

the Limerick Pride

cranzine news

EXCLUSIVE -
The New Material

NME

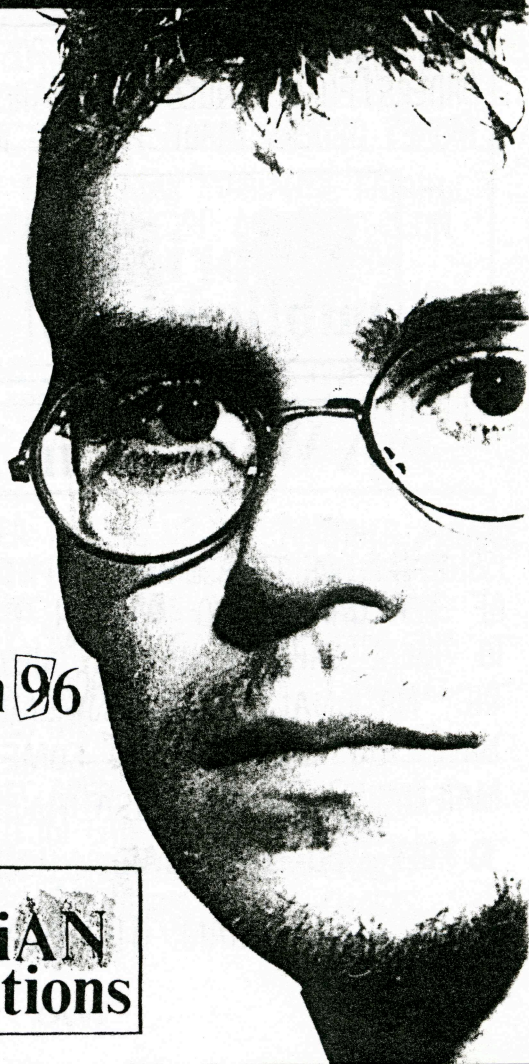
September '94 ^{PART} 2

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the cranzine

ISSUE FIVE - FEBRUARY/MARCH '96



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EDITOR
BRIAN O'DONOVAN

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A Word From The Editor

ISSUE #5 OF 'THE LIMERICK PRIDE' IS HERE COVERING THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH. THE BAND ADDED ANOTHER TROPHY TO THEIR CABINET WHEN THEY WON THE ROCK AWARD IN THE NATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS. IN THIS ISSUE WE HAVE AN EXCLUSIVE ON SOME OF THE CRANBERRIES NEW MATERIAL AND WE ALSO HAVE PLENTY OF CRANZINE NEWS TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE. I HOPE YOU ENJOY READING #5,

BRIAN O'DONOVAN - EDITOR

Two

cranzine news

DOLORES O'RIORDAN HAS ADDED A RESTAURANT TO HER MENU OF TREASURES. IT IS RUMOURED THAT SHE SPENT MORE THAN £500,000 TO OPEN AN UP-MARKET EATERIE. SHE BOUGHT THE PROPERTY ON THE REVAMPED CRUISE'S STREET IN LIMERICK, AND SHE HAS ASKED HER MOTHER EILEEN TO RUN THE RESTAURANT FOR HER. HER SPOKESWOMAN CONFIRMED THE RESTAURANT MOVE.

"DOLORES' MUM IS OPENING A RESTAURANT ALL RIGHT," SHE SAID. SHE COULD NOT SAY IF THE SINGER HAD SHELLED OUT MORE THAN £500,000. "I DON'T KNOW IF IT COST THAT MUCH - THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN AWFUL LOT OF MONEY," SHE SAID.

DOLORES O'RIORDAN IS TEAMING UP WITH SIXTIES STAR MARIANNE FAITHFUL FOR AN AIDS CHARITY ALBUM. THE DUO WILL RECORD A NEW VERSION OF 'DREAMING MY DREAMS' AS PART OF A MAJOR CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN AGAINST AIDS. THE TRACK LOOKS SET TO BE PRODUCED BY VAN MORRISON AND GAVIN FRIDAY. FAITHFUL CURRENTLY LIVES IN IRELAND, IN COUNTY KILDARE. SHE IS AN OLD FLAME OF THE ROLLING STONES' MICK JAGGER AND RECENTLY PLAYED THE ABBEY THEATRE IN DUBLIN. THIS IS DOLORES' FIRST MAJOR COLLABORATION WITH ANOTHER FEMALE STAR.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BAND AFTER PICKING UP YET ANOTHER AWARD. THEY WON THE ROCK AWARD FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING IN THE 1995 NATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS, NICKNAMED THE IRISH "OSCARs." FERGAL LAWLER AND MIKE HOGAN COLLECTED THE AWARD AND FERGAL'S SPEECH WAS SHORT AND SWEET, "THANKS A LOT, SEE YOU NEXT YEAR," HE SAID, "I'M SURE WE WILL."

'NO NEED TO ARGUE' WAS RECENTLY DECLARED THE BIGGEST SELLING ALBUM IN EUROPE IN 1995. RELEASED IN LATE '94, THE ALBUM REACHED THE NO.1 SPOT ON THE TOP EUROPEAN ALBUM CHART AND HAS SPENT A VERY IMPRESSIVE 60 WEEKS IN THE CHARTS.

THREE

cranzine news

BRAVE TEENAGER SYLVIE REDMOND SADLY LOST HER BATTLE FOR LIFE. HER DEVOTED PARENTS MICHAEL AND MARGARET WERE AT HER HOSPITAL BEDSIDE WHEN THEIR ONLY CHILD PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY ON NEW YEARS EVE.

