

= The Confessions Tour (album) =

The Confessions Tour is the second live album by American singer @-@ songwriter Madonna . It was released on January 26 , 2007 by Warner Bros. Records . Directed by Jonas Åkerlund , the album chronicles Madonna 's 2006 Confessions Tour . It was recorded at Wembley Arena during the London dates of the tour , and was released in both CD and DVD format . The DVD contains the entire concert and the CD includes thirteen live songs only . The album became the first release from Semtex Films , a production company founded by Madonna in 2006 .

The Confessions Tour received generally positive reviews from contemporary critics and won the Best Long Form Music Video category at the 50th Grammy Awards . After its release , the release reached number one on the official charts in Australia , Belgium , Czech Republic , Hungary , Italy , Portugal and Spain . It received moderate success in her native country , peaking at number fifteen on the U.S. Billboard 200 albums chart . The Confessions Tour has sold more than 1 @.@ 2 million copies worldwide .

= = Background = =

Following the 2006 live release I 'm Going to Tell You a Secret , Madonna released her second live album , The Confessions Tour . The album was recorded at Wembley Arena on August 15 and 16 , 2006 , during the London stop of her 2006 Confessions Tour , which was promoting her 2005 studio album Confessions on a Dance Floor . It was the first release from her new production company , Semtex Films and was released in both DVD and CD formats , capturing the tour as directed by Jonas Åkerlund . The DVD release consists of the full twenty @-@ one song set list of the tour , while the CD captures thirteen highlights from the same . The tour was first shown on NBC during the Thanksgiving of 2006 . This broadcast was edited , cutting the likes of " Paradise (Not For Me) " . Madonna 's performance of " Live to Tell " , while hanging from a glass embellished crucifix , faced strong reaction from the media and religious groups . " Live to Tell " was followed by the performance of " Forbidden Love " from the Confessions on a Dance Floor album , where Madonna took off a crown made of thorns from her head . Asian media and services company Fridae reported that the album was banned in Singapore , Malaysia and parts of East Asia , because of the inclusion of the performances in the DVD .

= = Critical response = =

Stephen Thomas Erlewine from Allmusic felt that the CD version of the album was " not all that much fun to hear , even if the reinterpretations of the 20 @-@ year @-@ old hits are interesting . The DVD doesn 't feel as cold thanks entirely to the pizzazz of the visuals and the determined efficiency of the show , but even so , this is primarily of interest to the diehards who don 't mind purchasing another live CD / DVD set just a year after the first . " Ed Gonzalez from Slant Magazine felt that the concert finale in the album " is a reminder that Madonna 's music need not be motivated by sex or politics to be good as long as it displays a smidgen of heart and soul . " Thomas Inskeep from Stylus Magazine also complimented the finale of the tour . According to him , " [The Confessions Tour] is almost exclusively up @-@ tempo , staged within an inch of its life yet more vivacious than anything she 's done in years . Its CD companion is a pared @-@ down 13 tracks taken from the live show , and good God it smokes . " However , he felt that the disc loses its momentum during the " Confessions " part , which demonstrates a trio of individuals confessing about their sufferings in life .

Tom Young from BBC Music said that he did not see the actual performances on the tour and felt that " some of the magnitude of the performance is lost and the track / scene changes appear needlessly long @-@ winded . [...] As far as live albums go , this is a job well done . " Stephen M. Deusner from Pitchfork Media gave a negative review for the album , stating " Madonna herself is mostly to blame . On stage , she draws from a deep well of amazing pop songs and has the money and power to reinvent this sort of traveling circus . So why not try to break down the wall between

performance and audience and hold a gigantic rave ? [...] Åkerlund gives you everything you don 't want from a concert film : incessant quick cuts that give you no sense of space or stage , overdubbed music and vocals that give you no sense of performance , and only a few shots of the audience to gauge their excitement . " Mini Anthikad @-@ Chhibber The Hindu commented that " Madonna pulls out all stops in this effort turn the world into a dance floor and one just has to doff one 's hat to her energy . " At the 50th Grammy Awards held on February 10 , 2008 at Staples Center in Los Angeles , The Confessions Tour won in the category of Grammy Award for Best Long Form Music Video .

= = Commercial reception = =

In the United States , the album debuted at number 15 on the Billboard 200 chart with first week sales of 40 @, @ 000 according to Nielsen Soundscan . In Canada , it debuted at number two on the Canadian Albums Chart . The Confessions Tour was not able to enter the official ARIA Albums Chart , but debuted at number @-@ one on the Australian Top 40 DVD chart , on the issue dated February 12 , 2007 . At the year end Australian chart for 2007 , The Confessions Tour became the 27th best selling DVD in Australia . The album was certified gold by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) , for shipment of 10 @, @ 000 copies in DVD units .

In the United Kingdom , it debuted at number seven on the UK Albums Chart . In Japan , the album reached a peak of number ten on the Oricon weekly albums chart and was present on the chart for twelve weeks . In Hong Kong , it was awarded a Gold Disc Award by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry for becoming one of ten biggest @-@ selling international album for 2007 .

Across Europe The Confessions Tour reached the top of the charts in Belgium (Wallonia) , Italy , Portugal and Spain , while reaching the top ten of the rest of the European nations . In Mexico , New Zealand and Norway , the album just missed the top ten of the charts . The commercial success in Europe enabled the album to debut at position two on Billboard 's European Top 100 Albums chart , behind Norah Jones ' studio album Not Too Late . The DVD of The Confessions Tour has sold more than 1 @. @ 2 million copies worldwide .

= = Track listing = =

= = = Formats = = =

CD / DVD ? double disc digipak edition containing the live DVD and the live CD .

DVD ? DVD keep case packed with the DVD .

Digital download ? The live performances and the live song with 2 bonus tracks : " Ray of Light " and " Get Together " .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Director ? Jonas Åkerlund

Production company ? Semtex Films , Semtex TV Productions

Producer ? Sara Martin

Executive producers ? Madonna , Angela Becker , Guy Oseary and John Payne

Photography ? Eric Broms

Film editing ? Jonas Åkerlund , Philip Richardson , Johan Söderberg and Danny Tull

Costume designer ? Jean @-@ Paul Gaultier and Arianne Phillips

Credits adapted from The Confessions Tour CD liner notes :

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =