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THE BIRTH OF
the cranzine



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INTRODUCTION

The Cranberries began life as 'The Cranberries Saw Us' back in Limerick in 1990. Initially it was just the lads and a long since vanished male vocalist, but having sat down and decided that their material was too feminine for such interpretation, the three placed an ad in the local paper for a female singer. While still at school Dolores O'Riordan heard of the ad through a friend and decided to investigate. This she did so gently began her descent into the very pit of Rock and Roll.

Dolores has been singing since she was hoisted on top of the nursery school piano aged only five. She had very little regard for popular music that was seeping through the radio, but had actually been steadily writing songs for her own diversions since her early teens. Now she brought her lyrics to bear on the melodies the group had been fashioning without her and with her and with weird alchemy, something close to miraculos began to happen.

Over the years Dolores had won many song competitions which she had entered all accross Ireland. This was a sort of extension of her solo work with the local church choir where she sang and played organ.

"at about 16 or 17 I think you either go against your background or go with it. I stayed with it because I personally met some nice people and I love church music. I think Latin is such a beautiful language.

I could just be superstitious but I think what's happening now is a kind of reward. That if it had not been for the church I wouldn't have thought of music as a career in the first place." She was quoted as saying back in January 1992. What was 'happening' at the time was the aftermath of a near unprecedented reaction to the first ever demo tape. Having released a cassette-only single of 'NOthing Left At All' on a local label, the band found themselves catapulted centre stage with a flood of music press coverage, characterised by quotes such as: 'No band since the Smiths have sounded quite so spectacularly vulnerable' and 'These are the most beautiful high notes you will ever hear outside of La Scarla'

Sincethe first EP 'Uncertain and it's accompanying UK tour with "moose", The Cranberries were picked up as the first band ever managed by rough trade supremo Geoff Travis. Stephen Steet-in surely his finest work since 'The Queen is Dead' - produced the first album 'Everybody Else Is Doing It So Why Can't We?' and has extracted every ounce of nuance from each instrument in turn and left this gazed, brave and wounded voice free to both roam and reign. The album was released in the UK in February 1993 to critical acclaim and the band immediately embarked on a UK tour. Shortly after this the album was released in America and went on to sell more than 1.4Mil. copies (by Christmas 1993 it was platinum and by March 1994 it was double platinum).

The unprecedented rise of The Cranberries in America began with college radio who caught the band in full flight while doing small venues around the country at the beginning of 1993. MTV also saw the potential in The Cranberries and added 'Linger'

to it's buzzbin video chart, thereby cementing the band's profile with America's video saturated public.



At the beginning of November 1993 Island Records UK released 'Everybody Is Doing It' on vinyl for the first time which followed by the band playing their hometown, Limerick on December 17th at the Theatre Royal, a complete sell-out. They played the London Astoria on January 14th 1994 and then released the first single from their debut album, a track called 'Linger'. The debut single was a big hit in the UK and soon after Island Records re-released the first album. The album was very successful and having listened to the album many times I can say that it is one of Ireland's finest products and does the band justice. It deserved to be a huge hit in every way. My favourite tracks are 'Sunday', 'Linger', 'Put Me Down' and 'Dreams'. The latter of those songs was chosen as the second single, and the last, from 'Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We?'

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Since 'Dreams' the band have released three more singles - 'Zombie', 'Ode To My Family' and 'I Can't Be With You' all taken from another big selling album- 'No Need To Argue'. Dolores has also had the pleasure of working with JAh Wobble and his 'Invaders of the Heart'. She sang lead vocals on a song called 'The Sun Does Rise' which reached the Top 40 in the UK. In a few years, The Cranberries have enjoyed a musical journey which included worldwide album sales of 12 million, putting British acts like Take That, Blur and Oasis in the shade, five successful single releases and touring with the likes of Crowded House, Duran Duran, Suede and soon to be supporting R.E.M.

If vulnerability and delicacy are no longer dirty words in your phrase book than The Cranberries imaginative soundscape should delight one and all. Now they've achieved ripe maturity the Irish band of whom so much was expected are ready to be picked. They are definitely one fruit hard to resist.

The Line up for The Cranberries is; Dolores O'Riordan on vocals, Noel Hogan on guitars Mike Hogan on bass and Fergal Lawler on drums.