SHE HAD BATTLED BRAVELY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, DESPERATELY HOPING THAT A SUITABLE HEART AND LUNGS DONOR COULD BE FOUND TO CARRY OUT A LIFE-SAVING TRANSPLANT. CARING NURSES AND DOCTORS AT OUR LADY'S HOSPITAL IN CRUMLIN DID EVERYTHING OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD TO MAKE HER FINAL DAYS AS COMFORTABLE AS POSSIBLE.

THE HEARTBROKEN FAMILY WERE BEING COMFORTED BY FRIENDS AND WITH THEM IN THE HOSPITAL WAS DAVID HALL OF MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION. HE HAD HELPED MAKE ONE OF SYLVIE'S DREAMS COME TRUE WHEN HE ARRANGED FOR HER TO SING ON STAGE IN THE US WITH THE CRANBERRIES STAR DOLORES O'RIORDAN. DAVID SAID: "THERE WAS A LARGE PHOTOGRAPH OF DOLORES BESIDE HER BED WHEN SHE DIED."

SYLVIE'S FATHER, MICHAEL SAID THE WEEK BEFORE SHE DIED: "ONLY FOR DOLORES I DON'T THINK SYLVIE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP GOING." DOLORES SPENT NEW YEARS DAY MOURNING HER PAL'S DEATH. A FRIEND SAID: "SHE IS VERY SHOCKED BY SYLVIE'S DEATH."

FRIENDS OF THE WEXFORD TEENAGER FILLED A CHURCH WITH HER FAVOURITE SONGS ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6 AS SYLVIE WAS LAID TO REST. EVEN IN THEIR GREATEST MOMENT OF GRIEF, HER PARENTS MICHAEL AND MARGARET AGAIN REMINDED PEOPLE TO ALWAYS CARRY DONOR CARDS. MORE THAN 600 PEOPLE PACKED INTO ST. MARY'S CHAPEL AT BALLYGARRETT, GOREY FOR SYLVIE'S FUNERAL, HUNDREDS MORE FILLING THE YARD OUT-SIDE. DOLORES DIDN'T ATTEND THE FUNERAL, HER MOTHER EILEEN WENT ON HER BEHALF AND WAS JOINED BY OTHER RELATIVES OF THE BAND

A MOVING RENDITION OF GARTH BROOKS' 'THE DANCE BEGAN THE FUNERAL MASS, ENCAPSULATING THE MIX OF HARDSHIP AND HAPPINESS THAT WAS HER LIFE. AT THE OFFERTORY, SYLVIE'S COUSINS EMMA AND MITCH CARRIED UP THE MOBILE PHONE HER PARENTS GAVE HER FOR CHRISTMAS AND HER CANDLE WITH THE MUSIC

FOUR



SYLVIE REDMOND AND DOLORES LIVE
ON STAGE IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA
AUGUST 1995



FIVE

SYMBOL. THE PROCESSION TOOK PLACE TO A VIOLIN INSTRUMENTAL OF 'DREAMS', THE SONG SHE SANG WITH DOLORES IN THE US.

CHIEF CELEBRANT FR. COLM HUMPHREYS, HER CHAPLAIN FROM CRUMLIN CHILDRENS HOSPITAL, SAID THE GIFTS REPRESENTED HOW SHE WOULD ALWAYS BE IN TOUCH WITH HER FRIENDS. "JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS, SYLVIE APPEARED FOR A SHORT TIME ON THE PAT KENNY SHOW - IT WAS AS IF SHE CAPTURED THE IMAGINATION OF THE ENTIRE NATION," HE SAID. "AT THE HOSPITAL WE WERE INUNDATED WITH PEOPLE LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT HER. WE SELDOM THINK THAT A SERIOUS ILLNESS AND SUCH CLOSENESS TO DEATH COULD BE IN ONE SO YOUNG. BUT SYLVIE'S LIFE, SHORT AND FULL, IS A TRIBUTE TO SOMEBODY WHO SAW LIFE AS A GIFT AND USED EVERY MOMENT SHE HAD TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT."

THE CRANBERRIES ARE PLANNING A POIGNANT TRIBUTE TO SYLVIE, THEIR NO. 1 FAN. DURING SYLVIE'S FINAL ILLNESS SHE WROTE A SONG FOR DOLORES, AND TAPED HER EFFORT AND NOW THE GROUP ARE THINKING OF INCLUDING IT ON THEIR NEW FORTHCOMING ALBUM.

CLASSIFIEDS

NO NEED TO ARGUE - 4 TRACK LIVE PROMO FRENCH CD WITH PICTURE SLEEVE. PRISTINE CONDITION. APPLY IN WRITING WITH A SERIOUS OFFER TO: DARREN - J - PETERS, LOCK HOUSE, WHITLEY LOCK, WHITLEY, NORTH HUMBERSIDE, DN14 0JP, ENGLAND.

