



## productionprofile



# roger waters: the dark side of the moon live

**TPi FOLLOWS THE 'CREATIVE GENIUS' OF PINK FLOYD TO LONDON'S HYDE PARK CALLING FESTIVAL AS HE TOURS WITH A NEW LIVE PRODUCTION OF ONE OF THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL ALBUMS OF ALL-TIME...**

"Hanging on in quiet desperation is the English way" ... just one of the lines from *The Dark Side Of The Moon* that accurately summed up the mood of England's football fan fraternity, late in the baking hot afternoon of July 1. For those able to watch the predictable penalty shoot-out against Portugal, maybe the phrase "Home, home again" proved even more prophetic.

It was backstage in the catering tent that TPi jostled for space amongst crew and artists to view England's impending doom, only for our spirits to be lifted that evening by a consummate performance of one of rock's most cherished masterworks.

The *déjà vu* was overwhelming. Precisely one year on from the weekend that saw Pink Floyd's 20-year feud dissolve into an amicable one-off reunion at *Live 8*, here we were again as Roger Waters, the band's 'Creative Genius', recreated in its entirety their seminal

1973 classic, headlining the first night of the *Hyde Park Calling* weekend, with The Who following 24 hours later.

It's been the summer of Two Floyds — while David Gilmour has been touring his No. 1 album *On An Island* with keyboardist Rick Wright in his line-up, drummer Nick Mason has been putting in guest appearances with both the 'Voice & Guitar' and Roger Waters, at Hyde Park and at selected venues such as Magny-Cours on July 14 as part of a show to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the French Grand Prix.

And with the *P.U.L.S.E.* DVD of the stunning *Division Bell* concerts at Earls Court in 1994 finally in the shops, this rush of Floydian activity is probably as neatly dovetailed as it's ever likely to be in the foreseeable future.



Waters, 62, is spending less time with golf clubs and fishing rods these days. Last November, he premiered his classical opera *Ça Ira* in Rome and he's soon to release his first all-new rock album since the early '90s. However, *The Dark Side Of The Moon* — last performed in full by Floyd-sans-Waters in '94 — has always remained close to his heart and as the lyricist and the member who drove the conceptual elements, he rightly feels a sense of ownership.

No surprise then, that after the band reminded us of *Dark Side's* 'Money' and 'Breathe' at *Live 8*, and Floyd's back catalogue sales subsequently went through the roof, the bassist is back with a full-scale tour, giving the album top billing in a show that showcases highlights from his remarkable 40-year career.

Waters retains much of the band from his 1999-2002 *In The Flesh* tours, including guitarists Snowy