

Fairport Convention: Maidstone 1970

Tangerine Dream: Live at Conventry Cathedral 1975

British filmmaker **Tony Palmer** captured rare footage of Fairport Convention at the 1970 Maidstone Fiesta. At the time, the band was comprised of **Richard Thompson**, **Dave Swarbrick**, **Dave Pegg**, **Dave Mattacks** and **Simon Nicol**, and their blend of traditional folk rock was fresh and exciting. Also included in the set are songs by former member lain Matthews and Southern Comfort. An interview with Palmer puts the footage into the context of the changing pop and festival scenes.

In 1974 and 1975, the German synth-rock band **Tangerine Dream** -- the granddaddy of all electronic outfits -- performed a series of concerts in the great cathedrals of Europe. Palmer was on hand, as well at the group's Coventry Cathedral gig. The grandiose setting was perfect for the sheets of sound emanating from a wall of a speakers and a stage full of keyboards. Adding to the evening's drama was the ironic juxtaposition of having a German band perform at the site of one of World War II's most symbolic acts of senseless destruction. A few years later, **Tangerine Dream** would begin providing soundtracks for such movies as **Sorcerer**, **Thief**, **Risky Business** and **Firestarter**.

- Gary Dretzka

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