



# RHYTHM FOR THE RADARS

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Over the decades, Limerick's record as a producer of innovative music has been on just the wrong side of outstanding. Sure there have been loads of nice tuneful rock combos who've had varying degrees of success but up until the sudden success of the Cranberries, the city was firmly entrenched in the "also ran" section of the music industry.

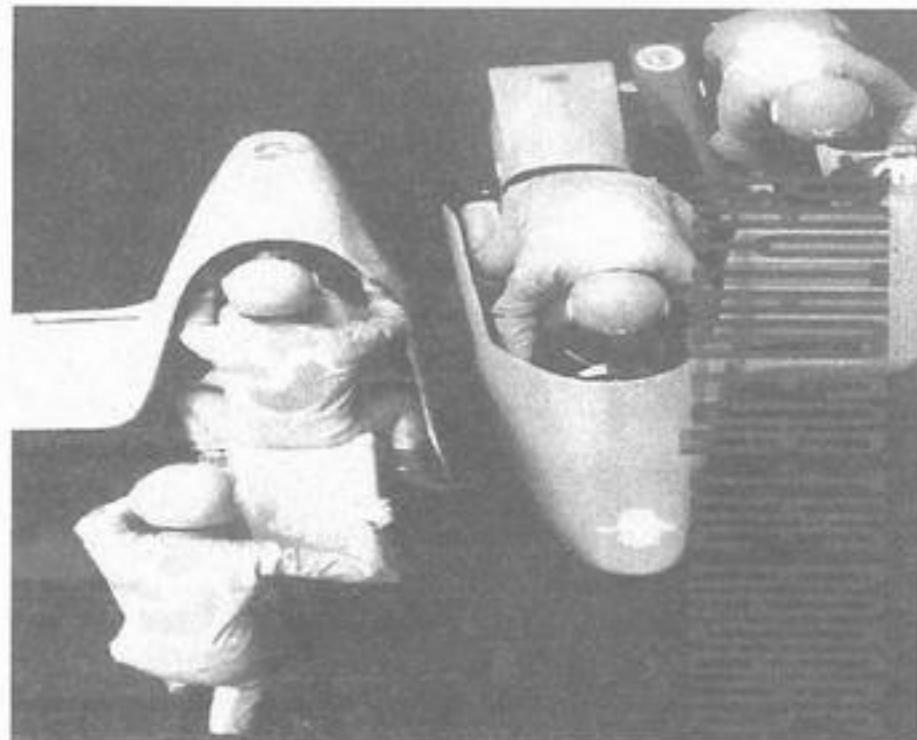
All that looks set to change with the long anticipated release this week of the debut EP from the four piece collective Rhythm for the Radars made up of the percussion skills of Tony Roche, the soulful voice of Jenny Mc Mahon, Graham Conway on keyboards and the programming and bass wizardry of Fergal O'Neil. Coming straight out of Xeric Studios, the three track EP is a masterpiece of trip hop and breakbeat fusion with acoustic instrumentation contrasting with the rumbling electro drum and bass.

The foursome have been working together for about six months now but each brings a long musical history to the melting pot of jazz, drum n'bass and Trip Hop that comprises the three tracks.

Reaction to the EP has been outstanding with it being playlisted by 2FM and described as "the essential dancetune of 98" by Micky Mac. DJ's like Dave Clarke and Paul Dakeyne have

played it out and drum n'bass legend Micky Finn, the man behind last years "Rock the Funky Beat" was most impressed. Sales in Limerick saw the single sell out of it's first run in two days and it is available nationally from next month. Not ones to rest on their laurels the Radar kids are currently recording new material and are scheduled for their debut live performance later this month.

Rhythm For The Radars debut EP is available from Blackspot Records Wickham St, Empire Music O'Connell St and HMV in Cruises St.



Fergal O'Neil is the studio wizard from Monaghan whose production and bass skills ensure that all Radars tracks resound with quality. He is an engineer in one of the country's top studios, Xeric.



Tony Roche is a well known face on the local and national dance scene for his club percussion sets which have seen him play all over the country with names like Laurent Garnier and John Digweed and as the main mover in "Just 4 Grooves", a fine acid jazz combo.

## RHYTHM FOR THE RADARS REVIEW

Jason Gilbert reviews the music on the EP....

