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Nik Meets The Cranberries

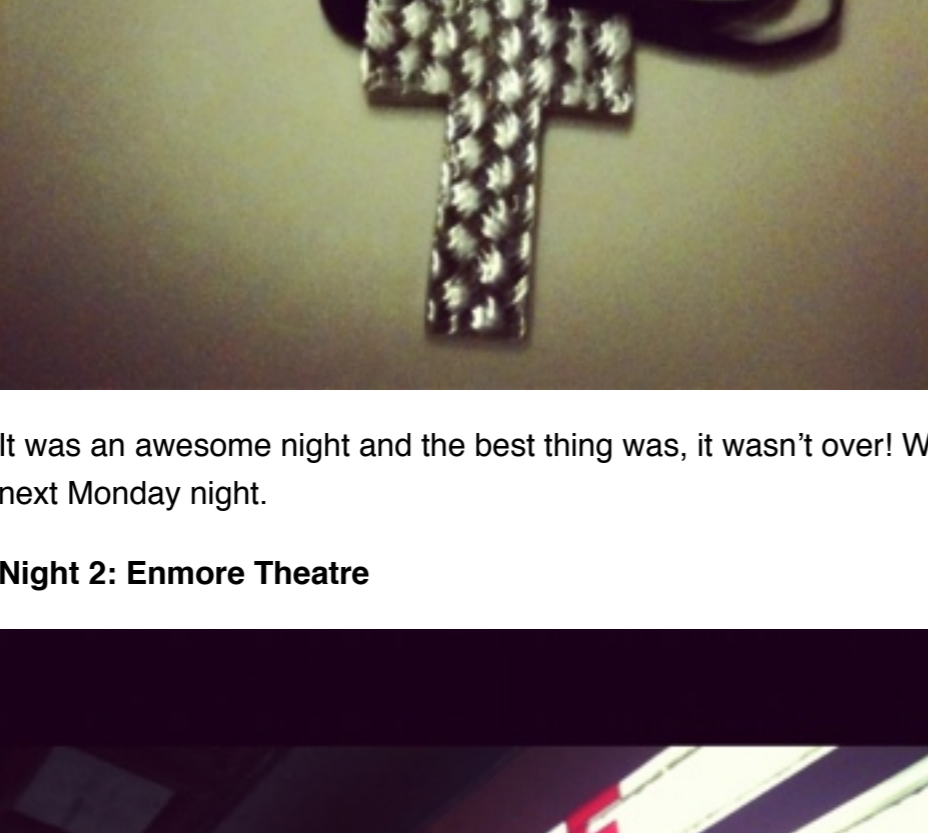
Hello!

Well, it happened. It took 16 years of dreaming, wishing, obsessing and preparing myself for the fact that it would probably never happen at all, but it finally happened! That's right, last week my favourite band The Cranberries, who I have loved since the tender age of 7, finally came on tour to Australia. They were playing 2 gigs in Sydney, 1 as support act for Lenny Kravitz at the Sydney Entertainment Centre and 1 solo show at The Enmore Theatre. Of course, I was going to both 😊

