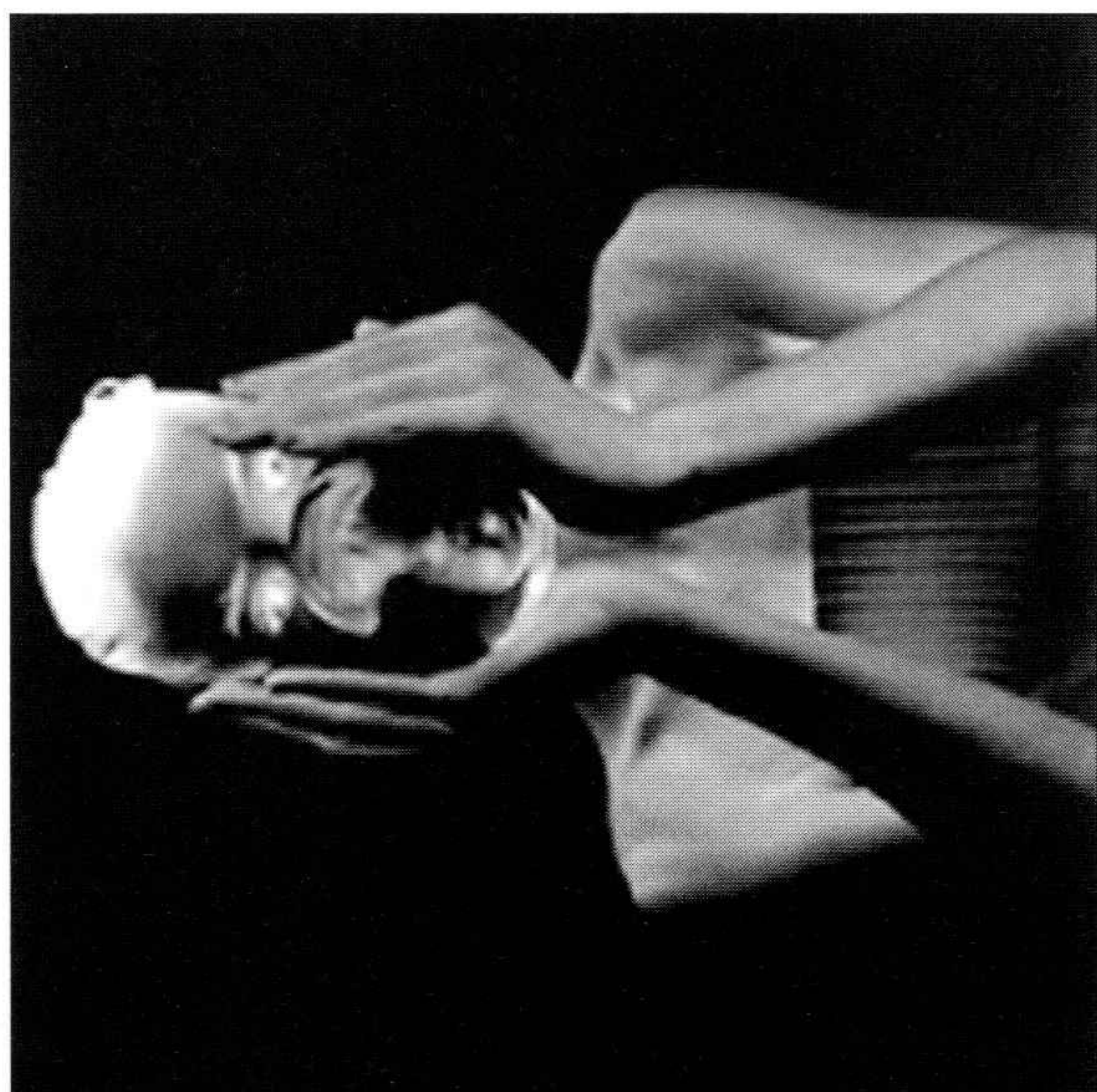
Your message to Depeche Mode:

Thank you for years of great music and I hope there are more years to come. Never lose yourselves, be who you are and give your devotees more reasons to be faithful to you and your music. Do a good job (as you always have), be above awards (which are just politics anyway), and always with people who understand you and value your work, as we, your fans do. Good luck, my dear friends. You are my friends for you've given me so much!

We are returning with this regular feature in which we would like to encourage everyone who has found love and passion in Depeche Mode, collected the memorabilia, and followed them throughout their career. Basically, we would like to hear from anyone who wants to share their devotion with the rest of us with words and photographs. Here are the categories to fill, but please don't forget to send us a photograph of yourself, including some snaps of your collection of memorabilia. Please note, that this is not a contest through which we are trying to find the biggest Depeche Mode fan, it would simply not be possible. The idea is to give a chance to everyone whoever feels he/she is the mega devotee. So speak up as each contribution printed in this section will receive a surprise gift from our office!

Mega Devotee File



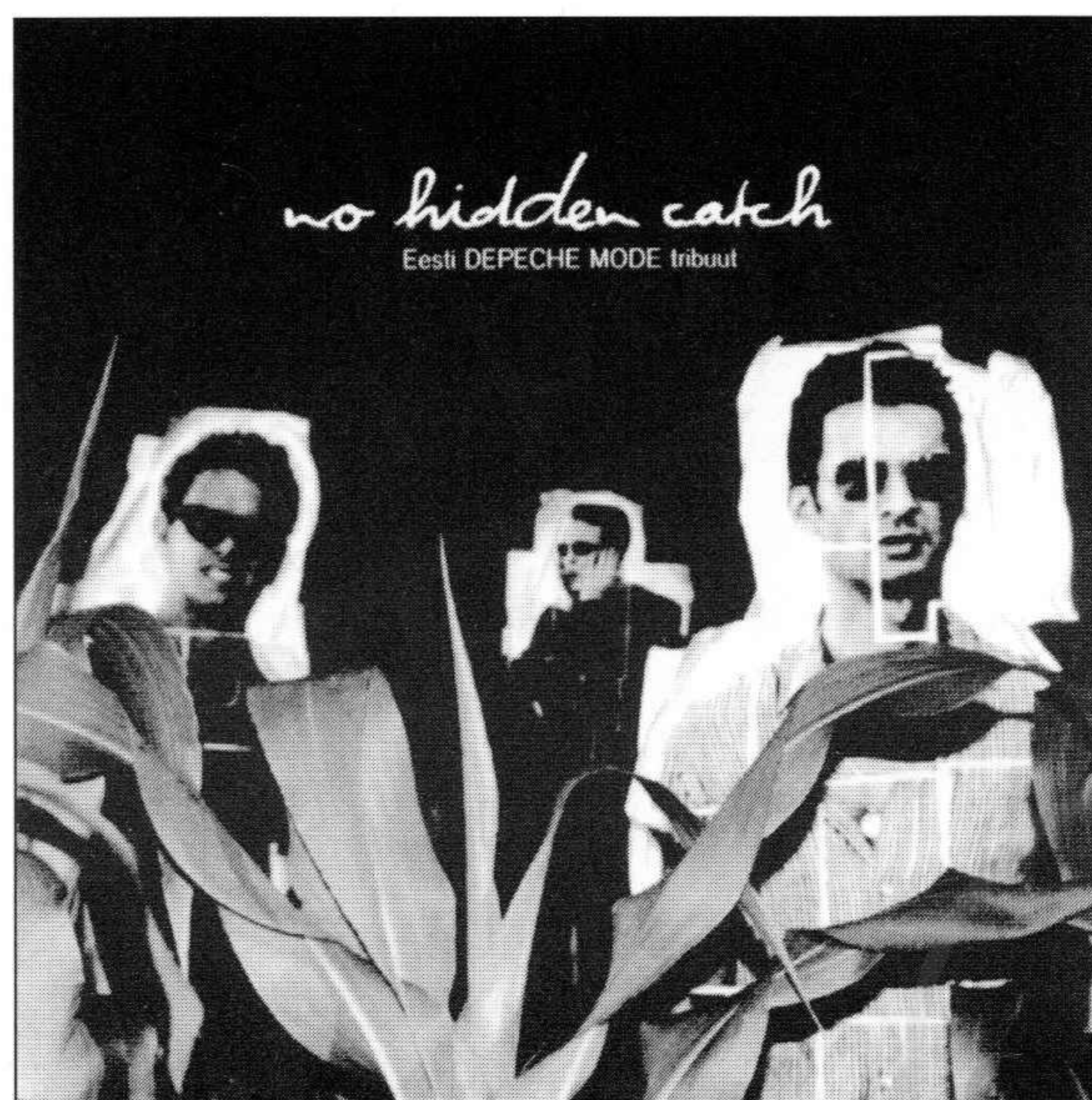


No Hidden Catch (Eesti Depeche Mode Tribuut)

Reviewed by Ilja Judeikin

A record label formed to release a Depeche Mode tribute? It's a reality which took shape in Estonia in 2001 where seventeen bands got together to record a tribute album courtesy of Kaleid Music. Whereas most other tributes chose to go the poppy way, this album is much more varied from guitar pop, triphop, over to doom metal covers. One of those guitar covers is delivered by Claire's Birthday with a very poppy version of "I Feel You" and by UMB who take their chance on "Dangerous". Not bad, though I have a bit of a problem with the voice. The same goes for the synthpop 'blue dabadee' cover of "Dreaming Of Me" by Una Bomba. My attention was immediately drawn by the triphop versions of "Little 15" by Highway and "Never Let Me Down Again" by Sumerki. They are definitely very original interpretations of these classic anthems. It's surprising to see that other tributes can't even reach this level, even not the so much hyped tribute album "For The Masses". Excellent work can be also found on Dallas' acoustic take of "Strangelove". The doomcover of "Master And Servant" by Ignorabimus is quite funny. I just can't imagine that these guys have seriously considered recording this cover, have a listen of 'let's play' part and you'll get what I mean. More convincing is "In Your Room" by Forgotten Sunrise that begs to press the replay button. Another surprise is Zorg who brings a very pumping cover of "Personal Jesus", it is ready to catch the dance floor by surprise for sure. Also noticeable is the guitar pop cover by Blind of "See You", Pedigree's "Get Right With Me" (I never liked the original, but this cover is just so dance-floor-minded, it begs for more!), Pia Fraus' "Condemnation" (Brilliant! This is lush pop and again brings a song I really disliked into a very attractive spotlight!) and the very Delerium-like "Blasphemous Rumours" by Cyclone B. All in all a compilation that is so much more mature than anything we have seen so far and that actually delivers creative and well crafted covers. Recommended to every Depeche Mode fan, although some of the tracks should have stayed out of the otherwise brilliant recording!!

For more details, contact: tribute@depechemode.ee



Tribute to Depeche Mode

Reviewed by Diego Sima

Seven months after the latest release from Depeche Mode "Exciter", Discos Sordos, the Argentinean record label has released "Tribute to Depeche Mode" (October 2001). It includes various bands and solo artists of different music styles from experimental (Folk, Pablo Reche, G. Lamas, Estupendo) and techno (Klauss & María Castel, Microesfera, Intima, Matías Barra) to rock music (Cineplexx, Rambal Galbes, Lochness, Tónico, Galería) and a classical music version performed by Farmacia.

For more details, contact: discos.sordos@mail.com

Folk - "In Your Memory"

Cineplexx - "I Feel You"

Klauss y Maria Castel - "Enjoy The Silence"

Rambal Galbes - "The Love Thieves"

Microesfera - "Just Can't Get Enough"

Lochness - "See You"

Gustavo Lamas - "Pipeline"

Galeria - "It's No Good"

Intima - "World In My Eyes"

Matias Barra - "A Question Of Time"

Rambal Galbes - "Walking In My Shoes"

Farmacia - "I Want You Now" (solo piano)

Estupendo - "Dangerous" (pericoloso: give me my vote)

Tonico - "Tomorrow's Dance"

Pablo Reche - "Agent Orange"

CLASSIFIED

I am selling my DM collection of CD's, videos, photos, postcards, books, etc. Please send one I.R.C. or Spanish stamps for details to: Mar Jiménez, c/Angosta Del Carmen, 15, 4A, 29002 Malaga, Spain.

I would like to buy or swap nice pictures from the "Exciter Tour" on & off stage. No crappy pictures, please! Also I have the following for trade or sale: "Dream On" RCD BONG 30 LC5834, "Dream On" PM 357 (CD), "Dream On" Maxi CD, "See You"/"Now This Is Fun" 7", "Enjoy

The Silence"/"Memphisto" 7", "Behind The Wheel"/"Route 66" 7", "The Singles 86>98" Numbered Ltd Edition on triple vinyl & deluxe 8 page book. I am desperately looking for "Music For The Masses " Tour Program in a mint condition. Please get back to me at: Whamblamdust@aol.com

Wanted: TV appearances/performances/interviews on video from the "Exciter" period. Also interested in some older stuff in the same formats. All in

reasonable prices, please! Send your mail to: magnusdunberg@hotmail.com or write to: Magnus Dunberg, Vasag.7g, 36070 Lseda, Sweden.

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

PEN PALS

Matt Wagener
11 Castleford Rise
Moreton
Wirral
CH46 3SP
Great Britain
e-mail: mdwagener@hotmail.com

Hi! I have been a fan since 1983 and am interested in hearing from any Mode fans by post or e-mail. Please feel free to get in touch.