The first release from Limericks own Rhythm For The Radars. Now before I go any further you have to give these lads a pat on the back, they have gone off and done it all themselves and the reward will hopefully be waiting for them very soon. This three track CD starts off with 'Shine'. It begins with a haunting drum beat and an eerie synth, reminiscent of Massive Attacks 'Protection', lead vocalist Jenny MacMahon voice drifts magically into place and the scene is set, but you have been lured into a false feeling of safety, next you are being stretched and pulled in different direc-

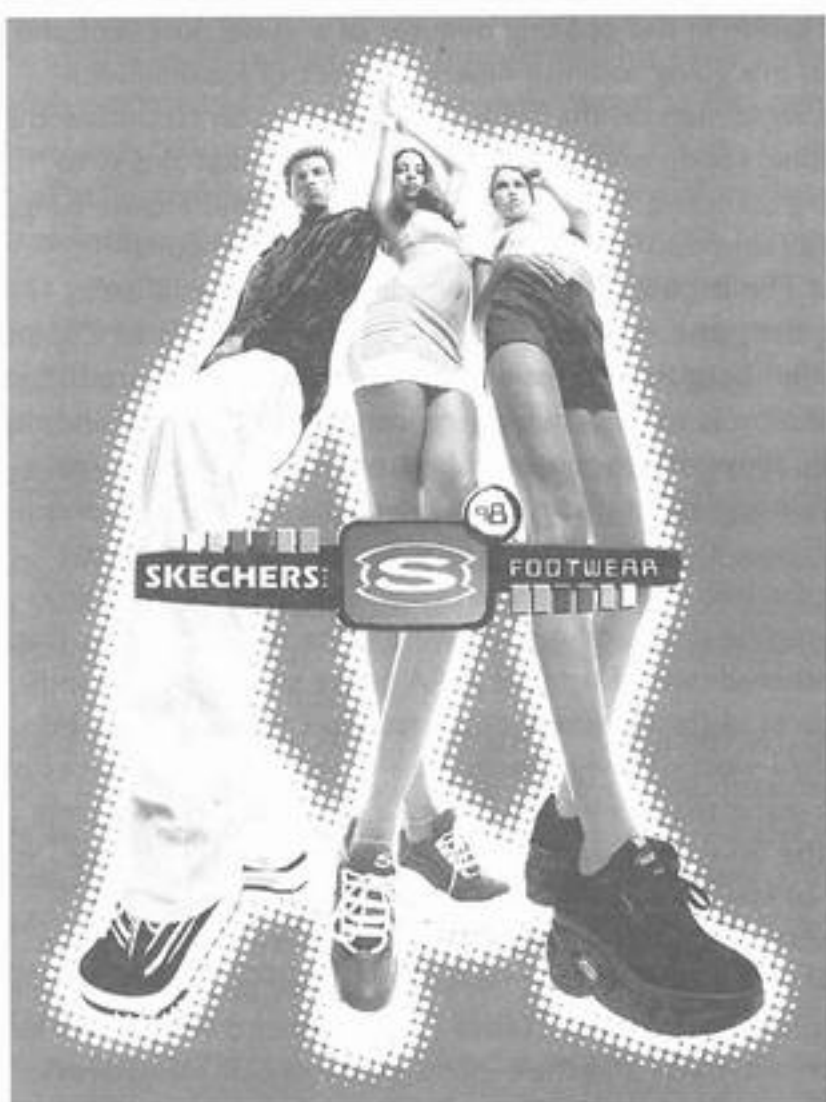
tion as a drum n bass riff explodes with out warning in your face and your dragged to a new promised land of intricate drum rolls , a haunting cinematic piano and lush vocals and when the fury of drums is finally grounded to a halt we are left with a gentle piano gliding to the sun drenched horizon. Wide Open is a short engaging trip-hop sortee, a gentle sweeping walk into the late night early morning smoke filled rooms of night clubbers. This track wouldn't be misplaced if found nestled in between Morcheeba and Lamb, you never know. The final track on the CD 'Know By Now' matches Jenny's vocals with a flowing jungle beat, a tune that Moving Shadow Records would be proud to own.



Jenny Mc Mahon is the 19 year old blonde diva of the group with a voice so pure it sends shivers right through you. She is currently a student at the University of Limerick.



Graham Conway is the man on keyboards and plays melodies that haunt you. He is currently pursuing a masters in music technology at the World music Centre and his skills on the ivories have added class to numerous funk and acid jazz bands.



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6pm - 7pm