



Left, at the launch of Paddy Brennan's book were Lorcan Murray, Geraldine Brennan, Ken McLoughlin, Mayor James Collins, Paddy Brennan, Fergal Lawler, of The Cranberries and John Dundon PICTURE: MICHAEL COWHEY
Above: The late Dolores O'Riordan of The Cranberries

Paddy's puts history of music in Limerick on the record

From Osborne to Dolan's: City and county music scene since 1800 captured

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"WHO DO THEY think they are - these culchies coming up showing the Dublin bands how it's done?"

That was how Limerick's seminal beat group Granny's Intentions were seen at one of their first gigs in Dublin in the mid-1960s. They were the Shannonside underdogs who could have been.

And in a way, that has been largely the story of many of Limerick's prominent acts in an industry that has spanned more than 200 years here.

Paddy Brennan is a music historian who has compressed the chronicle of Limerick's music history into more than 550 pages in, arguably, the most definitive look at Limerick's music scene since 1800.

The Corbally man, who set up the Limerick Rock 'n' Roll Club in 1979, has dedicated most of his life to the local music scene, and has delivered his magnum opus Limerick Music Throughout The Decades: The History of Limerick Music From 1800 - 2018, which goes on sale on October 30.

The book, which details the emergence of prodigious Limerick composer George

Alexander Osborne in the early 19th century to the local bands in Dolan's, has received five-star reviews from President Michael D Higgins, trad icon Mick Moloney and broadcaster Lorcan Murray.

In an interview with The Leader ahead of the launch, Paddy said he believes Osborne, born in 1806, was possibly Limerick's first famous international act.

"He moved abroad and studied, and became great friends with Mozart and all the great classical composers at the time, held in high regard in the opera houses of Europe. He was up there with the greats, and no one had heard of him really."

Osborne's footprint on Limerick's music scene was followed by opera icon Catherine Hayes, who should

be "immortalised more than what she is", the author said.

The historical collection also includes stories of rivalry between the marching bands and the emerging big bands in the early part of the 20th century.

Limerick's first prominent rockers were Granny's Intentions, the psychedelic flower-pop group that were "within a whisker" of becoming famous. "But they will always be fondly remembered from the people who went to beat group clubs back in the 60s. The first name that would run off your tongue would be Granny's Intentions."

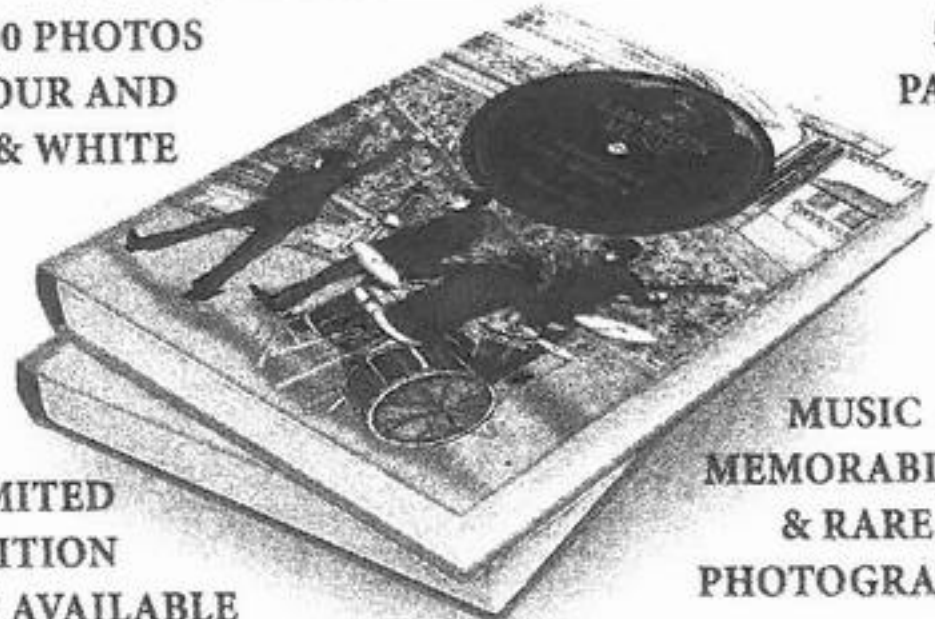
And before the Cranberries rose to global fame, Tuesday Blue was Limerick's most prominent act of the late 1980s. Though they were known across the United States, they were always "on the verge of a breakthrough", Paddy said.

Paddy's book will be launched by Mick Moloney, Castletroy-born and US-based Irish trad musician and scholar, on October 29 at Thomond Park. There will be a regular softback edition for €30, and 250 special hardback editions for €100, which will also include a double-CD of Limerick acts.



THE HISTORY OF LIMERICK MUSIC FROM 1800 - 2018

OVER 1400 PHOTOS IN COLOUR AND BLACK & WHITE 556 PAGES



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MUSIC MEMORABILIA & RARE PHOTOGRAPHS

"Paddy has created a unique work which simply defies music, history or journalism. Fascinating. There's never been anything like it."
Mick Moloney - *Irishman's Music & Irish Songs* - New York University

★★★★★

"Paddy's love of music shines through in the pages of this wonderful book."
Cllr James Collins - *Mayor of the City of Limerick*

★★★★★

"Within the pages of this book is contained a valuable history of Limerick Music. It provides a great affirmation of the wealth of musical talent that has always existed in Limerick."
Michael D. Higgins - *President of Ireland*

★★★★★

"No stone left unturned by Paddy, the definitive Anthology of Limerick's great musical heritage."
Lorcan Murray - *RTÉ 1 FM*

★★★★★

BOOK ON SALE 30TH OCTOBER

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He was up there with the greats. No one heard of him really
PADDY ON OSBORNE