Laura Randle
8 Woods End
Lincoln Road
Dunholme, Lincs
LM2 3FT
Great Britain

Hi Devotees! I'm a 17 year old girl who just moved from Canada to the UK. I'm looking to get in touch with any Depeche Mode fans from all over the world, but the UK in particular. I'm also into bands such as Bon Jovi, Duran Duran and U2. Hope to hear from you soon!

Abby Smith
1 Ferndale Rd
Northville
Bristol
B57 0RP
Great Britain

Hi! I'm 27 and looking for pen pals in the UK, especially Bristol area (there must be someone out there!). I also like

Erasure, The Cure and horror films/books. Hope to hear from you soon!

Susy Barona
Via Valeriana 89
23015 Dubino - Sondrio
Italy

Oh, I need your tenderness/Oh, I need your touch...Please make me feel loved! Let me see the world in your eyes/And I will get you lost in the emptiness of my soul...I am talking to you now! Boys and girls believe in Martin's poetry. I am a normal 23 year old fan.

Thomas Moore
101 Sylvan Ave.
Apt. #40
Miller Place
NY 11764
USA

Hello! I am 30 years old and Depeche mode has been my life since 1989. DM is everything I live for, and I'd love to show you the world in my eyes. I also like listening to Recoil, Yazoo, Barry Adamson, Can and New Order. I'd really love to hear from other DM fans Worldwide. Let me hear you speaking just for me!

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".

CONTACTS

Thank you Tony B. for making the Saturday in Manchester very "Exciting" for those fans who followed from the concert to the after party. The music and videos were great and visitors from Dublin had a great time, even though the bar closed too early!!! Although a few heads on the train to Birmingham the next day seemed to have had their fill...see you again soon! Leo

Were you at the Depeche Mode Bar in Tallinn, Estonia on the night of August 27, 2001? We are two English sisters who were there, but our photos have turned out badly! If you have any good photos of Mart and Fletch taken on that night, please get in touch! We would love some copies. Contact Michelle and Nicki at 14 Bracken Road, Leigh, Lancs, WN7 4XA, England.

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".



Photos by Gary Lornie

I MET THAT BLOKE FROM DEPECHE MODE ONCE

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

I would like to write a few lines about the so-called "most beautiful day in my life" - the day I met Depeche Mode. Yes, I really had a chance to make the dream come true for all fans of any star. After the second concert Depeche Mode played in Berlin on September 18th, 1998, I was actually planning to celebrate this great event at an after-concert-party but I was almost dead of exhaustion...waiting for many hours and standing in the very first row during both of the gigs. I heard about the hotel Depeche Mode were supposed to stay in, I decided to give it a try and go there. When I reached the hotel I was almost asleep but woke up totally in a few seconds as I noticed a small crowd of journalists waiting by the entrance. Although the journalist didn't go inside, I decided to go straight in to the bar. Before entering the bar, I was warned by some bodyguards not to take any photos, but I didn't care as I couldn't believe what was happening. Then I spotted Fletch leaving the bar to go to the toilet and while he passed by he must have recognised a fan in me. So he came to me, shook my hand and said: "Hey, you were in the front, weren't you?" and smiled. I don't now what or why I did it but I went into the bar where I discovered Martin. I quickly asked him to take a picture with me and he agreed. I spent the most of that night on the bar next to Martin and Fletch drinking and laughing. Martin was grinning when ordering a lot of "weizenbier" and when he went up to his room to get some sleep he came to shake hands with us and to say good night. A good night is not really what I had as I could not sleep at all and still had to think at what had just happened. For a few minutes I dreamt my dream again and that is what remained: a dream. Now, after two and a half years, it is still something I cannot believe: a dream. But this is what Depeche Mode try to tell us..."Dream On", isn't it?

Eileen Becker

Berlin, Germany

I cannot really find the words to describe what I experienced a few years ago when I went to Hamburg with three of my friends, my partner Mario and my little daughter Marlana, who was 13 months old at the time. We went to see our favourite band while they stayed in town to give a press conference. We met the guys first at the airport and they were all very nice and extremely friendly. Fletch greeted my



daughter straight away saying, "Hello, baby!" then Martin stopped by to tickle her a little. Dave seemed very protective of her making sure no one was pushing when he said to me: "Take care of the baby." We gave him a toy for his daughter and told him that "Goodnight Lovers" was a very good bedtime song for Marlana. He then thanked us several times. We were lucky to stay at the same hotel as the band members and spent a really great time with them at the bar. The next day was also unforgettable as you don't often get to see Dave in his jogging suit or Jonathan Kessler rushing through the hotel in his bathrobe. On the day of the press conference, my family and I wanted to say good-bye to Dave, and to our surprise he said he had a little gift for our daughter. It was a very sweet teddy bear, which he had taken down from his room. When my daughter opened the present later on, she said "teddy" for the first time. I would like to thank all those who made this dream come true and a special "thank you" to Torsten Balzer who filmed and photographed everything for us. I wish every fan who has the same dream, could experience the same without feeling jealous of me!!

Anke Levien

Berlin, Germany

dm/live

Freely provided by DM Live
dmlive.wiki

This letter may seem a little late, date wise...but I want to share with you my account of the Madrid concert on October 14, 2001.

I flew out of Liverpool very early morning 13th October, full of excitement for two very good reasons. I was going to see the best band in the world for the first time and on top of that, the concert was being played on my 21st birthday, which was to make it the best present ever. I bought the tickets off the Internet on the 12th April and had been waiting in anticipation for this time to come.

I spent the 13th wandering around Madrid with my sister who came with me, getting my bearings, and to my amazement there were no posters anywhere, advertising the fact that Depeche Mode were to be playing here. This struck me as very odd, because in England posters cover the venue and neighbouring districts advertising the fact a concert is taking place.

On the 14th October, I turned 21, and was bursting with excitement because I knew I was going to have a fantastic time. We set off from Sol, the central area of Madrid, and were given directions to take the metro to Atocha, where we were supposed to get two different buses, but we decided to take a taxi because it was a part of Madrid we didn't have a map for. The taxi driver knew we had no idea where we were going and so ripped us off charging us nearly £ 12. We arrived in Leganes at La Cubierta Bullring at 8pm thinking that we were only a few minutes late for the support band, but there was an eerie silence and only two posters on the actual bullring for Depeche Mode. The first time I had seen advertising for the concert! These posters mentioned a different venue and there was no one around to tell us what was going on. I popped into the bar at La Cubierta Bullring to ask, and was told that a lot of people have been in asking about

nearly (not) **EXCITING** tour

the concert but that she did not know where it was. I ended up phoning BBVA tickets whose phone number was on the bottom of the poster, and they managed to tell me that the venue had been changed, and that this only happened a week ago. I panicked then because we were two females stuck in the middle of nowhere on our own, with no map of the area, and no idea which way to start walking to get to Palacio De Vistalegre and even worse, I thought that after travelling from England to Spain to see Depeche Mode I was going to miss out. Luckily, we met a bloke from Stoke who had been to see DM in Barcelona the previous night so at least we had some male company for safety, and besides, he was in the same predicament as we were. Also according to what the lady behind the bar said, quite a few people were in the dark about the venue.

It took a good half an hour of roaming around the area to find a taxi, which we did by chance, even the driver wasn't sure of the location of Vistalegre, but we eventually managed to get ourselves on en route from Leganes to the new venue. By the time we arrived at Palacio De Vistalegre it was roughly 8.45pm and we had missed the support act completely, it was another 10 minutes before we were allowed our tickets because of the BBVA policy that the credit card holder and purchaser had to be the one to pick up the tickets, but they were a present for my birthday off my mum and so she wasn't there for collection. Finally, at 8.58pm we were inside the venue, which was bursting with people so much so, we ended up more or less behind the stage, with nothing but



scaffolding for a view, only managing to see Dave and Martin when they moved to the far end on the stage or when Dave stood on the speakers at the centre on the stage.

As soon as the music began everything changed, the atmosphere was electric and everything that had happened that evening had to be pushed aside. As I saw Dave Gahan for the first time and heard him sing, live, I felt an enormous rush of energy go through my body. It was so powerful it brought tears to my eyes. The most meaningful song of the night, as it is my absolute favourite was "Enjoy The Silence". As soon as I heard the introduction I was full of emotion and the rest of the crowd's reaction reflected it. It was only when the concert finished I realised what a huge cock-up the whole thing was and that we were in the middle of nowhere with no idea of how to get back to Sol. It took one 10 minute bus ride to get home, so instead of going from Sol to Atocha to Leganes and then on the Vistalegre, we could have in fact used the bus from Sol straight to the venue, if we had known.

It was only when I got home to England and back on the computer on Thursday 18th and went on the Depeche Mode web site, I found a two line sentence about the change of venue, which was posted in the 10th. I then checked my e-mails and found the same message half way down the page of a DM updated mail, which I received on the 10th October - it wasn't even top priority on the update. It was only by chance that I got the update, because I signed up on the mailing list. What would have happened if people were not on the mailing list? How would they have found out?

I was disappointed with the fact that the venue changed with only one weeks' notice. This one weeks' notice meant that it was known by the 7th and it was only posted by the 10th, leaving people like myself who do not have over frequent

nearby (not) EXCITING tour

access to the Internet travelling abroad without this knowledge. This almost spoilt my birthday, as it was the only reason for being in Madrid. The basic point is lack of organisation and communication, no advertising in the town centre with posters and an e-mail that I got by chance, which mentioned the move half way down its page. Why was this information only posted on the 10th when I was told by BBV, when I phoned them that night that this knowledge was around on the 7th? You did not give enough warning time and it should have been announced as soon as it was known. Even the tickets still stated La Cubierta Bullring!!

I know this may sound like a letter full of complaint but the sad fact is I just wanted to have a great time for my 21st and see my favourite band for the first time. I nearly ended up with nothing, and to top it off, due to wasted taxi money to the wrong venue I only had enough money to get a programme. I know the Mode are too busy to sign things, facing a screaming mob is probably the last thing they need after performing with the energy and soul that they did. I just wish I could have seen them close up and got a birthday message on my programme, no such luck though...I never even got any photos from the concert, because of the scaffolding holding the stage being in the line of view.

I sign off saying "thank you" for the memorable night, only I want the next time to be 100% more than this time...

**Karen Houston
Chorley, England**

BLASPHEMOUS RUMOURS

Personal Life

"I feel so proud of my son, Jack, and when I go home (to New York) my stepson throws his arms around me and my little baby daughter gives me that little look - that's what it's all about. It sounds soppy but I really feel loved. I'm working on myself; I'm still very distrusting and stuff but I get these massive moments when it's just like absolute bliss."

**Dave Gahan, Time Out, UK
(April 4-11, 2001)**

Exciter Tour

"Depeche Mode's gigs are always emotional experiences, draining on the senses. Audience's don't get away lightly. Gahan makes great demands on his public and they respond unfailingly - his charm and presence have even the most sceptical critics eating out of his hands."

**Louise Stickland, Live
(December 2001)**

Young Acts

(Linkin Park, Deftones...)

"They are what today is considered alternative but to me are anything but. They all sound the same and are now part of the mainstream, something alternative music wasn't supposed to be about."

**Martin Gore, Music Week
(March 31, 2001)**

Tour Planning

"The band and their management are a great example of an organisation with a clear vision of what they want to accomplish on any given tour. This makes the agencies objectives more defined and specific, and speeds up the process of tour co-ordination."

**The US agent Carol Kinzel, Audience
(November 2001)**

When The Body Speaks

"'When The Body Speaks' was recorded in Electric Lady in New York, in an intimate live room where Jimmy the studio cat sleeps. I got Martin and Dave to just play together without headphones and enjoy the song. The results were really beautiful - the innocent guitar line with the 'knowing' lyrics and Dave's feeling - I love it! All the beats and sounds just followed the route."

**Mark Bell, Keyboard
(May 2001)**

Exciter Tour

"Depeche Mode - as band and production - has proved to be world leaders in the art of live performance - replete with visual, sonic, sensual and emotional thrills and real human sweat and feelings."

**Audience
(November 2001)**

Considering the fact that not all of us can get hold of every newspaper and magazine that contain 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, radio and Internet. 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.

Goodnight Lovers

"Still think they were better before Dave Gahan went all beardy leather fucked-up rock star on us, but this wispy electro doo-wop ballad is refreshingly ego-less."

**Manish Agarwal, Time Out, UK
(February 9, 2002)**

Goodnight Lovers

"'Goodnight Lovers' is a ballad that makes sense. It's a big hit because it's the Mode, and it's a classic because it's been written by Martin Gore. Buy it!"

**Karl Hainer, www.bbc.co.uk
(February 2002)**

Exciter Tour

"It's a constantly fluid phenomenon - always unique, never predictable. Distinctive stage visuals have always been a Depeche Mode trademark. Anton Corbijn has designed their shows since 1989, as well as producing the precise, detailed films and moving images that are stitched into the show. It is a truly integrated mixed media performance - people, music, film, lighting and sound. Corbijn's ability to imagine and frame pictures - static or motion - is an essential and defining aesthetic of the show."

**Louise Stickland, Live
(December 2001)**

Exciter Tour

"Depeche Mode's latest tour confirms them to be one of the most visually exciting live bands currently plying their trade in the worlds' arenas."

