

■ DUBLIN singer/songwriter Paddy Casey will be the special guest of McGettigan's Bar on Lwr Mallow Street for a concert on Easter Sunday. Paddy Casey released his multi-platinum selling album 'Living' in 2003; singles 'Saints and Sinners' and 'The Lucky One' made Paddy a household name. 'Living' became the highest selling Irish album of the year.

Paddy returned to writing and recording in 2012 with an independent release 'The Secret Life Of'. The first single, 'Wait' featured the Shannon Gospel Choir. In 2014 he released the single 'Out Of Control' a co-write with Kim Hayden. 'Songbook The Very Best of Paddy Casey' is out now and again, he plays McGettigan's on Sunday April 5.

TRAD Dónal Clancy

■ DÓNAL spent his early childhood in Canada and the US before his family settled back in An Rinn (Ring), Co. Waterford. He grew up in a household and community steeped in music and began touring professionally with his father, Liam Clancy, and cousin, Robbie O'Connell, in 1996. He continues in the Clancy tradition with his solo performances. Dónal Clancy performs at Friars' Gate Theatre on Saturday April 11.

JINGLE Garry's second bite



Garry Carroll and judge Fred Cooke

■ GARRY Carroll from Limerick band Windings has walked away with a share of the prize money as runner up in the final of Today FM's Jingle Competition. Le Crunch Apples teamed up with Today FM DJs, Dermot and Dave to find punchy four line jingles for their apples. Garry Carroll's composition made the final five and he was invited to perform his jingle with the backing of Irish band, Keywest for a panel of judges. Deborah Byrne from Kildare was the winner. As runner up, Garry Carroll walked away with a cool share of the €5,000 prize money.

Their exciting, intricate instrumental duets make Rodrigo y Gabriela a "must see" show, a musical tour de force that has to be experienced live to be fully appreciated.

Rodrigo y Gabriela will play Live at the Big Top, Limerick Milk Market on Monday July 13. Tickets available at www.dolans.ie and ticketmaster outlets nationwide from Thursday April 2.

INTERVIEW

Changing Trains reach destination

The four year journey making 'Theory of Everything'

by Eric FitzGerald
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LIMERICK act Changing Trains is musician Paul O'Riordan and friends. The new album 'Theory of Everything' is the fruit of over three years of songwriting and recording at MusicHub Studios in Thomondgate. The lineup of Changing Trains is Paul O'Riordan, David Carroll, Neil Delaney, Robert Carey, Peter Delaney and Hannah O'Brien.

Paul O'Riordan returned to songwriting with his old bandmates Neil Delaney and Dave Carroll who were part of 1990s' garage band Fuchsia who won a local band competition as teenagers in Doc's Nightclub (Crush 87 to anyone under 30!). They went on to record a debut album called 'Acoustic Youth' under the name Newland Gesture.



Hannah O'Brien

Paul became disenchanted with songwriting and gave up on music, leaving the other members to carry on as Red Eskimo.

"Looking back I know I was way too tough on myself. I've been obsessed by lyrics and melodies all my life but just became frustrated because I felt I couldn't properly put across what was in my head." Paul explained to Limerick Post this week.

It was only when Paul's wife asked his to take his guitar down from the attic and play a few songs, that he was again tempted to write again. "As soon as I started playing again, I pretty much decided straight away I was going to write an album, I just didn't know how I was going to do it."

The first thing to come up with a name for the project and a name for the album. The name of the band became Changing Trains, symbolic of being on a journey.. then one day deciding to take a different path. The album title 'Theory of Everything' comes from Paul's interest in physics.

"It is the search for one elegant theory that explains everything. In my own way I wanted to explain everything through the songs on this album."

The album is a collection of finely crafted songs with superb vocals from Hannah O'Brien who gives a star turn throughout 'Theory of Everything'. Also a massive contribution was made to the project



Paul O'Riordan

by drummer Dave Carroll.

"Dave is the drummer but became the main producer by default. We worked very hard on the album and went very deep into it to get the music right. We felt that a female vocal could work in places but weren't having much luck finding a vocalist until Hannah came in for a recording session and put down a vocal for 'Won't Let you Down'. It was one of those breathtaking moments that will stay with me forever. It was nothing to do with her range or power, it was her delivery, her understanding of how the story needed to be told. She was exactly what we didn't know we were looking for, I suppose!!"

On its release 'Theory of Everything' went into the Top Ten on

iTunes and Google Play. The album peaked at Number 2 on Google Play with Ed Sheeran and Hozier either side of the collective.

Paul remembers, "It was a bit of a weird feeling because at first I felt validated, like we were deserving of being mentioned in such company but then that just made us more frustrated, more determined to show we can consistently make good music and this was no fluke."

And now it is time for Changing Trains to take this debut album on the road and play it live.

"We just can't wait to start playing live. On a personal level though, I've my heart set on writing the next album as soon as I can."

Changing Trains play Dolan's this Saturday April 4.