

= Showdown ( Pendulum song ) =

" Showdown " is the fourth single and first track from the album *In Silico* by Australian drum and bass band Pendulum . It has been remixed by several artists , including DJ Clipz ( who is also Red Light ) and Excision . It is also the first single taken from *In Silico* not to use the album logo prominently on its cover .

The single was originally released through various online music stores on 5 January 2009 . It was not available in any physical format until 9 February , when Warner Music UK released the 12 " picture disc of " Showdown " . To help promote the single , Pendulum also released a Space Invaders themed video game which offered players a chance of winning an official framed gold disc of *In Silico* .

= = Background and writing = =

" Showdown " was originally written and produced for the album *In Silico* by Rob Swire . Although primarily influenced by drum and bass , the song contains prominent elements of both early hard rock and techno , and has even been described as " dance metal " by some critics . " Showdown " opens with vocals from Swire , before going into a heavy guitar riff which is the main focus of the track . It also makes extensive use of both sampled and acoustic drums to produce large and heavy sounds respectively .

= = Critical reception = =

" Showdown " has received generally positive reviews from music critics . Angry Ape reviewer David Adair described the single as " a snappy and slightly abrasive number that will keep their new found fans amongst the Kerrang reading community , very happy " . David Knight observed that " you won 't hear a better riff on a dance track without a great amount of searching " , but described the remixes released with the single as " absolutely terrible " . It was chosen as " Single of the Week " on 12 January 2009 by the British tabloid newspaper *Daily Star* .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Showdown " , directed by Nick Bartleet , was released on MySpaceTV on 12 December 2008 to promote Pendulum 's upcoming single . It was originally intended to be Internet @-@ only , but was subsequently A @-@ listed on the television channel MTV Dance .

The video draws parallels from dog fighting , focusing on a fight scene in which the dogs are replaced by two young women , and culminates in the escape of one woman at the end of the video . It also depicts controversial scenes of women being kept in cages and men gambling on the outcome of fights , which contributed to Knight describing the video as " highly problematic " . Some scenes of the video have been compared with the movie *Fight Club* by various sources , including Bartleet .

= = Promotional video game = =

On 24 December , shortly after the release of their music video , Pendulum presented a Space Invaders themed video game on their website to further promote " Showdown " . By scoring more points , players who submitted their details could unlock more of the " Live at the Brixton Academy " version of " Showdown " . They also had a chance of winning an official framed gold disc of *In Silico* .

The game was a modified version of Space Invaders , in which the aliens had been replaced with different coloured variants of the *In Silico* logo , and the bunkers were replaced with pairs of letters spelling out the band 's name . Players had three lives to score as many points as possible , after which their score was logged on a high score table . The album version of " Showdown " was played

during the game .

= = Marketing and release = =

" Showdown " was first released on 5 January 2009 through various online music stores , including 7digital , Amazon.com , and iTunes . Along with the album version and radio edit of the song , the download bundle included a live recording and several remixes by other artists . The single was later released on a 12 " picture disc , containing the album version and Excision remix of " Showdown " , on 9 February by Warner Music UK .

The song " Showdown " was featured on In Silico as the opening track . It was the first single from the album not to use the In Silico logo prominently on its cover , although most of the logo can be seen on a bass drum in the cover art . Live versions of the song have appeared on iTunes Live : London Festival ' 08 , as a B @-@ side on " The Other Side " , as well as in the single download bundle . It was also featured in the soundtrack of Disney Interactive Studios ' off @-@ road racing video game Pure . The track is also featured in the first trailer for Forza Motorsport 3 , on the Xbox 360 as well as in the game itself during races , and CSI : NY episode " Green Piece " . The song was featured for available in the soundtrack of Marvel 's The Punisher : War Zone .

= = Release history = =

= = Formats and track listings = =

These are the major formats and associated track listings of single releases of " Showdown " , written and produced by Rob Swire .

= = Personnel = =

" Showdown " is credited to :

Pendulum :

Rob Swire ? writer , producer , vocals , mixing

Gareth McGrillen ? production assistant , bass

Peredur ap Gwynedd ? guitar

Paul Kodish ? acoustic drums

Other contributors :

= = Video personnel = =

The music video for " Showdown " is credited to :