**Louise Stickland, Live
(December 2001)**

Father vs. son

"I am having terrible trouble with him at the moment. You've never seen brainwashing like it. Since he was one week old I've pushed Chelsea at Joe and now he's trying to tell me he supports Arsenal. It all started in a restaurant in St. Johns Wood, The chef, who he really likes, told him Chelsea were rubbish, and so he's tried to go over to Arsenal. Four weeks ago he came to me and said, 'Daddy, I'm not a Chelsea fan anymore. I want to support Arsenal. 'I thought, Fair enough, I'll wait my time he'll come around. The other day I said to him, 'Look Joe, if you want to become an Arsenal fan then that's up to you, but Megan (my daughter) and mummy are going to watch Chelsea on Saturday. Because you're an Arsenal fan you can't really go now. It's not really on is it?' And he told me he was a Chelsea fan, so I'm quite relieved. I'm worried about how long it will last, though."

**Fletch, FourFourTwo
(July 2001)**

Goodnight Lovers

"You have to wonder quite what is occurring in Depeche Mode's communal head when something like this is released as a single. Possibly a thought along the lines of, 'Bugger me! We're cool again because we - or more likely our product manager - commissioned Danny Tenaglia to do a remix of one of our singles and it turned out to be the best thing that had happened to us in years. Shall we release a ballad with no tune and none of those blip-swish noises like what 'Enjoy The Silence' had on it? What a brilliant idea! Perhaps not, but y'know, the evidence is all here..."

**Peter Robinson, NME, UK
(February 9, 2002)**

Goodnight Lovers

"Almost as much a prayer as a track, 'Goodnight Lovers' is a resolutely calm and reflective mesh of atmospherics, the embryonic incarnation subtly mirrored in rock and roll survivor Dave Gahan's gentle vocal lilt. Elsewhere, amid the deep, soothing vocal mix, chiming electronic flourishes resonate to the close. Nothing very much happens, but then, as some people in this business could do with learning, less is often more."

**Ben Gilbert, www.dotmusic.com
(January 2002)**

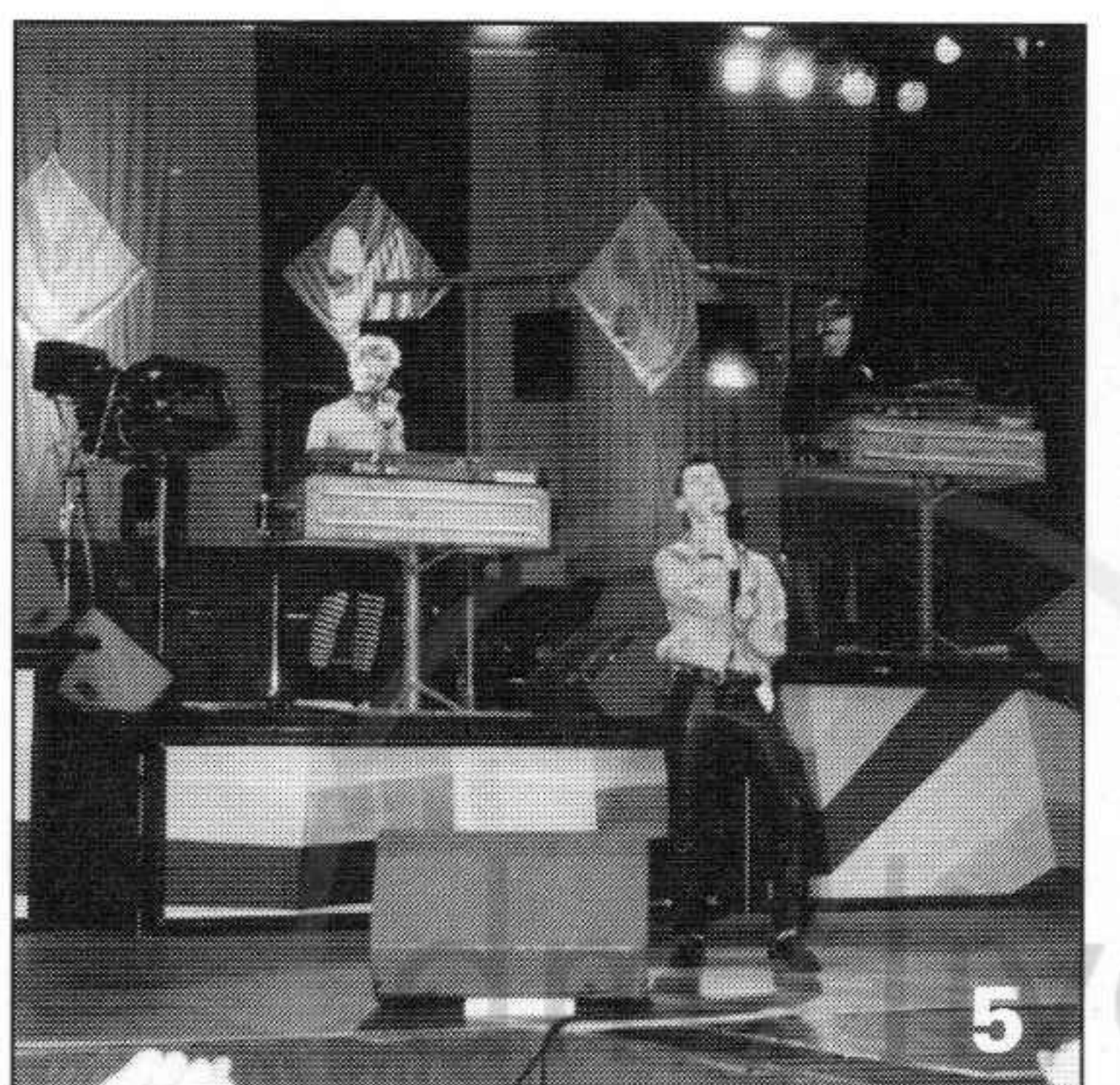
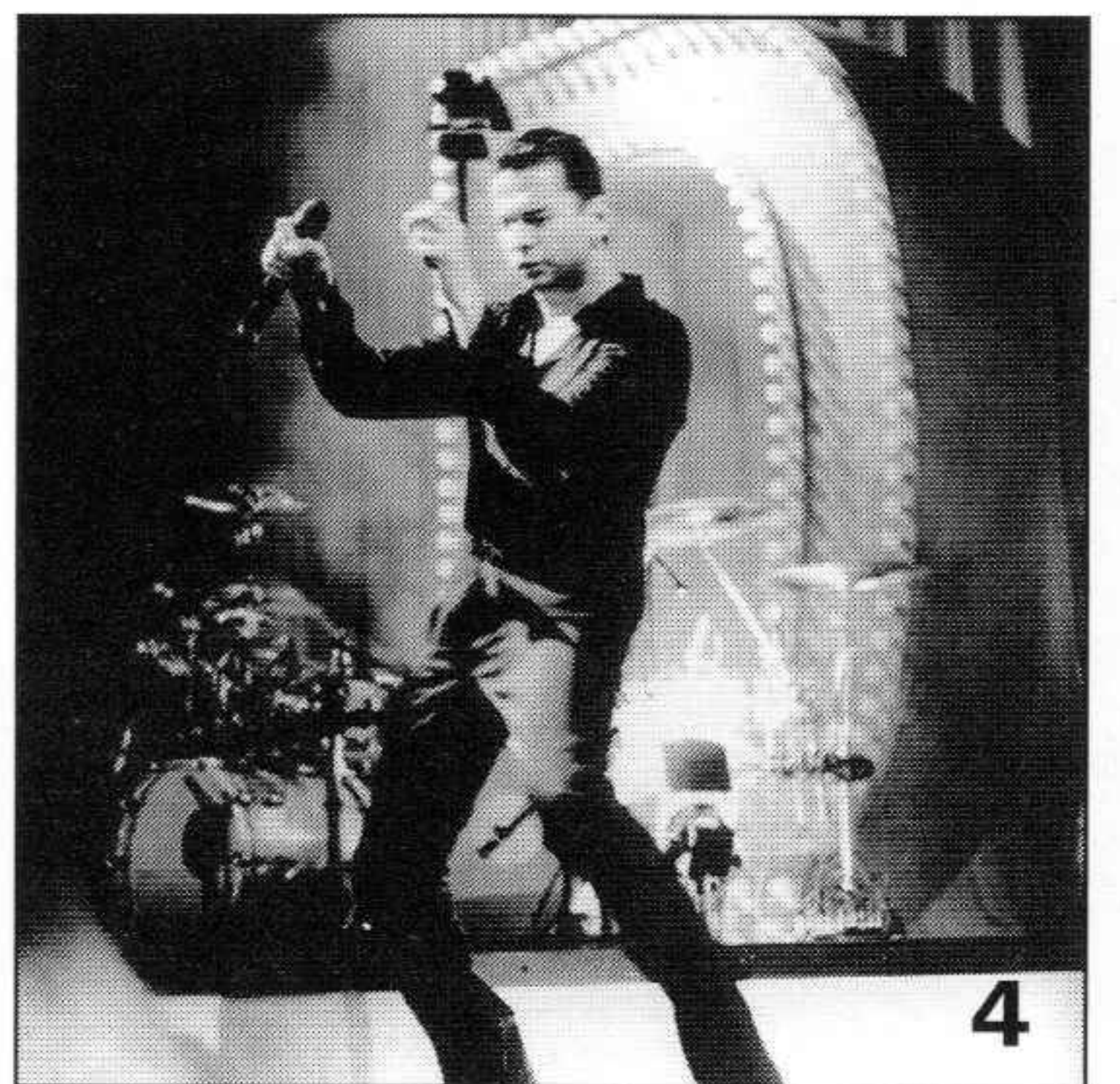
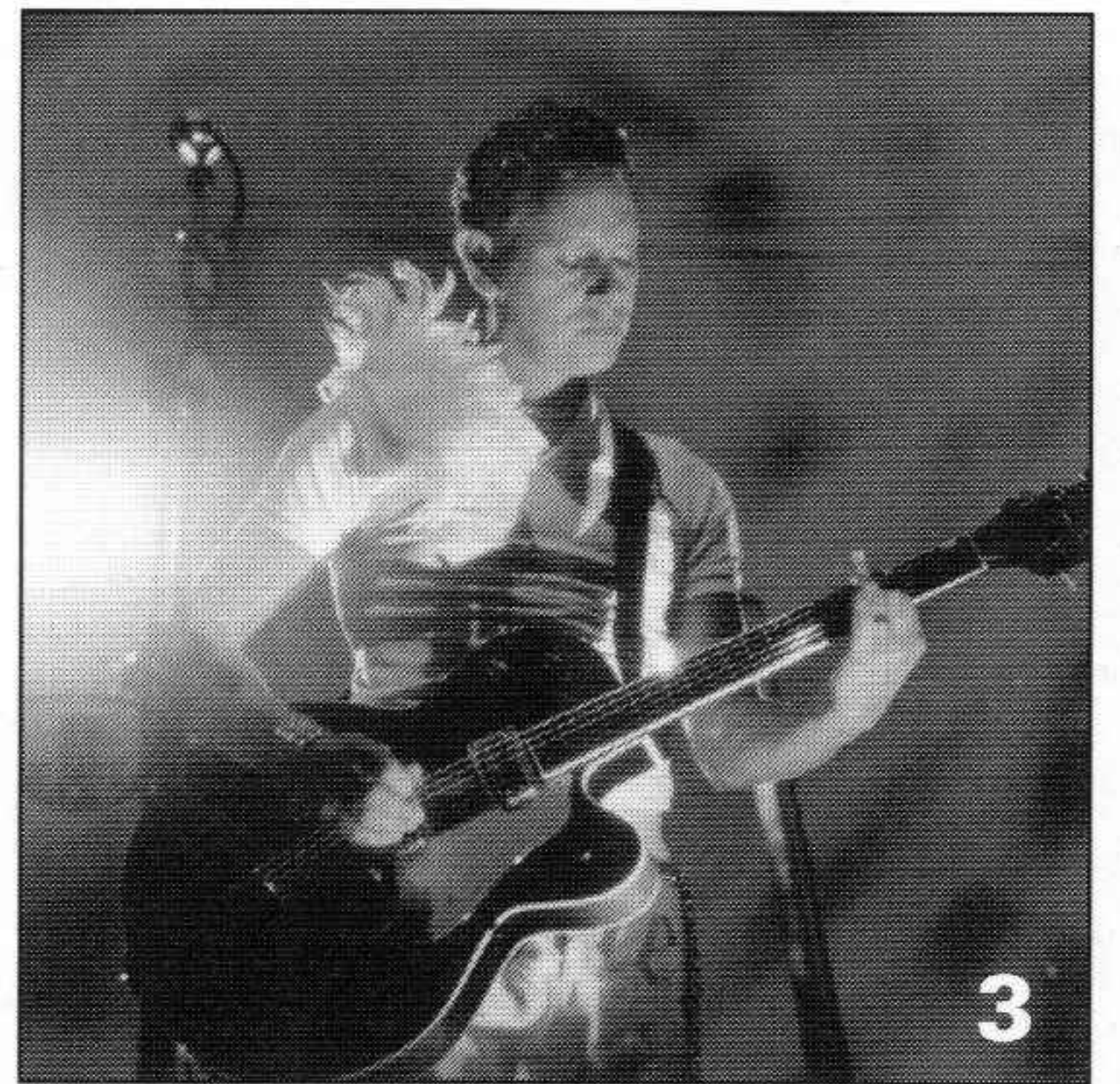
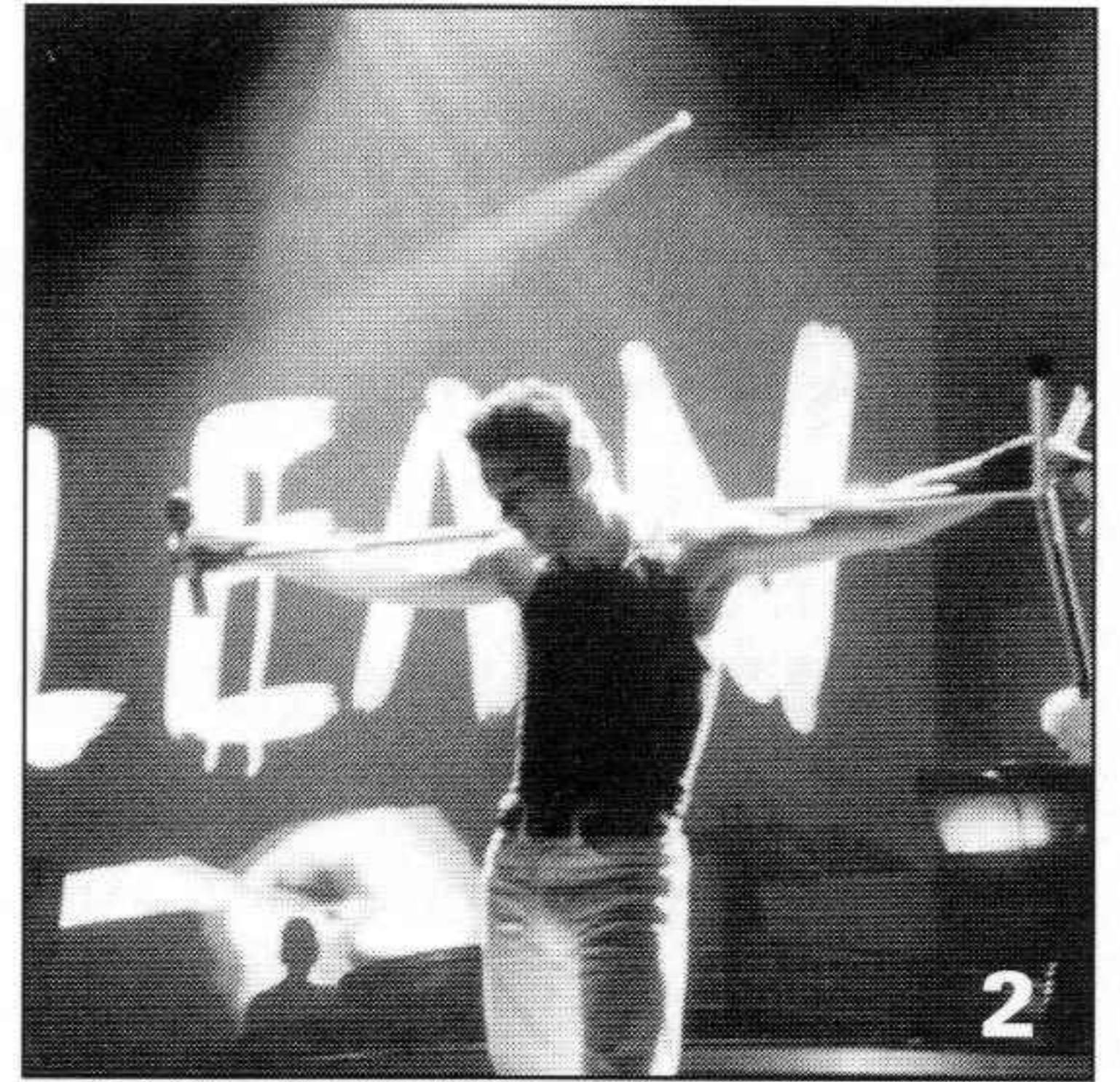
COMPETITION TIME AGAIN

