

2night

magazine

www.2night.ie

DUBLIN

March 2010

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Welcome to the March issue of our magazine.

This month, we're celebrating something about Dublin that rarely gets a mention: our huge range of restaurants, and the variety of cuisines on offer for adventurous taste buds. Our special feature this month puts Asian and Mediterranean cuisine in a fight to the finish – what type of cooking do we love most, and what restaurants? You can add your voice to the debate after finding out more on page 4, and win a free meal at two of the city's hippest restaurants on page 14.

That's not the only thing you'll find in our magazine this month, though. We've had a chat with Kila's Rónán O'Snodaigh ahead of his band's gig on Paddy's Day, and have an exclusive interview with Bing Bailey, the Irish writer/director of possibly the coolest horror to ever emerge from this island: Portrait of a Zombie. Along with that, we've previews of March's must-see movies, plus a run-down of the best arts events, gigs, club nights, plays and more going on in the city. As always, feel free to have your say on venues and events – and to keep up with what's happening daily – by visiting www.2night.ie or m.2night.ie (if you're on a mobile), or simply by downloading our ace iPhone app free from the iTunes store. There's a lot packed into this little magazine, and we hope you enjoy it.

Derek Owens
Editor – 2night

2night
www.2night.ie

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PEOPLE: COMMUNITY

meet other night-life enthusiasts keen on making the most of the night

2night
www.2night.ie

your guide to restaurants, venues and events in your city

What's YOUR flavour

With an influx of Asian and Mediterranean restaurants hitting the city, we're asking Dublin's food lovers to tell us - and each other - about the cuisines they love.

Dublin's vibrant restaurant scene is something we can sometimes take for granted. But even in London, Paris, or the heart of Manhattan, it's hard to find quite so many good quality restaurants that people can visit without emptying their pockets in such a small space. Moreover, you'll find a range of cooking styles in our restaurants, from the Lebanon to South America and beyond, that's hard to match. For a little city, we've got a lot to offer food lovers. Dublin's taste buds have had plenty of stimulation in the last few years - but what flavours have moved us, and what ones

should move on? We're inviting you, the people of Dublin, to tell us. To start off, we've picked out some top restaurants working in two different styles of cuisine. First up, we've a selection of Mediterranean restaurants, serving everything from the rich and wholesome flavours of Italy to rustic tapas and exotic Moroccan dishes. Next, we've selected the best elements of the Asian invasion, including zingy and hip Thai eateries and family-owned restaurants serving excellent Mongolian fare. You'll find reviews of them in the followings pages. So what do we want you to do? Well, quite

simply, check some of them out and let us know what you think! Log on to our website at www.2night.ie and rate your favourite (or least favourite) restaurants. You can also win dinner for two at Saba and Conrad Black's excellent new place, Salon des Saveurs. All you have to do is tell us why you prefer Mediterranean or Asian cuisine through our site. You can find more information about this competition on page 14. Dublin's great food debate is starting in these pages and on www.2night.ie. Don't miss your chance to take part!



have your say
2NIGHTERS AND THEIR NIGHTLIFE



Name: Joanna McHugh
Age: 25
2night.ie Avatar: Joannadark

Which do you prefer - Asian or Mediterranean cuisine - and why?

Mediterranean food as I don't like spicy foods! I prefer plain foods.

Which do you think is more popular in Dublin right now?

Asian.

If you could have one dish to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Caprese Salad.

Where are your favourite places for getting Mediterranean food? Why do you like them?

Dunne & Crescenzi on South Frederick Street - great ingredients and simple food!



Name: Stephen Tormey
Age: 26
2night.ie Avatar: StevieT

Which do you prefer - Asian or Mediterranean cuisine - and why?

Asian. I'm a sucker for spicy food!

Which do you think is more popular in Dublin right now?

I would imagine that Asian food is on top. We've become a lot more cultured and adventurous as a nation when it comes to continental and Mediterranean cuisine, but our age-old fondness of Chinese food is a hard habit to break!

If you could have one dish to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Spicy beef noodle soup - if anything will clear your head and fill your stomach, this is it!

Where are your favourite places for getting Asian food? Why do you like them?

Foodies might tut, but I'm a great fan of Wagamama. No fuss, good service and simple, healthy food. I enjoy eating as a social event, but I'm not one to hang about and spend 40 minutes getting to know my starter, so Wagamama's style suits me perfectly. Other great spots are Café Mao in Dublin 2 and the Asian Tea House Restaurant in Galway City - a bit more formal, but a great all-rounder.



Asian



DIEP LE SHAKER
55, Pembroke Lane –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 0166611829



This still-trendy place offers authentic Royal Thai cuisine at prices to suit minor nobility - your wallet will be lighter after a visit, but your belly should be sated. The Bangkok Street Food section, which offers tasty staple dishes for the ordinary man, is similarly satisfying. Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday. Lunch served Monday to Friday from 12:00 to 14:30 (17:00 Friday). Dinner at 18:00 (17:30 Friday) to 23:00 (22:30 Monday and Tuesday).

JAIPUR
41, George's Street –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 016770999



Now with five locations around Dublin, Jaipur is able to dispense its freshly-prepared, rich and spicy Indian fare to the whole city. The George's Street Branch is probably ideal if you're going as a group, which is the best way to sample this lively restaurant. The presentation and cooking standards are high, with the Chaa Gosht (Wicklow lamb cooked with five spices and yoghurt) a particular treat. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 17.30 to 23.30.

KOH
7, Jervis Street,
Millenium Walkway –
Dublin 1.
Tel: 018146777



This newish Thai restaurant and cocktail bar is cashing in on a renewed love of spice among Irish diners. The venue – all dark, cool furnishings – is typically packed, as the menu has enough variety to suit both novices and dedicated fans of Asian fare. Meanwhile an extensive cocktail list (try the Tdang-Gua when you visit) is packed with boozey treats. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 23:00 (22:30 Sunday and Monday, 23:30 Friday and Saturday).

KOISHI
174, Pembroke Road,
Ballsbridge –
Dublin 4.
Tel: 0166688393



One of the best sushi restaurants in the city, Koishi has an elegant atmosphere, from the infallibly polite service to the décor of warm, beige tones. It's a neutral sensory palette for the zingy sushi experience, with delights starting at €1.90 each. Meanwhile, an alternative dinner menu is ideal if you'd prefer a heartier meal. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 12:00 to 14:30, Monday to Friday. Dinner served from 18:00 to 23:30.

CAFÉ MAO
22, Chatham Street –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 016704899



Open since 1997, this is where many Dubliners first discovered the joy of fresh Asian fare that wasn't swimming in grease or MSGs. Always reliable for a hearty, interesting meal, it buzzes with activity. Though the beers and dishes Mao introduced to Irish taste buds are now much more popular, there's still plenty of kick and interest in things like the Iki drinks and the Korean fire beef. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to late (21:00 Sunday).

THE MONGOLIAN BARBEQUE
7, Anglessea Street –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 016704154



Mongolian Barbeque meal is simple: you get limitless bowls of steamed rice, and endless trips to fill another little bowl from a buffet of raw meats, vegetables, sauces and spices, before your concoction is grilled in front of your eyes. The buffet is well stocked and fresh, while the unique set-up lets you vent your creative streak and fuels conversation. Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday from 18:00 (16:30 Saturday and Sunday) to late.

SABA
26-28, Clarendon
Street – Dublin 2.
Tel: 016792000



An ever-present at awards ceremonies both for its excellent food and its nifty cocktail bar, Saba's Clarendon Street restaurant remains the gold standard in contemporary Thai cuisine. The menu blends dishes suitable for anyone with truly tongue-burning treats (think you love chilli? Try the Bangkok Noodles), while the décor and atmosphere oozes cool. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 12:00 to 18:00, dinner from 18:00 to 22:30.

SIAM THAI
14/15, Saint Andrew
Street – Dublin 2.
Tel: 016773363

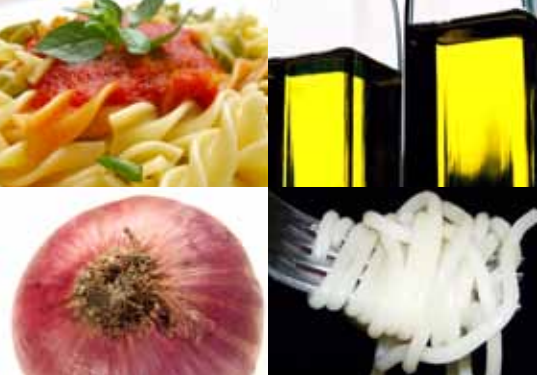


From the vibrant décor to the genuinely friendly service, everything about this little place oozes enthusiasm for good food in enjoyable surroundings. Siam Thai, though, is quite an unpretentious restaurant, with prices to match and food that's cosmopolitan and fun. The garlic and pepper dishes in particular are filled with flavour. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 12:00 to 14:30, dinner from 17.15 to 23:00 (22:30 Monday-Wednesday).

YAMAMORI
71, George's Street –
Dublin 2
Tel: 014755001



Opened in 1995, this is one of the earliest restaurants in Dublin to serve authentic Japanese cuisine, and is still a top-tier place. Though sushi is served here, we'd be quicker to recommend their flavourful ramens, grilled seafood and other noodle dishes, all cooked to perfection. Indeed, the execution and professionalism on display here, from the kitchen to the front desk, continues to impress after 15 years. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:30 to 23:00.

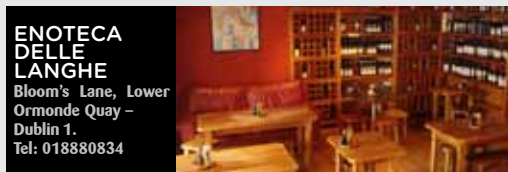


Mediterranean



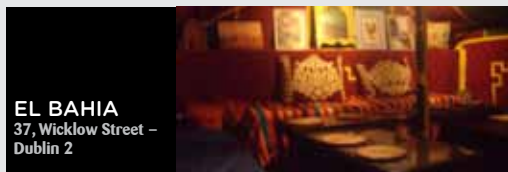
BAR PINTXO
12, Eustace Street,
Temple Bar –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 01 672 8590

One of the best new tapas places to open in the city, Bar Pintxo is separated from the competition by a lively, seductive atmosphere and a Basque theme, meaning that well-prepared seafood features strongly on the menu. The land-based fare, from the patatas bravas to the lamb stew, is equally delicious.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 17:00 (12:00 Saturday, 12:30 Sunday) to 21:30 (00:30 Friday and Saturday, 23:30 Sunday).



