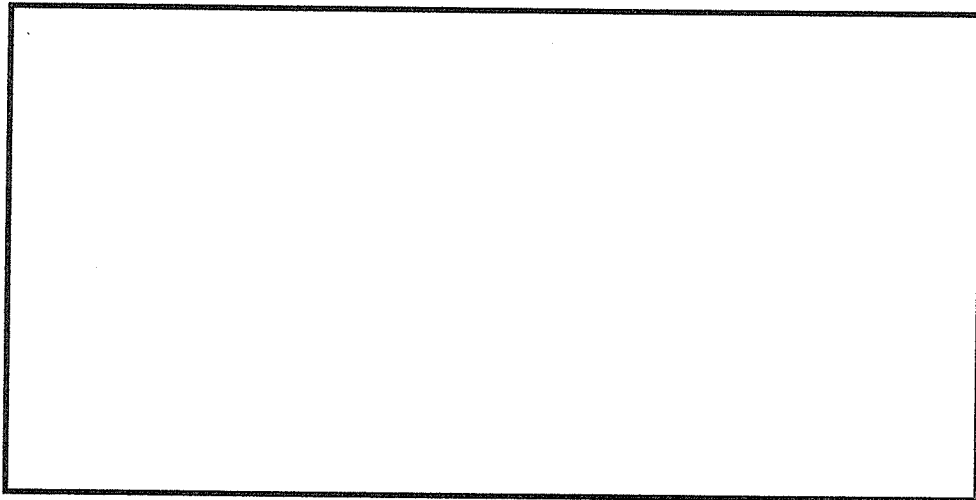


From: Keith Abbott
P.O. Box 35558
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Rush To



The Innocence Mission

Newsletter

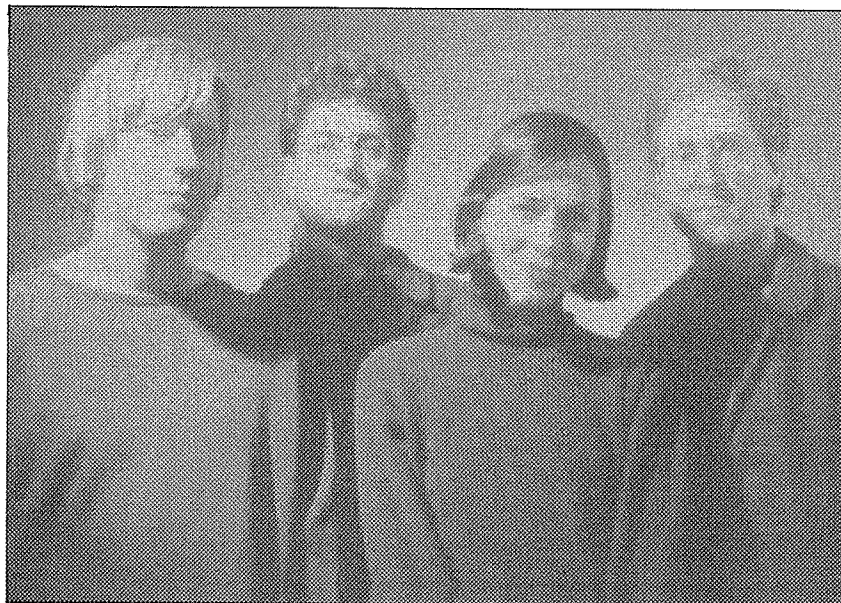
Volume 1, Issue #4

CURIOUS!

Volume 1, Issue #4

THE INNOCENCE MISSION NEWSLETTER

July 12, 1995

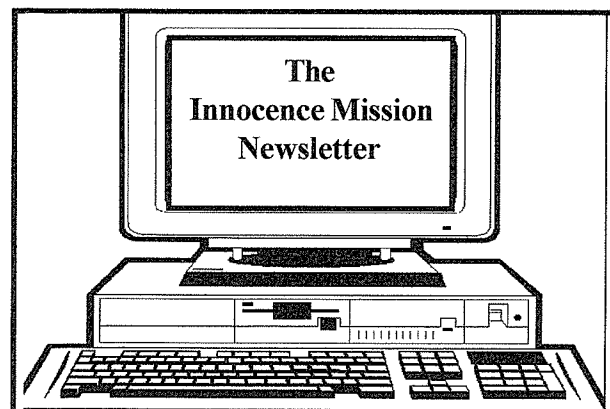


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Hi everyone! Here we are once again. Issue #4 should offer you more pictures and more info than you've been seeing in our past issues. We've upgraded software and now have the resources to scan color photos. I hope you enjoy this issue and if you ever have any questions, comments or what nots...be sure to email me at sunday@infi.net or at our PO Box listed on the outside of the newsletter. Oh and be sure to pick up "Glow" as it's in CD stores everywhere. Thanks go out to Karen, Don, Mike and Steve (the band) for all of their help and understanding. Thanks also go out to Mike Ecker and James Boggia.

- The Management





On June 6th, 1995, A&M finally released The Innocence Mission's 3rd CD, "*Glow*." The new CD had been put on hold for several months until A&M was sure they could properly promote the album. No videos have been planned as of yet, but the GLOW TOUR has already begun (see page 7 for more details).

The band just finished their pre-release tour at Lancaster's Chameleon Club following a rocky start in Philadelphia at the Tin Angel. After a long layoff from the Umbrella tour, nerves certainly played a part at the Tin Angel, but when they returned in June, they were back to old form with an even more impressive show of confidence and eagerness to play.

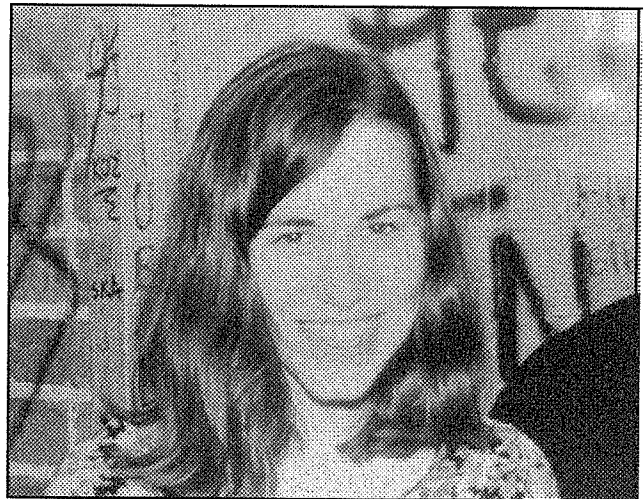
Their tour was filled with new songs from "*Glow*" as well as a host of songs from their two prior CD's and several covers including Joni Mitchell's "*Both Sides Now*," Ocean Blue's "*Love Song*," and a surf instrumental from The Ventures.

Their debut commercial single, "*Bright As Yellow*" was released February 14th on schedule. Also found on the CD were non-lp tracks "*Let's Talk About Something Else*" and "*Geranium Lake*," which were recorded at home in Lancaster by Don Peris. This CD can be obtained from the band on tour or at their PO Box found in the insert of their past CD's. Also, many record distributors are carrying it as well, so check around.

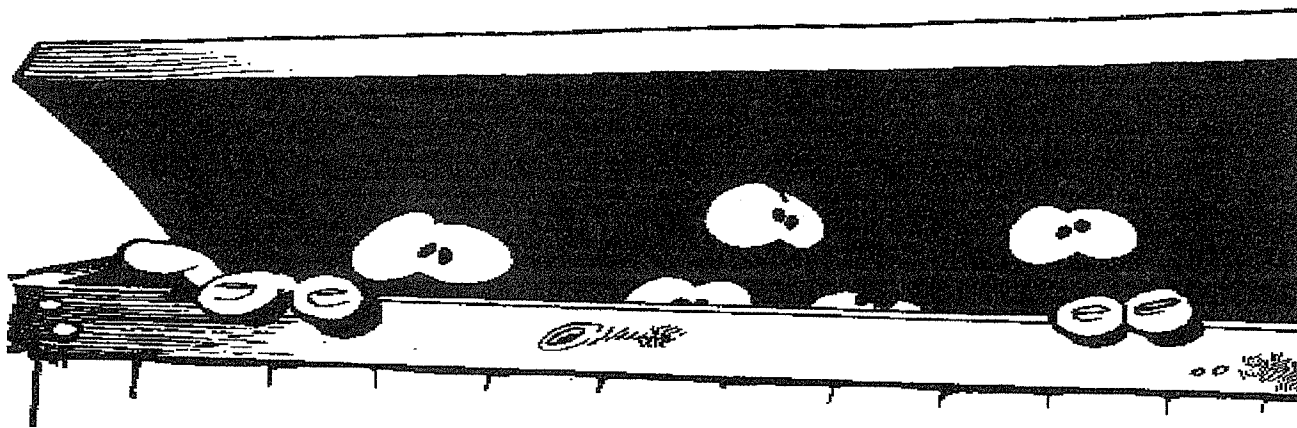
Bootlegs

The most recent bootlegs (and pretty decent I might add) are from the first two Tin Angel shows in Philadelphia this past mini-tour. The playlist included a mixture of old and new, as well as a few covers. Additionally, are two new radio shows from San Diego's KSCA and Los Angeles' KCRW.

