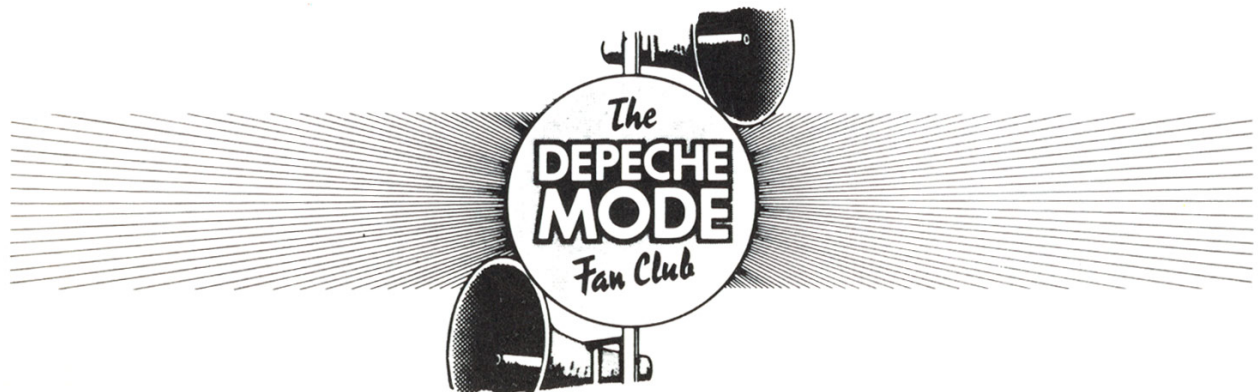


BONG

7





Hello each!

The Convention on 20th August was a really successful experiment - One definitely to be repeated! I've received so many letters and accounts of it that I've decided to devote almost the whole letters page to some of them! I'd like to thank everybody that came along to The Borderline and Daryl Bamonte, Nicky, Andy Daniels and Liz and Elaine for all their help on the day! One not-so-nice thing about the convention: Jez from Nottingham has written to me to ask if the person who took his 'MUSIC FOR THE MASSES' black sweatshirt could send it back via the fanclub. It can't be replaced as they were all sold out a long time ago, and obviously, he's none too pleased about it disappearing.

Many new members have written to me concerned that they hadn't received their membership cards as promised. The Fanclub has, in fact, moved, and every member will be sent a card with the new address on it. Our new address is: P.O. BOX 1281

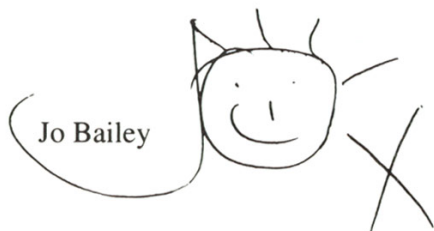
London
N1 9UX

Another thing that crops up regularly in my postbag is membership renewals. When your year's subscription expires, you'll be sent a letter. I'm afraid we only send one reminder, but if you do lose it, the fee in the UK is still £5.00, Europe costs £6.00 and everywhere else is £8.00. I asked in BONG 6 for overseas members to write if they fancy the idea of paying more for an airmail subscription. If you do, please write on a Postcard - please don't put it as a PS on the bottom of your letters as then it gets muddled up with the other correspondence. Could European members please note: Your issues already arrive by airmail, so you need not apply for this offer.

Another thing is the question of a German-language BONG. I've had very few replies to this, and, unfortunately, unless I receive many more requests for this service, it won't be possible to go ahead with it.

Back issues 1-6 of 'BONG' are still available at 75p each in the UK and £1.20 each elsewhere!

Next issue Christmas/New Year!!



SNIPPETS

The winner of the 'I WANT DAVE'S BOOTS' competition is Paul Hughes from Wickford, Essex. The correct answer was: 'WORK HARD' is the 'B' side of 'EVERYTHING COUNTS' and was written by Martin and Alan. Paul's prize is a pair of boots worn by Dave onstage during the last tour and signed on the soles.

The following people are the winners of the 'ASK DAVE' section and have each received a signed photo of DM:

Rebecca Monckton, Nick Harper, Christine Matthews, Thierry Sacchi, Wayne Kisbee, Monica Lepping, Lani Lee, Heidi Lund, Angelique Rabary, Daniel Moler, Andrea Martiny, Peter Robins, Alison Gibbs, Frederica Reyes, Amanda Sanders, Jason Owen, Sarah Griffin and Julie Speller.