Judging from various letters we have received over the last few months, this was one of your favourite features within the magazine.

It is Competition Time Again and a last chance for you to demonstrate your knowledge of Depeche Mode's history and to win something special - this time we'll be concentrating on their World Tours. It is quite easy!

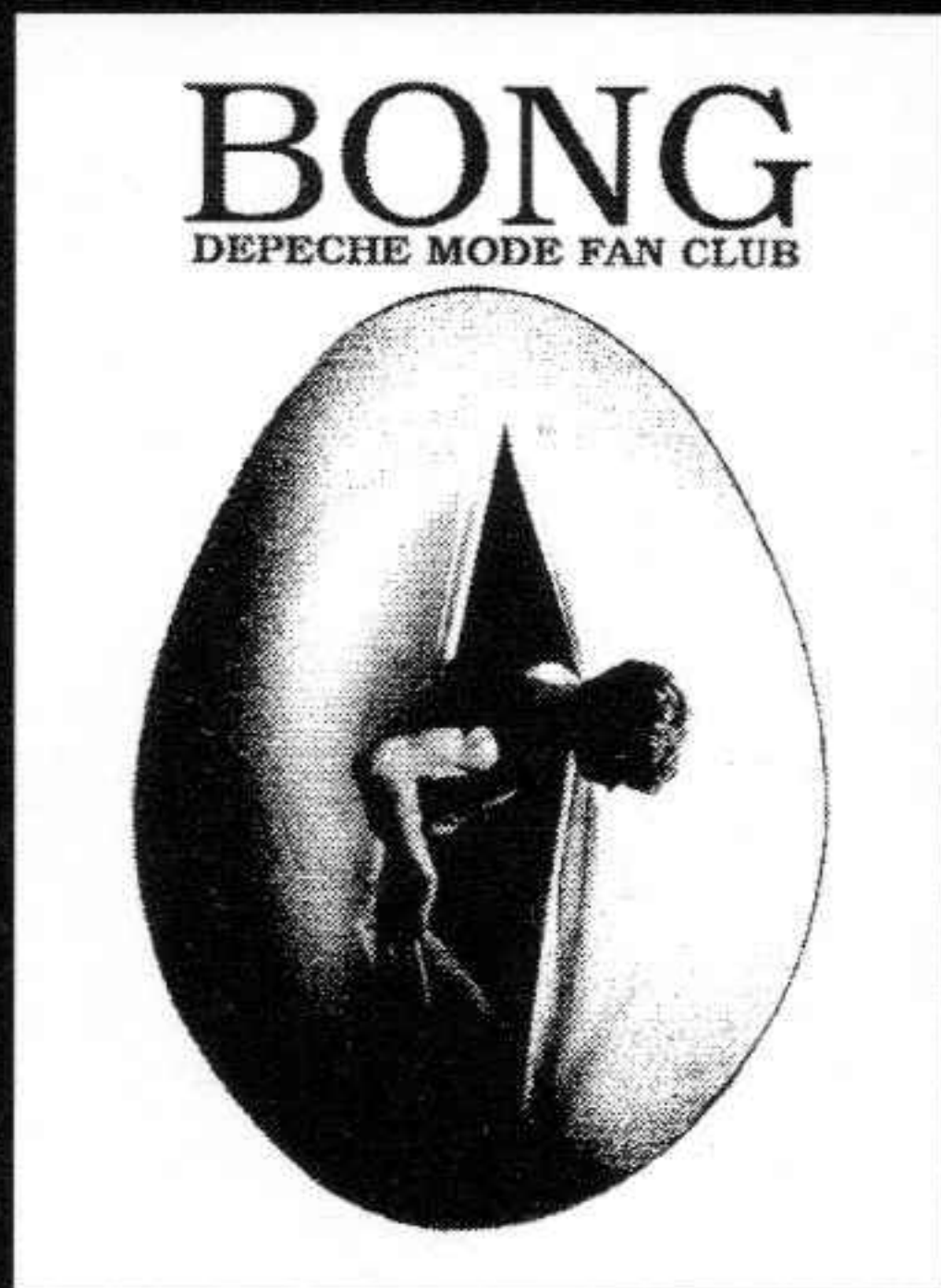
We have selected images from five different tours and provided them with numbers each matching one line in the puzzle. You have to complete the lines with the official names of the world tours to get the title of the song. The winner will be picked at random and will receive a promo CD of one of the "Exciter" singles. So send us your answer to the usual Bong address or e-mail: flexible@volny.cz by the middle of April 2002. Good luck!

