

Cure finds itself on new CD

By Cliff Hicks
Staff writer

What a great post-Valentine's Day gift. The Cure's new album, "Bloodflowers," is set to be released on Feb. 15th here in the United States, the day after Valentine's, and it's the perfect soundtrack for lonely hearts across the nation.

Many Cure fans felt let down by 1996's "Wild Mood Swings," an album that seemed guided by its title. Where were the swirling guitars of 1992's "Wish," and where had the doom-and-gloom mentality of 1989's "Disintegration" gone?

"Bloodflowers" is just the return the Cure needed.

Cure frontman Robert Smith was quoted in several interviews last year saying that this album would form a stylistic triptych with 1982's "Pornography" and 1989's "Disintegration," and this was no exaggeration.

Musically, "Bloodflowers" straddles the line between "Wish" and "Disintegration," taking the harrowing emptiness of the latter and mixing in the dizzying guitars of the former.

The horns of "Wild Mood Swings" are nowhere to be found, thankfully.

Combinations of soft acoustics and slippery electrics meld the Cure's heavy guitar sound together. This is an album best listened to on headphones at full blast.

None of the songs on the album is short, and it's obvious Smith is reaching for a much more epic feel.

Only one song clocks at less than five minutes. The album's longest run is just more than 11 minutes. But none of this detracts from the songs at all.

"Bloodflowers" also marks a return to the bleaker lyrics of the past, the despondent and depressed pleas of heartache and solitude.

It's exactly what to get a single person for Valentine's Day, or the perfect way to say it's over to that not-so-special-anymore person in your life.

Smith sings in a sorrowful, bitter whisper on the title track, which closes the album, "This dream always ends/I said/This feeling always goes/The time always comes to slip away/This wave always breaks/I said/The sun always sets again/And these flowers will always fade."

It's a depressed resolve of someone who's come to terms with his depression but hasn't overcome it. Most of the album is like this - not directly sad, but more bleak, which is what puts it in the same field as "Pornography" and "Disintegration."

REVIEW Bloodflowers

ARTIST: The Cure
LABEL: Warner Bros.
GRADE: A -
FIVE WORDS: Return to form for Cure.

And yet the aching beauty of the music played along with the lyrics gives that much more definition to the album.

There is a small strike against the band, as one of the best songs on the album, "Coming Up," is only on the vinyl and Japanese CD versions.

According to the band's Web site, it'll be available as a B-side eventually, but the song provided an energetic contrast to the rest of the melancholy album.

The songs range from the buzzy guitars of "The Loudest Sound" to the acoustic splendor of "The Last Day Of Summer."

From the opening notes of "Out Of This World" to the closing whispers of "Bloodflowers," the album is one big, beautiful, intense downer.

Ultimately, though, Smith is at his finest in years, and "Bloodflowers" ranks as one of the best albums the Cure has done to date.

Theatrix one acts open new season

Dropped
Notes

The beginning of the Theatrix semester offers a promising look at the talent inside UNL's own theater department.

The Masquer's One Act Play Festival opens the semester with four never-before-performed works written by UNL students.

The productions promote the work of student playwrights, student directors, designers, actors, technicians and producers.

Theatrix is the student-producing organization of the UNL Theater Arts department.

"Eye Patches and Parking Garages," written by Kenneth McCarthy, will be directed by Erin Walker and centers on a "nice guy" named Adam with an odd view on life and an even more

interesting real life.

"Sex and Metaphors," written by Eric Salonis and directed by Kaitlin Byrd, is a comedy about the absurd desire for love and sex.

"Hobbitsville," written by Mike Semrad and directed by Jessica Deans, develops around a group of kids living in a Mormon town and their trials to live a "normal" life.

"Channels," written by Eric Salonis and directed by Sandy Kaye Lemen, tells the story of two families: One uses TV as a means to dull the pain of life, and the other has a seemingly beautiful relationship - until the two families' sons begin to fall in love with one another.

The one-act plays will be performed Feb. 10-12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Studio Theater in the Temple Building, 12th and R streets, on the UNL campus. Admission is \$4 at the door.

For information, call the theater department at 472-2072.

Be Earth friendly.
Recycle your DN.

EVERY DAY, THOUSANDS OF KIDS

BRING GUNS TO SCHOOL.

Find out how to get guns out of the hands of children.

1-800-WE-PREVENT

Not one more lost life.
Not one more grieving family.
Not one more.



FEEDBACK!

write us...we want to hear from you
www.dailyneb.com

WANTED:
Comedians

Amateur Comedy Night
Every Friday

Winner selected by audience vote.
Bring your voting friends.

Grand Prize

Trip for two to Las Vegas!

The SIDETRACK

10th & O St. 438-7776

**FREE TANNING
FREE LOTIONS**

Open House - 2 Days ONLY

This Friday 11th 9am - 7pm
and Saturday 12th 9am - 7pm

Lamps Changed Every 10 Days

The Tanning Place

333 N. Cotner (Cotner & "R") 464-0001

Appointments Suggested

TEAMWORK

HBE is a major force in the engineering, architecture, design and construction industries. As leaders in the design and construction of healthcare facilities, banks and credit unions, we have completed projects in 49 of the 50 United States. HBE also applies its Design-Build approach to the Adam's Mark luxury convention hotel chain, a subsidiary of HBE.

Because of our continuing growth and track record, HBE is looking for qualified people with experience in engineering, architecture, and construction management. HBE offers competitive benefits and a spirit of teamwork unmatched in the industry.

Job openings include:

- Architectural designers
- Architectural job captains
- Architectural draftsman
- Electrical designers
- Structural designers
- Civil engineers
- Civil designers
- Mechanical designers

HBE will be at the
University of Nebraska
career Fair on
February 10th.

**Civil Engineering
Data Processing (Analysis /Programming)**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Representatives from the Nebraska Department of Roads invite you to stop at our table at the Engineering and Technology Career Fair on February 10th, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We are the state agency responsible for the planning, design, construction, maintenance and administration of Nebraska's highway system. We employ more than 2,200 people across the state.

Our entry level positions offer excellent benefits and possible relocation assistance. We also provide student work-study programs and summer job opportunities. Entry level positions include:

*Information Technology
(Business and Engineering Applications)

*Engineering



Department of Roads

Stop by the Department of Roads booth for information.



Candidates should send resumes to:
Mr. Gary Fallert, Director of Personnel
11330 Olive Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63141
email gfallert@hbecorp.com
or visit us at www.hbecorp.com