

Limerick Post SPECIAL REPORT

MUSIC

The Sounds

ANYONE lucky enough to get their hands on the recent limited edition triple in no doubt as to the depth of music creativity in Limerick. From Richard Ha Grannies Intentions, Tuesday Blue or Bill Whelan's 'Riverdance',

Moscow Metro

Members: Sean Corcoran, Barry McNulty, Dylan Casey, Alan Holmes

Moscow Metro have played Electric Picnic and co-produced their debut single with Rob Kirwin (Depeche Mode, Glasvegas, U2)

Listen: 'Spirit of the City' free download

MynameisJohn

Members: John Lillis

The turntableist and electronic beats producer is now part of the Macronite Collective. Has released three EPs since 2011 on bandcamp.com

Listen: 'The Focusing Effect' EP

Animal Beats

Members: Paul McCarthy, Johnny McDonnell, Daniel Clarke, Conor McCarthy

Animal Beats are Limerick/ Dublin based, the popular combo have supported Royseven and The Minutes. They have just completed mastering of the new EP with a launch gig in New York imminent

Listen: 'Off To Sleep' (Soundcloud)

Leading Armies

Members: Glen Scully, Dave 'Finch' Hinchy, Mike Hogan, Cian Daly, Conor J Ryan, Noel Mooney

Won Dublin's Indie Week 2012 which awarded the band a coveted slot at Indie Week in Toronto, Canada. Regularly selling out shows, the combo have a new EP ready to go. **Listen:** 'I Tried' (YouTube)

DeLorean Suite

Members: Jenny McMahon, Graham Conway, Tony Roche

Debut album 'Two Lives' was recorded at DeLorean Suite's Project Studio in Limerick with contributions from bass player Chuck Rainey (Michael Jackson) and Divinity Roxx and Kat Rodriguez (Beyonce's touring band)

Listen: 'Alone' (Two Lives LP)

Eamonn Hehir

Members: Eamonn Hehir

Formerly of rated '80s Limerick band Toucandance, Eamonn released his second solo record in over 10 years in 2013 featuring the guitar playing of Des O'Dwyer. An EP is due in the near future.

Listen: 'The Angel's Share' (The Flag Listeners LP)

Parliament Square

Members: Brendan Markham, Colin Bartley, Karol Drea, Ross Brennan

Formerly of The Driven, Brendan Markham formed the band with songwriter Ross Brennan funding their first recording from a winning a €10 bet on a horse called, you guessed it, Parliament Square.

Listen: 'Forest Fire' (debut single)

Senakah

Members: Rob Hope, Yvonne Conaty, Daragh O'Loughlin, Brendan O'Gorman

Regular touring here and in the US paid off with a strong radio hit for 'Human Relations'. The album of the same name has just been released.

Listen: 'Human Relations' (single)

by Eric FitzGerald

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IN these pages we are shining a light on current musical creativity in the city, talking to the artists about to release new music and recommending some acts for you to check out. It is by no means a comprehensive list but an overview. To get into all the genres of music in the city like blues, country, jazz, ambient, electronic, dance, post-rock, comedy and metal would require many more pages, such is the depth of talent in the city. If you know of an act that the paper should be featuring, do pass on all complaints, harrumphing and glaringly obvious omissions to eric@limerickpost.ie

Limerick can be proud of the achievements of its music creatives lately. Earlier this year Limerick band **Windings** were shortlisted for the Choice Music Prize for their album 'I Am Not The Crow'. It stood in a shortlist of 10 albums with 'Little Sparks' by Dublin band Delorentos eventually taking the honours.

Hermitage Green formed from informal acoustic music sessions in the back of Curragower Bar are now regularly selling out venues in Limerick and Dublin. They have toured as far as Australia and Abu Dhabi.

Senakah scored a big radio hit in 2012 with their catchy earworm 'Human Relations' and have just released a full album of the same name produced by Noel Hogan of The Cranberries.

Limerick band **The Cranberries** do not need any introduction with over 40million album sales worldwide in a career that began in the mid-'90s. The band reformed in 2010 and released the album 'Roses' in 2012 backed by an extensive and successful tour of Europe, and America.

