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Freedom Crack #5 - 18 - Depeche Mode - A Review (2)

A-Ha, Thu 22 May 2008

Depeche Mode - A Review

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THE SINGLES - 1985

In 1984, the DM announced that they would not produce anything the following year. So this is only a compo of oldies that were released previously.

BLACK CELEBRATION - 1986

Ha! Here we are! This is the best DM album ever. It is about love in the so called space age, and contains great tracks such as Black Celebration, A Question of Lust, It Does Not Matter 2, A Question Of Time, Here is The House and Dressed in Black. It also contains a song about how foolish the press is, 'New Dress. The most of this record is obtained thru analog sounds, giving it deep and soft sounds no sampler can match. Melodies are complex, no more metallic sounds around, lyrics are introspective and the result is fab. Nothing short of superb.

MUSIC FOR THE MASSES - 1987

The most famous song contained in this not so good album is Never Let Me Down, whose name was changed adding the word 'Again' due to David Bowie's song. It is a song about friendship and LSD, and it's one of their biggest successes ever in sales. I said that album is not so good because some tracks are mixed without taking too much care, and that's strange for the DM. Also, no new ideas are featured, except better drum tracks. Over all, not so good a production, except Never Let Me Down Again and To Have and To Hold.

101 - 1989

This album made the DM get back to their chart topping attitude. It registered great sales everywhere, even in England, and it's one of the best ever. It was recorded live at the Pasadena Rose Bowl on June 18th 1988, in front of about '80000 people. I love it because it makes you hear the Depeches in a far away way from the one you are used to. Also, it sounds like the people there in Pasadena liked that 'live' a lot!



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Violator - 1990

This is their latest album, and again it has changed their sound. It is a very clean album, where everything is almost perfect, and they took a lot of care on everything. From a musical point of view it's highly complex, due to today's 'best in sound generation, but the overall result is a bit cold, reminding me to Speak and Spell's atmosphere. All tracks are good and 'adult', minimal as they should be though their complexity can hardly be improved. Highly professional, but maybe not as listenable as Black Celebration. Best tracks: World In My Eyes, Personal Jesus, Waiting For The Night, Enjoy The Silence, policy of Truth, Clean (the very best!).

That's it. Hope you liked. If you like the DM, or would like to swap anything about them, feel free to contact me under Fermi 5, I-21100 VA, Italy. See you all mates!

This article originally appeared in the Amiga diskmagazine "Freedom Crack #5" by Vega in 1991.

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Addresses and other contact information were only valid when this magazine was originally published, in march of 1991.