

The Renaissance

2009-10: volume 12

Wish You Were Here
December 5, 2009 8:00 PM



Wish You Were Here has gained international recognition (in *The Rough Guide To Pink Floyd*) for its detailed recreations of Pink Floyd's greatest albums and tours, performing the 1973 *Dark Side Of The Moon* show on the same stage at Blossom Music Center in 2006, and the 1977 *Animals* tour show at the Nautica Pavilion in Cleveland in July 2005. In 2008 the band staged the most elaborate production of *The Wall* ever performed by an American Pink Floyd tribute act, at TimeWarner Cable Amphitheater.

Wish You Were Here is Midwest America's premier Pink Floyd tribute show, capturing the mood, emotions, and intensity of the Pink Floyd concert experience. The show utilizes a professional 8-piece musical ensemble featuring 2 female back-up vocalists, specially created sound effects, theatrical vignettes with props & characters, a custom-made giant inflatable pig, and a choreographed light show complete with rolling fog and state-of-the-art intelligent lighting. **Wish You Were Here** has performed over 40 sold out shows in Northeast Ohio concert venues of 1000+ capacity since 1996 and holds the sell-out/attendance record at Cleveland's House Of Blues,



and continues to play throughout Ohio and the surrounding states at festivals, theaters and events. In 2002 the band was chosen by Clear Channel Entertainment (now Live Nation) to headline the Fakefest Tour, which played to crowds at outdoor venues across the Midwest. Formed in 1987 under the moniker of "The Harvest Pink Floyd Revue", the band is one of the longest continually-performing Pink Floyd tribute acts in the world.

For more information go to www.floydtribute.com

Wish You Were Here: History

The roots of **WISH YOU WERE HERE** go back to 1987, when bassist/vocalist Eroc Sosinski joined forces with former guitarist/vocalist Jim Tigue in the Cleveland-based classic rock and originals band HARVEST and soon began performing their "HARVEST Pink Floyd Revue", an exclusive tribute set of Floyd accompanied by basic theatrics, sound effects and a light show - one of the very first bands in America to tribute Pink Floyd. "In 1995 we decided to tribute Floyd exclusively and created **WISH YOU WERE HERE**," says Sosinski, "incorporating the successful elements of the Revue with key personnel additions and a more theatrical focus."

Keyboardist Bob Gerhard brought his considerable knowledge of Floyd and vintage keyboard sounds to the project. Lead guitarist/vocalist Mark Brennan, a veteran of Cleveland bands Polyphony and the Brennan/Cosma Band, was the first outside addition to the fold, energizing and updating what had previously been a 4-piece combo. Original backup vocalists Jennifer Lee and Debi Lewin were soon added to the lineup. In 1997, sax player Bob Barno was literally plucked from a smoky blues bar to perform with the band, and Tim Joseph Hanculak took over the drumming position soon after. In 2001, guitarist/vocalist Scott Langston replaced founding member Jim Tigue (who still often "guests" with the band) and in 2006 Cincinnati musician Jamie Combs replaced Langston on guitar and co-lead vocals. Cleveland drummer Jon Darling is the latest addition to the band in 2007.

An essential component of the Pink Floyd sound since 1973's "Dark Side of the Moon" has been the beautiful and powerful voices of their female vocalists. **WISH YOU WERE HERE** is blessed to have 3 talented singers available: Marla Brennan, Sharron McPherson-Foxx & Irma McQueen, who inspire and awe the crowds at every show. Their experience, talent and beauty shine thru in both featured solos and background vocals - the band always performs with 2 or 3 singers. ("No self-respecting Floyd Tribute should be without 'em," says Sosinski.)

WISH YOU WERE HERE also employs a professional sound and light crew to ensure that the Sight and Sound of Pink Floyd is seen and heard - sound engineers John Miess & Mike Larcey, lighting director David Cook, and sound & stage techs Adam Christian & Trevor Tamura are experienced industry professionals who are all vital to the success of the show as well.

