

United Kingdom / Europe Jour Scrapbook



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### mcoln The Engine Shed, 13 October 2014

Though the album had only been released one week earlier, already anticipation was high for the commencement of the UK Playland tour. How would the new songs, most of which had only been heard on CD and vinyl so far, sound live? Would the energy of the new album's live shows live up the high expectations created by the brilliance of The Messenger tour?

Nobody, of course, was disappointed.

A positively electrifying set, featuring all but two tracks from the new album as well as a handful from The Messenger, some Smiths favourites, an Electronic classic and even an Iggy Pop cover, set the tone for many more incredible shows to follow, and Johnny was every bit as brilliantly mesmerising onstage as we could have hoped for. The tour had begun. We'd broken out.

WELCOME TO PLAYLAND.









People say "Don't meet your heroes, they'll only disappoint you". I don't listen to them. Just met Johnny Marr after a brilliant gig at The Engine

- Dan Thompson, 13/10/14



Souvenirs

I loved making "Johnny Knitwit" but being appallingly shy, I never thought I'd dare present him to his real-life counterpart. In the event, I was dragged round of the back of the Lincoln Engine Shed venue by Aly and Ory and presented, dolly and all, to Johnny Marr. JM accepted my gift most graciously and as I fled the scene, Johnny was getting himself photographed with his Mini-Me, so I think the gift went down reasonably well.

- Kate Park, East Yorkshire



Johnny and "Johnny Knitwit"

## SOUTHEND-ON-SEM



Cliffs Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea 14/10/2014

> It's certainly not every day that Johnny Fuckin Marr pays a visit to Southend. In fact, when a friend first told me he was doing a gig here, I thought she was pulling my leg. But the official tour dates weren't lying, and on October 14th 2014 I was breathing the same air as my biggest hero of more than ten years.

I couldn't even sleep the night before the gig, I was that excited. "Playland" had only been out a week but already I was completely in love with every song on it and couldn't wait to hear them live.

I arrived at the venue drenched from the rain outside (thanks, Southend!) but in the highest of high spirits, and

by the time Johnny's support band, Childhood (who were excellent with a capital E, by the way) finished their set, I was so excited at the prospect of seeing Johnny himself that I could hardly breathe.

Finally, Johnny appeared onstage looking handsome and stylish as always, and immediately burst into the new album's title track, which for the record is one hell of a set-opener. Many more songs from "Playland" followed, all sounding even better live than I could have dreamed, and Smiths tunes such as "Bigmouth strikes again" and "How soon is now?" too. He also did a cover of Iggy Pop's "Lust for life" that sounded so incredible it would have left the great Iggy himself speechless.

After the gig I had the pleasure of meeting Johnny's drummer, Jack Mitchell, and was blown away by how friendly, down to earth, and just plain *nice* he is. I also met the very charming Aly and Ory from JohnnyMarrvellous.com and got a free badge off of them - score! After waiting around outside with some other people for a while it transpired that Johnny had been whisked away earlier to deal with business stuff, but I didn't feel at all let down. I had my signed vinyl, a cool badge, and had just been to the greatest gig of my life...what more could anybody ask for?

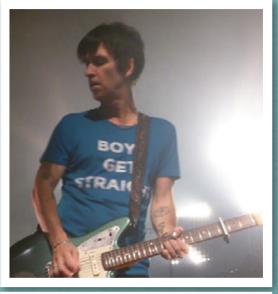
- Martina G.









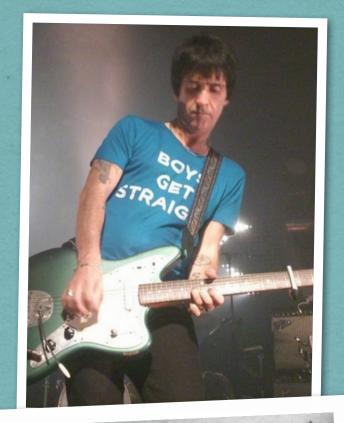






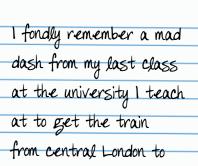








New tattoo this morning in honour of tonight's show!



