

Soundcheck

LIVE REVIEWS AND NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE Compiled by DEAN BUDNICK

LOLLAPALOOZA ARGENTINA

HIPÓDROMO SAN ISIDRO
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
APRIL 1-2

"I'm sorry that I don't know how to say this in Spanish...I lived in Buenos Aires when I was two years old with my parents," said **Arcade Fire's** frontman **Win Butler**. "And this guy right here, **Will**, was conceived in Buenos Aires."

Will, his bandmate and brother, smiled wide and fist-pumped more than once for accentuation. The crowd roared.

"So Will hasn't been here since he was just a little whatever that is—a pre-human. So it feels like home. We really love it here."

Arcade Fire topped off day one of Lollapalooza Argentina, opening their set with "Normal Person," "Rebellion (Lies)" and "Reflektor," but only after they cleared the stage of impersonators wearing bobble-head helmets led by **Julian Casablancas** of **The Strokes**, who performed his solo gig a few hours earlier.

Earlier during the two-day festival, a cheeky fan waved a sign: "Subtítulos [subtitles]." But judging by how much the crowds sang along, there seemed to be little communication gap. The performers helped matters by playing many fan favorites.

Fifty bands hit four giant stages spread across the Hipódromo de San Isidro, an immense horse racetrack. Each day started with Argentine groups, such as songstress **Juana Molina** and drum troupe **La Bomba de Tiempo**, both from Buenos Aires, and urban rockers **El Mató a un Policía Motorizado**, from neighboring La Plata. As the days progressed, Spanish eased into English.



Flea shares amor

Lollapalooza has spread way, way south—starting with Chile in 2011 and Brazil in 2012—and debuted earlier this year in Argentina, a country well known for Evita, tango and soccer.

The festival's first day also showcased **Cage The Elephant**, **Phoenix**, **Nine Inch Nails** and **New Order**. Then on Wednesday, the beaming **Perry** and beautiful **Ettly Lau Farrell** collaborated with French electronic artist **Joachim Garraud** and performed their new song "Everybody."

Paz Lenchantin, the **Pixies'**

new member, gave fans something special to cheer about as she brandished her flower-adorned bass. She was born in Argentina, one-upping the Butler boys.

"Ole, ole ole ole. Ole, ole ole ole. Chr-is Cor-nell," repeated Argentines, serenading **Soundgarden** with their revered—yet slightly modified—soccer chant in appreciation of the band's first visit to Buenos Aires.

The **Red Hot Chili Peppers** capped the festival by pouring gasoline on an already flaming

crowd, which grew to 130,000 combining both mid-week days. Drifting away from the front of the stage to take in the whole picture revealed the massive sea of people that extended all the way to the second main stage.

"Lollapalooza is a beautiful thing," said **Anthony Kiedis**, before singing "Give It Away" to close the show. **Chad Smith**, draped in an Argentine flag, handed his drumsticks to fans as **Flea** gave a heartfelt farewell, "Muchas gracias, Buenos Aires. Mucho amor." **Dan Linehan**

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