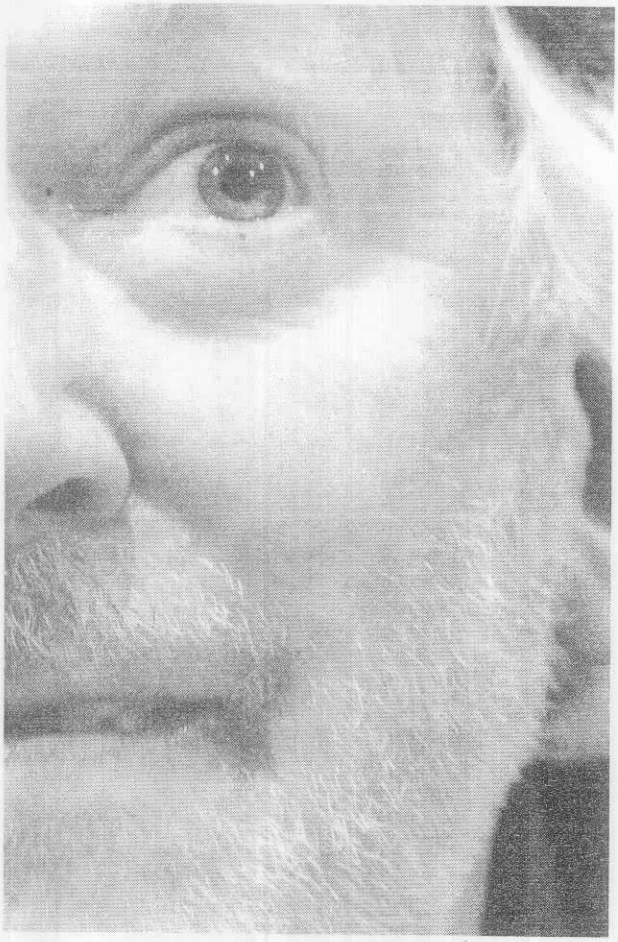
BY SHANE FOLEY



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waiting for Belltable . . .

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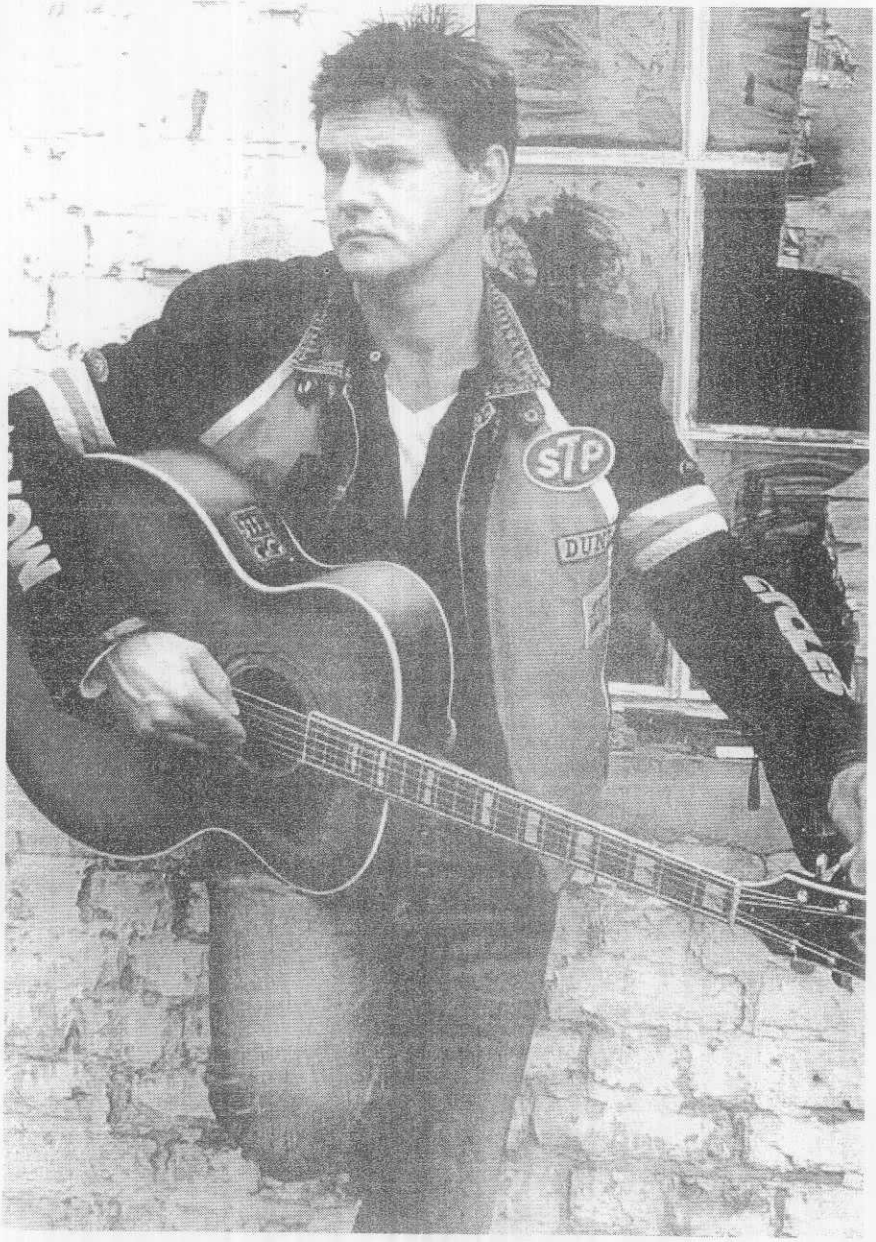
The Gallant John-Joe consists entirely of monologue with his thick accent pouring out to form an environment filled with uncertain, shifting realities and dubious situations. People spring to life in an instant and then dissolve into a murmur just as quickly.

Tom Hickey's performance is challenging, engaging and very convincing. His presentation and creation of John-Joe's world is excellent, calling on the subtlest expression and the grossest bodily movement.

The Gallant John-Joe was specially written for Hickey by Tom MacIntyre. The Hickey/MacIntyre collaborations have become a celebrated part of Irish theatrical history, particularly since The Great Hunger in 1986, which took the Edinburgh Festival by storm, winning a Fringe First Award, and then touring to London, Paris, Leningrad, Moscow and New York.

The Gallant John-Joe runs until this Saturday, February 11, and tickets are available from the Belltable box-office tel. 061-319866.



Limerick singer-songwriter Don Mescall celebrates the release of his debut album this Sunday night with a gig 'Upstairs' at Dolan's.

Don Mescall album release and Sunday night gig should be something to savour

TALENTED Limerick singer-songwriter Don Mescall — very much on the music industry fast-track these days — must surely be looking forward to his hometown performance at Dolan's 'Upstairs' venue this Sunday, February 12, to

haunting lyrics, weaving an intensely deep and emotional tapestry, mixed with a powerful and energetic delivery.

Don has worked and toured with artists including LeAnn Rimes, Graham Lyle, Brian Kennedy, Shawn Colvin,

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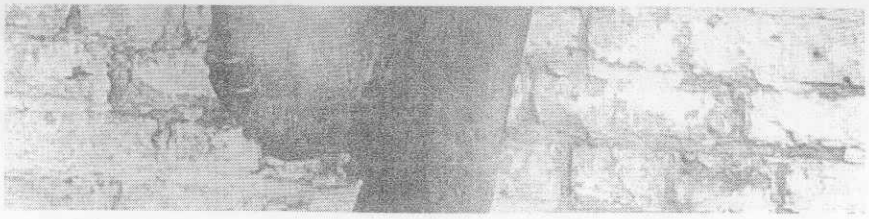
ıck at the Warehouse

ɔn the road again only months after appearing in Lim- 'he Roads Don't Love You. Thankfully, once again, she ɔruary 12, as part of her current countrywide jaunt to ecently held 2006 Meteors. The Roads Don't Love You , Night On My Side. On its release in 2002, the album ıg a whole new batch of songs, Gemma moved to Los ecord and play with. "I'd just heard there was a really ns", stated Gemma, "plus, I was kind of curious about with her new arsenal of tunes, Gemma upped sticks drummer Joey Waronker, whose credits include REM, Johnny Cash and many more, and he offered his pro- ans she admired greatly through their individual work the aforementioned The Roads Don't Love You com- you believe, with stunning results! Catch her on Sun-

Varro celebrate single e with a gig at Dolan's



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Don Mescall album release and Sunday night gig should be something to savour

TALENTED Limerick singer-songwriter Don Mescall — very much on the music industry fast-track these days — must surely be looking forward to his hometown performance at Dolan's 'Upstairs' venue this Sunday, February 12, to promote the release of Innocent Run, his debut album.

The supremely talented Limerick man, from Lisnagry, releases his first full-length CD for Curb Records this Friday, February 10.

The album is a collection of beautifully narrated and haunting songs, which mixed with Don's vocal talent and very fine guitar playing, make this a very strong debut offering. Featuring his latest single, the superb "Left In LA", and the radio hit "You Don't Love Me", it also includes tracks produced by Randy Goodrum, Paul Herman and Morten Schjolin.

Don is an accomplished guitarist, a powerful vocalist and immensely gifted songwriter.

Born and raised out the road in Lisnagry, he moved to London over a decade ago to create a wider audience for his work. Proud of his Irish heritage and unashamed to cite the rich cultural background which had a major influence on his life, the originality and individualism of his musical style stubbornly refuses to fit comfortably into any obvious category.

His melodies are lilting and expertly combined with unique and haunting lyrics, weaving an intensely deep and emotional tapestry, mixed with a powerful and energetic delivery.

Don has worked and toured with artists including LeAnn Rimes, Graham Lyle, Brian Kennedy, Shawn Colvin, Richie Havens, Joe Cocker, Kiki Dee, Frances Black, Eleanor Shanley, Gretchen Peters and Lulu, to name but a few.

In more recent times, Mescall's amazing journey gained pace and a publishing deal followed which introduced him to the different experience of co-writing. This resulted in him joining forces with world famous songwriters including Graham Lyle, Randy Goodrum, Scott English, Greg Sutton and Pam Sheyne.

This Don Mescall performance should not be missed — don't forget, 'Upstairs' at Dolan's this Sunday, February 12.

You have, as they say, been warned!

Eileen Colgan, Adele 'Twink' King and Joan O'Hara (who has been replaced due to illness) in a scene from the hilarious Dirty Dusting which runs at the LIT Millennium Theatre from Thursday next, February 16, to Saturday, February 18.

OAP cleaners talk dirty at LIT and end up filthy rich for their troubles

THE Irish premiere of the smash hit comedy Dirty Dusting is set to have Limerick audiences rolling in the aisles when it comes to LIT's Millennium Theatre on Thursday next, February 16.

Starring Adele 'Twink' King, Joan O'Hara (who has just been replaced due to illness), better known

hill, but they certainly won't take threats of redundancy lying down!

The trio set up a phone sex service, known as 'the Telephone Belles', and that's when the fun really begins.

Their bosses don't know about it, their families would never guess and their very willing cus-