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## Table Of Contents >>>

Intro3	
Everything Counts4	
Pressed In Black8	
Only When I Lose Myself	1
The Singles Tour 86-98 USA12	
Blasphemous Rumours13	
The Rehearsals Photo Collection14	
Dreaming Of Depeche Mode In USA16	5
Pen Pals17	
The Singles 86>98 by Martin Gore	1 (
Gallery20	
Bootlegs & DJ Mixes21	
Satellite22	
Contacts23	
For The Masses24	
In Devotional Memory25	
Classified26	
Ads27	
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Photo by JD

### くくく「市でラン

#### Hello, it's BONG time again.... and what a time!

We hope you all had a good relaxing summer, as the next few months are going to be extremely hectic and you're going to need all the energy you can get!

We're half way through the European leg of "The Singles Tour 86–98", and so far it's been really successful. Hopefully you've had the opportunity to see at least one of the shows, as we've heard it's an unforgettable experience! The tour dates for North America have finally been announced and you'll find them inside this issue, as well as the second part of "Dreaming Of Depeche Mode" where you can win a chance to meet & greet the Band in person during their US tour.

Check the 'Everything Counts' section, where you will find a full list of all the commercial and promotional releases from Mute Records. You'll be kept pretty busy trying to get your hands on all these new and exciting releases.

At the end of August, we were lucky enough to spend a few days with Dave, Andy, Martin and some of the crew members at the production rehearsals in London, during which we were able to complete an exclusive interview with Martin and take new photographs for Bong. We have arranged some of the photos for you to see in a unique two-page collection. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Band for their time and patience.

Some of you may have already realised that the DM official web site is being improved, which is due to a new webmaster - who many of you might know as "The Brat". The launch of the renewed site is expected towards the end of September, although there has been some new info and graphics put on quite recently - so make sure you stop by!

Last but not least, we would like to thank everyone who sent birthday cards and gifts to David, Martin and Fletch. We do our best to make sure they receive them.

Don't forget to let us know what you think of the new single, album, video, tour and anything else you come across. It's all very exciting and we can't wait to hear from you.

See you at the convention!

### ..... The International Bong Convention ......

Hurry up and put the last Sunday of October 98 in your diaries!

To fill in the break between the European and US legs of "The Singles Tour 86-98" we have decided to hold this years Bong Convention on **Sunday October 25th**! We have already booked the **Camden Palace, London** for this occasion from **4.30pm** till late.

You will be able to listen to Depeche Mode music (including the new material), watch videos, dance, buy some merchandise, take part in a raffle, grab some give-aways, and generally have a good time! You'll also have the chance to win some **fabulous prizes** including some of the new "The Singles 86-98" merchandise in competitions like Mastermind, Karaoke, Videomix.

**Surprise!** During the convention we will be showing an exclusive video-documentary being made especially for Bong. It will contain excerpts from some of the shows as well as backstage images, and a personal message from the Band. It will be your only chance to see it, so don't miss this unique opportunity!

Tickets cost £10.00 each and are available from Bong or at the door on the night. To receive your tickets, please make all cheques and Postal Orders payable to BONG and enclose a self-addressed envelope for prompt delivery.

· Let's get the Camden Palace moding once again! We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

## Everything Counts >>

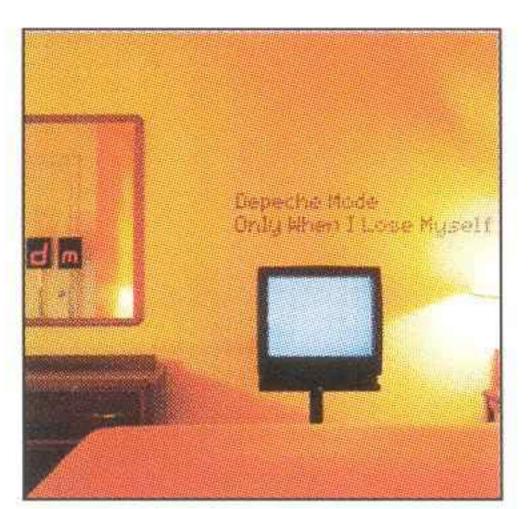
### Only When I Lose Myself

The new single "Only When I Lose Myself" was finally released on 7th September. It's a slow and melodic 'Depeche Mode meet Massive Attack' song and the only new track to be included on the upcoming retrospective "The Singles 86>98". In addition to "Only When I Lose Myself", there are two bonus tracks that were recorded during the same period as the new single. They are "Surrender", a beautiful emotional ballad with Dave on vocals and an up-beat instrumental "Headstar". All three songs were written by Martin and produced and mixed by Tim Simenon. The live! strings on the new single were scored and conducted by Richard Niles, and the additional live drums provided by Christian Eigner who is also appearing on stage with Depeche Mode during "The Singles Tour 86-98".

We are once again offered several different remixes by artists such as Subsonic Legacy (Danny Briotett of Renegade Soundwave), Dan The Automator, Luke Slater. The promo vinyls also include remixes by Gus Gus and Catalan FC, and finally DJ Shadow's version of "Painkiller", which was previously released only as a limited edition 12" single on Mo' Wax Records (see Bong 36 for details).

Most radio stations have already put "Only When I Lose Myself" on their play-lists, and the new video, premiering on MTV during mid-August has also been getting plays for some time. But if you want to hear or see more of "Only When I Lose Myself" and support the chart figures of this release, then we would like to ask you to respectfully and thoughtfully call and request the song to your local radio and TV stations in order to receive better airplays and get the track to the top if it's not there already!!

The following are all the formats (promotional & commercial) of "Only When I Lose Myself", together with a promotional radio CD that was distributed prior to this date.

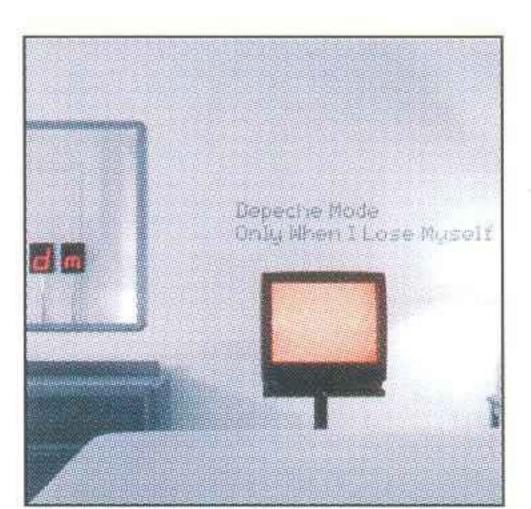


#### CDBONG29

"Only When I Lose Myself"

"Surrender"

"Headstar"



#### LCDBONG29

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Subsonic Legacy Remix)

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Dan The Automator Remix)

"Headstar" (Luke Slater Remix)

#### **12BONG29**

A1/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Subsonic Legacy Remix)

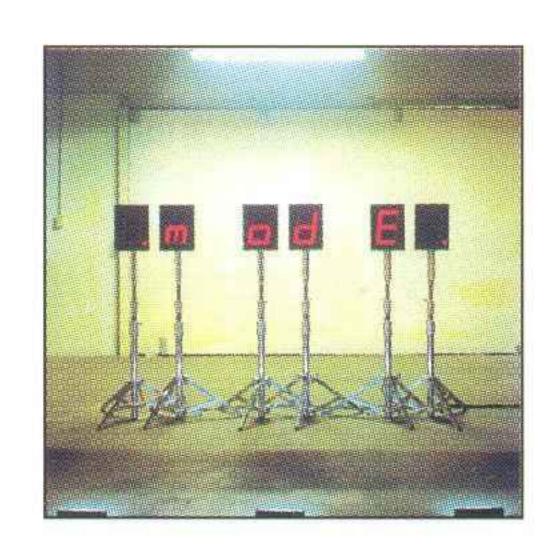
A2/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Dan The Automator Remix)

B1/ "Headstar" (Luke Slater Remix)

#### RCDBONG29 - radio CD

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Radio Version)

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Single Version)



#### P12BONG29 - promo 12"

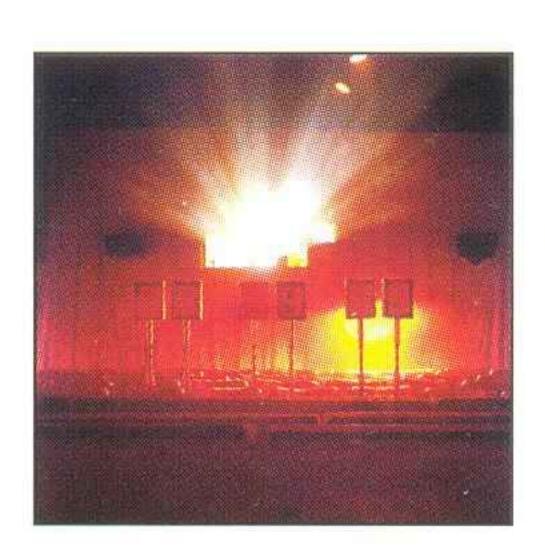
A1/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Dan The Automator Mix)

A2/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Subsonic Legacy Mix)

B1/ "Painkiller" (Kill The Pain Mix - DJ Shadow

vs. Depeche Mode)

B2/ "Headstar"



#### PL12BONG29 - promo 12"

A1/ "Headstar" (Luke Slater Remix)

A2/ "Surrender" (Catalan FC Out Of Reach Mix)

B1/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Gus Gus Mix)

Following these releases at the beginning of September, Mute is putting out one additional commercial CD and vinyl on 28th September, featuring remixes which were originally planned for the promo formats only.

#### XLCDBONG29

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Gus Gus Long Play Mix)

"Painkiller" (Kill The Pain Mix - DJ Shadow vs. Depeche Mode)

"Surrender" (Catalan FC Out Of Reach Mix)

"Only When I Lose Myself" (Gus Gus Short Play Mix)

"World In My Eyes" (Safar Mix)

#### L12BONG29

A1/ "Only When I Lose Myself" (Gus Gus Long Play Mix)

B1/ "Painkiller" (Kill The Pain Mix - DJ Shadow

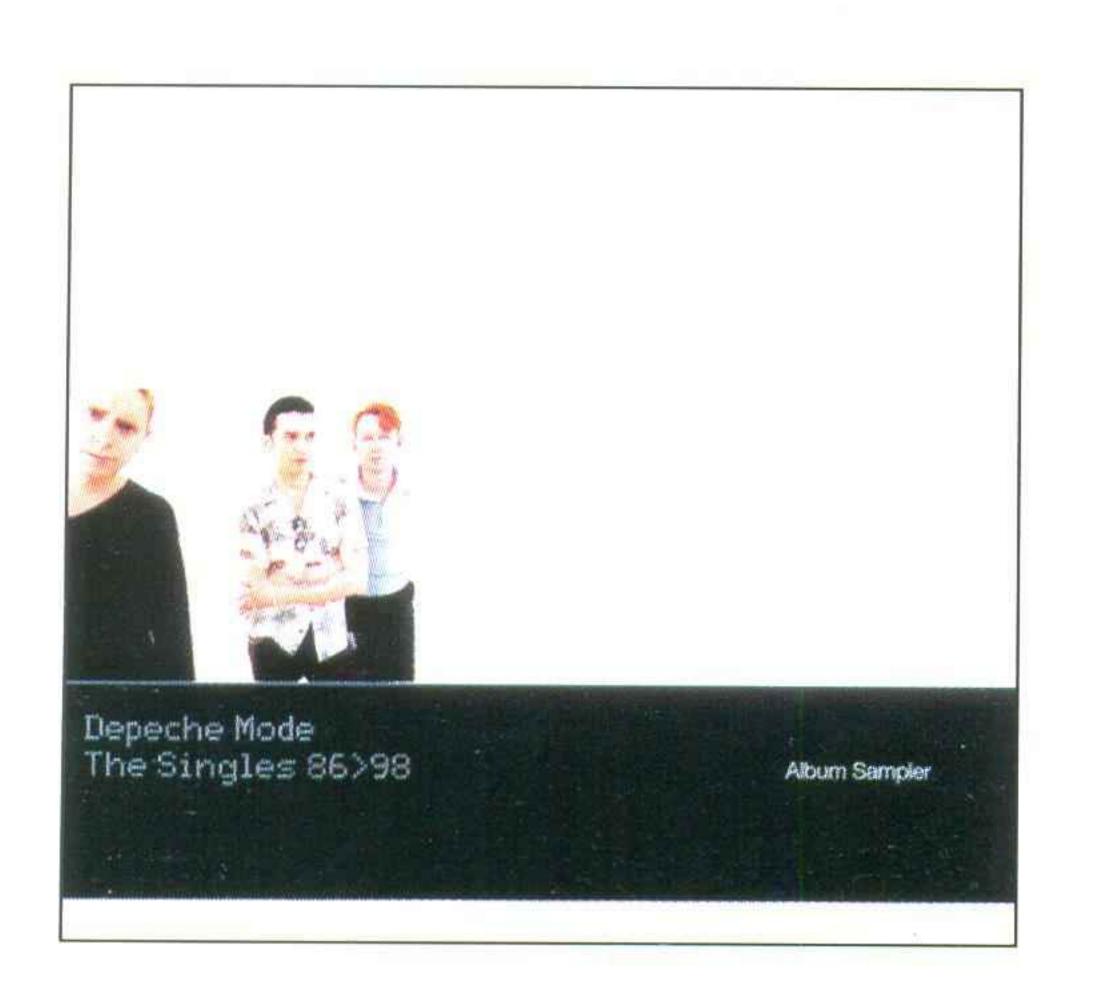
vs. Depeche Mode)

B2/ "Surrender" (Catalan FC Out Of Reach Mix)

#### The Singles 86>98

The long awaited singles collection "The Singles 86>98" is due out on 28th September and should be available in the following formats: 2CD, MC and a limited vinyl box set (15 000 copies only!). It contains all the singles Depeche Mode have released over the past twelve years, including "Little 15" that was previously released as a single in France only and a live version of "Everything Counts" recorded at The Rose Bowl, Pasadena.

Mute Records UK have pressed up a six track promo CD (DEPRO2CD) as a teaser for the upcoming double CD compilation "The Singles 86-98". The featured tracks include: "Enjoy The Silence", "It's No Good", "Never Let Me Down Again", "Personal Jesus", "Stripped" and "Walking In My Shoes". This advance was followed by another promo (ACD), a double CD that already contained the original tracklisting of "The Singles 86-98".





There is also a triple promotional vinyl (P12MUTEL5) and a promotional CD (PCDMUTEL5) available under the name "The Remixes 86>98" and it features:

- A1/ "A Question Of Time" (Extended Remix)
- A2/ "Strangelove" (Hijack Mix)
- B1/ "Behind The Wheel" (Beatmasters Remix)
- B2/ "Everything Counts" (Absolut Mix)
- C1/ "Personal Jesus" (Pump Mix)
- C2/ "Enjoy The Silence"
  (Hands And Feet Mix)
- D1/ "Walking In My Shoes" (Grungy Gonads Mix)
- D2/ "Rush"
  - (Spiritual Guidance Mix)
- E1/ "Barrel Of A Gun" (Underworld Hard Mix)
- F1/ "It's Not Good" (Club 69 Future Mix)



dm/live

#### The Singles 81>85

If you still don't have "The Singles 81>85" in your collection, then your chance will come on 26th October, when Mute plan to re-release the first singles compilation. The new version of "The Singles 81>85" (CD/MC/2LP) will feature a completely re-designed booklet/ packaging and, of course, the sound quality will be pulled to perfection. You will also be treated to two bonus tracks - "Just Can't Get Enough" (Schizo Mix) and "Photographic" (Some Bizzare Mix) which will be included on each of the available formats.

