



*Call  
The Comet*

UK / EUROPE / USA & CANADA

EXCLUSIVE LAUNCH SHOWS

TOUR BOOK

PHOTO BY ANTHONY HARRISON



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# Dublin The Button Factory 12.05.18

As soon as I finished work the sky opened and we drove to Dublin in a fucking monsoon.

I was lucky enough to get tickets in the draw. I wasn't expecting it; I deserved it no more than you. But mine they were.

Dirty Irish, grey clouds parted in Temple Bar. Usually I'd hate the place. Stag and hen parties; vomit on the cobbles and memories of shopping for Levi's in '92... buying a Smiths bootleg in a shop that is now a shitty pub. I'd never really been to Temple Bar in 25 years. And yet here we were, my fiancée leading me blindly through laughing locals and pissed up, giggling tourists, pointing the way to the Button Factory. She found it.

Remember your school hall? Did you ever go back and think 'shit! This place is tiny!?' Well, that's the Button Factory...only smaller. With a bar. And the headmaster is Johnny Marr.

Instantly it's a great gig. People I've never met exchange addresses and stories. The new songs, when they come, slap you in the face and are met with feverish abandon. Old favourites are pushed to breaking point and land on the unsuspecting crowd, who respond with heartfelt glee. But this place is hot, and I don't think the audience, band or Johnny were ready for the actual sweat and adrenaline that poured and flew from wall, guitar and fan alike.

Songs build and hurtle by. The heat is almost unbearable. I regret wearing a jacket. Johnny looks right in my eye and smiles. Fuck it. I bought it because he wore one similar. I laugh because I am 43 and feel 14.

He is 54. I make a mental note to read his autobiography again, quit the fags and start running: no fucker can look that alive!

I catch sight of Aly and Ory, and wave, reasonably thinking everyone here knows each other. We do. So, what the hell, I may as well reach out and touch his guitar. It's mine too. Johnny grins, shakes his head and strikes a pose. Shit! Get a photo! I grab my fiancée, who is covered in sweat; some of it his, some mine and some yours and I'm unsure what to capture. No photograph can do justice to this.

Walking out onto the same cobbled streets of Temple Bar took an age. I had met more friends. It took me two days to stop laughing and four days to shower.



- Steven Greenway



*Leeds*  
BRUDENELL SOCIAL CLUB 14.05.18

Ordering a sausage roll and a shandy at The Brudenell Social Club in Leeds, then looking between a crack in the door behind the bar to see Johnny Marr walk onstage to soundcheck will go down as one of the most surreal moments of my life! ...and the gig itself was easily one of the greatest gigs of my life too!

He walked onstage with the quiet and charming confidence only someone with his talents and back catalogue could - and we the crowd loved it. Opening with The Tracers, instantly the room was abuzz with the knowledge this was going to be special. And of course, it was.

To be able to sing back the chorus to There Is A Light That Never Goes Out and instantly want to listen again to the new songs so we could sing those choruses back was just special. They're that good.

When How Soon Is Now took a demonic turn when Johnny really began to get into his guitar... well, my face literally melted off. Though that may have been from the heat in the room, haha.

The one thing I really enjoyed from this gig was how much Johnny himself seemed to be enjoying it - he walked from one end of the stage to the other all night, trying to give as many fans as possible as many guitar god poses he could. Nobody was or possibly could have been disappointed from this gig.

The sausage roll was alright too.

— ANTHONY HARRISON







# SOUND CHECK



PHOTO BY ANTHONY HARRISON



# London

Islington Assembly Hall 16.05.18

After securely booking a ticket for the album launching show in London, it was hard but I avoided checking the trailers and Spotify to preview Call the Comet, as I wanted to listen to Johnny's new tracks live in as fresh sound as possible at the Islington Assembly Hall. The venue was small and had intimated atmospheres which made me feel privileged to be given such a rare opportunity to witness Johnny delivering his new stuff in front of a lucky few.

I expected the show would be a tester for the not yet announced (at that time) forthcoming tours, so that Johnny would play only new songs from his new album and would be only one hour long.

I was wrong. The show was actually a proper full length and over 20 songs were in the set-list, which included the tracks from the new album and from The Smiths and Electronic era. The sound of new and well-loved tunes was flooding onto the floor and I thoroughly enjoyed the emotional vibes around me. I particular liked Day in Day out, Hi Hello, Rise and Bug from the new album and am positive that these songs will become his future classics. A bonus song of the evening for me was 'Last Night I Dreamt That Somebody Loved Me'. I hadn't seen him playing this song on stage before and it was moving.

Johnny smiled a lot during the show and thanked for us being patient with the unfamiliar ticket booking procedures. That was a very nice, kind gesture to us.

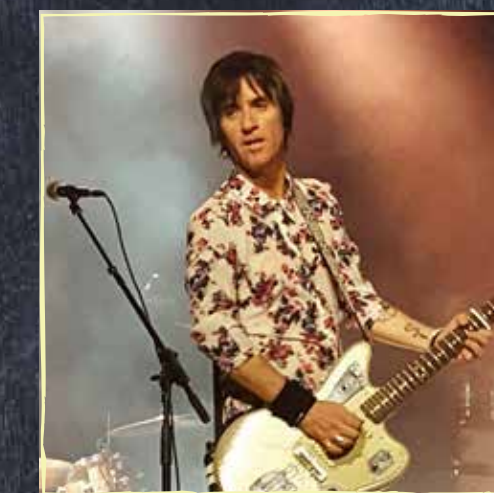
*Sawako Hunter*



The venue



The merch stand





Johnny with Jason's pyrographic portrait of him

## My Call the Comet Journey

The date: 16/05/18

Weather: Great

Work: Ok

Venue: Islington Assembly Hall

Evening: Stratospheric

I took my seat in the second row of the balcony. Next thing I know (after a double check and a few well chosen expletives), Neil Tennant takes the seat in front of me.