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____



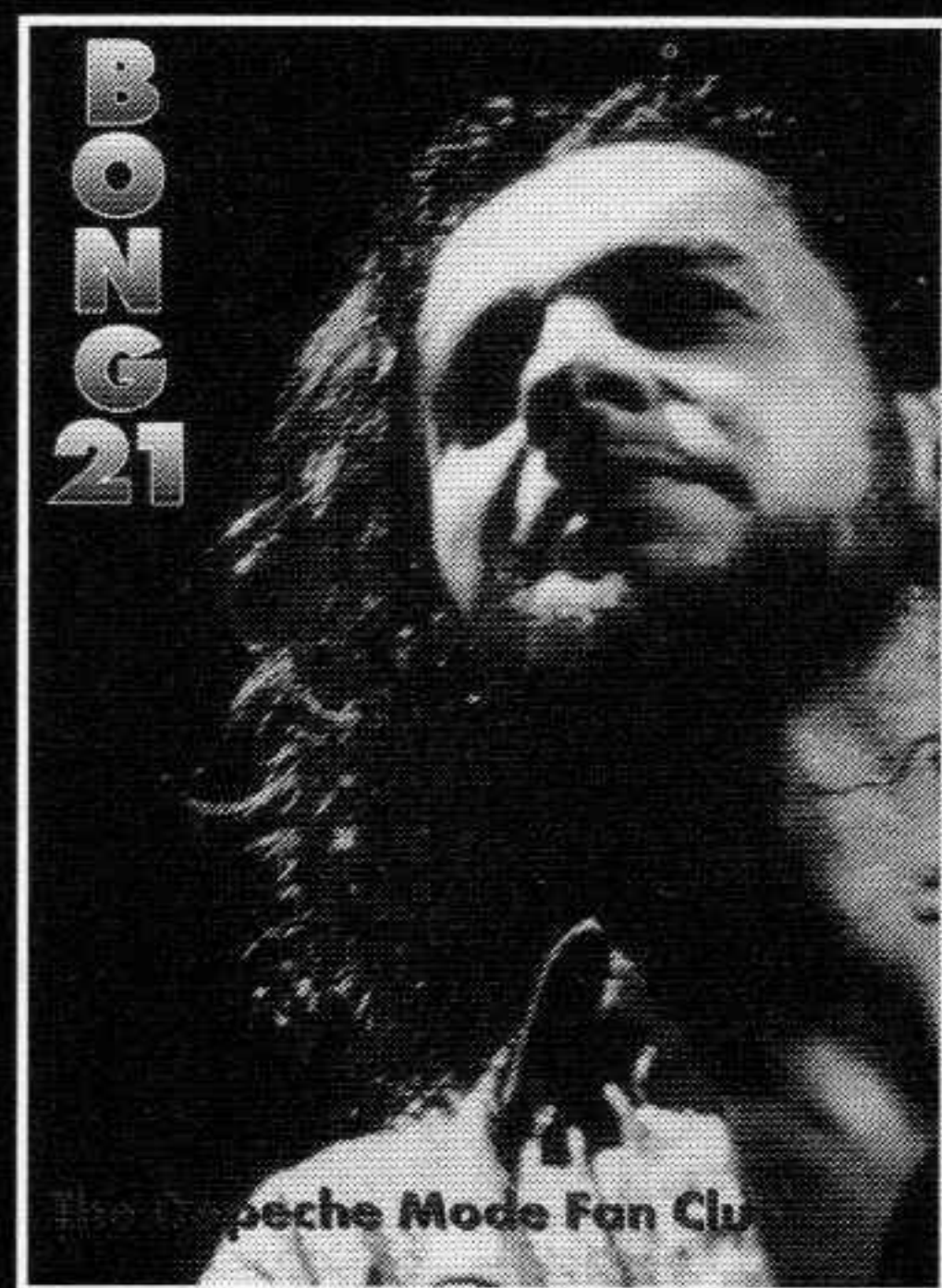


BONG 14



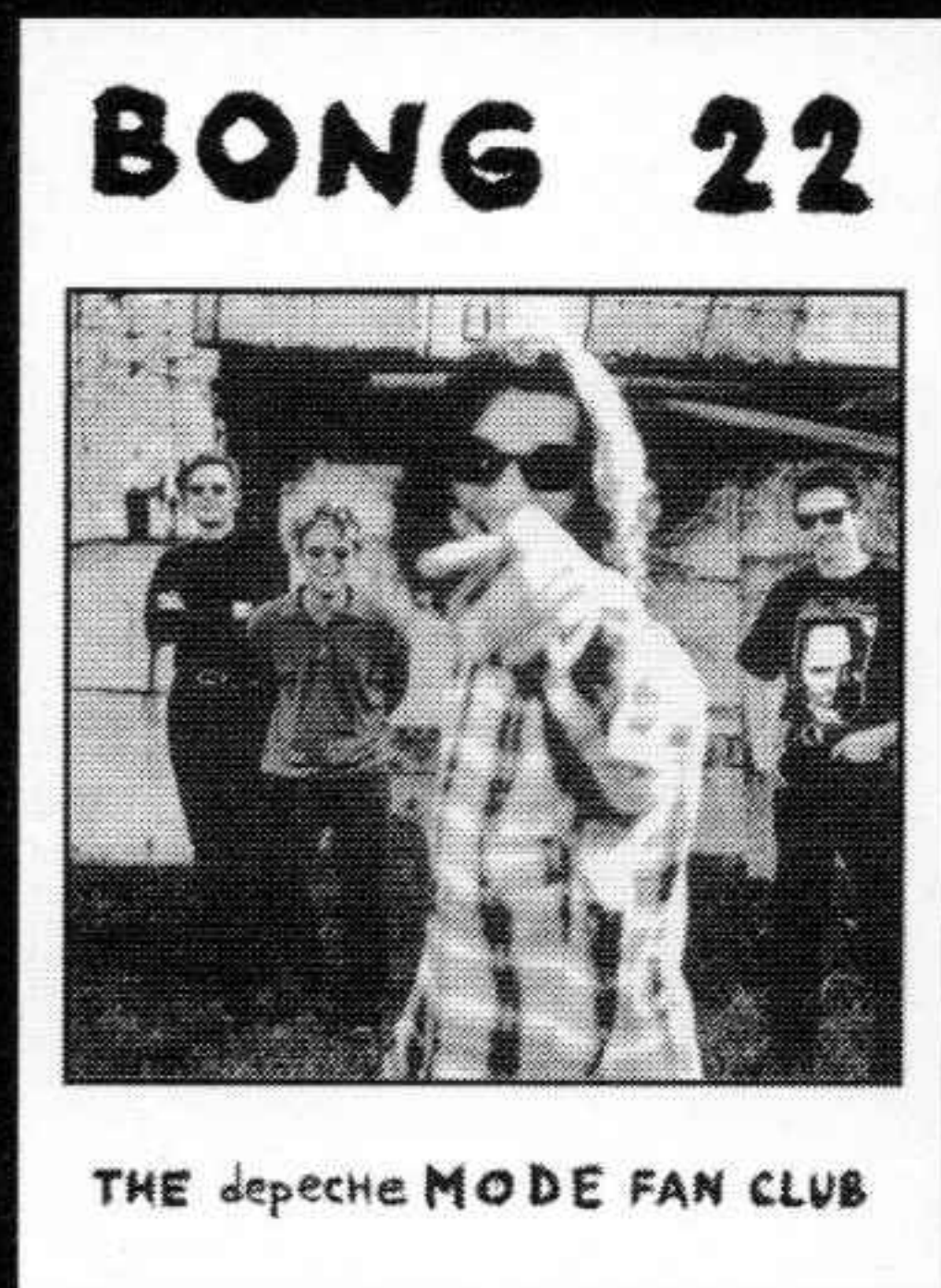
A4, b/w

BONG 21



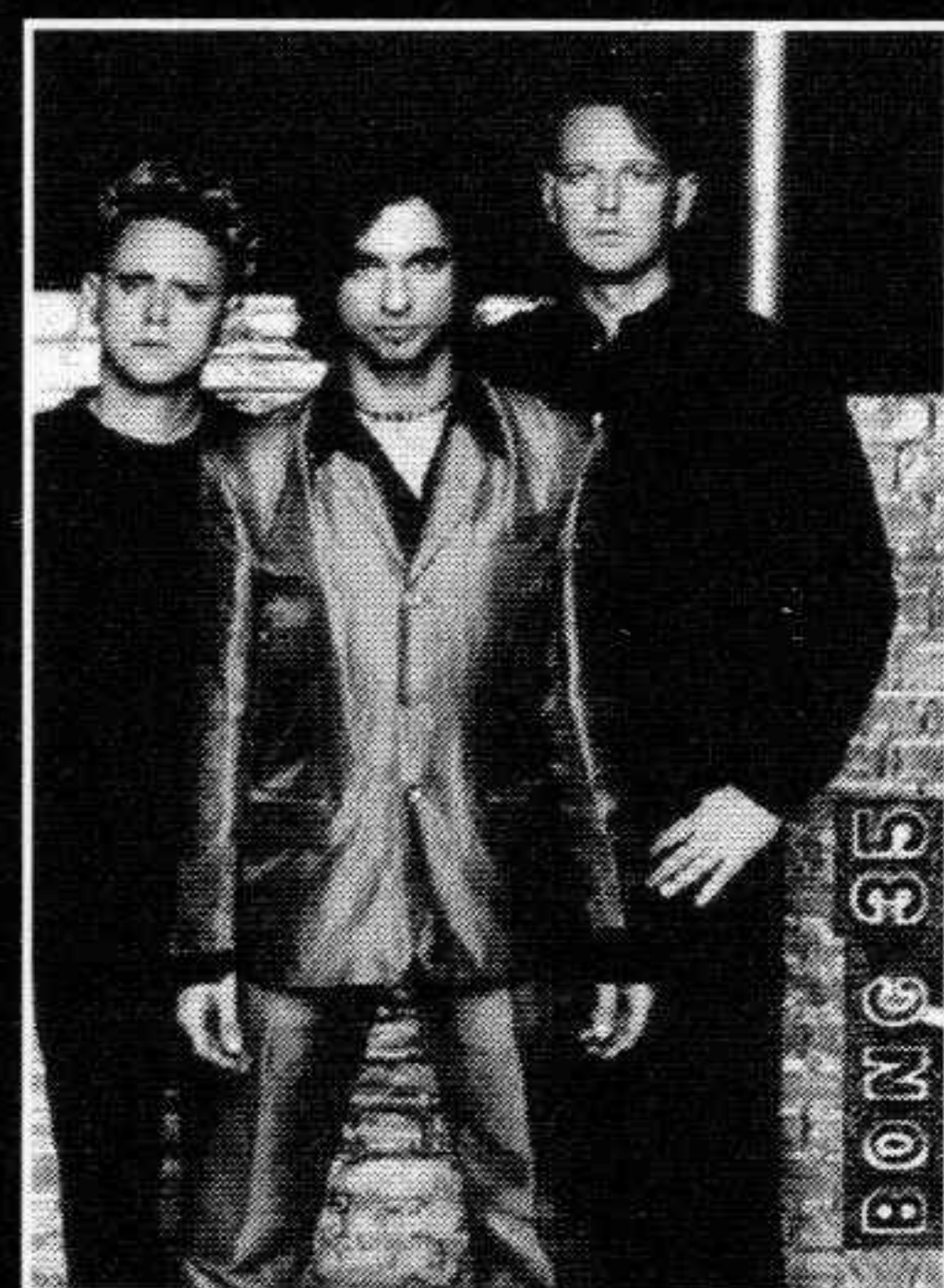
A4, colour

BONG 22



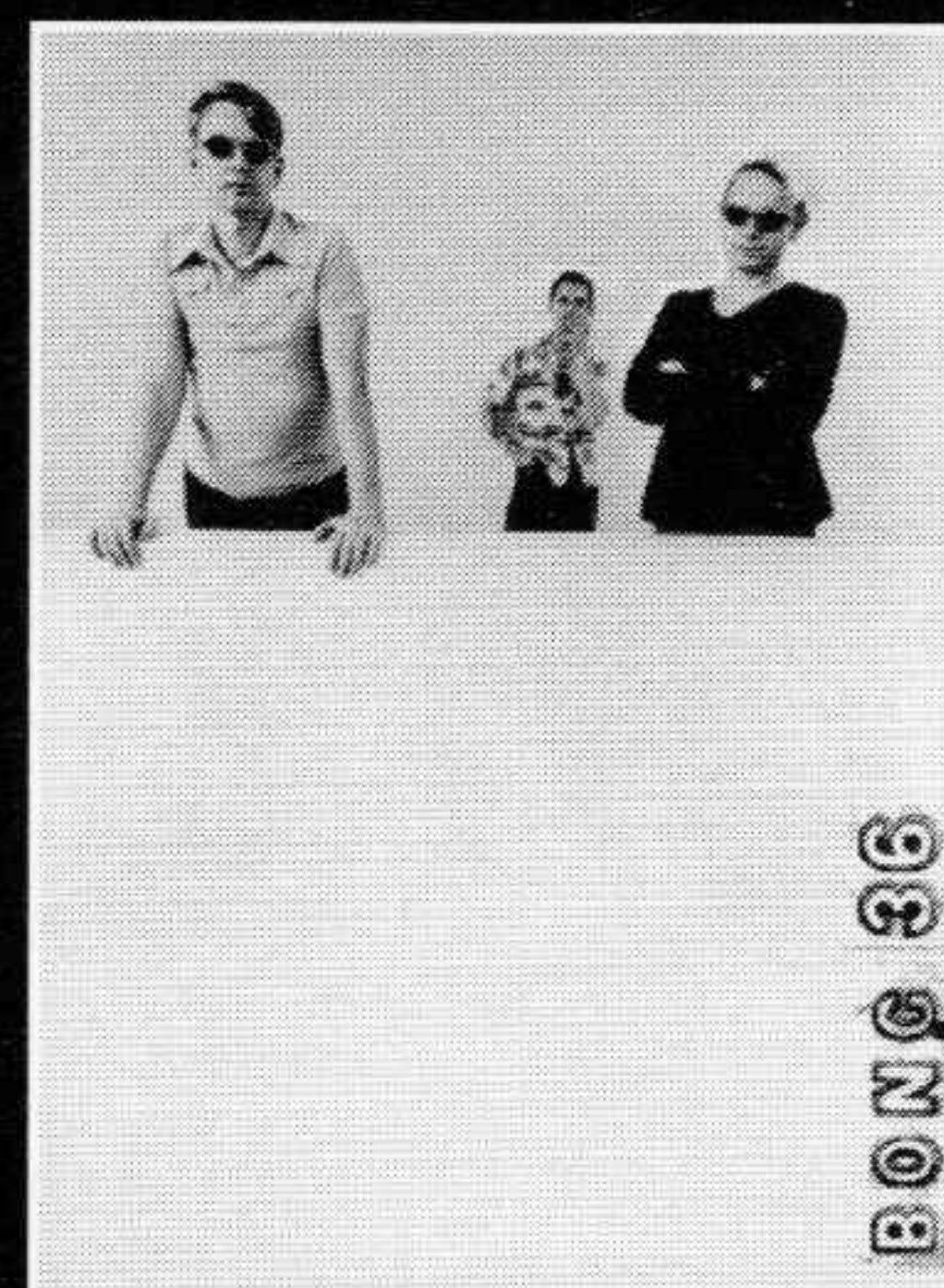
A4, colour

BONG 35