Mute is also pressing a promo CD and vinyl that will precede the official release of "The Singles 81>85" and will feature the following tracks:

#### PCDMUTEL5

"Just Can't Get Enough" (Schizo Mix)

"Get The Balance Right" (Combination Mix)

"Master And Servant" (Slavery Whip Mix)

"Everything Counts" (In Large Amounts)

#### P12MUTEL5

Side A/

"Just Can't Get Enough" (Schizo Mix)

"Get The Balance Right" (Combination Mix)
Side AA/

"Master And Servant" (Slavery Whip Mix)

"Everything Counts" (In Large Amounts)

### The Videos 86>98

It is now confirmed that there is going to be a new video compilation of the singles coinciding with the release date of the "The Singles 86>98". The tracklisting on this video will be the same as the album, but "Little 15" and "Everything Counts" will be featured in the correct chronological order.

#### Some Great Videos 81>85

The re-release of this video collection is planned for the same date as "The Singles 81>85" which is October 26. The tracklisting will remain the same, but note the change of title.

### The Singles Tour 86-98

Unbelievable! It seems that this tour is going to be 'historic', as the tickets have been selling fantastically since the dates have been announced, and some of the shows were sold out within hours! Also for the first time ever, Depeche Mode visited Russia, Estonia and Latvia where they have a fan base of thousands!

Even if you've already seen one of the shows or you're still waiting for the Band to come to your town, we still thought you might be interested in some facts and tour details. We're not giving away everything, as we don't want to spoil it for those who haven't seen the show yet.

- > Depeche Mode are, throughout Europe, supported by a girl electronic trio called Purity
- > Tim Simenon also steps on stage to do a bit of DJ-ing
- > the stage-set design and video projection were provided once again by Anton Corbijn and it looks fantastic
- > the song-list includes all your all time favourite hits
- > live drums are featured on every song, and Martin plays a lot of guitar
- > the stage equipment includes: Christian Sonor drum kit (custom built), Martin 2 Knight guitars (Gretsch Anniversary copies), 1 Gretsch Tennessee Rose, 2 Emax II sample keyboards (on stage), 2 Akai S3000XL samplers (off stage via midi), Fletch 2 Emax II sample keyboards (on stage), 2 Akai S3000XL samplers (off stage via midi), Peter Roland A90 keyboard, Roland JP8000 synthesiser (on stage), Roland JD800 keyboard, Roland JV1080 module, 2 Akai S3000XL samplers (off stage via midi)
- > Depeche Mode are accompanied on stage by Christian Eigner on drums, Peter Gordeno on keyboards and Jordan Bailey and Janet Cooke, the two backing vocalists

#### Promotion

Depeche Mode were in the States in the middle of July, on location in New York City, to film the video for their new single "Only When I Lose Myself". Brian Griffin, who collaborated with the Band on their first four album covers directed the video. The Band also did a photo shoot with Marina Chavez and you can see some of the new photographs from that session in this issue.

At the beginning of August, just before rehearsals started, the Band spent a couple of days doing some promotion for the international media, which included: Het Nieuwsblad-daily (Belgium), Les Inrock (France), Crossbeat (Japan), O3 Radio (Austria), WOM Journal (Germany), TV2 (Norway), NRJ-radio network (France), TV TF1 (France), The Guardian-daily (UK), Rolling Stone (Australia), The Sun-daily (UK), In Rock (Japan), Republica-daily (Italy), TV ORF (Austria), P3 Radio (Denmark), Tribal Generation TV (Italy), El Periodicodaily (Spain), ABC-daily (Spain), Radio DRS3 (Switzerland) and Radio 21 (Belgium).

The production rehearsals took place during the last week of August at Three Mills Island Studios in East London. The run through of the set commenced each day at 3pm and lasted for over two hours, giving everyone an opportunity to see what needed to be changed or improved on the sound, lights, projection, instrumentation etc. Apart from the rehearsals, the Band had to complete interviews for the Estonian media and several US tabloids - Boston Globe, Washington Post, Launch, San Diego Tribune and Denver Post, to name a few.

To celebrate the release of "The Singles 86>98" album, Mute Records and Wild Promotions organised a series of Depeche Mode nights, held in night clubs around the UK in September. There was a special section devoted entirely to Depeche Mode - playing tracks, give-aways, competitions and more. We are sure that there will be many similar events across Europe and overseas, so keep your eyes and ears

open for details. The UK dates

included:

8/9 SOUTHEND 10/9 GLASGOW

11/9 NEWCASTLE, BELFAST, LEEDS

12/9 BRISTOL, MANCHESTER, BIRMINGHAM

15/9 BRIGHTON

18/9 SHEFFIELD, LONDON

19/9 NOTTINGHAM, NORWICH

A back catalogue of all Depeche Mode albums will be soon available from Mute at reduced prices, so watch out for this special offer!

Mute is producing a handful of promotional items and merchandise to promote all the releases including "Only When I Lose Myself" postcards and posters, "The Singles 86>98" assorted posters, stickers, T-shirts, presentation boxes, digital watches, laptop bags, "The Singles 81>85" posters, postcards, mugs and more. You will be pleased to know that you can win some of this merchandise at this year's Bong Convention on 25th October! How about that?

#### General

The International Federation of Phonographic Industry (IFPI) has recently announced the platinum statuses for the international albums released in 1997. Unsurprisingly "Ultra" is on the list, along with a number of other great albums.

Depeche Mode are the most listened to band in Russia and "Ultra" has become their best selling international album according to the Russian information agency InterMedia. Depeche have been given InterMedia's 'Record Award' which is presented to the artist(s) who have sold the highest amount of records. Two good reasons to visit Russia.

VRT a Belgian TV channel, showed a programme on 4th May called 'Kwesties' in which people with schizophrenia were asked on how they view the World. One of the patients, a woman in her late thirties, said she had a deep need to sing all day long - at which point began to sing "Somebody".

A new video of "Never Let Me Down Again" (Aggro Mix) by a Russian director- was shown by the Russian TV station 'Nokonehue 98' - (Channel One). It's weird but good!

"Painkiller" has been used since February for the competition section of 'The Box', a UK music programme on cable TV.

In the build up to the FA Cup Final, around one minute of "The Love Thieves" was used as background music during a feature on Newcastle/Kenny Dalglish shown on ITV, a UK television station.

"Never Let Me Down Again" was used to open an episode of the series 'Jump Street' starring Johnny Depp. It was broadcast on the Czech TV channel Nova on Aug 5.

On July 26, 'Wow Fab Groovy' a quiz show on Channel 5 in the UK, played "Just Can't Get Enough" and showed the special events of that year. Gerry Marsden of the sixties band 'Gerry and The Pacemakers' guessed the year correctly. When asked how he knew, he said his eldest daughter was 15 then and she used to love Depeche Mode! He guessed 1981 and, of course, he was right!

The Danish TV channel TV2 used an excerpt of "Sister Of Night" on June 26 as background music to a collage of TV footage from this years Roskilde Festival.

The French music channel MCM seem to be very fond of Depeche Mode, as they have dedicated their regular feature called 'L'Intégral' to Depeche Mode and their videos several times over.

On May 16th, the French channel Arte, broadcast a one hour long documentary on the Band during the "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" period, together with some

snippets of live performances and video clips. The documentary was complete with interviews featuring Anton Corbijn, D.A. Pennebaker and Tim Simenon.

On June 25th, the Spanish Radio Station RV (Radio Vilafranca) broadcast a half-hour special dedicated to Depeche Mode. The programme was called 'La Placa', tracks included "Just Can't Get Enough", "Get The Balance Right", "Behind The Wheel", "Somebody", "Things You Said" and "Useless".

The band Rammstein recorded a new video for their cover version of "Stripped" from the tribute album "For The Masses".

Many thanks to Bernard Van Isacker, Lee North, Kate Nikolaeva, Lorraine Piner, Jens Bay, Toni Santisteban, Andrew Lawrence, Claire Poulain and to anyone else who sent in contributions. Please, keep the information coming in and don't forget that Everything Counts!

Depeche Mode Info Line

BONG has its own information line, regularly updated to provide you with any new information as soon as it happens, i.e. latest DM news and forthcoming Bong activities. To find out more, please dial 0171-486 9044 but please note there is only one line, so if the number is busy keep trying - don't give up! The maximum price for any individual call to this line should not be more than 25p.

## < Presed In Black >

#### Dear Bong,

"I feel hypnotized..." - well that's the impression I got after listening to latest Depeche Mode single "Only When I Lose Myself", the first single of their forthcoming compilation "The Singles 86>98". The radio release-date of the single is for mid-August, but testpressings are already floating about. You can also hear a one minute snip on the Internet, but impossible to judge, since the whole track is 4:33 minutes long, and has a build-up of about one minute! But what does the song sound like? Well, Martin, has once again, left the 120 BPM in the drawer (for good?) and has clear influences of "Sister Of Night" and even "Waiting For The Night". With Tim Simenon producing, the simple bass-lines and violin soundscopes lifts the track up to a level that will leave most DM fans astonished once again. Listen to the twist in Dave's voice after the first minute and you will rush to your CD player to hear it over and over again. Dave's vocal performance on "Only When I Lose Myself" is likely to be one of his best ever. Obviously I love this song. The track might as well have been part of "Violator" although it hasn't got that typical bombastic 'Alan's touch'. The normal formats will include, as usual, several mixes and instrumental as well. But like Alan Wilder noticed a while ago, most remixes and remixers have done a crappy job remixing DM in the past. We'll have to wait and see if these remixes will leave us as hypnotized as the original 7".....

Bernard Van Isacker Side Line nr. 24

#### Dear Bong,

I am so glad that I became a member of Bong this year. I am a devoted follower of Depeche Mode, so what better way to keep up with all the new and exciting events that are happening! I wish I could fly to Europe so that I could see them in concert - which would be such a thrill.

Regarding the idea of having a symbol that represents the band, well it is really up to them...but maybe the fleur de lys.... would be a good symbol. Depeche Mode have recently used this quite a bit, and I think it represents them well. The three petals of the lily could be equal to the three members of Depeche Mode...Martin, Andrew and Dave. A trinity of three fabulously talented and gorgeous guys. Also the French orientated name of the band fits well with the French inspired logo. However, I like the various images the band uses, for nothing can stand still forever and it is exciting to explore different imagery instead of always keeping to the same format. I can only give my congratulations to them for all their hard work in maintaining the unsurpassed quality that is present in their music and their performance.

I hope that maybe Martin, Andrew and Dave will consider returning one day to Australia..... Vive le Depeche Mode!!!!

#### Judith M.Parker Australia

Editor's note: Please keep your designs of an emblem, symbol or logo - whichever reflects what Depeche Mode mean to you - coming to our usual address. We have postponed the deadline until November 15 and don't forget we have five very special prizes to give away, one for the overall winner, and four for each of the runners up.

#### Dear Bong,

First of all, thank you very much for another great issue of Bong. It was nice to see that the boys are obviously in a very good mood for the forthcoming releases and tour.

When I saw the tracklisting of the forthcoming singles album I was a little bit disappointed, because one track was missing - "Little 15". We all know that this wasn't a big hit and I think it was never intended to be a big seller. It wasn't initially planned to release this song as a single, but was later released due to foreign demand (especially in France). And for a long time there were never ending rumours that this single was only available in the UK on import which wasn't true at all as the British copies existed all the time.

The album will be called "The Singles 86>98" and "Little 15" WAS a single. I think many fans including me would be

disappointed if Depeche Mode released an "incomplete" singles collection. There's enough space on a double CD for this one to be included!

#### Thomas Koeckeis Vienna, Austria

Editor's note: You will probably know by now that "Little 15" has been included on "The Singles 86>98". The tracklisting we featured in Bong 36 was unconfirmed at that time and was therefore subject to change - and what a nice change, hey?

#### Dear Bong,

Thanks a lot for the great issue of Bong 36 with so many beautiful pictures and fresh information. Every time I get the magazine my mood rises so high that it's difficult to breathe and then I realise that Depeche Mode are what creates my life day by day. Thanks to them I've met so many beautiful people and learned so many new things. I am really grateful and wish this love would never stop.

I read your magazine many times over and whilst observing the 'Everything Counts' section I thought how interesting it is to see how Depeche Mode music is used in different countries. The question I asked myself was - why nobody informs Bong of how it is in Russia?

Depeche Mode are such a popular band over here. There are masses of fans and I am absolutely sure that if they came to my country, they would experience enormous success in overloaded venues. I don't know the reason why the Band haven't visited Russia yet but they have to know one thing - over here they are the most popular and respected band ever (and the most adorable!) It is considered good taste to mention Depeche Mode or make references to their creativity on many popular radios and TV stations, no matter whether they speak about techno, rock or pop music.

Radio Maximum (103,7FM) in Moscow, for example, plays DM songs quite often and sometimes uses them as background music as well. They were also heavily promoting "Ultra" and in April '98 held a weekend dedicated to

can by Maudy

Depeche Mode with a chance to win copies of the album. As far as TV programmes go I would like to mention the one made by Voyen-TV which is taking a closer look at the military service and its problems in Russia. It's shown every Sunday on Channel No.1 and you hear Depeche Mode music playing in the background almost every week. They are using many different songs, but the ones from "Music For The Masses" and "Violator" are their favourites. Of course, there are lots of other programmes with or about Depeche Mode and newspapers full of articles, not to mention the DM parties organised for fellow devotees in Moscow.

I don't know whether this information is worth anything to you, but I thought it's about time something was said about Russia and if I didn't do this I wouldn't be a real fan.

Svetlana Moscow, Russia

**Editor's note:** It's good to hear how successful Depeche Mode are in Russia. You must be pleased that the Band have finally managed to include two Russian

cities in "The Singles Tour 86-98" this September, as well as the dates in Estonia and Latvia. We are confident that the interest in Depeche Mode will double after those performances and urge all fans from Russia (and, of course, Estonia and Latvia) to tell us about the shows and the atmosphere before and after each gig.

#### Dear Bong,

One day I saw Depeche Mode on TV in a video clip of "Enjoy The Silence" and it was like a call. Since that day, Depeche Mode are like my Personal Jesus and I Rush for them. I have all their records In My Room and it's my favourite passion.

I was very afraid when Dave was ill but now he feels good again I am happy and hope that Depeche will continue making their music for several more years. "Ultra" was such a success last year and I am now waiting impatiently for "The Singles Tour 86-98" when I would like to meet Depeche Mode in Paris. It is, of course, a dream......

Sometimes, my life is so sad and when I cry, Depeche Mode are the only

ray of light for me. I'm a Sister Of Night and I will never let Depeche Mode down. Thank you guys for giving me a reason to live.

#### Sellin Patricia Cercarneau, France

#### Dear Bong,

This is just a note to say thanks to Fletch for his warmth and kindness. I bumped in to him at Gatwick airport recently in WH Smiths of all places!!!! He was on his way to the 'Cup winners cup final' in Stockholm. I bet he was pleased with the result. We chatted for about 20 minutes about love, life, DM, booze, the usual stuff....gigs in London, Paris, Boston.....can't wait for the tour !!! He's a real gent.... Many, many thanks...