ENOTECA DELLE LANGHE
Bloom's Lane, Lower
Ormonde Quay –
Dublin 1.
Tel: 018880834

Easily one of the top places for an authentic aperitif, Enoteca Delle Langhe is the brainchild of developer (and well-known Italaphile) Mick Wallace. In addition to a lengthy wine list, this place offers tasty smaller plates, with mixed boards of meats and cheeses available for €9.50. The Crostini and salads are also worth a go, while the atmosphere is cozy and romantic.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:30 to 00:00.



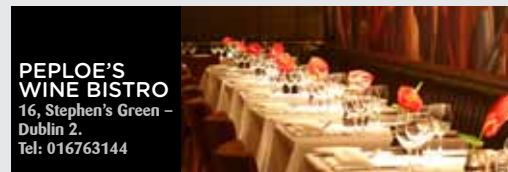
EL BAHIA
37, Wicklow Street –
Dublin 2

Exotic, dramatic, exciting – el Bahia provokes many adjectives, most of them positive. This authentic Moroccan restaurant goes to great lengths to conjure up images of the north African bazaar, both in its décor and the rich heart flavours on the menu – the tangines are particularly special here. Prices the right side of reasonable, and even a little Kasbah filled with Moroccan wares for sale, make this an ideal place.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 17:00 to 22:00.



IL SEGRETO
13A, Merrion Row –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 01 6618700

There's a mix of modern Irish and Italian influences at this recently-opened sister restaurant to the much-loved Unicorn. The service is both friendly and competent, the décor is fresh and airy, while the quality of the cooking easily pushes Il Segreto into 'special treat' territory. The veal cutlet on the bone, for example, may set you back €32.50, but it's money well spent.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:30 to 22:30.



PEPLOE'S WINE BISTRO
16, Stephen's Green –
Dublin 2.
Tel: 016763144

Kudos to Barry Carney: in addition to driving a beautiful restoration of this underground vault dating back to the 1760's, he's also nurtured a high-quality French and Mediterranean restaurant here. The menu is a mix of Irish scene staples and some more exotic dishes – you must try the Bretagne Rabbit. A well-picked selection of 200 wines, including many by the glass, is also welcome.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 00:00



SALAMANCA
1, St Andrew Street -
Dublin 2.
Tel: 016774799

The first tapas bar to grace Dublin is oddly inauthentic: while you'll find tasty but simple treats in Spanish tapas bars, Salamanca applies the principle of several shared plates to high-quality cuisine. Not that we're complaining – the menu is a delight to work your way through, with the deep-fried goats cheese and stuffed peppers particularly recommended, while the atmosphere is boisterous and fun.
Open seven days a week. Tapas menu served all day, lunch from 12:00 (13:00 Saturday and Sunday) to 16:00. Early bird menu from 16:00 to 18:30.



SALON DES SAVEURS
16 Aungier Street,
City Centre South
Tel: 01 475 8840

Celebrity Chef Conrad Gallagher has returned to the kitchen in style with this new Aungier Street restaurant. Salon des Saveurs has a simple concept, offering a choice of tasting menus, which lets you sample a great variety of delights for prices ranging from €24 to €108 including wine. The novel idea makes eating in this fresh-feeling restaurant a delight. Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday. Lunch served 12:30 to 14:30, dinner from 17:00 to 22:00.



STEPS OF ROME
1 Chatham Court -
Dublin 2
Tel: 01670 630

One of the first places to offer quality pizza by the slice, this place still draws queues late into the evening. The menu of freshly-baked pizzas ranges from classic recipes such as pepperoni to altogether more innovative combos with vegetables you never imagined would work together. If you can stand the wait for a table in the small dining room, wash the meal down with a delicious Peroni.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 10:00 to 23:00.



TOSCANA
3, Cork Hill, Dame
Street – Dublin 2
Tel: 016709785

Dinner here is a relaxing affair aided by laid-back staff and diners, generous portions, and lashings of red wine. Toscana have cut their menu prices to 2006 levels, while the cooking is similarly vintage: we're particular fans of the three colour tagliatelle and the pollo alla Toscana, a tasty supreme stuffed with spinach and three cheeses, and wrapped in parma ham.
Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to late. Lunch served from 12:00 to 15:00.



PORTRAIT OF A ZOMBIE

Irish writer-director Bing Bailey may have just made the most interesting zombie film in years. He talks to 2night about creating a horror with plenty of brains.

Believe it or not, there's a rich vein of social commentary mixed in with the hilariously wooden acting and low-budget effects in zombie film classics like George A. Romero's *Dawn of The Dead*. But director David 'Bing' Bailey doesn't see much of that these days. "Generally, a lot of zombie movies today are just action films, and they've jettisoned the broader points of view, which is kind of sad. There's nothing wrong with being entertaining; *Zombieland* [a 2009 horror comedy] is a fun film and a fun ride, and so is the remake of *Dawn of the Dead*, but there's no great debate about those films after you've finished seeing them. They're fun, they're entertaining, but that's it," he says. "Production values have gone up, the acting has improved, and the dialogue in those movies has definitely gotten better. But they haven't quite cottoned on to the fact that those earlier films from the 60s, 70s and 80s had a lot more going on, even though they don't have the slick sheen, CGI and special effects. If you can combine the entertaining part with what made those films special, you'll have something really lasting."

Bailey's independent attempt at that, planned for release in 2010, is an impressive one. *Portrait of a Zombie* breaks the horror mould by looking at the aftermath of a zombie infestation in Dublin, and the efforts of an ordinary Finglas family to keep and protect an infected family member – much to the horror of the local community, and the interest of an American documentary crew. Shot in 11 days on the street Bailey grew up in, it's as much about contemporary Ireland as it is about the living dead. "I wanted it to reflect some of the things about Irish life growing up, how Irish mothers are with their children, and how they'd do pretty much anything to take care of and protect them – and how families dealt with crises that arise. In this, it's a fantasy crisis of a zombie son, but it could be anything; it could be a child that had a bad accident,"

he says. "It could just as easily be a family dealing with someone that's gotten a deadly disease."

The story is a novel one, and the early trailer hinting at a film with black humour, drama and horror is making waves internationally. "We seem to have a lot of fans in Italy and Spain for some reason. The Italian websites start out with 'Guinness and Zombies – what more could you want?' It's been funny and unusual getting that kind of support from non-English-speaking countries. Officially, we've over 32,000 hits on our teaser trailer in two months. For a film with a lot of unknown people in it, that's fantastic. I definitely think that the horror and indie movie fans are behind us, and a lot of them have caught onto the fact that it's not the usual 'survivalist' zombie film."

At the moment, Bailey is relying on word of mouth and the internet to promote the film – between authoring, shooting and editing a big screen quality film for a mere €60,000, he's got enough on his plate. Through his name appears several times across the film's credits, there are other people that joined him to realise this tragic-comic horror-vision. "I have a co-writer – Laura Bailey, my wife. She's fantastic, much better than I am. And I had a lot of great people working on the film like Terri Pinell and Jaclyn Cooper, who did the make-up, and then really great actors: Diane Jennings, Patrick Murphy, Gerry Shanahan. Geraldine McAlinden and Rory Mullen were all really fantastic. I'd love to be able to say it's all me, but that's not the truth of any movie. I am the final filter for everything, and I'm the one who says 'this fits my story' and 'this doesn't', but it's a collaborative experience." You can wait to see the result of that collaboration later this year or, if you're intrigued, you can read a full transcript of our interview with Bailey for free at www.2night.ie. You can also find out more about the film on www.portraitofazombie.com and www.facebook.com/portraitofazombie. ■

MOVIE TOP FIVE

2night's tips on the best films hitting screens this month

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

[5 MARCH]

Depp fans will love what he does with the role of the mad hatter, while Tim Burton lets his madcap visual imagination loose in this retelling of a classic story.

GREEN ZONE

[12 MARCH]

It's a Bourne reunion as Matt Damon unites with director Paul Greengrass. It'll feel like it too in this paranoid action thriller, also starring Brendan Gleeson.

I LOVE YOU PHILIP MORRIS

[12 MARCH]

Jim Carey and Ewan McGregor co-star in this surreal true story of a conman in relentless pursuit of his prison boyfriend.

SHUTTER ISLAND

[12 MARCH]

Leonardo DiCaprio stars in this sinister, Scorsese-directed period thriller set in a brutal mental institution.

MY LAST FIVE GIRLFRIENDS

[19 MARCH]

A valiant effort to play around with the rom-com genre from the man's point of view, *My Last Five Girlfriends* traces the good and bad in five relationships as told by the somewhat witless Duncan (Brendan Patricks).



Check out all city centre cinema listings on www.2night.ie.



"You need live practice to do live gigs, because it's not a television show. There are real life people there and real things happening in front of you."



KILIN' TIME

With soundtrack credits on an Oscar-nominated film, a new album, and a packed touring calendar, it's all going right for trad/fusion stalwarts Kila. 2night catches up with frontman Rónán O'Snodaigh about the secrets of playing live, their new release and a special gig this Patrick's Day at The Olympia.