At the time I was very worried that I'd never make it! The show was

Southend.



raw and rocking. I stood towards the back where I could see above the heads of the others in the stalls, dancing away. The security guards at the end said to me: "We saw you. You danced all night. Good on you, mate!" A big thumbs up followed. Thank goodness they didn't think I was completely crazy with my dodgy but enthusiastic moves!

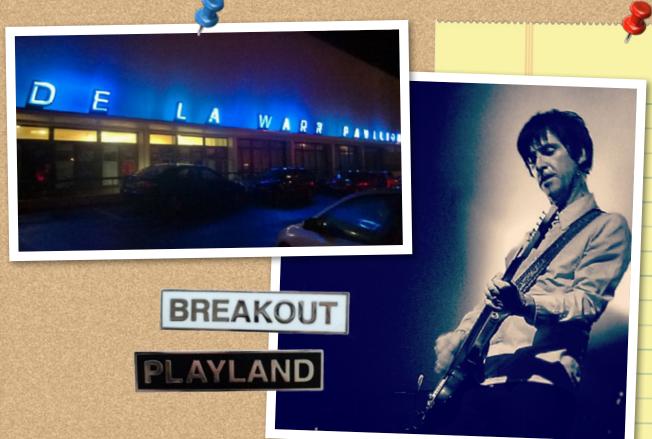
- Snigdha Nag







### Bexhill-on-Sea De La Warr Pavilion, 15/10/2014





It started straight after the Wedgewood Rooms warm up gig with an easy decision made on the way home...definitely getting tickets for Bexhill.

Two months later and the stage was set for a night to remember. The De La Warr Pavilion is a beautiful old Art Deco building. It was raining like the sky had burst (fair enough, that bit wasn't the highlight). The show started with support from Childhood showcasing their stunning album, Lacuna. And then the backdrop lit up and Jack's drums kicked into Playland.

As opening numbers go, I saw and heard nothing to beat it last year. Months afterwards and I still get that 'Pavlov's Dogs' moment when I hear the intro to Playland; a mix of anticipation and adrenalin.

It was good to hear the old songs, great to hear the new songs. A mighty set enjoyed by all ages, not least my teenage son, always happy to be the first one jumping (handy really, always know roughly where he is!) Then a moment of recognition in Word Starts Attack when Johnny encouraged him to 'jump higher'. And yes, of course he did.

So Bexhill ended and Bournemouth and Bath beckoned... good times. Just wondering if there's any chance of introducing a loyalty card next tour?

- Siobhan O'Driscoll



## Wolverhampton

Wolverhampton Civic Hall, 17/10/2014

There must have been something in the air that night.

Perhaps it was the weather (raining buckets outside, one recalls), or because it was a Friday. But, more likely, it was simply the incomparable excitement of seeing Johnny that made the energy of the crowd in Wolverhampton so electrifying.

Earlier that afternoon, Johnny had made a passing remark about the venue's size, wondering if his predicted audience might seem a little sparse in the 3000-capacity hall. He needn't have worried. The venue was packed, and proved to be Johnny's most enthusiastic audience on the Playland tour so far, with energy to match his own, and a very clear appreciation for the music, new and old alike.

There was singing, there was dancing, there was crowd-surfing. Many a pint was thrown over fellow gig-goers and even onstage, yet the lager-drenched audience couldn't have cared less, such was the spell Johnny had cast over the people of Wolverhampton. As for Johnny himself, even when the odd stage-invader rushed up to embrace their idol, he took it in his stride - and didn't miss a single note.