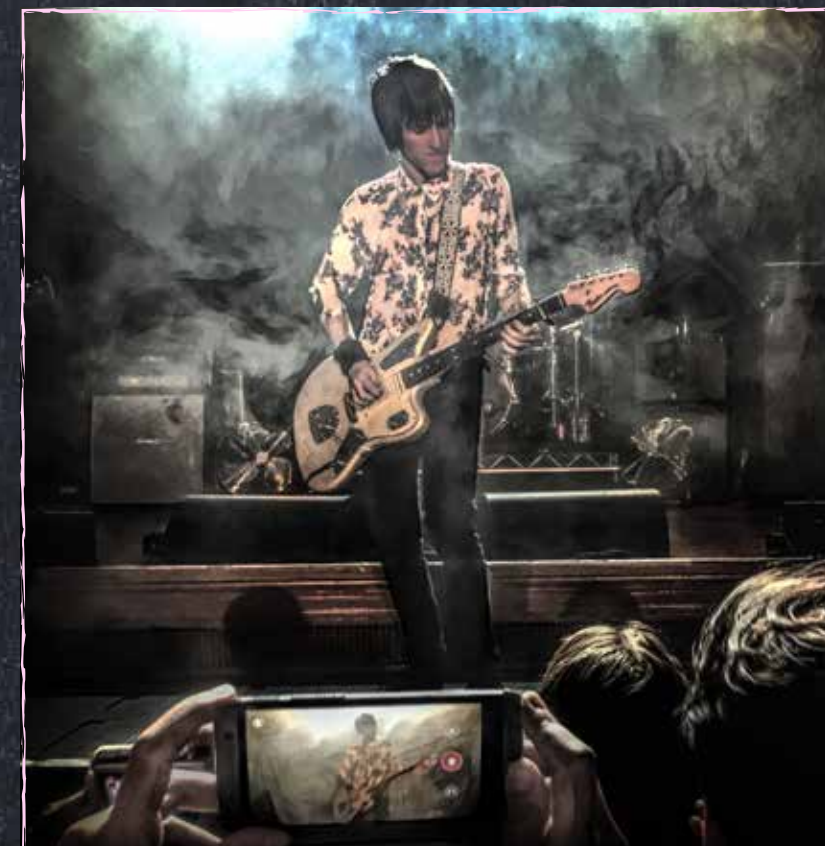
Mr Marr and Co take to the stage and perform a blistering set from start to finish.

When they burst into 'Getting Away With It', Mr Tennant starts to join in from his seat. I am thinking 'someone please get this man a mic'.

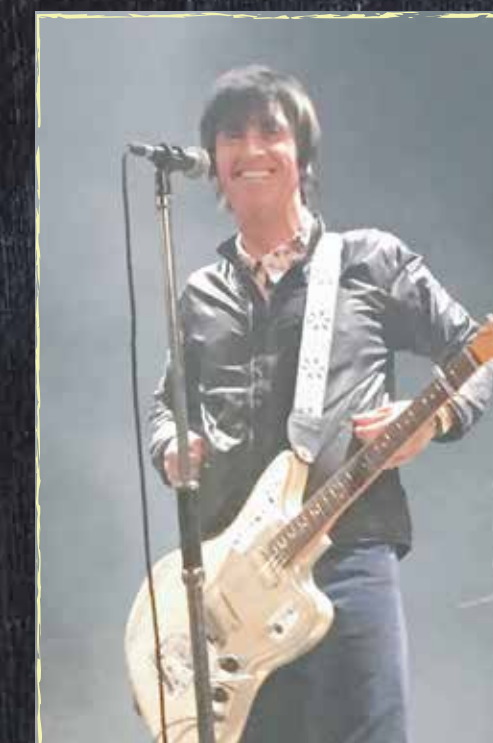
And then.... I got to meet Aly and Ory, who are two in a million.

A night I will never forget.

- Jason Oliver



I ❤️ JM



Best smile in Rock 'n Roll







I managed to catch Johnny outside Islington Town Hall, along with a few other fans on 16th May 2018, as part of the Call The Comet launch gigs. I was thrilled as I had travelled up to London in the morning and was hanging about with nothing much to do until the evening gig.

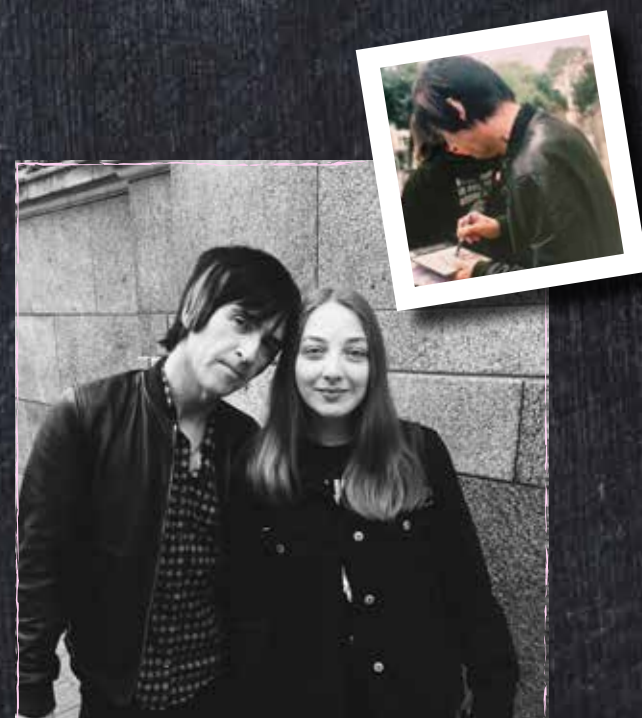
It was an all-too-brief encounter, but totally worth it and equal to being on the barrier for the gig later on, watching a brilliant setlist with some The Smiths classics like Headmaster Ritual and How Soon Is Now? thrown in amongst Johnny Marr classics and new tunes such as The Tracers and Hi Hello.

A top gig and I can't wait for the autumn tour for more Johnny Live!

