

DAILY VARIETY

LOS ANGELES, CA
DAILY 22,632

FRIDAY
AUG 10 1990

-1957 BURRELLE'S NW

CONCERT REVIEW 78.80

House Of Love

(Universal Amphitheater;
6251 seats; \$22.50 top)

House of Love, a significant presence in its native England, is still practically unknown in America. A brief club tour allowed the Polygram act to flex its psychedelic muscle and leave audiences enthralled, but doubts remained about

the foursome's ability to draw a large crowd into their extremely intimate shows.

Not anymore. Despite some early sound problems that slightly hampered the group's feedback dependent style, it pulled off the next to impossible: House of Love created an intense and charming clublike feel Monday while opening for Peter Murphy.

In typical Hollywood style, much of the audience was filtering in during the House Of Love's 45-minute set (which is only slightly shorter than their one-hour headlining play-

list), but the crowd not only knew the band's material but enjoyed it.

House of Love was best when knee-deep in atmospheric, phantasmagoric gush (though the reliance on special effects — dry ice and strobe lights wears a bit thin) that echos Julian Cope's earlier work, and includes the semihit, "Don't Know Why I Love You."

The group's ballads are lovely, but reasonably ineffective. Still, House of Love may be the most creative, interesting and talented retro band of the future.