

LOCAL EVENTS

TODAY

John Wesley Harding

Folk-pop singer-songwriter John Wesley Harding performs. Singer-songwriter Chris von Sneider shares the bill.

WHEN: 7 p.m.

WHERE: Red Devil Lounge, 1695 Polk St., San Francisco

PRICE: Tickets are \$15 to \$18

INFO: Call (415) 447-4730 or visit www.reddevillounge.com

THURSDAY

Rasputina

The cello-driven chamber rock trio — Melora Creager, Jonathon TeBeest, Sarah Bowman — promotes “Oh Perilous World.”

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: Great American Music Hall, 859 O’Farrell St., San Francisco

PRICE: Tickets are \$16

INFO: Call (415) 885-0750 or visit www.gamh.com

FRIDAY

John Nemeth

The San Francisco-based blues singer — reminiscent of B.B. King, Ray Charles and Junior Parker — promotes his Blind Big Records debut album, “Magic Touch.”

WHEN: 8 and 10 p.m.

WHERE: Biscuits and Blues, 401 Mason St., San Francisco

PRICE: Tickets are \$15

INFO: Call (415) 292-2583 or visit www.biscuitsandblues.com

SATURDAY

Maria Muldaur

Roots-folk singer Maria Muldaur performs. “Naughty, Bawdy & Blue,” her new CD, completes a trilogy of albums she made as a tribute to female blues singers.

WHEN: 8 and 10 p.m.

WHERE: Biscuits and Blues, 401 Mason St., San Francisco

MUSIC

Dolores O’Riordan is back in action

Cranberries singer tours to promote new album, her first solo effort

By Tom Lanham
Special to The Examiner

Tired of life on the road with her old outfit, The Cranberries, Celtic crooner Dolores O’Riordan was splitting time between Dublin and her log-cabin retreat in the Canadian wilderness, not thinking about work.

“I was off, four years away from show biz and just relaxing, really, getting to know my children, my husband and my mother again,” she recalls.

That’s when the call came in. Would she be interested in flying to California, spur of the moment, for a role in a big-time Hollywood production?

“I was nursing my baby Dakota Rain at the time,” she says. But how could she say no to Adam Sandler? “And once I landed in happy La-La Land, I felt grand,” she says.

O’Riordan, whose tour in support of her debut solo album comes to the Fillmore on Friday, plays a big-band wedding singer in the movie “Click,” singing a jazzy version of her early ‘Berries hit “Linger.”

When she walked onto the Sony Pictures lot, she says, she saw Christopher Walken flying from the roof on a cord, doing a scene where he played an angel; Sandler and Walken subjected her to their on-set wit.

“Adam introduced me to Christopher and said ‘Do you know Dolores? She wrote “Linger.”’ And Christopher said ‘I don’t know that song — sing it.’ So Adam started singing it. Then he goes ‘I still don’t know it,’ then says to me, ‘You sing it.’ So I sang a bit of it.” Walken shrugged, then deadpanned, ‘Nope. Still don’t know it.’ And I kept thinking, ‘This all so surreal — am I actually really here?’”

“Linger” provides some turning points in “Click,” while another Cranberries standard, “Zombie,” was recently parroted by Ed Helms’ character on TV’s “The Office.”

O’Riordan is stunned that she’s become a part



IF YOU GO

Dolores O’Riordan

Where: The Fillmore, 1895 Geary Blvd., San Francisco

When: 9 p.m. Friday

Tickets: \$35

Contact: (415) 346-6000 or www.thefillmore.com

After a four-year break, singer Dolores O’Riordan of The Cranberries has released a new album. — Courtesy photo

of pop culture in only a decade and a half.

“And you don’t realize it at the time,” she says in her pudding-thick brogue. “But when you take years off and you’re a bit older, you do look back and realize that you’ve done something kind of cool, you know? ... I think it’s a bizarre coincidence that my solo record is coming out now, coinciding with these cool things that have been happening over the past 12 months.”

The album, “Are You Listening?,” finds her trilling lilting anthems such as “Ordinary Day,” “Human Spirit” and “When We Were Young.” It’s music inspired by her Ontario digs, where she communes with deer, bears and wolves.

“I have a piano inside the window upstairs, overlooking the lake,” she says. “And the backdrop keeps changing, because with Canadian weather, you have six feet of snow in the winter, all these amazing colors in the fall, and in the summer it’s really warm and you can go swimming in the lake. It’s very inspiring for songwriting.”

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