

## Franz Ferdinand w/Bricolage @ Grand Ole Opry, Glasgow

Contributed by Elz Russell  
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Well, to begin with, I missed openers Bricolage due to the girl with my ticket having her flight cancelled. This is actually the second time I've missed out on seeing Bricolage (though I did briefly meet the singer later that night at a taxi stand), so sadly I can't write a review on their performance, but I can wonder if I've somehow been cursed never to see them.

We arrived at the venue around five minutes before Franz Ferdinand took to the stage, having become rather lost several times despite a map, so our aim was to get as near to the front as possible. We managed in the end to get to about six rows from the front, on Bob's side of the stage, with plenty of room for dancing. Due to our late arrival, we didn't have to wait long at all before the band came out, donned their guitars (and drumsticks in Paul's case) and launched into the opening song - Michael. I've never seen a crowd go from reasonably motionless to complete madness so quickly. They then went straight into Come On Home, one of my favourite songs from the debut album (the other being 40', which they also played). The third song on the setlist was a new one, Anyone In Love, another dark song with the tempo changes we've come to expect from Franz - now with added synthesizers! All in all, Franz played five new songs, several of which definitely have single potential (Turn It On, I'm looking at you).

To my surprise, Paul stayed on the drums during Walk Away, which meant there was no Andy on the drums. Fortunately he didn't play it at the Bowery Ballroom show, either. Shopping For Blood and Take Me Out came next, with Nick apparently forgetting how to play his keyboards or becoming confused by the fact that he had four of them and completely messing up Shopping For Blood (you can hear my friend's laughter on the bootleg). Take Me Out was, of course, an enormous crowd pleaser. We had plenty of room to dance on the side, but I don't want to think about how crushed it must have been in the centre of the room. Next came several more new songs and old singles, plus my previously mentioned favourite track. Bob walked off the stage before Your Favourite Lie, the last song of the main set, had even finished. Presumably he wasn't needed for the last twenty seconds.

When Franz returned for the encore, Nick was the first onstage. And we didn't even realise he'd started playing a song, I think most people just thought he was mucking around on his synthesizers. Then the rest of the band joined him and started playing, much to my surprise. And that was our introduction to Turn It On, a song the hardcore fans have known about since the recording of the second album, but no recording of the song has ever turned up. Until now, of course, and I am eagerly awaiting a studio version.

Franz closed with, as they have since they began touring You Could Have It So Much Better, Outsiders. A girl in the audience, Liz, had a sign asking if she could drum on Outsiders, so Alex pulled her up and she joined Paul and Andy on the drumkit for what was a pretty spectacular ending to the evening. Andy launched himself across the stage and onto the drum riser with the enthusiasm of ten men on speed. Go Andy!

It ended all too soon, however, and Franz left the stage for the final time.

Well, until the next night.

Setlist:

Michael  
Come On Home  
Anyone In Love\*  
Walk Away  
Shopping For Blood  
Take Me Out  
A New Thrill\*  
The Dark of the Matinée  
English Goodbye\*  
The Fallen  
40'  
Your Favourite Lie\*  
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Turn It On\*  
Outsiders