

Entertainment

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It would be a blue steel Christmas without BPLO



The Brad Pitt Light Orchestra in full 'Blue Steel' effect will release new material in the new year. The band play Dolan's on Sunday December 23

LIMERICK'S musical tour de force The Brad Pitt Light Orchestra, fronted by three siblings, Ann, David and James Blake, is set for a festive show this week.

The band released the wonderful album 'Lowering The Tone' to well deserved critical acclaim with strong singles 'December' and 'The Devil & Me' gaining a lot of radio play. Alongside a summer of festivals including The Electric Picnic and Castlepalooza, the BPLO participated in 'The Cohen Project'. This collaboration with Liam Ó Maonlaí saw them performing the music of Leonard Cohen in the Irish language. The show is scheduled for a national tour in 2013.

David Blake from BPLO told Limerick Post, "There will be a new album out in 2013. We figured we'd wait to see the outcome of the Mayan

apocalypse before getting stuck in. The album is written so the studio beckons in January/February. The idea would be to release the full album in Autumn - but release an EP and singles along the way."

BPLO fans should be on the lookout for a music/video collaboration with Tim V Smyth of Hidden Highways and Steve Ryan of Windings early next year.

David carefully poured over his band's Christmas Wish List for many hours before finally coming up with this list.

- We'd like new suits, it's about time... we usually just get socks.

- We'd love to get on Jools Holland at some stage in the next few years, so Santa if you're listening, send the heavies round to the BBC to sort it out.

- We'd love to tour the 'Leonard Cohen as Gaeilge' project we did with Liam O'Maonlai in October - it was a lot of fun

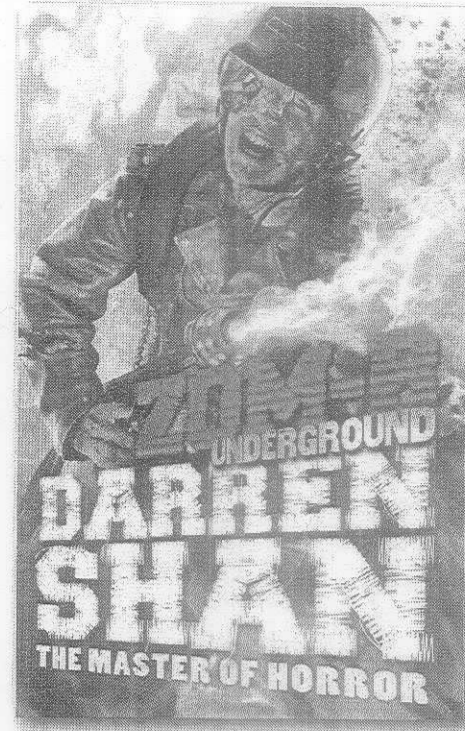
- We'd like all our friends in bands in Limerick to continue to enjoy 'Great Success!' - as Borat would say :)

- We actually would like some socks too.

Here's hoping that the band gets all the wishes in 2013. Joining The Brad Pitt Light Orchestra for the Christmas gig will be the Mikey and the Scallywags, a group whose backgrounds range in influence from Hip-Hop, Prog-Rock, Trad, Bluegrass all the way to Classical and Jazz.

By now a treasured annual event, by the band and fans alike, BPLO's Christmas show promises to be a joyful night to remember.

At Dolan's on Sunday December 23.



A grab-bag of grotesque characters

PALLASKENRY children's horror author Darren Shan is set to release the second book in his 12 book series Zom-B. Since his first book 'The Saga of Darren Shan: Cirque Du Freak' in the late '90s Darren has sold over 25million copies of his books and they have been translated into more than 30 languages.

The ZOM-B series introduces us to B Smith, a teenager with a racist, bullying thug for a father. When a zombie outbreak happens in Ireland, B Smith's school is attacked, forcing B on a mad dash making alliances with anyone with enough guts to fight off their pursuers. While the story has a high body count and fast paced action, the main character has to face moral questions about racist attitudes ever present throughout his upbringing.

In book two, ZOM-B Underground, B Smith wakes up in an underground military complex, months after the zombie outbreak, with no memory of the last few months and held captive by scientists. We are introduced to B's friends, "a real grab-bag of over the top grotesque characters," according to Shan himself.

ZOM-B Underground is released on Thursday January 3, 2013.

Robert Mizzell's Christmas cracker

ROBERT Mizzell was born on July 21 in Louisiana and raised on the shores of Lake Bistineau near Shreveport. His early musical influences came from his parents who both performed in a Church Gospel group and later they played the bars in and around Shreveport. When he was 17 Robert moved to Connecticut where he worked with his father in a decorating business. He then joined the US army where he served for a number of years. After his military service he moved to Ireland with dreams of a career in country music.

Robert has made Ireland his home for over 20 years. He served his apprenticeship in country music since he first arrived here and is now one of the top performers on the dancing scene, his popularity spreading with extensive airplay into

Europe and to such distant territories as Australia.

A Tommy Swarbrigg composition 'Kick Ass Country' was Mizzell's first major hit making, while 'Say You Love Me' was the song that made him a major star of the entertainment scene.

Listed among Robert's most requested songs are 'Say You Love Me', 'Thanks A Lot', 'Who's Gonna Dance With Sally Ann' and 'Mama Courtney'.

In the past two years Robert has been part of the Three Amigos hugely successful tour with Patrick Feeney and Jimmy Buckley, performing to sell out venues everywhere they played.

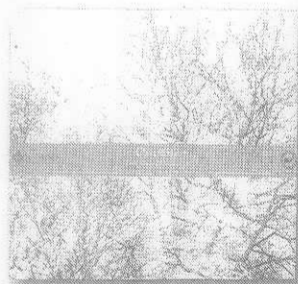
Robert Mizzell is coming to Limerick for a big Christmas cracker at The Greenhills Hotel, Limerick on this Thursday night, December 20.



Robert Mizzell plays The Greenhills this Thursday 20 night.

Owensie: Christmas single for St Gabriel's

FOLLOWING from the recent release of the acclaimed 'Citizens' LP, Owensie has written and recorded a new Christmas single 'The Old Breadline', with all proceeds going to St Gabriel's School and Centre in Dooradoyle.



The single, released by Out On A Limb Records, is now available via iTunes, Bandcamp, and various online stores. The song was written and rehearsed over a week in November by Owensie and band, recorded by Dek Hynes and James Eager, who has recorded and mixed Owensie's first two albums. The single cover was also designed by Dek Hynes, with artwork generously donated by Darragh Nolan of Sacred Animals.

With the festive period looming, Owensie decided that every cent from sales of the single should go to a worthy cause. 'The Old Breadline' by Owensie is out now on Out on a Limb Records.