



Sleaford Mods at the Boiler Shop in Newcastle

Adam Kennedy
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 [Concert Reviews](#), [Rock](#), [UK](#)

Genre-defying duo the Sleaford Mods arrive in the North East of England for a sold-out show at the Boiler Shop in Newcastle.

Sleaford Mods released their latest album *Eton Alive* earlier this month, and subsequently, the group are presently on an extensive UK tour that covers the length and breadth of the country in support of their latest release. Following an in-store record signing earlier in the afternoon the band kick off the weekend in style on this Friday night.

The Boiler Shop is the perfect setting for tonight's Sleaford Mods show. With its vast skylights, wooden beams and exposed brick walls, the former industrial warehouse of inventor Robert Stephenson has an ambience about it which enhances Sleaford Mod's distinctive brand of punk-tinged electronica.

The duo's stage set can only be described as minimalist. With nothing more than a flight case to house Andrew Fearn's laptop and a microphone stand for Jason Williamson, it illustrates the fact that Sleaford Mods have no gimmicks – they very much embrace a less is more approach. Tonight it's all about the music, and the huge crowd in attendance lap it up.

Sleaford Mod's belt their way through a high octane set that gets the capacity crowd at the Boiler Shop moving from the off. With a vast amount of space onstage, Fearn positions himself behind his laptop with a beer in hand as he drops a multitude of big beats and ferocious rhythms, whilst his counterpart unleashes his poetic lyricism and hard-hitting social commentary. It's fair to say that Williamson sinks his heart and soul into his passionate performance.

This evening Sleaford Mods are in high spirits, riding off the crest of the news that their latest record *Eton Alive* has broken into the Top 10 of the official UK album chart. With a minimal marketing campaign and an independent release, this is a huge achievement for the duo.

Subsequently, Sleaford Mods showcase their latest offering with the likes of the pulsating "Flipside", the bass-heavy "Kebab Spider", the dark and minimalist "O.B.C.T", and the garage fuelled "Top It Up" all featuring. Throughout the pair's colossal set, there is little time to spare, with almost every song strung together. These songs sound incredible on record, but they really come to life when performed live. Tonight, Sleaford Mods let their music do the talking.

Despite the emphasis on their latest record, there is plenty of room for fan favourites. This includes the likes of the incredibly infectious "B.H.S", the fast and furious "Bang Someone Out", and the explosive "Jobseeker" all featuring.

As the group reaches the final stages of their set they blast their way through the somewhat funky "Tarantula Deadly Cargo" before unleashing their own incarnation of Stephenson's Rocket with the xylophone-infused "Discourse" closing out the proceedings to great effect.

On the strength of tonight's performance, Sleaford Mods proves that they are without a doubt one of the most original and exciting electronic acts on the UK touring circuit right now. Things just continue to get bigger and better for the Nottingham based duo.



Sleaford Mods

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Adam Kennedy is an experienced music photographer based in northeast England. He has been shooting concerts for several years, predominantly with the band Vintage Trouble. In 2013, he was one of their tour photographers, covering the UK and Ireland tour including the headline shows and as opening act for The Who. As an accomplished concert photographer, Adam's work has been featured in print such as, *Classic Rock Blues Magazine*, *Guitarist Magazine*, *Blues in Britain* magazine, broadcast on the MDA Telethon on ABC Television in the US, used in billboard advertising for Renaissance Hotels in the US, and featured online via music blogs such as *Uber Rock* and *Guitar Planet*. He is also the official photographer at Newcastle Rock and Blues Club.