

Watch and listen to music on the blog [www.musiclimerick.com](http://www.musiclimerick.com)

Compiled by **Eric FitzGerald**  
eric@limerickpost.ie

# Film

with **John O'Shaughnessy**

## Joe's treasure house of cinema memories

"A FILM COLLECTOR'S DREAM," was how Ballysheedy movie buff Michael O'Halloran described Joe Coleman's 'House Full', an affectionate look back at Limerick's array of cinemas and theatres, to be launched at The Granary Library, this Friday.

It was appropriate that Joe Coleman should have embarked on this most enlightening journey into Limerick's love affair with the big screen, in that his own love of all-things cinema started as an eight-year-old, and who achieved a long-held ambition when introduced to the operating box at the Savoy in 1972, where he remained in situ until the final curtain came down in January, 1989.

It was in that year that Limerick woke up to learn that the famous venue, vacated by its original owners, The Rank Organisation, in 1975, was finally to be demolished to make way for what was to be a short-lived five screen cinema.

'House Full' is not just about the Savoy. Understandably, Joe should deal at length with a magnificent and proud building that was very much part of everyday life for the local populace for over half a century.

Indeed, his travels throughout this almost 200 page publication, with 172 images, revived a host of memories for this writer who, as a member of the Limerick Leader editorial team, brought the sad news of closures to The Lyric, Royal, City Theatre, Movieland Twins, Carlton and Savoy, all within a 20 year cycle, to readers.

On digesting this well-presented book, it is obvious that the author delved deep into the archives and unearthed a mine of information on the background and ownerships of each place of entertainment.

He even traces the now forgotten era of the travelling cinema, as well as glimpses into The Regal, Cappamore; The Curzon, Kilmallock; The Capitol, Doon; The Central, Rathkeale; The Abbey, Abbeyfeale; Desmond, Newcastle West and Latchford's (later Lee's Cinema), Newcastle West.

The Dromcollogher Cinema fire of 1926, in which 48 people lost their lives, is recalled at length.

There is the opportunity to become acquainted with the early days of cinema in Limerick, the legendary Tivoli Picture Palace, (1916-1959; The Gaiety Kinema; The Garryowen; The Coliseum Picturedrome; The Rink and The Shannon Kinema, to the more modern Astor in Thomondgate, 1958.

'House Full' is not exclusively about cinema matters. There is mention of the many famous actors, actresses, opera stars, musicians, singers and visiting groups who adorned our stages- even Tops of the Town- and I was delighted to see reference to The Play House, Gerald Griffin Street; Peters Cell; Theatre Royal, O'Connell Street, and The Playhouse, Theatre Lane, home to the College Players.

'House Full' is sprinkled with names of proprietors, managements, employees and characters associated with Limerick cinemas over the decades.

FINALLY, Odeon manager Steven Routley, has arranged a special Halloween charity event for this Friday, Oct 31, from 10 am to 2pm. On offer are a bake sale and a fancy dress competition for children, to coincide with an 11am showing of Planes 2. The all-in package is a modest €2.



**THURSDAY 30**  
**Andy Stanton**  
O'Connell St  
Children's Books Festival: award-winning author of the Mr Gum series  
**Oran Webb & Oisín Gann**  
O'Connell St  
for young readers and young writers  
**re (The Abbey Theatre)**  
Tree Theatre, Mary I College  
**capade**  
Smyths Bar, Denmark St  
**adalsa**  
Paddy Frawleys, Thomas St  
**Trad Session**  
Smyths Bar, George's Quay  
**Trad Session**  
Smyths Bar, George's Quay  
**Greaney**  
Mickey Martins, Augustinian Lane  
**Acoustic Club:**  
**for Sheehan**  
House Bar, O'Connell St  
profit event presenting local, independent and nationally touring performers  
**IBS**  
**Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.  
**Crush 87 Niteclub**  
The Granary, Micheal St