Rónán O'Snodaigh remembers when Kila were cutting their teeth in Dublin's thriving street music scene of the late 1980s. "At the time when we were there, people went off and they did their busking for a tenner or whatever money they needed, and then they joined forces for fun. You played 90 per cent of the time for fun and about 10 per cent for money," he says. "What we did, I suppose, was that loads of us got together. It's hard to explain – I suppose it's like if you're playing football with a friend and, all of a sudden, you go out and there's another eight people every week waiting for that game of football. It amplifies the whole feeling and the fun of it so much more." Having fun with his bandmates, of course, was much more important when O'Snodaigh and Kila played their very first indoor gig at the Baggot inn to an audience of three people, but the band have come a long way from that night some 20 years ago. In that time, they've lost and gained members, released a multitude of albums experimenting in many different styles, and burnished their reputation as one of the country's premier live acts. As O'Snodaigh himself admits, playing live consistently is in many ways a tougher challenge than making music in the studio. "When you're doing live shows, you've interference in your mind: there are people in front of you. In a studio, you've just got to deal with yourself, your music, and maybe the engineer. But in a gig, somebody might turn around and talk to someone at the left hand side of your viewpoint. That might completely distract you, make you forget your words or make you think you're crap and want to give up. You need live practice to do live gigs, because it's not a television show. There are real life people there and real things happening in front of you."

Kila rarely show any evidence of nerves, however, and are willing to brave an atmosphere with even more distractions than usual by playing a special Patrick's Day show this year at Dublin's Olympia. According to O'Snodaigh, the occasion tends to bring out more from musicians than regular gigs. "You might go into fifth gear a little more. You're not reflective, you're celebrating. On Paddy's night, people are already out and on a high. You're just coming in to swing them," he says, adding that they won't just be blindly powering through the fast and furious Celtic fusion sound that's made them a premier party band. "There's a delicate balance – at each gig, you've got to hope that you're in tune with your music and the people you're going to play for, because you can get it completely wrong. Sometimes people want to hear stuff that's quiet or emotional, and sometimes they don't want to hear it at all. Sometimes, after hearing the reaction to one tune, you'll go 'ok, skip the next one' and move. You're tweaking it as you go," he explains. Kila's most recent release, *Sóisín*, is more than just a tweak to their style. The calm, reflective album is consciously pegged as the soothing yin to the fiery yang that was 2007's *Gambler's Ballet*. The departure wasn't an entirely smooth one, O'Snodaigh reveals. "It was difficult to release it, to get everyone behind it and saying 'we're going to do it'. That was the tough part, as we'd maybe be more of a party band," he says. "We don't usually move unless we get a united front." Eventually, of course, the band got behind the mellower sound, with

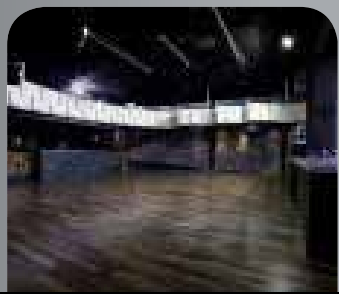
the title inspired by a young Irish buddhist woman who died in a tragic bus accident. For O'Snodaigh personally, being relieved of vocal duties for the all-instrumental album wasn't worrying. "Relief is the word! Sure, you can have thoughts scratching your head like 'am I used up? Is this all I've got to say?' But music is simple. You just go with it. That's the theory anyway: music commands, we follow," he says.

Thus far, of course, music has led Kila in the right direction. In addition to their successful albums and the band members' work as solo artists, Kila have collaborated to write the soundtrack for several films, including the Oscar-nominated *The Secret of Kells*. With a new book featuring 100 of their tunes due for release this month, the future has rarely looked brighter for O'Snodaigh and his bandmates.

Despite having accomplished far more than he'd even planned with Kila, O'Snodaigh insists he's still passionate about his craft. "Life gets a bit bigger, when you've other responsibilities and other things to attend to. And you've other aims. Sometimes, people have an aim and, when they get to it, they put it aside and say 'that's done now'. Before, their whole focus was that aim, that jump, that thing they wanted to do – all of a sudden, that's not the focus anymore. But I'm still in love with music, very much so." ■

See Kila Live
Kila play Dublin's Olympia Theatre on Wednesday March 17 (Patrick's Day) at 19:15. To buy tickets, log on to www.ticketmaster.ie.





COMPETITIONS

WIN CONCERT TICKETS AND MEALS OUT WITH 2NIGHT!

WIN DINNER FOR TWO AT SALON DES SAVEURS

There may be no such thing as a free lunch, but we've got a free dinner at the Conrad Gallagher's fantastic new restaurant, Salon des Saveurs. The recently-opened eatery has a novel concept – planned tasting menus centred around particular ingredients and themes – that has been drawing many Dubliners up to Aungier Street. With multi-course samples of Gallagher's creativity and French-style flair available from €24, don't be surprised if it continues to do a roaring trade. We've dinner for two here to give away. To win, simply visit the 'Free & Promo' section of our website (www.2night.ie) to tell us why you love Mediterranean food, and high French cuisine in particular.

WIN DINNER FOR TWO AT SABA

In a short time, this Thai place has become one of the city's favourite restaurants. With excellent cuisine, a crackling atmosphere and an award-winning cocktail bar, Saba has something to suit both novices to Asian food and true connoisseurs of all things spicy. Saba is great at any time, but it's even better when you can eat for free – and we've dinner for two at this great restaurant to give away! To win, simply visit the 'Free & Promo' section of our website (www.2night.ie) to tell us why you love Asian food, and Thai cuisine in particular.

WIN TICKETS TO THE BLACK EYED PEAS' AFTER-SHOW PARTY AT TRIPOD

Tickets for the Black Eyed Peas are well on their way to selling out, so they've announced two new after-show parties at Dublin's Tripod on May 1 and 2. Tickets normally cost €20, but we've two tickets to give away! To win tickets, simply visit the 'Free & Promo' section of our website (www.2night.ie) to tell us why you want to go to the party (as if you need a reason!).

HOW TO ENTER

Entering our competitions is easy and free – simply sign up for membership and answer the question posed in our competition. We'll select the most passionate, entertaining or original entry, and get in touch with the winner. We'll ask for your contact details to do that, and you can read our personal privacy policy if you're curious. Full terms and conditions are available at www.2night.ie.

EVENTS

WEEK | 8 - 14 MARCH

BY RURAIDH CONLON O'REILLY

LIVE MUSIC | CLUBBING * ONGOING EVENT
EATING AND DRINKING | THEATRE | ARTS

EVENTS / DUBLIN



MARCH 12

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FESTIVAL*

No longer just a single day of patriotism followed by a hangover, Paddy's Day is now Paddy's Week. The highlights? A comedic Father Ted reunion of sorts featuring Joe Rooney (Fr. Damo), Patrick McDonnell (Eoin McLove) and plenty of fancy dress at the Laughter Lounge (Eden Quay, March 12 and 13, €25, 19:00). There are daily funfairs at Merion Square and Wolfe Tone Square. March 16 sees a Céili at Stephen's Green (free, 16:00-19:00). It probably wouldn't be Paddy's Week without some sort of politically-based row, so why not debate the question 'What Has Ireland Done For The World?' with a panel of the informed and the not so informed (Tripod, 18:30, tickets from info@thedubliner.ie). No prizes for questioning why we're celebrating a country that is on its knees, or linking St. Patrick to recent church scandals. Something potentially less angry, entitled Shop If You Can, Look If You Can't, a Temple Bar Art Trail, runs throughout the week. Find full details on www.stpatricksfestival.ie. See also March 17.

Various venues

MARCH 8

STONES IN HIS POCKETS*

Simon Delaney, famous from Batchelor's Walk, various RTÉ duties and mobile phone ads, takes to the stage with Conor Delaney for the return of Marie Jones's 1996 play. Set in a Kerry town playing host to a Hollywood film crew and struggling with representations of Irishness, the pair bravely play 15 characters between them. The play runs until March 12.

From €20, 20:00

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

MARCH 9

PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME!

Having survived the kiss of death that is the Leaving Cert curriculum, the reputation of Brian Friel's breakthrough play has followed that of the playwright himself: onwards and upwards. Main protagonist Gar O'Donnell is off to America, leaving behind a non-relationship with his father, pillar of the community SB O'Donnell. Friel subtly probes how much love remains between the two of them, helped by Gar's division into Public and Private characters and providing plenty of tragicomedy. Gerard McSorley, Brid Brennan and Barry McGovern are among the cast, directed by Dominic Dromgoole of Shakespeare's Globe theatre in London. The play runs until April 10.

From €32.50, 19:30

Gaiety Theatre, 46, South King Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795622

DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

Touring last year's Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King album (what? Oh, it's to do with their late sax player), this hugely popular genre-hopping Virginia band have a relatively

lower profile on this side of the pond: no unbroken string of five number one albums in these parts. Plenty are taking notice though, as this 02 headliner suggests. Support comes from Alberta Cross.
From €54.80, 18:30
The 02, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

MARCH 10

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

The received wisdom has it that all of Lynyrd Skynyrd are dead. And maybe they are, kept motoring only by advanced cryogenics. It's unlikely though: we're not in Elvis impersonator territory yet. The myth dates from 1977, when three died in a plane crash. Indeed, only the guitarist remains of the classic line-up, several of the others having been carried off by illness and accident in more recent years. Last year saw strong signs of life from the folk who gave us Sweet Home Alabama and Free Bird, with the release of new studio album God & Guns.

From €49.20, 18:30

The 02, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

FAIRPORT CONVENTION

Just because English folk music has been denied the wonders of stout, emigration and Brit-hating lyrics doesn't make it any less influential than our own breed. True originals, Fairport Convention helped electrify their genre as the 1960s turned into the 1970s, and are still going strong.

€22, 19:30

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 11

KEVIN MCALEER

The Colm Meaney-presented RTE history of Irish comedy scored a bulls-eye when it fingered the tundra-dry wit of this po-faced Tyrone-man as a revolutionary moment. Since the late 1980s, McAleer has whipped his audience into howls of laughter without smiling or moving, the deadpan delivery and sharp-as-a-knife material his only props. A living legend of Irish comedy you may never have heard of.

€16-18, 20:00

Draiocht, Blanchardstown Centre - Dublin 15. Tel: 018852622

MARCH 12

TOM MCRAE

The permanently poignant English singer-songwriter returns for this rescheduled gig in support of last month's Alphabet of Hurricanes album.