Night 1: Sydney Entertainment Centre

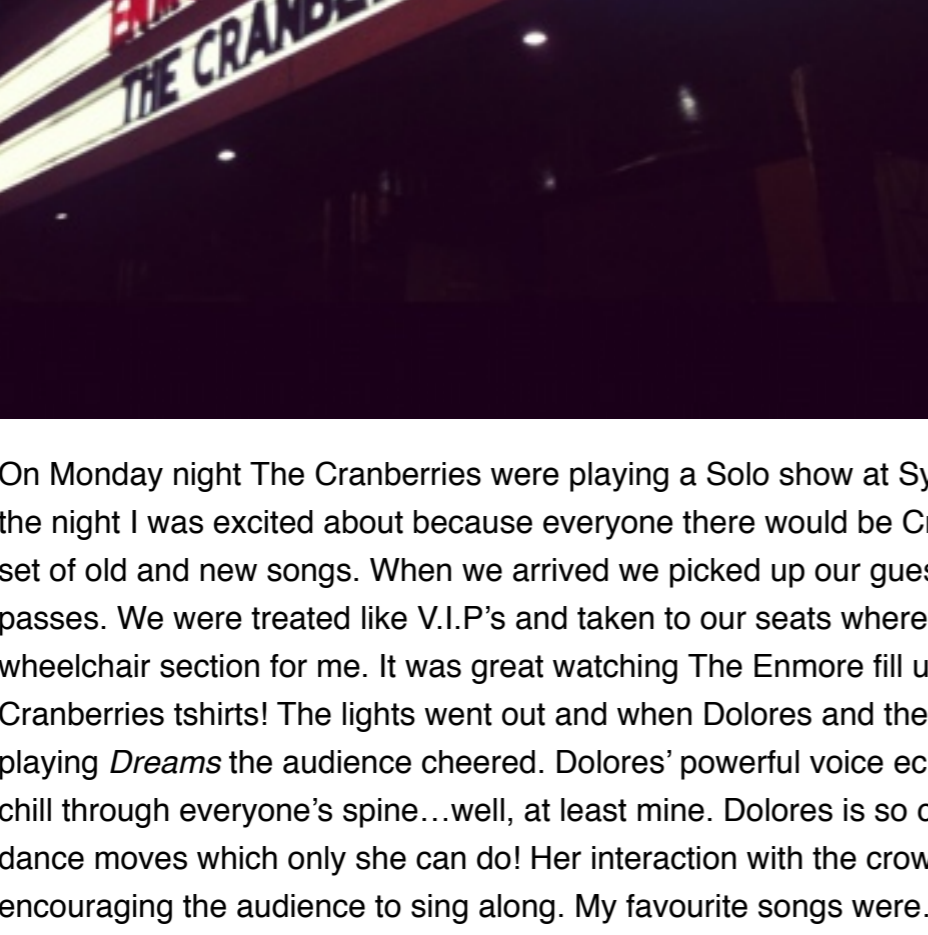
The first show was at The Sydney Entertainment Centre. It was so exciting when we parked the car in the Ent Cent carpark because we saw another car drive by and 'Zombie' was blasting from the inside. I instantly had this feeling of "I'm not alone!". I've always felt like I'm the only Cran fan in Australia. Don, The Cranberries' manager and Dolores O'Riordan's husband, had organised for me and my family to be on the Guest List! So when we arrived in town we went and picked up our guest list tickets which had been left for us at the box office. After picking up the tickets my mum and I were standing outside the Ent Cent when a girl came up and said "Hello! Are you Nikki? I'm Sarah from twitter!" and it was none other than the lovely @sarahirvine! Who would've known, Twitter ppl's actually exist!

We went in and got seated ready for The Cranberries to come on. This was it, my dream was coming true. When they walked on stage and started playing dreams I was so excited. They played for an hour singing mostly old favs and 2 new songs from the new album Roses. When they finished with Zombie, I was so happy to see nearly everyone in the arena stand up and cheer. It was great! After the show I got to go backstage to meet The Cranberries. We were led through secret doors and corridors until we came to a door that said "Dolores' Dressing Room" OMG. The door opened and a little head popped out and said "ya? Come in!". We went in and I gave Dolores her presents and she said "Oh would you like to pick something out of my jewellery that I wear on stage?" Of course I said yes so she ordered her slave/servant person to bring out her jewellery box. Ok I exaggerate, she ASKED her Personal Assistant/Wardrobe Assistant, whatever she was. It just sounded more cool saying she ordered her servant to get me stuff... I couldn't choose but finally I picked out a sort of Celtic cross and she said "I wore that just the other night on stage!" I later found the video of that gig on YouTube with Dolores wearing the Cross 😊. Then Dolores asked if I wanted to meet the boys so she went and brought Noel, Mike and Fergal in. They were really nice and I got photos with all the band. Dolores asked if we were staying to watch Lenny Kravitz and I screwed up my face to which she laughed. We said our goodbyes and she gave me a hug and a kiss. Yay. 😊