#### Gary Lornie England

#### Dear Bong,

In Bong 33 I had a message printed in the 'Contacts' section. Within that contact paragraph was a short message for any Japanese fans. Basically, I asked: "Where are the Japanese fans? Write to me!" To be honest, I never actually thought I'd receive a reply....but I did, and was pleasantly surprised to receive a letter from a fan called Mototaka Fujii from Yamagata. I'm glad that I was finally acknowledged by someone from Japan, considering way back in Bong 20 I had a similar message printed, and then only received one letter from Tokyo. I have to say that it is very easy to be convinced that Depeche Mode don't have many fans in Japan - quite the contrary I'm glad to say as there are more Japanese fans than you or I think. Over the years I have had arguments with other fans about the 'Japanese fan question', and many people poorly criticise by saying: "If there are so many Japanese fans, then where are they?"

Being a DM listener doesn't necessarily mean a fan subscribing to a fan club; indeed it is highly probable that the DM sound in Japan has attracted some of its most fanatical partisans. Another reason for the 'alleged silence' from Japanese fans is that many form their own 'unofficial fan clubs', and then have as much fun as anyone else. And of course, not everyone can afford to come to concerts or conventions, or even join a fan club in Europe when you live thousands of miles away.

Also, quite coincidentally, a few months ago I was browsing through some old Bong magazines and found in Bong 27, on the 'Pressed In Black' section, a letter from Mototaka Fujii, the same fan who wrote to me from Japan



Photo by JD Fanger

after reading my message in Bong 33 (read his letter, it's very interesting). He seemed quite anxious. Mototaka asked Bong why it was that Depeche Mode excluded Japan from the Devotional Tour. Their answer was as follows: "....tour had to be cancelled at the last minute for logistical reasons...." Quite understandable really but unfortunate for Japanese fans. However, as I'm sure everyone knows, Depeche Mode begin the European leg of "The Singles Tour" in September, and nothing has yet been confirmed regarding dates for the rest of the World. So I, and many of my friends, are all keeping our fingers crossed that Depeche Mode perform live in Japan. I know that that would make all my buddies in Japan extremely happy. Lets face it, I think Mute Records are well aware of "Ultra's" album sales, and despite any increases or decreases in those figures compared to "SOFAD", Depeche Mode could still easily fill stadiums in both Tokyo and Osaka.

Let's see a bigger contribution to Bong's pages from fans in Japan because a lot of people know you're out there!?! And I want to thank Depeche Mode for their excellent music, because without it, I wouldn't have all my wonderful and greatest of friends!

#### Anthony J.S. Thompson Fleetwood, England

Editor's note: It's amazing that the kind of bond between fans can be developed when it comes to Depeche Mode. We are always delighted when we find a letter like this in our mail, and that you care about fellow devotees so much. Coincidentally, we received a letter from Mototaka about the same time as we received Anthony's – so here's one more about Japanese fans....

#### Dear Bong,

I would like to make comments on the great news that the Mode's world tour is kicking off this September. Is there still any chance for us East Asian devotees to see their exciting live performance without taking a long distance trip to European countries or Stateside?

Given the fact that the band visited Japan five times throughout the 80s and has established a hard-core fan-base here, I am still worrying whether they will visit here or elsewhere in Asia Pacific regions on the forthcoming tour.

I have read in previous Bong issues that the latest album went gold/platinum in nine countries in Europe as well as in Hong Kong, the only country in Asia. During the coming World tour, if they do visit these countries where "Ultra" has

made great success, why not tour in places such as Hong Kong and other Asian Pacific countries where "Ultra" has also been successful and gone gold?

For instance, the Japanese fans have lost opportunities to see the Mode on stage here for more than 8 years. As you understand, it is not always easy for us ardent fans in the Far East to travel all the way to Europe or the States for the sake of music concerts. Travelling abroad almost always requires time and financial costs unless you get a good opportunity to make it possible.

So PLEASE, PLEASE take our wishes into good consideration so we can share some unforgettable nights with the band who have also given a lifelong influence to us here in Asia Pacific countries. We have always been devoted to the band!

#### Mototaka Fujii Yamagata-ken, Japan

**Editor's note:** Unfortunately, there are no plans to visit Japan during The Singles Tour. The cost of transporting all the people and equipment for just a few shows would be far too high.

#### Dear Bong,

To start, I would like to thank you for your magazine. It's great and there are so many DM photographs, interesting reviews, information about the band's plans and competitions etc.

The only thing that saddens me is that there are too little interviews with the Band. I really enjoyed reading the transcript of the DM press conference in the last edition of Bong where I could learn something more about the band. However I think it's a drop in the ocean, so I suggest opening the new series of 'further excerpts' from DM interviews instead of 'Bootlegs & DJ Mixes' or 'Blasphemous Rumours' which in my opinion are useless. I am sure that everyone would be really interested in a new series of DM interviews and they don't have to be the latest ones either. What do you think about the idea?

The next subject I'd like to bring up is "The Singles Tour 86-98" and this time I am going to speak on behalf of all the Polish DM fans who want to know why Depeche Mode don't take in account coming to Poland during their tours?

Dave, Martin and Andy, if you are reading my letter now, you must know that there are thousands of Polish fans who are looking forward to seeing you (at least once) here in Poland. We have pleasant memories of the Warsaw concert in 1985 and would like to ask you to consider coming back to Warsaw this year. DM fans from Poland invite you heartily.

Finally, I would like to greet Dave, Martin and Andy, fans from all over the World, Stan Kierys, DM club 'Black Depeches' from Bartoszyce and all the staff at Bong.

#### Zbigniew Cier Lidzbark Warminski, Poland

Editor's note: Thanks for your letter and your suggestion of running a new feature containing interviews with the Band. However there are two sides to this - we understand that you would like to see more interviews in Bong and we do all we can to bring you as many of them as possible. We also think that it would be of more interest to you reading new and original Depeche Mode interviews that are exclusive to Bong, rather than just re-printing old stuff that most of you will have seen and got copies of anyway. That's why we created 'Blasphemous Rumours', a selection of the most interesting bits that were ever published on Depeche Mode, even though they're only brief. We also hope you enjoy Martin's interview in this issue, at least till the next time....

We are sorry, but don't agree that 'Bootlegs & DJ Mixes' is a useless section. It has become one of the regular favourites among the fans and as you know provides helpful information on what to be aware of when purchasing bootleg records.

As for Polish dates....Depeche Mode had no wish to tour for as long as they did on The Devotional Tour, so it just isn't possible to play in every country.

#### Dear Bong,

Since the day I was introduced to Depeche Mode by my cousin in 1981, I have not stopped listening to them. The songs from "New Life" to "Walking In My Shoes" have given me a lot of inspiration to face challenges. It has been a great pleasure to join Bong where I can get more information on what's happening in the group. My country does not have many followers of the band and that's why I decided to join. The last time I saw Depeche Mode perform live was in Singapore. It took me 13 years to see them in person and I really enjoyed myself very much.

After hearing that Depeche Mode are back with the new album "Ultra", I have been very anxious and can't stop listening to their music. I will continue in my devotion and look forward to their coming events - i.e. double CD, new single and hopefully a concert somewhere in Asia....

Gregory Lim Malaysia

Words and Music by Martin L. Gore

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It's only when I lose myself in someone else That I find myself I find myself

Something beautiful is happening inside for me Something sensual, it's full of fire and mystery I feel hypnotised I feel paralysed I have found heaven

There's a thousand reasons
Why I shouldn't spend my time with you
For every reason not to be here
I can think of two
To keep me hanging on
Feeling nothing's wrong
Inside your heaven

It's only when I lose myself in someone else
That I find myself
I find myself

I can feel the emptiness inside me
Fade and disappear
There's a feeling of contentment
Now that you are here
I feel satisfied
I belong inside
Your velvet heaven

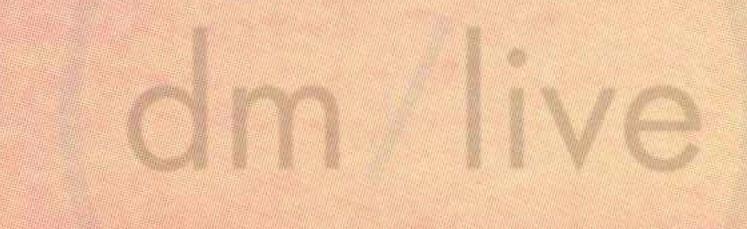
Did I need to sell my soul for pleasure like this

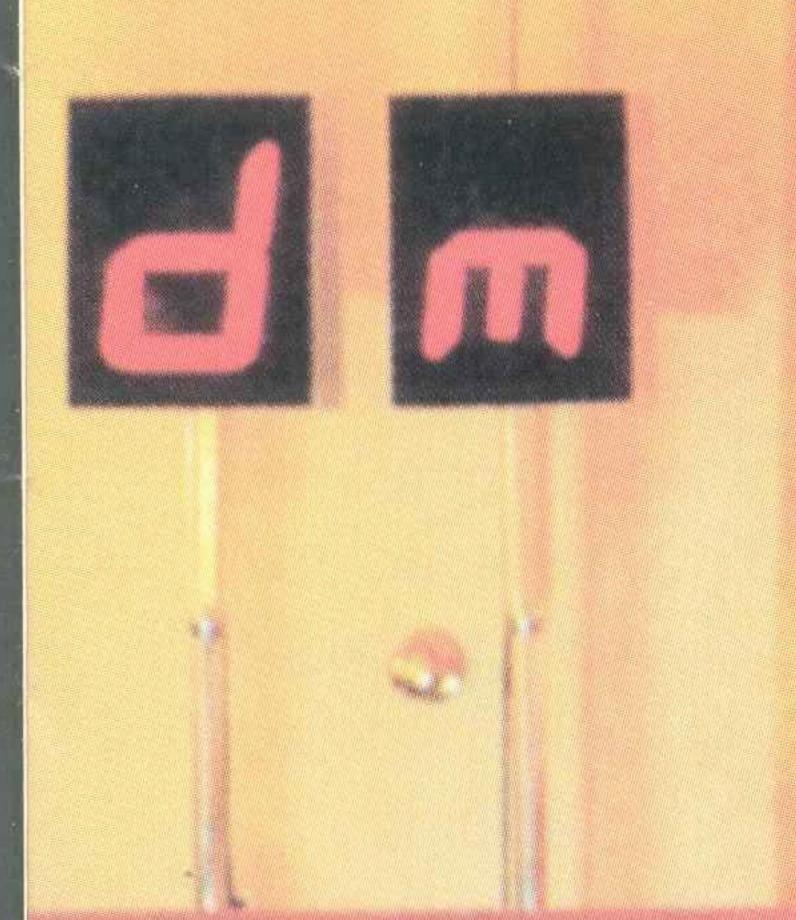
Did I have to lose control to treasure your kiss

Did I need to place my heart in the palm of your hand

Before I could even start to understand

It's only when I lose myself in someone else
That I find myself
I find myself





The following list of dates were correct at the time of going to press, but please note that they are subject to change. Any updates will be put on the Info Line or web site as soon as they are confirmed.

#### **OCTOBER**

Tue 27 Worcester, MA Centrum

Wed 28 New York City, NY Madison Square Garden

#### **NOVEMBER**

Sun 1	Philadelphia, PA	Spectrum
Thu 5	Toronto, ON	Skydome
Fri 6	Montreal, QB	Molson Center
Sun 8	Cleveland, OH	Gund Arena
Mon 9	Detroit, MI	The Palace
Wed 11	Washington, DC	Patriot Center
Fri 13	Miami, FL	Arena
Sat 14	Orlando, FL	Arena
Sun 15	Tampa, FL	Ice Palace
Wed 18	Houston, TX	Compaq Center
Thu 19	Dallas, TX	Reunion Arena
Fri 20	San Antonio, TX	Alamodomee
Tue 24	Chicago, IL	Rosemont Arena
Wed 25	Minneapolis, MN	Target Center
Sun 29	Denver, CO	McNichols

#### **DECEMBER**

Tue 1	Salt Lake City, UT	Delta Center
Fri 4	Vancouver, BC	PNE Coliseum
Sun 6	Portland, OR	Rose Garden
Mon 7	Seattle, WA	Key Arena
Wed 9	Sacramento, CA	Arco Arena
Fri 11	Oakland, CA	Oakland Coliseum
Mon 14	Phoenix, AZ	America West Arena
Tue 15	San Diego, CA	Cox Arena
Fri 18	Inglewood, CA	Forum

Note: These dates are additional to the ones printed in Bong 36 -

September 1998

Sat 5th Moscow

Olympiski

Mon 7th

St Petersburg

SKK Indoor Arena





## >> Blasphemous Rumours

Considering the fact that not everyone can get hold of all the newspapers and magazines with DM interviews, reviews and gossip, here are some of the most interesting bits that were published on DM not just in the press but also on TV and radio. If you would like to take part and help us, then send us copies of any relevant articles you may find in the newspapers of your country together with an English translation to the usual Bong address. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

#### **Devotional Tour**

"We had 11 or 14 screens on stage with visuals interacting between all the screens. I think we realised, maybe it was over the top. So we scaled it down for the second leg and I think that actually went over better with the audience, with just a couple of screens. This time, we'll probably only have a couple of screens as well."

Martin Gore, Allstarmag/Rocktropolis.com (July 1998)

#### The Singles Tour 86-98

"The Essex boys have shed a member or two but remarkably few fans over their 17-year pop career. Their first concerts in five years find them doing the stadium thing around Europe, where the beefier recent material will work better than the early synth tunes."

Evening Standard (22 April 1998)

### Touring

"We made mistakes with our last tour. We planned too much and it was too long. So this is just a smallish tour for us. If we enjoy ourselves and if we feel good and everyone is healthy, then the idea would be to do some more interesting dates in the spring or summer of next year."

Andy Fletcher, MTV Radio Network (July 1998)

#### For The Masses

"I particularly like Failure's version of 'Enjoy The Silence'. But I also like the Deftones' version of 'To Have and to Hold' and I find Rammstein's cover of 'Stripped' very humorous. I've always liked the Smashing Pumpkins' version of 'Never Let Me Down Again', but that's been out for a while."

Martin Gore, Allstarmag/Rocktropolis.com (July 1998)

#### Depeche Mode

"There were lots of times that we considered quitting, but now I think there's a pretty good vibe in the band and we feel fresh."

Andy Fletcher, NME (May 1998)

#### For The Masses

"It's interesting to hear other peoples' perspective on our songs and the way that they hear them and the way that musically they record them. I particularly like the Smashing Pumpkins version of 'Never Let Me Down', because it's kind of like the opposite of what you'd expect the Pumpkins to do with it. I actually like their version a lot better than ours."