'PERSONAL JESUS' entered the UK 'Gallup' chart at number 25 and the NME placed it at number 3 in their CD singles chart. The following week, 'PJ' jumped 12 places in the Gallup chart to number 13! That makes it their highest UK chart position since 'MASTER & SERVANT'. Part of the Video was shown on the Chart Show on the 2nd September, and the entire Video was on Top Of The Pops on Thursday 7th Sept. Other DM TVs are:

'MUSICBOX' (Dave) - 7th Sept

'MTV' (Dave) - 7th Sept

'ESTO QUE ES' - 11th Sept (Spain)

'RIVA DEL GARDA' - 16th Sept (Italy)

'WWF CLUB' - 29th Sept (Germany)

'NA SIEHSTE' - 18th Oct (Germany)

'PETER'S POP SHOW' - 18th Nov (Germany)

'PERSONAL JESUS' was DJ Simon Mayo's 'record of the week' on his Radio 1 Breakfast show between the 21st and 25th August. That meant that it was played every day that week!. On Friday 1st Sept, DM were on 'Chartbusters' on the same Radio programme. 'PERSONAL JESUS' was up against singles by Prince, The Rolling Stones, The Cure, The Call, Whitney Houston with Aretha Franklin, Madonna and Jason Donovan. Listeners were asked to ring in and vote for their favourite record - DM won with 44% of the 4,000 votes registered!



ALAN: "SOUNDS GREAT, MART!"



'Slim', 'Dim', 'Jim' and 'The Rim' waiting around for the 'superstar' director as usual!

MTV used 'STRANGELOVE' as the 'link' music at their awards this year.

A Cinema in the Virginia Beach area in the U.S ran '101' as a two-day movie special in September. If you turned up wearing a Depeche Mode T-Shirt, it only cost \$1 to get in!

RECOMMENDED:

'The Metal Years' - Video

De La Soul - Music

'Police Squad' - TV

'MUTE' maniacs among you will be pleased to hear about a shop that stocks virtually every Mute release (except for a few limited editions that they've run out of) The address is: SMALL WONDER RECORDS

P.O. BOX 12
STOWMARKET
SUFFOLK IP14 4XA

They also sell rather nice 'Mute' T-Shirts for £5.00 each.

Babies, babies everywhere! Andy Franks and his wife Jane were visited by The Stork again on the 9th September at 2.55am (why do babies insist on being born at antisocial hours?) The 7lb 12oz girl has been named Maya and her big sister Lauren (almost 2) is very happy to have someone to boss about in later life!

Jack Gahan, our centrefold star for this issue, celebrated his second birthday on October 14th.



HIT STUDIO INTERNATIONAL

Photo: ANDY FRANKS

TOURNEWS

Although there aren't any dates confirmed as yet, I can tell you that the tour will start in late May. DM have decided on a change in the usual tour routine, so, they'll begin in the U.S rather than Europe. Dave has promised "a few surprises". European fans won't have to wait too long for Depeche 'happenings' as the band will be doing plenty of promotional stuff prior to the tour!

The new DM album, as yet untitled, will be released in February. DM have just returned from PUK studios in Denmark. Around ten songs have been recorded so far, and Depeche will be in the studio in London till at least Christmas, as they want to record some more tracks for future 'B' sides and mixes. A single will be released in the New Year, called 'Enjoy The Silence' - the 'B' side has yet to be decided.

You may have heard Bruno Brookes on TOTP (7th Sept) say that DM had "An album out in October called 'Wild', and a tour very soon!" - WRONG!! I don't know where he got his information from, but that particular piece of news refers to another band, with a member who used to be in Depeche! (Now, who on earth could that be?) He also wrote in his 'Number 1' magazine column that we are organising a 'fun-run' for fanclub members - NO WE'RE NOT! I'm an incredibly lazy person and that is the last thing I'd do!

The video for 'PERSONAL JESUS' was filmed in Almeria, Spain, in a 'Mexican' village where Clint Eastwood's 'Spaghetti Westerns' were made. The reason Senor Fletcher was riding a rocking horse instead of a real one was because "Those horses were nutters!". The film lot is open to the public, and some of the visiting tourists mistook DM for Cowboy extras and snapped reels of film of them!

On the subject of Spain, the band were in Madrid recently, recording a TV show, and were followed from the studio to Madrid airport by a convoy of cars and motorbikes driven by determined fans! At the airport, DM had to hide in a toilet until they were rescued by the local Police!! Whilst at the TV studio, one of the security men decided that he wasn't going to allow anyone to take photos of DM, despite the band telling him that it was OK for any fans to do so! Martin got so angry at one point, that he 'jokily' kicked out at him - fortunately missing him by centimetres!

PENPALS

Heidi Lund

Good evening everybody. I'm a 16 year old DM fanatic. I especially love my 'Personal Jesus' Dave. I'm looking for real MAD Mode fanatics - are you one?

