

## + KERRI CHANDLER

kerri chandler | audio @ dolan s warehouse | dec 28

@ AUDIO , Dolans Warehouse Dec 28th 2001.

Much has been written and spoken of Kerri Chandler in the Irish media over the last 12 months. His first appearance in Ireland was in the home of the Irish deep house scene and created such a stir that he has since played the country no less than 9 times taking in a mini tour over the Christmas period. As the man says himself, "Ireland is my favourite place in the world, where better to spend the holidays." Where indeed Kerri's first Limerick appearance was highly anticipated to be one of the better nights of 2001 in Limerick and finally happened on December 28th in The Warehouse.

Starting off proceedings was AUDIO resident and Limerick's own Marc O'Neill, who delivered a suitably deep and funky set to keep the growing crowd entertained. Followed by Dublin's Conor G who although supporting a deep house legend decided to deliver a set of relatively thumping house music, getting to the almost progressive end of the spectrum at some points. Disappointing really considering the calibre of the guest involved. Including tracks like Akabu and Linda Cliffords "Ride The Storm" in a warm up set for a US house and garage legend contradicts the term "warm up" in my opinion but hey...its only an opinion.

On to the main man, Kerri Chandler who takes to the decks with rapturous applause opening as usual with his own classic "Atmosphere" intertwined with the acapella of Fatboy Slims "Star 69" and off we go from there. For the first hour or so of Chandlers set it seemed like he was building his way through the deeper end of house music and we were expecting to be grooving to the early hours. For many this was not the case. Renowned for his ability to include live instrumentation, tricks and FX into his set, Chandler delivered this but unfortunately for many in the audience he seemed to get carried away with both the cross fader and EQ's on the mixer delivering a rather disjointed set. Rumour has it that Chandler's records were lost in transit and he was using borrowed tracks but what he gave the crowd was a set of classics. Marshall Jefferson's "Move your Body" and Romanthony's "Make this love right" (da ball and chain) are two examples of the type of record played. Kerri is also well known for using MP3 files from his laptop which was with him that night and considering his reputation as a producer, one would have expected to hear a more cutting edge style of music.

In fairness to the man, there were many there that were enjoying themselves. Myself, I have been a fan of Kerri Chandler as a producer for many years. His productions are incredible. I have now seen him perform as a DJ three times, twice in his beloved Cork and once in Dolans and he hasn't really impressed me at any stage. One thing is for sure he has a certain repertoire with the deep house crowd from around the country but for the average Joe Soap in the street his deepness may just cause loss of interest. I think by the end of his mini tour Kerri realised this and has posted his thoughts on the whole thing on a radio station's website. Check [www.powerfm.org](http://www.powerfm.org) for Kerri's comments.

## + THE HITCHERS

the hitchers | dolan s warehouse | dec 30



The Hitchers ended their 14 year reign over Limerick with a last goodbye at Dolan's Warehouse on Sunday, Dec 30. The only hitch, if you'll pardon the pun, is that everyone who jammed themselves into the Warehouse on the fateful night in question reckoned that it was so good, that it could be the first of many similar goodbyes.

One of the support acts on the night were local Limerick rockers, Barberskum, whose lead singer also plays bass with the Hitchers. If you didn't know it already, you could have guessed it by Baberskum's energetic performance, setting the crowd up nicely to be knocked down by the Hitchers.

And then on they stepped to do some of said knocking down. The atmosphere in the room was amazing as they came on stage and launched into their first song. Some of their best known songs like "You Can Love Someone So Much" and the lead song of their new EP "Liver" followed. However, the real respect which is out there for The Hitchers shone through when all the original members of the band were invited on stage and the opening chords of "Bomb In A Basket Of Fruit" was greeted by the biggest cheer of the night, sealing The Hitchers' spot in the archives of legendary Limerick bands.

All the talk around the city since the gig has been of the incredible atmosphere in a packed Warehouse for a band that have never really hit the big time, but are held in such esteem by, literally, generations of Limerick people.

No band has managed to emanate them since, and while the Cranberries get ready for their next world tour, there are many Limerick people who would argue that the best band ever to come out of Limerick never really actually got out of Limerick.

Maybe we'll get some A&R down to the next goodbye.