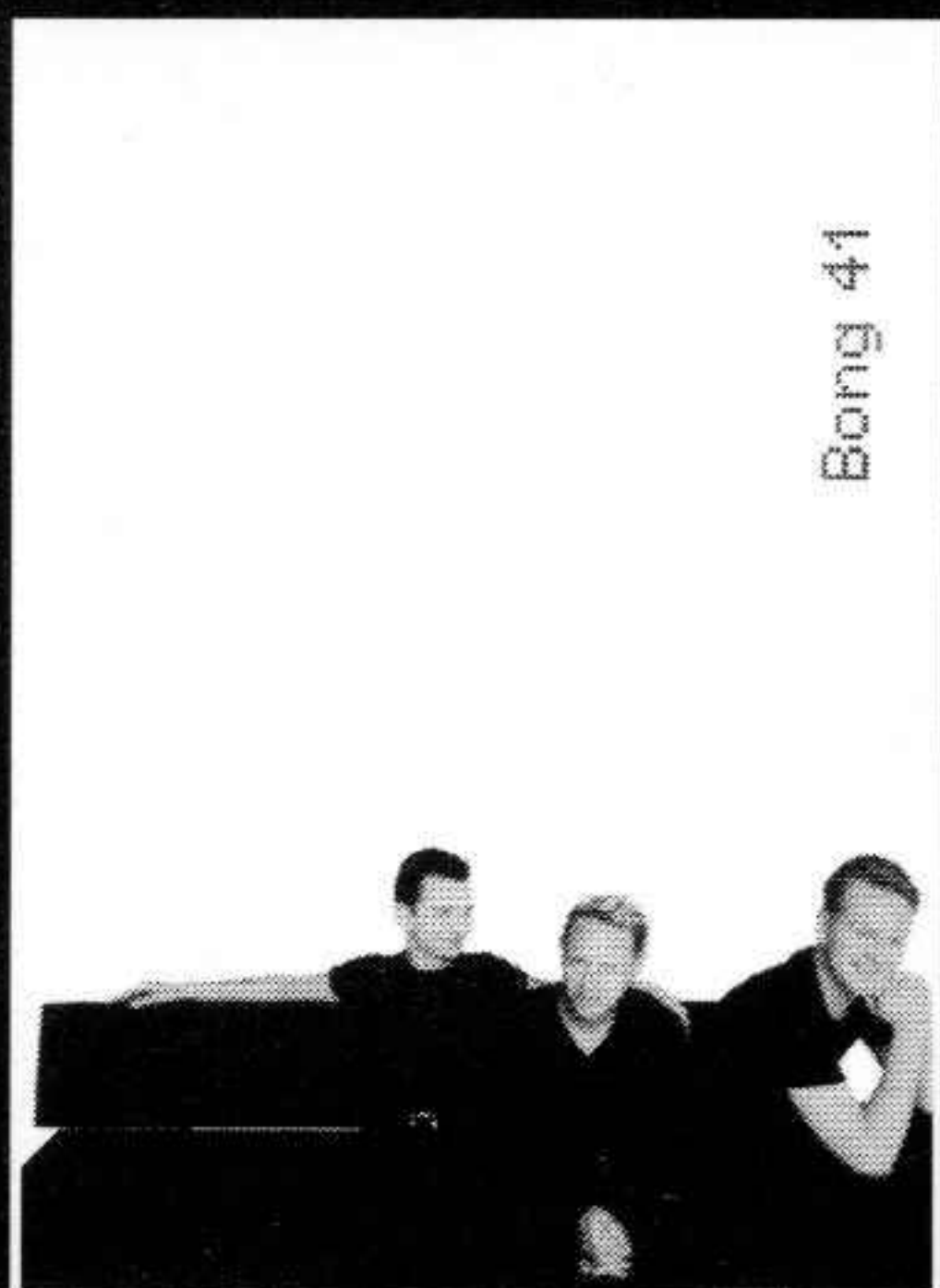
A4, colour

BONG 36



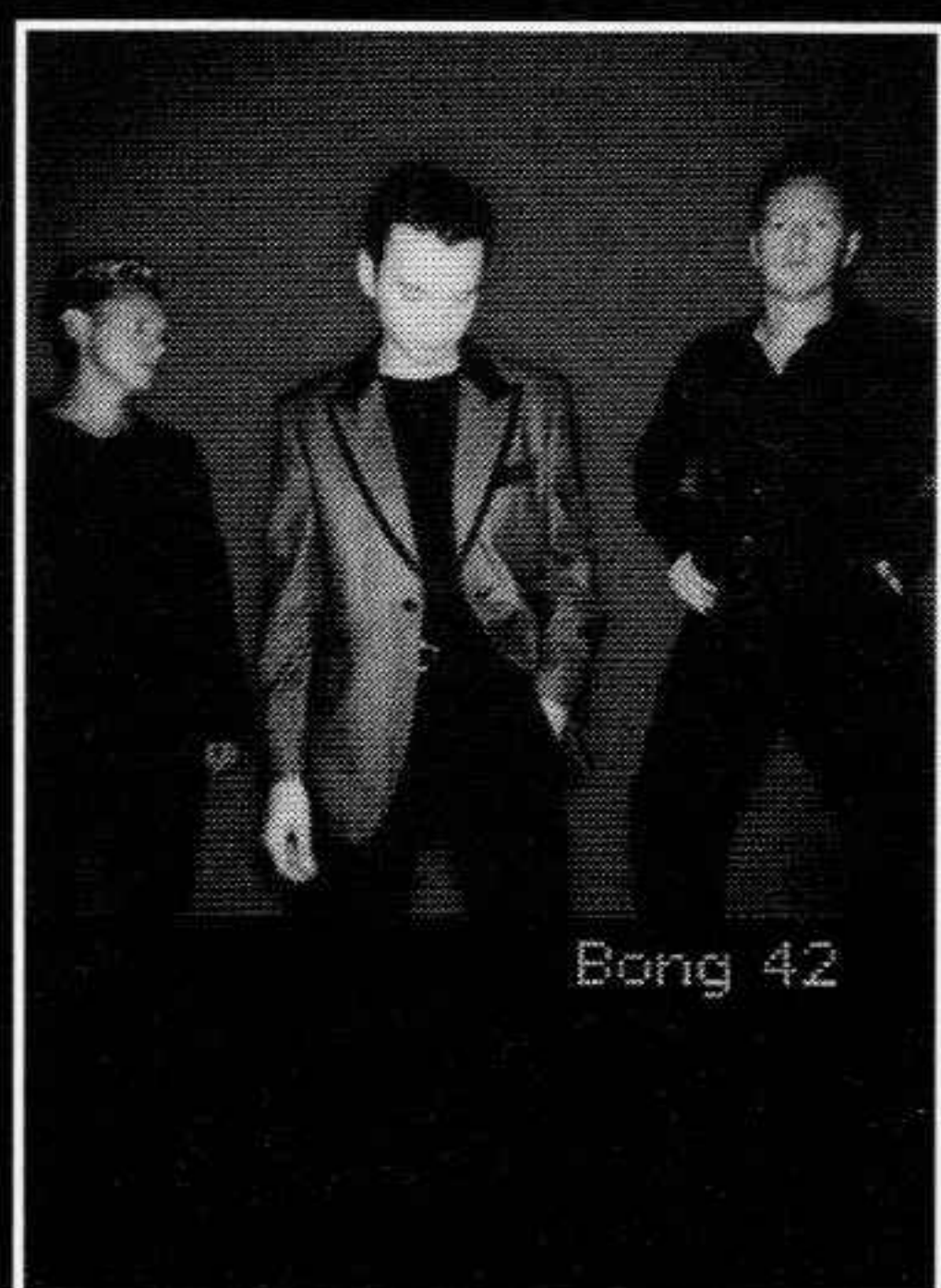
A4, colour

BONG 41



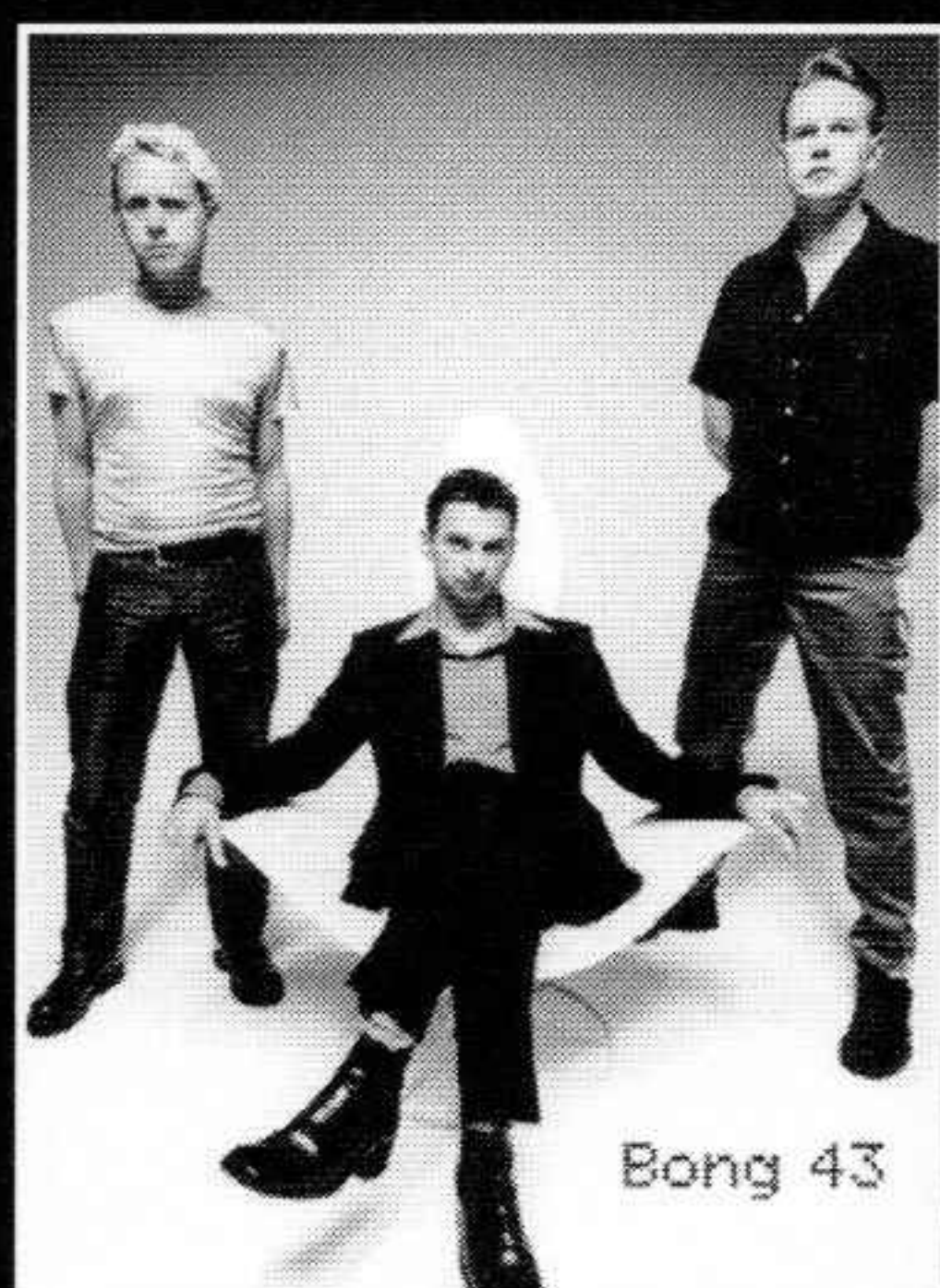
A4, colour

BONG 42



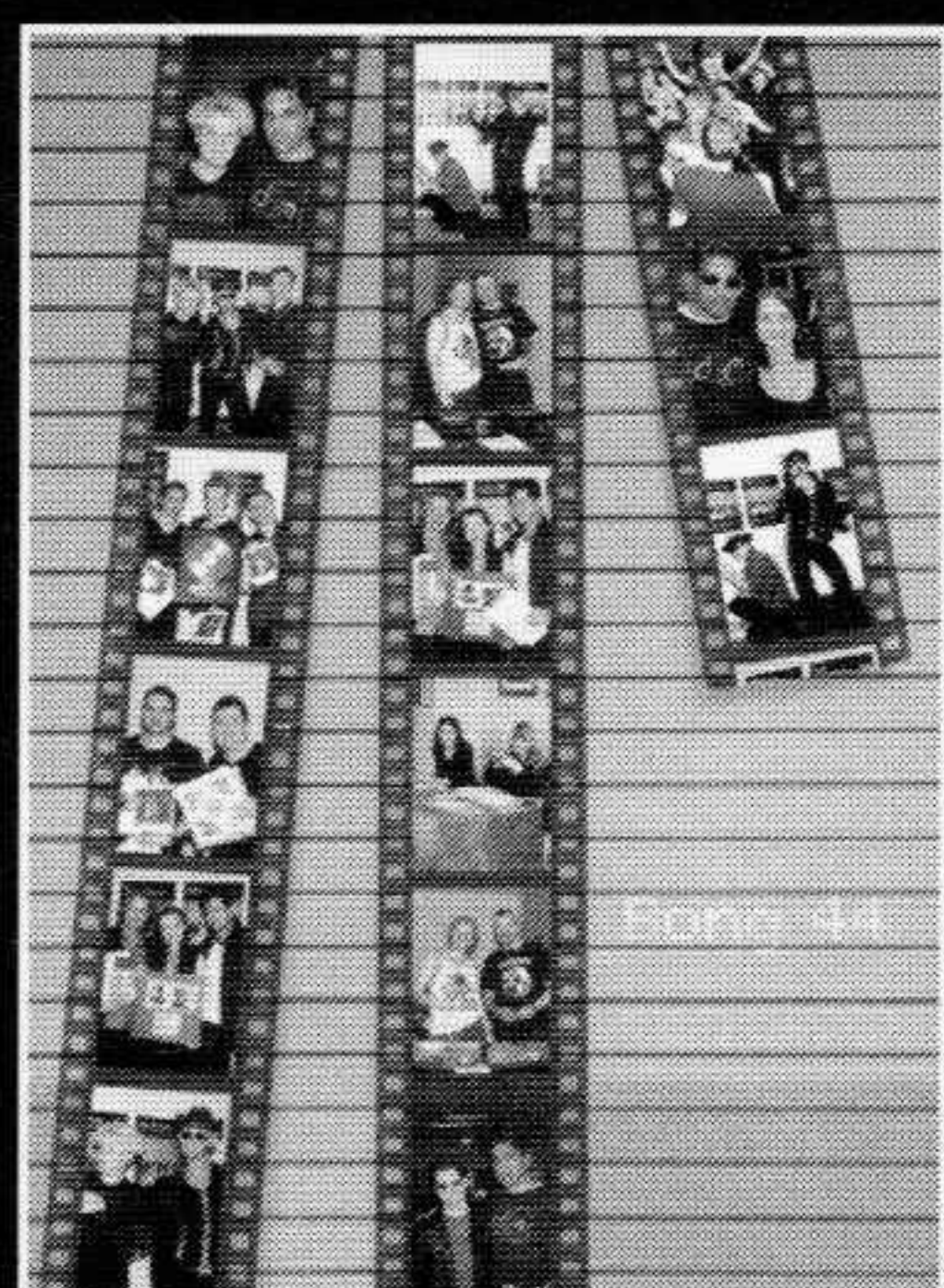
A4, colour

BONG 43



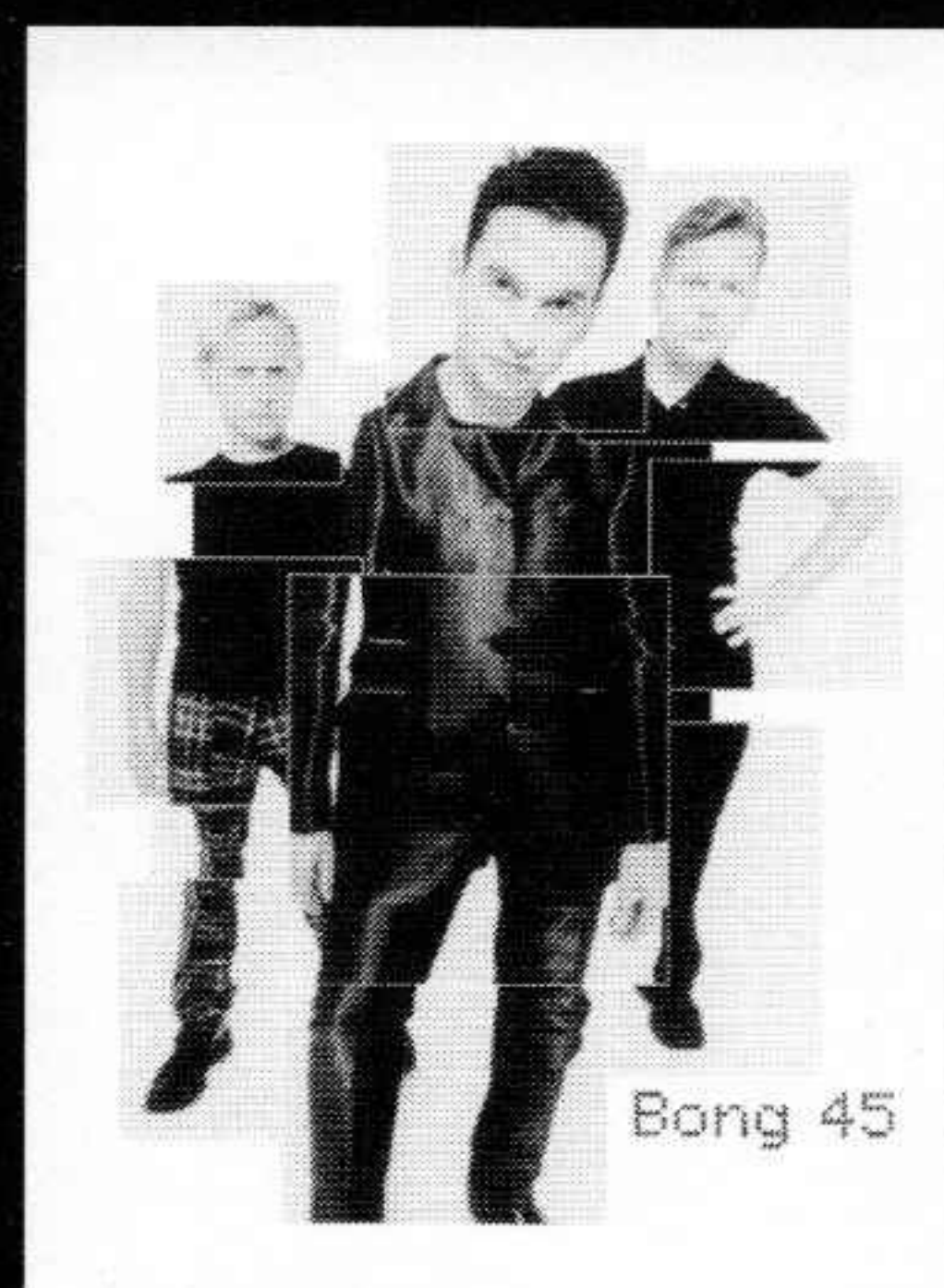
A4, colour

BONG 44