Christine Perrier

I'm 18, passionately fond of DM. I'm looking for every crazy fan in the whole world to rave about DM, life and lots of other things. So, I wait for your long and delicious letters - lots of 'Strangelove' for everybody!

J-A Murphy

Yo! I'm 14 1/2 and want 'Somebody' to write to. I think DM are so cool and sexy. They're the best. 'If You Want', write to me. 'See You'!

Jo Teague

Hi, my name's Jo. I'm Depeche's number one fan and have been since the beginning! (1981) I am totally OBSESSED with them, especially the one and only Dave Gahan, I am CRAZY over him. I'd like penpals from all over the world aged 16+ - all letters will be replied to!

Daniel Wigand

I'm 18 and one of the most faithful and fanatical DM fans. I'm mad on 'the glorious 4' and have been for five years! If there are some real fans among you - write to me as soon as possible!

Mark Craine

I'm 15, and apart from Depeche Mode, I like The Jesus & Mary Chain, Nitzer Ebb and mo

Diane Searle

I'm 17, and I'm looking for penpals everywhere who love Depeche!! I'll answer every letter that I receive!

If you'd like your name in the Penpals section, please send your full address and a few lines about yourself to our new address:

Please mark your envelopes/postcards

'PENPALS'



WWF - SEPT '89

Photo: ANDY FRANKS

ASK DAVE

ACCORDING TO THE JANUARY '82 ISSUE OF "THE FACE" "ASIAN BLOOD WAY BACK IN THE FAMILY ACCOUNTS FOR (D. GAHAN'S) SURNAME" WHAT ARE YOUR FAMILY ORIGINS?

Gahan is Irish and was my stepfather's name, but my blood father has Malaysian ancestors.

HAVE YOU GOT ANY BROTHERS OR SISTERS?

1 sister, 2 brothers.

WHY DID YOU NAME YOUR SON JACK? WAS HE NAMED AFTER ANYONE IN PARTICULAR?

No, he wasn't named after anyone, we both liked the name .

DO YOU EVER REGRET BEING IN THE BAND BECAUSE YOU'RE OFTEN AWAY AND NOT WITH YOUR FAMILY?

Yes and No!

DO YOU WANT ANY MORE CHILDREN?

Yes

WOULD YOU LIKE JACK TO FOLLOW IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS?

It's up to him.

WHAT WERE HIS FIRST WORDS?

"Dad" - of course!

WHAT SUPERMARKET DID YOU WORK FOR BEFORE YOU STARTED SINGING?

'Sainsbury's'.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ALCOHOLIC DRINK?

Vodka.

HAVE YOU EVER RIDDEN A HORSE?

Yes.

WHAT ARE YOUR VICES?

Cigarettes.

WHAT'S THE NAME OF YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK, FILM AND TV SHOW?

I hardly ever read, but enjoyed a book by Philip Norman called 'The Stones', 'Apocalypse Now' (Film & Music) and TV show - 'Brookside'.

HOW MANY LEATHER JACKETS DO YOU OWN?

I've never counted them.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE DEPECHE MODE TO BE REMEMBERED IN 20 YEARS TIME?

Fondly!

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNFULFILLED AMBITIONS?

Yes.

WHO DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?

JD Fanger.

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR HAIR CUT?

In London ('Fiyon')

DO YOU WEAR AFTER-SHAVE? WHAT SORT?

Various - 'Kouros', 'Armani'.....

DO YOU LIKE PRESTIGIOUS MOTORCYCLES (SUCH AS HARLEY DAVIDSONS)?

Yes, they're quite good really.

DO YOU HAVE ANY RECURRING NIGHTMARES?

Yes.

WHAT WAS THE LAST CONCERT YOU ATTENDED?

The Cure, Milan.

DO YOU GO TO CHELSEA REGULARLY - DO YOU STAND IN THE SHED?

Not anymore.

WHAT'S THE WEIRDEST THING THAT HAS BEEN THROWN ON STAGE FOR YOU AND DID YOU KEEP IT?

I don't really get a chance to stop singing and check out what's been thrown on stage. It just annoys me.

ARE YOU PLANNING A SOLO LP?

Not at the moment.

WHICH SONGS DO YOU MOST ENJOY SINGING LIVE?

'BLASPHEMOUS RUMOURS', 'NEVER LET ME DOWN' AGAIN, 'STRIPPED', 'EVERYTHING COUNTS' & 'FLY ON THE WINDSCREEN'.

IN '101' I NOTICED YOU PLAYING A HARMONICA - ARE YOU ANY GOOD AT IT? - WHAT OTHER INSTRUMENTS CAN YOU PLAY?

Pretty good! - Guitar, Bass, Drums, Keyboards & Tambourine. I'm what you call 'A Bit Of An All-Rounder'.