€17, 19:00

Academy 2, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

PANDA BEAR

If you know your stuff - I mean properly know your stuff - the end of the decade was nothing to do with Kings of Leon, nor indie-electro stuff like La Roux, but all about a scene of DIY-minded American bands that's been bubbling under the surface for years now. Fleet Foxes did it in 2008, Animal Collective, Grizzly Bear and Beach Party are also enjoying a season in the sun. Step forward Panda Bear, AKA Noah Lennox of Animal Collective, for some spacey Americana.

€24, 19:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

HADOUKEN!

Nearly two years on from breakthrough Music for an Accelerated Culture, the Leeds dance-punk types are back with new offering For the Masses. Yes, they're named after a Street Fighter move, for the benefit of those who found a better way to spend their youth.

€20, 19:30

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

PAULVAN DYK

The German techno superstar stops off on his latest worldwide jaunt after a year of touring, regular radio broadcasts and political engagement.

€25, 23:00

Tripod, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

SODOME, MY LOVE!

Rough Magic and The Emergency Room unite for this world premiere of Laurent Gaudé's play starring Owen Fouéré as the only survivor of the ancient city. The play runs until March 27

€20-25, 20:00

Project Arts Centre, East Essex Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 018819613

POWER OF DREAMS

"Jesus f***ing Christ. 20 years? That's depressing." So sayeth Irish Independent columnist Ian O'Doherty, never one to use a pencil parer when a divebomber will do. There's a lot of love for this jangly Dublin indie band, celebrating the anniversary of debut album Immigrants, Emigrants and Me, re-released at the beginning of March. File alongside Toasted Heretic and That Petrol Emotion in the pantheon

of criminally-overlooked Irish indie.

€20, 20:00

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 13

FIONN REGAN

The Dylan-goes-electric comparisons are flying in for second album The Shadow of an Empire by Bray's finest. Squired by a typewriter and a tape machine in a Wicklow factory following extensive American touring, it's several degrees more raucous than acclaimed debut The End of History.

€21, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

(HED)PE

Here's a phrase that hasn't been heard in a while: nu-metal. All the rage around the turn of the Millennium, this Californian band are still flying the flag, working on a follow-up to last year's New World Orphans as we speak. Support is courtesy of Threat Signal and Attila.

€15.50, 19:00

Academy 2, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

FILTHY DUKES (DJ SET)

DJs before all this band business took off, the synthy London electro-poppers escape the studio to spin a few records. Their club night 'Kill 'em All' has hosted everyone from Bloc Party to Justice - fair to say they know what they're doing.

Price TBA, 23:00

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

NEW YOUNG PONY CLUB

Having come to reject the nu-rave/disco punk that brought about their rise (and Mercury nomination), this London band have brought about a new sheen of sophistication for album number two, The Optimist.

€20, 7:30pm

Tripod, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

MARCH 14

ALTERNATIVE MISS IRELAND

Now very much a Dublin institution, this long-running celebration of all the city's gay community is a beauty pageant held to elect the year's Alternative Queen of Ireland. Gender roles are fluid. Judged on poise, personality and originality, the Aspiring Queen Cailini are subjected to trial by daywear, eveningwear and a chaotic swimwear round. Proceeds go to Irish HIV/AIDS causes.

From €34.50, 20:00

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

ELLIE GOULDING

A deft combiner of folkish acoustic guitar and electronic backing, 2010 will be a busy year for this English singer-songwriter following the release of debut album Lights, if we say so ourselves. And if we don't, there's always the Brit Awards Critics' Choice award to underline matters.

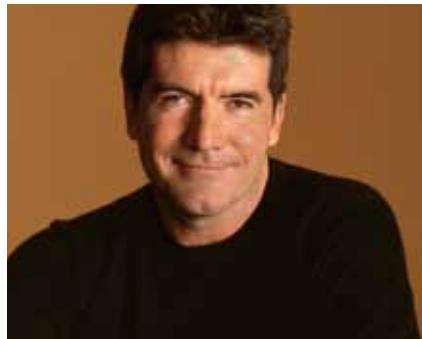
€17.45, 19:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

EVENTS

WEEK | 15 - 21 MARCH

BY RURAIDH CONLON O'REILLY



MARCH 16

X FACTOR LIVE TOUR

Communism vs. Capitalism. Pepsi vs. Coke. X Factor vs. Rage Against The Machine. These are the great rivalries of the postwar age. Unlike the fall of the Soviet Union, Simon Cowell's unstoppable hype machine hasn't crumbled in the face of its Christmas number one defeat. No, it looks like we're in for a phase of suspicious co-existence and the best haters can hope for is a bit of peace and quiet. Enjoy it while you can, because they haven't gone away: Simon Cowell even offered those Facebook campaign-organising folk a job. For fans whose Christmas was ruined, all's not lost: here come John, Edward and pals for full-on sugar sweetness. Like the Jamaican bobsled team or that bloke who slipped on the ice and got on the Six-One News, the twins have become famous for being not very good to the point of failure - and weirdly turning this into great success. Next year: Jedward cover "Killing in the Name", thus ruining the charts once and for all. Also performing on March 30 and 31.

€40.20-49.20, 20:00

The 02,

North Wall Quay - Dublin 1.

Tel: 018198888

LIVE MUSIC | CLUBBING * ONGOING EVENT
EATING AND DRINKING | THEATRE | ARTS

EVENTS / DUBLIN

MARCH 15

LES LIAISON DANGEREUSES!

It's a good night to catch Christopher Hampton's rendering of Choderlos De Laclos' novel, running throughout March. A darkly comic take on sex and excess, French aristocrats Merteuil and Valmont view seduction as a game, destroying others in their wake.

From €20, 20:00

Gate Theatre, Cavendish Row, Parnell Square - Dublin 1. Tel: 018744045

AN APPOINTMENT WITH MR. YEATS!

It's world premiere cultural stew time: The Waterboys are cross-pollinating with the poems of WB Yeats on the Abbey stage. Singer Mike Scott is something of a Yeats fiend and has set 20 poems to music, allowing some room for Waterboys classics to be aired and reworked. The show runs until March 20, with no performance on March 17.

Abbey Theatre, Lower Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018787222

MARCH 16

MIXMASTER MIKE

"Intergalactic, planetary, planetary, intergalactic!" Profound. The Beastie Boys' veteran turntablist and former DJ champion is on hand, with support from Gift of Gab.

€22.50, 23:00

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

ASLAN

Local hero Christie Dignam's band of brigands return following last year's Uncaged covers album. About as love/hate as it gets, the band's hits include Crazy World and This Is.

€25, 19:30

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

MARLENA SHAW

The onetime Chess and Blue Note Records diva arrives to claim living legend status.

€24.50-28.50, 20:00

Crawdaddy, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

LAURENT GARNIER

Veteran French DJ touring last year's Tales of a Kleptomaniac album. Support is from LRB.

€22.50, 23:00

Tripod, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

DERRICK CARTER

Ring in Paddy's Day with the Chicago house stalwart, who takes in jazz and soul influences where appropriate. Support comes from Mr. Rossworth and Toirse.

POD, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

PALOMA FAITH!



A timely combination of the burlesque revival and Amy Winehouse/Duffy soul scene, the sometime London actress (she played a goth in St Trinian's) is tipped for success in 2010. Last year's Do You Want the Truth or Do You Want Something Beautiful? was a pretty good statement of intent.

€23, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656



St. Patrick's Festival and Fleadh Ireland

MARCH 17

ST PATRICK'S DAY

The only day of the year where nightlife begins at dawn. At its best, town becomes a joyous celebration of culture, happiness and Irishness. At its worst, you have to weave through Celtic-shirted can-swiggung 16 year olds like The Stig on a particularly tricky slalom course. But that's just Dublin amped up. The parade's at Noon, so grab a good spot on the road or just go to the pub. Free, 12:00-late

Throughout Dublin City Centre



KÍLA

It's happy times for Kíla: a best of compilation last year, and an Oscar nomination for The Secret of Kells, Cartoon Saloon's film featuring music by the band and Bruno Coulais. Somehow bridging the gap between earnest Irish-speaking trad and a more familiar and accessible folk, Rónán O'Snodaigh's gang know how to put on a hell of a show. €31, 19:15

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

CESAR MILLAN

Cesar Millan sure knows his dogs - perhaps the most unusual night out this month is this chance to see a professional dog trainer play The 02. Millan is "making the world

better one dog at a time" through entertaining live shows and his Dog Whisperer TV series. As much a people trainer as a dog trainer, he's had a long list of Hollywood celebrities darken his doorway, making one wonder if Nicholas Cage's dog is as weird as his owner.

From €43.70, 20:00

The 02, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

MARCH 18

SMOKIE

Bradford country rockers arrive to promote their Ireland-specific greatest hits collection, leaving us with one question and one question only: who the f**k is Alice?

From €31, 20:00

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

SWAN LAKE

It's not every day that the Russian State Ballet pirouettes into town for the opening of a brand new theatre, so concertgoers are killing two birds with one... forget that pun. Yes, at long last it's opening night at the Daniel Liebeskind-designed shed, where a complement of Bolshoi stars and 70 dancers will perform Tchaikovsky's classic ballet. There's also a 12:30 matinee on March 21.

From €30, 18:30

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777999

OWEN PALLETT (FINAL FANTASY)

Poor Owen Pallett: the Arcade Fire and Last Shadow Puppets collaborator has spent years carving out his territory through constant recording and touring, and now voluntarily gives his name back to the Final

Fantasy computer game series. Oh well - easy come, easy go. A regular visitor to these shores, Pallett will give third album Heartland the live treatment - hear it first on his Myspace.

€24, 19:30

Whelan's, 25, Wexford St - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

LEINSTER VS GLASGOW WARRIORS

The big boys might be away fighting foes on enemy soil, but Magner's League business continues. Rugby in Dublin has never been so accessible, and a trip to the RDS is a solid night out.

From €20, 19:30

RDS, Merrion Road, Ballsbridge - Dublin 4. Tel: 016680866

MARCH 19

SINGIN' I'M NO A BILLY, HE'S A TIM

And the award for weirdest title of the year goes to... if you've ever reflected on the stupidity of Old Firm football sectarianism, give Des Dillon's play a whirl: Billy is Rangers, Tim is Celtic, and they find themselves locked in the same cell under the watchful attention of gaoler Harry. Also showing March 20.