Leading Armies are a relatively new band but have already played some high profile shows at

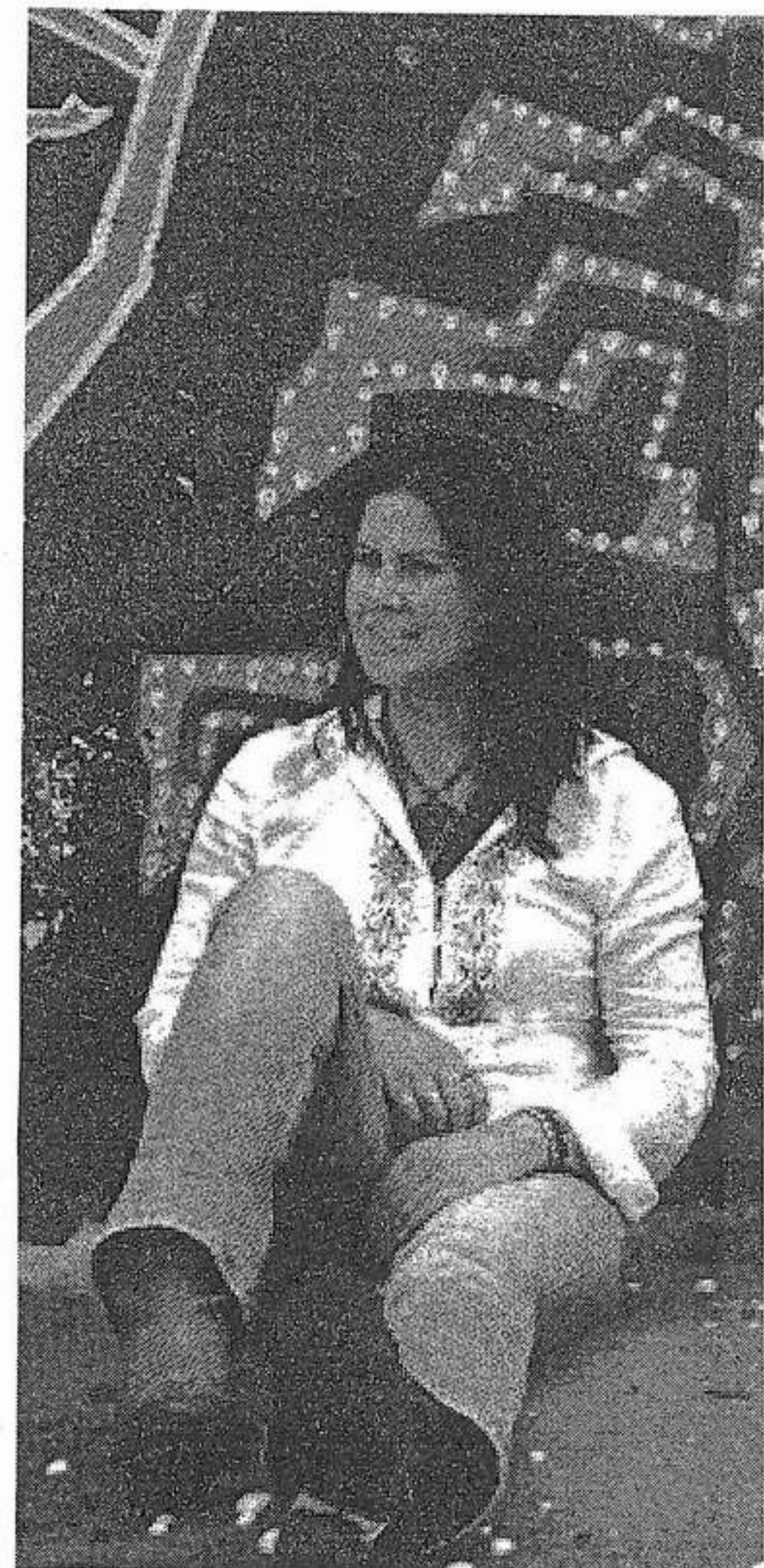
Limerick Milk Market and recently came out on top at the Indie Week showcase to win the opportunity to perform at Indie Week in Toronto, Canada.

The Rubberbandits fell just short of scoring a Christmas No.1 with 'Horse Outside' and released a double album 'Serious About Men' in 2011 and along with many TV appearances made a comedy pilot for Channel 4.

Brad Pitt Light Orchestra released the wonderful album 'Lowering The Tone' in 2010 and are back in the studio again with new releases promised later this year. **Protobaby** won a local competition to perform at Bailystock Festival in Poland and got invited back the following year, released a strong debut 'The Spark' in 2012 and are now signed to Cork's FIEA Records.