- Sue Ferro

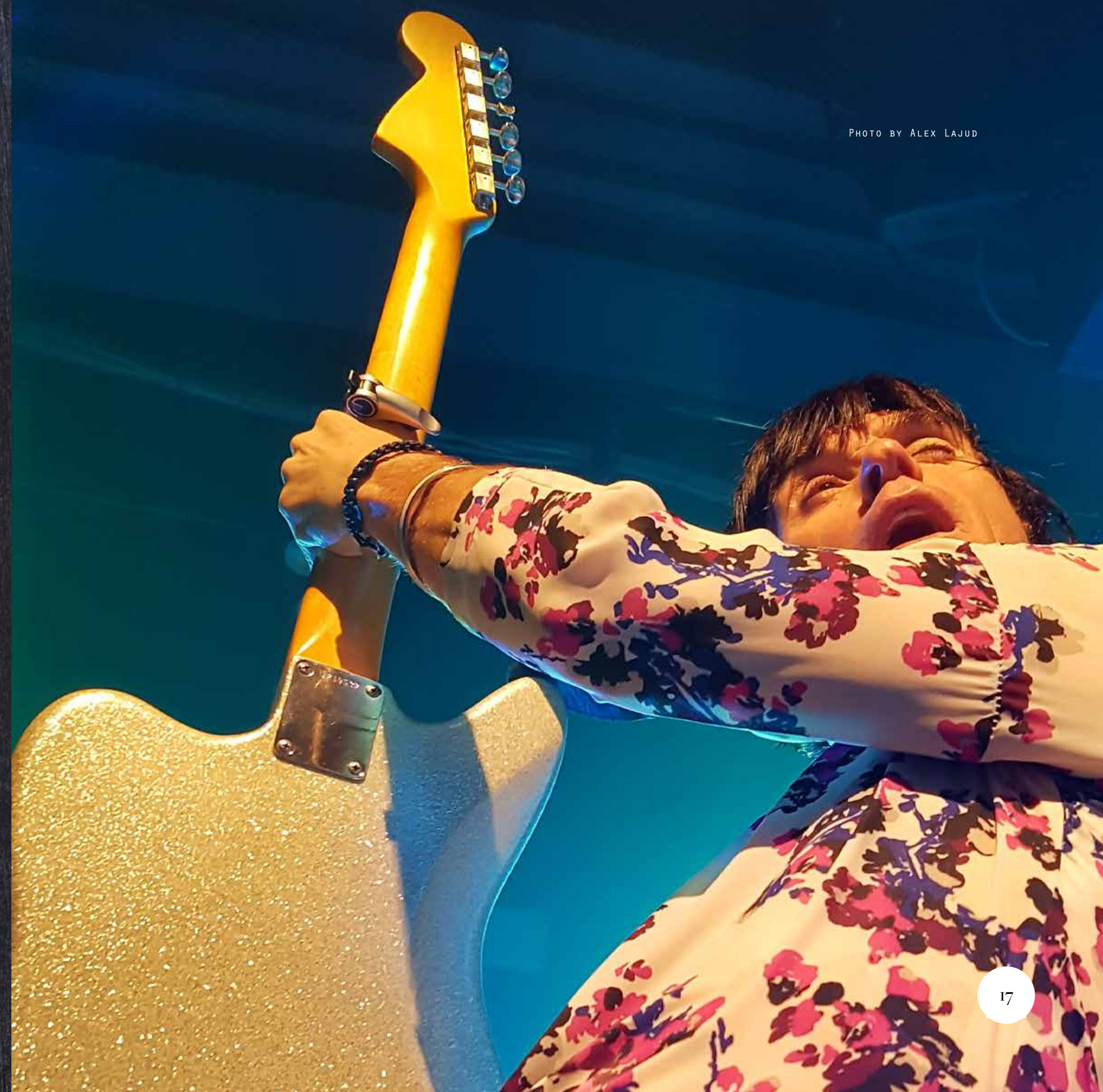


Johnny & Sue



Johnny & Jessica

PHOTO BY ALEX LAJUD



# STOCKHOLM

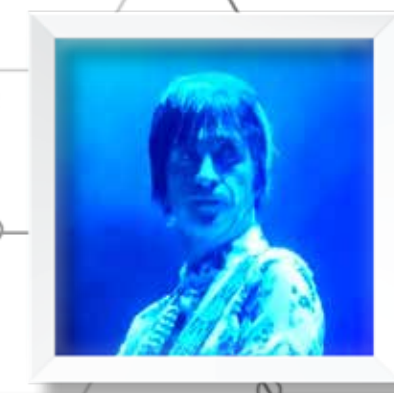
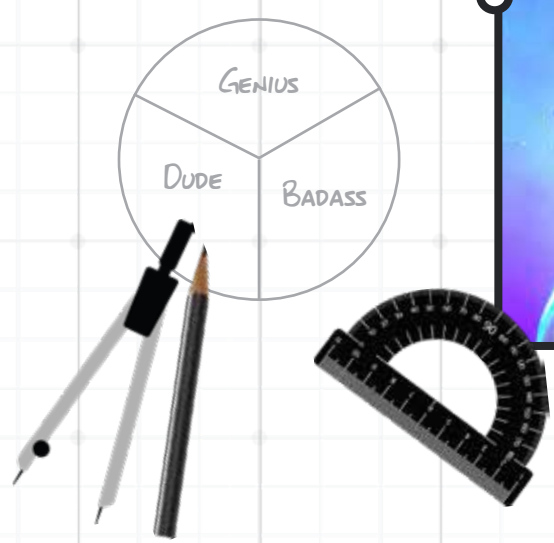
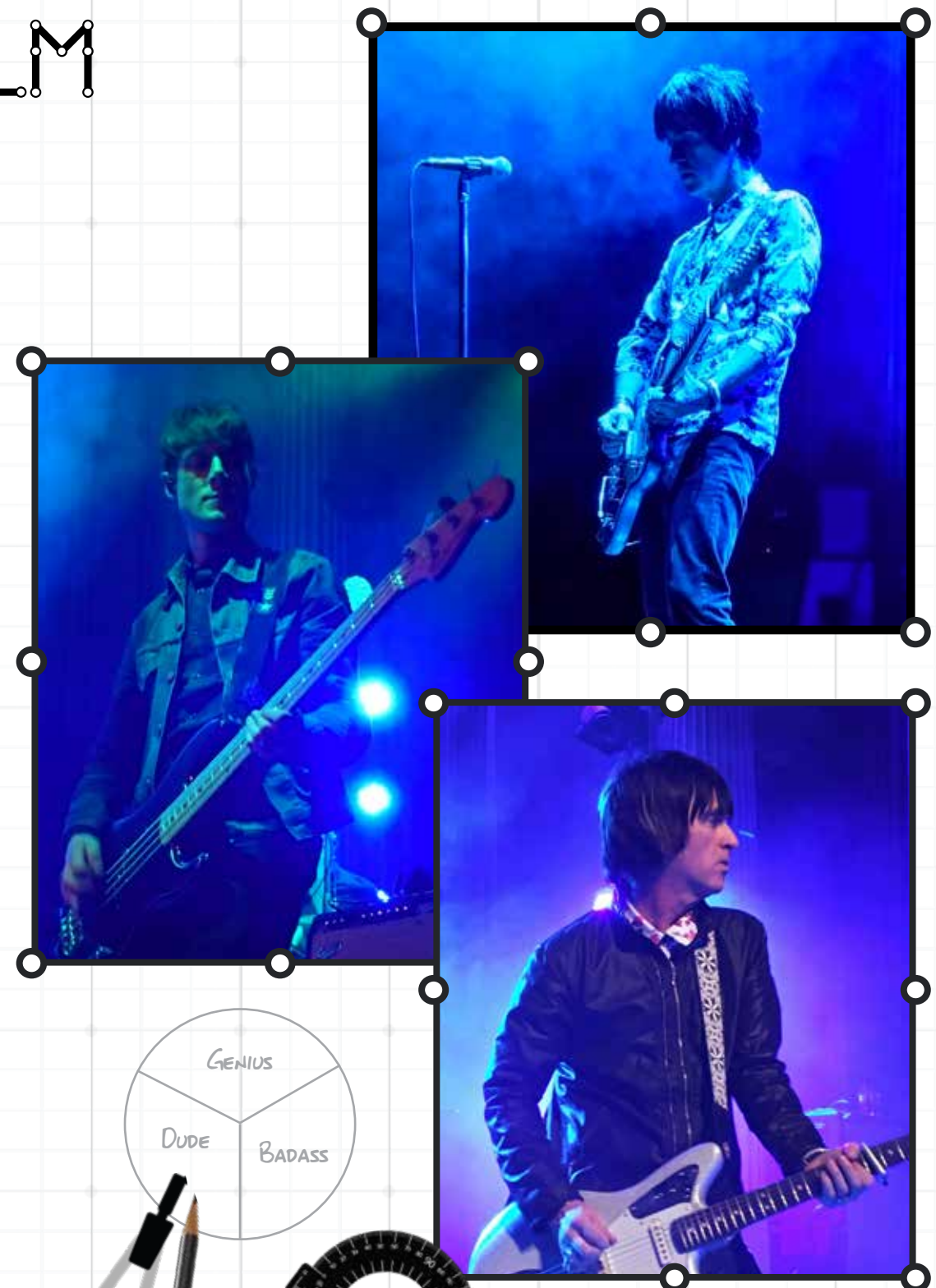
Nalen 18.05.18