From €30, 20:00

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

JACK L

The sometime Jack Lukeman has spent the guts of 15 years dipping in and out of the mainstream from his home on the fringes. Cabaret and pure showmanship are the order of the day.

€35, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

TIESTO

Putting the superstar into superstar DJ, Tiesto somehow managed to turn the most miserable piece of classical music ever composed into an up-and-at-'em dancefloor hit: Adagio for Strings. The Dutchman's been firmly tied into his 150-date, five-continent Kaleidoscope world tour since September, and an extravagant live show is promised.

€55, doors 18:00

The 02, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

MARCH 20

SIX NATIONS RUGBY FINAL DAY

It's the final day of the Six Nations, and if there's any hope for this stricken country we'll still be in with a shout. And if we're not, just make the best of a good day's rugby. It's Wales vs. Italy first, then we play Scotland in Croke, followed by France vs England.

2:30pm-late, free

Croke Park/Your pub of choice

RHOD GILBERT

The Welsh comedian tours his latest show, Rhod Gilbert and the Cat That Looked Like Nicholas Lyndhurst. It's based on a period of self-introspection following his punching of a pet shop assistant over the dog duvet rating system - in fairness, wars have been started over less. But they probably weren't very funny.

€25, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

THE JIMMY CAKE

This experimental and instrumental post rock group gear up once more, two years on from the release of Sceptre and Crown. Support from the highly-regarded Patrick Kelleher, whose album You Look Cold was an underground success last year.

€15, 20:00

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 21

50 CENT

Fiddy's been quiet these days as gangsta rap seems to have run out of ways to shock and appall. Still, he can always fall back on last year's Before I Self Destruct album, plenty of film work and a computer game that makes Grand Theft Auto look like Mass from the Pro-Cathedral before he's forced to return to his old ways.

€40-55, 20:00

The 02, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

LEE 'SCRATCH' PERRY, THE CONGOS, MAX ROMEO

By our calendar, Jamaican dub reggae legend 'Scratch' Perry turns 74 the day before this gig. Not a bad way to celebrate. Vintage Perry collaborators The Congos and Max Romeo are also on the bill.

€24.50-28.50, 19:00

Tripod, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374



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EVENTS

WEEK | 22 - 28 MARCH

BY RURAIDH CONLON O'REILLY



MARCH 25

DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN POETRY NOW FESTIVAL

It's well worth hopping on the Dart for this, the 15th annual Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown poetry shindig. The first night kicks off with 'Go Fish: Six Irish Poets', a keynote address by poet Paul Muldoon taking in poems by Heaney and Montague, to name but two. Muldoon will also read his own work on March 27. Another highlight is a reading by TS Eliot prize winner Philip Gross (March 26, 18.30). The south-east English poet has 14 collections to his name, and winning volume *The Winter Table* was praised by the prize committee for its "concentrated and keen-eyed and patient" tone and "real lyrical confidence." Irish perennial Derek Mahon (March 26, 20.30) is another safe bet, and a regular source of hope on school curricula. The following day focuses on Ciaran Carson, Vona Groarke, Sínead Morrissey, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin and Peter Sarr: the five nominees for the €5,000 Poetry Now award, won last year by Derek Mahon. There's a full programme of lectures and activities, with full details at www.poetrynow.ie

Pavilion Theatre,
Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire.
Tel: 012719532

MARCH 22

BOYCE AVENUE

The clean-cut Florida soft-rocking brothers return amidst burgeoning international popularity. Drinkers beware, though: this being an all ages show, no booze will be served, severely limiting the options of blokes dragged along by their girlfriends.

€21, 19:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

MARCH 23

RONAN KEATING

Last year saw the Boyzone frontman journey from embodiment of cheesiness to subject of mass sympathy, through the death of bandmate Stephen Gately and subsequent tabloid carnage. Now touring the UK and Ireland on the back of *Songs For My Mother*, a covers collection that did exactly what it said on the tin, it looks like it's back to business as usual.

€47.20, 20:00

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777999

AID FOR HAITI - CHRISTY MOORE AND JOHN SPILLANE

Cometh the hour, cometh the men. The Haiti earthquake has brought about a slew of benefit gigs, and few could have expected Ireland's most socially engaged musician to remain silent for long. Moore, a card-carrying living legend, treated recently fans to an epic run of festive season concerts. Spillane, meanwhile, is still riding high from the success of his *Irish Songs We Learned At School* album and collaborations with Mick Flannery. All proceeds go to Goal's quake appeal.

From €39.50, 20:00

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

EVENTS / DUBLIN

LIVE MUSIC | CLUBBING * ONGOING EVENT
EATING AND DRINKING | THEATRE | ARTS

WALLIS BIRD

Ably answering the philosopher-baffling question 'can you still be successful in music after losing five fingers in a lawnmower accident and having them sown back on again?'. 2009 was a breakthrough year for this Meath/Wexford singer-songwriter, currently living in London. March sees things step up a notch, with the European release of new album *New Boots* and this homeland date falling smack-bang in the middle of a huge continental tour.

€19.45, 20:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

SLEEP THIEVES

Former Butterfly Explosion war Sorchá Brennan, Wayne Fahy and Derek Murphy are coming up in the world, and their indie electronica turned heads in 2009, let's see what this year brings. Support is courtesy of Nakatomi Towers and Mail Order Messiahs.

Price TBA, 20:00

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 25

ERRORS

"Four guys without any spark of talent," admit the Glasgow band themselves through the medium of Myspace. Be that as it may, they're signed to Mogwai's Rock Action records, and new album *Come Down With Me* suggests further adventures in post-punk indie electronica.

€13.50, 19:00

Academy 2, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

GILBERT O'SULLIVAN

For a while now, the most reliable place to see Gilbert O'Sullivan was on *Reeling in the Years*, amidst IRA atrocities and footage of Ireland being an absolute kip. It's a long time since the

Waterford boy's heyday, but there's been a greatest hits - the Berry Vest - and slots at Glastonbury and the Royal Albert Hall to pass the time in recent years. Sixteenth studio album *A Scruff At Heart* arrived in 2007, returning him to the charts. The show runs until March 27.

From €40.50, 18:30

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777999

MARCH 26

DERMOT WHELAN

The Liffey Laughs and The Panel veteran is also partly responsible for the Toll Trolls.

€23, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

SEAN LOCK

The Lockpedia, we are told, "is a very unreliable, misleading but highly entertaining information resource." But perhaps the shortfall in accuracy is just in comparison with sometime colleague Stephen Fry: you might remember Lock from such panel shows as *QI*.

From €23, 20:00

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

JENNIFER EVANS

A purveyor of haunting acoustic guitar with an open-minded approach to new sound, Evans' band The Ripe Intent are assembled from the ranks of the Newpark Jazz School. Talented sorts, in other words. New EP 'The Salient Point' is up for launch tonight.

Price TBA, 20:00

Twisted Pepper, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

ZOMBY

The mysterious Dubstep producer's work has been cropping up in Lady Gaga and Aphex Twin sets, and his elusive persona and infrequent live performances make this a coup for the Analogue gang responsible.

€10, 23:00

Twisted Pepper, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

DELORENTOS

For a while there, Delorentos were more famous for breaking up and reuniting than for anything they'd done on stage or in the studio. Now with their eyes back on the prize - quite literally, after Meteor award nominations - last year's *You Can Make Sound* album made a strong impression in the Irish charts.

€20, Time TBA

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

POPOF AND STYLE OF EYE

Rave Party and Heretik System Parisian Popof is tending towards the minimal end of the spectrum these days, while Swede Style Of Eye claims to pull in influences from Edvard Grieg to Stevie Wonder. With support from Danny Alonso.

€20

Tripod, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

MARCH 27

WILD BEASTS

Behold the extraordinary feat of nature that is Hayden Thorpe's amazing constant falsetto (he is, apparently, a countertenor). Backed by pensive piano and spacey delayed guitar, the critical adulation has been in full flow. Worth a punt, if not for the headline act then for support band Villagers, gaining plentiful 'next best thing' plau-

dits as former Immediate man Conor O'Brien's new gang scored a Domino records deal.

€17, 19:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

THE FUREYS AND DAVEY ARTHUR

Putting younger bands to shame with a tour that begins in November and ends some time in Summer, the trad legends obviously still have plenty left in the tank. Having passed their thirtieth anniversary a couple of years back, the lads are a reminder of a time when an Irish folk single could be an international chart hit (that'd be *When You Were Sweet Sixteen*).

€30, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

LA LOCANDIERA

Foia at the theatre isn't often attempted here, unlike in Yankland where tacky dinner theatres are the order of the day. Chicken and chips are off the menu tonight, however, as innkeeper Mirandola serves the audience a lavish three-course meal while the play continues and suitors vie for her hand, eighteenth Century Florence comes to life through food, action, and song.

€13.50, 20:00

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 28

YOU ME AT SIX

Emoish UK Kerrang types bring their reverencing tour to Dublin, with this year's *Hold Me Down* doing well in hard rock circles. Support is from Canterbury and All Forgotten.

€23.50, 19:30

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

CHARLEY BOORMAN SHOW LIVE!

Like the Crocodile Hunter minus the South Park parodies and fatal stingray accidents, Charley Boorman loves adventure. He's biked north, south, east and west across the world with Ewan McGregor, and competed in the infamous Dakar Rally. His latest project is *By Any Means*, a TV foray that moved him from Bray to Sydney and from Sydney to Tokyo, yes, by any means. Now a backpack full of anecdotes and footage takes him to the relatively controlled environment of the Vicar St stage.

€23.00, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

LA LOCANDIERA

Foia at the theatre isn't often attempted here, unlike in Yankland where tacky dinner theatres are the order of the day. Chicken and chips are off the menu tonight, however, as innkeeper Mirandola serves the audience a lavish three-course meal while the play continues and suitors vie for her hand, eighteenth Century Florence comes to life through food, action, and song.

