

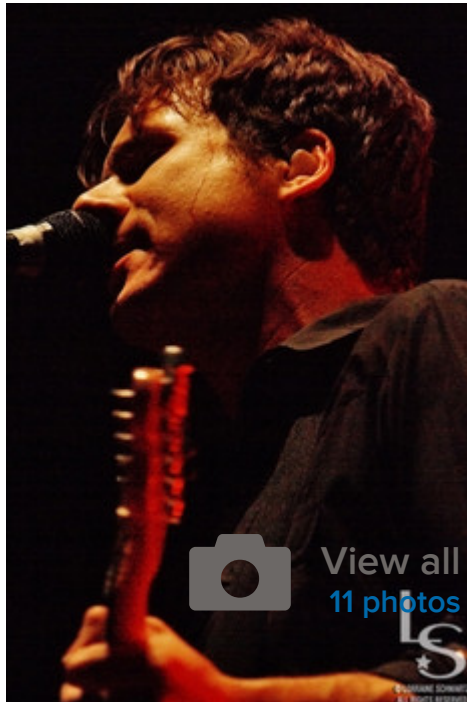
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Concert review: Jimmy Eat World at the Wellmont Theatre

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Jimmy Eat World at Wellmont Theatre, 6/4/11

Lorraine Schwartz

Saturday night, [Jimmy Eat World](#) kicked off their headlining set at Montclair, NJ's [Wellmont Theatre](#) with the first three tracks off their 2001 album "[Bleed American](#)." Pointing out that this year is the tenth anniversary of the record, lead vocalist Jim Adkins announced that to celebrate this fact, they would be performing the album in its entirety for the Jersey crowd.



*Lorraine Schwartz*

Played from beginning to end, [Jimmy Eat World](#) (Adkins, guitarist/vocalist Tom Linton, bassist Rick Burch and drummer Zach Lind with musician Courtney Marie Andrews traveling with them as backup) sang each song with the same passion and energy as when I first saw them live, which happened to be on the Bleed American tour back in September of 2001 at Irving Plaza. "Sweetness" was just as magnificent, "Hear You Me" just as touching, "Get It Faster" just as snide, and "The Middle" just as sweet. This was the album that put their faces on MTV, as they stole fans away from the nu-metal crowd and opened them up to a world where it was okay to have non-violent emotions about your past relationships.

After finishing "My Sundown," the last track on "Bleed American," the band left the stage, causing some fans to wonder if the show had actually ended. After a very brief intermission, the band quickly returned. "Of course we're going to play more!" Jim laughed.

The encore began with "23" and included new songs "Evidence" and "My Best Theory" from their latest CD, "[Invented](#)." They also played "Blister" (with Tom Linton on vocals), "Let it Happen," "Lucky Denver Mint" and singles "Work" and "Pain." Of course the loudest singalong moment came courtesy of "Big Casino," whose lyric "I'm a New Jersey success story" prompted the Jersey crowd to go extra crazy.

Even though an entire decade has passed since Bleed American and MTV doesn't play music videos anymore, their fans have clearly stuck with them since then (and even before then having minor success with albums "[Static Prevails](#)" and "[Clarity](#)"). The full house of singing and dancing fans on Saturday night proved that for sure. Check out my slideshow of photos from the show [here](#).

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