

= The Fame Ball Tour =

The Fame Ball Tour was the debut concert tour by American singer Lady Gaga , in support of her debut studio album The Fame (2008) . North American shows began in March , followed by dates in Oceania and a solo trek through Europe . Dates in Asia soon followed , as well as two performances at England 's V Festival and two shows in North America that had been postponed from April . Gaga described the tour as a traveling museum show incorporating artist Andy Warhol 's pop @-@ performance art concept . Tickets were distributed for charity also . Alternate versions of the show with minimal variations were planned by Gaga to accommodate different venues .

The show consisted of four segments , with each segment being followed by a video interlude to the next segment , and it ended with an encore . The set list consisted of songs from her debut album only . Gaga appeared on the stage in new costumes including an innovative dress made entirely of bubbles and premiered an unreleased song called " Future Love " . An alternate set list with minor changes were performed after the first North American leg of the tour . The show has received critical acclaim with critics complimenting her vocal clarity and fashion sense as well as her ability to pull off theatrics like a professional artist .

= = Background = =

The tour was officially announced on January 12 , 2009 through Gaga 's official MySpace page . It was her first headlining tour ; she has previously served as opening act for New Kids on the Block 's New Kids on the Block : Live tour , as well as The Pussycat Dolls ' Doll Domination Tour . Gaga stated , " I consider what I do to be more of an Andy Warhol concept : pop performance art , multimedia , fashion , technology , video , film . And it 's all coming together , and it 's going to be traveling museum show . " Gaga started planning for the show while on the tour with The Pussycat Dolls . In an interview with MTV News , she described the tour as ,

" It 's not really a tour , it 's more of a traveling party . I want it to be an entire experience from [the] minute you walk in [the] front door to [the] minute I begin to sing . And when it 's all over , everyone 's going to press rewind and relive it again . [...] It 's going to be as if you 're walking into New York circa 1974 : There 's an art installation in the lobby , a DJ spinning your favorite records in the main room , and then the most haunting performance that you 've ever seen on the stage . [...] I 'm on the phone every minute of every day , talking to people , being creative , planning this Ball , and my tour manager is constantly saying , ' Come on , we have to go , we 've got to go right now , ' [...] But to me , the Ball is so important . I want so much to make every depression dollar that everyone spends on my show worth it . And , yeah , I 'm paying a lot for it ? out of my own pocket . But that 's OK . I just don 't care about money . "

Gaga prepared three versions of her show to cater to different sizes of the venues she played . In an interview with Billboard she said ,

" I am so mental and sleepless and excited for this tour , [...] This is so different than anything you 've seen from me in the past year . What 's fantastic about [the show] was I was able to plan it while I was on another tour that was on a much smaller scale , opening for the Dolls . This is going to be , like , the ultimate creative orgasm for me ' cause I 'm ready to move on . I 'm not restricted to a certain structure for my show anymore . No limitations . I 'm free . [...] I want to have a clear schedule of the dimensions for each venue so that we can properly execute all the technology and visuals . I need to mentally prepare days in advance if things are going to be taken out ; otherwise , I won 't have a good show ... Every show 's gonna be an A show by the time I 'm done screaming at everyone ? ' Hang it ! Hang everything ! Find a place to hang it ! ' That 's gonna be my motto . "

The set list consisted of songs from her debut album mainly , but some new songs like " Fashion " from the Confessions of a Shopaholic soundtrack were also considered . In May , during an interview with Edmonton Sun Gaga announced that the tour would continue through European festivals in summer . She also declared plans for a bigger North American tour including Canada . Gaga explained that the show is supposed to be much bigger than the previous version . She said , " Oh , you have no idea , [...] The tour that we 're about to announce is such a dream that I have to

pinch myself almost every day to remind myself that it 's happening . "

= = Concert synopsis = =

The show is mainly divided into four parts with the last part being the encore . The main show began with a video introduction called " The Heart " where Gaga appeared as alter @-@ ego Candy Warhol . She was shown dressing up and displayed the symbol of a pink heart on her T @-@ shirt and said " My name is Lady Gaga , and this is my Haus " . The video was projected on a giant screen in front of the stage . As the video approached towards the end , a countdown from ten to one happened , Gaga 's face was shown wearing the video sunglasses , and flames engulfed the screen as it dropped . Gaga appeared in the middle of the stage being surrounded by her dancers holding glass encrusted plates which camouflage them . She wore a futuristic black dress in geometric patterns with a triangular piece on her right breast and peplum . DJ Space Cowboy was present at a corner , playing the backing music . Gaga came out in the center as the plates rolled around and started singing " Paparazzi " .

