



magic numbers

the newest venue in town, carving out a niche for itself for some of the country's best up & comers, continuing with **stanley super 800** | miss jane feels super

Since releasing their diversely memorable eponymous debut album in the spring of 2004, Cork boys Stanley Super 800 have almost constantly been on the road earning their stripes as one of the country's very best live bands. The four piece indie-rock band formed in 2003 when a group of musicians from diverse musical backgrounds, incorporating everything from trad to punk, came together to form a band. They followed up their debut with the "2-Hours-Late EP" in April 2005 (both released on their own "Bingo" label). This Christmas also sees them teaming up with Irish independent label "trustmeimathief" records for a special Christmas Day release of their new single 'Dark Angel'. Currently working on their second album due for release in early 2006, constant gigging has changed the group's sound; they have left their folktronic/electro roots behind for rockier ground while still sounding fresh and avoiding musical cul de sacs.

Ms jane had a quick chat with Stan himself before their Limerick show..... great company and full of interesting angles and witty asides, he's still excited by the band's recent debut on the European circuit when the Stanley Super 800 played two nights in Brussels. "Yeah, that was great for sure," says Stan. "We've been involved with a compilation on a label called Sofa Records. There are some Belgian bands on the label and an Irish girl out there got us onto a gig launching the compilation over there. It was a great experience and we got an amazing reception, which we didn't expect at all, though I have to admit a lot of the crowd were Irish and English." I assume industry types may have been sniffing round too? "Mmm...well, there were rumours of a guy from EMI being there, but he didn't make himself known to us," replies Stan. "But then we tend not to take too much notice of stuff like that, we just do our own thing. The travelling was great though. We're also hoping to play in the UK soon....Glasgow, London an maybe a few more are mooted. We'll see."

Most of you play traditional Irish music outside of the band, don't you? "Yeah, we do a thing called The Ceilidh Allstars, which is like 2 gigs a week...like a sort of musical day job," Stan chuckles. "I think sometimes bits of that trad spirit subconsciously come out in our music too. I play fiddle and definitely I've been known to use bits of Irish dance tunes, stretch them out and turn them into other things. Is that cheating?" he finishes, laughing.

stanley super 800 play the limerick boat club on january 21. call the boatclub on 086-8646645, email gigtown@gmail.com or log onto www.stanleysuper800.com for more details or ticket enquiries.



Born in Limerick in 1976, Hugh McMahon grew up in Coonagh on the North Side of Limerick City. He went to school in Ardscoil Ris and went on to study Painting in Limerick School of Art and Design. Having graduated in 1998, he spent a number of years travelling, in which time he visited Australia, India, Africa, Southeast Asia and worked around Europe for a year. On returning home, he became a member of Contact Studios in Mulgrave Street. Begun in 1997, Contact Studios were established as an artistic collective run in partnership with the Mid Western Health Board. Over 50 artists and art graduates have passed through the studios, often people who find themselves just out of college and in need of a studio to produce work, along with opportunity to practice in a group environment and become involved in various community art projects. Over the last few years, he's taught art in various capacities around Limerick City, everything from third level to youth clubs to day care centres., and exhibited in group shows including 'Headlines', a Limerick Printmakers/Contact Studios collaboration in 2004, while this year he has been selected for inclusion for group exhibitions in Galway City, Mullingar and Athlone in Co. Westmeath and Anascaul in Co. Kerry. At present he is back in Limerick School of Art and Design studying for the Higher Diploma in Teacher Training. Opening on Thursday January 26 at 8pm in Limerick Printmakers on Robert Street, 'Bringing It All Back Home' is his first solo show in Limerick and is the culmination of a number of years work. Prominent Limerick landmarks are to the forefront of the works-the Cement Factory in Mungret, Clancy Strand and the landscape on the Shannon Estuary around Coonagh are all represented and re-interpreted in a unique visual style. As a point of interest, there are even a few issues of the Limerick Event Guide used in the collage process.

'bringing it all back home' exhibit at the limerick printmaker until february 23. contact the printmakers on 061-311806 or log onto www.limerickprintmakers.com for further details.

and up to the printmakers again for the next in their excellent series of local artist exhibits. **hugh m'mahon** has created the work in question, with a unique limerick twist. | leg reads the print

ON HOME GROUND