



SAOIRSE RONAN

Hey, she's only just beginning...



JORDAN LARMOUR

Will he be our greatest ever Rugby star?

VOL. 43 ISSUE: 01, FEB 06, 2019

HOT FOR 2019

HOT PRESS

The Extraordinary Rise and Rise of Ireland's **Wild Youth**



Karen Hassan
Maggie Rogers
M. Night Shyamalan
Joseph O'Brien

IDLES

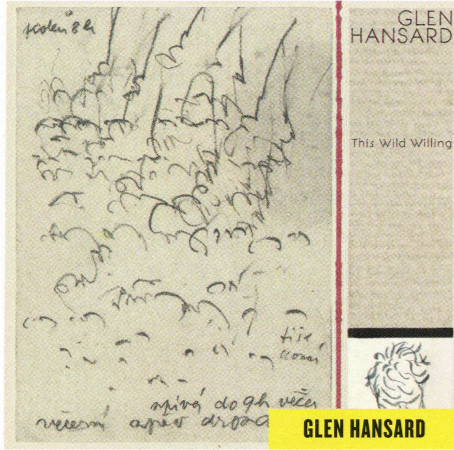
THE RESISTANCE STARTS HERE!



Ireland €3.50
U.K. £2.95 Italy €4.95
Germany €5.50



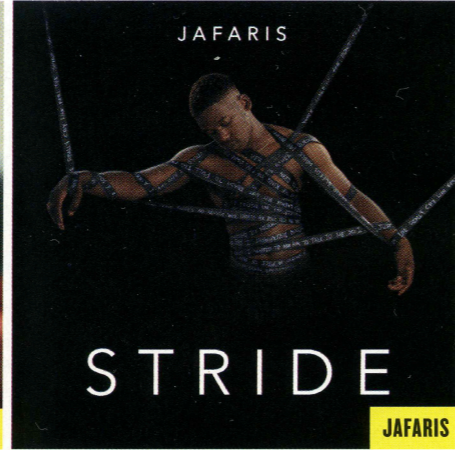
**THE BANDS, ALBUMS, EVENTS, BOOKS, MOVIES
CAMPAIGNS AND PEOPLE WHO WILL SHAPE OUR YEAR**



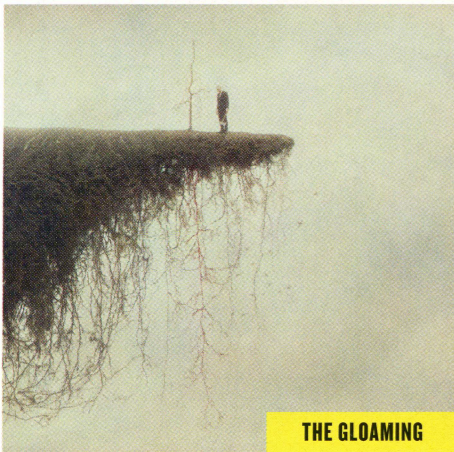
GLEN HANSARD



MAVERICK SABRE



JAFARIS



THE GLOAMING



THE CRANBERRIES



FLYNN JOHNSON

RAK in London where The 1975 also assembled their latest.

The sonic pathfinder for the record is 'Monster', a track described as "a cathartic howl of a song, strident with piano, punchy electronics and a sky-grabbing chorus" – and which doesn't disappoint.

Another of Ireland's big musical guns, **Glen Hansard**, releases his fourth solo album, *The Wild Willing*, on April 12 with new track 'I'll Be You, Be Me' available now as an appetite-whetter.

"This collection of songs is mainly made up of those that came through while improvising and following the melodic lines and threads," Glen explains. "Sometimes when you take a small musical fragment and you care for it, follow it and build it up slowly, it can become a thing of wonder."

Mid-April finds Dublin rapper **Flynn Johnson** unleashing *Self Titled*, a ten-tracker produced by Bitter Rocc who released a cracking instrumental album before Christmas under the guise of NINETY NINE.

