

Mixing It With The Best



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"The Cranberries are typical of what's happening at the moment. They haven't played many gigs but they've come in and recorded four great tracks. The Stilted Men are another band who are on their third or fourth demo and Dave Fanning seems to love them. The side of the business which needs developing now is Xeric Records, hopefully we can make a bit of money out of it! We started 18 months ago with Private World, released 'The Reindeer Age' compilation

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host to virtually every young, and not so young, Limerick hopeful in recent years including Tuesday Blue, Toucandance, The Hitchers, A Touch of Oliver, They Do It With Mirrors, The O'Malley's, Up The Downstairs and The Tear Collectors. They've also worked with nationally known names like The Stunning,

the studio along on their shirt tails, "There was never any talk of them recording their second album here but, yes, it'd be nice if one of the Limerick bands associated with Xeric did well and boosted our profile. It's going to happen eventually because there are some very



An N.M.E. hack, who was admittedly rather tired and emotional, told me after last week's 'Lark' that Limerick probably has the best crop of teenage bands in the country and, you know what, I'd have to agree with him. The city may lack an outfit of, say, the Hothouse Flowers' or Something Happens' stature but the amount of new talent crawling out of the woodwork is quite frightening. Hardly a week passes by without some spotty faced individual accosting me in O'Connell Street with a demo tape and, what's more, at least 75% of them are very listenable. Unfortunately, while the groups are beginning to get the recognition they deserve one of the main catalysts of the recent explosion, Xeric Studios, remain unsung heroes. Xeric founder and resident engineer/producer Pearse Gilmore doesn't seem in the least bit perturbed though, "I don't mind if we're not that well known among the local fans because, as far as they're concerned, our role isn't particularly important. They want to go along and see bands and if they like what they hear that's what matters. I'd be worried if the musicians themselves weren't aware of the studio and its facilities but that's not the case".

As understatement goes that ranks alongside saying Shane McGowan could do with a trip to the dentist. Xeric has played

host to virtually every young, and not so young, Limerick hopeful in recent years including Tuesday Blue, Toucandance, The Hitchers, A Touch of Oliver, They Do It With Mirrors, The O'Malley's, Up The Downstairs and The Tear Collectors. They've also worked with nationally known names like The Stunning, A House, Burning Embers and The Louise Morrissey Band but have generally found it difficult to attract the major names from Dublin,

"We never expected U2 to start coming down to Limerick but at the same time we were hoping to get a few more high profile groups in. It's a gradual process and I'm pleased with the work we've done recently with Philip Donnelly who's produced and played with people like Nanci Griffith and The Everley Brothers. He's mixed a couple of tracks here that he recorded in the States and has been trying out other ideas for his solo album. He's comfortable with the set up and is going to bring in a Mayo singer called Sean Heggarty who does American sounding Country rather than the usual Big Tom sort of stuff. He's also keen to fly over someone from Nashville which would really put us on the map".

Tuesday Blue demoed a lot of material at Xeric, does Pearse regret the fact they never managed to crack it and maybe carry

the studio along on their shirt tails,

"There was never any talk of them recording their second album here but, yes, it'd be nice if one of the Limerick bands associated with Xeric did well and boosted our profile. It's going to happen eventually because there are some very talented people around".

Best

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SWEDE C

Swedish body builder Dolph Lundgren obviously dreams of following in Arnold Schwarzenegger's extremely large footsteps but while his biceps might match up to

Arnie's he certainly doesn't have the same acting muscle. DARK ANGEL (18) is an unbelievably cliched workout which rips off just about every action and sci-fi flick

Here Come The Mirror Men



THEY DO IT WITH

biceps might match up to every action

Here Come The Mirror Men



THEY
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MIRRORS

Wacky popsters They Do It With Mirrors are back in action this Saturday with a late night headliner at Cruises Hotel in O'Connell Street. I was also bribed with Tequila Slammers over the weekend to tell you that the band will be flogging their new 5 track demo and snug fitting t-shirts at the bash which includes support from the Cranberry Saw Us. Barely out of short trousers, the Cranberries are guaranteed to be world famous in Ballinacurra by Christmas and there's also a vicious rumour that a well known radio presenter, newspaper columnist and English sex god* will be spinning 'the platters that matter' on the night. Make sure you bring along some rotten tomatoes and a sick bag just in case...

*Some of these claims may be a *trifle* misleading.