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A CRANZINE C.D. SINGLES REVIEW



Linger CID 559/858 241-2

Tracks: 4 1. Linger 2. Pretty 3. Waltzing (live) 4. Pretty (live)

The first single to be released from the band themselves, and also the first to be released from the debut album - 'Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We ? Tracks 1 & 2 both appear on the album, and are the same versions. Tracks 3 & 4 were recorded live at the record plant in Hollywood, when the band had a long stint in 1994, doing live venues in

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America. The CD is well worth getting, if you haven't got it already, for the basic reason being, you will have two great live songs to listen to. A majority of 'Cranberrie' fans will have this item as it was their debut release, their first chart hit and many people couldn't wait long enough to listen to 'Linger' on the album.

Dreams (Part 1 of a 2 CD set) CID 594/864 437-2

Tracks: 3 1. Dreams 2. What You Were
3 Liar

Three tracks appear on this CD single, the first of a two part digipak set. The first track is the impressive second single release - 'Dreams' It is the same version as the one on the album. Tracks 2&3, 'What You Were' and 'Liar' don't appear on any album, so these two great songs are a must for fans.

Dreams (Part 2 of a 2 CD set) CIDX 594/854009-2

Tracks: 4 1. Not Sorry (live) 2. Wanted (live)
3 Dreams (live) 4. Liar (live)'

The second part of the digipak is an excellent package. It has four songs, all recorded live at the Record Plant in Hollywood. Original versions of three of the four tracks ('Not Sorry' 'Wanted' and 'Dreams') appear on the debut album. The studio version of 'Liar' appears on part one of this package. It is a brilliant CD, the four live tracks are top quality. If you have both CD's of the 'Dreams' set, you have a great package. If you have not you've missed out on some great material.

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ZOMBIE



Zombie (Part 1 of a 2 CD set) CID 600/854/110-2

Tracks: 3 1. Zombie 2. Away 3. I Don't Need.

Another three track CD, which starts with the release of the first single taken from the bands second album 'No Need To Argue' — 'Zombie'. The other two tracks, 'Away' and 'I Don't Need' don't appear on either album. It's worthwhile CD if your interested in tracks 2 & 3.

Zombie (Part 2 of a 2 CD set) CIDX 600/854/112-2

Tracks: 3 1. Zombie 2. Waltzing Back (live)
2. Linger (live)

'Waltzing Back' and 'Linger' are two of the reasons why I bought this, the second part of a two CD single set. Both tracks were recorded live at the Fleadh Festival on the 11th June 1994, and both are acoustic versions. Track 1 'Zombie' appears as it is on the album.

Ode To My Family (Part 1 of a 2 CD set) CID 601/854/159-2

Tracks: 1 Ode To My Family 2. So Cold in Ireland 3. No Need to Argue
4. Dreaming My Dreams

This, the first of a two CD box set, is my choice as the best package so far, along with the second CD. This CD single starts with the album version of 'Ode To My Family' and then theres another song that doesn't appear on either album, — 'So Cold In Ireland', 'No Need To Argue' and 'Dreaming My Dreams' were recorded live on the 'Later with Jools Holland' TV programme, recorded for the BBC on the 11th June 1994.

Ode To My Family (Part 2 of a 2 CD set) CIDX 601/854/161-2

Tracks : 4 1. Ode To My Family (live) 2. Dreams (live) 3. Ridiculous Thoughts (live)
4 Zombie (live)

The finale of a fabulous package. Four live tracks all recorded live at Feile, Tipperary on the 30th July 1994.

I Can't Be With You (Part 1 of a 2 part CD box set) CID 605/854237-2

Tracks: 3 1 I Can't Be With You 2. (They Long To Be) Close To You 3. Empty

This CD features yet another song not taken from any of the bands albums. It's the bands first cover version on general release. It's a cover of the Carpenters song ('They Long To Be) Close To You'. The third track 'Empty' which appears on the album 'No Need To Argue' was recorded on the Radio One FM Evening Session on 26th September 1994. The album version of 'I Can't Be With You' completes this CD Single.

I Can't Be With You (Part 2 of a 2 part CD box set) CIDX 605/854231-2

Tracks 3 1. I Can't Be With You 2. Zombie (Acoustic) 3. Daffodil Lament (live)

The box set is completed with this three track second CD. It starts with the title track which was recorded on the Radio One Evening Session. I think you will find it's not much different than the album version. 'Zombie' is an acoustic version which appears courtesy of MTV's Europe's 'Most Wanted'. The last song is a live version of the brilliant 'Daffodil Lament', which is another song to appear on a CD single recorded live at Feile, Tipperary.

A CRANZINE C.D. SINGLES REVIEW

NO NEED TO ARGUE

Reflecting on a review

Despite the entry of The Cranberries second album 'No Need To Argue', which went straight to number two of the album charts in the UK after one week of release, it didn't stop Steve Sutherland, from New Musical Express, giving the album a terrible thumbs down.