Flynn's debut is billed as "a real insight into how a young man deals with day to day life in Dublin" and duly delivers.

The follow up to **SOAK's** 2015 Choice Music Prize-winning debut, *Before We Forgot How To Dream*, will be with us on April 26. It's called *Grim Town* and includes her new single, 'Knock Me Off My Feet', which is described as a "love letter to the lawlessness and freedoms of smalltown culture."

"The central premise of 'Grim Town', she reflects, "is a dystopia that I've created in my brain: me on the inside, processed into a pretend location. The way I could wrap my head around a lot of what I was going through was to make it feel like something quite physical and

real. Once I had the idea of the album being an actual location, exploring the dynamics of this town and what it would look or sound like felt like the right way to give my mental state a personality."

SOAK shares her release date with *In The End*, the album the **Cranberries** were recording at the time of Dolores O'Riordan's death, and which includes new single 'All Over Now', 'A Place I Know', 'Wake Me Up When It's Over' and a collaboration with Canadian producer Dan Brodbeck, 'Summer Song', among its standouts.

Also due in April is *Record*, the latest from Dublin acoustic/harmony outfit **The Blue Light Smugglers**, which includes 'A Day In May', 'Death In An Irish Town', 'As I Went Out One Evening' and 'Elsie' among its melodious delights.

Electronic synth popper **Circuit3** has not one but two albums out this year – *The Price Of Nothing & The Value Of Everything* drops in the Spring through diode, with *Technology For The Youth* following in late 2019.

This is a potentially massive year for **All Tvvins** who'll be looking to build on their cult following with *XXXXXX Just To Exist*.

Produced by James Vincent McMorrow, it's an unashamed stray into Talking Heads territory with Conor Adams' falsetto to the fore.

Monaghan guitar man Séan O'Brian and his **FIELDS** bandmates have their first full-length album, *Postcolonial*, ready to folk 'n' roll in May with a couple of appetite whetting singles before that.

Having already amassed over two million Spotify plays, we wouldn't bet against 'em crossing over to the mainstream.

Socks In The Frying Pan Lynchpin **Aodán Coyne** has emerged from Dublin's Production Suite with *Gaps Between Stars*, due in July,

an alt-folkish affair that includes a guest turn from the Ennis troubadour's Limerick neighbour **Emma Langford** who'll have her own long-player out at some point in 2019.

With The New 52 sadly calling it a day,

Darragh Cullen has recorded a solo album with former Bible man Boo Hewerdine.

Due in the summer, it'll be trailed by the first single under his abbreviated D. Cullen moniker, *The Rising Tide*.

The sessions have been shrouded in secrecy, but **Magda Davitt**, AKA Sinéad O'Connor, is well into the recording of her *No Mud, No Lotus* album with David Holmes at the production helm.

There's more bilingual tune-ry on the way from **Pdraig Jack**, an Aran Islands singer-songwriter who's assembling an album in London with John Reynolds of Damien Dempsey and Sinéad O'Connor renown.

Due through UK independent Good Deeds in the summer, it'll be trailed shortly by the excellent 'Streetbed Ridden',

Limerick songstress **Siobhán O'Brien** is currently in Austin, Texas where she's recording an album with Matt Hubbard and John Bush who are both members of Eddie Brickell's New Bohemians.

We're also due records this year from – deep breath! – **Versatile, Junior Brother, Wild Youth, A. Smyth, Squarehead, Pillow Queens, Girl Band, TOUTS, whenyoung, Saint Sapphire**, former Revs man **Rory Gallagher, Sibéal, Hail The Ghost, Cry Monster Cry, Little Green Cars, Hail The Ghost, MINDRIOTmt, Brand New Dead Things, A Lazarus Soul, Martin Mackdee, Mango X MathMan, Alarmist, Sons Of Southern Ulster, Boa Morte, Constant Supply, Hidden Stills, Maija Sofia, Ailbhe Reddy, Daithí** and **Join Me In The Pines**.

