



ОРЛОВСКИЙ
ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

имени И.С. Тургенева

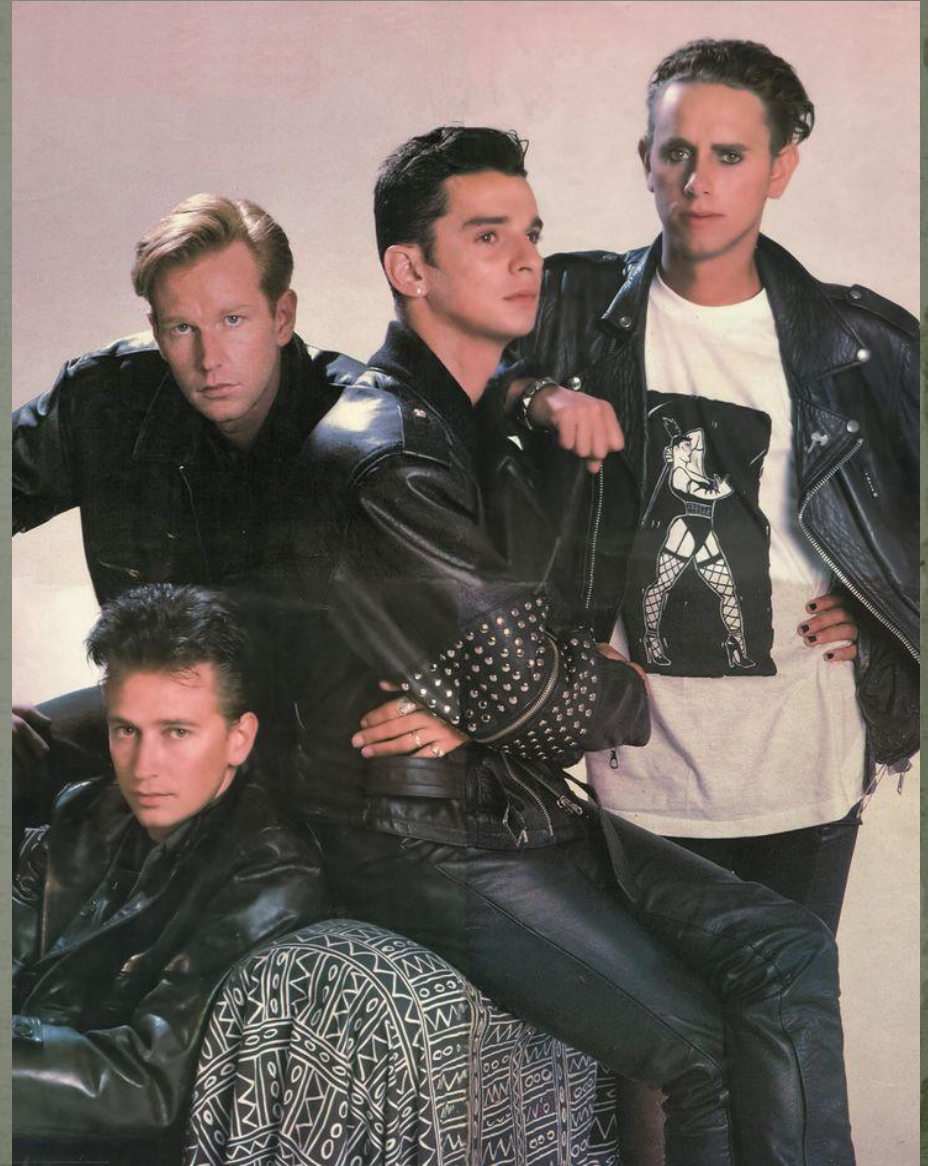
The history of Depeche Mode

The presentation is made by Artyom Cherkasov, the student
of the Faculty Of History, 1-st course, group 211

Scientific supervisor: Karpushina Julia Alexandrovna

What is called Depeche Mode?

Depeche Mode is a British electronic-rock band formed in Basildon in 1980. The name of the band came from French magazine and it is translated as a «Fast fashion» or «A herald of fashion». The group now consists of Martin Gore (main songwriter, backing vocalist, guitarist and keyboards player) and Dave Gahan (main vocalist and also a songwriter). The group has released 14 studio albums and now is going to publish 15-th album.



First steps



First steps of their career were made in 1977 when Vince Clarke and Andy Fletcher formed the band «No Romance In China». Vince was a vocalist and Andy was a bass guitar player. The group was disbanded soon. At the same time Martin Gore was a guitarist of the band «Norman and the Worms». After he left this group he met Vince and Andy and joined them. The new band was called «Composition Of Sound».