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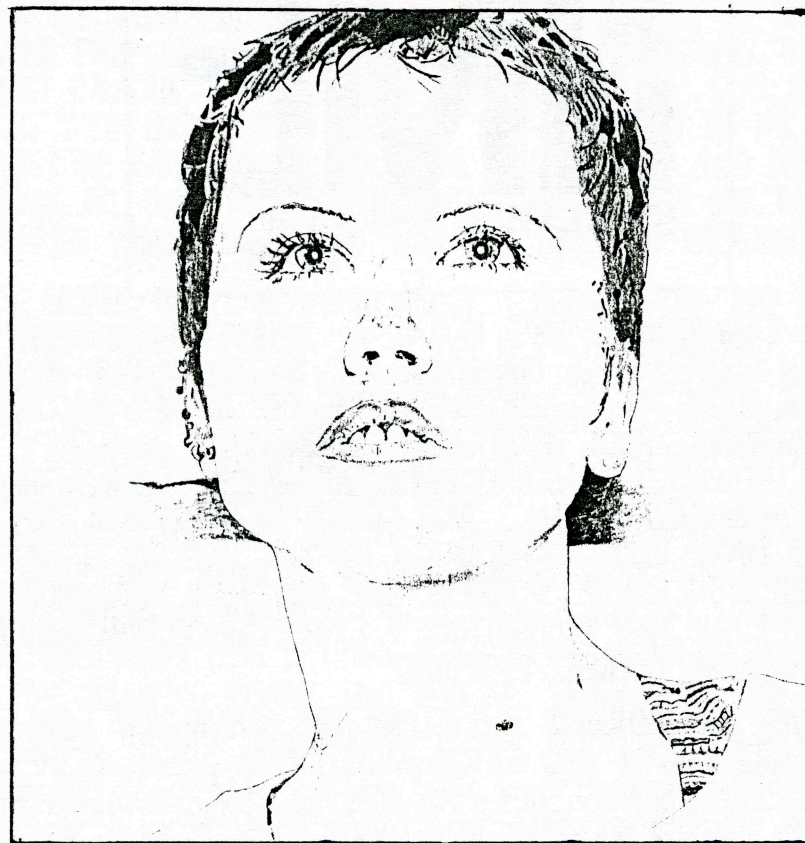
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may the sauce BE WITH YOU

NME

SEPTEMBER 1994 Part 2

SEE, TO THE CRANBERRIES THERE IS BALLY ALL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TOURING WITH SUEDE OR THE DURANNIES. THIS ISN'T BEING POST-IRONIC. IT'S NOT BEING IRONIC AT ALL. AND THAT IS THE KEY TO THEIR SUCCESS. DURING THEIR INITIAL RUSH OF ATTENTION, OTHER PEOPLE TOOK THE CRANBERRIES (DESCRIBED AS 'LEPRECHAUNS' AT THE TIME) UNDER THEIR SUPPOSEDLY KNOWLEDGEABLE WINGS AND STRIVED TO TRANSFORM THE INTRINSICALLY NAIVE INTO THE NATURALLY POP KID-FRIENDLY. SO THE BAND TOURED WITH SCOUSE STOMPERS 'TOP' AND THEN WITH MOROSE SORTS 'MOOSE'. AND THEY BROUGHT OUT A SINGLE, 'UNCERTAIN', AND THEN ... EVERYONE LOST INTEREST. EVERYONE.

HAVING SIGNED SPECTACULARLY TO ISLAND, THE CRANBERRIES SAW LABELMATES PJ HARVEY AND STEREO MC'S STORM AHEAD IN THE RELEASE SCHEDULE STAKES. THEY HAD MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS. THEY HAD TRIED TO DISCOVER A BRAVE NEW WORLD, ONLY TO FIND THAT DUBLIN WAS DEAD TO THEM AND LONDON SO INCESTUOUS, THAT, IN SPIRITUAL TERMS AT LEAST, BOTH CITIES WERE JUST AS CLOSED-IN, AS CLAUSTROPHOBIC AS LIMERICK. OH, AND DOLORES' PERSONAL LIFE WAS FALLING APART. IN SHORT, EVERYTHING WENT WRONG. "I WAS GOING TO LEAVE THE BAND AT THAT POINT," SHUDDERS THE SINGER. "I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE - I COULDN'T EVEN GET OUT OF BED. I DISCOVERED THAT LIFE'S NOT A SWEET TRIP AT ALL. IT SEEMED TO ME TO BE THE BIGGEST FARCE. ALL I EVER WANTED TO DO WAS WRITE SONGS AND BE A SINGER WITHOUT BEING HURT BY THE INDUSTRY. I JUST FREAKED."

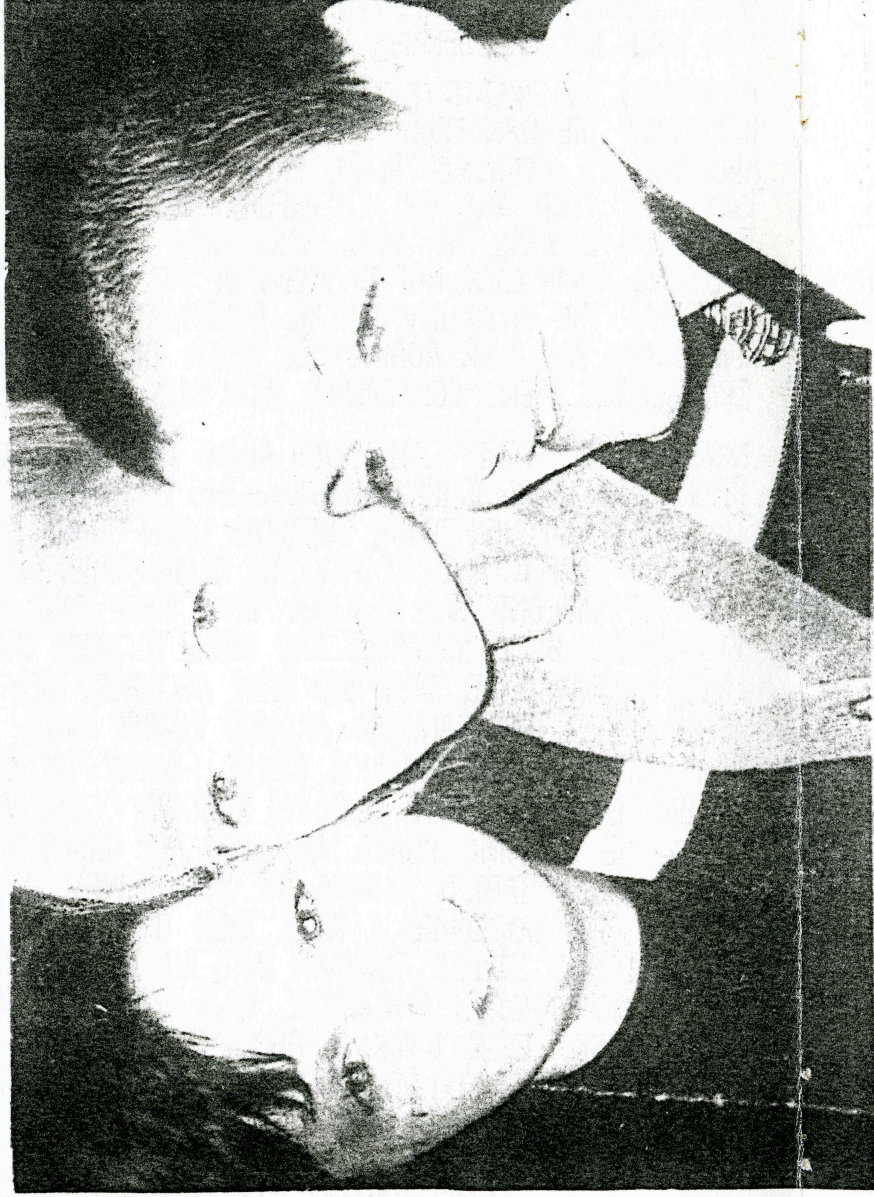
LATER, THE TERRIFYINGLY AFFABLE FERGAL AND NOEL (THE FORMER RESEMBLING A SEXY PSEUDO-ADAM CLAYTON, THE LATTER A FRED PERRY-TASTIC COUSIN OF GRAHAM BLUR) RELATE A STORY WHICH SUMS UP JUST HOW LITTLE THE CRANBERRIES KNEW ABOUT ANYTHING BACK THEN.

APPARENTLY, THE FIRST TIME THEY EVER STAYED IN A LONDON HOTEL, THEY DISCOVERED THE DANGEROUS THRILLS OF THE MINI-BAR IN THEIR ROOMS. BELIEVING IT'S CONTENTS TO BE FREE, THEY EMPTIED ALL THE MINI-BARS THEY COULD FIND AND GOT CHEERFULLY SMASHED. INCREDIBLY, THE FOLLOWING DAY ALL THE MINI-BARS WERE REFILLED! SO, SCARCELY BELIEVING THEIR LUCK, NOT TO MENTION THE GENEROSITY OF THE CAPITAL'S HOTELIERS, THE BAND INVITED ALL THEIR MATES ROUND AND DRANK EVERYTHING ALL OVER AGAIN. COOL. WHEN THEY CHECKED OUT, THE CRANBERRIES WERE CONFRONTED WITH BILLS OF £460. EACH. NOT SO COOL.

NOW, OF COURSE, THEY CAN LAUGH ABOUT IT. BECAUSE ONE DAY WAY BACK WHEN (TIME IS IRRELEVANT - THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE A FAIRY-TALE, RIGHT?), ROUGH TRADE SUPREMO GEOFF TRAVIS BECAME INVOLVED IN THEIR CAREER. AND, AT LAST, THE CRANBERRIES CLASPED THE GUIDING HAND OF SOMEONE WHO REALISED THAT THESE FOUR HALF-SHY, HALF-BEWILDERED BAND MEMBERS HAD MORE TO THEM THAN THE CRIPPLING 'NEW SUNDAYS' TAG THEY HAD BEEN ASCRIBED. THEY TOURED THE UK WITH 'BELLY'. THEY RAMBLED AROUND EUROPE WITH 'HOthouse FLOWERS'. AND THEN AMERICA CALLED. FINALLY, THE OFT-DELAYED ALBUM 'EVERYBODY ELSE IS DOING IT, SO WHY CAN'T WE?' STUMBLED FROM THE DRAWING BOARD AND INTO THE SHOPS. WHEN THE CRANBERRIES STARTED TOURING THE STATES WITH 'THE THE' IT WAS SELLING 40,000 COPIES A WEEK. THEN IT WAS UP TO 50,000 A WEEK. THEN 70,000. DOLORES, THROWN INTO THE HECTIC WHIRL OF GIGS, TOUR BUSES, HOTELS AND MORE GIGS, CLAIMS, "IT WASN'T FREAKY AT ALL, I WASN'T EVEN THINKING ABOUT IT!" BUT THEN AGAIN... "AFTER TEN WEEKS OF IT YOU DO START THINKING, 'OH, WE MUST BE NEAR SELLING A MILLION BY NOW!'"

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWELVE

Congratulations!



▲ DAUGHTERS ANGELA AND SINGING STAR DOLORES, CONGRATULATE MUM, EILEEN, AT HER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN KIRBY'S BAR, GRANGE, KILMALLOCK, CO. LIMERICK

LIMERICKS WORLD BEATERS OF ROCK, THE CRANBERRIES, GOT TOGETHER FOR A VERY SPECIAL OCCASION WHEN THEY WERE PART OF A LARGE PARTY OF FRIENDS, FAMILY AND INVITED GUESTS WHO GATHERED TO GIVE EILEEN O'RIORDAN OF BALLYBRICKEN ONE OF THE BEST BIRTHDAY PARTIES OF HER LIFE. THE EVENT WAS HELD IN MAURICE KIRBY'S BAR, SHEEHAN'S CROSS, GRANGE, KILMALLOCK, AND THE FAMOUS FOURSOME WERE TAKING TIME OFF FROM THEIR BUSY RECORDING SCHEDULE TO PAY A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE MOTHER OF DOLORES, WHO HAS HERSELF BECOME QUITE A PERSONALITY SINCE THE BAND'S RISE TO FAME.