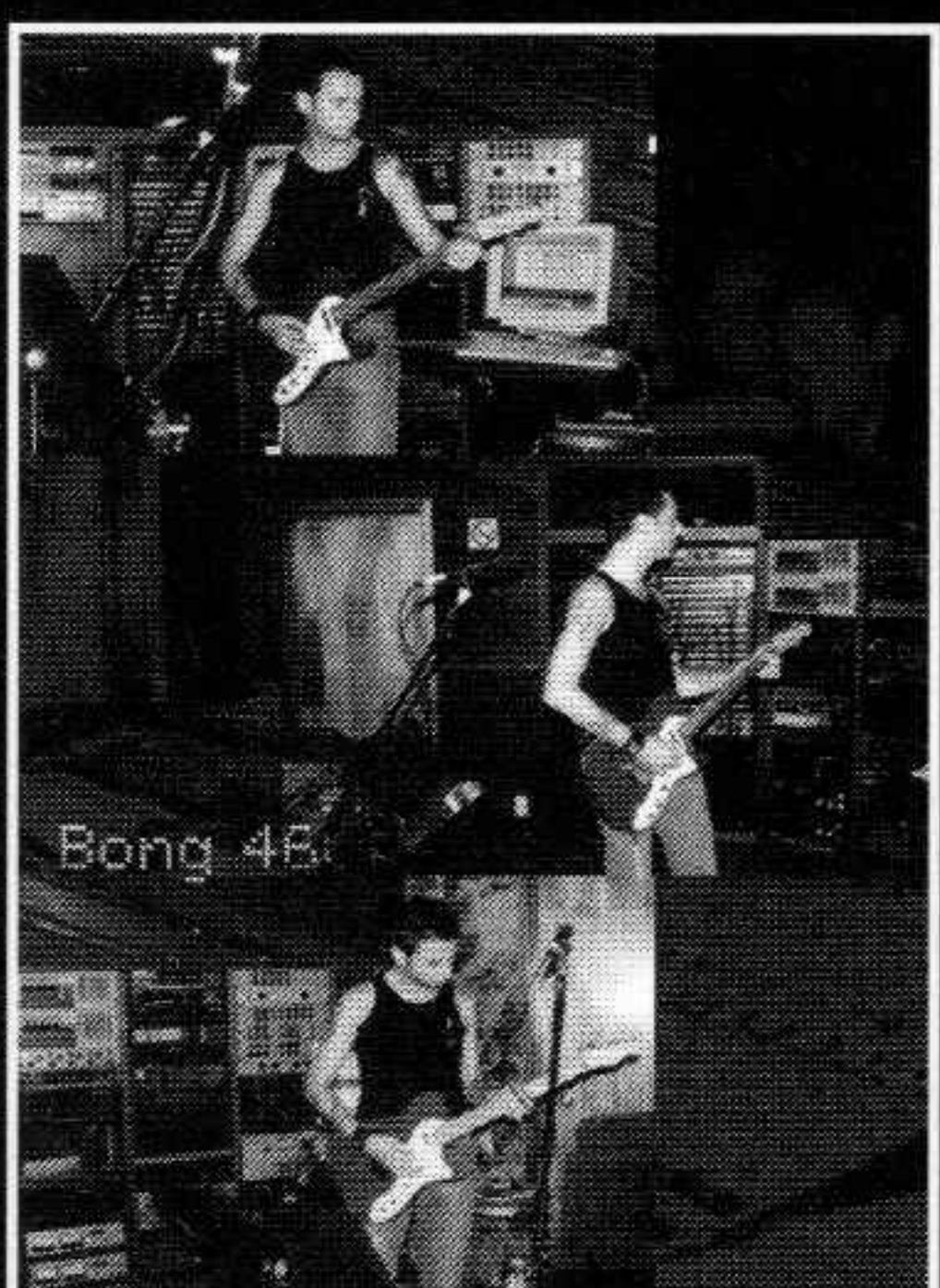
A4, colour

BONG 45



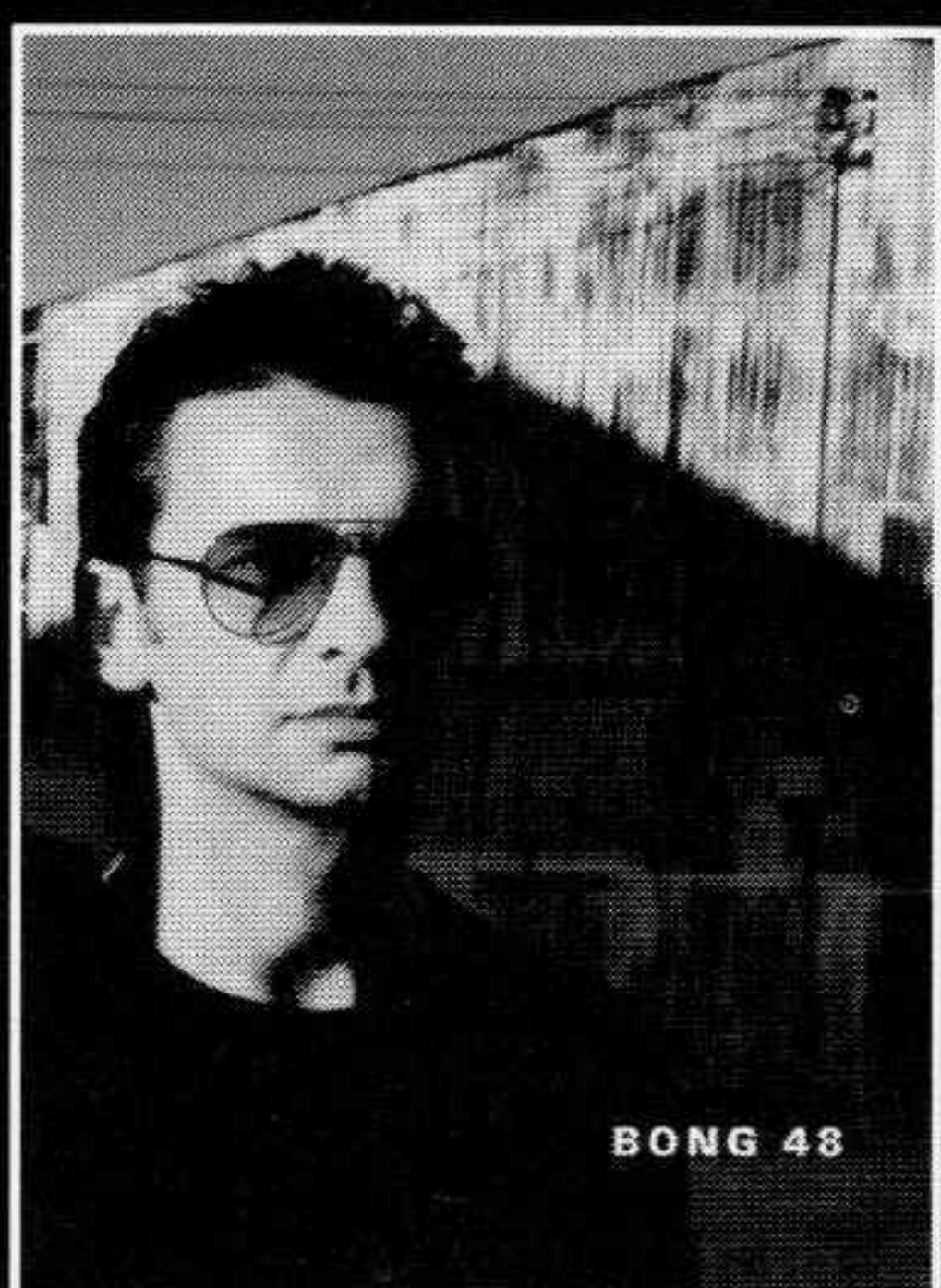
A4, colour

BONG 46



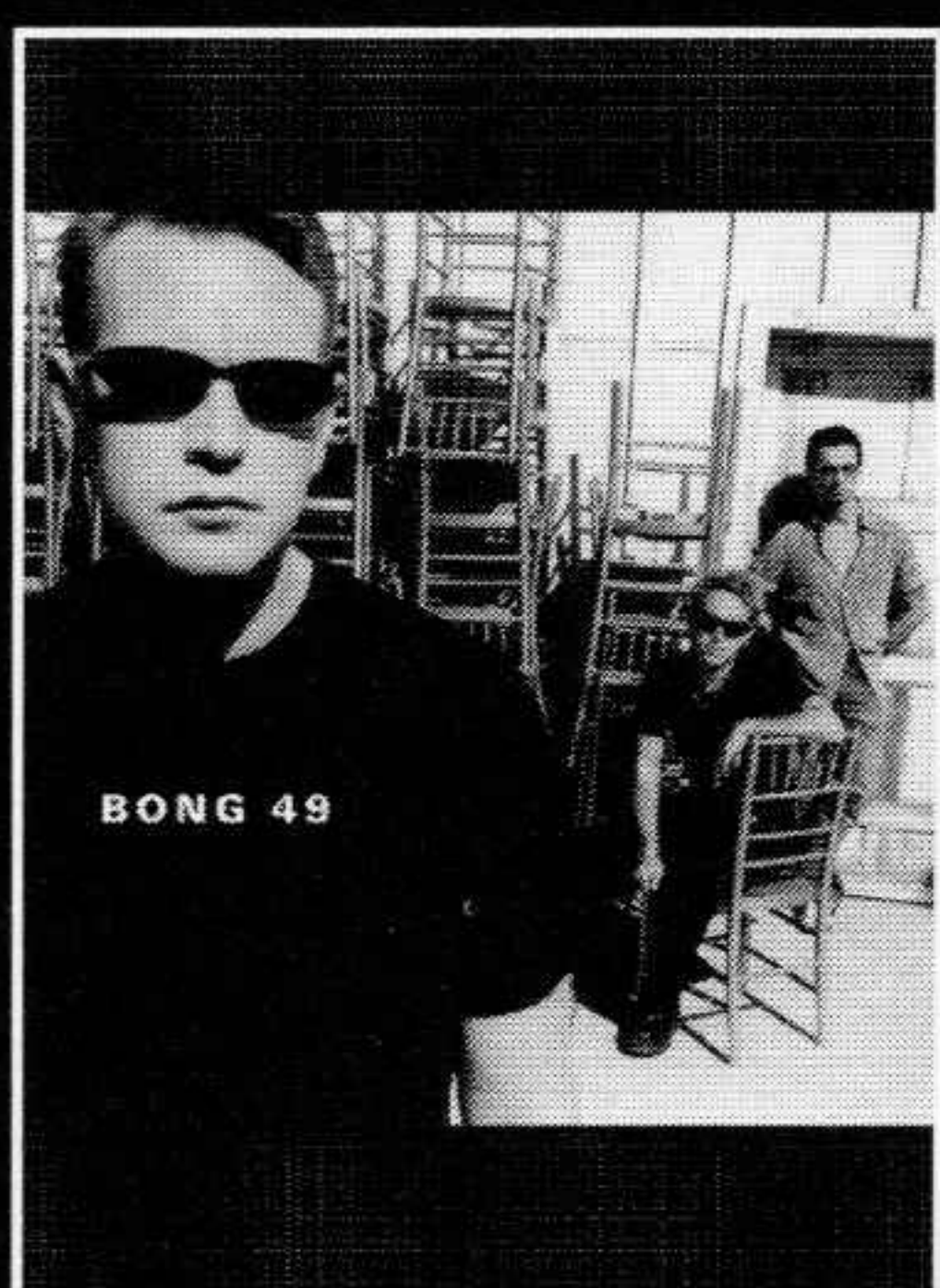
A4, colour

BONG 48



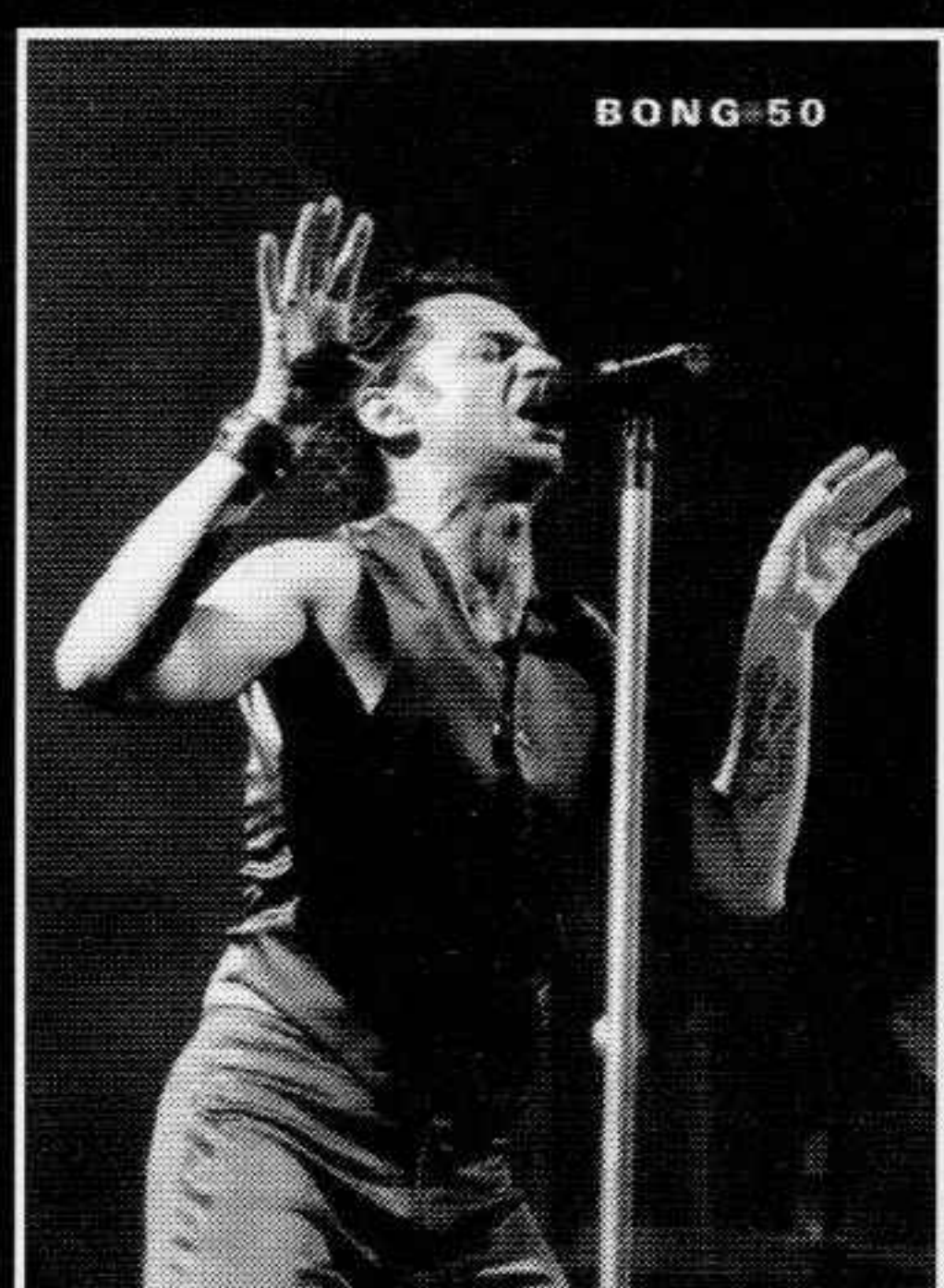
A4, colour

BONG 49



A4, colour

BONG 50



A4, colour