Local record labels and music collectives have offered acts extra exposure notably, Out on a Limb Records and Macronite. Local recording studios at Bishop's Palace, Wav Mastering and Denis Allen Studios have given Limerick music its professional sheen.

Venues in Limerick have been responding to this creativity in the city and have opened their doors to original music as part of their entertainment offering with local artists launching singles and albums of new material. Dolan's is celebrating 15 years of live gigs and has consistently provided a platform in Limerick. Added to that newer venues such as Cobblestone Joe's on Ellen Street, The Library on Cornmarket Row, The Loft at Locke Bar, The Orchard, The Blind Pig and Ormston House are now well established. The high quality of bookings by Seoda Shows based at Bourke's Bar, including Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore, has also given the local supporting acts something special to crow about on their gigging biographies. Peter Delaney, who has just released his solo album, runs Wireless Folk, an occasional live acoustic folk night in the city.



Damien Drea keeps the flame burning

by Liam Togher

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A DEBUT album is on the cards for Limerick artist dREA, the latest project of songwriter Damien Drea.

The album, which is due for release this coming autumn, is produced by Giuliano Baglioni, who has previously worked with U2 wingman Daniel Lanois.

The recording process has been an extensive one for dREA, as Damien explains.

"It's taken nearly two years from start to finish between writing, production and changing things around. We'd have gone back to the drawing board a few times and then our producer was coming over and back from Canada."

Damien has played at venues in all corners of the world and has kept the musical flame burning in his family, with both of his parents being professional musicians.

dREA have a tour planned for later in the year after their debut album is released, with the band expected to play in countries such as United Kingdom, Germany and Canada, and they

also released an EP called 'Hunting'.

Damien believes that the prominence of social media makes it far easier for musicians like dREA to get their music into the public domain.

"It definitely helps. I haven't put any music videos online yet but I have uploaded my music onto Soundcloud.

"We released a three-track acoustic version of our recent EP and that was filmed as well so that might be the first video we put up on YouTube."

With the music industry now heavily geared towards producing digital copy for downloading, the days of the CD appear to be numbered.

Damien acknowledges the importance of embracing the concept of downloads, but he still holds considerable affection for the compact disc and its tangible qualities.

"I've always liked to have a record in my hand to see things like where it was recorded and who was involved in it."

"I've sold quite a few CDs but people seem to be going for downloads nowadays and that certainly seems to be the way it's going. With HMV closing it's hard to get a CD now in Limerick."

Siobhán O'Brien - from

by Kathy Masterson

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LIMERICK singer-songwriter Siobhán O'Brien has a busy summer ahead of her with an album launch next week and a tour across the US in June and July. The Corbally resident will launch her self-titled album on Friday May 17 in Dolan's Warehouse where she will be accompanied by a full band and backing singers Aoife McLoughlin, of the Voice of Ireland fame, and Jane Ronan.

Siobhán told Limerick Post: "It's my first full-length original album of all my own stuff. It's been a long time coming. It's been ready for a while but I didn't feel ready to launch it last year.. this year I felt that the time was right and that I needed to mark the occasion."

Later this summer, Siobhán will travel to the US where she will play a number of dates in cities such as New York, Washington DC and San Francisco before heading to Oklahoma to shoot the video