Also, recently discovered are over 20 audio demos from the pre-debut era, as well as a video bootleg of the Seattle Bumbershoot Festival from 9/1/90. It's an excellent video and well worth seeing.



Karen at the 9:30 Club



“Quotes From... The Cellar”

Hi, it's me — Julie from VCU. Uhm... wow, you're still alive & doing FAQ's! (Tho IM still hasn't done ANYTHING else since I last saw you. Shame on them.) - *Julie Sparks*

Anyway, I wasn't a fan of their music from the beginning. I was a bit close-minded to new experiences at that point, but I did come around. I had a few more run-ins with the members of the IM before I graduated High School. Don came in and played his guitar for a career day - what a great way to spend an afternoon in school! - Mike sat in once with me on bass for the marching band alumni day and Steve Brown sat in numerous times with the LCHS pep band, so I got to experience their musical expertise and admire their talent, then I grew to appreciate their music and Karen's lyrics.

- *John (Jtomcavage@delphi.com)*

I, for one, am very excited at the thought that Dennis Herring will do for IM what he did for Caterwaul....it's going to be a great album! Well, it would be with or without Herring (after all, I'm deeply in love with IM's first two), but this gives me an extra added reason to look forward to it.

- *Vickie Mapes*

You are running the listserv for the most amazing group in history..imho. - *Michael (theodore@casbah.acns.nwu.edu)*

My God... I didn't expect to find an IM list! As far as I could tell from here in England, there was just one LP, the 1989 A&M release. - *David Mantripp*

I bought Umberlla on the strength of one song I heard on an Austin radio station. It's just a beautiful album. - *James Ellis*

A friend of mine said it best: He was talking to someone who was in a pretty popular local band in Chicago. The band member went to see IM one night, and left the concert shaking his head, telling his band members, "Damn, guys, we've been doing it all wrong. They're close to perfection." - *Peter Lee*

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Quotes From The Cellar

...continued from page 2

Karen was wearing a very pretty purple dress that looked very good on her. She also has perfect teeth. - *Tony Zamora*

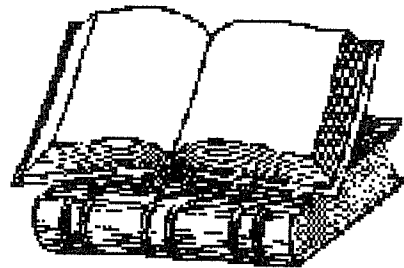
My alarm clock radio woke me up by playing Black Sheep Wall. - *Dan King*

Jimbo has struck out for a second time in a row. First he missed seeing IM when they were in his college town (Hoboken), and now the band has cancelled their date for the Wetlands in NY for this Thursday. I think the concert gods just don't want me to actually see Karen and Co. live; that must be it. - *Jim Flynn*

Humph. maybe i'm a love-hound snob, but i've never thought that KaTe and karen sounded anything like each other. KaTe's got a much more wider range and (i think) more control. As with every other female vocalist that makes waves in the music scene for the past five or so years, comparisons are drawn instantly without thought to the actual sounds, and KaTe gets dragged in where she doesn't belong. Just another opinion in a sea of criticism... - *Woj*



Facts? or Fiction?



1. The band practiced and recorded on the 2nd story of a former factory in Lancaster while on hiatus for the past few years. *
2. IM recently played Lancaster's Chameleon Club (4/21/95) for the first time since playing at a benefit for Habitat For Humanity in Sept. of 1992. *
3. The song previously mentioned in issue #2 of our newsletter called, "*Karen*" was not even written by anyone from the band. Actually, Karen believed it was written by someone from the University of Hartford.
4. All of the members of The Innocence Mission are now married. Mike Bitts was of course the last to have the honors.
5. The name "Harry," mentioned in several lines of IM's new recordings is actually in reference to the character, Judge Harry Anderson of "*Night Court*."
6. Don and Karen met in high school during a production of "*Godspell*."

