

DECEMBER 2020

# Rock And Blues International

## JETHRO TULL'S Martin Barre

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

CHARLIE BEDFORD

VANESSA COLLIER

KEVIN BURT

LUCIANO FEDERIGHI

GARY BARLOW

MIKE MONTGOMERY





# the cranberries

## Island Records/UMe Release Remastered And Expanded Versions Of *No Need to Argue* By The Cranberries



By Greg Fontaine

Fans of The Cranberries will have a chance to rejoice again this month. Last month on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Island Records/UMe has remastered and re-released the band's 2<sup>nd</sup> album, *No Need To Argue*. The new release is an expanded edition that is available as a 2 CD version and a 2 LP version. It is also available digitally. *No Need To Argue* was originally released on October 3, 1994.

*No Need To Argue* is The Cranberries best selling album. To date it has sold over 17 million copies worldwide. It also contains the band's most successful single, "Zombie." "Zombie" is also the band's most watched video. It has been seen over 1 billion times on YouTube, which is a first for Irish bands. So far they are the only Irish band to achieve this. They even surpass U2's record for video views. "Zombie" is also one of the band's most political songs. It was written by lead singer Dolores



O'Riordan, who recently passed away in 2018. Dolores O'Riordan wrote all the lyrics to The Cranberries songs. The song was about the Warrington IRA bombings in 1993 that took the lives of two children.

For this album, the band elected to present a more heavier and rockier presentation to their songs than they did in their first album, *Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We*. The mood on *No Need To Argue* is also a bit rougher than their first release. With this one they decided to add more distortion and beef up the volume of their new songs. When the album was first released, it sold over 5 million copies in its first six months. The album was hot! The band received a Juno Award in Canada for Best-Selling Album in 1996. Billboard Magazine ranks it at #90 in their list of the 300 Best-selling Albums Of All Time.

Just in case you never realized it, the cover on their first two albums featured the same couch and both pictures were taken by the same photographer, Andy Earl. By the way, the couch was a rented couch. For the second album, they had to track down the couch and rent it again. This couch was carried all around Dublin and had many pictures taken of it with the band. Every single sleeve that the band released featured the band on the sofa in a different location. The same sofa resurfaced a year later when the British band, Supergrass used it in their video for the song "Alright."

Now on to the meat and potatoes about this new release. The remastering on this project is extraordinary. They did a fantastic job and the album sounds even better than it did in its initial release. And, as you can expect, there are a lot of great gems on this cool reissue. Both the CD and digital version contain the remaster of the album along with three B-sides: "Away," "I Don't Need," and "So Cold In Ireland" from their original tapes. The crowning moment on these releases lies in the unreleased material. There are 19 previously unreleased tracks. Among those are two additional tracks that were never officially released. The first one is "Yesterday's Gone," which was actually



recorded unplugged for MTV in 1995. The second is a demo for the song "Serious" that has been floating around on YouTube as a low-quality live bootleg. Also included on the CD are several previously unseen photographs that were taken during the photo sessions for the album.

The previously unreleased songs on the album contain B-sides and extras as well as 9 demos. They also contain some live cuts. There are 5 songs recorded live at the Liverpool Royal Court on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1994 and three songs that were recorded live at the National Stadium, Milton Keynes on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1995. There is really a fantastic live version of "Zombie" on the National Stadium release.

Now if you're into vinyl, Island Records/UMe has it for you. The vinyl configuration features the remastered album along with the same B-sides, as well as the extra track "Yesterday's Gone." It also features a cover of the Carpenters "(They Long To Be) Close to You."

Both the CD and LP sets also include a 5,000-word essay on the history of *No Need To Argue* written by the band's official archivist Eoin Devereux. Devereux also wrote the sleeve notes for the reissue of The Cranberries debut release, *Uncertain*. *Uncertain* was originally recorded in 1991 as an 4-song EP.

# the cranberries

continued on next page



no need to argue



**the cranberries**  
continued from  
previous page

**2CD digital tracklist**  
2020 remaster + extras

1. Ode To My Family
2. I Can't Be With You
3. Twenty One
4. Zombie
5. Empty
6. Everything I Said
7. The Icicle Melts
8. Disappointment



9. Ridiculous Thoughts
10. Dreaming My Dreams
11. Yeats' Grave
12. Daffodil Lament
13. No Need To Argue

**B-sides + extras**

14. Yesterday's Gone (MTV Unplugged)
15. Away
16. I Don't Need
17. So Cold In Ireland
18. (They Long To Be) Close To You
19. Zombie (A Camel's Hump Remix by The Orb)

**Demos + live tracks**

- Magic shop demos
- 1 Song To My Family
  - 2 So Cold In Ireland
  - 3 Empty
  - 4 Ridiculous Thoughts
  - 5 Everything I Said
  - 6 Yeats' Grave

- Demos
- 7 Serious
  - 8 Away
  - 9 I don't need

**Live @ Liverpool Royal Court**  
14.10.1994

- 10 Dreaming My Dreams
- 11 Daffodil Lament
- 12 The Icicle Melts
- 13 No Need To Argue
- 14 Empty

