Pulse: Pink Floyd’s Concert in 1994

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Pink Floyd were a rock band that originated in England in 1965. It was based in London. The band was the most popular and influential in its era. The band became known as associated with progressive rock genre, and labeled as a psychedelic band, because they believed in experimentation and instrumentation. They abandoned popular pop traditions and employed compositional techniques that were associated with classical music, jazz, and others. This paper reflects on two songs selected from their concert held in 1994 named ‘Pulse’ and released as an album in 1995.

**“Another Brick in the Wall”**

This song reached number one position in England and many other countries. It was first launched in the album, ‘The Wall’, in 1979, and the idea of the song was loneliness and deprivation of a child. The feelings of the abandoned child have been symbolized with the wall. The main character portrayed in the song develops an imaginary wall that surrounds him. He feels intense loneliness after the demise of his father. Later, his mother demonstrates a didactic behavior toward him. He feels himself vulnerable to the school-teachers. All the forbidding characters in his story becomes metaphorical bricks in the wall (Jones, 1996). Finally, the protagonist disowns all persons and they seem to him only as bricks in the wall.

The genre of song is progressive rock, and it was written by Roger Waters. It had elements of Disco in its composition, which added to its popularity being the trend of that era. To keep it aligned with its genre, ample use of guitar was incorporated in its music. It was produced in three parts depending upon the requirements of its music and concept. The lyrics offer disappointment, hopefulness, and sarcasm in view of the protagonist’s experiences. The song demands more effort by the listener to grasp it in full sense. The song’s music is an effort of experimentation with structure, rhythm, and instrumentation.

**“Comfortably Numb”**

This song was also released along the song discussed above in the same album. The song was written by David Gilmour and Roger Waters. It was a solo song, and it contained guitar as well as chorus. It was a very popular song by the band. The song depicts the protagonist to be ill. He needs treatment. The doctor medicates him in the song video. The purpose of treatment is that the protagonist, who has been portrayed in the album as a psychologically disturbed rock star, recovers and becomes able to perform on the stage (Bushman & Anderson, 2009).

The structure of song is impressive. The verses of the song has been composed in B-minor, and the chorus has been developed in D-major. The lyrics were said to be inspired by an experience in Roger’s life. He had to take injections for relieving stomach pain once. It happened two hours before a concert performance by the protagonist. It was a devastating experience by him. The song appears to be compiled by several pieces of solos and the composers chose their preferred pieces to make the final composition. The song was performed on the stage with the protagonist dressed as a doctor danced on the stage. The concept of the wall was also used in the video adaptation of the song.

Works Cited

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Jones, C. (1996). *Another Brick in the Wall: The Stories Behind Every Pink Floyd Song*. Broadway Books.