



Jenny Huston

In Bloom

IRISH BANDS NOW

FOREWORD BY
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Giveamanakick (RIP)

www.myspace.com/giveamanakick

(steveamanakick and giveamanakeith = giveamanakick) Limerick boys Steve Ryan and Keith Lawler are the rock dynamo that was Giveamanakick (GAMAK). They released three albums on the Limerick-based indie label, Out On A Limb Records: *Is It OK To Be Loud, Jesus?*, *We Are the Way Forward* and *Welcome to the Cusp*. GAMAK played with Yeah Yeah Yeahs, the Rapture, Dinosaur Jr, Deftones, Presidents of the United States of America, Electric 6, the Icarus Line and the Undertones. They also played numerous festivals across Ireland and Europe, including Electric Picnic and Reeperbahn in Germany. Their third album, *Welcome to the Cusp*, saw GAMAK head into more melodic, radio-friendly territory than in their previous two albums, with lead single, 'Borrowed Time', receiving alternative radio play immediately on its release. GAMAK played CMJ in New York in November 2008, to rave reviews, and Canadian Music Week in March 2009. The release of the second single from *Welcome to the Cusp*, 'Brittle Bones', was followed by an acoustic Irish tour throughout March and April.

On 16 August 2009 the respected duo announced that, after seven years and three albums, they would be winding up the band through a video posted on their site. The press statement said 'Giveamanakick was always meant to make a certain kind of impact. We feel we've made that impact now, and we are both happy to move on.' A farewell tour was announced for November-December 2009 with previously unreleased, limited-edition and live material available for fans at the shows. (Read the interview with Steve and Keith on www.inbloom.ie.)

Halves

www.myspace.com/ahomeforhalves

Halves are Brian Cash, Elis Czerniak Czerniak and Dave Scanlon. Descried post-rock, they use a huge range of to create their haunting sound: elec bass, drumkit, piano, electric violin, glockenspiel, accordion, synth, voco organ, melodica, sleigh bells, bell ch omnichord, saw, laptops, loop samp various effects.

The band have released two EPs, *He Haunt Me When I'm Drowsy* (2008) released a limited-edition single, 'Bl' in March 2009 on a split 7" with the Subplots. Halves have played Oxeg Picnic, Hard Working Class Heroes, Showcase Tour, London Calling, Eur Canadian Music Week. They have s British Sea Power, 65daysofstatic, B Cathy Davey. Their gig on 19 June : Dave's last with Halves, but they ho him around for some of the recordi debut full-length album. They starte August, with Efrim Menuck of Gods Black Emperor in Montreal.

Giveamanakick ▼ Halves