€40-45, 20:00

Betelnut Cafe, Draiocht, Blanchardstown Centre - Dublin 15. Tel: 018852622

SHEN YUN

Having notched up 100 cities in 20 countries last year, this Chinese dance and musical stage act visits Dublin. Based in New York, the show is closely linked to the banned Falun Gong movement, a fact which has divided critics. There's also a 14:30 matinee.

From €49, 19:30

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777999

EVENTS

WEEK | MARCH 29 - APRIL 4

BY RURAIDH CONLON O'REILLY



APRIL 3

DANIEL JOHNSTON & THE BEAM ORCHESTRA

For years, Johnston's fame was limited to the underground and anyone who bothered investigating further when Kurt Cobain, David Bowie or a host of others declared their love. This ended four years ago, with the release of documentary *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*, a film which blended the glory of creativity and the horrors of mental illness. With regular spells in mental hospitals, his fame often comes with a side-order of the tragic. Johnston is one of those divisive figures like Billy Childish, where people can't decide whether he's a towering genius or just a very prolific outsider voice. If you've ever heard *The Flaming Lips'* early headlong pursuit of all things lo-fi and primitive, the shock may be lessened. If not, then hold on tight.

Alongside Johnston and the Dutch Beam Orchestra's live set, there's an exhibition of 40 pieces of his artwork from 1981-2006 – often scary and childish monstrous yokes that seem to offer musical insight – as well as cassette and record sleeves.

€30, 20:30

Vicar St,

58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8.

Tel: 014546656

LIVE MUSIC | CLUBBING * ONGOING EVENT
EATING AND DRINKING | THEATRE | ARTS

EVENTS / DUBLIN

MARCH 29

LITTLE GEM

'Tis Little Gem season in Dublin, with the *Gúna Nua*/Civic Theatre production winding its way through the Abbey's Peacock Theatre and out onto more suburban stages. Elaine Murphy's first play caused quite the stir at the Dublin and Edinburgh fringes in 2008 and 2009, and has enjoyed a successful off-Broadway run. The play deals with three generations of Dublin women – meaning that lashings of 'courage, comedy and romance' are on the cards.

Runs until April 3

€18-22, 20:00

Civic Theatre, Town Centre, Tallaght - Dublin 24. Tel: 014627477

MARCH 30

ISLANDS

Flash Montreal band with a hint of glam fronted by Nick Diamonds, now on their third album *Vapours*. Classic indie-pop sensibility performed in silver boots.

€13.50, 19:00

Academy 2, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

THE COURTEENERS

Aby ticking off any number of britpop boxes – praise from Morrissey, albums with Suede/Pulp producer Ed Buller and Smiths/Blur studio man Stephen Street, cover of the NME – this Manchester four-piece have a new record, *Falcon*, to let loose onstage.

€18.50, 19:30

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

MACBETH

If you're not intimately familiar with the Scottish Play – and even if you are – it's worth toddling

down to see this take on it. The loyal Macbeth returns from battle in Cromwellian times, and is faced with three sisters' prophecies. Pushed along by the Machiavellian Lady Macbeth, he comes to power – which corrupts absolutely. The Abbey has a reputation for putting on a good Shakespeare – *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar* and *The Comedy of Errors* have all enjoyed recent runs, and director Jimmy Fay has a distinguished list of Abbey credits next to his name. Stars Aidan Kelly and Eileen Walsh. The play has previews from March 30, opens April 7, and runs until May 15.

From €18, 19:30

Abbey Theatre, Lower Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018787222

FRED

A bunch of Cork messers, Fred have been cult heroes for years now. Witness their manifesto: "Imagine getting a face massage, that's what Fred's music does, it massages your face but nothing else." Indeed. Quirky indie pop is one thing, but the sense of humour is what marks them out as special. Support from is Zoey Van Goey.

Price TBA, 8pm

Whelan's, 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

MARCH 31

AN EVENING OF CLASSICAL TWIST

Fresh from slots on *The Late Late Show* and that Mario Lanza, the *Loveliest Night* of the Year concert series comes Slovak Vladimir Joblovok. Along with his Slovak Festival Musicians and other special guests, popular songs and standards are promised, from Bach to The Beatles, albeit with a twist.

Form €20, 20:00

National Concert Hall, Earlsfort Terrace - Dublin 2. Tel: 014170000

TURNING POINT

Fishamble and ADI present a reading of new works for theatre by artists with disabilities. The common theme is "moments when you realised there was no turning back," and a selection are destined for Washington's VSA Arts Festival this summer. Contact the box office early just in case.

Free, 20:00

Project Arts Centre, East Essex Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 018819613

APRIL 1

PJ GALLAGHER

One part mad-dening pest, PJ Gallagher's that guy from *Naked Camera* who embarrasses the hell out of people. You laugh because it's fun watching other people humiliated – and because you dearly hope it never happens to you. Sit as far away from the aisles as you can, and don't do or wear anything stupid.

€28, 20:30

Vicar St, 58, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 014546656

APRIL 3

THE HIGH KINGS

Step forward the next generation of traditional Irish balladeers, before they're off for another jaunt around the US and UK. Boasting a son of a Furey and a son of a Clancy Brother, the four piece have collaborated with The Wolfe Tones and gained the backing of Universal.

€33.60, 19:30

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777999

EYEHATEGOD

Long-running New Orleans sludge metal band arrive for their first ever Irish gig having got their act together post-heroin and Hurricane Katrina. Support comes from Dublin's Coldwar.

€25, 19:30
The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

CROOKERS

It's Easter Sunday, and time to party with Italian Djs Phra and Bot. "It felt natural to team up, seeing that we had the same musical tastes ... which isn't that easy here in Milan," say the boys. Second album *Tons of Friends* is released at the start of the month.

€26.20, 23:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

DANNY ELLIS – 800 VOICES

Danny Ellis, confined to the notorious Artane Industrial School from 1955-63, has drawn on his experience for new album *800 Voices: My Life in an Irish Orphanage*. Originally a trombonist and veteran of the showband scene but now operating in folk territory, he draws on the 800 voices of his fellow orphans.

From €30, 20:00

National Concert Hall, Earlsfort Terrace - Dublin 2. Tel: 014170000

PAT FALLON

Tom Kelly presents an international comedian who is the only Irish-based member of the mysterious Inner Magic Circle. Expect a re-enactment of Houdini's final stunt and general birthday party magic, but done really, really well.

€15/18, 19:00

Pavilion Theatre, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. Tel: 012719532

APRIL 4

FUN LOVIN' CRIMINALS

There was a time when Huey Morgan and his fun-loving compadres were huge. Scooby Snacks was riding high, and they seemed to take over Dublin with their involvement in the Voodoo Lounge, Eamonn Doran's, Difontaine's pizza and going out with Andrea Corr. Then things went quiet, partly because of a costly tussle with an ex-manager that almost sank the ship. Things are happier nowadays: this year's *Classic Fantastic* is their sixth out of good time Noo Yoik party tunes, and their first in nearly five years.

€30, 19:30

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

CHRIS REA

While not quite having the final say in the dadrock stakes (Status Quo are the champions), the closest Chris Rea usually gets to cool is when *Driving Home for Christmas* takes over the festive airways or *Road to Hell* is used on a news report about traffic jams. He probably doesn't mind. Greatest hits *Still So Far To Go* dropped late last year, and the title alone should give us some indication of his mindset. Support comes courtesy of Paul Casey.

€39.20, 19:30

Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

FASTER ALL DAYER WITH VERY SPECIAL SURPRISE GUEST

Ok, we're intrigued. It's that extra 'very' that does it – the only clue is that decks are involved. Whoever does turn up, it's a good chance to buy into the Bernard Shaw way of doing things: they've been fight-

ing long and hard to make nightlife translate into a Sunday afternoon context. Whether you've been up all night or just like taking a long run into a night's drinking, the 12:00 until 00:00 policy has its uses.

Free, 12:00

The Bernard Shaw, 11-12, South Richmond Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 0857128342

EVENTS

BY RURAIDH CONLON O'REILLY

MONDAY

HUGH COONEY DON'T LIKE MONDAYS

The comedian's weekly cabaret and video showcase, with guests playing their music after the show.

Free, 20:00 | **Pygmalion**, 59, South William Street - Dublin 2.

TANGO CLASSES AT THE TURK'S HEAD

Ever wanted to try tango? Beginners are welcomed at this weekly series of classes, with entry to the club included - ask dancetango@gmail.com for more details.

€10, 19:30 | **The Turk's Head**, 27, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799701

LIVING FOR SPITE

Alternative bands with Irish instruments play trad, popular rock and indie covers, followed by an indie and mixed house DJ.

Free, 20:00 | **The Party Kitchen**, 34-35, East Essex Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770945

KING KONG CLUB

The musical gameshow in which five bands compete for a trip to Portugal to record with Morrissey man Boz Boorer, judged by the dreaded Clapometer.

Free, 21:00 | **The Village**, 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

DUBLIN COMEDY IMPROV

Back to basics stand-up at Dublin's legendary comedy base, The International.

20:30 | **The International Bar**, 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250

TUESDAY

NEWPARK NIGHTS - IRISH JAZZ

A regular night featuring the best of Irish jazz from the prestigious Black-rock music centre's graduating class - 80 musicians forming 16 bands across eight weeks. The post-concert jam is a highlight.

Free, 20:00 | **Twisted Pepper**, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

BATTLE OF THE AXE

Long running stand-up comedy and singer-songwriter night.

€9/cheaper with flyer, 21:30 | **Hapenny Bridge Inn**, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770616

THE RUBY SESSIONS

Well-established regular singer-songwriter night and general drinking session, having hosted impromptu sets by household names.

€6, 21:00 | **Doyle's**, 9, College Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016710616

ROCKABILLY SESSIONS

Weekly retro rock 'n' roll with a '50s edge, courtesy of the city's burgeoning rockabilly scene.

21:30 | **Leeson Lounge**, 148, Lower Leeson Street - Dublin 4. Tel: 016603816

TRASHED

The indie/electro/cheap booze party that just gets straight to the point.

€5, 23:00 | **ALT - Andrew's Lane Theatre**, 9-17 St Andrew's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

JUICY BEATS

Indie, rock and electro served up by resident DJs.