As Johnny Marr takes the stage at Nalen Stockholm, he is immediately engulfed with love and devotion. We've waited far too long, yet it feels like he's been here forever.

In true Marr fashion we are treated to splendid tracks straight off his 3rd album Call the Comet. It is by far his best solo album and a fab swerve and deep dive into dark, sensual electronica.

I've never seen a room light up with smiles as it did on May the 18th. Who said Swedes prefer hygge? Give me good old rock n' roll any day.

- Ollea Mårtensson





Dude



Badass

*I was very glad to see Johnny Marr in Stockholm for the first time (although I've seen him in concert before). It was so kind of him to choose Sweden as one of the countries to promote his new album in. So exciting to hear new music from "Call The Comet", but also a pleasure to watch him perform his old fantastic hits, songs from the very first albums, and famous The Smith songs. The club Nalen in Stockholm itself was a perfect choice for an intimate and small gig. I made a few totes and tees with "Call The Comet" reflex letters as a gratitude gesture for his and the bands' great performance. You're always welcome back to Sweden!*

*Best wishes,  
Olga Zaitseva*

The Tracers C4  
Bigmouth Strikes Again C4  
Jeopardy C4  
Day In Day Out C2  
New Dominions  
Hi Hello BLUE  
Headmaster Ritual E  
Walk Into The Sea C2  
Getting Away With It C2  
There is a Light C4  
Bug C4  
Last Night I Dreamt  
Spiral Cities C5



# C|O|P|E|N|H|A|G|E|N

VEGA 19.05.18

I received the email access to the Copenhagen "Call The Comet launch shows" ticket's purchase when I had lost all my hope. Happiness was at the stars, I just had to manage my trip! I've arrived at Vega, the day of the event, directly from Rome around 6pm, knowing to find someone queuing already but also hoping for a front row. To my great surprise, as in Italy we are used to queue for days, I found there only two people: a Danish boy and a Korean girl. YAY, I thought, I will be in the front line for sure! Chatting, the two guys immediately told me they had already met Johnny in the early afternoon so I never expected to see him as well. Instead, around 7pm, they suddenly told me JOHNNY'S OUT! Great thrill, you know! Meanwhile more people came in line but all of them were very kind (honestly I can't tell you how great is Johnny's fan base). They let me go to the stage door, to say HI to Johnny, then put me back exactly in my place. So I could hug my Guitar Hero once again and also take another picture with him. Too bad that, as usual, I haven't been able to say anything besides "thank you! thank you! thank you!". I was so lucky, I had the pleasure to meet Johnny more than once in recent years but I have always been too shy to say something bright. Anyway, heart's pounding, I got into the concert hall to enjoy the show. The concert has been amazing and all the band was at its top. Johnny's guitar means everything to me. When I was 16 I attended the only gig The Smiths have ever played in Italy, and I have been waiting for almost 30 years to hear live again the guitarist I love the most. Johnny Marr's solo career for me is perfect and his voice is perfect too. Since The Messenger came out I realized I don't want to listen to anything else. See you in November. Forever grateful!

- Chiara (Roma, Italy)

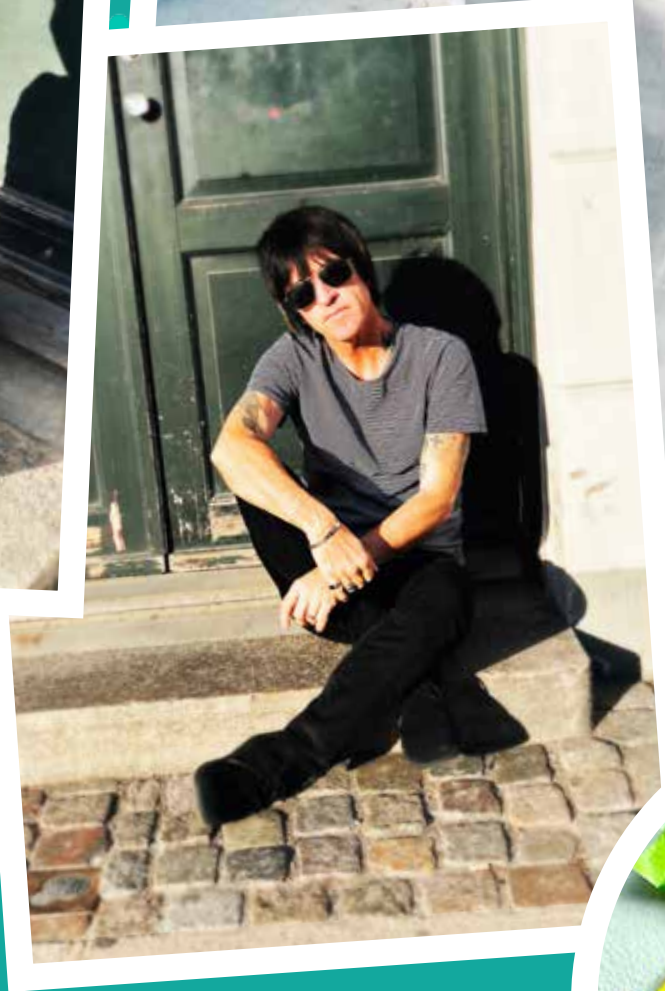
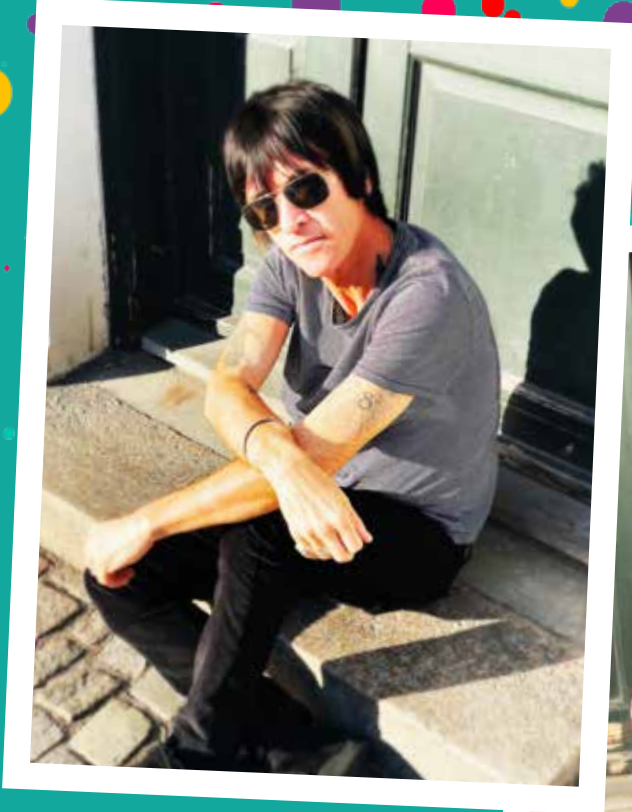


