

# purple patch

The 70's was the decade of wing collars and bell-bottom jeans, the decade that taste forgot! The Alvin Purple Experience revived the era of glam rock and decadence by bringing you, live, the make-up, the glitter, the tasteless flashy stage costumes and the rock idol posturing! Alvin Purple and his band; Ricky Slick Slaughter (drums), Gary Slitter (bass) & Ronnie Hendrix (guitar) took their audience on a glitter-filled glamtastic journey through the 70's, playing glam rockers from Slade, T-Rex and Ziggy Stardust, disco classics from Gloria Gaynor & Rod Stewart and evergreen anthems by ABBA and our very own Joe Dolan!! An outrageous and hugely entertaining frontman, Alvin coaxed the audience into singing along, heckling and becoming a part of the show. The Alvin Purple Experience were all about having fun, gigging extensively and delighting audiences throughout the country.



After decades on tour, 2 albums, 1,500 gigs, 39,000 songs played, 74,995 miles travelled, the bitchin, shoutin, barkin and spittin will finally come to an end on Saturday May 01. In that time the band drank 61,249 pints of beer & 520 bottles of Jack Daniels, that amount of alcohol would fill an Olympic sized swimming pool 3 times over, it would take 7 Guinness trucks to deliver that amount of beer. But of course it was all about the music!!

Alvin Purple's eponomously titled debut album was recorded in 1960. The music was ahead of it's time and successfully captured a band at the peak of it's powers. Unfortunately, a foul-up in the mixing and mastering of the album caused all the vocals on the record to be speeded up rendering the whole LP a laughable mess making the band sound like... well like chipmunks really. Their record company immediately withdrew the album, replaced the sleeve with funny cartoon characters and Alvin and The Chipmunks' were born. Slade's Noddy Holder and David Bowie have said that this infamous 'Chipmunks' album had a great influence on them and it's influence extended onwards thru to the Glam Rockers of the early 70s. Alvin Purple's sexual exploits while on tour in Australia have been the subject of a cult film 'We Did It For Alvin', starring Graeme Blundell as Alvin, the naive young male who finds himself the object of every woman's desires. The sex-comedy, Alvin Purple, is one of the seminal films of the 1970s. It was the most commercially successful of all Australian features released between 1971 and 1977.



It would be many years until APE would release their second album, 'The Dark Side Of Me Bollox', a concept album of bloated and overblown music containing the tracks 'E=mc squared', 'A Pointless 30 Minute Drum Solo' & 'We Need A Sexy Christ', their embarrassing christian rock opus. The only bright light on the album was Alvin's love song to a limerick girl... My My My Deloras.

Given the band have such a serious history as the above 1005 honourable take on events, it would be nothing short of a crime against entertainment to miss out when The Alvin Purple Experience play their final ever gig in the Warehouse on Saturday May 01. Limerick's favourite rockers will hang up their glam rags for good. In that time the band made Limerick their home, playing in every pub and venue in the city... Particularly dear in the hearts of the 'purple posee' were the weekly residencies in Docs, The Newtown Pery, Nevada Smiths and Schooners over the years and the 'Boogie Wonderland' gigs in the Theatre Royal where Alvin Purple first made his appearance in the city. The band have also compiled a DVD of their 'best bits' over the years. As well as music performed by the band, the DVD also features contributions from TG4's Hector, Pat Shortt, Lyric FM's Eoin O'Kelly and Stuart Clarke of Hot Press to name but a few. Free copies of the DVD will be given to the first 50 punters to arrive in Dolan's on May 01. During the gig, special guests, performers, face painters and somesurprises will ensure that 'The Experience' will go out with a bang. Doors for the last ever Experience are at 8pm, and the show is followed by a disco till late. Tickets at 12 euro are available from Dolans.



## art attack

richie ryan gives a fortnightly voice to the arts within the city

### Immediate Job vacancy within the Arts.

This job is open to all newcomers. You will be called officer and given an office or service. This life long job will have as many perks as possible and you will be employed by a group of people who know nothing at all about the arts and you should never attempt to enlighten them. You must be in a position to support these morons but not look like a moron yourself. You will be allowed to take the complete summer months off and of course Easter and Christmas, and any other months or days you wish. You must not be contactible at any reasonable time and should not produce a weekly diary of arts events or any event calendars, which might show how under productive you are. You must not have a dedicated web site for the arts and must not be connectable through the www. You will be required not to attend any event organised or promoted by local groups and should avoid all genuine contact with local talent or initiatives. You must only support professional endeavours and be seen only at receptions and opening nights for outside companies. You must seem to co-ordinate the already existing events into what seems like a great initiative or co-ordinated event and be available for photographs to promote it with relevant important personnel. You must produce a very glossy integrated document outlining objectives which are completely unattainable but which must look good to the outside eye. You must try to close as many arts centres and performance spaces as possible during your reign and sit on the board of said centres but never say anything and you must support any ridiculous strategies adopted by these boards. You must find a scapegoat outside your office when things go wrong and say nothing to implicate yourself with any decision making. You must avoid the press. You must apply for filmhouse or any other civic arts centre grants but be sure to overestimate the costs and fail. You must be able to nod and wink in the right circles and to the right officials and pay lip service to all others. You must have as many talking-shop meetings as you can but never listen or have any input or show results. You must not monitor or evaluate anything and you can give out very small sums of cash to a few local groups to keep them happy. You must not stretch yourself to the needs of the arts sector, and must never be aware of the changes within the sector. You must sit on as many committees as is possible within your short day and show absolutely no results. You must not facilitate or support the long-term development of the arts sector as a whole.

Limerick RiverFest 2004 welcomes Slovenia as part of the national Day of Welcomes from Friday April 30 to Monday May 03. The Official Launch of RiverFest takes place in the Milk Market, Cornmarket Square from 5-10pm with Twilight trading at the Milk Market, and music and entertainment. The Mayor of Limerick will officially kick off the festival with a cheese and wine reception with street entertainment by The Umbrella Project and the Slovenian company Serpentes. Saturday May 01 is the Day of Welcomes with activities at The Milk Market Cornmarket Square from 8am-12.30pm This Saturday morning market boasts a bustling atmosphere, where fresh food stands, horticulture, fashion, jewellery and much more provide for all your tastes. This will be followed by the Procession Of The Welcomes at 12 noon from The Milk Market to George's Quay where Limerick's own street theatre Company, The Umbrella Project with the Slovenian company Serpentes will present a spectacular street event, full of colour and sound. Market goers beware! A European Fair & BBQ Cook-Off takes place from 11.30am-6pm in George's Quay. This will be a family day of fire, food and fun. Limerick's own Boher Bouy Band and Graffiti Classics (presented by Lyric FM) will provide music for fun. Celebrate the Music and join the Fun at King John's Castle, with The Riverside Swing Band kicking things off from 4pm. Classical Graffiti will be presented by Lyric FM from 7pm. Terra Folk will perform from 8pm and Woodstar perform at 9pm. Come along and enjoy this local five-piece band. This is all followed by a fireworks display at 10pm which promises to be a real spectacle from the castle. So plenty to do and enjoy over the weekend.

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