THE FAMILY OCCASION WAS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE HOGAN AND LAWLER FAMILIES AND AS WELL AS CELEBRATING EILEEN'S BIRTHDAY, IT MARKED THE COMPLETION OF THE CRANBERRIES' THIRD ALBUM, WHICH IS SET TO CREATE A FURTHER SALES RECORD FOR THE LIMERICK BAND.

"IT WAS THE BEST BIRTHDAY THAT I HAVE EVER HAD IN MY LIFE," AN ELATED EILEEN O'RIORDAN SAID THE DAY AFTER THE PARTY BEFORE SHE SET OFF FOR AN EARLY MORNING PONY TREK THROUGH THE PICTURESQUE CLONSHIRE COUNTRYSIDE WITH DAUGHTER DOLORES AND HER CANADIAN HUSBAND DON BURTON WHO WERE STAYING IN THE ADARE MANOR HOTEL. THE GATHERING ALSO MARKED ANOTHER HAPPY OCCASION, FOR THE BAND WITH NOEL HOGAN, ANNOUNCING HIS ENGAGEMENT TO LONG-TIME GIRLFRIEND CATHERINE MARCH OF MONALEEN. THE COUPLE WILL BE MARRIED IN JULY OF THIS YEAR. NOEL'S ACTIVITIES WERE, HOWEVER, SOMEWHAT CURTAILED ON THE NIGHT AS HE IS RECOVERING FROM TORN CALF LIGAMENTS.

"IT WAS GREAT TO SEE MUM ENJOYING HERSELF SO MUCH AT THE PARTY," DOLORES' BROTHER PJ SAID "AND DAD EVEN GOT IN ON THE ACT AND GAVE US A SELECTION OF REELS ON THE BUJON ACCORDEON."

MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE CRANBERRIES HAD CREPT INTO A MARKETPLACE THAT CARED DIDDLY SQUAT FOR HIPDOM OR THE COCTEAU TWINS. AN ELEMENT OF THEIR NEWFOUND AUDIENCE EMBRACED THE BAND'S CELTIC SPIRITUALITY, HANKERING AFTER THEIR OWN SPURIOUS REAGAN-STYLE IRISH ROOTS. CONVERSELY, A FAIR CHUNK OF THEIR FANBASE THOUGHT THAT LIMERICK WAS SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND. AND NONE OF THIS MATTERED BECAUSE THIS NEW LAND WAS HUGE, INNOCENT TO THE BAND AND, UNLIKE THE SUFFOCATING CONFINES OF DUBLIN OR LONDON, ABSOLUTELY GAGGING FOR A SPOT OF GENTLY-FONDLED FLOPROCK THAT INVOLVED A (COUGH) CUTESIE PIE IRISH LILT INSTEAD OF A SWEATING LUMP OF GRUNGE KID PLUMMETING ONTO YOUR HEAD. UNSURPRISINGLY, (AND HOLD ON TO YOUR PASSPORTS MESSRS HUNT, ANDERSON AND ALBARN), DOLORES IS RATHER SMITTEN WITH AMERICA.

"I LOVE IT OVER THERE!" SHE GUSHES. "IT'S GOT SO MUCH GOING FOR IT THAT EUROPE HASN'T, AND SOMETIMES IT CAN BE ANNOYING BUT MOST OF THE TIME IT'S GREAT. THE NARROW-MINDEDNESS OF WHERE I COME FROM AND WHAT I'VE SEEN ANNOYS ME SO MUCH THAT I LOVE THE OPEN-MINDEDNESS OF OF THE AMERICANS. THE WOMEN WILL NEVER JUDGE OTHER WOMEN. THEY WILL NEVER LOOK AT SOMEONE ELSE AND SAY, 'LOOK AT HER, SHE'S A SLUT!' IN THE STATES WOMEN COME OVER TO YOU AND SAY, 'YOUR BEAUTIFUL!'; AND THAT'S LOVELY. THERES NO BITCHINESS. MEN SEEM TO BE A LITTLE MORE OPEN WITH THEIR EMOTIONS, TOO. GUYS CRY ALL THE TIME OVER THERE, BECAUSE THEY WERENT TOLD AS KIDS 'DONT CRY! BOYS DONT DO THAT!' THEY'RE TOLD TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES."

THIS, ONE PRESUMES, IS NOT THE AMERICAN NORM. WALKING THROUGH MANHATTEN, YOU ARE UNLIKELY TO BUMP INTO GANGS OF YOUTHS MARAUDING THE STREETS, SOBBING INTO THEIR BANDANAS OVER THE DEAD SQUIRREL THEY'VE JUST BURIED IN CENTRAL PARK. HAZARDING A GUESS, DOLORES HAS BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO MEET AMERICAN WOMEN WHO WANT TO BE HER FRIEND FOR LIFE (OR AT LEAST UNTIL HER HER RECORDS STOP SPRINTING OUT OF THE STORES), AND THE BLOKES ARE SENSITIVE TYPES WHO RECKON THAT 'LINGER' IS WRITTEN SOLELY ABOUT THEM, WHICH OBVIOUSLY GIVES THEM A DIVINE RIGHT TO DRIBBLE OVER THE SINGER UNTIL SOME FRIENDLY

TWELVE

BOUNCER COMES ALONG AND HELPS THEM EVER-SO-GENTLY OUT OF THE BUILDING.