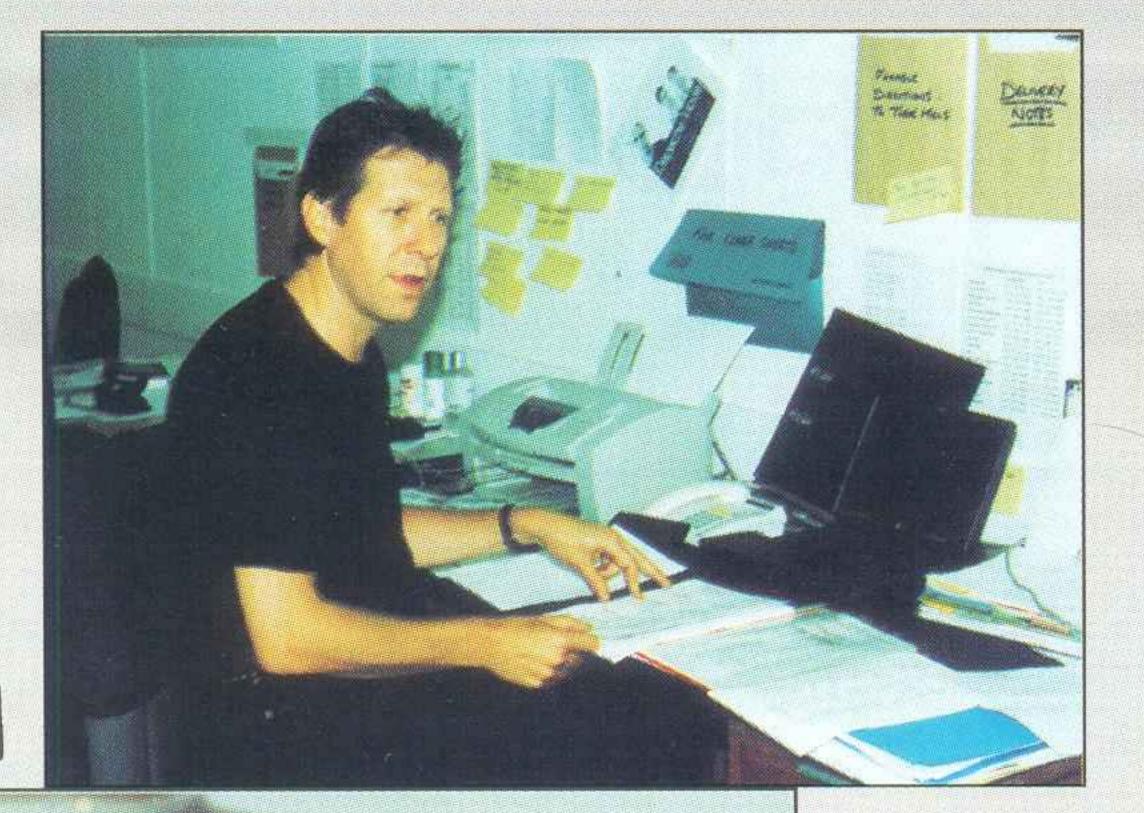
Dave Gahan, MTV News (May 1998)

#### Only When I Lose Myself Video

"He [Brian Griffin] sees the song as being very ethereal, so the look of the video is supposed to be very ethereal and dreamlike. Apart from that, it's going to be hard to judge, because all we did was rock in and out of the light. He shot images of wrecked cars and of couples who look very similar to each other standing next to the wrecked cars and I told him I quite like the imagery, but I'm not quite sure what you're trying to say. I think he's portraying this obsession thing. The couples that look similar maybe represent the duality of the relationship, and about people losing themselves into each other."

Martin Gore, Allstarmag/Rocktropolis.com (July 1998)

dm/live



THE REHEA

25th-27th August 1998

The Depeche Mode Rehearsals

Three Mills Island Studios

London

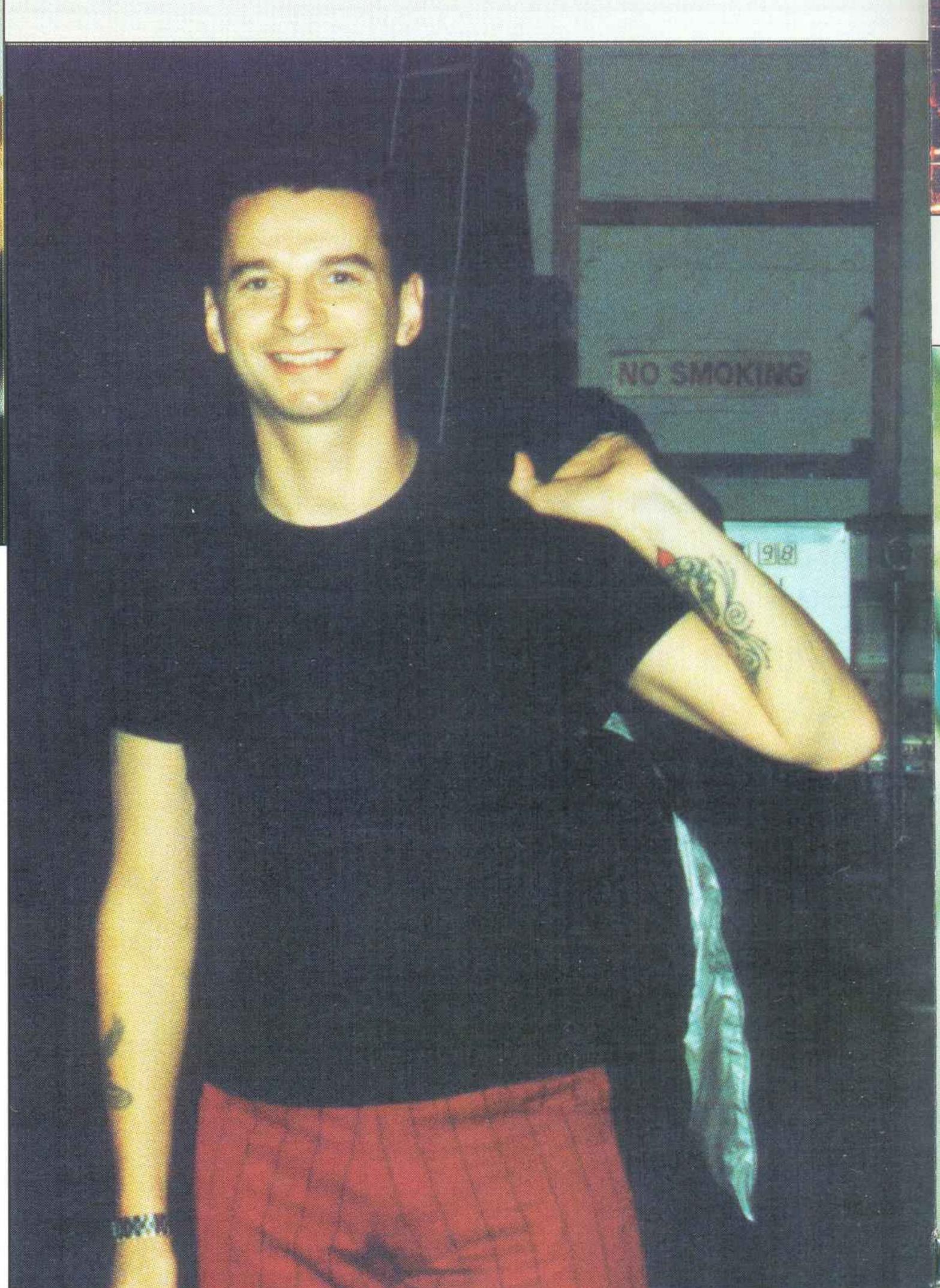
Franksy



Martin



Tim

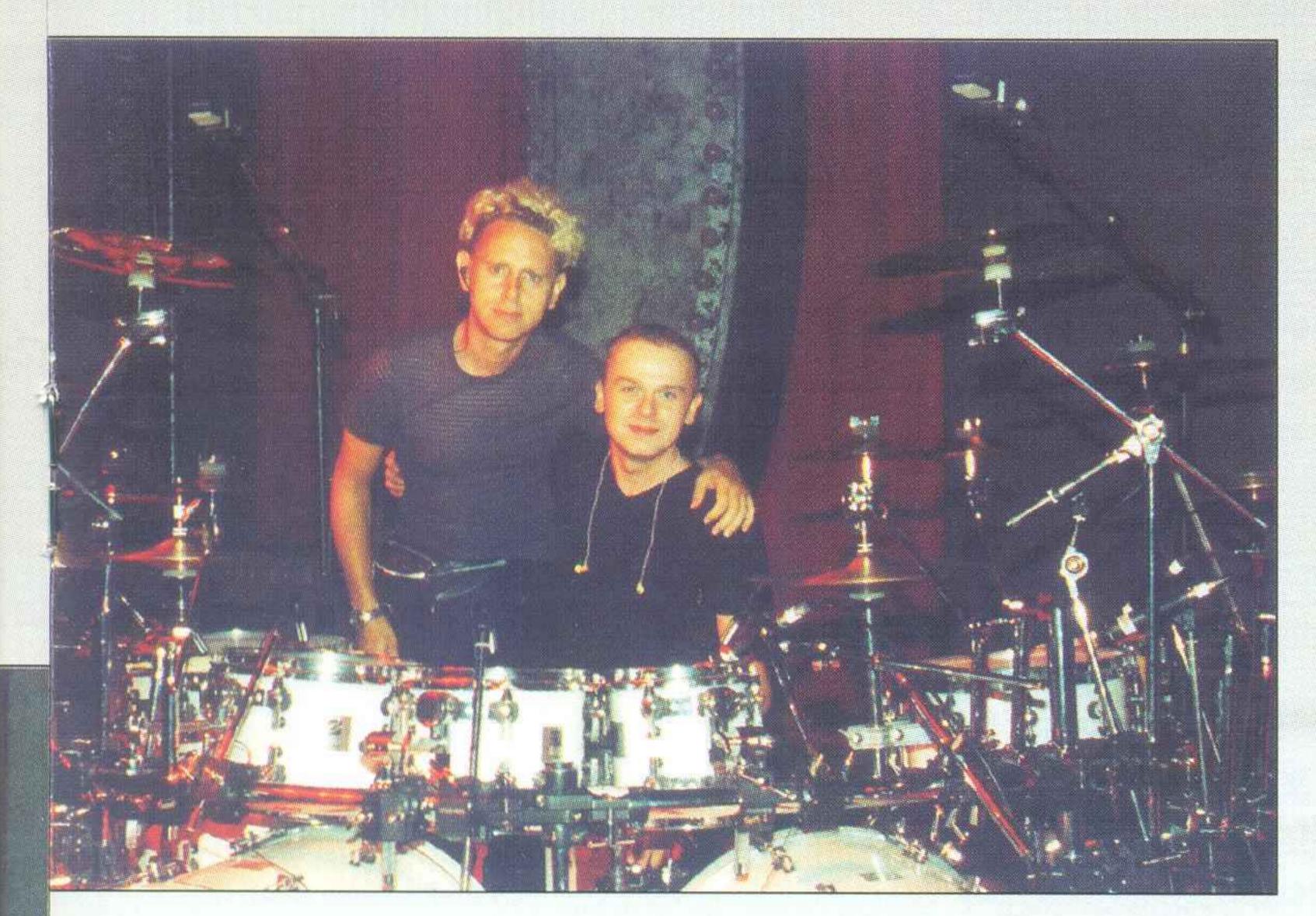


Davie

Photographs by Michaela Olexova

dm/live

# ARSALS PHOTO



Martin & Christian





Dave



Jordan & Janet

Fletch



#### Scan by Maudy

As the USA tour dates were not available when Bong 36 went to press, we had to compose another round of "Dreaming Of Depeche Mode" in order to give five pairs of back-stage passes to US fans and the same opportunity of meeting the Band.

## Dreaming Of Dependentosa

So if you are going to any of the concerts in the States and want a chance to meet Depeche Mode, all you have to do is to answer the following questions correctly then send your entry to the usual address before the end of October. The other two conditions are that you have to be a BONG member and already have a concert ticket for the date on which you would be able to meet the Band.

If meeting the Band has been your life-long dream, then this is one way you could make your wish come true! If you answer the questions correctly and you're picked at random, we will notify you immediately, giving you full details and instructions.

We wish you all GOOD LUCK!!!

Name:
Age:
Address:
***************************************
Tel/fax:
E-mail:
I would like to meet Depeche Mode
in(city) on (date)

In the last issue of Bong we gave you a chance to win back-stage passes in our meet & greet contest (Dreaming Of Depeche Mode). Simply by answering all the questions correctly, you could have the opportunity to meet the Band in person during "The Singles Tour 86-98". Well, we picked out five lucky winners at random during the last week of August, but as there were so many correct entries and the questions weren't the easiest, we decided to pick an additional ten runners-up. They will be sent an "Ultra" T-shirt each and an autographed picture of Depeche Mode.

5 pairs of "backstage passes" go to: Milan Krbecek (Czech Republic), Charlotte Redout (UK), Catherine Dolmen (France), Jacqui Dark (UK), Tracy McLoughlin (UK)

10 "Ultra" T-shirts and autographed cards go to: Dirk Lamer (Germany, Rebecca Oliver (UK), Michael Crowe (UK), Ramona Borsch (Germany), Bertrand Porhel (France), Paul Milbourne (UK), Marie Keegan (UK), Maria Ruiz (Spain), Krzysztof Roman (Poland) and V. Casalas (Portugal).

1. What's the name of the director of the video "The World We Live In And Live In Hamburg"?
2. Where and when did Depeche Mode finish their "World Violation Tour"?
3. What's the only Depeche Mode album that reached No. 1 in the USA Chart?
4. What's the name of the DM song The Cure covered for the tribute album "For The Masses"?
5. In which six countries was the video compilation "Strange" filmed?
6. In what song from "Ultra" does Daniel Miller play System 700?
7. Who wrote the song "Route 66"?
8. Which three bands supported Depeche Mode on July 31, 1993 at Crystal Palace, London?
9. What was the final song in the set on the "Music For The Masses Tour"?
10. Of the singles from "Ultra", which video wasn't directed by Anton Corbijn?
om/live



### 

#### Svetlana Matveyeva Mayakovskaya st. 3-50 188760 Priozersk Leningrad Region Russia

Hello everybody! Depeche Mode is the best! They make my life liveable and they make my heart smile. If you feel the same, write back to me, please! I want to know about you and about the world in your eyes. All letters will be answered.

#### Cristian Colica Str. Gradistea Nr. 19 Bl. 86, Sc. C, Et. 4, Ap. 44 Sector 4 75373 Bucharest Romania

Hello! I'm 24 years old DM fan and I live in Bucharest. I am 'crazy' about Dave Gahan. He's our God, an Ultra-God.... Who believes in this Ultra-life must not hesitate to write to me. Write from anywhere but have only one love: Depeche Mode!!!

#### Krzysztof Saganowski ul. Limanowska 8 54-029 Wroclaw Poland

I am an 18-year-old DM fan and a former radio DJ. You should try to speak about Depeche Mode on a radio once because it's a wonderful experience! I am looking for pen pals, information and DM stuff to exchange. I swear I will answer all the letters. Please write in German or English.

## Claire Poulain 2rue des bruyeres 35530 Servon sur Vilaine France

Hi! I am a 20 years old new DM fan but already an addict. I would like to correspond with other fans, especially with people I could go to a DM concert with (London). I also like The Prodigy, Massive Attack, Radiohead, Recoil and Stephen King's and Dean Koontz's books. Please don't hesitate to write to me. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

#### Maciej Wieckowski ul. Marii Dabrowskiej 19/55 01-903 Warsaw Poland

Welcome to Depeche World! I'm 22 years old and I'm looking for other Depeche fans over the world to get in touch with and to exchange DM stuff. I have a very large collection....

#### Lucia Mercurio Via Zurigo 20/4 20147 Milano Italy

Ciao, devotees from all over the world! I am a 23-year-old female. Could you spare a few minutes of your time? Are you suggesting that I lost my mind? Yes, I have lost my mind for Depeche Mode! And what about you? Please, grab a pen and write to me!!!

#### Marco Laconi Pestalozzistr. 2 CH-9403 Goldach Switzerland

Hi people! Are there no DM fans in Switzerland? I'm a 21 year-old boy and a great fan of Depeche Mode and Recoil. I want to correspond with other fans (boys and girls) from Switzerland. Please write to me in German, French, or Italian. I hope to hear from you soon.

#### Eliana Soledad Gianoli Laguna 1.334 Dto 4 (1.407), Capital Federal Buenos Aires Argentina

Hi! My name is Eliana and I'm 20 years old. I've been a Depeche fan for almost 10 years now. I'd like to contact other people from all over the world who love Depeche Mode (including the ex-members, especially Alan). I'd also like to swap or buy new DM stuff in order to add some new things to my collection. Please, write in English or Spanish as soon as possible. I promise to answer all the letters.

#### Natalie Rasponomarjova Instituta 36a - 22 Ulbroka LV-2130 Riga Latvija

Hi, my lonely soul brothers - fans of Depeche Mode! All I want to do is to be in touch with you. I can't live without friends and Depeche Mode. So, I am awaiting letters from anybody out there! See you!

#### Michela Moscone Via Santina Campana, 4 65100 Pescara Italy

Ciao, Martin's Devotees! I'm a 22 year-old fan of Depeche Mode from Italy. I love Martin Gore most of all! He creates such a magic melodies for us....I'd like to share my love for Depeche Mode with all the fans in the world! I will answer all the letters for 100%. My other interests include playing keyboard and remaking the DM songs....it's magic!!!

#### Bernadett Auch Thummesstr. 9 33330 Gütersloh Germany

Hello! I'm a 35 year old DM fan (a fan forever!) Please write to me about Martin, Dave and Fletch. Show me the world in their eyes! Please write in English or German.

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".

#### Scan by Maudy

Stripped It's quite fortunate that this singles compilation kicks off with "Stripped" because from then onwards I've liked every single that we've p A Heart". I like "Shake The Disease" but "It's Called A Heart" is one of the worst things we've ever released. I think that since the "Black Celebration This track has always been almost like an old 50s or 60s classic pop song. It's a really good song to do live and it's got a great melody. I joked with video Anton made for us and this is when we first started to develop our relationship with him. When we first met, we were very unsure about virtually everything for us ever since. We have strayed, and done a few things with other people, but he's pretty much done everything for us We did a lot of the recording there and even the "Strangelove" video was shot in Paris. I really like this track and think it's one of the poppies commerciality, not very often, and "Strangelove" is just on the right side. It's like "Enjoy The Silence", it's just on the right side of commerciality. a songwriter, the moment I start to think about these songs I picture the video.... This has always been a classic live and there's a great shot in audience doing that', but after a while I got over that effect and it just became amazing that so many people could and would do it. I don't thir is one of our classic old time tracks. Behind The Wheel I still really like that track. I remember when we finished it we went to The Mor different to anything else at the festival. Personal Jesus This song was our first experiment we had working with Flood and Francois Kev that it was a potential single, but we didn't have any idea of the mass appeal that it would have. We thought that it was the sort of thing that the studio about this song. We were especially worried about America, because the moment you mention the word Jesus in the title, you're a only time ever in the studio when we thought we had a hit single. When I finished the demo of this song it was more of a ballad and sounded a b I was really averse to at first, because I thought 'the song is called "Enjoy The Silence" and it's supposed to be about serenity, and serenity doe adds to the whole atmosphere. We could really hear that it had a crossover potential. I have to say that I was sulking for two days for no reason concept of having to lie to keep up appearances - maybe it's better to do that. I just really like the whole subject matter of the song. I like the potential of the songs is seen when they are performed in a more conventional format. I think a lot of the time, the songs are overlooked, disr "World In My Eyes" being slightly faster and maybe slightly more obvious. While we were recording it in Milan, Dave was going away for a cou lagged and being totally shocked, thinking that we just ruined the song, but half a day later he came back and he said 'that's really good, the off with the basic principle that we wanted to become more live, spontaneous and have a lot more performances involved. So that whole album we're going to come to sounding like a real authentic rock band. Walking In My Shoes If I really had to stick my neck out and choose really compliment each other perfectly. The instrumentation is also interesting. Condemnation Being the songwriter, I am not supposed the best out of it. Our album version is sort of pastiche gospel but the single version, that we recorded using the gospel singers, is possibly bett "In Your Room" is the making of the video. We spent a whole day in the studio filming and I probably had a lunch at some point, but it was just We went to the bar and I didn't eat.... We went out to a club and I didn't eat.... We came back and had a party in my room that went on till meeting, I couldn't even stand up. I had to lie down during the meeting and that was when I went into a seizure. So whenever I see this vide absence of four years, we all individually came to the conclusion that it would be good idea to release something that was a bit more of a cha



During the last week of August, I sat down with Martin just outside the studios where the band were rehearsing for the tour, and asked him to do a quick summing up of the band's career over the last twelve years. Martin recalled some of his most vivid memories and scenes he treasures as a songwriter, using the tracklisting of "The Singles 86>98".

We thought you also might like the chance to share your comments, observations and views on each of the songs from "The Singles 86>98" with other fans. Following Martin's example, choose one (or more) of your favourite songs from the singles collection, then give a brief description of what it means to you, reminds you of and/or why it inspires you. You can either send or e-mail your contribution to our usual addresses, we'll also send you a little something from our office for your effort.



#### Scan by Maudy

ve I've put out. It would have been slightly unlucky if it had started from 1985, as we would have started with "Shake The Disease" and "It's Called br ation" album we've started getting things right and "Stripped" is one of the best atmospheres we've ever captured. A Question Of Lust with the others about it the other day, saying that I think The Beatles stole the melody from me.... A Question Of Time This is the first out him as a person and he was very unsure about us, but after a few hours it was obvious that we were meant to get on. He's been doing or us over the last twelve years. **Strangelove** "Strangelove" and the whole "Music For The Masses" album reminds me of being in Paris. P piest singles on this collection. Somehow I don't know if it still works for me... occasionally in our career we've stepped the wrong side of al ity. There's a line and if you step over it too far it becomes bland pop music. Never Let Me Down Again It's funny, because being sh ot in "101" where Dave describes what he could feel. When the fans started that thing with hands I used to think 'this is silly, why are the I't think there's more than two people in the audience who don't do it or maybe I just can't see them. I think that "Never Let Me Down Again" Montreaux Pop Festival in Switzerland before it was released and we performed it there. I remember being really pleased with it and it was so is Kevorkian, and we were really unsure about how that whole relationship would work. We were really happy with the song and we realised 19 that we liked but the radio programmers would hate, and we'd be lucky if it reached no. 25 - it was one of those sort of feelings we had in u' re asking for trouble, but the single, eventually turned out to be Warner Bros. biggest selling 12" of all time. **Enjoy The Silence** This was the ed a bit like the harmonium version that came out on one of the formats. Alan had this idea to speed it up and make it a bit more disco which ty doesn't go with the disco beat'. So I was sulking for about two days but after he sped it up, I got used to it and added the guitar part, which re ason. Policy Of Truth It has been one of my all time favourite songs that we've ever recorded. I really like the words to it and the whole the Terry Hoax version or the one by Dishwalla from the tribute album, which is another rock version. I just like the fact that, sometimes the d, disregarded or not taken seriously because of the instrumentation we've used. World In My Eyes I remember the original demo of a couple of days, so we worked on it and turned it into this really moody piece. I can remember Dave arriving back in the studio, slightly jetd, the way it's turned out'. It always takes a while to get used to things. I Feel You The whole "Songs Of Faith And Devotion" project started al bum turned out to be the rockiest that we've ever wanted to achieve. "I Feel You" is probably the pinnacle of that and it's about the closest ho ose my all time favourite song, it would probably be "Walking In My Shoes". I think it has a great melody - the words and the subject matter po sed to keep saying that I think it's a great song, somebody else is supposed to say it. I really like that song, but I am not sure that we got better. Although I am still not sure that that's the optimum we could have got out of the song. In Your Room The worst memory about as just something really small, like half a sandwich. We finished filming at about 8 o'clock, and went back to the hotel and I forgot to eat. n till really late. The next day I had to get up and go to a band meeting. So I got up feeling absolutely terrible and sort of staggered to the video, I just think 'Oh, God'.... It brings back terrible memories. Barrel Of A Gun I think that after Alan left the band, and after an a challenge, something that wasn't necessarily so Depeche Mode-like. We felt that "Barrel Of A Gun" was probably about the furthest from what we've done in the past. I think it was me who first tentatively suggested that maybe "Barrel Of A Gun" should be released as a single. I expected a lot of resistance and expected all the others to be arguing for days, saying 'you must be mad', but immediately they said 'we've actually been thinking the same'- so it was such an easy decision to make. I think we're all really pleased we took that route, and didn't release "It's No Good" as the first single. It's No Good This is the one that sounded most like Depeche Mode on the last album, but I still really like it, because it's again, just on that right side of commerciality. I think it's really good when we achieve that balance. **Home** It's got a great atmosphere and a great string arrangement. **Useless** It's one of the rockiest pieces that we've ever done and it's probably up there with "I Feel You". I think we're on that right side of another line when it comes to rock, but I don't think we'll ever be a rock band or a heavy metal band. We might branch out and do things like pop or we might do some rock but we'll still retain some identity. Only When I Lose Myself I see this song as a soul song. I think that Depeche Mode does soul on the right side of the soul line again. Little 15 This was the only ever single in France. We were convinced by our French record company that it was a great single for France and that it had all the right ingredients to be a massive hit in France. We just looked at them and said 'you're mad, Little 15 is not a single', but as it was Mute France at that time and we knew the people very well, we basically gave in to them and let them have their way. And was it a massive hit? No! Was it a hit? No! Everything Counts (Live) It was actually a fully-fledged single release, but because it's a live version of an older track we didn't feel that it fitted in the chronological order on this collection, so that's why we put it at the end. We just think it disturbs the flow of the other singles, because there's a crowd and it's an older track. We know we should have put it in its proper chronological place, but we didn't feel it sounded right there.

## Gallery

We believe there are many of you who have done DM drawings, whether now or long time ago, and still haven't sent them to us to show off your artistic talents. We created a new section called Gallery, which is open to anyone who wants to share their drawings, caricatures, paintings or cartoons of the Band (individually or collectively) with the rest of us! So if you're one of the talented, don't wait any longer and send us your work! We can't wait to see it! (please don't forget to mark each sheet with your name and address) Thanks to everyone who have already sent us their drawings.





## >>> Bootlegs & OJ Mixes <

### Diesel Christ - Walking In My Shoes (I Feel Different)

Format: CD
Origin: Unknown

The single of the German DM tributeband Diesel Christ was recorded to promote their album "A Tribute To The Masses" covering "SOFAD" songs. It contains three versions of "Walking In My Shoes" (Sex Mix; Andy F. Mix; 7" Version) and one additional track titled "Blue Rain" which has no association to any DM song. The first two remixes of "WIMS" sound a little bit harder and danceier than the original DM song, because of the guitar and a few sounds and samples which make the track interesting. The 7" version has the most similarities to the DM's original. The vocal isn't as good as Dave's but isn't too bad either. It's worth of buying and listening. I've paid \$8 for it.

#### Justyna Wozniak Poland

Live In Paris - 30.6.93 Format: Video Origin: France

The video features the whole show of that night, including such a pieces like "A Question Of Lust" and "Death's Door" sung by Martin. It was filmed from the crowd, so it happens that the heads of some fans get in the way quite often. Sometimes the picture is jumping or even out of focus. The sound quality is not an excellent one either, but on the other hand the video still retains a genuine live atmosphere. At the end of the video there is an audio bonus track of "Judas" that was recorded at the show in Brest (3/7/93). It also features some live pictures from the show in Lausanne (3/6/93). Finally, there is an address where to write for more information, but don't do so, as it no longer exists.

#### Christina Germany

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.

## Trancemode Express 2.01 A Trance Tribute To Depeche Mode Review by Petko Pavlicic, St. Catharines, Canada

Yes, indeed, there is a new double CD called "Trancemode Express", which is the follow-up to "Trancemode Express 1.01". This CD was compiled in 1997 and released in December of last year. The cover features a picture of a rose, outlined by computer imaging to make it stand out against the black background. It folds out revealing the two CDs in a neat fashion. While the first compilation may have not been every fan's cup of tea, many would be foolish to dismiss this one. Several songs do retain the atmosphere of the originals, and as such, make them a worthwhile addition to any DM fan's collection.

Here is a track-by-track listing of the two CDs with some comments on what to expect.

- 1. "Blasphemous Rumours" by Blasphemous Rumours this track contains a little bit of the original track, but after a little while, the track loses itself in a mish-mash of electronic beats that reminds me more of Orbital than Depeche Mode.
- 2. "A Question Of Time" by Good Courage the lead singer's voice in this Scandinavian band reminds me very much of Dave's voice in the late 80's. The sticker on the cover of their debut album describes them as a hybrid of Depeche Mode and Front 242 (so true). One of the better DM covers I've heard.

  3. "Just Can't Get Fnough" by
- 3. "Just Can't Get Enough" by Bypass Unit a very uninspiring track. Contains absolutely no elements of the original. This band is totally tone deaf. I have had them enough!
- 4. "Fly On The Windscreen" by The Memory Garden contains some elements of the original, a very trancy track indeed. Why is it fashionable to cover a DM song and almost whisper the lyrics rather than sing them?
- 5. "Happiest Girl" by Interfaith female vocals are featured on this track. Very good use of the original elements of the B-side, given an Interfaith treatment. I think the girl is trying to give

the track an erotic feel by whispering here again.

- 6. "Photographic" by RSDR my favourite cover on this compilation. It contains all the elements of the original track, giving it a 90's treatment. Vocals are not bad, and the sound will definitely appeal to the fans of the 'electronic body music' style.
- 7. "Enjoy The Silence" by Bonehead excellent cover of the '90 track. Very few new elements are added, yet I miss the guitar riffs on this one, which are sadly stripped. No vocals on this track.
- 8. "Rush" by Interfaith female lead and backing vocals are featured on this track. Can't help to notice that the lead singer's voice (at times) reminds me of Toni Holliday of the Curve. Great cover of this "SOFAD" track.
- 9. "Everything Counts" (pt 1) by Innerview excellent cover of this '83 track. This particular version has a Jean Michel Jarre meets Sven Väth feel, while still having the atmosphere of the original track.
- 10. "Everything Counts" (pt 2) by DIN what can I say BRILLIANT!!! Very little, if any, is done to lead the track away from its original passage. If someone played this to me before, I would definitely say that the track I am listening to is indeed an instrumental version by Depeche Mode themselves, and stick to it pretty firmly.
- 11. "The Meaning Of Love" by Distant Voices brilliantly reconstructed for the 90's. It contains all the elements of the original. Vocals in this case would only ruin the track.

Disc two is a megamix of five selected tracks from the first disc. An English journalist in the early 80's said: "Depeche Mode might well be the most subversive band we got going for us now. Cherish them forever."

