

NEWS

House Of Love For Sale

On March 26 Fontana/Polygram Records will release HOUSE OF LOVE's first American release. (Any previous singles and their U.K. debut have been available here only as imports.)

This record's sound, produced by the band, centers heavily on guitars, applying the six strings to paint a whole spectrum of moods.

In mid 1988 House Of Love, with their debut album, caused quite a commotion in the United Kingdom, their native country. Based in the city of Camberwall, this four member outfit first climbed to the top of the U.K. pop charts with their single *Shine On*. They stayed there awhile too, as the British media picked up on *Christine* months after. Now, two years later, they're ready to come stateside.

Songwriter/guitarist Guy Chadwick didn't expect their second Lp to take almost a year to make, but it did. He strived to make a perfect album. Just what is that? Chadwick answers, "I don't know. For me, it's instinctive. I just either know if it's right or if it's not. Sometimes I write a song on acoustic guitar and think it's great. It's going to sound great when it's recorded. And when you do it as a band thing it doesn't work." And he said that goes the other way too, adding, "I don't find that there are rules really."

This recording struggle did not go without casualties. Just before Christmas guitarist Terry Bickers left, to be replaced by Simon Walker. (He gained notoriety with his involvement in the band The Dave Howard Singers.) Guy explained that Terry's departure wasn't because of the typical 'musical differences', "It got to the point where he was going to leave or the band was going to split up."

In the band's bio, it's indicated that the British press groups them with Echo & The Bunnymen and the Velvet Underground. Chadwick comments, "I don't think we can be compared to any one band in particular. I've never been a massive Bunnyman fan. I mean, I do like them, but I've never sat and listened to their records for musical inspiration. I'm really into the Velvets, and the Doors, and Love, the Stooges, the Rolling Stones and The Beatles, you know. But I also like Simon And Garfinkle, Bob Dylan, and Neil Young. I'm also into a lot of contemporary music. I'm a big fan of Kraftwerk and Prince."

If British reaction to House Of Love's Winter Tour is any indication of the band's possible U.S. success, expect them to become a staple on the Billboard charts.