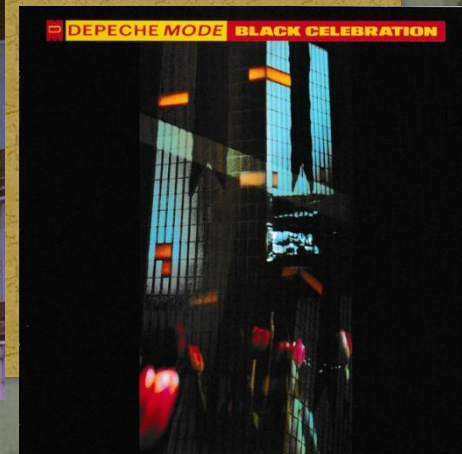
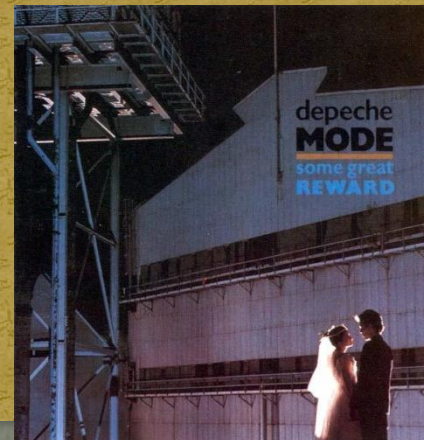
After they invited Dave Gahan as a vocalist the name of the band changed into «Depeche Mode». They released their first album «Speak&Spell» which was a commercial success and 3 singles became hits. But Vince Clarke left the band due to his personal opinion about the way the group should develop.



The development of the band

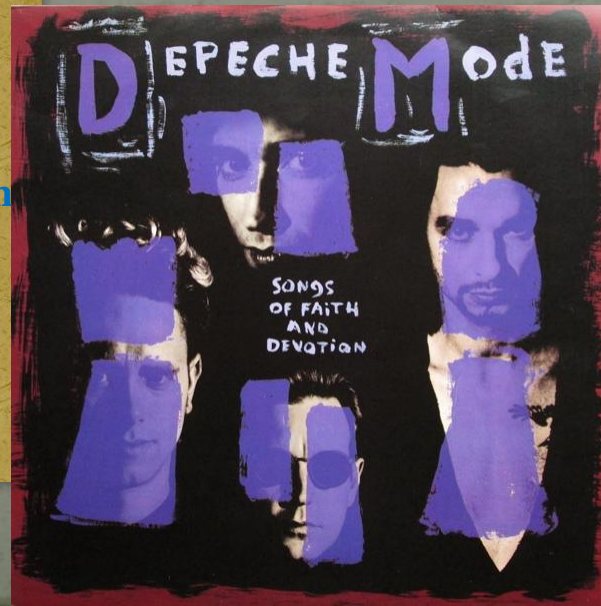
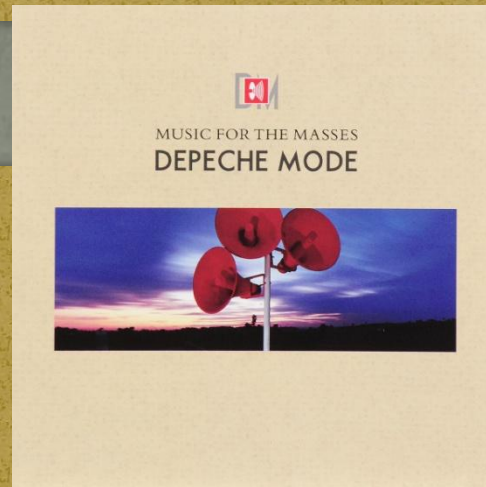
But the other members of «Depeche Mode» didn't lose their hearts and continued their activity. Martin Gore became the main songwriter. Also the group invited Alan Wilder as a session musician. Firstly he didn't help them create songs, But soon he got this opportunity.

The group released several albums. «A Broken Frame» was released in 1982, it peaked at number 8 in British Charts. After it albums «Construction Time Again», «Some Great Reward» and «Black Celebration» were released. These albums are called «Berlin Trilogy» because they were recorded in Berlin studio. All these albums were successful and group gained the high level of the popularity.



The worldwide success

In 1987 the band released their 6-th studio album called «Music for the Masses». It turned out to be their best-selling album in the 80-s. The single «Never Let Me Down Again» became a huge stadium hit. The group achieved great popularity in the USA. 3 years later an album called «Violator» came out. It became very popular and it is still considered as the most famous Depeche Mode album. Singles «Personal Jesus» and «Enjoy The Silence» became worldwide hits. In 1993 the band released their next album «Songs Of Faith and Devotion». Influenced by grunge it became their first №1 album in Britain. Only a few bands could compete with them in terms of popularity. Tickets on the concerts were sold in the matter of hours.



