

# Surreal lyrics, smoky vocals: The Cure delightfully dismal

By Scott Harrah  
Staff Reporter

The Cure, "The Head on the Door." **Electra/Asylum Records.** Long before there were popular "dark and dismal" bands like The Smiths and Sisters of Mercy, there were groups like Bauhaus and The Cure who innovated the craft of moribund music.

synthesizer backdrop. But it's also quite deceiving, for the songs that follow are filled with the eerie mystery, surreal lyrics and smoky vocals that have established The Cure as one of Britain's most delightfully depressing bands.

"Kyoto Song" is a creepy dirge backed up by Japanese guitar riffs and lyrics that are, of course, about the dark side: "A nightmare of you/Of death in the pool/I see no further than this dream/The trembling hands of a trembling man/Hold my

mouth to hold in a scream." "The Blood" is an even more obscure tune that features some remarkably taut Spanish acoustic guitar solos and a bizarre blend of droning keyboards and Kurt Smith's drugged-out, banshee-like vocals.

One of the album's most unique cuts is "Six Different Ways." It's pure, vintage Cure at its best with a synthesized intro that simulates rain while tinkling piano keys dance under it elegantly. Side two's "The Baby Screams" is


Please see CURE on 12

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## Record Review

After years of gloom and doom, The Cure lives on. Fans of their earlier albums, like the death-dirge L.P. "Seventeen Seconds," may be surprised to hear that The Cure's latest release, "The Head on the Door," is alive and well...sort of.

Side one's opener, the spunky single "In Between Days," typifies their somewhat lively new sound. It's got all the elements of a well-done chartbuster: a catchy beat, syncopation, and a light

As in Kennedy deaths, viewers are left with question of 'what if...'

MILK from Page 8

Milk lobbied hard against White's reappointment and Moscone decided to appoint someone else to represent White's district.

Before Moscone could make the announcement to the press, Dan White, carrying a loaded revolver and ten extra rounds of ammunition, entered the City Hall through an open window to avoid the metal detector and assassinated both Moscone and Milk. Milk had served just 11 months in office.

A large part of what makes this documentary so impressive is the raw excitement Milk created in people. Even though the director and editors were working with a great deal of old news footage, the events are so dramatic at times it is hard to believe they weren't staged.

In the interviews with Milk's associates, it is striking how strongly they were moved recalling the events of several years ago. They beam when talking about the successes, weep when recalling the shooting, and become genuinely angry when speaking about White's trial.

The film leaves the impression that Milk was almost a political superman. He won battles and accomplished much when the forces against him were seemingly so great. The film leaves you asking the same questions you might about the Kennedys: "What if...?"

The "Times of Harvey Milk" is showing at the Sheldon Film Theater at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Friday. Director Robert Epstein will be present at both of these screenings. Additional screenings are at 3, 7 and 9 p.m. Saturday, and at 3, 5, 7 and 9 p.m. Sunday. For those who don't want to pay the admission fee, the film will be shown on NETV Channel 12 at 10 p.m. Saturday.

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