

Mogwai Perth concert review

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Sandra Bahbah
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WHILE thousands flocked to Rock-It, diehard progressive rock fans made their way to Beck's Music Box closing night to listen to Scottish outfit Mogwai.

The mostly instrumental group had a powerful opening as the music pounded in the chests of those in attendance.

The Glasgow group's sound could be described as dark and looming, which comes as no surprise that their music is featured in movies such as sci-fi epic *The Fountain* and thriller *The Brave One*.

The five-piece group combines virtual instruments with guitars and piano to create an absorbing sound.

The crowd appeared hypnotised by the band as they played such songs as *Friend of the Night* and *Cody*.

They created some unusual sounds you couldn't put down to a certain genre but nonetheless their music evokes a lot of emotion. Almost like creepy meditation music, low-fi and consuming, it was a shock to the system when the stage lights went into overdrive and the volume was amped up. They are intense to say the least.

Although they are a group of few words, they managed to voice their gratitude: "It's amazing playing to people who actually listen, which hasn't been the case in the last week."

The comment had many scratching their heads as the audience lapped up Mogwai's entire set. Having said that, it would have added more atmosphere if there was a screen with images to compliment the music rather than just a light show.

Coming back for an encore, they played one song before quietly leaving the stage.

The crowd couldn't seem to get enough, proof that you don't need lyrics for music to mean something. Mogwai's music is certainly not just noise.

Mogwai
Beck's Music Box - Esplanade
March 8, 2009
Review: Sandra Bahbah