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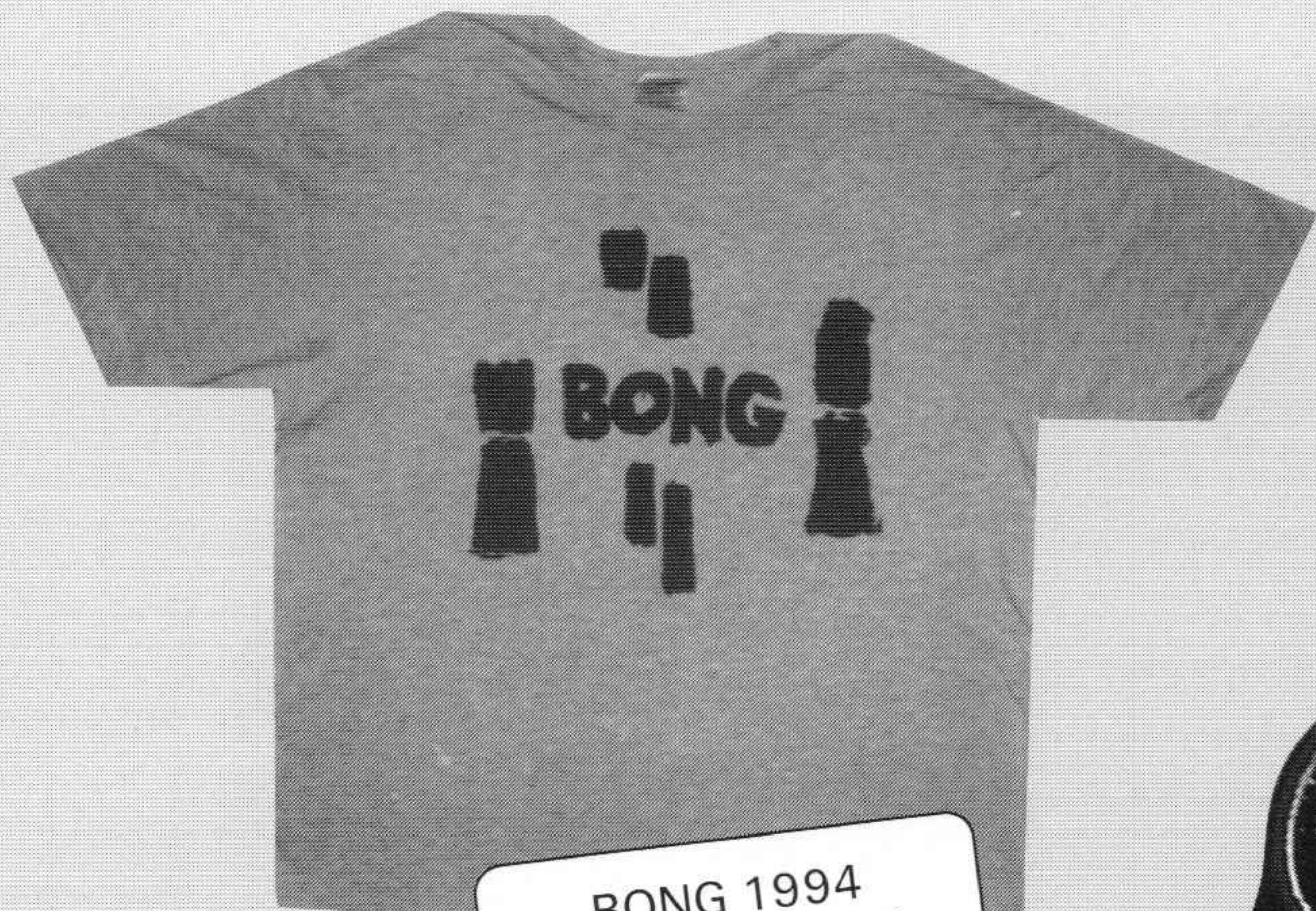
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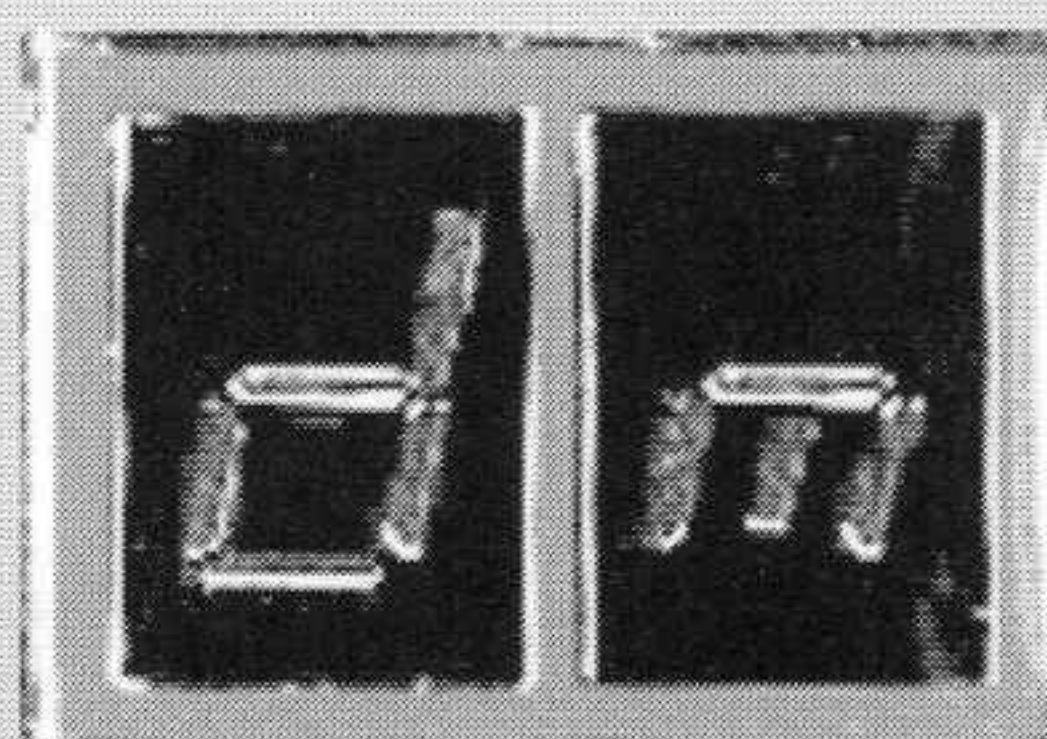


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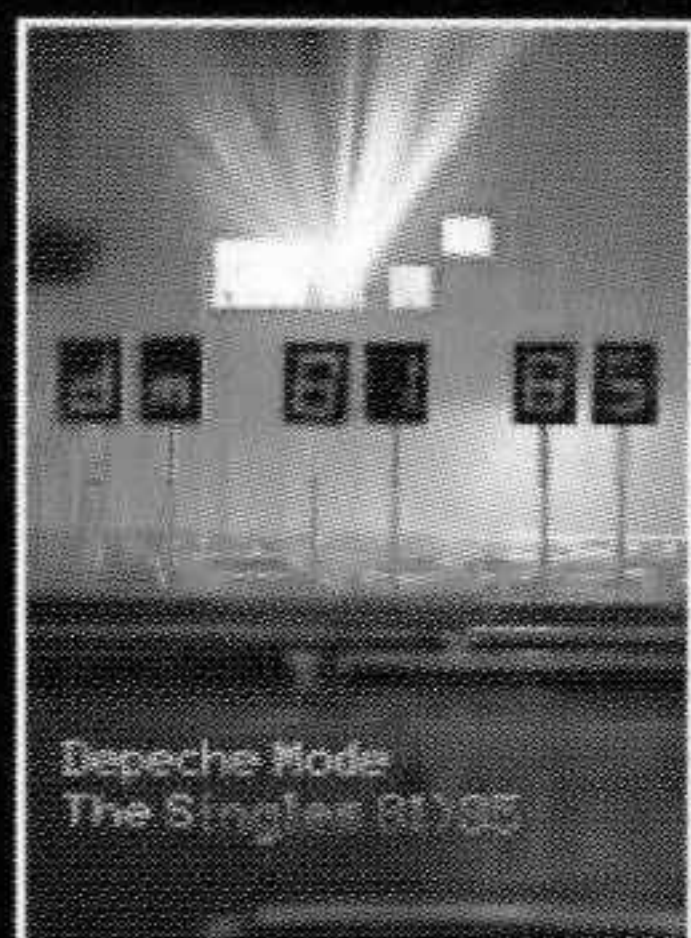
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