HONORARY DOCTORATES CONFERRED ON THE CRANBERRIES IN LIMERICK



(l t r) Noel Hogan, Eileen O'Riordan & Mike Hogan

There were smiles, laughter and tears in almost equal measure last week as the University of Limerick conferred honorary doctorates on Mike and Noel Hogan and Dolores O'Riordan.

Dolores' scroll and the robes she would have worn were accepted by her mother, Eileen.

"UL had initially planned to present these doctorates to The Cranberries in April 2017, however promotional and rehearsal commitments prevented the band from being available to accept the honour at that stage," UL President Dr. Des Fitzgerald explained. "It is with very sad regret that since that time the world and more importantly her family and band mates have lost Dolores O'Riordan and her incredible voice. We very much appreciate her family's presence here today."

Talking before the conferral ceremony, Eileen O'Riordan said that it was "a sad day for the family but we have to move on, don't we? I know that she's happy and in heaven and that makes me happy. She's here for this in spirit."

Asked how the family were coping with Dolores' anniversary, Eileen reflected: "You know, Christmas was a bit harder than the anniversary. Since she was a child, she'd have spent Christmas Eve singing with the family. We had the anniversary mass last Sunday night. The week's been very, very busy and once you're busy you don't have a lot of time to think about it."

"Today is a great honour," she continued. "I feel awed, really. I find it hard to comprehend and take it all in. When I go home I'll relax and think about it. I'll realise how good it all is. Dolores loved Limerick. She was happier here than any place else. I didn't realise how much she was loved. I keep telling the children how much everyone loves her. It's very comforting to the family that people are so good."

Noel admitted to being equally in awe of the occasion.

"It's amazing to be back here because, in many ways, we began out in this university playing what was The Stables to a handful of people. It's come full circle as we near the end of the Cranberries' career. It feels like

the thirty years of hard work has brought us to this moment. The way to look at it is that it's a celebration of Dolores and the band.

"I think she'd get a great kick out of this," he chuckled. "It was four years ago that the university first approached us. The timing was just never right for it. I remember her telling her brothers, who've different degrees, that she'd be more qualified than them! That was her personality. She'd be really, really loving this today."

Mike spoke of how difficult a task completing the Cranberries album, *In The End*, has been without Dolores.

"We had to put our emotions to one side and just get on with the job. There's been a great reaction so far to the single. We're very proud of it."

Hot Press also got to chat to PJ O'Riordan, Dolores' brother who helped take care of the business side of things for the Cranberries; former Student Ents Officer Ber Anglely who was responsible for that first trip out to UL in 1991; local promoter Bob O'Connell who gave them a middle of the

bill spot alongside Cry Before Dawn, An Emotional Fish, The Blue Angels, They Do It With Mirrors, Those Stilted Boys and Colors at that same year's Lark In The Park, which with 6,000 attending was their biggest hometown gig ever; Lindsey Holmes, the Cranberries publicist for much of their career; and tour manager Sett Neiland who's now on the road with Celtic Woman.

Earlier in the day, our man Stuart Clark took a nostalgic stroll round Limerick taking in Savin's, the music shop where Mr. and Mrs. Hogan bought young Noel and Michael their first guitars; the scene of their legendary 1993 Christmas homecoming, the Theatre Royal; one of Noel, Mike and Ferg's favourite indie disco hangouts, Costello's Tavern, which was (and still is) renowned for the stickiness of its carpet; the site of another very early gig, the Glentworth Hotel; and Laurel Hill, the school where Dolores did her Leaving Cert and was in the school choir. Her classmate Catherine Hayes suggested she audition for The Cranberry Saw Us when original singer Niall Quinn quit. The rest was most definitely history.

"SHE'D BE REALLY, REALLY LOVING THIS TODAY."