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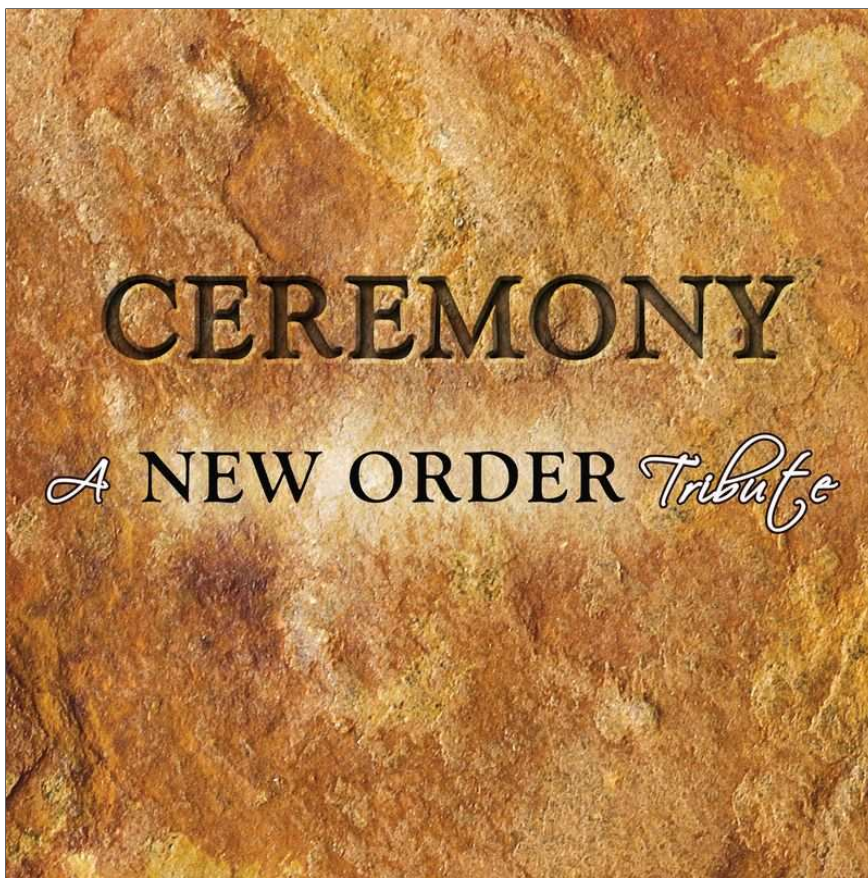
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'Ceremony': 32 new takes on New Order, courtesy of Tampa label 24 Hour Service Station



A labor of love and admiration, *Ceremony: A New Order Tribute* pays homage to a few gods — and one godfather — of the '80s British alternative scene.

Produced by Tampa label [24 Hour Service Station](#), the new double CD features artists from Tampa Bay, Orlando, England and elsewhere, covering songs by the Manchester band that patented a mix of electronic dance music, pop and punk — a formula reworked to this day by acts like the **Postal Service**, **LCD Soundsystem** and any number of bands found on Pitchfork or CMJ.

Though all of the tunes are by **New Order**, the CD is more of a love song to late producer **Tony Wilson**, dedicated to “Mr. Manchester,” the media mogul and mastermind who propelled **Joy Division** and its offspring New Order to fame, along with other trendsetting bands. Wilson, who co-founded independent label **Factory Records**, died of cancer in 2007. The 2002 film *24-Hour Party People*, starring **Steve Coogan**, details to some effect the impact Wilson had on emerging British new

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wave/alternative artists in the late '70s to '80s.

The *Ceremony* CD was officially released on Feb. 20, the date that would have been his 60th birthday.

LISTEN - The Dark Romantics, 'Crystal'

24 Hour Service Station honchos **Marshall Dickson** and his fiancée, **Sonshine Ward**, found inspiration throughout their careers from Wilson, whose death moved Dickson to pay respect in a tangible way that could be felt by others.

“His unique vision and aesthetic of a record label gave complete creative control and freedom to the artists — more a friendly partnership than a stiff business structure — and inspired me to establish my own label ... to release music by bands I personally felt the world needed to hear,” Dickson said.

The CD includes faithful yet original takes on New Order’s hits as well as some more-or-less obscure tunes. The impressive range of styles lend more of a subtle personal touch than an overt makeover.

A number of Florida and Tampa Bay artists are featured on the double album.

Internationally renowned Tampa electronic act **Rabbit in the Moon** recorded their take of *Blue Monday*. **The Dark Esquire**, a project by the **Dumbwaiters’ Brian Repetto**, offers a stunningly spooky version of *Temptation*. **The Beauvilles, Geri X., Win Win Winter, Light Yourself on Fire** and the **Sheaks** also offer songs.

LISTEN - The Dark Esquire, 'Temptation'

LISTEN - XOXO, 'Every Little Counts'

Peter Hook, who co-founded New Order with **Bernard Sumner** and **Stephen Morris**, appears on the opening track of the CD in a spoken word salute to Wilson. Having Hook commingle, even if just digitally, with Tampa Bay bands was a mind-blowing experience for Dickson and Ward.

What was communication like with the former member of one of the couple’s all-time favorite bands? Well, they got to the call-him-by-his-nickname level, for starters.

“Hooky’s a great man, but still a human like the rest of us,” Ward said. “Our relationship began through a MySpace message, and continued through personal e-mails, which then led to phone conversations with his manager on how to expand this newfound relationship between (his label) Hacienda Records and 24 Hour Service Station. I first asked him for a quote to add to the album and Web site. His response: ‘I would be delighted to write something for the album cover — may I even record it? Or is that corny?’ Of course we didn’t think that was corny — we thought that would be perfect!”

A portion of the proceeds from record sales will benefit the **Salford Foundation Trust’s Tony Wilson Awards**, established in memory of Wilson, which benefits children and teens who demonstrate talent in the arts.

The 32-track double-CD is available for \$19.95 at newordertribute.com. Even more New Order covers — including 12 versions of one song, *Ceremony* — are available on the Web site, as well as [iTunes](#), [Amazon](#) and [eMusic](#).

-- **Julie Garisto, tbt***

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