Facts? Or Fiction?

All but #5 are true.

* - Info found in Lancaster's "*Intelligencer Journal*" from 4/14/95.

Thoughts: "From The Author's Speculation File"

Ever since I made a few speculations back in issue #2, I've come to feel that I may never write another one of these speculation files again. Why? cause I goofed. Issue #2 was the first and only, and now I know why. In that issue, I felt the songs from the Umbrella Tour, "Robert," "Heyday," "Lindbergh," "Another Autumn," "Some Big Baby," and "Birdhouse" would make it to the new CD, "Glow." Unlike tradition however, I was totally wrong. Not one of the songs above made it to the CD, nor as a non-lp track on the EP, "Bright As Yellow."

This was certainly dissappointing to me, as well as some of you out there, I'm sure. There might be a slight possibility that some of these were cut as demos for the new CD, but neither Don nor Karen could quite remember which songs they recorded. So these could be lost forever, then again they might just turn up on future b-sides of any other singles that may arise. Don't hold your breath though. This is one author who is going to try to stop speculating about what or might not be released from now on.



Review: Worth The Weight!

By Randy R. Gallegos
plumage@hooked.net

So I finally purchased *Glow*. The local stores around San Jose, CA have done a great job of stocking singles and albums (yes, I bought both). The whole event was wonderful, as I had long ago resigned myself to believing that IM were history. Thank God for *Glow*!!

There's been a lot of discussion regarding the influences/resemblances between IM and (insert band here). While comparisons are always unfair, some are definitely worth mentioning. Some have mentioned the *Sundays* as a "sounds like" band, but I tend to disagree except on "*That Was Another Country*"- especially the drumming.

On the whole, the album is wonderful. I can't think of a weak track - the whole is consistently creative, punctuated by little surprises. My favorite is the two-key piano strike during the intro to "*Happy, the End*" - it seals the mood and shows a great command of subtly.

If I can make anything in the way of criticism (and it really isn't), I'd say that on the whole the songs are not as lyrically rich as the "Umbrella" set. No "I thought, Isn't Mother Grand?/ The way she flies and flies /into the sting of the cold /and the prick of the barbed wire." Such rich lines made Umbrella but appear as embellishments in *Glow* as in "*There*": "And all the clouds are weary whales swimming by to find you". However, an IM lyric is always a special, precious thing, and *Glow* is filled with great observations that most people and nearly all songwriters forget.

All in all, worth the weight. Just please don't let us wait so long again. Be back soon, we'll be thinking about you.

OH NO A GROUPY!

BY CINDY CARLSON

WELL, AFTER FOUR YEARS OF WAITING, I MADE IT TO AN INNOCENCE MISSION CONCERT! I HAD MISSED THEM IN CONCERT FOUR YEARS EARLIER IN CLEVELAND. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THEY HAD BEEN BACK. AFTER THE SHOW, MIKE BITTS TOLD ME THAT IN 1986 THEY WERE IN EDINBORO. I WAS THERE IN COLLEGE AT THE TIME, BUT DID NOT KNOW OF THEM THEN! HERE WAS THE SHOW IN LAKEWOOD OH ON MAY 7TH, 1995:

WE ARRIVED AT THE PHANTASY NIGHT CLUB AT 7:30 PM. THE PLACE WAS VERY DARK. THERE WERE ABOUT 30 PEOPLE THERE WHEN WE ARRIVED. WE GOT THE THIRD TABLE BACK IN THE MIDDLE WITH A TERRIFIC VIEW OF THE STAGE. AT 8:00, THE OPENING BAND PUBLIC LIBRARY OPENED. THEY PLAYED TEN SONGS. MY TWO FAVS WERE "*STAY IN THE SUNLIGHT*" AND "*BLUE SKY*." THEY FINISHED AT 8:45 AND THE STAGE CHANGE TOOK 15 MIN. SO IM CAME ON AT 9:00. EVERYONE WAS CHEERING AS THEY CAME ON STAGE. BY NOW THERE WERE ABOUT 130 PEOPLE. THE CROWD WAS THERE TO LISTEN. IT WAS GREAT! PEOPLE WERE WEAVING AND BOBBING TO THE TUNES. MANY PEOPLE WERE SINGING ALONG. IT WAS DEFINITELY A ROOM OF FANS!