By the end of the gig, Wolverhampton Civic Hall was wrecked, and so were its patrons, although happily so. Some were silently grinning as they stumbled towards the exit, others looked like they'd just run a marathon, and one girl was even stripped down to her bra (planning to throw it onstage, I wonder?) - but all were undeniably happy, with the awestruck expressions of somebody just having witnessed a truly breathtaking event.

Because they had.





Johnny gave me the rose since we were both wearing pink. Lovely chap!

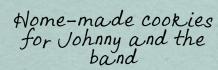
- David



These postcards have been turning up all over the place....



Katie meets Johnny





"The deal was I'd bake
if I got a pair of Jacks sticks, and it was fun to
see him having to go back in to get them after I
reminded him that that was his side of the deal and
he had to follow through. I also got the postcards
personally signed which was a lovely thing and I
was very grateful. I get very tongue tied around
people so did manage to squeak I baked you
cookies' to Johnny too, for which he thanked me,
but no idea if he ate them — I hope so."

- Nicola Westwood

### CARDIFF

Great Hall, Cardiff University
18/10/2014

Johnny Fuckin Marr. Godlike genius, guitar hero, indie legend and a damn good reason for being at uni on a Saturday night.

No pub, club or party in all of Wales (maybe even all of the world) could have been as rockin' tonight as Cardiff Uni's Great Hall was, graced by the presence of The Guitarist All Other Guitarists Aspire To Be, and owner of the Best Haircut In The History of Great Haircuts. Even having a beer tossed over my shoulders two songs in couldn't dampen my spirits or enthusiasm. (Although the same couldn't be said for my shirt.)

The new songs from "Playland" exceeded all expectations of how amazing they would sound live, and I

have to say, Johnny has a seriously tight band behind him these days. Iwan, Jack and the mysterious Doviak were on fire tonight, and as for the main man himself? Well there are no words, or at least no adequate ones.

The Smiths fans in the audience were catered for too though, even spoiled, as tonight saw the Playland tour debut of the ever-gorgeous "Please Please Please Let Me Get What I Want". Regrettably I couldn't hear well enough to catch who Johnny dedicated it to, but in reality it felt like a gift to the whole audience, and I could tell the people standing beside and in front of me were just as moved as I was. Not that I cried, of course. That was just allergies.

Other highlights of the set were "Easy Money", "Getting Away With It" and "Dynamo", and by the time the show was over, my first instinct was to find out where Johnny was next playing and hitchhike my way there. He's just that good.

- James Lloyd



Who on earth Keeps leaving these postcards everywhere?!



Such passion!



"This photo of my son
Liam and I was taken by
Johnny's wife Angie, who
was in the disabled viewing
area with us. It was nice
to meet her - she's such
a lovely woman. This was
my first gig after my
cancer operation. Looking
forward to this gig gave
me strength when I was in
hospital."

- Paul Hillman









### Bournemouth

02 Academy Bournemouth, 20/10/2014



This particular gig was a bit special for me, for the simple fact I took my 18 year old daughter Lucy, who was not only brought up on the Smiths, but is a massive fan, so to see Johnny perform (and to actually meet him after) was an absolute dream for her.

Johnny and the band just get better and better the more I see them. The whole gig was superb, and I was just a little bit proud to see and hear Lucy singing her heart out to all the Smiths songs they played.

With his usual charm and respect for his fans, I watched as Johnny took time to speak to every single person who waited to meet him after the gig. I myself had the opportunity to tell him how much I love "This Tension" and that on first buying the album, played this track constantly for 3 days running – Johnny giggled and called me a "Barm Cake", but also said it's for people like myself that he writes his music for. He said we shared a connection.! Lucy was just a little awe struck at meeting him, and was amazed at how approachable he is...