€5/8, 22:30 | **The Village**, 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

SUGAR FREE

DJ Tone Bee and friends deliver the soul/ska/indie/disco/whatever you're having yourself.

Free, 23:00 | **Ri Rá**, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220

WEDNESDAY

ANTICS

Long-established weekly celebration of indie, with cheap booze flowing freely.

€5, 23:00 | **Crawdaddy**, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

LAUGH OUT LOUD

Aidan Killian's comedy night, with sets from new acts and well-known faces.

€5, 20:30pm | **Anseo**, 18, Lower Camden Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751321

SWITCH

Student-friendly night promising indie/electro DJs, live music, drinks promotions, theme nights and plenty of surprises. It's €2 cheaper if you have a flyer - print one from their Facebook page.

€8, 23:00 | **ALT - Andrew's Lane Theatre**, 9-17 St Andrew's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

SYNERGY

Classic good tunes in an inviting late bar with a decent menu.

Free, 20:00 | **Solas**, 31 Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

EVENTS / DUBLIN

COMEDY CELLAR

MC Andrew Stanley presents new and established comics. Don't let the name fool you - it's actually upstairs.

20:30 | **The International Bar**, 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250

WILD WEDNESDAYS

Dublin's frat party - first drink free, and €2 drinks after that. All American theme.

€5, 23:00 | **Twentyone**, 21, D'Olier Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016712089

HEAT

A wide range of music and drinks promos at "the ultimate student clubbing experience" every Wednesday.

€8, 22:30 | **Tripod**, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

THURSDAY

ALTERNATIVE/GRUNGE NIGHT

For the Nirvana fan trapped in a world of Lady Gagas.

€5, 23:00 | **Peadar Kearney's**, 64, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 017079701

MR. JONES

Weekly house/electro/urban night with a varying selection of live music, art and performance.

€8, 23:00 | **Twisted Pepper**, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

THE PANTI SHOW

Eclectic music/performance/everything show starring Panti, Bunny, and lots of good old-fashioned Connect 4 (the game, not a euphemism).

Free, 22:00 | **Pantibar**, 7-8, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740710

THE LITTLE BIG PARTY

Dance along to everything from indie through rockability and on towards total cheese.

Free, 23:00 | **Ri Rá**, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220

SOUNDCHECK

Weekly indie pop electro fun, with films and table quizzes and stuff if you arrive early enough and drinks promos until late.

Free, 19:00 | **Spy**, Powerscourt House, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770014

NOIZE

Live bands, indie and electro, with bribery such as bottles of Miller or shots of schnapps for €2.50, or vodka and splashes for €4.

€5, 21:30 | **ALT - Andrew's Lane Theatre**, 9-17 Saint Andrew's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

SOUL @ SOLAS

Soulful beats, courtesy of Mr. Razor.

Free, 20:00 | **Solas**, 31 Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

FRIDAY

RE-SESSION

Bring your own booze night at this lefty social centre, run by an anti-capitalist collective. Tea and coffee are provided, and politics flows on tap.

€5, 20:00 | **Seomra Spaoi**, 10, Belvedere Court - Dublin 1. Tel: 018728670

NO DISKO

If you haven't been to No Disko in a while, tonight's the night - Crawdaddy is its new home. If you don't like the indie and electro fare or live guests, you can just pop next door to hear some classic '60s or up-to-date techno. Drinks promotions help remove inhibitions.

€6/8, 23:00 | **Crawdaddy**, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

FOREPLAY FRIDAY

R'n'B, hip hop, garage and reggae with DJ Frankie Jez and friends.

Free before 23:00 €10 after, opens 22:30 | **The Academy**, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

MUD

Guest drum'n'bass, dubstep and hip-hop DJs from home and abroad - these folk really like their bass.

€8/10, 23:00 | **Twisted Pepper**, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

WAR

For lovers of glitz and glamour - and €20 buckets of Corona. Free before 10pm, €5 before midnight, €10 after.

Free/€5/€10, 19:00 | **Spy**, Powerscourt House, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770014

SCRIBBLE RECORDS

Residency from the funk/soul/hip hop label DJs, with weekly guests and live acts.

Free, 20:00 | **The Bernard Shaw**, 11-12, South Richmond Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 0857128342

SHAKEDOWN

A regular showcase of hot up-and-coming rock'n'roll acts at the underground cellar in Pacino's.

Free, 22:30 | **Pacinos**, 18, Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775651

SATURDAY

DOMINION

The city's gothiest Saturday night is now back in its usual home after a few years of wandering.

The Cellar, Murray's Bar, 33-34 O'Connell Street - Dublin 1. 018787505

PROPAGANDA

The UK indie night that hosted Lily Allen, the Kaiser Chiefs and Zane Lowe makes it across the water, with plenty of visual entertainment too.

€8/10, 22:30 | **The Academy**, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

STRICTLY HANDBAG

Celebrating its 15th anniversary with a move from Ri Rá last year, "music with words for your dancing pleasure" is on the cards - a good dose of indie and alternative.

The Odeon, Old Harcourt Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088

POGO

The Bodytonic folk put on a mix of local and guest DJs, with plenty of audiovisual madness across three stages. Celebrating its fifth birthday this year.

€8/10, 21:00 | **Twisted Pepper**, 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734800

INTERNATIONAL COMEDY CLUB

Regular evening of laughs at the older statesman of Dublin comedy venues - this night's also on Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, with plenty of comedy every other night.

20:30 | **The International Bar**, 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250

SUGAR CLUB SATURDAYS

Pure party music - salsa, ska, Latin, swing and soul.

€15, 23:00 | **The Sugar Club**, 8, Lower Leeson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016787188

SALSA NIGHT

Hot Latin tunes are on the menu, with classes available if you've always wanted to master the 'soul tango.

€10, 22:30 | **Pacinos**, 18, Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775651

SUNDAY

12 SUNDAYS

Good drinking, good tunes and good times from noon until Midnight.

Free, 12:00 | **The Bernard Shaw**, 11-12, South Richmond Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 0857128342

SUNDAY ROAST

Band showcase hosted by the eccentric Keiron Black, with support coming from tasty roast potatoes.

Free, 20:00 | **The Mercantile**, 28, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707100

SONGS OF PRAISE

Nothing like a bit of karaoke on a Sunday evening, and better yet: all performers get a free room with Coca-Cola, just like in 'Common People'. Yep, that's on the playlist - check out the full thing on www.therescuesquad.com/songsofpraise.

Free, 21:00 | **The Village**, 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

THE GEORGE BINGO

Drag hero/ine Shirley Temple Bar's fun bingo night, followed by cabaret and DJ Karen's late club. Free before 23:00.

Free/€5/€8 | **The George**, 87-89 South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782983

THE MAGNIFICENT 75

Bringing back the glory of the 7" single, Beatfinder Records guru Gerry Molumby crosses every genre just so long as it's a 45. Drinks promos and cheap cocktails.

Free, 20:00 | **4 Dame Lane**, 4, Dame Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016970291

WE CALL IT DISCO

DJ Kitty Kat spins disco tunes - food until late too.

Free, 20:00 | **Solas**, 31 Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

BEST OF DUBLIN

AFTER WORK

ANSEO. 18, Camden Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751321. A very old-school music bar that also features a regular comedy club.

BIABAR. 30, Lower Stephens Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014053653. Appealing food, great drinks on tap, and live music make this place a winner.

CAFÉ EN SEINE. 40, Dawson St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774017. The/club/restaurant is as enjoyable as ever – now with added elbow room.

CAFÉ IRIE. 11, Fownes Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725090. Indie-esque coffee shop and sandwich bar which shares a building with lots of intriguing stores.

CAFÉ NOVO. The Westbury Hotel, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016463353. An elegant restaurant in one of the city's most-loved hotels.

CARNIVAL. 11, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014053604. A moody, cool, New-York style bar set on the Camden/Wexford Street strip.

COBBLER'S CAFÉ. Leeson Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016785945. Popular lunchtime café. Soups are particularly favoured by office worker crowd.

COSTA COFFEE. Batchelor's Walk - Dublin 1. Tel: 012921422. A great place to buy and savour a coffee on the quays.

COSTA COFFEE. South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 012921422. Part of the hugely successful UK chain, this South William Street

place is ideal for kicking back over an hour or so.

DOHENY & NESBITT'S. 5, Baggot Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 016762945. The classic local-for-a-listeners is a lot bigger than it used to be, but it still consistently packs out.

DUBLIN TOURISM CENTRE. Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 1850230330. An excellent source of information for both tourists and curious Dubliners about the city.

ELYWINE BAR. 22, Ely Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 016768986. Ever-trendy wine bar with hearty food menu and an impressive range.

ENOTECA DELLE LANGHE. Blooms Lane - Dublin 1. Tel: 018880834. A welcoming and authentic Italian wine bar.

FILM BASE. Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016796716. An intriguing gallery for lovers of film, with an excellent coffee shop upstairs for lovers of food and coffee.

GIN PALACE. 42, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018748881. Obviously a place for some gourmet gins, but you'll find a lively bar and some nice taps here too.

GRAND CENTRAL. 10/11, O'Connell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018728658. A Dublin landmark, this place is packed out by post-work drinkers most evenings.

GRUEL. 68, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707119. Willfully unpretentious and hearty food. The 'roast in a roll' is a lunchtime treat.

HOGANS. 35, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775904. The former jazz club is beloved by

the over-thirties, and rightly so: it's still wonderfully mellow and the service is top-notch.

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE BAR. 6, Eustace Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795744. The revamped bar and restaurant is a perfect place for a pre-film drink or bit to eat.

LEON. 14-15, Trinity Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016771060. This brasserie and café has some of the best sweet treats in the area.

LINCOLNS INN. 18-19, Lincoln Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 016762044. A classic old pub that's been redecorated with considerable élan.

LUNCH. 63, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016771546. An unpretentious little café-cum restaurant. Calzonés are highly recommended.

MESSRS MAGUIRE. 1-2, Burgh Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 018041205. A massive pub set on many levels, with a good bar food menu and some excellent Messrs-brewed beers.

METRO. 43, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794515. A coffee shop that feels like it's been here for decades. Lovely expresso, even lovelier leather seating.