HOW AND WHERE DID YOU MEET MARTIN, FLETCH AND VINCE IN 1980?

I met Vince outside a pub in Basildon & he asked me to a rehearsal, where I met Mart and Fletch.

WHAT WAS THE FIRST SONG YOU PERFORMED WITH THEM? - WERE YOU NERVOUS?

...Can't remember and No.

WHICH SONG OF MARTIN'S (WHICH HE SINGS) IS YOUR FAVOURITE?

'THE THINGS YOU SAID'.

HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN ANY SONGS?

Yes.

WHEN DID YOU DECIDE YOU WANTED TO BECOME A SINGER?

I didn't and I'm still learning.

HAVE YOU EVER FORGOTTEN THE WORDS AT A CONCERT?

Yes, frequently.

WHO DECIDES WHAT SINGLES WILL BE RELEASED?

All of us and Daniel.

HOW IS IT DECIDED WHO SINGS THE SONGS?

Martin, Alan and myself discuss it.

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION OF CURRENT CHART MUSIC?

I don't really know much about it!

WHAT WAS THE LAST RECORD YOU BOUGHT?

The Cure, 'Disintegration'.

DO YOU GET EMBARRASSED WATCHING YOUR EARLY VIDEOS?

Yes, they're pathetic.

The next Q&A is with Martin. Please send in your questions as soon as possible!



**FLOOD (IN PRODUCER'S DOUBT MODE)
AND PETER**

SUPERFAN 1989

ROB LATCHFORD

As you've no doubt seen from the cover photo, this year's 'SUPERFAN' has already been presented with his award, a gold '101' disc, complete with a plaque saying 'Presented to: Rob Latchford, Depeche Mode's number one fan 1989'. Rob, from Essex, was picked out of hundreds of entries, when he sent in two large folders packed with photographs and information about his exploits as a 'raving' Depeche Mode fan! His entry was in two parts, the first mainly features the 'BLACK CELEBRATION' Tour, with a few very old DM gig photos thrown in for good luck, and the second, the 'MUSIC FOR THE MASSES' Tour, although Rob has been following DM practically from the beginning! He's been to a total of 46 DM concerts over the years, in the UK, Europe and the USA. Below is a very small section of Rob's written entry. This, combined with the hundreds of photos he sent, I'm sure that no-one would dispute his 'Superfan' title!:

PART ONE:

Paris here we come! - We arrived a few days early to get used to where we were and find the concert hall. Paris is a large enough place when you're lost and it was quite difficult trying to find the concert venue! When we did find the place we thought the concert would be held it turned out to be wrong! Luckily there were posters saying the concert was on at Bercy instead (wherever that was!) so we set off again in search of it.....The concert that night at Bercy was amazing! I had never seen a place like it before. Half of it was underground and didn't look finished. Inside it was so large, there was a place where you could all stand in front of the stage, so we all ran down and somehow managed to get in the front row. The atmosphere was great. There was some pushing and shoving, but it was worth being a little bit crushed. After the concert we went back to the hotel (we were staying in the same hotel as DM!) and waited for the band to tell them what a good time we all had!

('WE' are Rob, Helen and Julia)

CROSS REFERENCE PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	P	9	E	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	S	22	23	24	25	26	

Each number represents a letter - Three letters have been given to start you off. Can you substitute the rest to complete the puzzle?

THE FANCLUB HAS MOVED!!

our new address is:

PLEASE SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE
TO THIS ADDRESS FROM NOW ON.

LETTERS

CONVENTION

Dear BONG

You're onto a good thing here. I defy anyone to find a better way to spend their evening (well, except to go and see DM in concert, but that goes without saying!) The mix of music, information and merchandise, though haphazard, worked brilliantly, but I'm sure I'm not the only one who was disappointed that there weren't any advance copies of 'PERSONAL JESUS' available; what a subtle form of torture...let us hear it, then make us wait for what seems like an eternity (well 9 days actually) for it's general release!! Good sales technique, but hardly needed!

'The Borderline' was a good choice of venue: quite easy to find, and although cramped, it just served to contribute to the atmosphere. It was good to see the variation of DM fans, from devout followers clad in their leather (and very nice too) to 'normal' fans - if there is such a thing! The 'lookalike' competition was successful, from the outright winner with the uncanny resemblance to Martin Gore and the unique Dave Gahan impersonator!!

It was good to be able to talk to other people who you knew actually understood what you were going on about!

I think it would be a good idea if DM nights could be arranged in different areas because I'm not the only one who gets fed up with the distinct lack of any DM being played at pubs, clubs etc.. and the convention only served to show how good these nights can be!