- Pamela Schofield







Johnny + Pamela





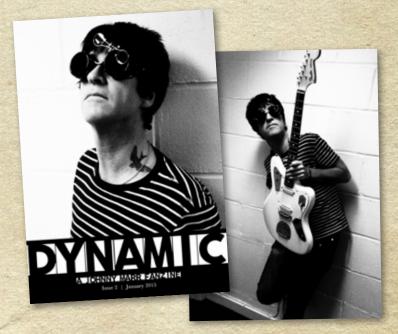
Marr

## Cambridge THE CORN EXCHANGE 7 21/10/2014

Having already caught a couple of dates on the Playland tour (Lincoln and Wolverhampton) would the third date I'm attending live up to the previous two? It was a last minute decision to go when a spare ticket became available and a two and a half hour drive to get there. I need not have worried the good people of Cambridge were ready and rockin'. Johnny blasted his way through a mix of both of his solo albums and a selection of tunes by The Smiths and all received joyously by the adoring crowd.

There's a lot of clever people in Cambridge, and they proved that beyond doubt by picking this gig to attend tonight.

- Jackie Nutty



Trivia bite: The cover shoot for 'Dynamic' issue #2 took place before this show.

## Brixton

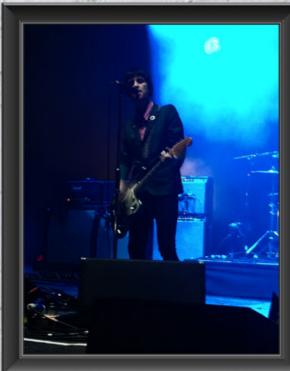
### O2 Academy Brixton, 23/10/2014

On Thursday 23rd October 2014, people from all corners of London and beyond travelled far and wide towards the Academy in Brixton to see the man that is Johnny Marr.

From the opening drums of 'Playland' all the way through to the sheer wall of noise created during 'How Soon is Now', nowhere else in London that. night could possibly have matched the iconic venue which is the Brixton Academy for all the love felt in one place for one man. Johnny did not falter once, whether he was bouncing around during the guitar - solo of 'Back in the Box' or playing the beautiful shimmering sounds of the breakdown in 'Getting Away With It'. When the one and only Noel Gallagher stepped onstage for 'Lust for Life' and 'How Soon Is Now', his presence seemed to be a very fitting way to close the show. It was such a privilege to see two legends such as themselves grace the stage together.







I'm sure that everybody who was there that night will agree that this night was very energetic and a lot of fun; Johnny definitely seemed to be enjoying himself!

- Gemma Faulkner













PHOTO BY SAWAKO HUNTER

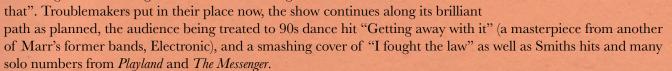


### BATH

Bath Pavilion, 24/10/2014

Bath Pavilion's grounds are rattling with excitement tonight. It's raining out, my Wallabees are soaked and some bastard nicked my brolly when I went to the loo before the gig, but none of that matters because Johnny Marr is here tonight...

It's a cracker of a gig, with a set list full of Johnny's latest and greatest, plus a good few Smiths tunes, and even though there are a few plonkers towards the front causing trouble at one stage, Johnny handles the situation with professionalism as well as great humour, calling them "a bunch of lightweights" before lightly chastising them for being "too old to be behaving like



On my way out I hear a bunch of people behind me bemoaning the photography ban that had been strictly enforced throughout the gig. True, it was a shame to not be able to capture the magic of tonight on camera, but at the end of the day it's more than enough just to have the experience - and a gig like tonight's is one I will always remember vividly, photos or not.

- Colin McCarthy

asy Money 5 Hours lew Town Velocity eadmasters Ritual ack In The Box peak Out Reach Out enerate! Generate! gmouth Strikes Again bys Get Straight ndidate light Thing Right Setting Away With It nere Is A Light

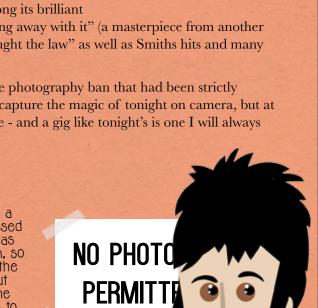
ord Starts Attack

I was at the front and managed to get a set list after the gig. Security guy passed me one after I asked him, but there was a young girl next to me with her mum, so it felt like the right thing to do to let the young girl have the set list. Turned out nicely as I managed to get another one that was used by the band and taped to the floor. I think it was Johnny's, judging by where the roadie pulled it from. Generosity paid off!