BUT THEN THAT'S DOLORES O'RIRDAN IN A NUTSHELL - ONE PART STOMPY TANK GIRL, ONE PART CARING, SHARING EARTH MOTHER. AND IT'S A BIZARRE, CONTRADICTIONARY BEAST WHOSE VERY NAIVETY LEAVES HER SCREAMINGLY WIDE OPEN TO CYNICISM, IF NOT OUTRIGHT EXPLOITATION. SO ONE MINUTE SHE WILL FROWN AT HER DRINK, LIPS CURLED DOWN, AND, WITH A PETULANT REFERENCE TO THE CRANBERRIES' EARLY DAYS, SNAP: "IT SEEMED AS THOUGH WE WERE BEING RIDICULED BY SOME VERY SMALL-MINDED ENGLISHMEN. I WAS READING SOME STUPID CRAP ABOUT ME!" THEN SHE'LL SWITCH BACK INTO EARTH MOTHER MODE AND, WITH THE SORT OF ENTHUSIASM NORMALLY RESERVED FOR JESUS ARMY CONSCRIPTS, CLAIM THAT, "EVERYONE IS COOL, EVERYBODY HAS GOT SOMETHING TO OFFER!"

You can read the third and final part of NME, September '94 in issue #6 of 'The Limerick Pride', out 1st April '96.



THIRTEEN

CAROLINE GILBERT

WEMBLEY ARENA, 8000 PEOPLE AND I'M STUCK AT THE FRONT OF THEM. OH GOD! HELP! I'M RELIVING AN INDOOR, SMALLER VERSION OF YESTERDAY. MY LIFE FLASHES BEFORE ME, AS SOME BLOKE, OVER-EAGER TO STAGE DIVE OR SOMETHING THROWS HIMSELF INTO MY BACK. FOR ONCE, I DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR THOSE IN THE CIVILISED SEATING AREAS. 'DODGY' THE SUPPORT BAND ARE ON THE STAGE, THEY'RE ACTUALLY VERY GOOD, BUT I'M TOO BUSY TRYING TO STAY ALIVE TO APPRECIATE THEM. GOD! IF THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE WITH 'DODGY', IMAGINE HOW THIS CROWD'S GONNA REACT WHEN THE CRANBERRIES COME ON.

'DODGY' PERFORM THEIR LAST SONG AND DISAPPEAR. ONE SOUND CHECK LATER AND THE BOYS COME ON - MINUS DOLORES. "WERE AT THE WRONG CONCERT," THE GIRL BESIDE ME JOKES. I HOPE NOT! BUT AS NOEL, MIKE AND FERGAL BEGIN THE INTRO OF THE FIRST SONG, DOLORES APPEARS FROM SOMEWHERE ABOVE, CLAD IN A LONG BLACK HOODED CLOAK, SHE DESCENDS THE STEEP STAIR CASE TO JOIN HER "MERRY" MEN AND THE CROWD GO WILD. NOPE, I'M DEFINITELY AT THE RIGHT GIG. THE CLOAK REMAINS FOR THE NEXT TWO SONGS, WHICH INCLUDE A VERY GOOD VERSION OF THE EXCELLENT SONG 'TWENTY ONE', WHERE DOLORES STANDING AT HER KEYBOARD, WITH THE SPOTLIGHTS PLAYING AROUND HER FACE, (THE ONLY PART OF HER YOU CAN SEE), LOOKS ALMOST ANGELIC IN A SATANIC KIND A WAY. AS THE THIRD SONG FADES AWAY, DOLORES THROWS ASIDE THE CLOAK TO REVEAL A DRESS BEST DESCRIBED BY MEL, THE GIRL IN FRONT OF ME, "OH MY GOD! THAT'S SO SAD," SHE SAYS, "WELL, IT WOULD LOOK OK ON MY MUM." I ARGUE. THEN AGAIN...

AS IF TAKING THAT AS A SIGN, THE CRANBERRIES NOW MAKE SURE WE JUMP TO EVERY SONG THEY PLAY. THEY PERFORM EVERY "ROCK" SONG FROM EACH ALBUM, AND THOSE THAT AREN'T, THEY TURN INTO ONE. 'WANTED', 'HOW' AND 'STILL CAN'T...' FROM THE FIRST ALBUM ARE PLAYED WITH ENOUGH ENERGY TO LIGHT BLACKPOOL TOWER. BUT THE HIGHLIGHT HAS TO BE 'ZOMBIE'. IT'S ONE OF THOSE SONGS YOU JUST CAN'T GET SICK OF NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU HEAR IT, AND WHEN YOU HEAR IT LIVE, IT JUST MAKES YOU LIKE IT EVEN MORE.

DOLORES, PICTURED
LIVE AT THE NEC,
BIRMINGHAM
25 JULY 1995



OTHER GOOD ONES FROM 'NO NEED TO ARGUE' ARE 'I CAN'T BE WITH YOU', 'DAFFODIL LAMENT' AND 'RIDICULOUS THOUGHTS' (YEP IT DOES HAVE THAT SING-A-LONG BIT AGAIN ACTUALLY), THEY SOUND AS GOOD, MAYBE EVEN BETTER, AS THEY DO ON ALBUM.

EVEN THE SLOW ONES SUCH AS 'LINGER', 'ODE TO MY FAMILY' AND 'DREAMING MY DREAMS' ARE NEARLY MID-TEMPO, IT'S ALMOST AS IF THE CRANBERRIES ARE SAYING, "HEY! WERE A ROCK GROUP, ALRIGHT?" OR MAYBE THEY WERE SPEEDED UP TO MAKE UP FOR THE ABSENCE OF THE STRING SECTION THAT USUALLY JOINS THEM ON STAGE. TO ME, THE STRINGS AREN'T MISSED. DOLORES DOESN'T DISAPPOINT ANYONE TONIGHT. AS WELL AS SINGING IN HER USUAL, BRILLIANT WAY, SHE ALSO DOES A BIT OF HER 'INTERESTING' DANCING WHICH LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING BETWEEN THE TWIST AND THE MOONWALK, EVEN SO, THE AUDIENCE SEEMS TO ENJOY IT, AND CLAP AND CHEER TO ENCOURAGE HER ALONG, "YOU KNOW, SHE CAN ACTUALLY DANCE!" I HEAR SOMEONE OFF TO MY LEFT SAY TO THEIR FRIEND. OH YOU HAVE TO LAUGH! AND OF COURSE, WE MUSTN'T FORGET THE BOYS, WHO NOT ONLY DO A WONDERFUL JOB OF STAYING OUT OF MS O'RIRDANS WAY, BUT ALSO HAPPEN TO BE BRILLIANT MUSICIANS WHO DO SMILE! AT LEAST MIKE DOES ANYWAY.