Jo Barton
Newmarket,
Suffolk

Dear BONG

Thanks for the convention. I'm sure all those who were there really enjoyed it. I'd like to say "Hi" to David from somewhere near Blackburn who spent almost the entire night dancing on a bench!

Justine Jacobs
Suffolk

Dear BONG

I would like to congratulate the Fanclub for the brilliant time I, and I'm sure the rest of us loyal DM fans, had at the recent Fanclub convention. It was definitely worth the 600 mile round trip from the North and I hope to be able to make that same journey next year. I would also like to congratulate the rest of the DM worshippers on their good behaviour. Everybody was really friendly and all intent on enjoying themselves. Thanks again.

Chris Barry
Bridlington
N.Humberside

Dear BONG

I'm just writing to say what a brilliant time I had at the convention! Thanks for all the free gifts given to all convention goers. The only problem has been waiting for 'PERSONAL JESUS' after hearing it at the convention and waiting for it's release. It's cost me a fortune ringing 01 675 2277 from Newcastle to listen to it but it's worth it! When's the next convention? - Soon I hope!

Alex
Northumberland

Dear BONG

102?

'Squashed and Sweaty' were my first thoughts. About 300 of us had piled into the nightclub. As I queued up to purchase a shirt and pick up various memorabilia, I caught sight of Jo's 'Lookalikes' notepad....I had to tell her which band member I was going to 'Lookalike' since it was not obvious. 'Just wiggle your bum!' Jo exclaimed!

Some two hours later I found myself on stage with 'Andy' 'Alan' and 'Martin' miming to 'PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE' on original and authentic instruments! I had Dave's mike-stand which was enough to set me spinning! It was quite an experience to see everyone getting into the spirit of things. It was our 102nd concert!

Shaz 'Dave Gahan' Ali
Chislehurst
Kent

Dear Bong

Hi! I'm writing from 'down under'. Although you may not think so, there is SOME support for our beloved DM. I know that it seems impossible that DM will tour Australia (how about it guys? - Next year perhaps?), but that doesn't stop me from loving their music and videos.

Anyway, to prove what I just said....one of our Sydney nightclubs (The Site, in King's Cross) held a DM night. They played two DM songs every 15 - 30 minutes, including the brilliant new 'PERSONAL JESUS' (Can't wait till it's released - October 16th so the record company tell me !) The live video '101' was played (no sound) on the screens. The 200 or so people there seemed to really enjoy themselves, I had a great time too. There should be more of these nights, it might eventually make DM realise they have a following here too (HINT HINT....)It still didn't make up for the real thing....

Don't get me wrong here, I really love DM, they have provided me with hours of enjoyment, and will provide me with many more to come, I'm sure. '101' was a masterpiece in live recording, the video is outstanding. I also love Martin's solo LP. It is a classic in it's own right. Keep on producing the good stuff boys.

I won't keep you any longer, but let me finish by saying DM are the greatest band in the whole world. My opinion of you will never fade... I really look forward to the new LP, and again, hopefully, a tour down under in the next year or two..

Gavin Dwyer
Girraween
Sydney
Australia

Photo: ANDY FRANKS



WWF - SEPT '89

PART TWO:

The most important thing about planning to follow Depeche Mode to the USA was - How could I afford to go? I couldn't miss this opportunity. In the end I went to the bank for a loan. The bank manager thought that I was mad just going to America just to watch some concerts but luckily he approved the loan and I was on my way!.....

Poplar Creek wasn't really what we were expecting, but we took our seats and had a really good night out. We were surprised to see OMD as support but they got everyone going ready for Depeche Mode..... After the show we managed to go backstage, I think that the band were a little surprised to see us. They probably thought the USA was a place where we couldn't find them!

This is only a very small part of Rob's account of his trips to see DM. If you want to hear more, I suggest you dig him out during the next tour !