- Simon Bibb



Seriously, where do these keep coming from?!





## • MANCHESTER •

O2 Apollo, 25/10/2014



There was something very special about seeing Johnny perform in Manchester for the first time. A homecoming show at the O2 Apollo - the very venue where Johnny himself had seen artists such as Patti Smith in his youth, just a stone's throw from where he grew up in Ardwick - had the makings of a historical event even before Johnny stepped onstage.

It was an evening of celebration from start to finish. The crowd, mostly local, welcomed home their beloved hero with open arms. Throughout a blinding set that included both the majority of Playland and a generous selection of Smiths classics, I'm sure I saw grown men weeping.

> The final song before the encore - crowd-favourite 'There is a light that never goes out' - was dedicated to Johnny's long-time manager and mentor Joe Moss, who had gotten married that afternoon. A touching gesture made all the more moving for knowing what an important person Joe is in both Johnny's life and in the history of his career, the audience was only too willing to oblige Johnny's request to sing along in tribute.

> > There was so much love in the air that night. Love for Johnny; for Joe Moss; for the city of Manchester. For the music and the memories tied to it; for our gig-going companions; for life. It was a night that stood testament to the power of music - and the power of Johnny Marr.

### "Manchester...la La La la..."









the road from the Apollo to save having to leave early to get back to Liverpool! I remember waiting for my boyfriend for what seemed hours because I was so excited to just go and watch Johnny live!"

"I took this waiting in the hotel we booked in Manchester just down - Jess Beesley



How Soon Is Now?



Keeping it family-friendly: Young fans Elspeth (aged 10) and Matilda (aged 12) with the customised t-shirts their parents Wendy and Matt



At the barrier: Gemma, Caroline & Stacey

In 1985 I saw the Smiths on the Meat is Murder tour. By then I was already a huge fan and hooked on Johnny's playing.

The following year I moved away from home and went to uni. I'd put off getting tickets for any of the Queen is Dead shows because I wasn't really sure where I'd be.

Soon after moving, I became close friends with a guy called Andy Robinson - more than 30 years later the two of us are still as thick as thieves, even though we don't see that much of each other. Both big fans of the Smiths, we decided to catch one of the Queen is Dead shows later that year. But they were all sold out. All except for St Austell. We were in Sheffield - a round were all sold out. Regretfully we decided to leave it and catch them next time.

Of course, there was no next time.

Andy lives in his home town of Manchester these days, and I'm not far from London. When tickets for the Playland tour went on sale earlier this year I got two straightaway—Manchester Apollo, upstairs, front row, bang in the middle.

And there we were. There we found ourselves. Side-by-side, at the Manchester Apollo, while Johnny and his band knocked out the most incredible versions of Headmaster Ritual, Bigmouth, Still Ill and others.

And for a moment, the briefest, most fleeting of moments, I was transported back in time to a time that never was ... next time.

- Sean Fleming



Apollo girls (and boy)







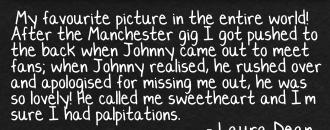




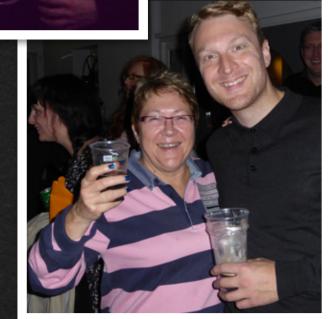












Magic Jack with his mum, Janice



There was a moment in Manchester where the lights were dimmed, the glitter ball was shining, Johnny was a silhouette, the 'Playland' sign was illuminated, and I just thought about how far Johnny has come. He's had a fantastic career where he's been involved in many projects and bands, though never a frontman, yet he's brilliant at it, and was really showing his hometown what he could do that night.

- Laura Dean

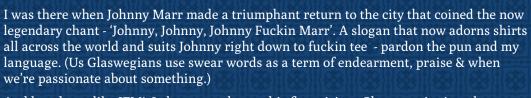


# Hasgoul

O2 ACADEMY 27/10/2014

academy





And boy do we like JFM! I also remember on his first visit to Glasgow, singing along Johnny's name in time to the wonderful 'Give it up' by KC & The Sunshine Band. You could see on Johnny's face he appreciated it - we're an imaginative bunch us Scots and I'd like to think we hold a special place in his heart.

On the night the band were fantastically tight & Johnny now has more penache (if thats even possible) & confidence as a solo artist and just looks like he belongs on stage, not just as a guitarist but as an amazing frontman.

'Back in the box' literally made the hairs on the back of my neck stand up & had everybody's head bopping away, and all the new songs from Playland sounded just as good live as they did on the album. 'Getting away with it', which was my favourite performance of the night, somehow made me feel like I was physically/ spiritually in Manchester. 'Still ill' was mesmeric and the 'Lust for life' cover brought the inner punk out of everyone as Johnny jumped around the stage with such dynamic enthusiasm - safe to say he puts artists less than half his age to shame. There's always lots of audience interaction during his performances, which I love, and he has the knack of being able to look at you in a crowded gig and making you feel like the amazing riffs he's playing are solely for you. With Johnny Marr you don't get a show, you get a total experience.

On a personal note, I fulfilled my dream of meeting him after the gig. They say "never meet your heroes", as you'll only be disapointed. Not a chance with Johnny: an absolute gent who engages you and leaves you feeling like 'WOW, The Johnny Marr spoke to me'. I told him 'I fuckin loved him' & hugged him like a Glaswegian does, and for this I have not a jot of shame. I left happier than Larry stunned with his plectrum (which I just know has mystical powers) which he so kindly gave me. What a fuckin' night!



Still III
Dynamo
Word Starts Attack
Lust For Life
How Soon Is Now?



Still cant quite believe I met The Johnny Marr - was mindblowing! Far too scared to use the plectrum he gave me in case I lose it but did try playing guitar once or twice with it and I swear

it gave me magical powers. Well the man is a wizard and an absolute gent.

- Zed





### NEWCASTLE

02 ACADEMY 28 10 2014



I was so excited when I heard that Johnny and the band were planning to play in Newcastle again on the Playland UK Tour, since The Messenger tour absolutely blew my mind - and Johnny wasn't planning to disappoint any of us! The moment the lights cut out to a bunch of Geordie chants, I knew we were in for a right cracker, with Johnny belting out the

new tracks with so much energy and ferocity that the only thing we could do was belt them right back. Each and every song had the crowd going so mental that I wasn't even sure we'd make it to the next one! Reminded me of a bit of a Derby day... and man, can we get rowdy! No one could hold us back during the rendition of 'Lust For Life', that's for sure; the crowd-surfing was pretty darn epic and I lost count of the amount of people who went over my head (security had no chance!). 'Getting Away With It' was incredible as always, and was such a highlight for me as it felt surreal watching Johnny play through the entire

solo within an arm's reach. The gig was undoubtedly the best that I've been to, and proved two major things - that

Johnny and his band know how to jam, and that the Geordies know how to have a good night!













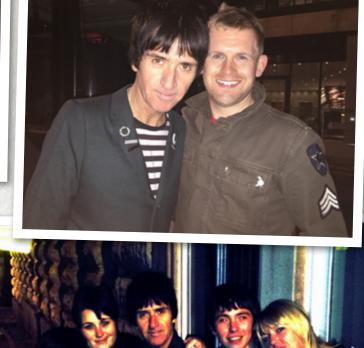
Totally worth that long wait in the rain!
- Jade Bailey



Johnny is a lovely man - I was over the moon to meet him. I told him I had waited 30 years to meet him and I wasn't disappointed. So genuine, and takes time to talk to his fans.

- Dean Oliver













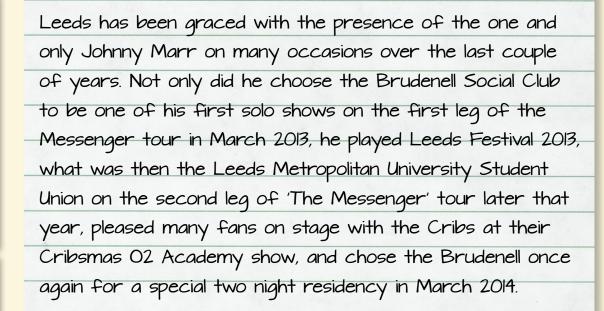






## LEEDS

O2 Academy, 23/10/2011



Most recently, Johnny spectacularly ended his 'Playland' tour at the O2 Academy in October 2014. To constant cheers from the crowd Johnny played his way through the majority of his fantastic new album 'Playland', a few tracks from his first solo album 'The Messenger', 7 Smiths tracks, a beautiful version of Electronic track 'Getting Away With It' which saw Johnny play under a glitter-ball, and even a cover of Iggy Pop 'Lust For Life'. The gig was brilliant, his guitar was on fire, and you could really capture Johnny's energy and love for playing in Leeds. The riffs of 'Still III' and 'The Headmaster Ritual' alone made me think that Johnny's a wizard. And don't get me started on the beauty of 'Please, Please, Please Let Me Get What I Want' live...

- Laura Dean



The fab Childhood have been a pleasure and privilege to see opening for Johnny throughout the UK tour. Tonight, Johnny came out for the encore wearing a Childhood t-shirt instead of his usual 'Boys Get Straight' t-shirt - such a touching gesture!



It's worth being stood on, elbowed, pushed, and covered in what I hope was beer, to be this close to Johnny!

- Laura Dean



Levitate! Levitate! Levitate!



View from the stage balcony



Magic Jack working his magic



Throughout the tour, dozens of fans took the time to handwrite birthday wishes to Johnny, which were then put together in a book and given to Johnny here in Leeds.







The wonderful Aly and Ory sent me some 7" vinyls as a competition prize back in July, and I was desperate to get one signed, in particular 'New Town Velocity' as my favourite track 'It Switch' is the B Side. Johnny signed it for me in Leeds and had to listen to me tell him how much I loved 'It Switch' - poor guy!

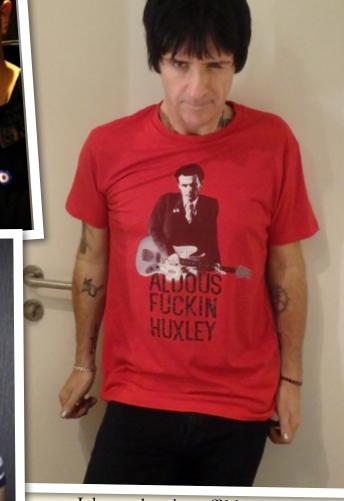


Showing off my Johnny Marrvellous badge meeting Johnny after the Leeds gig -is that a smile I see?!

- Laura Dean







Johnny showing off his new "Aldous Fuckin Huxley" t-shirt





## Amsterdam Paradiso Noord

1 November 2014

Tonight's show at Paradiso Noord was all the proof I needed that Johnny Marr is a man not of this earth. Not that I needed much convincing before, mind you.