JOHNNY & CHIARA





PHOTO BY LOTTA RYDBERG



PRE-GIG SNACKS

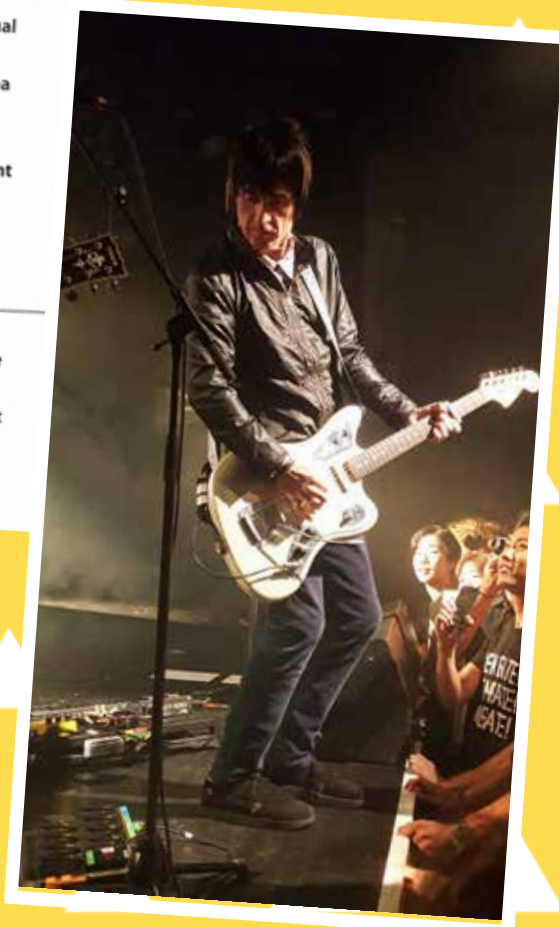
OUT & ABOUT ON THE STREETS OF  
*Copenhagen*

# amsterdam

PARADISO NOORD, 20.05.18



- The Tracers  
Bigmouth Strikes Again  
Jeopardy  
Day In Day Out  
New Dominions  
Hi Hello  
Headmaster Ritual  
Rise  
Walk Into The Sea  
There is a Light  
Bug  
Last Night I Dreamt  
Easy Money  
Boys Get Straight  
How Soon Is Now?
- Actor Atractor  
Please Please Please  
Newtown Velocity  
Getting Away With It



“

I've been a huge fan of Johnny (who isn't?) for decades. Unfortunately I've never seen The Smiths live, but seen Johnny 5 times so far: with Modest Mouse at Melkweg in Amsterdam in 2007, with The Cribs in 2008 and 2009, his first solo show in 2014 and his album launch show at Paradiso Noord (Tolhuistuin) on 20th May 2018. I met him in 2007 and he was one of the nicest people I ever met. He was really kind and friendly. He gave me his plectrums and we took a photo together. I'm going to see him again at Melkweg in December and I'm really looking forward to it.

- A huge Johnny Marr fan in Amsterdam

”



Young fan Sara with her new Johnny Marr badge

# ●● Berlin ●●

FESTSAAL KREUZBERG, 21.05.18



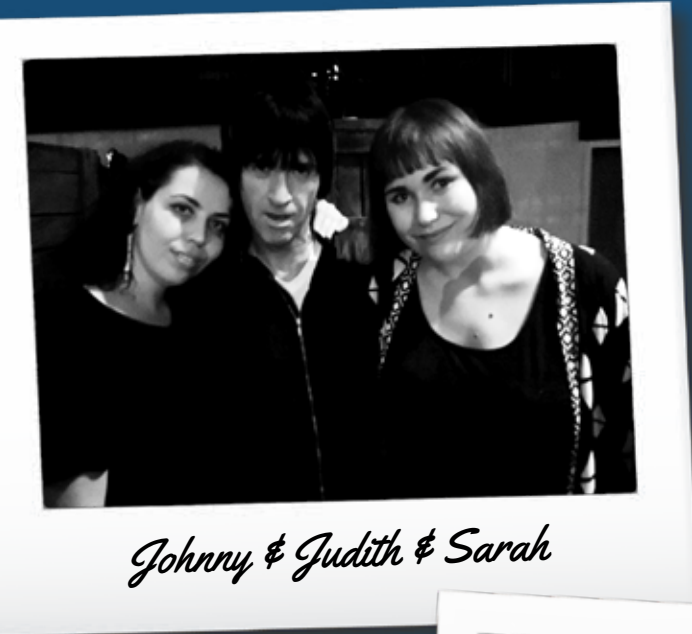
The spreading news of Johnny Marr playing Berlin to his honest fans was somewhat groundbreaking. Not a 'best of'-show but presenting his new album. Hardly anyone had heard more than two of his new tunes. The air was buzzing. Everyone in the room full of thankfulness and expectations. Johnny Marr and his band served them all in the best of possible ways. To big cheers new and well known tracks were saluted by Johnny's followers. The show left me and everybody else mouth wide open and happy. We made new friends on that occasion. What more? Meeting the legend himself the other morning was the topping of the cake. Thank you, Johnny, thank you.

