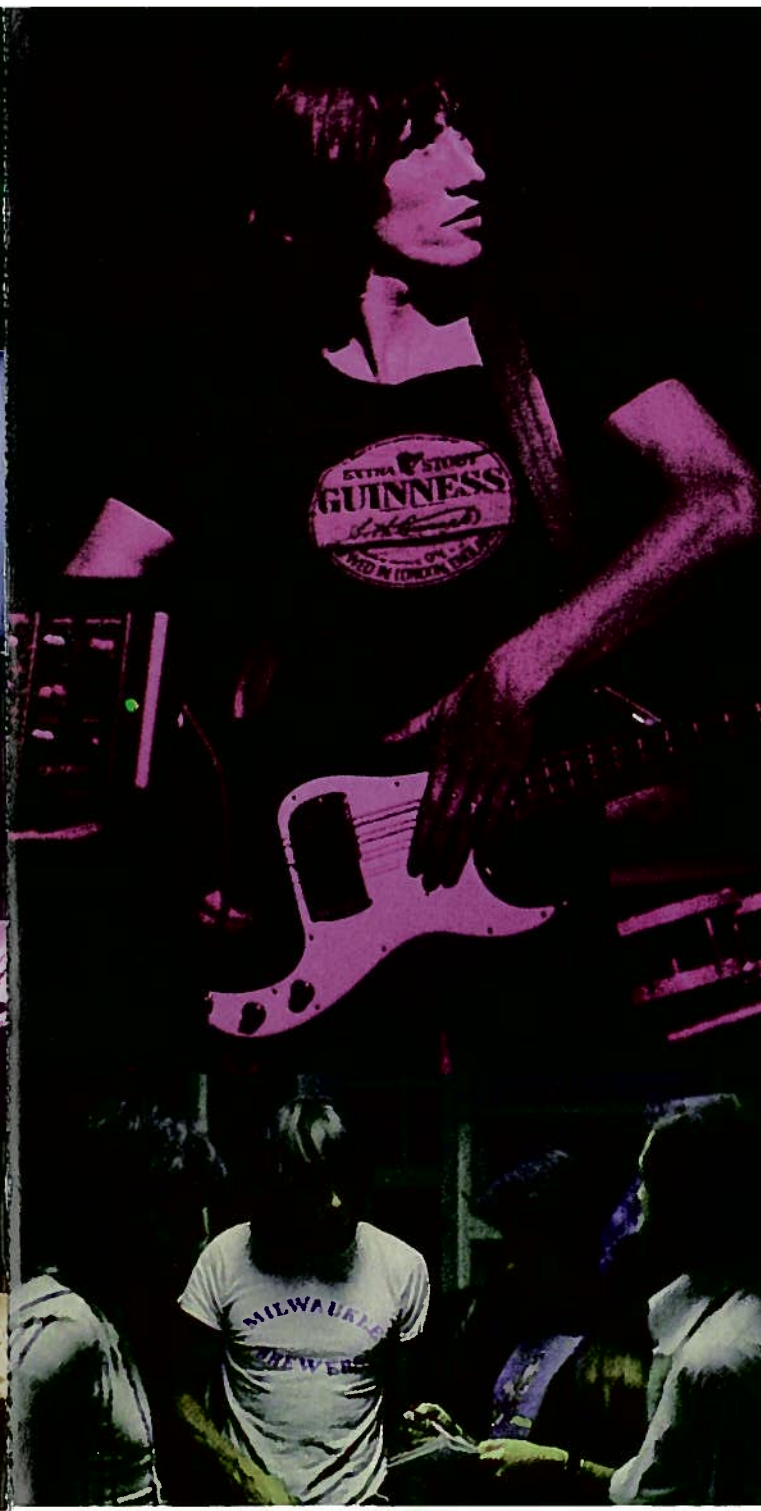


t o
t h e
band in the
first place).

The album suc-
ceeded in capturing
the best of both worlds.

Even after gaining a
focused direction, the recording
of *Wish You Were Here* did not come
easy, as the sessions were twice inter-
rupted by three-week long US tours (in
April and June of 1975). The shows opened
with revamped performances of 'Raving and
Drooling' and 'Gotta Be Crazy' more closely struc-
tured to the versions that would appear on *Animals* (as
'Sheep' and 'Dogs') than on the previous tour in 1974.
These were followed by a more mature version of 'Dark Side'
in its entirety followed by 'Echoes' as an encore.

Always pushing the envelope to come up with new and exciting
visuals, Pink Floyd debuted a new, but short-lived, attraction on the sec-
ond leg of their 1975 tour of America. Nick Mason captured the moment in
Pittsburgh with a good dose of humor: "One of our brilliant ideas in order to



deal with outdoor events was to build a stage with four
poles at four corners of the stage and then above we'd
inflate a giant pyramid. This would give us weather protec-
tion and just look fabulous. So we had this damn thing built
and one particularly interesting idea we felt at the end of the
show was this thing would be released on a wire and
allowed to float up to three or four hundred feet with
shouts and cheers from the audience and that would be the
end of the show. It didn't really look that great, and at the
end of the evening the thing was released during a relatively
high wind and it began to ascend. At some point I heard
someone say 'I've had enough of this' and cut it loose. So
this thing was released... it's slightly hard to visualize how the
structure worked but the pyramid itself was filled with heli-
um and then it had ribs around the base to hold its shape.
Well, I can tell you it is not a good flying shape and I would
thoroughly recommend to anyone building an airplane not to
pick the pyramid as the base design. As it was rising, I heard
someone in the audience shout 'My God, it's giving birth!' as
it inverted and the helium lozenge from the middle of it
popped out and this enormous jellyfish came down in the
car park where it was ripped to shreds by the audience.
That was really the end of the great pyramid project."