The performance ends with continuous clicking of the camera . Gaga comes to the top of the pillar and sings a combination of " Starstruck " and " LoveGame " as she is joined by her dancers in tracks and jackets and hands Gaga her trademark disco stick . After " LoveGame " , she talks a monologue about the year " 3009 " . And says that " The kids came out of New York and shot the paparazzi . " followed by saying " It was a thousand years before when the monster first entered the city , vanished for our hearts and for our brains and for our faces (referencing to the three video interludes of the tour) " and " we knew we could co @-@ exist with this monster with our MUSIC !!! With our art and with our fashion . My name is Lady Gaga . " and tells the crowd she feels " beautiful and dirty rich " and sang " Beautiful , Dirty , Rich " . This leads to the end of the first part wherein a video introduction called " The Brain " starts with Gaga appearing again as Candy Warhol and brushing her hair . After the video ends , Gaga appears on the stage in a black and white leotard with high @-@ pointed " puff " shoulders and lightning shaped symbols , while riding on a similarly colored vespa . She then starts singing " The Fame " . This is followed by a speech . Gaga said she 's been " travelling the whole world , but when I get back , I can still smell the stench of greed . " And then she performs " Money Honey " with the dancers who are wearing backpacks . " Eh , Eh (Nothing Else I Can Say) " starts immediately , accompanied by hand @-@ waving and Gaga wore a hat made of toppled dominoes .

Gaga then leaves the stage only to appear shortly after in a dress completely made of plastic bubbles . She sits in front of a glass piano and starts singing an acoustic version of " Poker Face " . She sometimes puts her leg on the piano and even plays it with her stilettos . And then , thanks the audience and surprises them by performing an unreleased and new song called " Future Love " whose lyrics referenced far @-@ off galaxies , mechanical hearts and constellations . She was surrounded by a glowing mannequin while singing the song . The stage had a blue setting with mechanical fog . Gaga left for a costume change as the third video interlude titled The Face starts .

After the video ended , she then came on the stage wearing a tutu shaped dress with pointed shoulder pads and peplum . Her dancers were clad in Louis Vuitton Steven Sprouse printed trousers which matched Gaga 's shoes . The backdrop changed to show blinking disco lights and Gaga stood in the center wearing her video sunglasses which display the line " Pop Music Will Never Be Low Brow " . A remix of the intro for " Just Dance " started and Gaga was joined by her dancers on stage . When the song shifts to the bridge , Gaga once again is handed her disco stick and performs the bridge with it . The ending shifts to a remixed version of the song . Then Gaga and the dancers , joined by DJ Space Cowboy or DJ Nicodemus , take a bow in front of the audience . Gaga comes back with her dance to perform the encore . The encore of the tour consisted of " Boys , Boys , Boys " and the original version of " Poker Face " . Gaga was dressed in a khaki leotard embellished with crystals . She wore an admiral 's cap and gloves on her hands , both were decorated with the word Gaga on them .

= = = Changes from Oceania shows = = =

Since the Fame Ball show in Auckland , New Zealand , Gaga performed a different setlist during the rest of the tour , involving outfit changes as well . " Paparazzi " , " LoveGame " , and " Beautiful , Dirty , Rich " were performed in a similar , this time tinfoil tutu with a triangular piece . " The Fame " and " Money Honey " was then followed by " Boys Boys Boys " ? all three songs were performed in a glittering silver leotard with small pointy wings , riding a similarly colored vespa . " Just Dance " and " Eh , Eh (Nothing Else I Can Say) " were performed in the yellow dress from the American leg of the tour . After performing " Brown Eyes " (replacing " Future Love ") and " Poker Face " on the piano , Gaga closed the show with the album version of " Poker Face " , wearing a nude corseted leotard embellished with crystals .