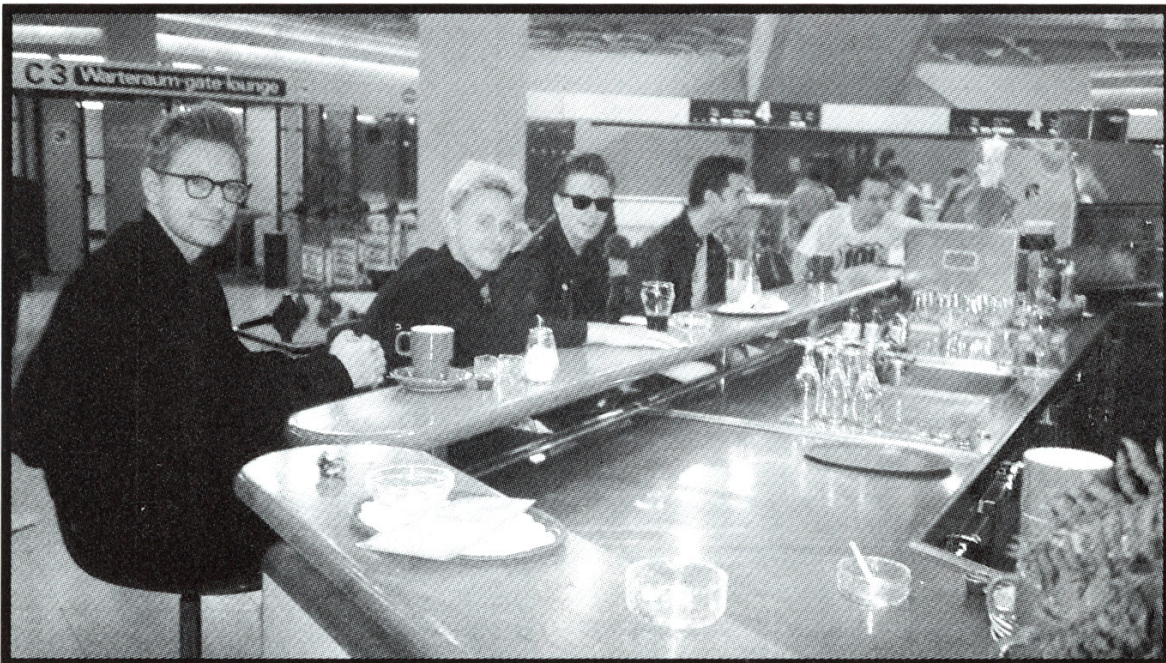
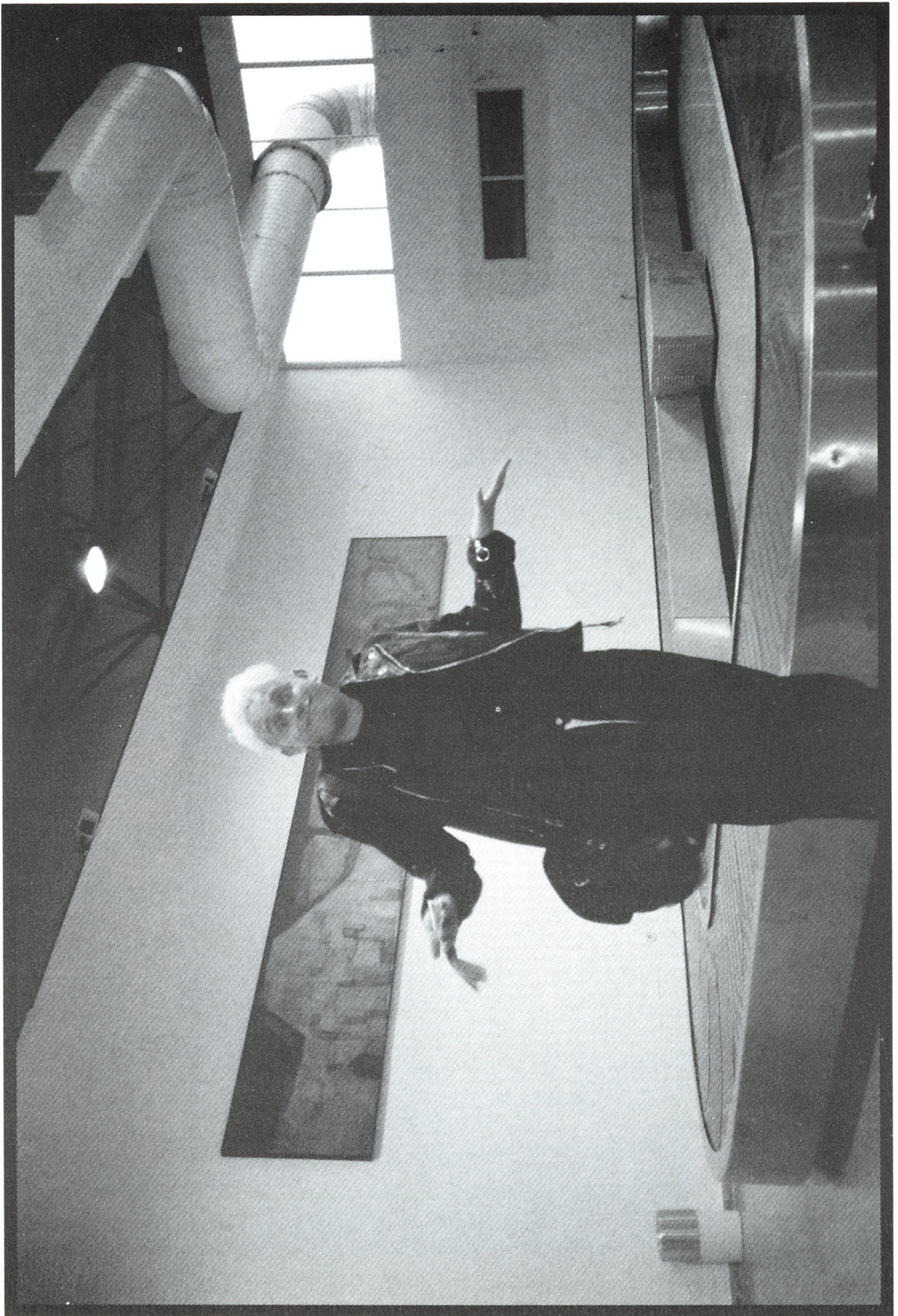


