



Sex Pistols

The Last UK Performance. 25 December 1977

Kevin Cummins

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- Previously unpublished photographs of the Sex Pistols' final UK gig
- Taken by Kevin Cummins, preeminent photographer of British bands over the last four decades
- Introduction by writer and broadcaster Paul Morley

"This historically important tome is a stunner from the off, the resplendent glittery hardback exterior merely teasing at the delights within... 'The End Is Near' is an indispensable collection of images from a unique rock 'n' roll moment, beautifully presented." - Phil Singleton. God Save the Sex Pistols.

Christmas Day 1977, a day to be spent with family and loved ones, unless of course you'd decided to spend it with The Sex Pistols.

The punk band, at the centre of a tabloid frenzy and banned from just about every venue in the country, had booked themselves into a small club in Huddersfield to perform a benefit in support of striking West Yorkshire fire fighters. That evening, the band took to the stage to perform what would become their final UK gig.

There to capture the chaos was photographer Kevin Cummins. No stranger to The Sex Pistols, he'd been there at that gig at Manchester's Lesser Free Trade Hall just 18 months previously. Kevin incurred the fury of his own family to forgo Christmas in order to travel across The Pennines to document the event.

Every frame Kevin shot is here, for the first time, in this book of more than 150 colour and black and white photographs, each beautifully capturing Johnny Rotten, Sid Vicious, Steve Jones, and Paul Cook as they play together for the last time in their home country. Just weeks later The Pistols would break up and a year later, Sid would be dead.

"You've had the Queen's speech. Now you're going to get the Sex Pistols at Christmas. Enjoy." - Johnny Rotten

Kevin Cummins is an internationally renowned British rock photographer, known for his collaborations with Mick Jagger, Ian Curtis, Morrissey, The Smiths, Bowie, Joy Division and more. He was chief photographer at the *New Musical Express* for ten years, then the world's biggest selling rock weekly. His portraits feature in the collections of The National Portrait Gallery and The V&A. Kevin has also published several critically acclaimed monographs on the artists with whom he has worked.

"Kevin Cummins was sometimes more important than the bands." - Pete Shelley

"Kevin's photographs have shaped the way fans perceive their idols." - Noel Gallagher

