Entertainment

NEW MUSIC

Anna's Anchor: the new album and Irish/UK tour



by Eric FitzGerald eric@limerickpost.ie

ANNA'S Anchor new album 'Nautical Miles' features the singles 'Signal Tower' and 'Hampton' and goes on general release via Struggle Town and Never Meant Records this Friday

September 23.

Anna's Anchor play a show in The Stormy Teacup, Foxes Bow to launch the album.

Marty Ryan is the man, heart and soul behind the Limerick based indie-emo-pop project.

'Nautical Miles' saw Marty spend all of January 2016 crisscrossing the Irish Sea for studio sessions. Recorded in Manchester with producer Bob Cooper, Marty enlisted his pal Brian Scally to lay down drums, before handling all other instrumentation and vocals himself.

The fruit of this labour is a soulful amalgam of emo, indie and pop, both romantic and bittersweet in equal measure, AA's melodies are there to tug at the heartstrings and feed the soul.

This one-man emo factory has been convinced to share the burden when it comes to touring this new record and rightly so as the songs shimmer and flow in waves of heartfelt emotion and melodic depth in a full band context. Marty commented, "Touring with a full band is something I've been reluctant to do just because the project for the most part has been mine.

"But my few close friends that I've played the record for have been like, 'Marty, this sounds so full, you owe it to yourself to at least promote the songs the way they sound', so with that, I decided to do a once-off full band tour to commemorate the release of the album."

Anna's Anchor will tour Ireland and then the U.K. taking in Róisín Dubh, Galway 22/09; Brú Bar, Cork 23/09; The Stormy Teacup, Limerick 24/09 and Fibber Magee's, Dublin 25/09.

NEW MUSIC

A long time coming, Mike releases his debut album

by Eric FitzGerald eric@limerickpost.ie

MIKE O'Donovan has been playing music in Limerick for over five decades and has just this month released his debut album. And it was worth the wait! Mike has assembled a fine band. Dave Keary (Van Morrison), Des Lacey on drums, Jim Hanly on keyboards are among the 14 musicians who have contributed to the album.

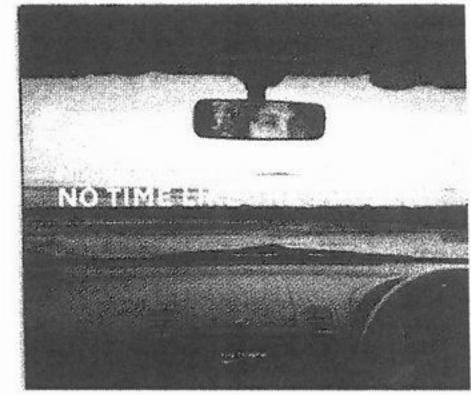
Mike has the knack of putting a catchy tune with descriptive, lyrical imagery as the album swings and shuffles from Latin rhythms to plaintive ballads such as 'If There's a Time', one of the album's standout tracks.

The album is a labour of love and Mike admits that it has taken quite some time to complete as it was recorded in spurts of activity in Limerick's Red Door Studios run by Dave Keary (Tuesday Blue, Van Morrison).

In fact the project took so long that Keary jokingly suggested that the album sleeve should say "Recorded in Limerick 1012 AD - 2016 AD!". And that is exactly what Mike put on the album.

Mike suggests that the album took five times longer than Sgt Pepper to complete. As he was beginning to record the breezy track 'Honeybee', Mike commented to his Dave Keary who also produced, that this would be the perfect "summer hit". "Yeah, but which summer?" quipped Keary!

A live launch gig for the album is imminent. Fans of the Cork based band FRED will be interested to know that Mike is Jamin O'Donovan's



'No Time Like The Present' by Mike O'Donovan is available from Steamboat Music and Videodrome

father. FRED released four albums, had hits with 'Skyscraper' and 'Running' before disbanding. Mike reflects, "In some ways I was an influence on him playing music over the years. And then he became an influence on me!"

"He's on four albums, so I have three more to go the catch up with him", laughs Mike.

'No Time Like The Present' by Mike O'Donovan is out now, available in Limerick from Steamboat Music, Steamboat Quay and Videodrome on Henry Street.

Mike O'Donovan and band will launch the album in Dolan's on Saturday December 3.





