



CLASH (THE)

## The Clash: Last Gig In France

[NEW] From today, our Legacy Editors will evoke artists or albums that are sometimes forgotten every week and share anecdotes with you. We start this new section with LB which tells us about the last concert of The Clash in France.

Tuesday 02 June 2015

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ELIXIR GUEHENNO FESTIVAL, Morbihan  
Saturday July 13, 1985 - Testimony of a French fan

From the outset it is necessary to situate the context. In the region we are a good bunch of punks.

When you travel to a concert you can be between 10 and 50 depending on the importance of the show in question. In fact when you are 20 years old, you want to see everything, since there is nothing to do in the daily life of our region. So when the RockScene Festival programming falls, we are in heaven. Yes, we will finally see the [Clash](#), live on stage on July 13, 85. And Depeche Mode.

During this memorable period, we ride in the Citroën LN that my parents are unconscious of authorizing me to drive. 2CV engine, but puncture-proof. If you fall into the ditch, you go out and put it back on the road. This car has shaped our musical culture...

Well, here we are on the way to Guéhenno, 5 in the vehicle. Auray-Guéhenno, it's a 30 minute drive. Quickly folded without breakage. On site, there are historic punks from all over France.

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Guys from Orleans, Paris, Quimper, in fact everywhere. It's been quite a troop. We park and we enter the site. It is very hot this July 13, so we rehydrate until we have to go to refuel. We arrive at the village supermarket (840 inhabitants at the time) and we see a large wooden bar blocking the entrance. It is certain that to see 15,000 festival-goers surge, it creates a certain paranoid among the inhabitants and especially of the only shopkeeper with whom supplies are made. The boss therefore has the shotgun not far away ... We order, we pay and we return to the festival grounds. Triumphant return. Mission accomplished.

The [Clash](#) and Depeche Mode at the time on the same poster, it is not easy to accept for us, young punks, this curious mixture of musical genres. The 2 groups stay in Vannes in the same hotel, and their respective stage technicians cordially hate each other ...

It will be said later that the baseball bats were taken out backstage when the 2 tour buses arrived on the site and for a few minutes a general fight broke out between the 2 parties.

The concert was in itself dantesque, with a place in the 1st row dearly defended. At 10:45 p.m. The Last Gang In Town takes the stage by storm. Joe Strummer tries his hand at French between songs with a picturesque English accent. That evening, we ate dust for 1 hour 25 minutes. Superb rough and muscular concert. I will take a week to get rid of that damn ochre dust that made the site look like a gigantic battlefield. But we were like kids. We finally saw Live [LE CLASH](#) ! Even if only Paul Simonon and Joe Strummer were present that evening, supported by 3 other musicians (Nick Sheppard and Vince White on guitars and Pete Howard on drums), when you are addicted to [Clash](#), you are living at that time a waking dream. The kind of memory you still talk about 30 years later ...

We had no idea that this concert was going to be their last visit to France and the penultimate gig of their entire career. On July 27, 1985 the group will cease to exist after a last concert in Athens.

- LB

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Set List of the Guéhenno concert Saturday July 13, 1985:

Kosmo Vinyl Introduction  
London Calling  
Janie Jones  
Safe European Home  
Garageland  
Armagideon Time  
The Magnificent Seven  
Three Card Trick  
Police on My Back  
Brand new cadillac  
I'm So Bored With the USA  
Tommy gun  
I Fought the Law  
Rock the Casbah  
Spanish Bombs



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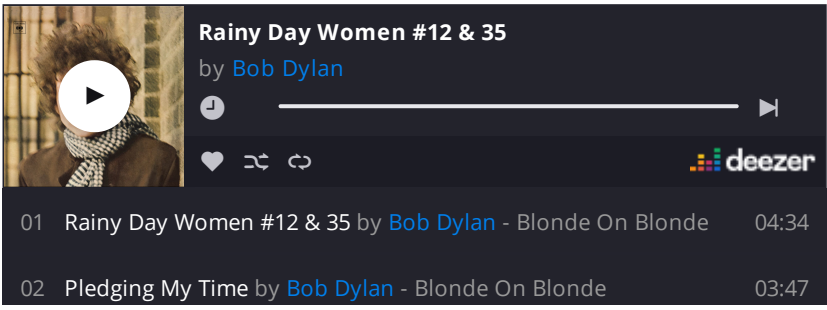
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