Viele Grüße  
*Peter Schröter*



“Johnny’s Berlin concert will be etched in my memory until the day I die. Words can’t explain the euphoria and intense joy that I felt seeing him live for the first time in 35 years of being a devoted fan. The experience has set the ball rolling and I’m going to see him again in Glasgow and Milan in November. I’m counting the days!”

*- Linda Poulbrott  
Monte di Procida, Italy*



*Johnny & Judith & Sarah*

“We were lucky enough to meet Johnny after his fabulous gig at Festsaal Kreuzberg in Berlin. Even though he was in a hurry, he still signed stuff, took pictures and had some kind words for everyone who was waiting. The show was incredibly energetic and captivating, and meeting him made this magnificent evening perfect.

Thank you so much our fondest concert memory, Johnny!”

*- Judith and Sarah Kirchaier*

“Art in the purest form. Absolute pleasure. Absolutely legendary. Thank you Mr. Marr.”

*- Magdalena Falkowska*



*Johnny & Magdalena*



*Johnny & Peter*



*Johnny & Sabine*

“Me and my husband came to Berlin to see Johnny’s gig, which was one of the best I’ve ever attended and we even met Aly & Ory there. The best part however was that we managed to meet Johnny after the show. There were loads of fans waiting, but he was so kind and spoke to everyone. We all were allowed to take a picture with him so I dared to ask him: ‘May I hug you?’ ‘Well, I think you MUST hug me’, was his answer. So I did – and will never forget that night. Thank you Johnny!”

*- Sabine Kaczynski*



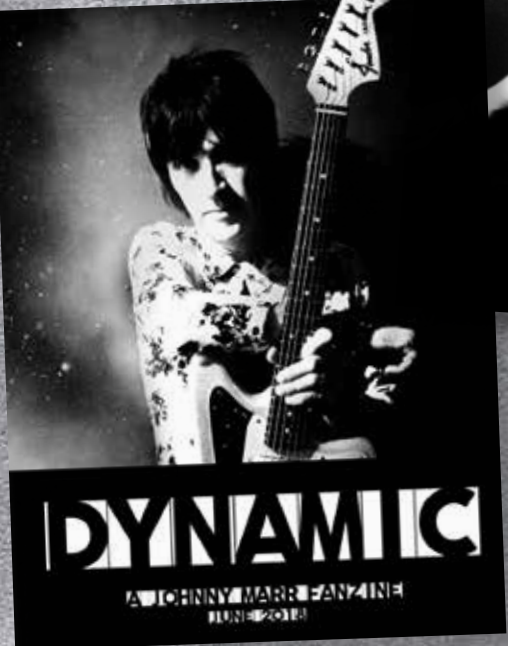
*Johnny & Nicholas*





PHOTO BY NICHOLAS RESTIVO

Celebrating our 50th Johnny Marr gig in Berlin was a good excuse for cupcakes if there ever was one...  
- Aly & Ori



# DYNAMIC PHOTOSHOOT



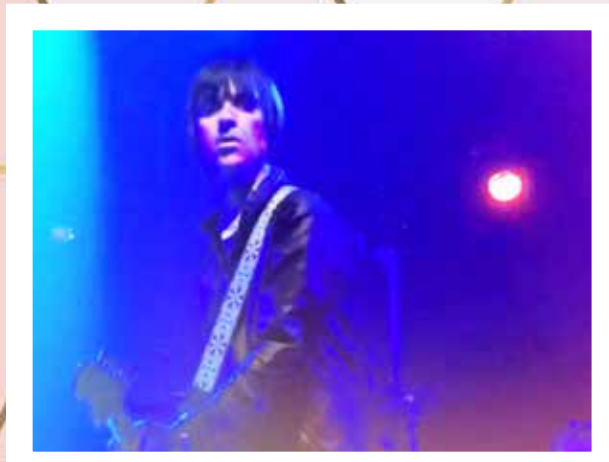
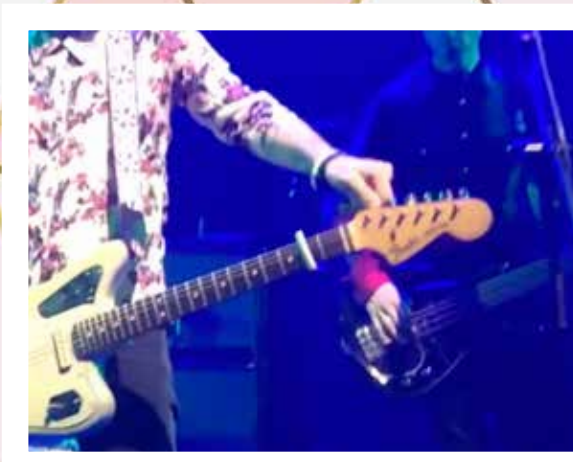
# Paris

La Gai te Lyrique  
24.05.18



*Magnifique!*

*“Très bon. Very très!”*



*Effective post-gig pain relief*

# TORONTO VELVET UNDERGROUND

30.05.18



Johnny & Neda



"All the time prior to the show I spent in great internal debates – "am I going to meet Johnny? If yes, should I bring the book for him to sign? Should I make him something as art-exchange? ...Am I really going to meet Johnny?" At first I felt stupid bringing a book to a concert, until my friend showed up with her copy of the book, and then, suddenly, there is like a book club standing in line for the doors to open! I did end up meeting Johnny, and I was able to give him one of my tiny artworks as he signed the book. I felt very connected to the universe at that moment."

- Natalia Tcherniak

"Johnny very graciously came out and signed books and vinyl, and took pictures with fans who had waited almost an hour behind the Velvet Underground after the gig. I am in this picture with him. I'm not sure if he's handing me an imaginary mic or preparing to hit me. He has a mellifluous, soothing voice, so he could be saying, "Cross me and you'll be sorry," but I would be listening to the sound rather than the meaning."