1. SURREAL
2. CURIOUS
3. THAT WAS ANOTHER COUNTRY
4. BRAVE
5. EVERY HOUR HERE
6. OUR HARRY
7. AND HIDING AWAY
8. YOU CHASE THE LIGHT
9. HAPPY THE END
10. PAPER DOLLS
11. LOVE SONG
12. BRIGHT AS YELLOW
13. KEEPING AWAKE
14. BEGINNING THE WORLD
15. CLEAR TO YOU
16. SPINNING (FIRST TIME PLAYED OUT)
17. BOTH SIDES NOW
18. WONDER OF BIRDS

CALL BACK 10:13 PM

1. UMBRELLA
2. GERANIUM LAKE
3. EVENSONG

2ND CALL BACK

1. I HERE YOU SAY SO

I GOT MY BRIGHT AS YELLOW EP SIGNED BY EVERYONE. THEY WERE REALLY GREAT ABOUT COMING OUT AND MEETING THE AUDIENCE. EVEN THOUGH I WAS REALLY TIRED, IT WAS WELL WORTH THE TRAVEL. I HOPE I GET TO SEE THEM AGAIN THIS SUMMER... OH NOOO A GROUPY!

* * *

An Intimate Evening Of Music

By David Schlapak

Anyway, I saw IM last night (May 15?) at the Birchmere, a 2-300 seat club in Alexandria, VA. My wife and I sat stage right immediately next to the stage. Nice place, good sound, pleasant atmosphere...a big improvement over the 9:30 Club where I'd seen the band before in DC. BTW, I don't have a setlist, for two reasons (a) it wasn't a Dead show, so I didn't come prepared (>), and (b) there was so much new stuff that the best I coulda done would have been to get about two-thirds of the songs.

Anyway, it was an excellent show. The audience was very enthusiastic, and the band seemed very pleased to be there. They kicked off with "*Surreal*", ended with "*Wonder of Birds*", and did two encores, and generally left everyone feeling very very happy with an intimate evening of music among friends..

Don has traded in his Stratocaster for what looked like a Gretsch hollowbody and, on a couple of songs, a beautiful blond Guild acoustic. Mike played a Guild acoustic bass all evening, and Karen mostly played guitar(!). And very well, I might add, though she kept dropping her pick. During "*Both Sides Now*" Don slipped her a new one in midsong and they pulled it off so neatly that Kim and I applauded; it earned us a quick look and grins from both of them.

Karen retains her charmingly shy stage personality. We were sitting right behind her electric piano (we were close enough to the stage that I kept getting my feet tangled in one of the monitor cables); when she walked over to play it for the first time she looked at us, said, "Hi," and giggled. What could we do? We said "Hi" right back. After the song she apologized for having her back turned to us.

The Innocence Mission Summer Tour



- 7/13 - WBOS Copley Square Concert - Boston, MA
- 15 - WFNX (Hatch Shell) - Boston, MA
- 16 - Theatre of the Living Arts - Phila., PA
- 17 - Fez - NY, NY (Macintosh Convention)
- 19 - Valentine's - Albany, NY
- 20 - Pearl St. - Northampton, MA
- 22 - TT Bears - Boston, MA
- 23 - Granny Killams - Portland, ME
- 24 - Metronome - Burlington, VT
- 26 - Shooters Live - Cleveland, OH
- 27 - 7th House - Pontiac, MI
- 28 - Top Cats - Cincinnati, OH
- 29 - Front Room at Newport Music Hall - Columbus, OH
- 31 - 328 Performance - Nashville, TN
- 8/1 - Side Door - St. Louis, MO
- 3 - Schuba's - Chicago, IL
- 4 - Schuba's - Chicago, IL
- 5 - 7th St. Entry - Minneapolis, MN
- 7 - Bug Theatre - Denver, CO
- 9 - tba, Salt Lake City, UT
- 11 - Barbatis Pan - Portland, OR
- 12 - Backstage - Seattle, WA
- 14 - Great American Music Hall - San Francisco, CA
- 15 - Luna Park - Los Angeles, CA
- 17 - Coach House - San Juan Capistrano, CA
- 18 - tba - San Diego, CA
- 19 - Congo Java - Scottsdale, AZ
- 22 - Electric Lounge - Austin, TX
- 23 - Caravan of Dreams - Dallas, TX
- 25 - tba - Atlanta/Athens, GA
- 26 - Cat's Cradle - Chapel Hill, NC
- 28 - tba - Norfolk, VA