

The Wall recording and mastering sessions in detail

Wall building - those final bricks; an exclusive look at the recording sessions for THE WALL

Mid

1977 saw the end of the Animals tour and Roger Waters' legendary outburst. Once the tour was over, the band went to their respective tax-havens; Waters went to Switzerland, where he formed the general concept of The Wall and prepared rough demos in January 1978.

The title of the project was a detail that wasn't ironed out until almost the last minute. A leak to the music press in November 1978 announced the next album as "Walls" which would be performed live in a 5000 seater travelling canvas concert hall. A massively horrified management denied this and work continued in secret.

Possibly to prevent further leaks, or general record company procedure (as in the movie industry), the album was known by CBS who oversaw recording of the album in the USA only as "PROJECT # 5622-2".

Recording began in April 1979 at Superbear in France, later at CBS Studios in New York, Cherokee Studios and finally Producers Workshop in Los Angeles. What follows is an exclusive breakdown of the final sessions leading up to the release of the album at the end of 1979 - including the fabled Beach Boys/Floyd vocal collaboration cancelled on the day of the recording.

As you will see, hours were long and obviously tiring. All this information has been gleaned from CBS files, and many of the log sheets are countersigned by Bob Ezrin and in some cases, David Gilmour. All titles appear exactly as they do on the session reports - a fascinating insight into how the project developed...

Date
Studio
Length
What was recorded

Location: Cherokee Recording Studios

6th Sept
Studio 2
7 hours

Synth Overdub - Show Must Go On

7th Sept

Studio 2

9 hours

Organ/synths Blue Sky, Synth Overdub - Synth Theme &

Education, Organ Overdub Thin Ice

8th Sept

Studio 2

8.5 hours

Synth Overdub - Another Hole In The Wall Pt 1

Location: Producers Workshop

12th Sept

Studio 1

12 hours

Overdubbing

12th Sept

Studio 2

7 hours

Overdub - Vera & Synth Theme, Mix Hey You

13th Sept

Studio 1

13 hours

Overdubs

13th Sept

Studio 2

12 hours

Synths - Vera, Hey You, and Goodbye Blue Sky

14th Sept

Studio 1

12 hours

Trumpet, flugelhorn, coonga recordings

14th Sept

Studio 2

14 hours

Assembling SFX (Special Effects) master tape

15th Sept

Studio 1

8 hours

Percussion - Young Lust & Another Brick

15th Sept

Studio 2

13 hours

SFX Overdubs

17th Sept
Studio 1
12 hours
Mix dubbing

17th Sept
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix dubbing

18th Sept
Studio 1
12 hours
Overdubs - Young Lust & Run Like Hell

18th Sept
Studio 2
13.5 hours
Telephone effects

19th Sept
Studio 1
12 hours
Bass/guitars - Vera, vocals Young Lust

19th Sept
Studio 2
13.5 hours
Mix dubbing

20th Sept
Studio 1
12 hours
Mixing

20th Sept
Studio 2
13.5 hours
Mixing

Location: The Village Recorder

21st Sept
Studio D
2 hours
David Gilmour/Frank Wolf tape transfers

Location: Producers Workshop

21st Sept
Studio 1

12 hours
Guitar overdubs - Don't Leave Me Now & The Show

21st Sept
Studio 2
12 hours
Mix - Young Lust & The Empty Spaces

22nd Sept
Studio 1
12 hours
Overdubs - The Show & Bring The Boys Back Home

22nd Sept
Studio 2
12 hours
Overdub mixing

23rd Sept
Studio 2
12 hours
Overdub mixing

24th Sept
Studio 1
13 hours
Vocal overdubs - The Show (Sides 1 & 4) & Goodbye

Blue Sky

24th Sept
Studio 2
12 hours
Mixing

25th Sept
Studio 1
13 hours
Backing vocals - Waiting From The Worms & piano overdubs

25th Sept
Studio 2
14.5 hours
Mix - What Shall We Do Now

26th Sept
Studio 1
13 hours
Mix - Is There Anybody Out There

26th Sept
Studio 2
13 hours
Mix - Goodbye Blue Sky

27th Sept
Studio 1
14 hours
Mix - Is There Anybody Out There & One Of My Turns

27th Sept
Studio 2
16 hours
Mix - Don't Leave Me Now

28th Sept
Studio 1
15 hours
Mix overdubbing

28th Sept
Studio 2
13 hours
Dubbing - Is There Anybody Out There & Bring The

Boys Back Home, mix Hey You

29th Sept
Studio 1
16 hours
Mix - Hey You

1st Oct
Studio 1
14 hours
Overdubbing - Mother

1st Oct
Studio 2
15.5 hours
Mix - The Happiest Days Of Our Lives

2nd Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubbing - Is There Anybody Out There
& Nobody Home

2nd Oct
Studio 2
12 hours
Mix - The Happiest Days Of Our Lives

Location: Sundance Productions, Inc

2nd Oct
Studio booked from 12pm - 5pm for BEACH BOYS & PINK FLOYD vocal session -

session cancelled same day

Location: Producers Workshop

3rd Oct
Studio 1
15 hours
The Show (Side 4), Overdubbing Bring The Boys Back Home

3rd Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mixing - Another Brick In The Wall Part 1

4th Oct
Studio 1
13.5 hours
Vocals, effects, organ - The Show, drums/percussion Bring The
Boys Back Home, vocal/guitar One Of My Turns

4th Oct
Studio 2
16.5 hours
Crossfade mock-ups, plus mix Thin Ice Pt2

5th Oct
Studio 1
13.5 hours
Prophet synth - Doctor, vocal - Bring The
Boys Back Home, overdubbing Nobody Home

5th Oct
Studio 2
13.5 hours
Mix - Vera, Thin Ice Pt 2, crossfades

6th Oct
Studio 2
10.5 hours
Vocal overdub - Nobody Home, vocal Bring The Boys
Back Home, One Of My Turns, bass Another
Brick In The Wall Pt2

7th Oct
Studio 2
14.5 hours
Mixing

8th Oct
Studio 1
14.5 hours

Vocal/piano/guitar overdubs - Waiting For The Worms

8th Oct
Studio 2
15.5 hours
Mix - The Doctor, 16 track transfer and edit

9th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Vocal overdubs - Waiting For The Worms, The Show Pt2,

guitar overdubbing

9th Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix and overdub Overture for Comfortably Numb (both versions)

10th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubs - The Doctor, edit SFX tape loop

10th Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix - The Doctor, remix orchestra for The Doctor

11th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubs - Stop, piano Show Must Go On, backing

vocals Waiting For The Worms

11th Oct
Studio 2
16.5 hours
The Doctor, Comfortably Numb

12th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubs - Mother

12th Oct
Studio 2
14.5 hours
Editing Comfortably Numb, mix Another Brick Education

13th Oct
Session Cancelled

14th Oct
Session Cancelled

15th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubs - Mother

15th Oct
Studio 2
18.5 hours
Crossfade Another Brick Pt2 with Happiest Days;

6-track transfer Mother

16th Oct
Studio 1
13.5 hours
Vocal overdubs - The Show Must Go On; guitar overdubs Mother

16th Oct
Studio 2
15 hours
Mix Nobody Home & Run Like Hell

17th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Hand claps overdubs - Run Like Hell; guitar overdub Mother

17th Oct
Studio 2
19.5 hours
Mix & drum overdubs Run Like Hell;

Assemble preview of The Wall

18th Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdub SFX - Waiting For The Worms; guitar overdub Mother

18th Oct
Studio 2
14.5 hours
Showcase The Wall, mix Run Like Hell

19th Oct
Studio 1
14 hours
Vocals - Show Must Go On & Mother; SFX Waiting

For The Worms

19th Oct

Studio 2
14 hours
Mix & overdubs

20th Oct
Studio 1
12 hours
Piano - Show Must Go On; drums Mother

vocals & bass Mother

20th Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix & overdubs

21st Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix & overdubs

22nd Oct
Studio 1
13 hours
Overdubs & SFX - Trial By Puppet

22nd Oct
Studio 2
15 hours
Mix Waiting For The Worms

23rd Oct
Studio 1
16 hours
Record - The Buskers & Outside The Wall;

Assemble various tape loops & effects

23rd Oct
Studio 2
16 hours
Mix Stop & Anybody Out There

24th Oct
Studio 1
13.5 hours
Overdub piano - Mother; SFX Bring The Boys Back Home;

vocals The Trial

24th Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix Mother

25th Oct
Studio 1
15 hours
Crossfades - Another Brick, Nobody Home,

& The Thin Ice

25th Oct
Studio 2
14 hours
Mix Mother

26th Oct
Studio 1
17 hours
Crossfades - Another Brick In The Wall Pt2 & Mother

26th Oct
Studio 2
17 hours
Mix In The Flesh & In The Flesh?

27th Oct
Studio 1
14 hours
Crossfades - Another Brick (Drugs), Goodbye Cruel World

Nobody Home & Vera

27th Oct
Studio 2
14.5 hours
Mix In The Flesh & In The Flesh?

28th Oct
Studio 1
14 hours
Mix overdubs

28th Oct
Studio 2
19 hours
Mix In The Flesh, In The Flesh?

& Outside The Wall

29th Oct
Studio 1
16 hours
Crossfade album

29th Oct
Studio 2
17.5 hours
Mix Trial By Puppets; edit singles

30th Oct
Studio 1
16 hours
Crossfade album

30th Oct
Studio 2
17 hours
Mixing The Trial

31st Oct
Studio 1
14 hours
Mix and overdubs

31st Oct
Studio 2
13 hours
Mix Young Lust & Empty Spaces

1st Nov
Studio 1
13 hours
Crossfade sides 2 & 3

1st Nov
Studio 2
14 hours
Crossfade & remix Bring The Boys Back Home

2nd Nov
Studio 1
14.5 hours
SFX - The Wall

2nd Nov
Studio 2
16.5 hours
Crossfades

3rd Nov
Studio 1
13 hours
Editing

3rd Nov
Studio 2
13.5 hours
Editing

4th Nov
Studio 2
7 hours
Tape editing

5th Nov
Studio 2
15.5 hours
Pre-mixes for animation & live shows

6th Nov
Studio 2
8 hours
Copy & edit TV spots; copy all four sides of album.

Finalised version passed to The Mastering Lab Inc

for urgent master pressing

7th Nov
Title The Wall as LP title confirmed on cover printing instructions

9th Nov
Lacquers ready of finished album; distribution of lacquers; test pressings to key

personnel & offices

13th Nov
Studio 2
1.5 hours
Tape fifteen copies of LPs & Young Lust & Another

Brick In The Wall Pt 2

14th Nov
Studio 2
6.5 hours
Copy and edit fifteen LPs; EQ Dolby copy for 8-track

cartridge master

16th Nov
Another Brick In The Wall Pt 2 & One Of My Turns

released in the UK on 7" single

30th Nov
The Wall LP released in the UK

www.Brain-Damage.co.uk