HMV album of the week, great reviews in most music publications and DJ's ranting and raving about the album, didn't stop him from saying that the album was 'not fascinating, seldom that interesting, in fact it's rather sad.' You would be forgiven in thinking that everybody has their own opinions, but Sutherland's review was probably the worst review he had done all year. He described the album as being 'so desperate, so miserable'. I constantly wonder if the band had done something terrible to him, and this was his way of seeking revenge.

He went on - 'there is no 'linger' here to lighten the gloom. 'I Can't Be With You' tries on a big U2 chorus and 'Zombie' sounds a bit epic like Stiltskin. But more typical is the drab funeral fugue that connects 'Daffodil Lament' to the title track in a swirl of ceremonial introspection.' (Big words for a man



that obviously hasn't got many brain cells) What a load of garbage. For one, Sutherland probably doesn't know what the song 'Zombie' is all about. two, you speak to fans of the band and a majority will tell you that 'Daffodil Lament' is probably the best track on the album. Three, and finally, I've listened to 'I Can't Be With You' many times and I can't figure for the life of God that the band are trying a U2 chorus. They don't attempt to sound like U2 and if they were, there are no signs on that song whatsoever.

He reflects on 'The Icicle Melts' and 'Zombie' saying 'this is all, if theres a God, how come kinds are starving in Africa? stuff, a mind used to rights and wrongs, blacks and whites, reeling in a world where there are no answers. She's like Sinéad O'Connor's little sister. How scary is that?' Sutherland has obviously never heard good lyrics. Instead of lyrics like I'll love you til the end of time, which you hear constantly, The Cranberries lyrics are about life today, and their words have strong meanings.

And again, like U2, I'd like to ask what Sinéad O'Connor has got to do with Dolores, The Cranberries or the album. Despite myself liking Sinéad's music, Dolores asks questions and says what she feels in her lyrics. Sinéad, on the other hand, does not. Sinéad O'Connor and U2 being mentioned in 'The Cranberries' album review, surely it must have something to do with them all being Irish, successful and brilliant !

But Sutherland will be pleased to know that some seven months on. 'No Need To Argue' is still selling well. It's also still in the album charts, the top ten, in fact, at the time of print of this fanzine. Not bad for an album thats 'rather sad' eh ?

LOUNGE



The Cranberries (back row, from left): Noel Hogan, Mike Hogan, Fergal Lawler, (front) Dolores O'Riordan.



Pictured right, is a drawing of Dolores O'Riordan drawn by local up and coming artist, John Buxton, JB to his friends. He specialises in drawing music artists, Irish music artists being his number one subject. His work on Irish Music Artists consists of portraits of U2, The Cranberries, Boyzone, Hot-house Flowers and Sinead O'Connor, Amongst many others. Duran Duran, R.E.M, Take That and Michael Jackson are many of the artists from around the world that he has drawn.

He has an obvious eye for talent. Just by looking at the picture opposite, you can see that it's Dolores, the detailed eyes give it away. He has been doing the same sort of work for the last 3 years and each portrait has taken a great deal of time, Patience and detail. You can obtain a list of his work by sending a S.A.E. to DEBRIAN PUBLICATIONS. Address on the inside back cover of this 'Fanzine.'



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ALL ABOUT DOLORES

Dolores O'Riordan is the lead singer of the Cranberries, which you almost certainly know by now. She grew up in a small farm cottage the youngest of nine children, two of whom died in infancy. "With five older brothers I was a tomboy," she says, "but if I had grown up all girly girly I'd never had survived in the life I've chosen, it's

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men everywhere you go."

Dolores wanted to be a singer from the age of five. "When I got to 12 I played the organ in church. I was never a Holy Mary though I did love the religious music. Then I started writing my own songs - I'm sure Kylie Minogue or Jason Donovan would jump at them now," she says cattily.

Her chance to join the local music scene was hampered by both attending an all-girl Catholic school and an over-protective, 20 stone, brother, who rode a Harley-Davidson and used to warn boys to "Stay away from my sister."

However, in 1990, when Dolores was preparing to leave school she heard that a local band were looking for a new lead singer and she invited herself for an audition. "She walked in with a keyboard under her arm and started singing," recalls drummer Fergal Lawler, who had been friends with guitarist Noel Hogan and his bassist brother Mike since they were 14, "We thought her voice was incredible." A few days later she came back having written the lyrics to their first hit 'Linger'.

