




October 21st 2002

19 Oct 2002

Hey there!

Well I'm sure you've read the news of my second son Nathan being born. A fantastic experience I must admit. But it's time to go back to work and start saving for the college fees!!

We are in Berlin. Gig number two of the new tour. We felt a little bit rusty at the Paris show to be honest but everyone we spoke to afterwards said it sounded really tight, but then again they would hardly say it was shite!! We played "New New York" for the first time ever. It felt good but we need to play it a few more times to get really confident. We also did "Hollywood" for the first time in about six years and it rocked and therefore, will be a regular fixture in the set. There is a new stage-set designed by Slim, as with the "Wake up.." tour which has now evolved into the "Stars" World tour but don't panic there are no explosions and special-effects, subtlety is the key!



I got a test copy of the "Stars - Best Of Video" collection and it's turned out really well. There is a load of extra stuff on it, old interviews and footage from years ago and an array of dodgy haircuts and clothes, mine being the worst!! But it's great to finally have all our videos on one disk as we haven't seen most of them for ages!

We were planning our new schedule yesterday for 2003 and we are going to be touring until the beginning of April and then we will be doing some shows with some other artists in June and July to wrap up a great 2 years on the road. We also have been discussing our next record a lot lately and everyone is of the opinion that if we record in the normal way then it's going to be very un-exciting and stale so we have decided that Dolores and Noel will go into the studio in May with a producer and play around with some ideas, then when we finish touring, we will all go in and play around with some different ideas. We want to do something that really challenges us and push ourselves into uncharted territory. Normally, we have the songs written and ready when we go into the studio, but it's going to be frightening and exciting to write in the studio. If none of us did things we were frightened of, then we would never advance in life, so here we go!!

We're all excited about the upcoming gigs (especially, in Croatia, Hungary and Turkey) as we have spoken to people who have visited these countries before and loved them. It will be great to see the reaction of the audiences seeing us for the first time. This year has been amazing seeing so many new cities and fans around the world.

That's all I've got for you I'm afraid!

Take it easy!

- Fergal.