for her track 'Indian Siobhán, who desc

"folk rock with a roc her career at the ter she recorded an old

"We found a recordi six that was note per I had it even when I

my last album came To' with Paddy M Chieftains," she expl

"I always loved m played the piano anc learned to play the gi

writing songs about that." Siobhán boasts an

background as a musician: her uncle of 'The Royal Showb

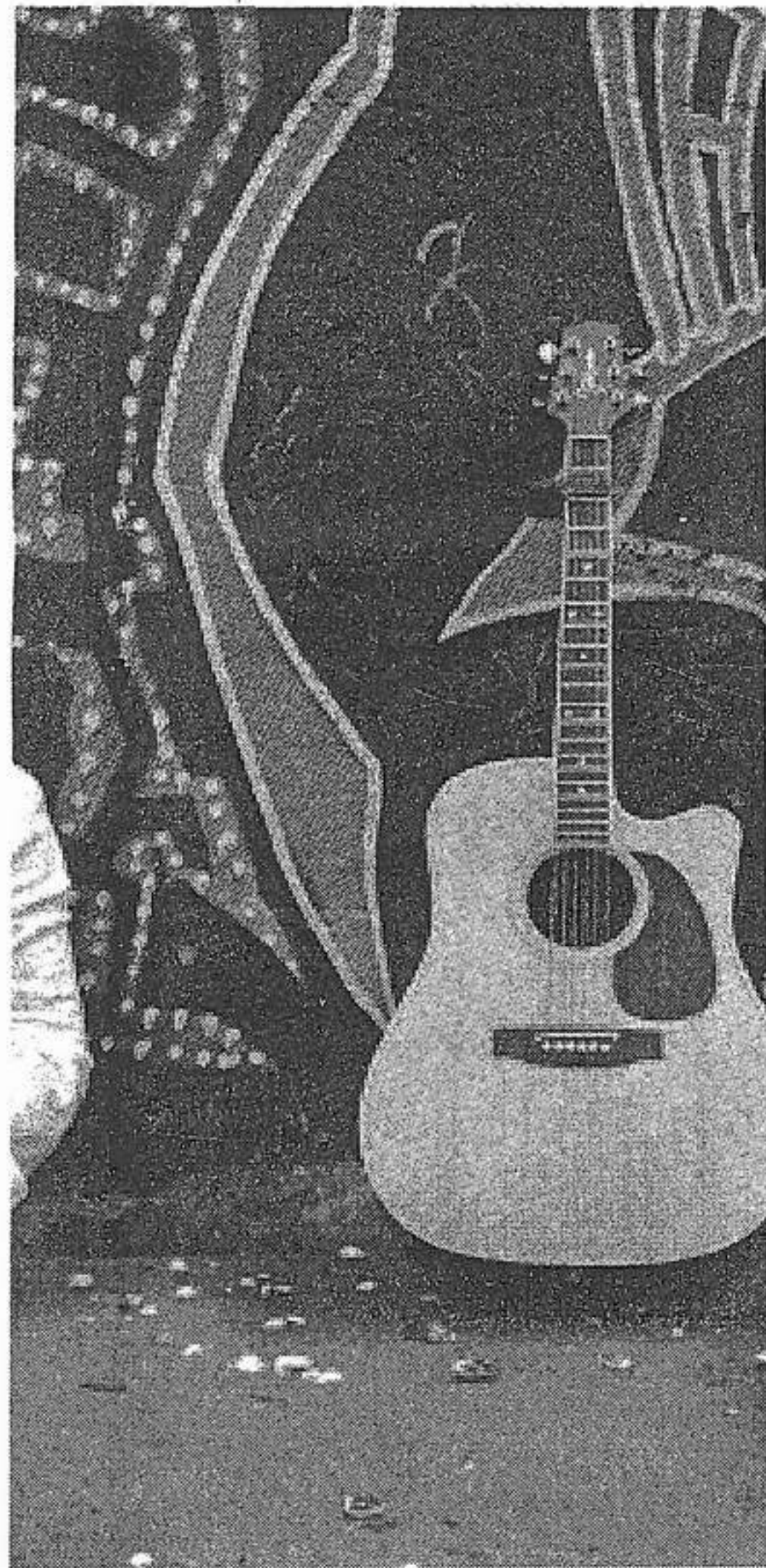
great grandparents Westwood Opera Co

England, which tra English speaking wo

Her musical pedig

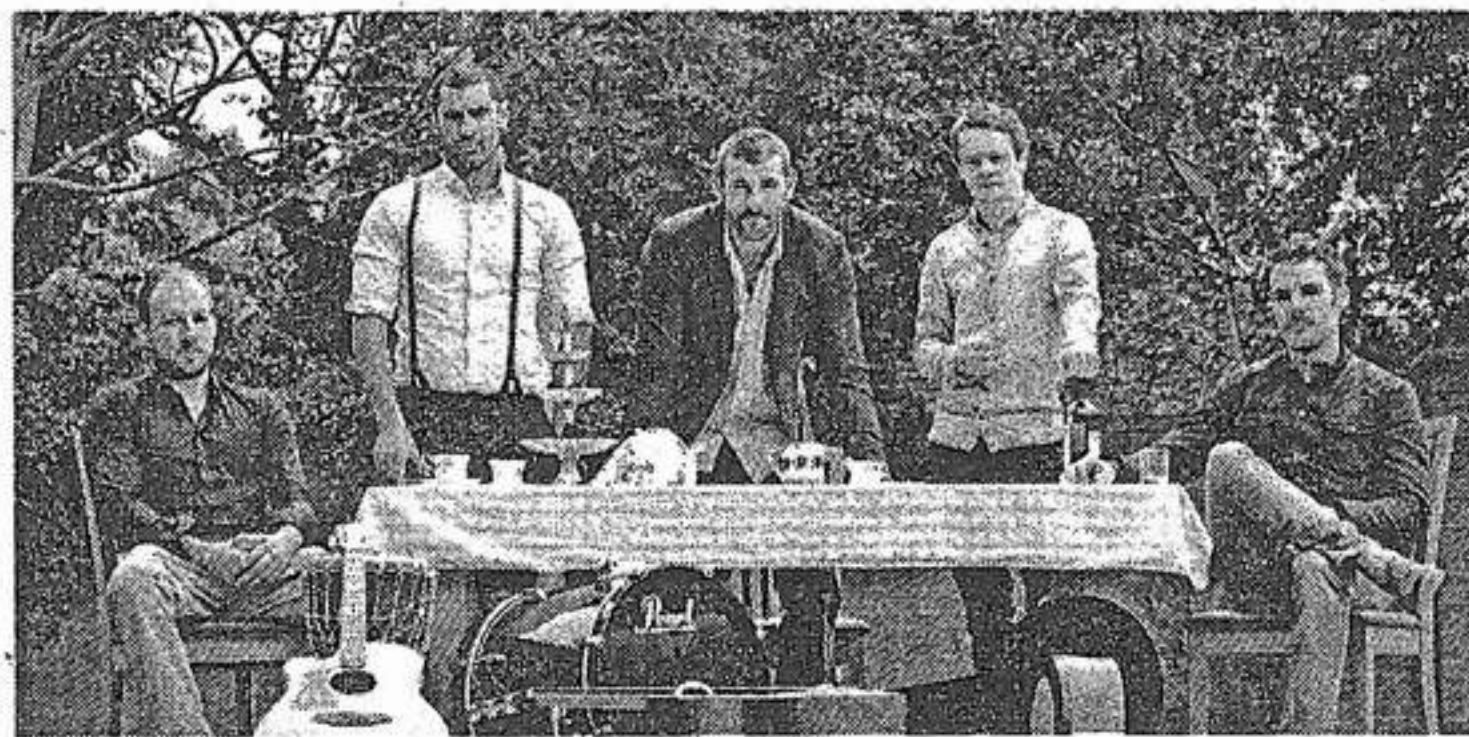
Songs of the City

...ple CD 'Limerick On Record' which was produced by Paddy Brennan would be Harris' cover of 'MacArthur Park' to The Cranberries' 'Linger', not forgetting '...ce', Limerick artists have had their music heard on the world stage



LIMERICK ARTISTS

Left: Siobhan O'Brien
Above: dREA
Top right: Windings
Right: Hermitage Green



from Dolan's to DC

...ck 'Indians'.
...who describes her music as
...with a roots influence" began
...at the tender age of six when
...led an old sea shanty.
...a recording from when I was
...as note perfect, I didn't realise
...en when I was six. I put it on
...bum called 'Songs I Grew Up
...Paddy Moloney from The
...," she explained.
...loved music growing up, I
...piano and the fiddle before I
...play the guitar at 16. I started
...ngs about four months after

...unnoticed as over the years she has
...supported or performed with big names
...such as The Cranberries, Christy Moore
...and The Chieftains.
...Most notably, Siobhán even sang for the
...legendary Bob Dylan.
..."I saw Bob Dylan coming out of his hotel
...and I ran up to him and said, 'I don't
...want to annoy you or anything, I just
...want to give you a tape'. He didn't want
...to know so I stamped my foot and said
...'I sing' and he said, 'Well then sing for
...me'.
..."I sang a couple of verses of an old
...American song called 'Babe, I'm going to
...leave you'. Afterwards he said to me
...'Let's walk this way', and later he had me
...singing at the dinner table in front of
...Bono, The Edge and Chrissie Hynde.
...Nothing came out of it but I realised
...later that his affirmation gave me the
...confidence to do what I wanted to do."
...For more information on Siobhán's music
...and upcoming tour dates, go to www.
...siobhanobrien.com.

