

MAKING MUSIC

The instruments: How do they sound different?

Like the drummer, the bass player provides the rhythm. Pete Z feels he's the "bridge" between the drummer and the other musicians. He also works closely with the pianist. He likes to be part of the "foundation" of the music. However, it's fun to provide the melody, too. And the saxophone is ideal for this! It's an emotional instrument. It can add a different kind of sound. The acoustic guitarist works closely with the drummer. He takes the rhythm and plays with it.

The process: What did the musicians do?

First of all, the musicians decided on the kind of sound that they wanted. Then Pete W sat down at the piano. He began to experiment with an intro, just improvising. The others listened, and made comments, "and we just took off from there, whatever felt right".

The drummer said he "just played what came naturally". He provides the basic rhythm, so he must be a good musician.

The group used the synthesisers to add different sounds. Again, Pete W tried different things, and they all commented.

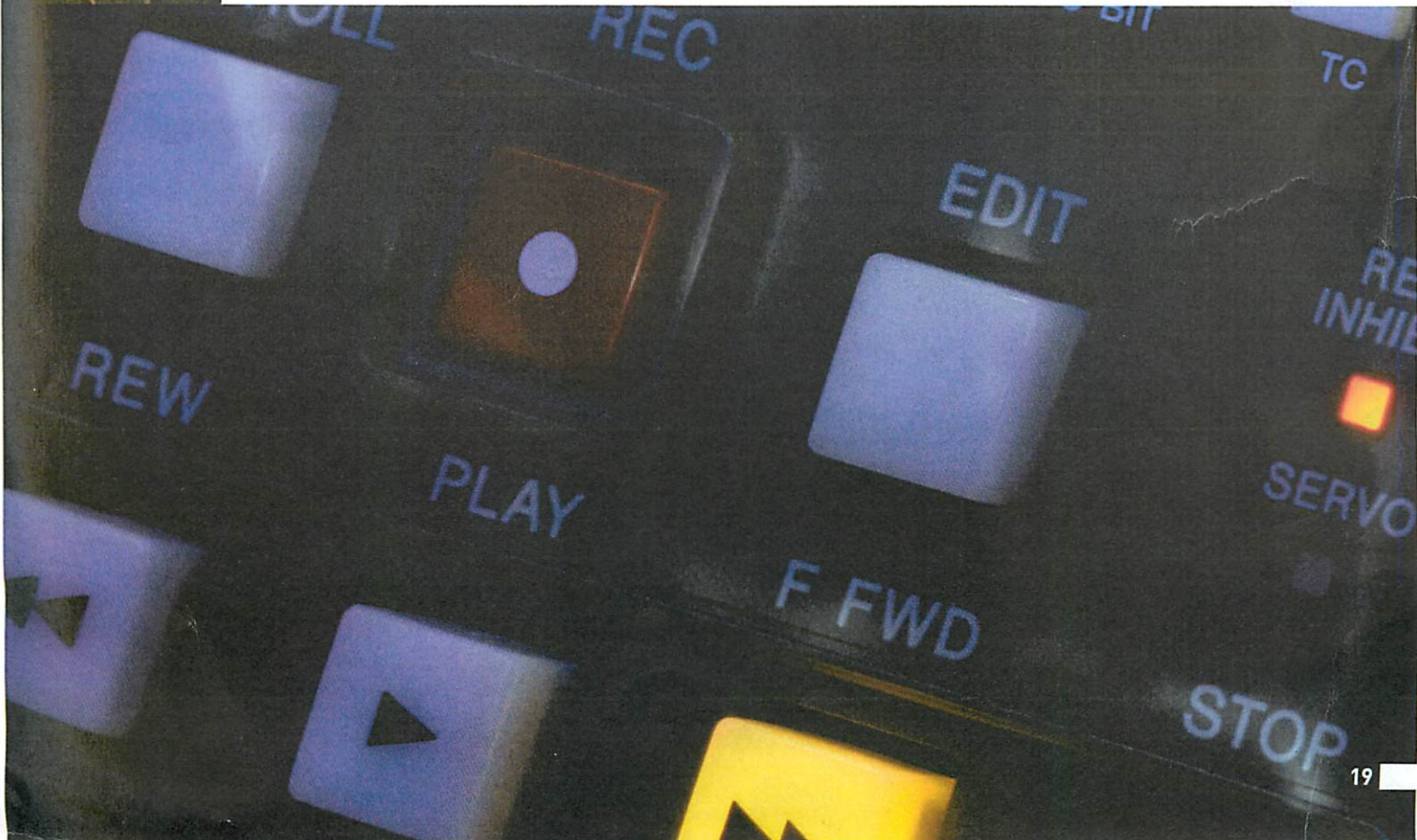
Enter the engineer: What did he do?

When they had a sound that they all liked, it was the engineer's turn. It was time to record. He put a mike (microphone) near every instrument (in fact, there were 14 mikes around the drums). Each mike was connected to a different track on the recording deck. For "Annabel's Theme", they used 21 tracks. The engineer could vary the sound of each track. They all listened, and made comments. They decided that the sax solo should begin quiet, and then get louder. So that was done electronically.

The result

When you hear the final result, it's difficult to believe that there are so many different tracks in it. If it's good, you only hear the total sound. It's just like tasting a good dish!

Look at the text on the covers of some of your favourite CDs. What instruments do they list? How many people are *not* musicians? What are their jobs?



Ferdinand



James Goulden

Check out the group's current albums and singles on their websites www.franzferdinand.co.uk and www.franzferdinand.org. Compare it with the list here. How many new titles are there now? What about their chart positions? Add your information to the list



What will happen to the group in the future?
Visit their website (www.franzferdinand.co.uk) and follow their progress.

What people say about them

"They're a charismatic bunch of guys. They have just got what it takes."

(Peter Ellen, Chief Executive of Fopp Records)

"We are really excited about them."

(Julian Marshall, Group News Editor of New Music Express)

What the group say

"We're always scribbling away. Writing songs is thrilling and fun, that's why we do all this stuff."

(Alex Kapranos)

"The band is the grandest possible adventure you can go on with your friends."

(AK)

WORD FILE

bunch of guys	A group of men.
charismatic	Making people want to listen to you.
fashion show	A parade of new clothes.
gig	A public performance of music.
hum (v)	To make music without opening your mouth.
post-rock music	Music that develops from rock'n'roll.
release (v)	To put a CD on sale.
scribble (v)	To write quickly.
stuff	A collection of things.
thrilling	Very exciting.
tune	A piece of music.