

Reviews from The Cure at Virgin Megastore

From the old Chain Of Flowers Website:

First, a couple of reports from the Virgin instore last night, which went very well. And give some credit to the band for staying as long as they did, as they had just flown in that evening and must have been exhausted:

I just got back from the autograph session at the Virgin Megastore in San Francisco and I thought that you might like to hear about it.

The line was HUGE. We (my girlfriend and I) were in the first third of the line and we waited about 5 hours before we actually got their signatures. There was a "No Photographs" rule, but we brought a camera anyway, which was good. They changed the rule to "No posing with the band, just take photos while you are in line."

While waiting on the second floor to meet the band, they went to the third floor to take a 5 minute bathroom (toilet ;-)) break. When Robert walked by he just kept staring at us with a nervous look while chewing his nails, I think they were painted black. Then, as he ascended the escalator, he just stared down at us all like a deer caught in headlights. Simon was behind him but he was looking away from us at the other escalator. Meanwhile, I was having camera problems, ugh :(, and girls were screaming their heads off.

When the Cure walked back, I continued to have camera problems.

A couple minutes later, Jason went upstairs. A few people were clicking their cameras and others were saying, "Is he in the band?"

When we were close to the tables where the Cure were, a security guard told me that I would not be able to take pictures while at the tables because of the flash. So, when I got up there I just turned the flash off.

Perry was first for giving autographs. The guy in front of us said something to Perry and Perry gave him a sip out of his cup containing some sort of dark liquid, then Perry told him, "That's enough for you, you're too young for this," while taking his cup back to his side of the table. Then, when my girlfriend, Kristin, was getting Perry's autograph I called Kristin's name and both Perry and Kristin looked at me. Perry saw the camera and smiled. When I got his autograph, I took another picture and he leaned back and smiled for me, very cool. he then said with concern, "The flash did not go off." I said, "That's because I did not want to hurt your eyes." "That's very considerate of you," he replied while smiling. When I asked him if they had been able to enjoy San Francisco, he said no

because they just got off the plane about 2 hours ago. (That would make it about 6 to 6:30 p.m.).

Jason was second. I asked him if he needed a drum technician because I would love to work with him because I think he is great. He replied with a humble chuckle. In between fans, the band would doodle on the red tablecloth. The person behind me asked Jason if he was bored because he was scribbling on the tablecloth and he said, "No, just getting inspiration." Perry then leaned over and drew a space ship based on a triangle design and we all laughed. Jason also posed for me.

Roger was third. By this time, another security guard told me to stop taking pictures. So, I held the camera low and I hope I aimed straight. I told Roger that during a piano part in "Out Of This World" (I then began to describe it and I think he actually knew what I was trying to refer to) there is a small section that sounds just like a part in Beethoven's "Für Elise" and that I thought it was brilliant. He lifted his head, leaned back, and gave a loud, hearty laugh. He then said, "I didn't play that part." "Oh," I said, "will you be playing it tomorrow night?" He nodded his head in a positive reply. I then said, "Well, that's what's important," and we both laughed. (But, does that mean that Robert played the keyboard part on OOTW?)

Simon was fourth. And here too, I hope I aimed straight. The security guard that yelled at me about the camera was starting to yell at Kristin for taking too long, sheeesh. Simon was in good spirits but he seemed really out-of-it, tired. Kristin had taken the centerfold of the Wild Mood Swings tour program out to have the band sign. It is the picture that has them all in black, sitting down, and surrounded by white with Jason on the left, then Simon, Robert, Perry, and Roger on the right. The reason why Kristin was taking so long with Simon was because he just kept holding the centerfold and staring at it. Then, he signed it and just put it down in front of himself. Kristin had to reach over and take it (seems funny, now). Simon then started to draw on the tablecloth and did not even notice that I had put my postcard in front of him. I got yelled at by that dumb security guard again for going too slow. So, I pushed my postcard closer to him. Simon finally noticed and very sincerely said, "Oh, sorry man." I said, "That's okay," and we both smiled.