Peter Delaney and the witch's bottle

by Bernie English
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PETER Delaney (33) is on a journey that began in his bedroom and has led him to his current tour in which he is promoting his new album 'The Witch's Bottle'.
From writing to recording, Peter likes to do his creative work at home, using recording software, a small mixing desk and a couple of mikes.
"It's much more relaxed that way. I can take my time in getting the result I want. The downside of that is that without the clock ticking, you can procrastinate so it can take a long time to produce a recording".
Signed to Limerick-based Out On A Limb Records, Peter launched his album with a gig in Dolan's last week and will be heading next for Cork and Dublin to promote the CD.
Until now, the singer/ songwriter has been organising his own tours and bookings, "which is not so hard for a sole performer. Trying to do that for a band is a lot harder".
A native of Raheen, now living in Ballyneety,

Peter draws inspiration from traditional songs and old folk music as well as the lilting melancholy of vintage Hawaiian recordings.
In 2007 Peter self-released his debut mini album 'Duck Egg Blue', which was re-released through Deadslackstring Records in 2011. He brought out a limited live CD through Apolloan Recordings in 2010.
He has joined both Oscar winners, The Swell Season, and Fionn Regan as support act on the Irish leg of European tours. He was invited by Donal Dineen to play the main Body and Soul stage at Electric Picnic, and in 2009 he played the VPRO Dwars festival in Amsterdam.
Peter has toured extensively but he believes the type of venue where gigs are held is changing. "There's a lot of new venues opening up. I've played in the Franciscan church, a gallery and the audiences tend to be different, more attentive than people in the pub".
Peter is also a member of the band Red Eskimo and runs Wireless Folk, a live acoustic folk night in Limerick. And as if that wasn't enough, he also makes short films, experimental films and music videos.

Bleeding Heart Pigeons

Members: Micheál Keating, Brendan McInerney, Cathal Histon.
The trio are still in their teens but their home recorded demos have created a lot of interest with thousands of listens on their Soundcloud account. Melodic and inventive dream music. Terrific stuff, see them on Other Voices on RTÉ Two June 26.
Listen: 'In the Forest, I Feel Bizarrely More At Home' (demo, Soundcloud)

Hermitage Green

Members: Barry Murphy, Dan Murphy, Darragh Graham, Darragh Griffin and Dermot Sheedy.
From an acoustic session in the back of a pub to world tours and sold out shows in three short years. Universally popular, record companies are keeping a close eye out for the new material.
Listen: 'Golden Rule' (The Gathering EP)

Windings

Members: Steve Ryan, Patrick O'Brien, Mike Gavin, Brian Meaney, Garry Carrol.
Formerly of Givamanakick, Steve Ryan's solo turn has become a full band project with the third album nominated for a Choice Music Award this year.
Listen: 'This is a Conversation' ('I Am Not The Crow')

ThemeTune Boy

Members: Niall Quinn.
Formerly of The Cranberry Saw-Us (became The Cranberries) and The Hitchers, Theme Tune Boy released his first LP in over ten years, 'Return of the Living Dead' to much critical acclaim.
Listen: 'Recess' (Return of the Living Dead LP)

Campaign LK

Members: Weenz, Brian O'Brien, Joey Soss, Davey Hatchet, Conor O'Brien.
Formed in 2008, drawn together from musical backgrounds as diverse as metal, rock and hip-hop
Listen: 'Exactly How You Feel' (single)

We Come In Pieces

Members: Kieran Hayes, Kieran Sims.
Formed in Jan 2010, made the debut record three weeks later. They play loud music, wear beards and are simply quite brilliant
Listen: 'Nakatomi Towers' (from 'Before The Chains LP, Bandcamp)

Shardborne

Members: Eoin Culhane, Ciaran Culhane, Ben Wanders, Cormac O'Farrell.
Playing instrumental progressive technical metal. Released Aeonian Sequence EP in 2011, just back from a tour of Holland.
Listen: 'Living Bridges' (new track/ video from upcoming LP)

And finally ...

New acts that you will be hearing more of in these pages include Raging Sons, Tractor Bomb, Red Eskimo, Hip Neck Blues Collective, Purple Earth Theory and Milk Baby.