AS THE BLOKES BEGIN THE EERIE BEGINNING OF 'NOT SORRY', DOLORES, WHO RAN OFF STAGE A FEW MINUTES EARLIER, REAPPEARS THROUGH A HOLE IN THE FLOOR, (SHE KNOWS HOW TO MAKE AN ENTRANCE), WEARING A MORE APPROPRIATE OUTFIT OF BLUE TROUSERS, MACK OF SOME SHINY MATERIAL (FASHION'S NOT MY STRONG POINT, OK?) OH, AND YES, SHE DOES STILL HAVE THE PINK HAIR, AND YES, IT DOES, UNFORTUNATELY, LOOK LIKE MINE, (I GOT IT FIRST), "BUT I'M NOT A GROUPIE!" I FIND MYSELF SAYING TO SOME GUY BEHIND ME. WAIT A SEC! WHO ACTUALLY CARES.

A NEW SONG NOW. DOLORES STANDS AT HER KEYBOARD, SINGING THE INTRO WHICH SOUNDS UNCANNILY LIKE THAT BIT ON THE ALBUM IN BETWEEN 'DAFFODIL LAMENT' AND 'NO NEED TO ARGUE', THAT I CAN NEVER WORK OUT WHICH SONG IT'S PART OF. THE SONG 'ELECTRIC BLUE' IS KINDA, ERR... BORING. IT WOULD PROBABLY SOUND GOOD ON AN ALBUM, IN THE SPACE OF YOUR OWN BEDROOM, BUT WHEN YOU'RE AT A GIG, BEING ALMOST CUT IN HALF BY THE BARRIER, WITH 2000 PEOPLE PUSHING BEHIND YOU AND BATHING IN YOUR OWN, AND EVERYONE ELSE'S SWEAT,

IT'S JUST NOT THE TYPE OF SONG YOU WANNA HEAR. OTHER NEW SONGS PLAYED (THE CRANBERRIES ACTUALLY DO FIVE) ARE 'FREE TO DECIDE', WHICH IS FEATURED ON THE M.T.V. UNPLUGGED, 'I JUST SHOT JOHN LENNON', 'SALVATION SONG', THE SONGS FROM YESTERDAY AND THE EMOTIONAL 'JOE', WHICH DOLORES WROTE ABOUT HER LATE GRANDFATHER. EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T KNOW THE BLOKE, IT BRINGS A TEAR TO MY EYE, TO DOLORES' TO, AHH, BLESS HER! WITH THESE SMALL GUMPSSES INTO THE FUTURE, THE NEW ALBUM REALLY IS SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO.

IT'S ENCORE TIME, AND OK, I LIKE THE CRANBERRIES, THEY'RE ONE OF THE BEST LIVE BANDS EVER, AND YES, I DO WANNA SEE 'DREAMS', BUT I ALSO WOULDN'T MIND BEING CONSCIOUS FOR IT EITHER. SO WOULD YOU PLEASE GET ON THAT STUPID STAGE AND FINISH THE GIG BEFORE I PASS OUT. THEY REAPPEAR AND PERFORM THE ACOUSTIC TRACK 'EMPTY', WHICH WAS REALLY GOOD ACTUALLY. NO JUMPING, BUT AN AWFUL LOT OF BAD SINGING, (BY US, NOT DOLORES). BEFORE THE VERY LAST SONG, DOLORES SPEAKS, THERE'S ALMOST SILENCE AS THE ARENA LISTENS TO WHAT SHE'S SAYING. "AFTER THIS TOUR WE'RE GOING TO AMERICA FOR A WHILE, SO THIS IS OUR LAST GIG FOR A WHILE!" SHE SAYS, (OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT). "DON'T SPLIT UP! WE LOVE YA!" YELLS MEL THROUGH SILENCE, I SEE MY CHANCE TO GET NOTICED, "YEAH, DON'T SPLIT UP!" I SHOUT. DOLORES STOPS TALKING AND GLARES DOWN AT US, SHE LOOKS SLIGHTLY TAKEN ABACK, AND THEN DECIDES TO DIMISS US AS TWO SAD INDIVIDUALS, BUT NOT BEFORE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT SHE HEARD US, AND SHE KNOWS WHO SAID IT. IF I'M INVOLVED IN A TERRIBLE 'ACCIDENT', YOU KNOW WHO'S BEHIND IT.

DOLORES FINISHES HER SPEECH AND INTRODUCES A SPECIAL GUEST FOR THE LAST SONG, BERNARD BUTLER, EX-SUEDE GUITARIST. FOR SOME REASON, I SUDDENLY FIND MYSELF CHEERING VERY LOUDLY. I STILL TO THIS DAY DON'T KNOW IF IT'S BECAUSE I SUDDENLY DEVELOP A LIKING FOR HIM, I KNOW THAT 'DREAMS' IS GOING TO BE THE NEXT SONG, OR BECAUSE I'M JUST COMPLETELY MAD - I'LL LET YOU DECIDE. 'DREAMS' IS EVERYTHING YOU'D EXPECT LIVE, IT'S LOUD, IT'S ROCK AND YES, IT DOES MAKE YOU JUMP. YET AT THE SAME TIME, IT'S STILL THE SAME SOFT, FOLKY TUNE IT IS ON THE ALBUM. MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE IF YOU LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY OVER THE CROWDS, ERR... 'SINGING', YOU CAN JUST MAKE OUT DOLORES' ANGELIC TONES.