Guess who was fifth. To Kristin's absolute ecstasy, and my surprise because she is the shy type, she asked Robert if he would shake her hand and she put it in front of him. He smiled and shook her hand! Then, when he saw what she had for him to sign, he took it, stared at it, and said, "This was in our heyday, when we looked good." When I got to Robert, I started to take more pictures, but I missed the handshake because I was still trying to work out what was going on with Simon. I told Robert that I loved the album and it's all I've been listening to and he simply thanked me. We then were hurried off by, well, you know.

Afterwards, we were so excited and filled with adrenaline that we were both shaking. Kristin's face was a bit red and my ears were burning. We did not want to leave. We

wanted to be with the band forever. We wanted to get back in line but the security cut off and threw away everyone's wristbands that had gone through. :(

Then, Kristin and I kept thinking about what we wish we would have said. But nonetheless, the experience was wonderful. The band was very kind. They were awesome.

(thanks Chris)

I got to the Virgin Mega Store at a brush past 6pm, and due to a very devoted friend who had been many hours waiting in line for us, we were among the first 20 people in line. Around 7:15 they starting letting people in in groups of 30 or so. From there, we were ushered up to the 2nd floor were I saw the band making their way to the aigning area from accross the floor. The wait was very nice, since it gaves us all more time just to stand there staring at the band.

Perry was the first in the row. He was very friendly, and quite articulate. Though, a very soft speaker.

Jason seemed very bored, and it was a bit sad since no one really seemed that interested that he was there. Though he said he loved doing signings when I asked him if he was tired after the flight.

Roger was probably the most friendly. He was shaking hands, and making pretty good quick conversation.

Simon was equally conversational and asking me questions of all things like how old I was. He said that I only looked 14, though in a "man, I used to be that young" sorta way.

Mr. Smith was last, and very charming. He wasn't wearing his make up, though you could see a hint of eyeliner, and lipstick that he hadn't washed out all the way. I asked him about Belle and Sebastain(a band), and he said he like them, then asked me if it was true if one of the members had just left. I told him it was just a false rumor, and he responded with something to the effect of, ' I'm not really good with what's rumors and what's not. '

Irony is a funny thing. The people at the Virgin Mega Store decided to blast Bloodflowers, and baccuse of this I couldn't hear half of what Perry and Robert were saying. Oh well, nonetheless a very fun 6 or so minutes.

(Thanks John)

Showed up at 5:30pm in the 'wristband' line, and by 7pm the line had doubled to stretch up to O'Farrell St. The 'non-wristband' line was about 2/3 the length of the wristband line. At 8pm security announced the band would only be signing for people with wristbands. As expected, this didn't phase anyone without a wristband, and they stood their ground.

The line seemed to hardly move at all, and when I got inside on the 2nd floor of Virgin, I was greeted by another epic line. They had the band tucked away out of sight. It wasn't until I was about 20th in line that I could see them unobstructed, and about that time I had forgotten about my numb frozen feet. :)

The band members were cordial, but visibly fatigued. We proceeded quickly through the signings in a daze, too mesmerized to speak. I think I had something in mind I wanted to say to Robert given the opportunity, but all I managed was a sincere "Thank you."

When I exited the store at 10:30pm, there was two small lines of fans waiting outside. I don't know if they turned any fans away, but I hope not.

(Thanks Brandon)

so the san francisco instore went well, but im sure youll hear plenty about that... when i got to perry, i asked when their contract with Elektra is over, and he said that The Cure's contract ends with Bloodflowers, but Robert has one album left. i mentioned that i hoped that the whole band would be involved and he responded with an unsure shrug. id never heard anything about the robert contract thing, so i thought id send it your way.

(Thanks Jeff)

From The Ugly Bug Ball Blog:

My next job was working in various departments at a large San Francisco Virgin Megastore. We had a number of special events with musicians, including a memorable one with The Cure. A certain number of wristbands were given out, and these guaranteed that folks would get to meet the band. I was given the assignment of guarding the ground floor escalator from folks trying to slip past the line and get up to where the band was signing autographs. I'm not big or tough, so I make a pretty bad bouncer. A desperate young woman came up to me pleading, saying "I just have to get Robert Smith to bless my unborn baby!" I pointed to the long line of people with wristbands, explaining that there were others who needed their babies blessed, too. Later, the staff got to interact with the band members, but I couldn't even name a song by The Cure.

- <https://theuglybugball.wordpress.com/tag/the-cure/>