It wasn't quite that simple and The Cranberries toured constantly, enduring three years of being tomorrow's big thing, then being yesterday's garbage. First America, then Ireland fell in love with their songs. But success brought other pressures for Dolores.

The more she toured, the more she realised it wasn't working with her boyfriend, but she kept going back to him. This inspired many of the lonely tracks on 'No Need To Argue'.

"some songs-are to do with falling madly and blindly in love and having to leave your first love," she says, "it was horrible to

get out of but you need more than love to click"

After the break-up, she consoled herself first with Liam O'Maonlai, singer with the Hothouse Flowers, then a guitarist in The The. "By the time I met Don Burton the Canadian tour manager for Duran Duran, I'd completely gone off men.

"I just clicked with Don though we first dated in November 1993, spent Christmas at his house, fell googly-eyed in love and decided to get married."

Then came the ski-ing accident and, while laying in hospital on her back, shot full of Morphine, she decided to change her hair and decided her famous wedding dress.

"I've never used my sexuality on stage," she says. "I was getting married and



▲ Dolores, pictured with Jah Wobble

beautiful woman, I dressed for him. It was kind of cute and coy and a bit naughty. There were a few gasps in the church but you couldn't see anything really. All the time my nerves were so bad. Playing at Woodstock was much easier."

If there's one question that will rile Dolores O'Riordan it's asking her what it's like to be a girl in a Rock Band? "Like being a boy." she snaps, "except you've got different genitals, I suppose."

WANTED

If you think you are the fan of the issue, send us a picture of yourself, and tell us why you think you should be chosen. If you have a review or a story about yourself to do with the band, or about the band themselves, send it to us and we'll do our best for it to be featured in a future issue. If you think you are a bit of a 'Picasso' send us a drawing. If you have any photos send them to us with a S.A.E and they will be returned to you. If there's anything that we have missed, anything to do with the band at all, that could become of interest to other readers like yourself, don't hesitate to contact this office.

PEN PALS

If you want to get in contact with other fans of the Cranberries, please write a short description of yourself and your hobbies and they will be featured in future editions. Your name, address and age are also important as they will be featured in the advertisement in the issue. Please send us your details to DEBRIAN PUBLICATIONS, address on the opposite page.

CLASSIFIEDS

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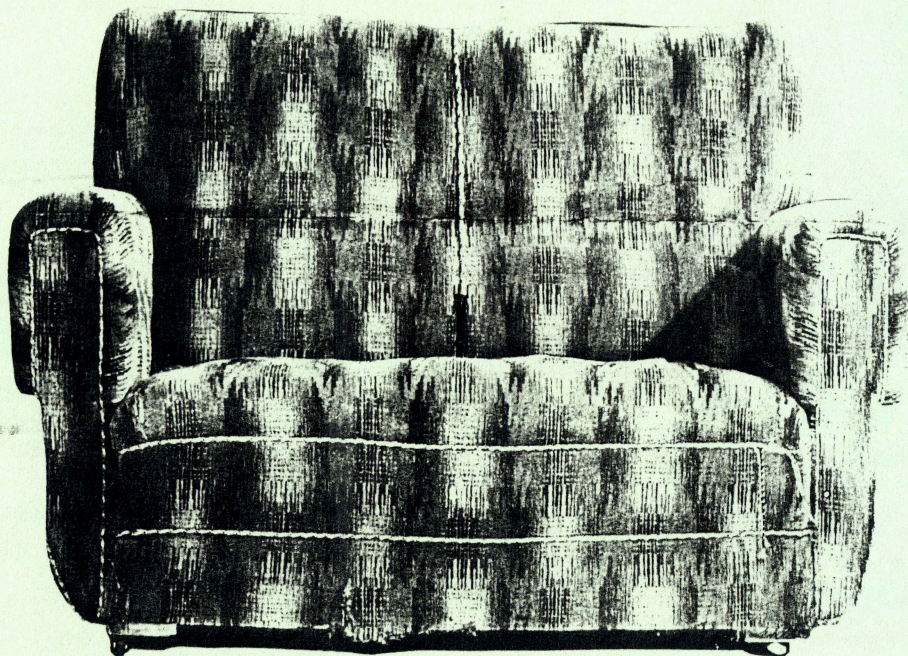
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We hope you enjoyed issue 1 of "The Limerick Pride"-The Cranzone. Coming up in the next issue of the Cranzone; Part 1 of the early days "The Cranberries Saw Us" 1990 The f?/* ups and news, reviews and much much more.

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