

PET SHOP BOYS STAGE (P)OPERA

Duo are pitch perfect in jubilant Covent Garden performance



TONIGHT, I'm afraid there's no ballet or opera – only pop music, announced Neil Tennant, while we were still catching our breath after he and Chris Lowe emerged, dressed in black and sporting shades and silver helmets, from inside two giant white orbs and, with laser lights blazing, launched into Inner Sanctum. That song (from their new album, Super) gave the show its name, but there was nothing elitist about the first night of the duo's four London shows. It was a jubilant demonstration of the communal power of pop music as well as proof that it can be smart as well as silly, nostalgic and futuristic, sad and happy. Pet Shop Boys

Fabulous: Neil Tennant sang new and classic tracks
REX FEATURES

REVIEW

Pet Shop Boys
Royal Opera House, London
★★★★★

by **SHARON O'CONNELL**

have been in the electronic pop business for 35 years, so maybe it's no surprise the show was pitch perfect, mixing choice cuts from the current album [The Pop Kids and Burn stood out] with the evergreen classics – among them the droll Left To My Own Devices, the impeccable Love Comes Quickly and West End Girls, and the cheerfully ludicrous Go West. Stage designer Es Devlin's setting was stylishly modernist, but there was flashy fun, too: abstract back projections; shifting, on-screen optical effects



Boys in the bubble: Stylish entrance for Tennant and Lowe

and laser lights of countless geowow kinds. And – ridiculously, fabulously – there was a chorus line, bouncing about in fat suits. Mostly, though, there was the music. As Tennant sang in Vocal, to a clearly overwhelmed crowd: 'It's in the music, it's in the song, and the feeling of the warmth around us all is so strong.'

IN BRIEF

Geldof's Primark rant angers crowd

HUNDREDS of fans walked out of a festival as Bob Geldof ranted and swore at them – for wearing 'Primark clothes'.

The 64-year-old Boomtown Rats singer (pictured) was playing the two-day long Brentwood Festival, Essex, last weekend when he said: 'I am wearing a f*** off snake-skin suit You are all wearing f***** Primark.' The festival apologised and said it was 'part of the act'.



Matt shares online fears for his girls

MATT DAMON is frightened his three daughters and step-daughter may make a mistake they'll never be allowed to forget because of social media.

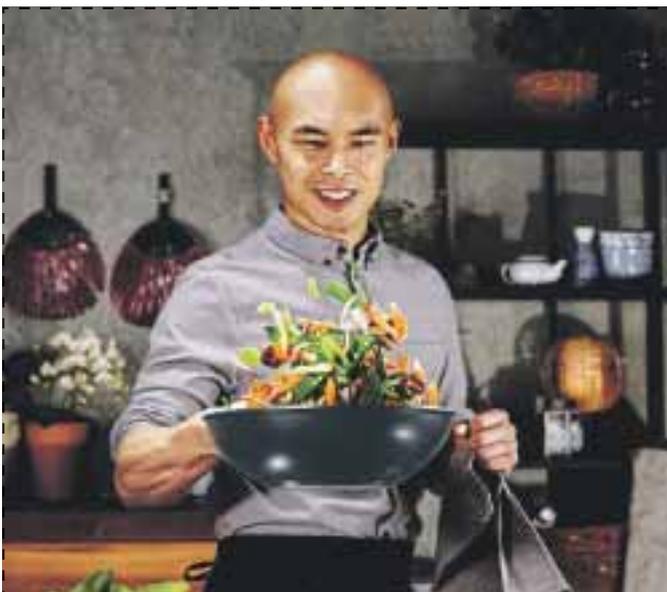
The star of the Bourne films (pictured), 45, avoids Twitter and Instagram, saying: 'It's scary to think that some kind of teenage mistake, something I could have done, could somehow follow someone around forever.'



Kylie lover wasn't a good neighbour

A KYLIE fan has had his two sound systems seized for playing her music so loud that neighbours couldn't get it out of their heads.

Michael Debenham, 64, was hit with a noise order by Ipswich council after blasting out hits by the star (pictured) but breached it four times in a day. Magistrates told him to pay £924 and said his gear would be destroyed.



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