= = Reception = =

The Fame Ball Tour received acclaim from critics . Whitney Pastorek from Entertainment Weekly gave a mixed review of the concert saying , " Her onstage banter was at times a bit silly and the visuals occasionally lacking in coherent theme , but her voice was strong and refreshingly free of overbearing tracking vocals . For all her cocky bluster , perhaps the most undeniable aspect of Gaga 's talent is this : The girl can , and does , sing . " The show was described to be a " sartorial experimentation that it made Rocky Horror look like cotillion . One presumed the Lady approved ? and somewhere , to be sure , Andy Warhol stirred in his grave . "

Sheri Linden from Yahoo ! gave a positive review of the concert saying " Gaga 's first theater tour is a hot ticket ? and the Lady did not disappoint . Borrowing from Madonna , Grace Jones , David Bowie and Daryl Hannah 's " Blade Runner " replicant , Gaga put on a compelling show revolving around her mysterious persona , a trio of leather @-@ jacketed dancers , multiple costume changes and props and a lone DJ providing musical accompaniment . " Christopher Muther from The Boston Globe reviewed the concert in House of Blues and said " The combination of song and spectacle was crowd @-@ pleasing and exhilarating . Her club @-@ ready songs were delivered by a woman who is clearly studied , intelligent , and talented . "

Lynn Saxberg from Ottawa Citizen gave a positive review of the concert at Bronson Centre in Ottawa and said , " Accompanied by a DJ who also played a funky electric guitar , the curvy dynamo (Gaga and Space Cowboy) fronted one of wildest spectacles ever mounted at Bronson Centre , an action @-@ packed circus of sound , lights , video images , fog and choreography . Though heavy on theatrics , there was no skimping on the music . " She also commented on Gaga 's fashion sense and style in her costumes by saying , " In an hour , Gaga proved her star power by packing in all her hits , displaying influences that ranged from Motown to 80s pop , and exhibiting a fearless fashion sense in several costume changes , none of which covered her bum . "

Andy Downing from Chicago Tribune was impressed by the show at House of Blues and said " The work is paying off . Just weeks into her first nationwide headlining tour , the 22 @-@ year @-@ old New Yorker [...] already commands the stage like a seasoned pro . " Jill Menze from Billboard also gave a positive review for the performance and complimented songs like " Just Dance " , LoveGame " , Poker Face " , " Boys , Boys , Boys " and the fame obsessed " Paparazzi " . The reviewer also said that " [From] her chart success , Lady Gaga has proven herself to be an of @-@ the @-@ moment pop sensation . Dig deeper , and it 's clear she 's versatile and talented enough to have staying power . " Mikel Wood from Rolling Stone also gave a positive review saying " The tongue @-@ in @-@ cheek tabloid @-@ victim shtick that provides some laughs on The Fame grew somewhat tiresome at the Wiltern , especially when the singer started spewing half @-@ baked media @-@ studies nonsense like , ' Some say Lady Gaga is a lie ' ... Fortunately , this is a woman who knows how to lighten a mood : Within 10 minutes or so , she 'd donned a flesh @-@ colored leotard and a bedazzled admiral 's cap and was rhyming ' boys in cars ' with ' buy us drinks in bars . "

On March 13 , 2009 Gaga was presented with a plaque from the Recording Industry Association of America by social blogger Perez Hilton commemorating three million sales of her debut single " Just Dance " , during her performance at the Wiltern Theatre . This show was also attended by rapper

Kanye West . Craig Rosen from The Hollywood Reporter said that " Lady Gaga showed she 's a serious contender to Madonna 's crown Friday at the Wiltern . She might be a relative newcomer , but the artist born Stefani Joanne Germanotta commanded the stage with a royal air during her hourlong set , at times even sporting a glowing scepter . "

= = Opening acts = =

The White Tie Affair (North America)
Chester French (North America)
Cinema Bizarre (North America)
Gary Go (Great Britain)

= = Set list = =

" Paparazzi " (contains elements of " Starstruck ")
" LoveGame " (contains elements of " Chew Fu GhettoHouse Fix " remix)
" Beautiful , Dirty , Rich "
" The Fame "
" Money Honey "
" Boys Boys Boys "
" Just Dance "
" Eh , Eh (Nothing Else I Can Say) "
" Starstruck " (Intermission)
" Brown Eyes "
" Poker Face " (Piano Version)
" Poker Face "

= = Tour dates = =

Cancellations

= = = Box office score data = = =