



Dolores O'Riordan: Ireland's new sex symbol

E.P.

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Cranberries raise the rafters at the Tivoli

The Cranberries at the Tivoli

AFTER THE CIVIC reception for the Cranberries in their home town of Limerick, Dublin's Tivoli was jammed to the rafters at the week-end for a rapturous return to the capital of the band who won the heart of America.

Despite being exhausted by a flight from Los Angeles and the unbridled celebrations, Dolores O'Riordan and the boys in the band mustered their strength for the late night gig, buoyed up by the intensity of the welcome.

And when hit single Linger came along, Dolores stepped back and let the audience take it away. Indeed, the crowd seemed to know every song taken from their million selling debut album, Everybody Else Is Doing It So Why Can't We.

New songs were also unveiled, including Ridicu-

lous Thoughts (which is destined for the band's second album), in which Dolores worked herself up into a frenzy of passion as befits Ireland's new sex symbol.

However, after the initial emotion the set seemed to go a little flat. The band may be suffering from huge success coming too easily. Their album shot up the charts in the US on the strength of their two memorable singles, Dreams and Linger, but much of the remaining material is not as compelling.

Going for the band in a big way, of course, is the special voice of Dolores. She squeezes emotion out of each song with flourishes and warbles, which at times remind us of Sinéad O'Connor, but her voice alone may not be enough to carry the next album, unless it is accompanied by songs which equal their best in strength.

Roderick O'Connor