It's not just that his playing is out of this world, or that his compositions are ethereally beautiful, or even that he looks - well, heavenly, up there onstage. It's that all of those things combine in a single package that makes Johnny Marr almost too good to be true.



But he is, and he was right there, in my hometown, mere feet away. For a couple of hours, I was in heaven...

- Robin de Haan





Johnny was so taken with his homemade cookies and box that he decided to reenact the picture on the lid ..

### Luxor, 2/11/2014

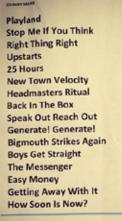
It was a privilege to have the great Johnny Marr perform in Köln, and an even greater one to see him at an intimate venue like the Luxor. In the tiny room my partner and I were within real touching distance of our favourite guitarist, and although politeness prevented us from actually reaching out to touch him, such was the distance from him that it would have been possible. There was not even a barrier between the audience and stage, though despite this, there was no trouble that would have necessitated the presence of one.

Johnny's set list was everything I had hoped for, with Smiths songs sprinkled amongst his very excellent solo work, and a song from his former band Electronic as well. It was a wonderful night that I feel very privileged to have experienced.

- Christian Böck









It was my rst time seeing Johnny and it just blew my mind. I met him before the show and he was literally one of the nicest people I've ever met.

After they nished their set Johnny came and gave me his pick, which has now a very special place in my room:) I was the happiest person really, I didn't expect that, not at all.

We had so much fun, and I can proudly say. This was the best night and gig of my entire life. I literally can't wait to see them again soon!

- Lisa Lovegood







# La Trabendo, 3 November 2014

Paris has long been a city associated with romance and great love affairs. For me, that love affair has for many years been with Johnny Marr's music, and it's a love so intense that it propelled me to jump on a plane from Manchester to see him play at a small club in Paris' 19th arrondissement - on a Monday night during school term.

Johnny is worth it though. He's worth far more, even. Every show is a rapturous event that arouses nearorgiastic excitement in audiences as varied as Johnny's set lists, and those I've had the pleasure of attending on the Playland tour were some of the best and most satisfying shows I've ever been to. Though everybody and their mother knows that Johnny is a wizard on the guitar, it never fails to impress me how perfectly suited he

is to being a frontman too. He's got presence, devilish good looks and charisma by the bucketload

- no wonder he has the audience eating out of the palm of his hand.

Musically, Johnny and his band of merry (Marr-y? sorry...) men have never been on better form, belting out tunes with intense energy while still treating delicately the handful of tracks that require a lighter touch. It's clear that Doviak, Jack and Iwan are masters of their own crafts too.

Towards the end of the set, there was a breathtaking moment during one of my personal favourites, "Getting Away With It", where Johnny seemed to drift off into his own world during the guitar solo, eyes closed, with his face and hands illuminated by the stage lights. I thought if I were to ever experience Stendhal Syndrome while in Paris it would probably be at The Louvre, but no - it was at La Trabendo, witnessing a moment that seemed to capture all the beauty of both Johnny's music and his person in a single vision.

I never even bothered visiting The Louvre before flying home to Manchester. Because the Art that moved me most of all wasn't in any gallery - it came out of Johnny Marr's guitar.

- Bernadette Rumsen





















ohnnu is kind, peaceful, courteous, friend

Johnny is kind, peaceful, courteous, friendly. We talked about Liverpool (the city where I emigrated), about Paris (my hometown), about different accents, about the Beatles. Every time I look at this picture, I'm happy because it reminds me that dreams do come true, as cheesy as it sounds.

- Laure Privat





The Three Marrsketeers

antil next time...

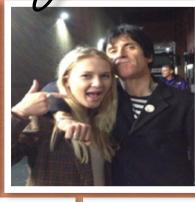


## JOHN and his fans

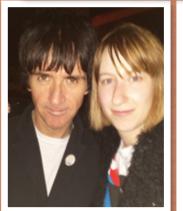


















































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