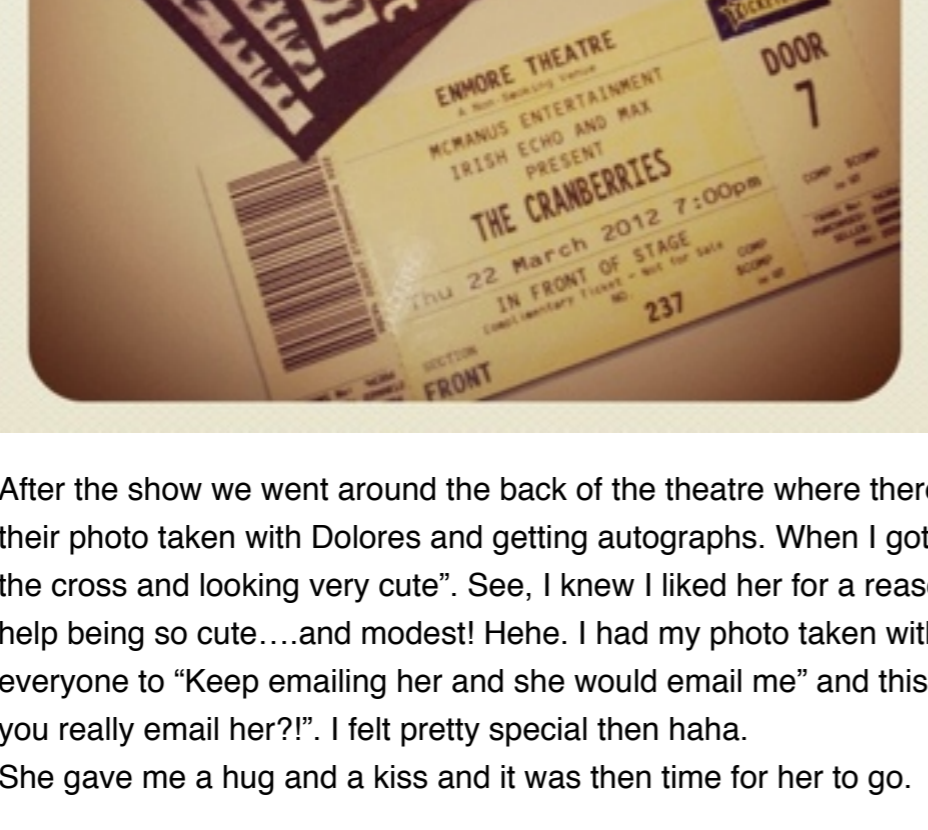


It was an awesome night and the best thing was, it wasn't over! We were to do it all over again the next Monday night.