**DAY 31**  
**ie Kiernan**  
O'Connell St  
Children's Books Festival: Fantasy, and the Supernatural  
**en Shan**  
O'Connell St  
Children's Books Festival: Shan's 'The Freaky Du Freak', The 'A and Zom-B' have sold over 100,000 copies worldwide.  
**Heaton & ui Abbott**  
**itiful South)**  
Big Top, Limerick Milk

**ween Charity**  
**er Dance**  
Limerick  
of Culture 2014 in aid of Homeless Charity.  
**dy: Des Bishop**  
Dock Rd.  
**The Abbey**  
**re)**  
Theatre, Mary I College  
**by the**  
**lloween**  
**aganza**  
House, Dock Road  
our costume and  
the monster mash

**t**  
**een Party**  
Smyths, Thomas St  
**ssion**  
Smyths, George's Quay

**SATURDAY 1**  
**Sive (The Abbey Theatre)**  
Lime Tree Theatre, Mary I College  
**Comedy: Des Bishop**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**In Tune For Life**  
University Concert Hall, Limerick  
In Aid of Donal Walsh #LifeLife Foundation  
**Simon Callow in The Man Jesus**  
69 O'Connell St. Biblical stories  
**Live Music**  
Russell's Bar, Fr. Russell Rd.  
**Trad Session**  
The Locke Bar, George's Quay  
**The Lost Brothers**  
Kasbah Social Club, Dock Rd  
**Resident DJ**  
Paddy Frawley's, Thomas St.  
**The Prophets**  
Old Quarter, Little Ellen St.  
**DJ**  
Mickey Martins, Augustinian Lane  
**DJ**  
The Still House, Thomas St.  
**Trad Session**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**The Lemon Suckers**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd  
**CLUBS**  
**Paddy Frawleys**  
49-50 Thomas St.

**The Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.  
**Crush 87 Niteclub**  
The Granary, Micheal St

**SUNDAY 2**  
**Jake Clemons**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd  
**Tiny Giants**  
Paddy Frawleys, Thomas St  
**Trad Session**  
The Locke Bar, George's Quay  
**DJ Seamus Martin**  
Mickey Martins, Augustinian Lane.  
**Trad Session**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**CLUBS**  
**The Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.  
**Crush 87 Niteclub**  
The Granary, Micheal St

**MONDAY 3**  
**Trad Session**  
The Locke Bar, George's Quay  
**Traffic**  
Smyths Bar, Denmark St.  
**Trad Session**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**CLUBS**  
**The Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.

**TUESDAY 4**  
**Trad Session**  
The Locke Bar, George's Quay  
**Plan B**  
Smyths Bar, Denmark St.  
**Trad Session**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**CLUBS**  
**The Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.

**WEDNESDAY 5**  
**Jazz: Jacob Deaton**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**The Unlucky Cabin Boy**  
Lime Tree Theatre, Mary I College  
Directed by Paul Meade, written By Mike Finn. Music & Lyrics by David Blake, performed by The Brad Pitt Light Orchestra.

**SoulScapes: Michael Harding**  
Friars' Gate Theatre, Kilmallock  
Hanging With the Elephant with Michael Harding.

**The Simon & Garfunkel Story**  
University Concert Hall, Limerick  
**Trad Session**  
The Locke Bar, George's Quay

**Tradalsa**  
Paddy Frawleys, Thomas St  
**Switch**  
Smyths, Denmark St.  
**Trad Session**  
Dolan's, Dock Rd.  
**Elbow Room**  
Mickey Martins, Augustinian Lane  
**CLUBS**  
**The Icon Nightclub**  
Denmark St.

**Limerick Jazz**  
Presents  
**JACOB DEATON**  
www.limerickjazz.com  
for more details

**WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER**  
Dolans Upstairs, Doors: 8.30pm/Gig 9.15pm  
Adm €13/€10 Booking: 061 314483

**ODEON LIMERICK**  
31st October - 6th November 2014