

Entertainment

Leader2

BUMP! brings sweet summer sounds to new home in Clonlara

Alan Owens

WE are in the brains-trust of the BUMP! Muzik Festival, an apartment in Limerick city which is stuffed to the gills with pink flamingos, life-size mannequins and other abstract artistic decorations.

In one room, Eanna Byrt hovers over a laptop, anxiously putting the finishing touches to the two day festival that takes place this weekend in its new location of Landscape House and Gardens, Clonlara - one which is "embracing the best that Irish and international electronic music has to offer". On the wall beside Byrt is a mountain of schedules with names on them - including those of internationally recognised artists like Regis, Inigo Kennedy, Equinox, June Miller, Perc and many others.

In another room, Sarah Lynch - promoter extraordinaire who has worked on shows from The Frames to Bell X1 to Lisa Hannigan in Limerick - paces the floor anxiously, while the smiling, tanned face of Dan Sykes of Viva Music and regular city club night Macronite, watches from the couch, the DJ, producer and teacher rattling off a list of the names on the BUMP! bill with an eerie photographic memory and staccato delivery, words like "twisted, warped-out electronica, break corps, dark tech, future and jungle sounds" escaping from his lips with a rising urgency, his smile broadening with every syllable.

This trio are behind BUMP!, which features over 80 acts on three stages on a new, rolling, green-field site, located just 15 minutes from Limerick.

"It started last year as the



Limerick's rising star Maighread Nelligan will return from London to perform a rare local gig at the BUMP! Muzik Festival which takes place in Clonlara this weekend

kind of idea of building on the activity of all the different promoters - mainly electronic - in Limerick, and building a nice small independent festival on the west coast that would service the Limerick-Clare area," explains Lynch.

"Last year it went off very, very well, everybody had a great time. So we are staying in the same area, but moving to a different site, Landscape House and Gardens, which is a bigger, prettier, lovelier place - used to be the golf course, and is still only 15 minutes drive from Limerick.

She continues: "BUMP! has emerged from that idea of Limerick/Clare collectives, working independently, there are no big sponsors, nothing like that. We are using BUMP! as a celebration and a showcase of the loves of the different promoters, musically and artistically".

Between the trio they boast over ten years of experience running gigs and festivals yet BUMP! was a major venture for them last year, a step outside the comfort zone of established club nights and smaller scale gigs. 550 people turned out

for the two day festival, which boasted top names such as Marcus Intallex, Rockwell, Luka Baumann and Bearwesel, who headlined alongside the many local DJs that will be taking to the stage again this year - in the region of 21 of them.

Dubbed the best left field electronic music festival last year in some quarters, there is a feeling of something growing organically to a very exciting point this year. Having visited the site, it seems clear that BUMP! have found a location they can build steadily on, capturing something of that

Body and Soul vibe with their festival.

"In terms of a line-up and the general experience of being at the festival, this will stand up against any other small festival in the country," says Lynch.

"Musically it is a techno-drum and bass-dub and crossover electronic music festival where the artists are huge in their own field, but mightn't be household names. We would be bringing people who musos would know, but the general punter will still find really fresh and exciting."

