

CMJ NEW MUSIC REPORT

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-1247 **BURRELLE'S** M9

HOUSE OF LOVE

Marquee, New York City,
May 18 ¹⁹⁸⁰

In a distinctly British voice, the House Of Love marched into New York for the third stop of their first U.S. tour. They set a crunching tone early with the guitarist utilizing his instrument for all its worth on the opening "Hannah" from their self-titled debut. He continued to milk his guitar for whatever sounds it could produce on the faster, bass-driven songs, the highlights of which were "Road," along with current singles "I Don't Know Why I Love You" and "Shine On," and the encores of

"Salome" and "Destroy The Heart." This sonic whitewash was balanced artfully by confident ballads, like "Beatles And The Stones," which even saw the drummer using brushes instead of sticks. The surprisingly talkative Guy Chadwick led the troop through the set—which lasted just over an hour—with plenty of thank yous and song introductions, and even a little joke during a brief technical glitch. There was a mystical aura to the show with Chadwick being the only member fully illuminated onstage, the other figures stoicly postured in the smoke-filled setting. Taken as a whole, the set was thoroughly enjoyable for fans and a bold statement for the newcomers.