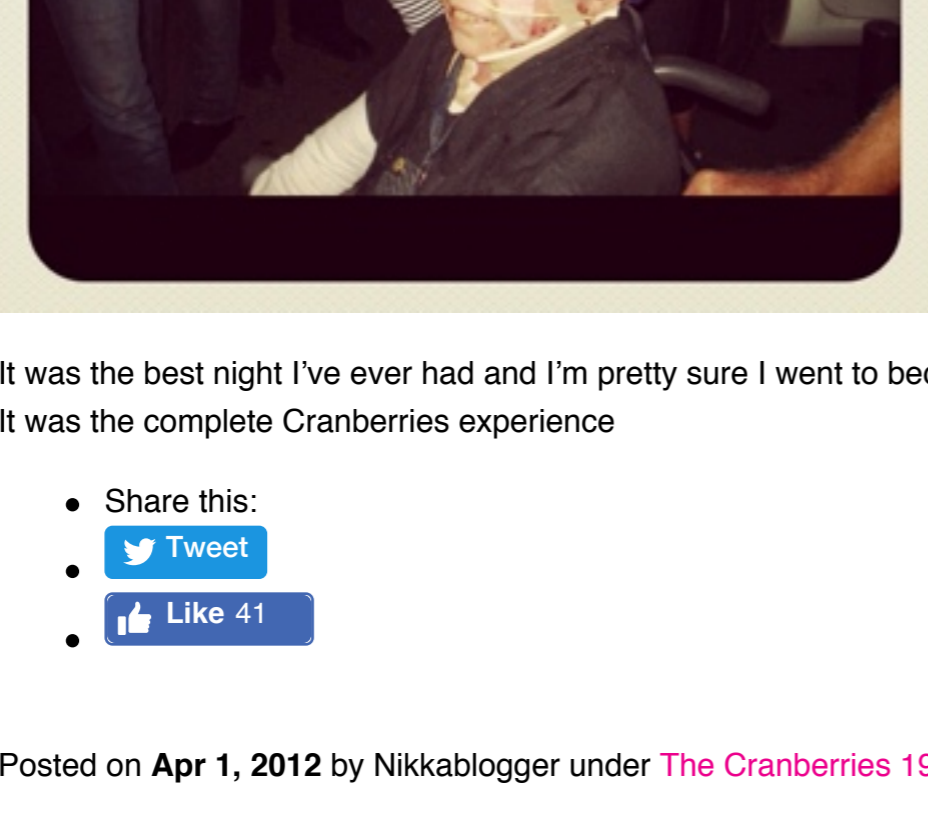
Night 2: Enmore Theatre



On Monday night The Cranberries were playing a Solo show at Sydney's Enmore Theatre. This was the night I was excited about because everyone there would be Cran fans and they would play a full set of old and new songs. When we arrived we picked up our guest tickets and meet and greet passes. We were treated like V.I.P's and taken to our seats where they had set up a special wheelchair section for me. It was great watching The Enmore fill up with fans proudly wearing their Cranberries tshirts! The lights went out and when Dolores and the boys walked on stage and started playing Dreams the audience cheered. Dolores' powerful voice echoed through the Enmore sending a chill through everyone's spine...well, at least mine. Dolores is so cute on stage with her unmistakable dance moves which only she can do! Her interaction with the crowd is lovely as she aims the mic out encouraging the audience to sing along. My favourite songs were...Animal Instinct, Daffodil Lament, When You're Gone, Schizophrenic Playboysoh stuff it, ALL OF THEM! Let's face it, Dolores could sing something out of the Yellow Pages and I'd like it.



After the show we went around the back of the theatre where there was a group of people having their photo taken with Dolores and getting autographs. When I got there Dol said "Oh you are wearing the cross and looking very cute". See, I knew I liked her for a reason. She's right though, I just can't help being so cute...and modest! Hehe. I had my photo taken with her again. She told me in front of everyone to "Keep emailing her and she would email me" and this girl behind was like "What?! Do you really email her?!". I felt pretty special then haha. She gave me a hug and a kiss and it was then time for her to go.



It was the best night I've ever had and I'm pretty sure I went to bed smiling that night 😊 It was the complete Cranberries experience

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Posted on Apr 1, 2012 by Nikkablogger under The Cranberries 19 Comments