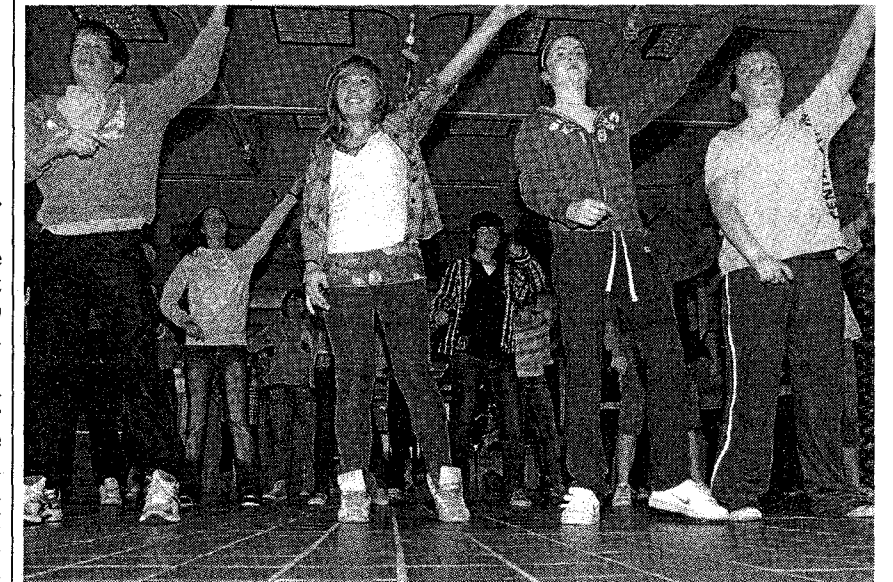
"Everyone that is working on it is doing it for love or the experience or just because they want to get involved. What we want to make is something affordable, that would be a comfortable experience. So when you come on site, the camping is there, with a full bar, a full food court. It is going to be a very large garden party, but still have that sense of getting to know people over the weekend."

An excited Sykes takes City Life through the extensive line-up, which includes the local Roots Factory, Macronite, Filthy Dubstep Bastards, WTF is Tech House and Fried crews, as well as Limerick electro-popper Maighread, ska band Serious Mischief and more.

"Regis is probably the big draw for techno fans, he was part of the Birmingham techno sound," says Dan. "It will be something different for people. Visually, aurally, this will be a different level of experience for people. It is going to be the party of the summer."

BUMP! takes place this Saturday and Sunday.

Pure Imagination: Centre Stage Campers present brand new show



Chris Young, Katie Dagg, Holly O'Keefe and Rebecca Waters, from the Centre Stage Summer Camp, getting prepared for 'Willy Wonka and We Will Rock You', taking place in the University Concert Hall on Sunday next, July 24, at 7.30pm. A mix of the classic Roald Dahl tale and Queen's modern rock opera, this promises to be a wildly entertaining spectacle.

WHAT'S ON: YOUR ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE

Friars Gate get ready for 'Set in Stone'

FRIARS Gate have announced details of a co-production with CallBack Theatre, 'Set in Stone', written and directed by John Sheehy, which returns in August after a sell-out show last year for a two week run.

A condensed, action-packed history of Kilmallock, 'Set in Stone' is a faithful yet highly inventive story full of quirks and carnage. Journey from 1569 to 2011 - through fierce faction fighting, the scandalous Lola Montez, the Bulgaden Gold Rush and much more, bringing the vibrant, shocking, hilarious and moving stories that surround us to life.

A 'promenade' style piece of theatre inviting the audience to literally follow the action from scene to scene, the audience congregates at Kilmallock's beautiful Dominican Abbey before being led to Friars' Gate Theatre, are taken on a journey through time experiencing the theatre and inhabiting the story.

Set in Stone runs from August 1-14.

Tony Miceli workshop and concert

director Bernard Rozet for the world premiere of the new edition of Rameau's famous piece, which takes place on Friday, July 22.

Bunga Bunga party in Bentleys Courtyard

BUNGA BUNGA might be more readily associated with a certain Italian politician, but Limerick is playing host to its own 'Bunga Bunga' parties regularly on a Friday night in Bentleys Courtyard, with some of the finest local and national music makers recreating an "Ibiza terrace party feel" in the city.

The Bunga Bunga night sprang up recently in the courtyard of the complex, and has gone from strength to strength, notably featuring spectacular eclectic visuals from 'Daycent Visuals'.

With this Friday's party to feature local legends John O'Loughlin and John Greenwood, as well as technical wizard Zdenek Malich, Bentley's is certainly the place to be.

Doors are at 8.30pm and admission is €8/6.

On The Nail open mic

Love, Peace and Robbery in the Belltable

Alan Owens

performed locally and far and wide - including a come to the conclusion that some quick and easy