I paid \$30CDN for this 2 CD set and find that it is a worthy investment. This CD is now available in the UK/Europe through mail order at Rage Mail Order & Esprit. Price may be slightly different than what I paid. You can also order this CD through the Internet at: http://www.hallucinet.com/hypnotic

### > Satellite <<

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

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

#### DMF Apartado de Correos 42064 Madrid 28080 Spain

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

Mode Evolution
3 Marne Avenue
Walton
Peterborough
PE4 6AJ
England

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

DM fans in Riga e-mail: roman@parks.lv http://www.parks.lv/ home/roman

DM Club Linda Andreasson Norrskensq. 21 37151 Karlskrona Sweden Devotee MODE 42, Rue Armand Carrel 62970 Courcelles-Les-Lens France

WorkHard apdo. correos 12.283 46020 Valencia Spain

DM Devotees
A.D. 1154
Vilnius 1
2001
Lithuania

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

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

Rush Crabethstraat 15 2801 AL Gouda The Netherlands Hot Wire
German fanzine
c/o Andy Drabek
Allendestr. 66
08062 Zwickau
Germany
e-mail: HOT-WIRE@t-online.de

# Empty World 2 Paltholmterrasserne 78 F 3520 Farum Denmark

Devotion Apartado 5265 47080 Valladolid Spain

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

Shake The Disease Stefan Bülter Paul-Grasse-Str. 23 D-10409 Berlin Germany

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

Club For The Masses
Suipacha 463 (6-B)
(1008) - Capital Federal
Bs.As. - Argentina
e-mail: dm'arg@hotmail.com



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#### Scan by Maudy

Ultra DM FC c/o Giovanna Siragusa C.da Conte, Coop Conte sc.2 int. 1 98168 Messina Italy

Movement Of Faith
Atenen, 8, 1°
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(Barcelona)
Spain

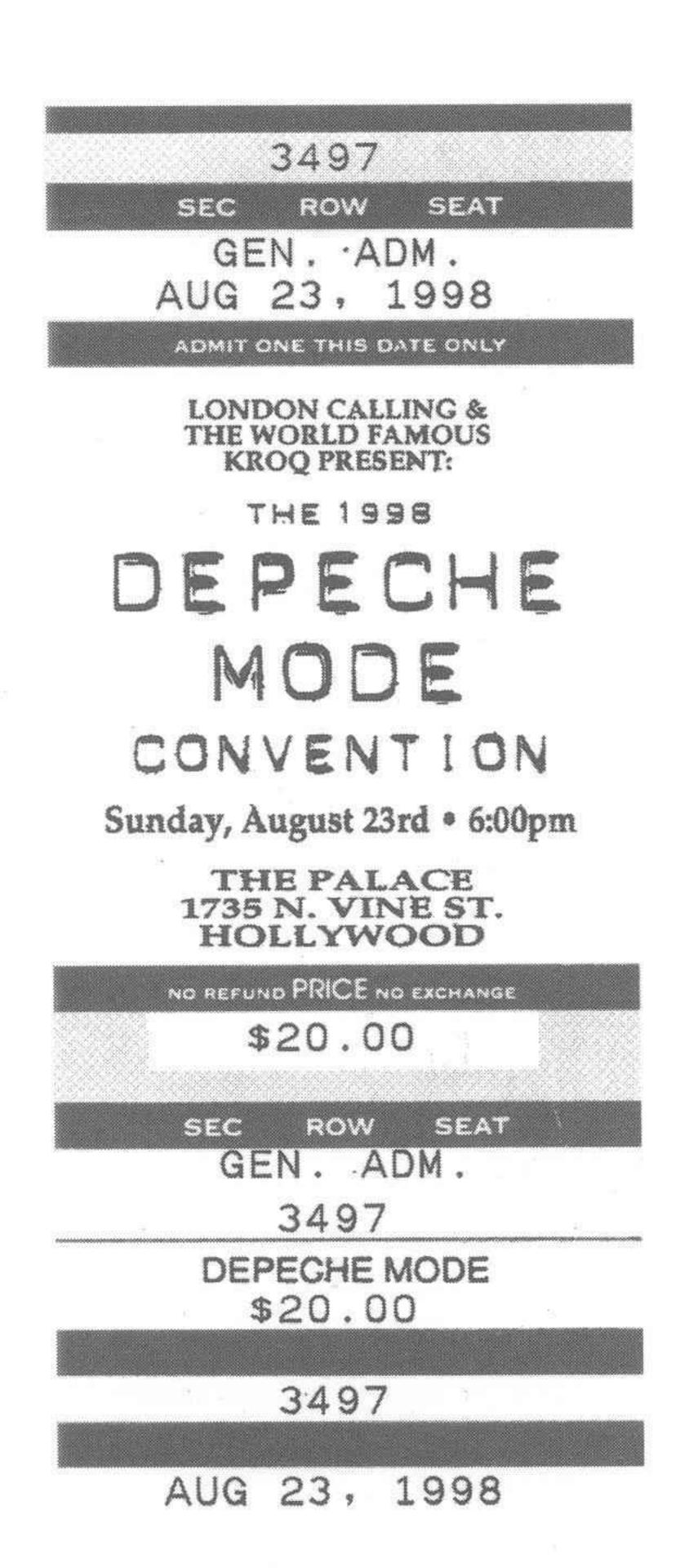
Satellite - Canadian FC P.O.Box 63527, RPO Capilano North Vancouver, B.C. V6V-1J4 Canada

MUSINGS FOR THE MASSES
UK FANZINE
c/o Red
159 Whiteacre Rd
Ashton-under-Lyne
Lancashire
OL6 9PS

The Estonian Depeche Mode Fan Club P.O.Box 26, EE2820 Turi Estonia www.va.ttu.ee/~marekv

Black Day c/o Szymon Derucki ul. Wegierska 18/21 65-638 Zielona Gora Poland

If You Want Depeche Mode P.O.Box 23 678 01 Blansko e-mail: KYSA@BK.CZ



### LA Convention

You may remember that in Bong 36 we invited you to The DM Fans Convention which was held on August 23rd in Los Angeles. We also gave you a chance to win three pairs of tickets to this event by asking you to name the venue where Depeche Mode performed their 101st concert for the Masses.... The following three fans were picked at random and won the tickets: JoAnn E Blewitt, USA, Keith Stott, UK and W. Maten, The Netherlands. Well done! The correct answer was, of course, ROSE BOWL!

### 

Franta T., Praha - Male prekvapenie. S pozdravom, Jana.

Anja 'Germany' – thanks for being my best Depeche Mode friend. It has been 5 years since we met outside the Front 242 gig. Leighton 'Wales'.

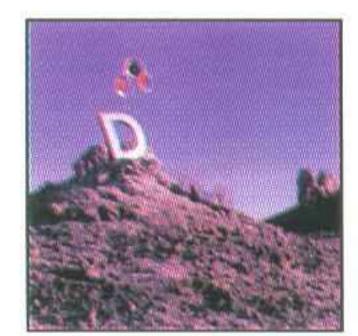
It's only when I lose myself in DM, then I find myself! It's time to spread my Strangelove and gratefulness to: my eternal honey Yasmin (Hey darling, if this issue comes out, you'll be right here by my side!), my sweet little Denise, my two Wilder girls Katka (Happy Birthday!) Micaela, Peter (I'm happy that I have you!), Christian, Mark-S.W., David, Fly, Agnieszka, Joanna, Sylivia, Susanne, Solange, Isabel, Masha (Happy Birthday!), Nadine, Soledad, Faith (Are you okay?) and all devotees who know me! Let's have more than real fun with Depeche Mode in concert! Stay devoted forever and never let me down! Nadine Schmidt, Germany.

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".

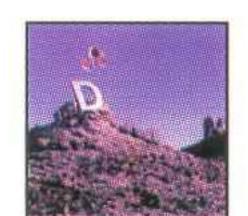


## for the MASSES

We took a closer look at the tribute album "For The Masses" (August 4) and found out from some of the artists why they decided to contribute to this compilation with their particular Depeche Mode cover, and what it is about the Band that inspires them.

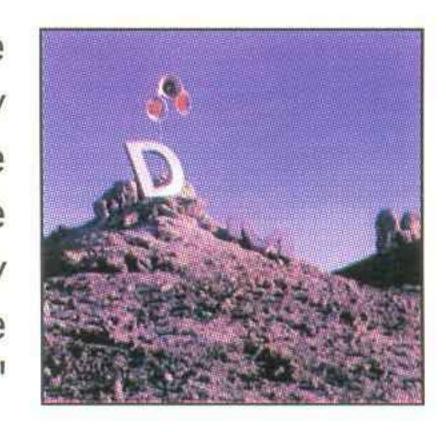


Gary Richards (1500 Records founder and producer of the tribute): "We asked artists that we liked if they were into Depeche Mode and nine times out of ten, they wanted to do it. As far as I was concerned, it was just about getting the right artist and letting them express what Depeche Mode means to them."

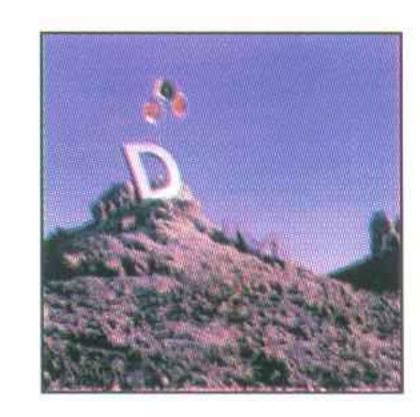


Dave Wyndorf (Monster Magnet):
"I grew up with Depeche Mode and
I'm flattered to be included in this
collection."

Jeff Turzo (God Lives Underwater): "When my partner David and I first got together, we started making music when we were 15 and Depeche Mode was the group. At the time they were our Beatles-they were the group we were going out and hearing first time around. The Beatles and all those records are still amazing to us, but we weren't there the first time around, and Depeche Mode was a band that we were experiencing as they developed. They were amazing to us - these amazing songs and amazing sounds that didn't sound like anything or anyone. That's what inspired David and me to start a band."



Noko (Appolo 440): "We know a killer guitar riff



Robert Smith (The Cure): "For the past 13 years, I think Depeche Mode have got great style. From their innovative use of unusual sounds, through their oftenweird juxtaposition of lyrical emotion and musical precision, to their instantly recognisable graphics and visual image, they are one of a select group - a unique band. They've also made some fantastic songs!!!"

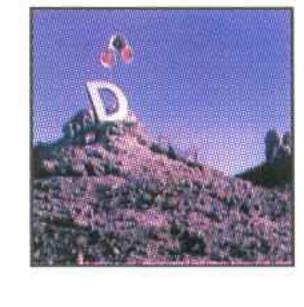


when we hear one. The one on I Feel You allowed us
to let our three-piece live band loose."

Billy Corgan (Smashing Pumkins): "Our greate
tribute to Depeche Mode is that we have always

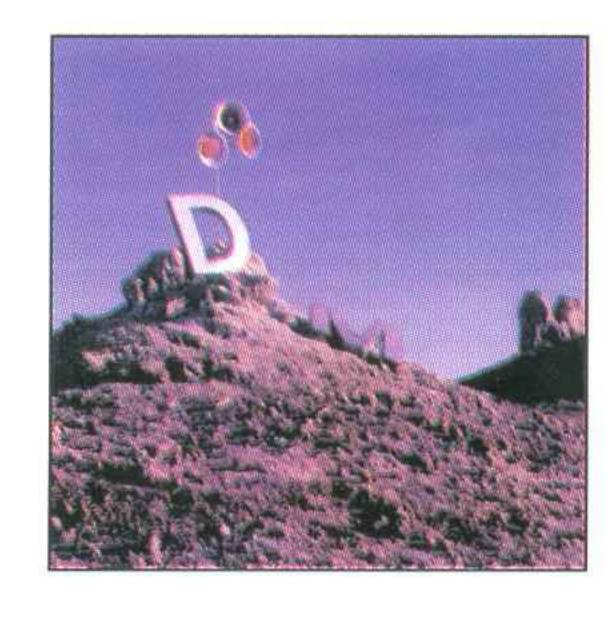
Billy Corgan (Smashing Pumkins): "Our greatest tribute to Depeche Mode is that we have always been fans...Depeche Mode write great songs, the lyrics are always fantastic, but most of all they embody the true spirit of rock with their mystery and darkness."

Biggi Veira (Gus Gus): "When introduced to Depeche Mode by a friend, it was love at first sound. The 12-inch versions of Leave In Silence, Get The Balance Right and Love In Itself were my first favourites. When approached with the idea of recording a track for the tribute album, it was not a question. I couldn't see myself adding anything to tracks like Everything Counts and People Are People, so by choosing Monument a low-profile track from their second album, and definitely one of my favourites - I thought we could add something to the Depeche Mode saga."



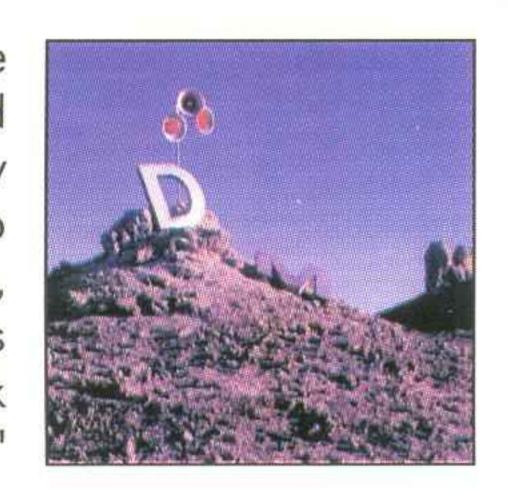


Self: "Depeche Mode is/was like the antithesis of everything else that was shoved in our faces in the '80s. After listening to them, I found the keyboards in Van Halen's Jump rather humorous. I was in New York City's Electric Ladyland Studios in 1996 while Depeche Mode were recording their new record, and saw the massive amount of gear they possess. I just hope they are impressed with my lack thereof."



Frank Duchene (Hooverphonic): "Shake The Disease is one of the more introverted songs by Depeche Mode. The only other song I know that has the same intimacy is Somebody. It was cool to look at it as our own version-less dark but still very personal. We wanted to achieve the same fusion of electronics and voice, but this time with a small string quartet and a different approach to the mixing, so that we obtained a character less narrow than most '80s records. We hope you all like it."

Chino Moreno (Deftones): "I chose to record To Have And To Hold because I woke up on the bus one day and felt bad. Then To Have And To Hold came on, and I read the lyrics, and I felt better. Depeche Mode is one of my favourite bands, and I think their best stuff is yet to come."



Courtesy of 1500 Records, we've got ten copies of the new DM tribute compilation album "For The Masses" to give away in this easy competition. The CD's are already in our cupboard ready to be sent to the first ten correct answers out of the bag. It's simple - just answer the questions below and send your entry to the usual address before 13th November. Good luck!