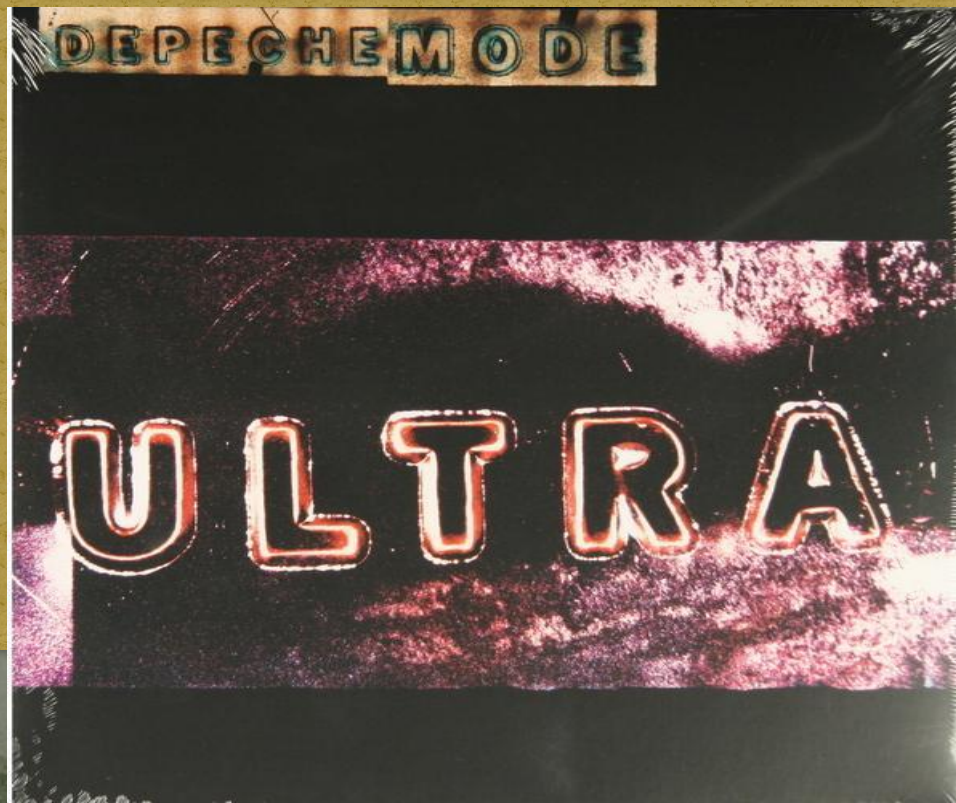
Some photos from those eras



The big crisis and the continuation

But everything was not as good as it might seem. There were problems. The vocalist Dave Gahan started to take drugs. When «Songs Of Faith And Devotion» was being created there was lots of controversy in the band. After the end of the tour Alan Wilder «due to increasing dissatisfaction with the internal relations and working practices of the group» announced his departure. Dave was under the drugs and people thought that the band would never continue their activity.

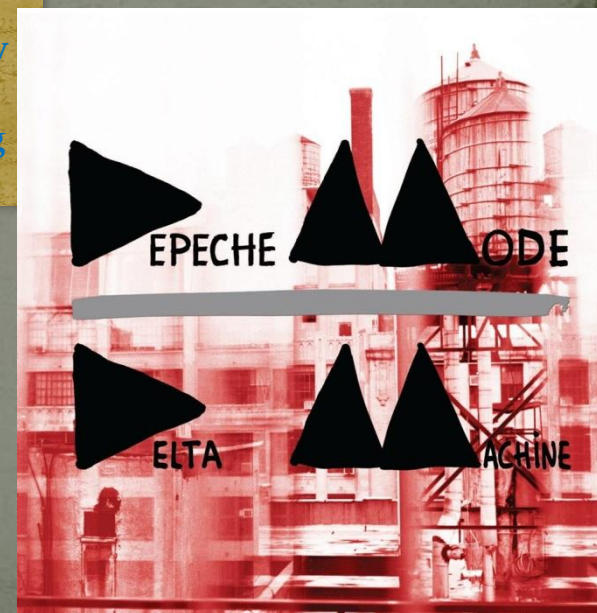
But they did. Now they were the trio. Dave Gahan was cured and the band released their 9-th album «Ultra» in 1997.



Depeche Mode nowadays



In the 21-st century the band didn't stop creating albums. They released 5 albums – «Exciter», «Playing The Angel», «Sounds Of The Universe», «Delta Machine» and «Spirit». The period between each album was 4 years. Unfortunately on 26-th of May 2022 Andy Fletcher died from the aortic dissection. Dave and Martin stated that they were shocked and filled with sadness. But they didn't stop creating new album. On 4-th of October in Berlin they organized press-conference and announced new album called «Memento Mori». It is planned to be published in the spring of 2023.



Some photos from today



Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for
your attention!

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