19 Responses to "Nik Meets The Cranberries"

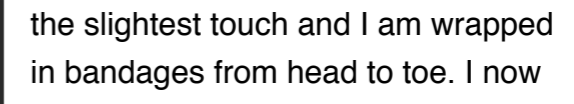
- Holly says:
May 16, 2012 at 12:26 pm
Nikki,
Your story was absolutely lovely.
So glad you got to hang with Dolores and the boys:)
It is one memory you will never forget.
Thanks for sharing your story.
Reply
Marilyn Taylor says:
May 4, 2012 at 6:57 am
Whoa - I think they are really great - I still play my CD of theirs. Way cool. (I', 52 years old from the US, but still young at heart most of the time). I am glad you are blogging, that your voice is heard and your experiences shared. Everyone has some great stuff to share as well as learn from each other. You are helping me learn about EB and what again it feels like to be 25 - gosh that was so long ago. I share some of your stuff on my facebook page, so I can pass on the learning and because so many of my friends are "older" as well as younger - we can all share our stories (angst, joy, crazy humor and of course lots of laughs), thanks Nikki!
Reply
Rica says:
Apr 13, 2012 at 10:50 am
Awesome experience! This will stay with you forever 😊
Reply
wildsultanzs says:
Apr 11, 2012 at 3:45 pm
I have seen them too last night! Oh my, Dolores made me love again. I stopped singing and playing music for the last seven years. But she did bring back my desire for music back. How I wish I had also meet her personally, but oh well the stage was just too far from where we were seated. You are lucky, you got to meet her 😊
Reply
Carly Findlay says:
Apr 9, 2012 at 10:28 pm
That is so very cool 😊 I love being a fan and I love the experience of meeting your idols. Glad Dolores and the band were so lovely. And lucky you getting the necklace! Woohoo! You'll remember those days forever.
Reply
Nikkablogger says:
Apr 11, 2012 at 1:27 pm
Hey Carly,
Yes it's very exciting meeting idols, especially as The Cranberries weren't just a phase, I've loved them forever. Who are your idols Carly? 😊
Reply
Carly Findlay says:
Apr 22, 2012 at 4:08 pm
My idOl is Darren Hayes - again, not a phase, I've loved him for 15 years, half my life. Since they first began. I've met Darren a few times and he's lovely. Last year I met him outside the Enmore too- I told him I loved him, he whispered back "I love you too Carly" - wow!
And Callan Mulvey is also pretty special to me - he's been so nice when I met him and he wrote me a letter and his wife reads my blog!
Reply
Nikkablogger says:
Apr 24, 2012 at 1:20 pm
That is awesome Carly! Happy that you have met him a few times!
That's awesome that Callan's wife reads your blog! I was so excited when I saw that The Cranberries linked to my blog on their fb page! 😊
Reply
Nick says:
Apr 9, 2012 at 5:29 am
Hi Nikki,
I saw their concert in Hong Kong tonight. Yup, it was a great one and I was attracted by Dolores voice and signature dance move. Love the setlist and surprised that they also played "How" and "Put Me Down". But they didn't play "Promises" 😊
Lot of sing along with Dolores. "Dreams" was the opening song. It's a very popular song in Hong Kong as a chinese female singer also has a cover version of it. Sorry for those fans who were late to the show.
Noel played gentle guitar effect during "Zombie" that suit the mood of the song very much. Dolores was special and quiet as always. Fergal put off his cloth before the encore session.
She surprised us and wearing special headress during encore session. Don't know how to say in English, in Chinese is "紅番頭飾". Another headress is similar (only a little bit) with that she put on in the Zombie video.
I was quite far away from the stage. Envy you that you could have close contact with the band.
This is the first Cranberries experience for me. Hope you like it. And thanks for sharing your story indeed.
Take care!
Reply
carlos says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 10:26 pm
hang in there. Im glad you meet the Cranberries and Delores. I love her/therm too. The cute little dance moves....thank you for sharing your wonderful nights with us ^^
Reply
Janna says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 10:06 pm
That is fantastic! My hands are shaking for you. The Cranberries are playing here in the philippines on April 1... I'm sad to say that the prospect of me going is improbable. I'm very glad for you and I'm glad to read about The Cran fans like me.
Reply
Janna says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 10:40 pm
I meant April 10.
Reply
Trevor says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 10:03 pm
Love it, I am so happy for you.
I didn't get to see the band this time but I have loved them since I first heard Dreams when I lived in the USA.
Being Irish myself I have always been ferociously loyal to the band.
Keep listening 😊
Reply
doc keiff says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 9:28 pm
Hey Nik. I envy you a lot. The Cranberries is my life since 1992. They are the best band for me. I have included seeing their concert as one of my bucket list. I am a doctor now and it took several years before this dream of seeing them will finally materialize. This April 10, I will be able to cross one of this bucket list because I already have a ticket for their concert. However, I do not have a meet and greet special pass.
So if they happen to read your blog, please let them know that I Love them so much. They may call me onstage to sing Linger with them and they will know that they're my life.
xxxx
Reply
Helen says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 9:26 pm
Hi Nikki!
I just want to say that you're so wonderful! I'm happy that your dream about Cranberries came true in Kazakhstan and it's quite far from the Cranberries tour but reading your impressions I felt like being there. Thank you! =))
Reply
Michelle says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 9:16 pm
That is so awesome!! I love the necklace you choose 😊
Reply
litsa says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 7:06 pm
btw...she could sing something out of the Yellow Pages and I'd like it." haha SOOO TRUE!!! me too!
Reply
litsa says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 7:03 pm
Nikki, this is the complete cranberries experience and the complete happiness...when I say this I mean it and when you say it I really understand what u mean and how it feels..although I cant email her like you,lucky thing!..I know I share feelings with you..this is just more than a band.more than a singer..a person who can cause you so big emotion and keep you "safe" with her music and voice..well its precious..i guess she will never know how much loved she is and how good she is for some people's lives..but at least I hope she gets some good vibes from us when we meet her and when she see us cheering of happiness in front of her. god bless Dolores the Cranberries and of course you Nikk. this blog and your whole experience gave me goosebumps many times...:)
Reply
Jess says:
Apr 3, 2012 at 6:50 pm
Hi Nikki,
That was a great read and the entire time I had a big grin on my face. I am so glad your "dreams" came true not just once, but I just twice but three times. And what an amazing keepsake! I love your photos!
I hope that you get a forth chance! 😊
That would be amazing.
Thanks for sharing your story
xxxx
Reply

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About Me

Hi I'm Nikki,
I'm a 25 year old girl who suffers from a rare skin condition called EB which means my skin blisters and tears at the slightest touch and I am wrapped in bandages from head to toe. I now have Kidney Failure and perform Dialysis every night.
Impressed by: Pink, Bunnie, Design, Girly Stuff, Babies, Nerdy Stuff & Gozleme.

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