



MARC ALMOND is very screwed up about being a pop star, which is what comes of hanging around Nick Cave and Genesis P Orridge.

"I never watch *Top Of The Pops*", he says, "I don't have it in the house and I won't have it in the house!"

To prove his point — that only in spite of himself is he a pop-up pinup — Marc Almond has made possibly the most over blown, utterly *outré* record of his time.

"I don't listen to pop music and I don't follow the charts, I listen to film soundtracks and people who have very individual voices, who sing in a *classical* style, like Eartha Kitt and Scott Walker. Aside from bands like The Birthday Party and people like Jim (Foetus), who I think is a genius, I'm not interested in what's going on."

Anyone who saw Marc and Foetus go through their bacchanalian demolition of Suicide's 'Ghost Rider' on *Switch* will know how far Marc is prepared to stray from the flexipop inverse of the Top 30.

His only regret is that the credits came up before he strangled the unfortunate Foetus with his microphone chord.

Unlike the hundred and one other electropop combos, Soft Cell — individually and together — play it decidedly unsafe. Who else would have picked a song like 'Numbers' for single release over 'Loving You' and borne the brunt of not being