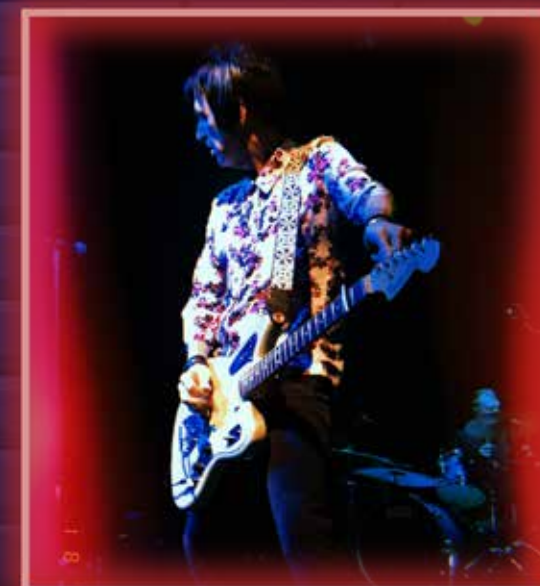
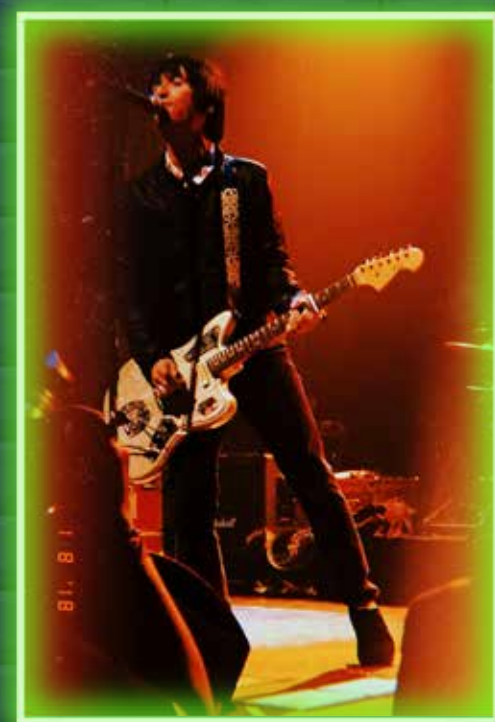
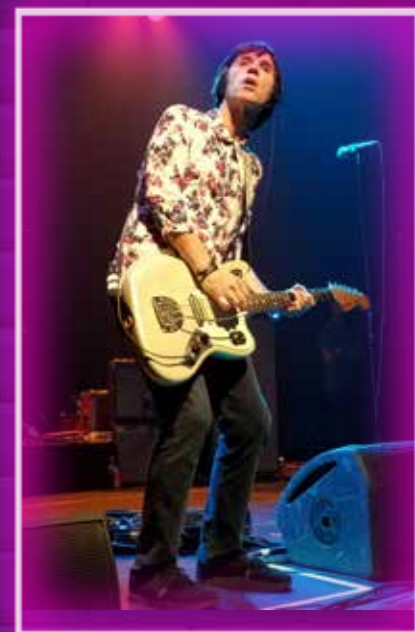
- Maria Meliouni



new york

Gramercy Theatre

31.05.18



“After more than thirty hours of trains from Michigan to Boston to New York, a Johnny Marr show is well worth it. You’re surrounded by people with a shared love, and euphoria swells once the lights lower and the band graces the stage. Johnny and his group sounded incredible. Lee and I were drawn through the unheard new songs with awe, and the community broke out singing along with the classics. By New Town Velocity, a song that’s guided me through years of independence, we held out the poster I’d made for Johnny. His son took it, presented it to a cheering crowd, and I was given pats on the back by people around me. Johnny quipped that I’d drawn him on a “good hair day” and tossed me his plectrum. The rest of the night carried on with an infinite high, and I’m certain Lee will never come down from it.”

-Riley Langston





PHOTO BY MARGARITA SHEREMET



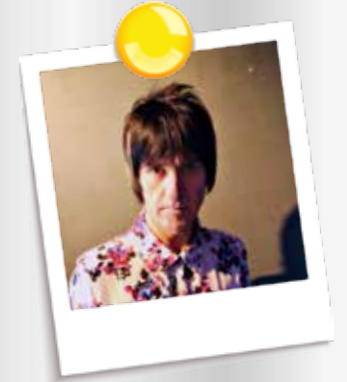
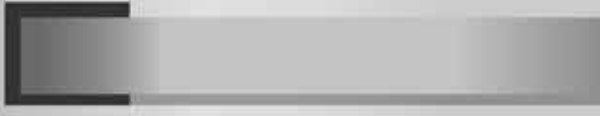
POST CARD.

Dear Johnny,

Thank you for making this concert experience so exciting. I enjoyed every minute of it. Thanks to you and the band I made some new friends at your May concert. I'm looking forward to seeing you again in October. It's going to be another fantastic show.

Until then,  
Ingrid Glasgow

THIS SIDE FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

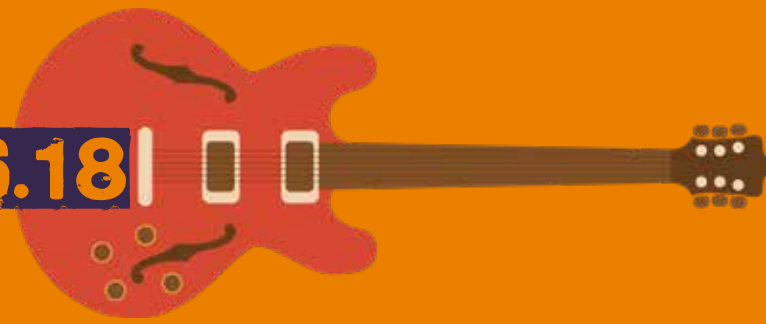


Shopping list

Plectrums  
Shampoo  
Cookies

# SAN FRANCISCO

AUGUST HALL 02.06.18



Does Johnny know I flew half way around the world to catch the Call the Comet album release show in San Francisco?

Does Neil Finn know I flew half way around the world to attend the Sydney Out of Silence show?

This year I decided the answer to every quandary is a solid YES.

Fly far to see Marr, YES.

Genius deserves dedication. I am willing to oblige.

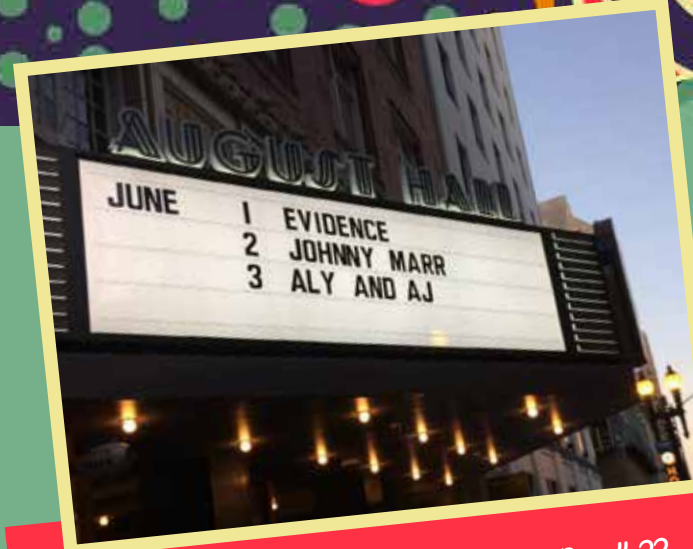
Landed at SFO 3pm... August Hall show 8pm...

