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Live Fall Album Due in Fall

Fred Mills
August 21, 2007

September 18 brings *Live at the Knitting Factory* from the Fall, courtesy Zeit/MVD audio. The 60-minute CD was recorded in Hollywood on November 14, 2001 and was previously available in DVD form as *ccess All Areas*. Expect rock, rant and chaos.

We think the Fall at the time was Lineup # 43 : Mark E. Smith (vocals), Ben Pritchard (guitar), Jim Watts (bass), Spencer Birtwistle (drums) + Brian Fanning (guitar) + Ed Blaney (occasional vocals). How many lineups has the Fall been through since 2001? Only Mark E. Smith's dentist knows for sure!

Jean Smith of Mecca Normal made the following comments about the show on [The Fall Gigography website](#) (which lists a slightly different setlist for the gig):

The Fall guys were pretty rockin' -- the guitar player kissed me after our set! That was nice! Surprise! (on the cheek... then he was gone... sigh) Mark is an odd fellow; we decided not to go searching him out, so we didn't meet him. On stage he fiddled with the musicians gear, they let him, then they re-set their amps as he strolled off, bumbled around, seeming to be engaged in an alternate awareness. I cringed watching him endless adjust the mic stand. Very strange. At one point he pulled something out of his front pocket (paper), but he couldn't seem to stuff it back in

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there. Caused him some stress, seemed to be wishing his arm would disappear from the elbow down. He's amazingly hooked up to the singing though. No booze on stage. New material. The folks we were with said they'd seen him do better. One of our friends once met up with LA Fallnet types before a Fall performance, he said it was one of the scariest nights of his life -- the drinking, the pre-show carry-on. Hmmm.

The riffs went on and on, totally solid, regardless of what in hell might happen with Mark. He sang from his distracted place, somewhat awkwardly, a bit disjointed. He seemed to have it in for the bass player -- a strapping young man who, is perhaps used to wrangle Mark in and out of, away from and to, his appointments.

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