

British bands featuring Ride to play UCSD May 31 at Price Center Ballroom

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BRITISH BANDS TO PLAY UCSD

The British musical group Ride will appear at the University of California, San Diego's Price Center Ballroom Sunday, May 31 at 8 p.m. This group of contemporary musicians who come from various locales in Britain, plays melodies that are loaded with special musical effects. Opening for Ride will be another British contemporary group, Pale Saints.

According to many critics, Ride's music isn't easy to explain. This musical foursome achieves a balance between the lyrical and the convulsive. As bass player Steve Queralt puts it, "Our songs are deliberately vague. We like to provoke a lot of thought and imagination in our listener. It's all about feelings and atmosphere."

This much can be said: Ride has accomplished a great deal since their formation in 1988. With a string of critically-acclaimed recordings and live performances to their credit, they've recently released a new three-track featuring "Leave Them All Behind," "Chrome Waves," and "Grasshopper."

Regarding the group's initial breakthrough, Queralt says, "We did it very naively. We were very removed from any musical scenes, weren't part of any movements. At first, we just wanted to make a statement and be heard."

Ride's beginnings can be traced back to Banbury, Britain, near Oxford, where Mark Gardener (lead vocals), Andrew Bell (vocals, guitar), and Loz Colbert (drums) were attending art school in 1988. Queralt, who was working at an Oxford record shop at the time, had previously dabbled in musical projects with Gardener and Bell. "We'd all been in not-so-serious bands before," Queralt recalls. "Ride was the first real band for any of us."

Like Ride, Pale Saints takes an independent musical stand. They're a mix of apparent contradictions--of melody and noise, of tenderness and wrath.

Pale Saints began in Yorkshire, Britain in 1985, where Ian Masters (bass, vocals), Graeme Naysmith (guitar), and Chris Cooper (drums) were drawn together by a mutual teenage love of heavy metal, although their music sounds nothing like heavy metal.

After gaining recognition from the independent charts, radio, and the music press for their debut EP, "Barging into the Presence of God," Pale Saints added a second guitarist and singer, Meriel Barham.

The event is co-sponsored by UCSD's Associated Students and University Events Office. Tickets are \$11 for general admission and \$9 for students and may be purchased at the UCSD Price Center Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets. For more information, call the UCSD Box Office at 534-6467.

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