I rushed from the airport, home, breathe, regroup, dress, walk to August Hall...

Up front, in the mosh, as close to the Marvelous as humanly possible.

The stage lit blue... here's Johnny.

- Josephine Ramos



Aly & AJ: the other "Dynamic Duo" ??



"King of the Surf"





**JOHNNY & ALEXANDER**



**JOHNNY & MAGGIE**



**JOHNNY & MONI**



**JOHNNY & TOM**

Last minute trip to San Francisco after having scored some Johnny Marr tickets the night before...August Hall was the venue. It was small and exquisite and smack in the middle of downtown. We got to the venue about an hour before the doors open and there was a line... we waited, the doors opened, and we made our way to the front of the stage.

Having seen Johnny in concert 5 times before, we knew we were in for a treat... we just didn't know how much of a treat! Mesmerized by Johnny's mastery of his guitar, I fell under his spell throughout the entire show. We were treated to a few Smiths classics, as well his own material... but I really enjoyed his new material from "Call Of The Comet" !!!

And then just like that, the show was over.

Having lost track of our time in the venue, we stumbled out into the street with everyone else, satisfied and happy. We started talking with various fellow Johnny Marr fans, and decided to hang out in a desperate attempt to maybe catch a glimpse of Johnny and the band. People started to leave after thinking he wasn't going to show... there was only a handful of us left.

As they say, "patience is a virtue". We got to meet Johnny, Jack and Iwan! This definitely made our trip to San Francisco even more memorable and special. I remember I told Johnny I've been a fan of his for 30 years, since The Smiths days, and he remarked, "really mate?" - and he then reached into his pocket and gave me one of his "Johnny" guitar picks. We then chatted for a bit and took a few pics, and we left with awesome memories and looking forward to seeing him again this fall !!



**- TOM CHAVEZ**

Los Angeles

05-06.06.18



I was lucky enough to see both of Johnny's sold out shows at the Teragram Ballroom. The venue is small, holding about 600 people. I've played in enough garage bands to comprehend the astonishing level of talent and professionalism necessary for putting on these flawless shows. Johnny himself is an unmatched genius of course and his band is world-class – they enable him to shine and soar. To see them close-up was a heart-squeezing thrill.

Two songs stood out for me: "Rise" – a song about hope and resistance, and the rocker "Boys Get Straight" from Playland. On these songs, it was his voice, his presence and charisma that made my hair stand on end.

Johnny Marr is magic. It would not surprise me if his X-rays only showed a glowing light inside him. At the Teragram Ballroom, his light engulfed us all. And no, I will not make the Smiths reference!

Jane Fujimoto

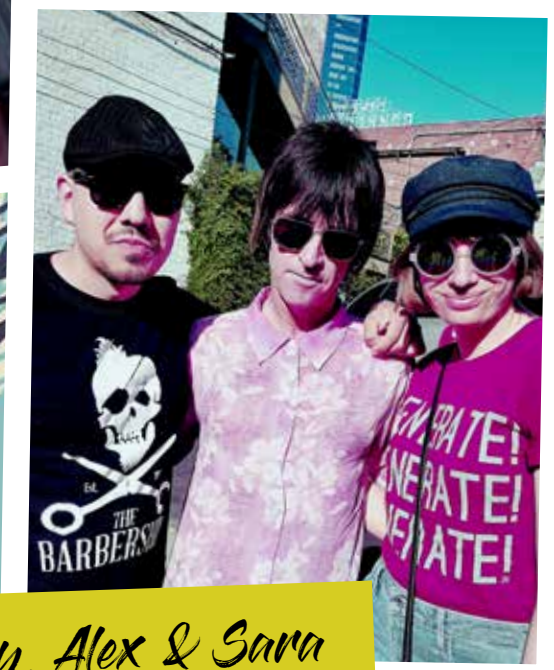
Teragram Ballroom







Johnny & Suki



Johnny, Alex & Sara



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We'd like to thank everybody who took the time to share their special memories of the Call The Comet launch shows with us for this tour book.

We appreciate your input enormously, and are touched by your generosity and enthusiasm.

## DUBLIN

Louise Gallagher, Steven Greenaway, Collette McGee, Alison Moore, Kirsty Smith, and Gail Tangey.

## LEEDS

Harry Bennett, Anthony Harrison, Fran Hinchcliffe, Simon Lee, Janice Mitchell, and Jordan Smith.

## LONDON

Alan Barnes, Jéssica Correia, Sue Ferro, Ilze Frey, Sawako Hunter, Alan Ivory, Collette McGee, Suguru Okabe, Jason Oliver, Justin Osbourne, and Christine Schmidt.

## STOCKHOLM

Lotta Forsman, Maria Magnusson, Ollea Mårtensson, Brian O'Grady, Caroline Schmerl, Margarita Sheremet, and Olga Zaitseva.

## COPENHAGEN

Chiara Busico, Lotta Forsman, Line Wedell Pape, Lotta Rydberg, and Michael Seiss.

## AMSTERDAM

Suguru Okabe, Cees Pulles, Katia Thienpondt, and Ben Turbevill.

## BERLIN

Magdalena Falkowska, Sabine Kaczynski, Judith Kirchaier, Sarah Kirchaier, Suguru Okabe, Linda Poulcott, Nicholas Restivo, Melissa Roden, and Peter Schröter.

## PARIS

Jean Barrault, Laurent Devoille, and Suguru Okabe.

## TORONTO

Maria Melioumi, Neda Safaee-Rad, and Natalia Tcherniak.

## NEW YORK

Stratton Bouloukos, Lee Dela Cruz, Denise DeNezza, Ingrid Glasgow, and Riley Langston.

## SAN FRANCISCO

Tom Chavez III, Michele Esparza, Maggie Pena, Josephine Ramos, and Alexander Rojas.

## LOS ANGELES

Jane Fujimoto, Thomas Gomez, Alex Lajud, Michelle Prather, Alexander Rojas, Jerome Stockham, and Anji Williams.

Full page photos by Anthony Harrison (p2, p11), Alex Lajud (p17), Maria Melioumi (p21), Lotta Rydberg (p24), Nicholas Restivo (p31), and Margarita Sheremet (p40).

'Make your way to the edge of the world...'