1. How many songs are featured on this compilation?

2. Which song, out of these three, is not included on "For The Masses" CD?

a/ Shame

b/ Everything Counts

c/ Personal Jesus

3. What's the name of DM song covered by Rammstein?





#### Scan by Maudy

It was the first time I'd seen Depeche Mode live, and as I walked into the arena I had no idea at all of what to expect. Compared to the venues that I was used to, the arena was huge and the stage was hidden by huge curtains, that gave nothing away. All of this added to my excitement, and as the support (rap group Marxman) came and went, my anticipation grew and grew. What happened next took me totally by surprise and completely blew me away. All of a sudden the arena went dark and the crowd surged forward. Blinding flashes of light pierced the translucent curtains and immense rumbles of thunder erupted from the massive stage area. I felt like I was standing in the flight-path of Concorde! I stood in awe as surges of adrenaline rushed up my spine. The thunderclaps gave way to pulsing music as the lights suddenly revealed a huge shadow of Dave, 20 or so feet high, silhouetted through the curtains. As he started to sing, the familiar lyrics of "Higher Love" echoed out from behind the curtain. Dave, still a 20 feet shadow, moved and gyrated with the music until, midway through the song, he stepped forward from the curtain and revealed himself to much wild cheering from the crowd. He was wearing tight black trousers, a loose black shirt and a shiny, lime-green jacket. His hair was long and his beard neatly trimmed. He looked every inch the rock star. As the song progressed, Dave continued to move and gyrate with the music, rubbing his crotch and revelling in the lust oozing from several thousand females (and maybe some males as well). As the song finished and the lights dimmed, the curtains finally came down to reveal Martin, Alan and Andy perched on a platform high above the stage, behind their keyboards. Behind them were two huge video screens and below them several smaller ones, though these still dwarfed Dave who was silhouetted in front of them. Like a long drawn out striptease, Depeche Mode were finally ready to reveal

were finally ready to revea themselves to us.

As Dave moved into each new song he gave it 100%. Every inch the performer, he never stood still, continually running across the stage,

la Devotional Memory

Wembley Arena, London, December 1993 **A** Review by Andy Fallan, Corringham, England

tossing his mike stand down, rubbing his crotch to wild cheering and striking the 'crucifix' pose, arms outstretched, completely surrendered to the music. Along with the music came a multitude of imagery on the video screens, complementing it perfectly and adding a new dimension to the powerful emotion of songs such as "In Your Room", "Walking In My Shoes", "A Question Of Lust", "I Feel You", "Enjoy The Silence" and "Stripped".

The tender songs were sung by Martin - "One Caress", "Somebody", "A Question Of Lust" - and these were performed beautifully. When Martin was not singing or accompanying Alan and Andy on keyboards, he was playing guitar. I had no idea Martin was such an accomplished guitar player and I'd assumed that a studio guitarist had simply provided over-dubs on such tracks as "Personal Jesus" and "I Feel You". Martin's guitar playing brought these songs to life and I was particularly impressed with how he used guitar so skillfully on the musical ending of "Walking In My Shoes". I was also surprised at how good a musician Alan was, playing solo piano to some of the more tender songs and also banging out drums on tracks such as "In Your Room" and "Never Let Me Down Again".

Eventually, sadly, the performance had to come to an end and Dave, Martin, Alan and Andy left the arena to thunderous applause and the chorus to "Everything Counts" ringing out among the audience. I was left with the feeling that Depeche Mode were consummate professionals, who really knew how to put on a show. But it was more than just a 'show'. It was a pulsing flow of music; front-man athleticism and artistic imagery, all combined to not only entertain, but move emotionally several thousand people.

Before the gig I liked Depeche Mode, but I was not hugely into them. Now I can't wait to listen to their albums and really get into them. I also can't wait to see them play live again, though I had no idea I was in for such a long wait. Let's hope that the forthcoming tour will be bigger and better than "Devotional"......

In live

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### < Classified >>

Wanted: all tour programmes, especially from "World Violation" and "Devotional" Tours, DM interviews, specials, performances, books and Dave's photos from 1990 to 1997. I'm also looking for Bong issues No. 1 - 13, 19, 25. Can anyone help me in finding this stuff for my collection? Please, send list and prices to: Angela and Sabrina Di Carlo, Pie La Terra 8, 67049 Rocca S. Stefano, AQ, Italy.

Hello to all Irish Devotees! I heard a blasphemous rumour that the Depeche Mode Concert at the point 12-Dec-93 was broadcast on RTE last December. If anyone can help me relive the best night of my life, then please write to: Raymond Dowling, 29 Monastery Drive, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, Ireland.

I am desperately looking for the following videos: "Strange" and "Strange Too Another Violation". I am especially looking for the videos to the songs: "Little 15", "Enjoy The Silence", "Behind The Wheel" and

"Waiting For The Night". It is a life important! Please send your list and prices to: Aleksey Yukhnenko, Lenina 25/25, Omsukchan, Magadan region, 686410 Russia.

For sale: "Pleasure, Little Treasure (Live) - French 7" promo, "Violator" CD - Japan and "Enjoy The Silence" - promo, etc. For list of 7", 12", LP, CD, tour programme, please write to: S. Guillot, 41, rue Liandier, 13008 Marseille, France.

I'm selling my DM collection of videos, CDs, records, bootlegs, photos, etc. Please write to: Mar. c/o Mitjana 1, 3-A, 29013 Malaga, Spain.

Large selection of DM items for sale - vinyl, CD, tour programmes, books. Offers to: Mark Allen, 36, Woodland Rd, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4RB, England.

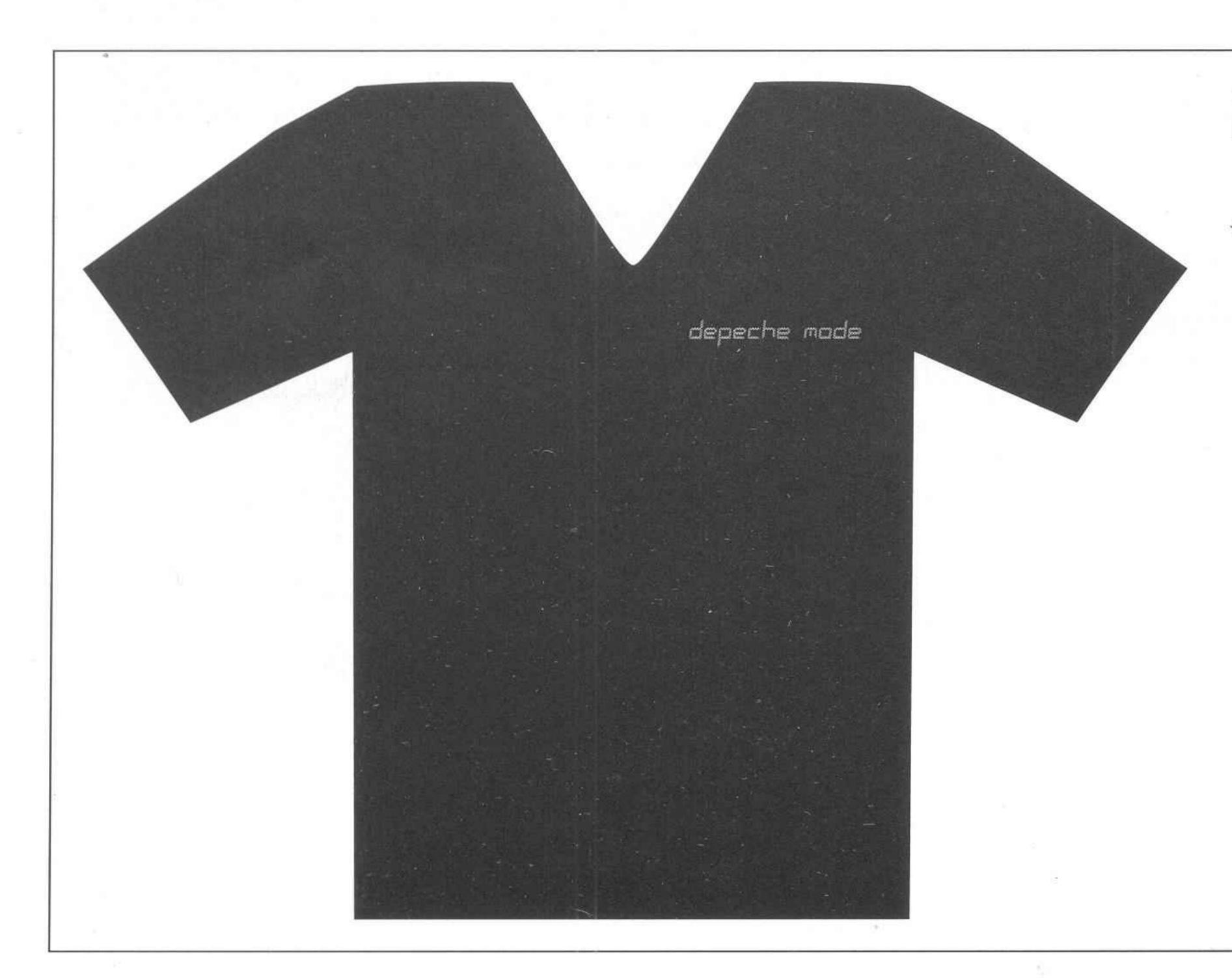
Wanted: Can anybody help me? I'm looking for Bong issues No. 15, 17, 19, 25, 30 and 31. Also looking for

interviews (in English), especially the one from the last year issue of NME. Please send your list and prices to: Claire Poulain, 2 rue des bruyéres, 35530 Servon Sur Vilaine, France.

I swap only! I am looking for Depeche Mode TV performances and interviews, videos of new wave and gothic bands, and horror, sci-fi, B-movies. Please write to: Nicola Guerra, Via S. Leonardo, 17, 54037 Marina Di Massa (MS), Italy.

I'm looking for merchandise from the Devotional Tour. Please make your offers to: Roman Münch, Bonner Talweg 75, 53113 Bonn, Germany.

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



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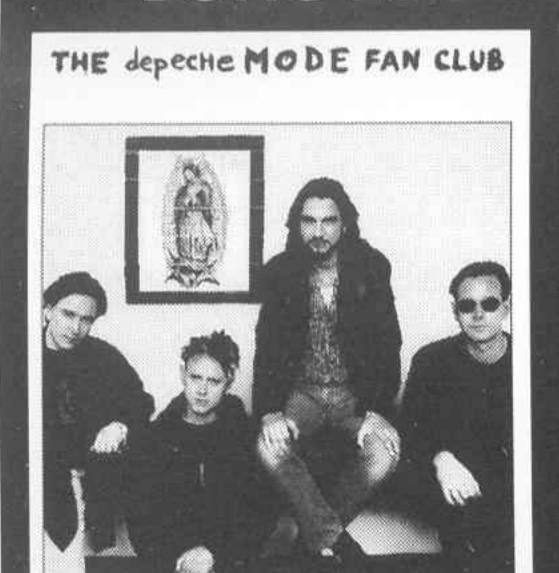


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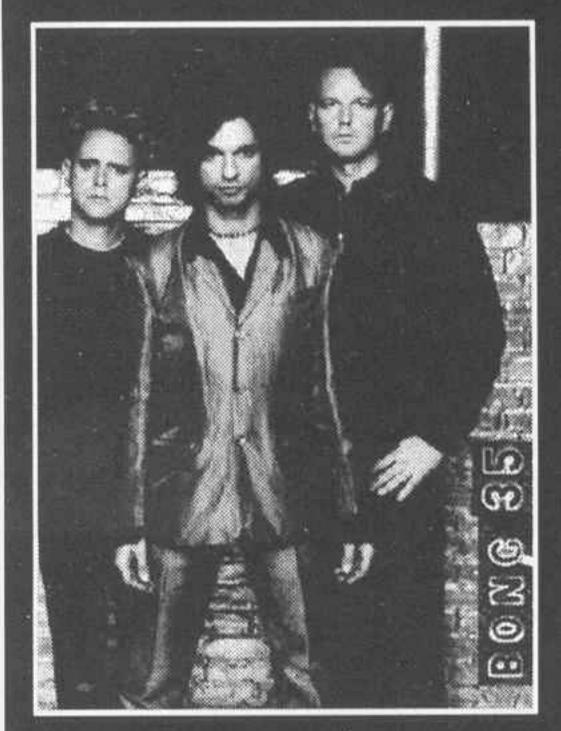
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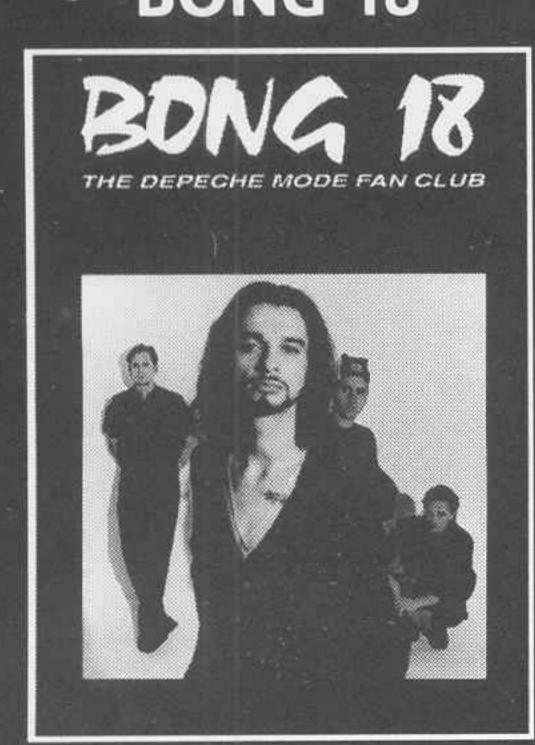
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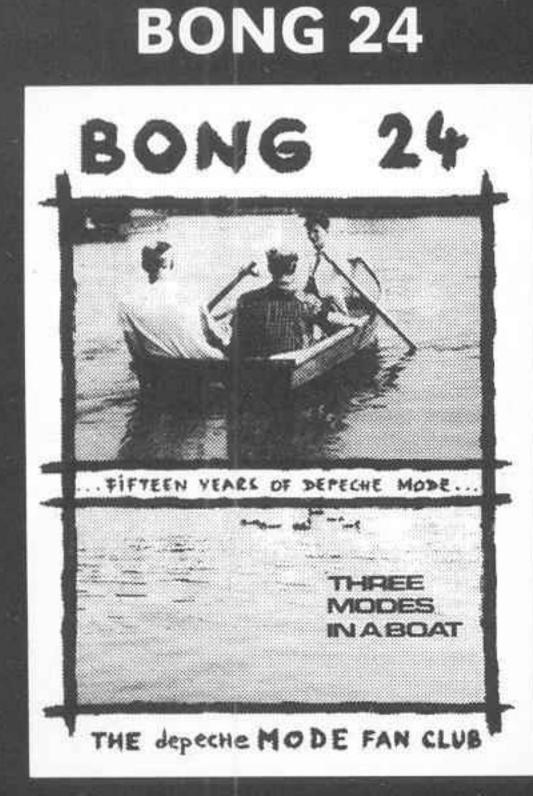


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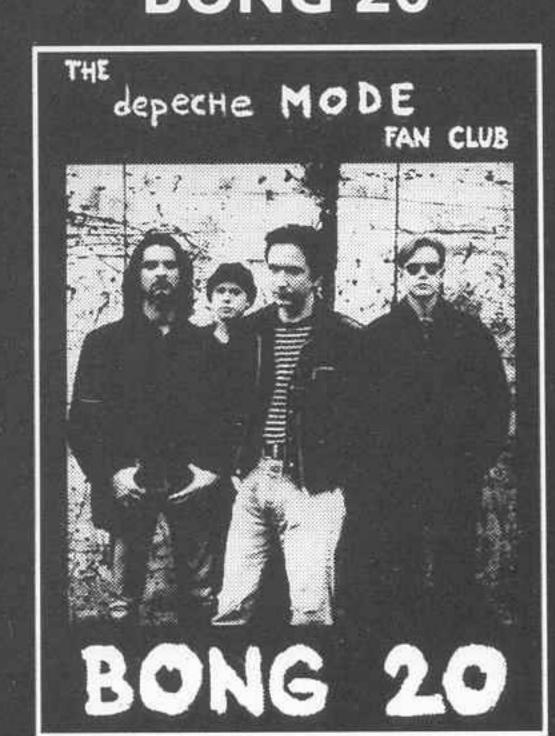
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BONG 36