Photo: ANDY FRANKS

COLOGNE AIRPORT - SEPT '89

WHERE'S ME BAG?

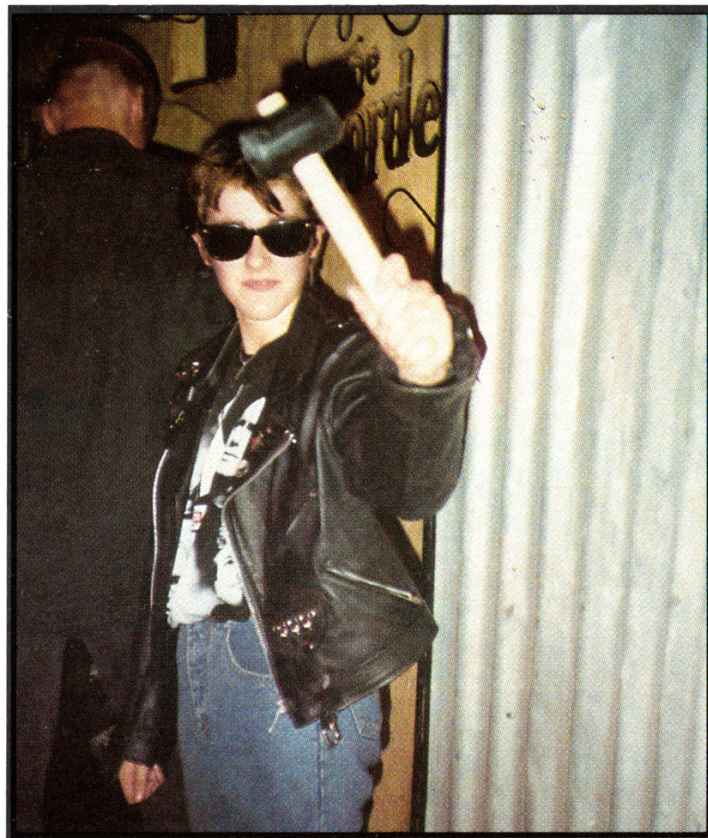


1989 CONVENTION 'LOOKALIKE' WINNERS

Photos: JO BAILEY



'MARTIN'



'ALAN'



'DAVE'



'FL'ETCH

DANGEROUS

WORDS & MUSIC MARTIN L. GORE

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THE THINGS YOU DO
AREN'T GOOD FOR MY HEALTH
THE MOVES YOU MAKE
YOU MAKE FOR YOURSELF
THE MEANS YOU USE
AREN'T MEANT TO CONFUSE
ALTHOUGH THEY DO
THEY'RE THE ONES THAT I WOULD CHOOSE
AND I WOULDN'T WANT IT ANY OTHER WAY
YOU WOULDN'T LET ME ANYWAY

DANGEROUS
THE WAY YOU LEAVE ME WANTING MORE
DANGEROUS
THAT'S WHAT I WANT YOU FOR
DANGEROUS
WHEN I AM IN YOUR ARMS
KNOW I WILL COME TO HARM

THE LIES YOU TELL
AREN'T MEANT TO DECEIVE
THEY'RE NOT THERE FOR ME TO BELIEVE
I'VE HEARD
YOUR VICIOUS WORDS
YOU KNOW BY NOW
IT TAKES A LOT TO SEE ME HURT
AND I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANY OTHER WAY
BUT THERE'S A PRICE I HAVE TO PAY

DANGEROUS....

PERSONAL JESUS

WORDS AND MUSIC BY MARTIN L. GORE

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REACH OUT AND TOUCH FAITH
YOUR OWN PERSONAL JESUS
SOMEONE TO HEAR YOUR PRAYERS
SOMEONE WHO CARES
YOUR OWN (YOUR OWN) PERSONAL
JESUS
SOMEONE TO HEAR YOUR PRAYERS
SOMEONE WHO'S THERE

FEELING UNKNOWN AND YOU'RE ALL
ALONE
FLESH AND BONE BY THE TELEPHONE
LIFT UP THE RECEIVER
I'LL MAKE YOU A BELIEVER
TAKE SECOND BEST
PUT ME TO THE TEST
THINGS ON YOUR CHEST
YOU NEED TO CONFESS
I WILL DELIVER
YOU KNOW I'M A FORGIVER

REACH OUT AND TOUCH FAITH
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REACH OUT AND TOUCH FAITH
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REACH OUT AND TOUCH FAITH
REACH OUT AND TOUCH FAITH

Martin and Andy would like me to pass on their thanks for all the cards and presents you sent for their recent birthdays. - Fletch was in L.A for his birthday on a 'lads' holiday. They spent the evening in a Mexican restaurant where the resident group played 'La Bamba' and 'Happy Birthday' for him. According to Andy, "It was really embarrassing!" Martin's birthday was celebrated whilst DM were at PUK.

Eighteen lucky fans were picked at random from the London area to help make up the audience for a new Satellite TV pop show called 'Hit Studio International' which is recorded principally for Japan. The presenters are Bruno Brookes (again!) and 'Lady' Paula Yates. Depeche Mode performed 'PERSONAL JESUS'. Other bands featured were Transvision Vamp, Curiosity Killed The Cat, Boy George and a new band called Akasa. The show was shown in the UK and all over Europe. In the UK it was on 'Superchannel' live at 6.30pm, and then repeated later the same evening at 10.30. The whole thing had a very relaxed atmosphere, with all the bands chatting to fans and signing autographs, everyone had a good time! After the show, Rob Latchford, Superfan '89, was presented with his prize of a '101' Gold Disc by the band. (see 'Superfan' feature)

Those of you who have seen the film '101' (Most of you?) will remember 'Bus Traveller' Jay Serken referring to Guns & Roses as "Guns & Posers". Jay met up with a Mr. William Bailey (Otherwise known as W.Axl Rose of Guns & Roses) after the L.A premiere of '101', and, as you can see from this photograph, they got on really well!.....

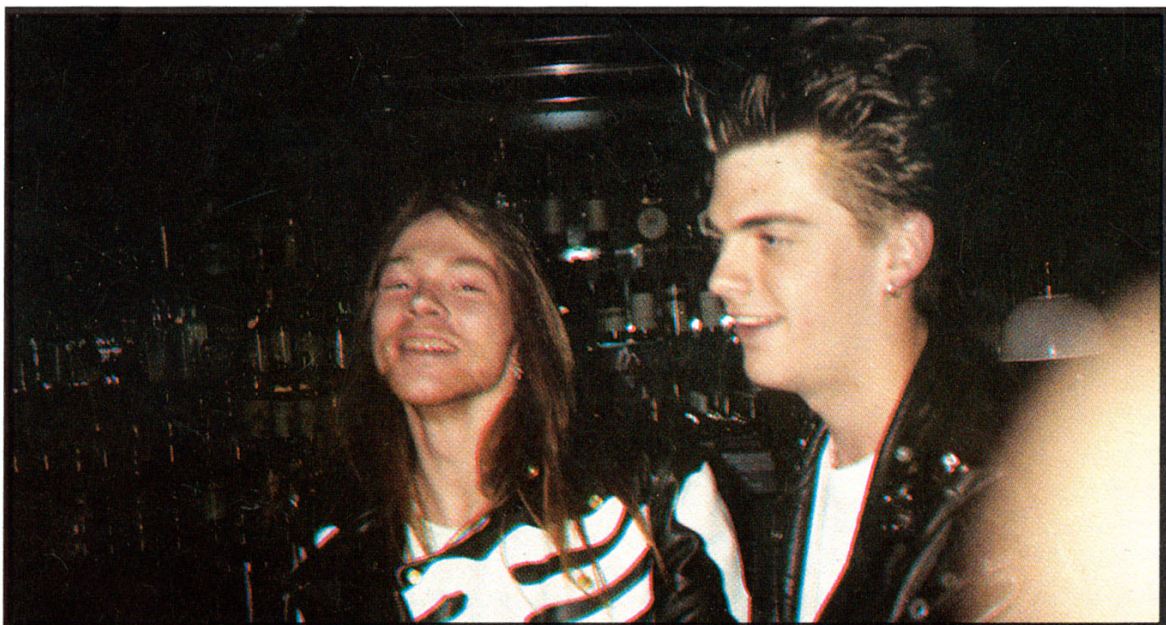


Photo: Courtesy Jay Serken.