**Live @ National Stadium,**  
Milton Keynes, 30.07.1995

- 15 I Can't Be With You
- 16 Ridiculous Thoughts
- 17 Zombie

**2LP tracklist**

**A**

1. Ode to My Family
2. I Can't Be with You
3. Twenty One



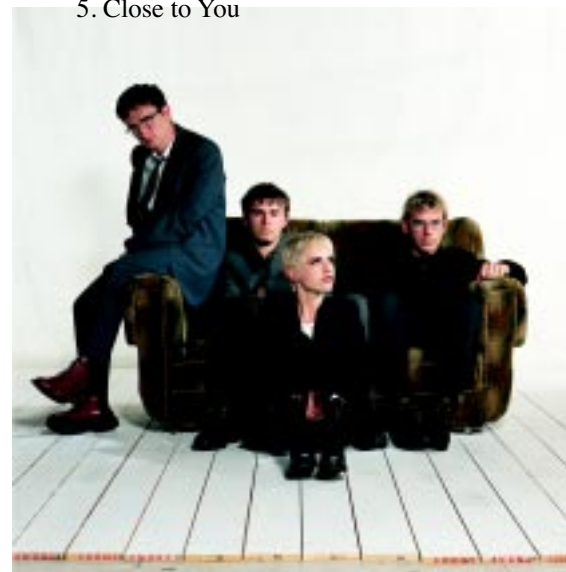
4. Zombie
- B**
1. Empty
  2. Everything I Said
  3. The Icicle Melts
  4. Disappointment
  5. Ridiculous Thoughts

**C**

1. Dreaming My Dreams
2. Yeats' Grave
3. Daffodil Lament
4. No Need to Argue

**D - Bonus tracks**

1. Yesterday's Gone (MTV unplugged)
2. Away
3. I Don't Need
4. So Cold in Ireland
5. Close to You



**Mary J. Blige's**  
*My Life* Reissued by  
Geffen/Ume

By Greg Fontaine  
Geffen/UME has reissued Mary J. Blige's album *My Life*. Mary and Geffen/UME reissued the album last month in November to celebrate the anniversary of *My Life's* original release in November of 1994. This was the legendary singer-songwriter, actress, philanthropist and honorary Queen of Hip-Hop Soul's second record release and is considered to be her big breakthrough album.

*My Life* received quite a bit of attention and yielded the hit songs, "You Bring Me Joy," and "I'm Going Down," her rendition of a song by the band Rose Royce. *My Life* debuted on the Billboard 200 chart at #9 and worked its way to #7. It also hit the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart at the No. 1 position and spent 8 weeks topeing out that chart. It then went on to spend 46 weeks on the Billboard 200 Albums Chart and 84 weeks on the R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Chart. It also toped the Canadian and U.K. Albums Chart. By December of 1995 it was certified triple platinum by the Recording Association Of America (RIAA) for selling over 3 million albums in the United States. She also won the Billboard 1995 Music Award for Top R&B Album. *My Life* was also nominated for a Grammy for Best R&B Album in 1995.

*My Life* is considered to be Mary's

producer. Sitting behind the boards was master engineer Prince Charles Alexander, another alumni of Bad Boy Entertainment. Mary indeed had a winning combination with these two. Mary also spiced up her songs by adding some really cool samples from artists such as Roy Ayers ("My Life"), Curtis Mayfield ("I'm The Only Woman"), Isaac Hayes ("I Love You") and Al Green ("No One Else").

*My Life* was released in three different formats, a 2 CD version, a standard weight black double vinyl, and a triple vinyl edition in translucent blue with a lenticular cover, including bonus tracks featuring LL Cool J, and Smif 'N Wessun. There will also be a 3 LP version available the will feature a commentary by Mary on the original album tracks. This 3 LP version will also be available digitally.

Since the release of the album, Rolling Stone has ranked the album #17 on their list of 50 Essential Female Albums, #93 on their 100 Great Albums of the 90s, and #279 on their list of the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time. TIME deemed it one of their ALL-TIME 100 Albums, declaring that it has an "instant intimacy that cleaner singers never approach."

most introspective album release. Mary co-wrote 14 of the album's 17 songs. These songs offered a deep insight to what Mary was going through at this stage in her life. During this time she was battling depression, battling drugs and alcohol, and was also in an abusive relationship. Production on the album was handled through Sean "Puffy" Combs new label, Bad Boy Entertainment. To produce the album, Mary turned to Bad Boy Entertainment's "Hitmen" producers club member, Chucky Thompson, a Washington, D.C. record

**My Life Track Listing**  
(2xLP)

**Side A**

- Intro  
Mary Jane (All Night Long)  
You Bring Me Joy  
Marvin Interlude  
I'm The Only Woman

**Side B**

- K. Murray Interlude  
My Life  
You Gotta Believe  
I Never Wanna Live Without You

**Side C**

- I'm Goin' Down  
My Life Interlude  
Be With You  
Mary's Joint

**Side D**

- Don't Go  
I Love You  
No One Else  
Be Happy

**My Life Track Listing**  
(2CD / 3xLP CE)

**Side A**

- Intro  
Mary Jane (All Night Long)  
You Bring Me Joy  
Marvin Interlude  
I'm The Only Woman

**Side B**

- K. Murray Interlude  
My Life  
You Gotta Believe  
I Never Wanna Live Without You

**Side C**

- I'm Goin' Down  
My Life Interlude  
Be With You  
Mary's Joint

**Side D**

- Don't Go  
I Love You  
No One Else  
Be Happy

**Side E (Bonus Tracks)**

- Mary Jane (All Night Long) [Remix]  
Feat. LL Cool J  
I'm Goin' Down (Remix)  
Feat. Mr. Cheeks  
I Love You (Remix)  
Feat. Smif N' Wessun

**Side F (Bonus Tracks)**

- Be Happy (Bad Boy Butter Remix)  
Be Happy (Ron G Remix)  
(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman