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## Concert Review

### Concert Review: The Cranberries 'LIVE' In Singapore

By admin

August 3, 2011



A couple of months ago, when Hype Records announced that **The Cranberries** were going to tour Singapore, I did wonder if the band would be able to meet fans' expectations. After all, the acclaimed Irish Indie-Rock quartet took a six-year hiatus to focus on individual projects before returning to the spotlight together in 2009. Judging by Monday night's audience turnout of 7,000 people at the Singapore Indoor Stadium, the reunion tour is undeniably a success.

The crowd was whipped into a frenzy once the lights went down and the band started into *Analyse* from their 2001's *Wake Up and Smell the Coffee* album.



Their show swings from sweet romantic melodies like *Linger* to hard-edge, droning rockers like *Salvation*, all the while building an effect that seemed more than the sum of its parts. The hits were interjected at the perfect points in the set and you wouldn't have known that the band just got together from a long hiatus from how tight they sounded. Probably all the Cranberries songs that fans hoped the most to hear were played (more than half the songs on the setlist were from the band's first two multi-platinum albums) with a couple of new songs from their upcoming album thrown in. But it was obvious the crowd were there for old-time favourites - it was impossible not to sing along with almost everyone in the crowd on *Ode to My Family*. Nobody sings like front woman Dolores O'Riordan, her musical Irish accent adding just the right lilt to her impressive vocal delivery.

Dressed in an all-black ensemble, the 39-year-old vocalist also knew how to keep the crowd happy with sing-alongs and "xixi" shout outs. But embedded in the catchy melodies and big hooks, it was impossible to mix the feeling of pain and personal longing which fills their songs. Unlike many of the bands in the music industry today, the Cranberries wear their hearts on their sleeves with any hint of self-pity.

The band saved some of the heaviest songs for last, with a crushing version of *Salvation* and a set-closing *Zombie*. By the time the night drew to an end with the sing-along encore song, *Dreams*, everyone was hoping that there won't be another six-year hiatus before the next Cranberries' tour.



Photos: Hype Records

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