

# A live dose of The Cure

The Cure  
 Concert: *The Cure Live*  
 Elektra/WEA

review by Warren Opheim

The Cure are once again to be found in the "new releases" bin in the record stores this month. In case you've lost track, this is the fourth major release from this enigmatic duo/bunch in the past eighteen months.

Prolific? Hardly. The synth-pop oriented *The Walk* was only an EP, and *Japanese Whispers* was actually *The Walk* plus two other songs. *The Top* has been their only full-length studio release in this period, and their newest is the live LP called *Concert*, with songs culled from the London and Oxford dates of their European tour earlier this year. It's not a bad album, especially considering that there are no overdubs, but then again, it's not great by any means.

The songs here, most notably the more aggressive ones, pale in comparison to their studio counterparts — at least the songs from the *Faith* LP do (that's as far back as I go). This is mostly due to the vocal department, courtesy of leader Robert Smith. For feelings of sheer claustrophobia, nothing surpasses "Give Me It." But in the live version, Smith's nonchalant, slurred pulling on lines like:

*Give me it give me it give me it  
 Deaden my glassy mind  
 Give me it give me it  
 Make me blind.*

soften an otherwise powerful piece of noise. The same holds true for "One Hundred Years;" he sounds almost bored singing "It doesn't matter if we all die." No urgency here, unlike the studio cut.

Some words from the man himself might be helpful (from *Record Mirror*, Oct. 27, 1984):

"I got fed up with the quality of Cure bootlegs available. It's all been done very plainly. We only spent four days mixing it and it's not a big budget number. It's a very trashy record."

And what about the cassette version with an extra side of unreleased studio material?

"There were certain things I thought it would be fun for people to hear. Half of it is really good and half of it . . . it's really interesting if you like the Cure, but if you don't you'll be bored by it. Very bored. I listened to it the other day and some of it was terrible. To go back and change it all around is a bit stupid, really. People don't have to buy it, you know."

Ready to let him off the hook? Not so hasty, now. Earlier in the article he said, "I lie a lot — especially in interviews."

## On and around campus

It's a big weekend on the entertainment scene; there's a lot happening in folk, rock, classical, and even movies. Here's a handy guide:

- Tonight: Program of compositions by composer members of the Department of Music teaching staff. I bet you didn't even know we had a department of composition. Con. Hall, 8:00. Free.
- Friday and Saturday: Dinwoodie's Cabaret presents Harlequin (Friday) and Para-

chute Club (Saturday).

- Friday: the Edmonton Folk Music Festival presents Bim — 8:00, Provincial Museum Theatre. Phone 433-4763 for ticket info.
- Friday: The Edmonton Film Society presents *The Men*, starring (who else?) Marlon Brando in his first screen appearance. 8:00, Tory Theatre, \$4.00.
- Saturday: Latitude 53 presents the BEAUX ARTS BALL at the Villa Vesuvius. K.D. Lang will be headlining, with the Comedy Commission providing the laugh. 439-1985 for info.
- Saturday: CJSR radio presents The Enigmas at the Riviera Rock Room, 5359 Calgary Trail.

more entertainment on p. 12

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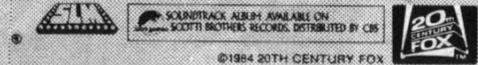
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