BONG 20



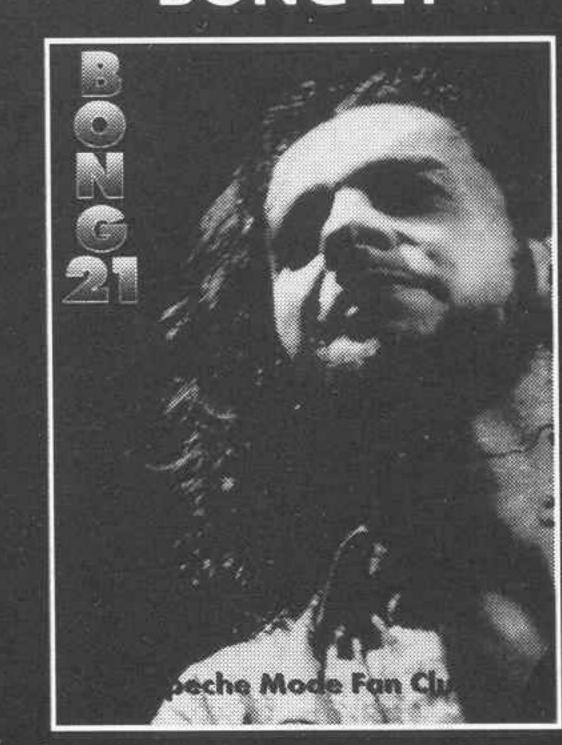
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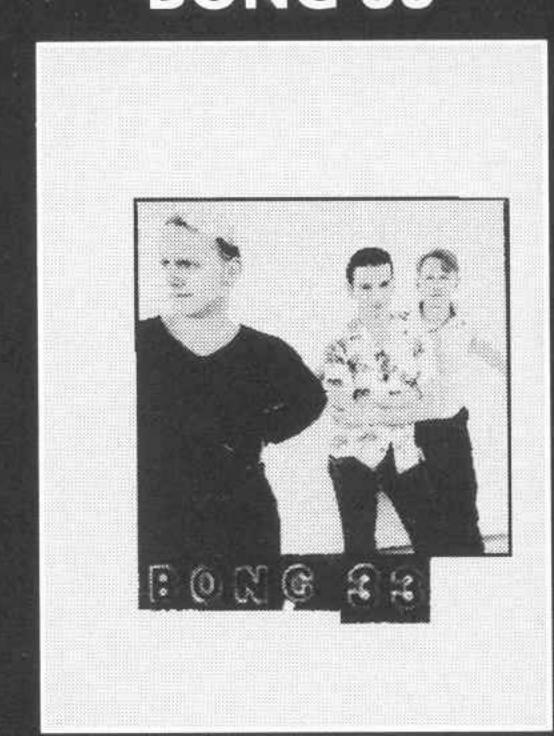
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BONG 33



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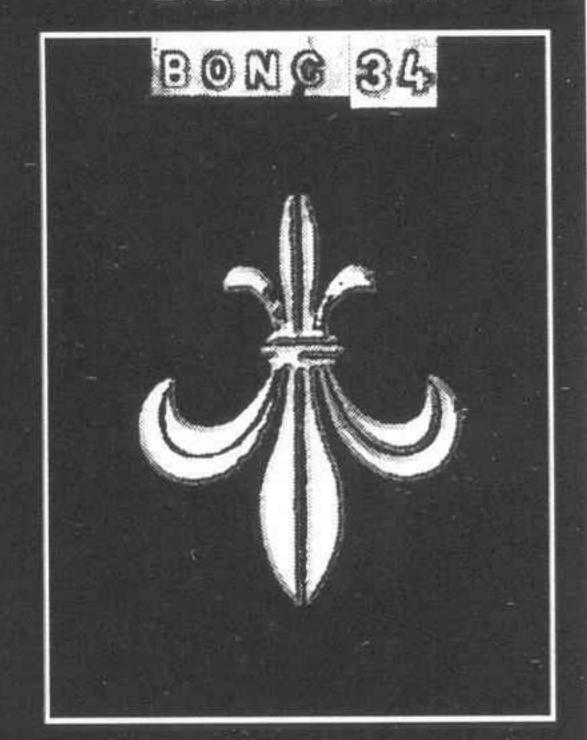
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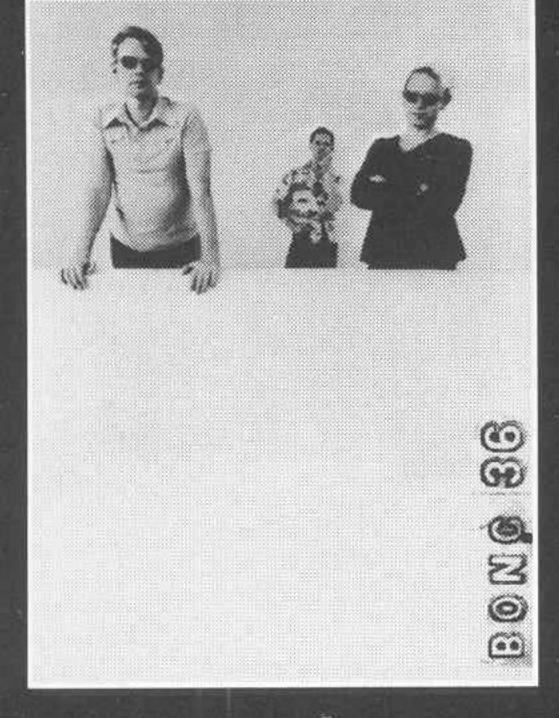
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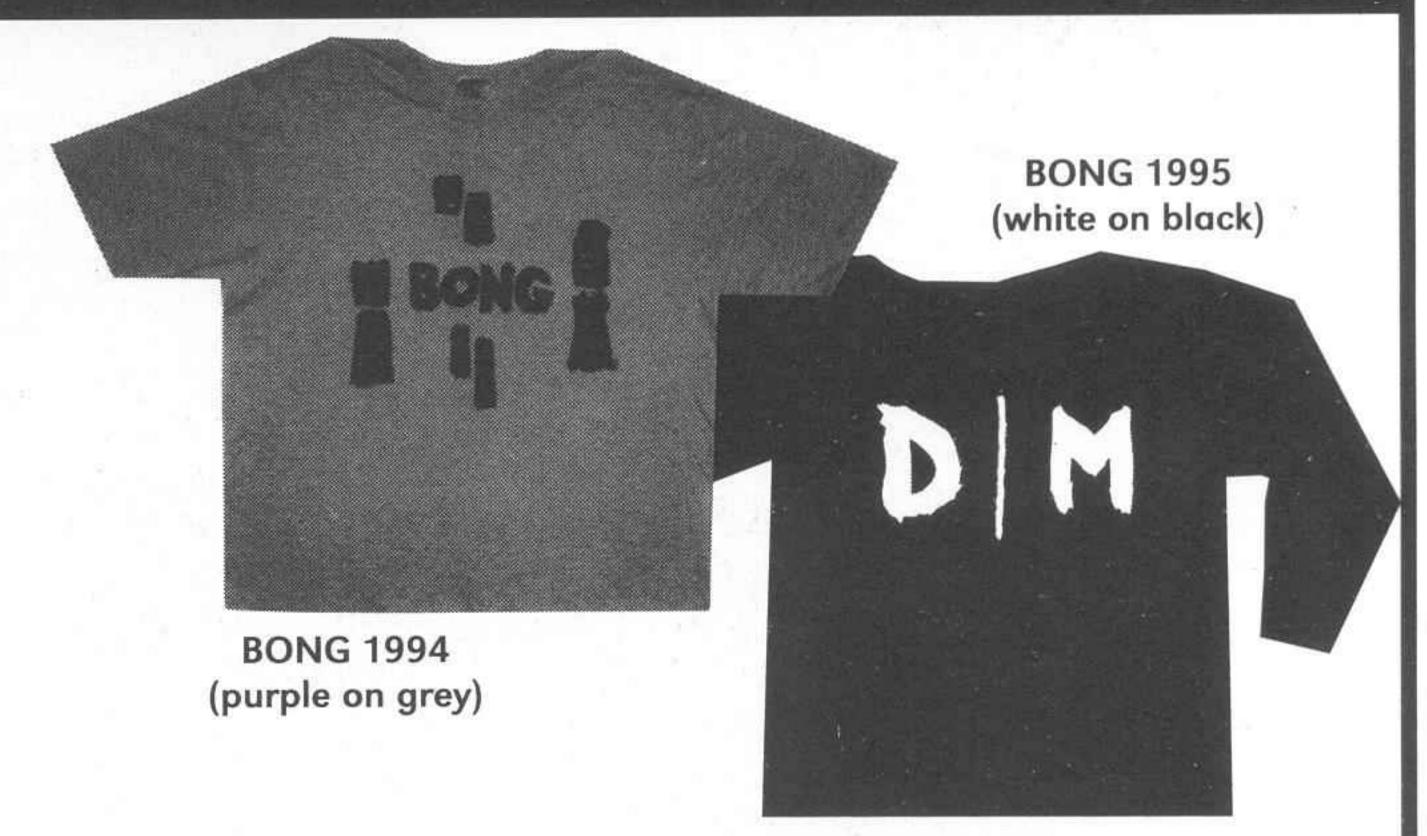


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Bong 34		£ 1.25	£ 2.00	£ 2.50	
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<flexible@tnet.cz>

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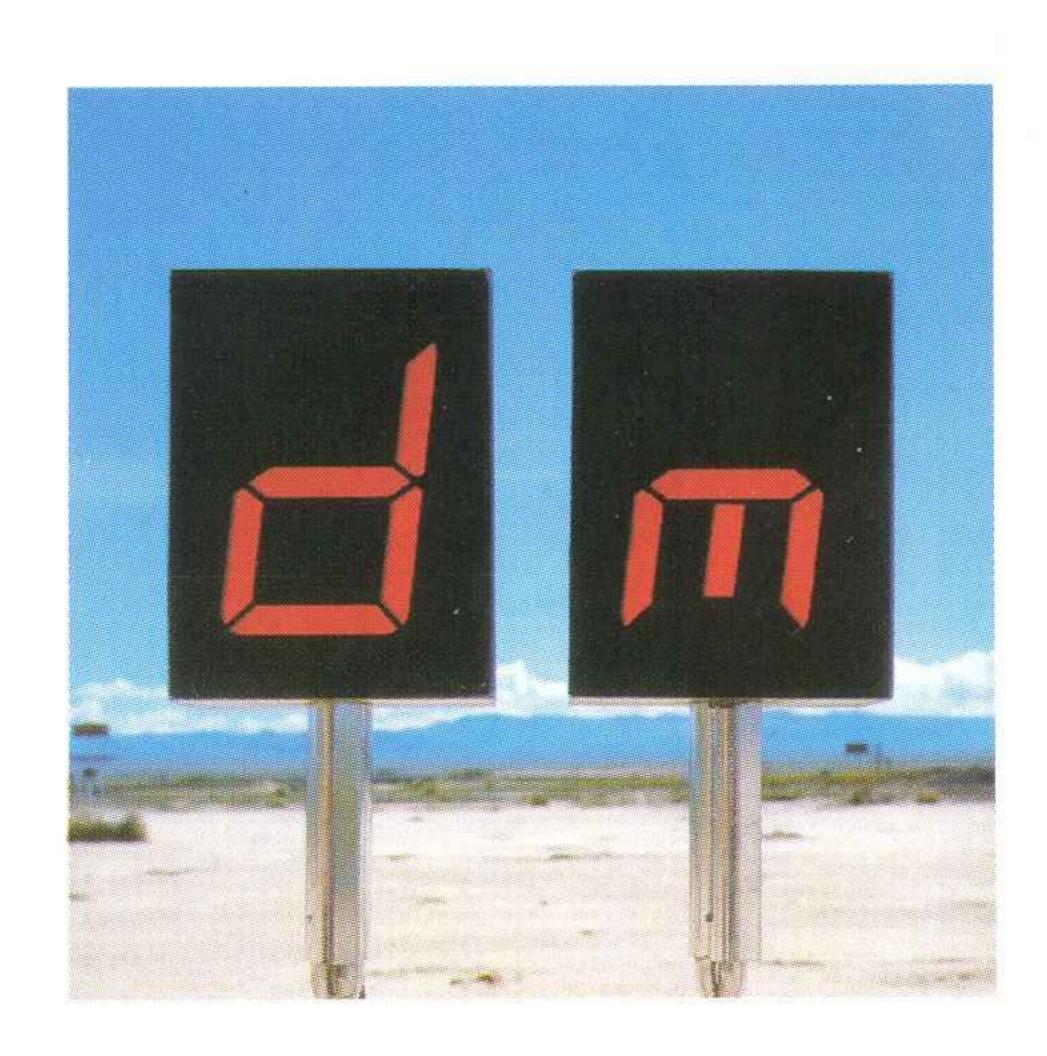
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BONG

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## Depend Alcae - The Singles Tour 86 - 98 Ticket Information

We are pleased to confirm that Depeche Mode will play the following dates. We have reserved a very limited number of good seats for BONG <u>members only</u>, but these tickets can only be held until the end of May.

Please note that tickets are <u>NOT</u> available from BONG, you must telephone the relevant contact numbers below for ticket reservations. Please see your local press for the on sale ticket dates.

SEPTEMBER			TELEPHONE	
Wed. 9th	Helsinki - Hartwall Arena	-8-3	35 89 4774 12	34
Fri. 11th	Copenhagen - Multi Hall	+	45 38 88 70 2	2
Sat. 12th	Gothenburg - Scandinavium	*	46 31 61 1020	
Sun. 13th	Stockholm - Globe	+4	46 8 600 340	0
Tue. 15th	Prague - Sports Hall	+4	42 2 21061016	52/3/4
Wed. 16th	Vienna – Stadthalle	*	43 1 0660 666	1
Fri. 18th	Munich - Olympiahalle	+	49 89 54 8181	81
Sat. 19th	Berlin - Waldbuhne	*	49 30 810 75	134
Sun. 20th	Erfurt - Messehalle	*	49 931 55554	
Tue. 22nd	Brussells - Forest National	*	32 70 345 678	3
Wed. 23rd	Stuttgart - Schleyerhalle	-	49 711 163 532	21
Fri. 25th	Zurich - Hallenstadion		41 225 6060	
Sat. 26th	Bologna - Palasport	*	39 2 487 02 7	2
Sun. 27th	Milan - Forum	+	39 2 487 02 7	2
Tue. 29th	Wembley Arena		0181 902 090	2
OCTOBER				
Fri. 2nd	Manchester - Nynex	C	1161 930 800C	
Sat. 3rd	Birmingham - NEC		121 780 4133	
Mon. 5th	Cologne - Cologne Arena		49 231 120 33	99
Wed. 7th	Paris - Bercy		33 4766 4557	
Fri. 9th	Hannover - Messehalle	*	49 511 929 88	14
Sat. 10th	Leipzig - Messehalle	4.	49 931 55554	
Sun. 11th	Frankfurt - Festhalle		49 699 443 66	0
	Marseille - Dome		33 4766 4557	
Service Control of the Control of th	Zaragoza - Sports Hall		TBA	
Fri. 16th	Barcelona - Palau St Jordi		TBA	