OR MAYBE BECAUSE THE CRANBERRIES ARE VERY GOOD AT COMBINING TWO VERY DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC TOGETHER TO CREATE THEIR VERY UNIQUE SOUND. WELL! THEY DO VERY SUCCESSFULLY ON THEIR ALBUMS, WHY NOT DO IT LIVE TOO?

I ENJOY THE ELECTRIC ATMOSPHERE FOR JUST A FEW MORE MINUTES. AS SOON AS THE SONG ENDS, THE CRANBERRIES DISAPPEAR FOR THE LAST TIME, THE LIGHTS GO ON AND THE ATMOSPHERE'S GONE. "MEET ME AT THE FRONT AT THE NEXT GIG!" SAYS MEL. THAT'S GREAT, I'VE MADE A NEW FRIEND; THE PROBLEM IS I'VE LOST THE FRIENDS I CAME WITH. "HEY LOOK! IT'S DOLORES!" YELLS SOME BLOKE POINTING AT ME. OH SHUT UP, YOU SAD *****!

cranzine news

EXCLUSIVE

THE CRANBERRIES THIRD AND FORTHCOMING ALBUM IS TO BE EXPECTED FOR RELEASE IN EARLY APRIL WITH A SINGLE PENNED IN FOR MARCH. THE BAND SAY IT'S THEIR BEST YET AND I COULD BE WELL INCLINED TO AGREE WITH THEM AFTER I EXCLUSIVELY HEARD 4 SONGS FROM IT, AND I WAS IMPRESSED WITH ALL 4.

I JUST SHOT JOHN LENNON

'I JUST SHOT JOHN LENNON' IS A FAST CATCHY TUNE WITH PLENTY OF AAH'S FROM DOLORES. NO DOUBT THAT THE SONG WILL BE CONTROVERSIAL TO THE MUSIC PRESS. IT INCLUDES THE LYRICS: 'HE SHOULD HAVE STAYED AT HOME, HE SHOULD HAVE NEVER CARED, THE MAN WHO TOOK HIS LIFE DECLARED, HE SAID I JUST SHOT JOHN LENNON!'

HOLLYWOOD

THIS IS THE SONG THAT I REGARD AS THE BEST OF THE NEW MATERIAL. IT'S ANOTHER CATCHY TUNE WITH GREAT GUITARS AND DOLORES SOUNDING AS GOOD AS EVER. IT ACTUALLY SOUNDS A LOT LIKE 'ZOMBIE' IN MANY WAYS. IT COULD WELL BE THE BANDS NEW SINGLE, AS IT IS PLANNED TO BE A SINGLE RELEASE. IT INCLUDES BRILIANT LYRICS INCLUDING: 'I'VE GOT A PICTURE IN MY HEAD, IT'S ME AND YOU WE ARE BED, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN HERE WHEN I CALLED, YOU ALWAYS STAND HERE MOST OF ALL, THIS IS NOT HOLLYWOOD LIKE I UNDERSTAND, UNAWARE, UNAWARE, IS THERE ANYBODY THERE, I'VE GOT A PICTURE IN MY ROOM, I WILL RETURN THERE I PRESUME.'

WAR CHILD

THIS IS A SONG THAT I FELT IN LOVE WITH THE FIRST TIME I HEARD IT. DOLORES IS SINGING WITH JUST HER ACOUSTIC GUITAR. THE SONG IS DEDICATED TO THE CHILDREN OF BOSNIA. IT INCLUDES PROBABLY THE BEST LYRICS OF THE 4 SONGS: 'WHO WILL SAVE THE WAR CHILD BABY, WHO CONTROLS THE KEY, THE WEB WE WEAVE IS THICK AND SORDID, FINE BY ME, AT TIMES AT WAR WERE ALL THE LOSERS, THERES NO VICTORY, WE SHOOT TO KILL AND KILL YOUR LOVER, FINE BY ME, WAR CHILD, VICTIM OF POLITICAL PRIDE, BIED TO SEED, TERRORTORGIAL GREED, MIND THE WAR CHILD.'

JOE

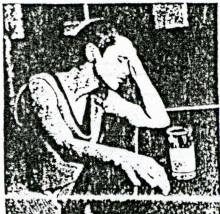
THIS SONG WAS WRITTEN BY DOLORES ABOUT HER GRAND-FATHER WHO SADLY PASSED AWAY FOUR YEARS AGO. IT STARTS WITH A GREAT GUITAR SOUND, AND IS A FAIRLY SLOW NUMBER. IT INCLUDES THE LYRICS: 'I SAT ON YOUR KNEES EVERY FRIDAY, I SEE YOU IN THE SUMMER, YOU SAT IN YOUR CHAIR BY THE FIRE, TRANSFIXED IN A STARE, TAKING ME HIGHER.'

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'CRANTASTIC'

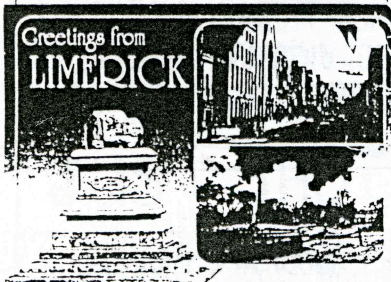
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CRANNEGHIES AFTER RECEIVING YET ANOTHER PIECE OF SILVERWARE FOR THE DISPLAY CABINET AFTER WINNING THIS YEAR'S WORLD MUSIC AWARD FOR THE BEST IRISH BAND.

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