

The Renaissance

2008-09: volume 14

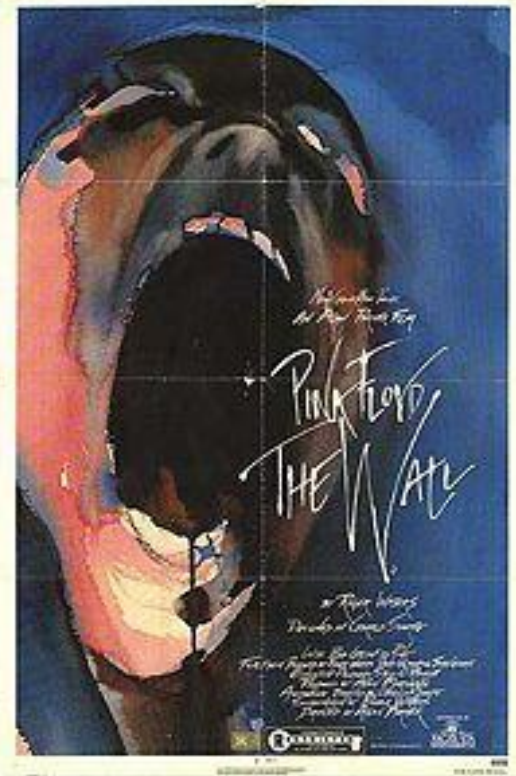
Wish you Were Here performs **The Wall**
at the Renaissance Theatre - November 8, 2008 at 8:00 PM

Pink Floyd The Wall is a 1982 film by British director Alan Parker based on the 1979 Pink Floyd album *The Wall*. The screenplay was written by Pink Floyd vocalist and bassist Roger Waters. The film is highly metaphorical and is rich in symbolic imagery and sound. It features very little dialogue and is mainly driven by Pink Floyd's music. Although it features a linear storyline, in many ways *The Wall* more resembles a long-form music video than a traditional narrative feature film.

The film contains fifteen minutes of elaborate animation sequences by the political cartoonist and illustrator Gerald Scarfe part of which depict a nightmarish vision of the German bombing campaign over England during World War II set to the song "Goodbye Blue Sky". More famous than this, however, is the "Hammer March".

Source:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pink_Floyd_The_Wall_\(film\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pink_Floyd_The_Wall_(film))



"WISH YOU WERE HERE has raised the concept of a tribute band to an art form.

Buying a ticket guarantees you're in for something special." - Cleveland Magazine 6/08

WISH YOU WERE HERE is Midwest America's most popular Pink Floyd tribute show and has gained international recognition for its detailed recreations of Floyd's greatest albums and tours. WISH YOU WERE HERE's theatrical concert presentation combines Sight and Sound to capture the mood, emotions, and intensity of the Pink Floyd experience.

Based in the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame city - Cleveland, Ohio - WISH YOU WERE HERE has become internationally famous for its large-scale recreations of Pink Floyd's most celebrated tours. In July of 2008 WISH YOU WERE HERE staged the most elaborate production of THE WALL ever performed by an American Pink Floyd tribute act, at TimeWarner Cable Amphitheater in Cleveland.

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". "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."

Pink Floyd The Wall

Plot Summary

The film depicts the construction and ultimate demolition of a metaphorical wall. Though the film is highly interpretable, the wall itself clearly reflects a sense of isolation and alienation.

Pink, the tragic hero (and unreliable narrator) of the film, is depicted at various stages of physical and mental development. Pink is first seen sitting lethargically by himself in a hotel room. During the following scenes, it is revealed that Pink's father was killed during World War II when he was a young boy.

The movie then flashes back to Pink as a young English boy growing up in the early 1950s. Throughout his childhood, Pink longs for a father figure, and is devastated to learn of his father's death through a certificate sent by "Kind Old King George". Pink bids farewell to his "blue sky" and begins construction on his wall. Later, Pink is seen along with two cronies laying cartridges from his father's service weapon on a railroad, where he is caught by a domineering teacher.

The scene then switches over to Pink's school, where he is humiliated by the teacher for writing poems in class. The poems that the teacher reads aloud are lyrics from "Money" from the Pink Floyd album *Dark Side of the Moon*. Pink is also affected by his overprotective mother, who aims to lower his sexuality and tries not to let anyone dirty get near him. Despite this, Pink eventually gets married, but over the years, he and his wife grow further and further apart, with Pink concentrating on his music; his wife becomes involved with an anti-nuclear arms group, and eventually has an affair with the leader of the group while Pink is on tour. During this point it is revealed that Pink's last name is Floyd, giving him the same name as the group.

When Pink learns of the affair, he fills in the gaps in his wall with expensive materialistic possessions. Mirroring his wife's infidelity, Pink (now a rock star) turns to a sexually willing groupie (Jenny Wright), inviting her to his hotel room despite his initial exasperation with her. Following the groupie's theatrical ramblings concerning his hotel room, Pink falls into another one of his television-induced trances, only to eventually have an emotional breakdown, trashing the hotel room and driving the groupie away. After years of repressed rage and mental anguish, Pink declares that he doesn't need anything at all, and completes his wall.



One of Gerald Scarfe's many depictions of the wall from *Pink Floyd The Wall*

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pink_Floyd_The_Wall_\(film\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pink_Floyd_The_Wall_(film))