

morning and see the exact same things deeper issue than just that gig when you see in every town and village the level of alcohol consumption and other substances, its everywhere, so that gig has just brought it to light. You had 45,000 people there it was a low number who caused the problems but people are blaming it on drink, on drugs but the people who caused trouble there were planning on causing trouble and they were doing it in their full mindset. That's an issue for society in Ireland in general, it is not an issue for MCD."

Limerick Post: Can the finger of blame be pointed at so called "rave culture"?

Dan Sykes (Macronite): "Not that I have ever seen. In fact quite the opposite. What happened at Phoenix Park was terrible and it's such a sad thing when anyone is hurt or dies. It doesn't have anything to do with music though. It's really a reflection of the dashed hopes and aspirations that our society faces every day. Emigration, unemployment and lack of services and education are the real issues. Ireland may as well be Craggy Island."

We were led to believe that we were one of the best nations on earth and had the highest quality of life. That was the case but only for a select few people who controlled rise and fall of our country.

most accepting of different people because if you're into it you're part of it. Every generation has had its musical explosions and trends that have caused a stir. We are now in 2012, over 20 years after the rave explosion. If there was ever a "scene" that is anti establishment and pro free though, then it's this so called "rave scene" that is currently being used to blame for the careless, reckless and unfortunate events of that weekend. No government wants people to have free thought and acceptance of everything on one level, because then we won't need the government."

Shane Dunne: "Its not an issue to do with dance music, although I wouldn't class that gig as a dance gig, Swedish House Mafia, for me, are a pop act."

Limerick Post: So, Are Music Festivals safe anymore?

Dan Sykes: "Absolutely, close your eyes and ears to the media and listen to the music. You could ask is it safe to go to a Rolling Stones concert? Seeing as they hired Hells Angels as security at a US gig years ago and several people were beaten. I still see the Rolling Stones concerts with full attendance. Go to twice as many gigs, respect your surroundings and surrounding people, it's not hard."

Shane Dunne: "I think this year, in light of what has happened we are going to have to step up

for a very minor offense and he was released much later. It is a very safe place. We work at it, the line-up that we have does attract a broad range of people, it is more along the lines of a mini Electric Picnic rather than an "Oxegen type thing".

We are stepping up security in light of what has happened in Phoenix Park, though nothing has happened at Independence in these last 3 years that has forced us to step up security. We have had very little issues at Independence, injury reports from the Red Cross are always one pager, tending to be blisters and twisted ankles from dancing too much. We have a lot of stewards, security and Gardaí on site, it is as good and as safe as it can be when you are talking about four and a half thousand festival goers enjoying themselves for the weekend."

Macronite will return in September bringing its monthly instalment of cutting edge underground electronic music to Limerick.

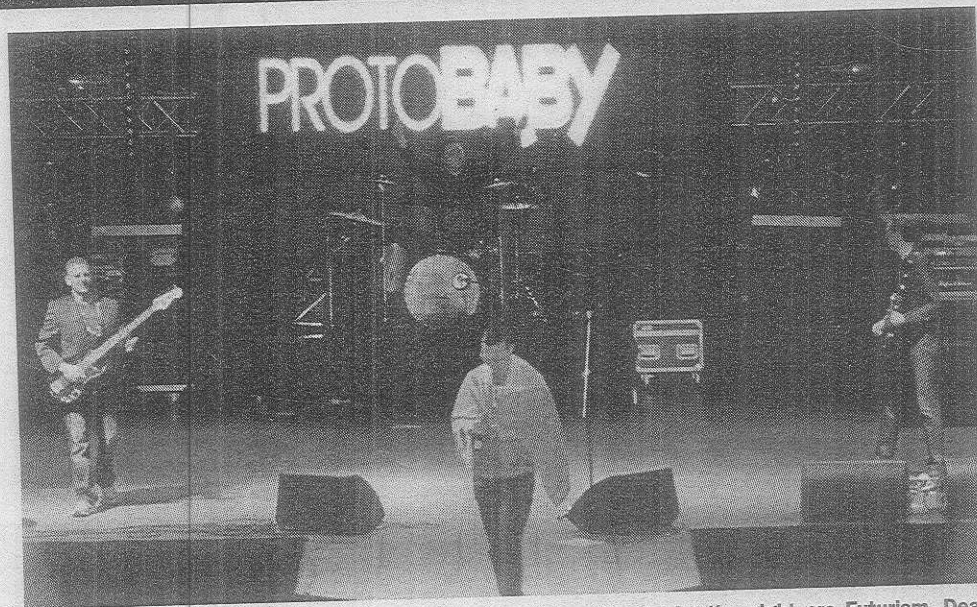
Independence 2012 happens at Deer Farm, Mitchelstown in Cork on the Bank Holiday weekend of August 3-5. It features headliners 2manydjs, Feeder, Maverick Sabre and British Sea Power. They are joined by Irish acts The Coronas, Jape, The Minutes and more. Check independencefestival.com for details.

New video for Protobaby's Only A Spark

LIMERICK'S Protobaby play the first hometown gig since returning from playing Juwenalia Bialystok 2012 in Poland to over 10,000 music fans earlier this year. The annual music festival took place in the quaint city of Bialystok, which lies three hours north of the capital city of Warsaw. Protobaby made a great first impression at Juwenalia 2011 when they played support to massive German rockers, 'Guano Apes', so much so that they were invited back as co-headlining act for Juwenalia 2012.

The band is releasing new single Only A Spark' this week. The video for the song is made up of live footage filmed at Juwenalia Bialystok 2012 and edited by guitarist Tony Monahan. See the video on www.musiclimerick.com.

Juwenalia 2012 is part of what is turning out to be a great year for Protobaby having also begun to



make waves in their native Ireland with an appearance on Today FM's Paul McLoone's Green Room Sessions and being Tony Fenton's Daily Download.

Support acts for the night are Futurism, Dead Red Light & We The People.

Protobaby play Dolan's on Saturday July 28.

Chic Freak Out



Chic on stage last Thursday featuring Nile Rodgers on vocals and guitar.

NEW YORK disco legend Nile Rodgers brought his band Chic to the Big Top at Galway Arts Festival last Thursday. Following their classic show at Electric Picnic in 2009 expectations were high from audience and musicians which probably explains the slightly muted beginning to the show.

But as the hits kept coming, everyone found their groove in a set that had all the Chic classics, 'Everybody Dance', 'Le Freak' and 'Good Times'. Nile Rodgers and the late Bernard Edwards produced and composed hits for Diana Ross and Sister Sledge and 'Upside Down' and 'I Want Your Love' brought the house down. Rodgers reminds his audience that Chic are not a cover band and the set is filled with his productions with the Galway crowd singing the chorus of Shiela and B Devotion's minor hit Spacer back to the band. Other Chic collaborations with David Bowie (Let's Dance) and Madonna (Like a Virgin) kept the party going with bass player Jerry Barnes, in Bernard Edwards place, playing a stormer in what must be the best gig in the world for a bass player laying down popular music's funkier basslines. 'Good Times' finished what is about the best 70's disco party to freak out to.

The after-party in Roisin Dubh had Gugai rocking the dancefloor in the company of DJ Kormac who brought his Audio Visual show and debuted new tracks for the Galway crowd.

Chic are playing two more shows in Ireland this year, Liss Ard Festival in Skibbereen, Cork on August 4 and Dublin's Button Factory on August 2. DJ Kormac also plays Liss Ard and will be in The Blind Pig September 22.

Rx: LIMERICK Post
28th JULY 2012 PAGE 96