MUNCHIES. Millenium Walkway, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018733455. The perfect spot for grabbing a quick and healthy sandwich on your break.

MUNCHIES. 2, South William Street - Dublin. Tel: 018733455. The original Munchies restaurant, this place has recently started serving late night tapas.

OLESYA'S WINE BAR. 18, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 6724087. Well-stocked wine bar with a mix of Irish and continental fare.

O'DONOGHUES. 15, Merrion Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016607194. A legendary trad music pub that was loved by The Dubliners, and is still popular today.

OLIVER ST JOHN GOGARTY'S. Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711822. A traditional pub that's very popular with tourists.

QUEEN OF TARTS. 3-4, Cow's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016334681. Known internationally for both savoury tarts and sweet treats. This is the larger of the two twinned restaurants, and the original Queen of Tarts is based on Dame Street.

READER'S CAFÉ. First floor, Waterstones, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016791260. Lovely scores and high-quality cooking make this ideal for enjoying a first flick through a freshly-bought book.

SHEBEEN CHIC. 4, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799667. Don't let the shabby décor fool you – this is a very happening bar and restaurant.

SIMON'S PLACE. 22, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 018797821. A bohemian café with lots of charm and delightful cheesecake.

SIN É. 14/15, Upper Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018787079. A very popular music bar and pub, this place unusually comes to life on Sunday afternoons and evenings.

SOUP DRAGON. 168, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018723277. A great place for hearty and creative soups, as well as some indulgent sweets.

SUB LOUNGE. Tara St Station - Dublin 2. Tel: 016716769. One of the cheapest pubs in Dublin is understandably popular, particularly with the after work crowd.

THE BAGEL BAR. Unit 1, Custom House Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016739923. Great value bagels are served with a smile at this Docklands place.

THE BAGEL FACTORY. Grafton Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 017071811. Good value bagels on offer from an ideal location.

THE BAGEL FACTORY. Lower Mayor Street, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016119730. There's plenty of variety in the bagels from here, along with seating room if you want to eat in.

THE BAGGOT INN. 143, Lower Baggot Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016618758. A much-loved older pub that's received a successful renovation in recent years.

THE BANK. 20-22, College Green - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770677. This lovingly-restored bank building now houses a very popular bar and restaurant.

THE BLEEDING HORSE. 24, Camden Street Upper - Dublin 2. Tel: 014752705. One of the oldest pubs in the city, this place is spacious, grand and lively.

THE BRAZEN HEAD. 20, Bridge Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 016779549. Apparently the oldest pub in Dublin, this place does great food and has friendly staff.

THE CLARENDON. 32, Clarendon Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016170060. A stylish bar with some nice grub during lunchtime and early evening.

THE COBBLESTONE. 77, North King Street - Dublin 7. Tel: 018721799. The Northside spot for Irish traditional music. Trust us.

THE FOGGY DEW. 1, Fownes Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779328. A traditional bar that's retained its atmosphere through modernisation. Still great for a singsong on special nights.

THE GINGERMAN. 40, Fenian Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016766388. Inspired by the JP Dunleavy novel, this place has a strong literary theme and a warm, moody atmosphere.

THE GLOBE. 11, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220. Also home to the popular student night Ri-Rá, the globe is a consistently-packed bar with a friendly vibe all round.

THE HAIRY LEMON. 42, Lower Stephen Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016797724. An extensive pub with plenty of nooks and crannies for a quiet conversation.

THE LOFT CAFÉ. 32, Grafton Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016712803. A very handy little café above a convenience store, with great views of Grafton Street.

THE OLD STAND. 37, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777220. Apparently a favoured haunt of Michael Collins in the day, you'll see why from a visit to this traditional pub.

THE PORTER HOUSE. 16-18, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016798495. You'll find a breathtaking array of beers at this massive pub/brewery.

THE PORTOBELLO. 33, Richmond Street South - Dublin 2. Tel: 014752715. The canal-side location makes this pub a very nice spot on sunny days.

THE PURTY KITCHEN. 34, Essex Street East - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770945. Large pub and club with live music.

THE STAG'S HEAD. 1, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793701. Space is at a premium here but it's worth persevering – once you sit down, this old-school pub is impossible to leave.



VENU BRASSERIE

Anne's Lane (off South Anne Street) - Dublin 2
Tel: 016706755

Since opening its doors in 2006, this atmospheric cocktail bar and restaurant has lured many Dubliners through the doors. It's easy to see why – quite apart from the unobtrusive music, and tables spaces far apart enough for the most indiscrete conversations, this restaurant has a nifty little menu – the Roast Breast of Organic Chicken with Truffled Creamed Potato and Tarragon Velouté is particularly enjoyable, as is the rack of Wicklow lamb – and an award-winning cocktail bar, with top class spirits mixed by staff who know exactly what they're doing. It's worth taking several visits to work your way through both menus, and make sure to sample the award-winning Fixx coffee too. Ultimately, Venu is an ideal one-stop place for an enjoyable dinner and several drinks.

THE STREET. The Campshires, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 016700073. A nice little café for grabbing a quick coffee and watching the Docklands traffic passing.

THE TEMPLE BAR. 2, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725286. A consistently packed tourist pub, this offers live music and plenty of atmosphere.

THE WINDJAMMER. 8-10, Townsend Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016772576. A popular early pub and generally welcoming pub at any time.

THE VAULTS. 1, Harbourmaster Place, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016054700. This sprawling venue features a restaurant, bar, and late night club at weekends.

UKIYO. 7-9, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016334071. Karaoke, sushi and cocktails may be an unconventional recipe, but it certainly works.

WOLFES. 153, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 1 8749570. This lovely little food and wine store has a cozy feel and plenty of treats.

DINNER

101 TALBOT. 101, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018745011. Fresh and contemporary Irish, continental and African cuisine.

ACAPULCO. 7, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770733. Popular Tex Mex establishment with quality ingredients.

BAR ITALIA. 26, Bloom's Lane, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018741000. An unpretentious Italian restaurant with authentic, well-prepared ingredients.

BRASSERIE SIXTY6. 66, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014005878. A popular spot for upper-mid-range dinner that also offers an indulgent breakfast. The cocktail menu completes a strong combination.

BROADWAY PIZZA PARLOR. Unit 6, Custom House Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016721812. It's always buzzing at this place – taste the pizzas or calzones to find out why.

CACTUS JACKS. Millenium Walkway, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018746198. Fun Tex-Mex spot with an outlet in Galway.

CAFÉ MAO. 2-3, Chatham Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704899. An excellent Asian restaurant, with a branch in Dun Laoghaire too.

CAFÉ URBANO. 4, Abbey Street Upper - Dublin 2. Tel: 016721878. Lunchtime attracts Docklanders to here like moths to a flame. Try the salads to see why.

CAFÉBARDELLI. 12, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016771646. A lively restaurant with a great range of salads, pizzas and other treats.

CAPTAIN AMERICAS. 44, Grafton St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016715266. Long-standing American style cookhouse and bar.

CARLUCCIO'S. 52, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016333957. The first Irish branch of a popular UK chain, this venue blends a coffee shop, foodhall and Italian restaurant.

CHAPTER 1. 18, Parnell Square North - Dublin 1. Tel: 018732266. Quite possibly the best restaurant in this fine city. Top food at very competitive prices.

CHATHAM BRASSERIE. Chatham Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016790055. A new new-york style restaurant with a twist of personality. Ideal for brunch.

CHEZ MAX. 133, Baggot Street - Dublin 4. Tel: 016618899. Max's full-scale bistro is one of the nicest spots on Baggot Street.

CHEZ MAX. 1, Palace Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016337215. A wonderful little French bistro, with an intimate atmosphere.

CORNUCOPIA. 19 Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777583. An all-vegetarian restaurant with lots of tricks up its sleeve. Also offers a cookbook for sale if the recipes appeal to you.

DIEP LE SHAKER. 55, Pembroke Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 0166611829. This trendy Thai place is one of the most consistently good restaurants at any stage in the day.

DUNNE & CRESCENZI. 16, South Frederick St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773463. Popular Italian wine bar and restaurant, with an extensive range.

FALLON & BYRNE. 2, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014721000. A mix of wine bar, gourmet food hall and high-class restaurant, this place is packed with little treats for yourself.

CAFÉ MAO. 2-3, Chatham Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704899. An excellent Asian restaurant, with a branch in Dun Laoghaire too.

FIRE. Mansion house, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016762200. Fire has food to do its beautiful setting justice. The flatbreads are particularly worth a try.

GOTHAM CAFÉ. 8, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795266. A menu packed with delicious salads, innovative pizzas and other treats ensures Gotham is packed out even on weeknights. A great place for a weekend brunch.

GOVINDAS. 83, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018727463. Vegetarian restaurant with a varied menu. Branches are also on Merion Row and Aungier Street.

GREEN NINETEEN. 19, Camden Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 014789626. Popular good value restaurant. All main courses cost €10.

MONGOLIAN BBQ. 7, Anglesea Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703802. An all-you-can eat restaurant with fresh Mongolian fare.

HARD ROCK CAFÉ. 12, Fleet Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016717777. Dublin's outlet in the popular franchise does well from both tourists and temple bar revellers in need of a refuel.

HARRY'S MEDITERRANEAN CAFÉ & WINE BAR. 22, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 012808337. Popular post-work café bar with a branch in Dun Laoghaire.

HAVANA. Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014005990. An unpretentious tapas bar with a Cuban twist.

JADE. 27, Little Mary Street - Dublin 7. Tel: 018874468. This Chinese restaurant is one of Dublin's many 'hidden gems', and uses no MSGs in its food.

KOH. 7, Jervis Street, Millenium Walkway - Dublin 1. Tel: 018146777. This Thai restaurant and cocktail bar has a constant hum of activity.

LA CAVE. 28, Anne Street South - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794409. Long standing wine bar and restaurant with a loyal clientele.

LA MAISON. 15, Castle Market - Dublin 2. Tel: 01727258. A dedicated French restaurant opened where the much-love Maison des Gourmets once stood.

LAGOONA. Mayor Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 017918928. A burger and a pint from here is an unexpected delight.

LE BON CRUBEEN. 81-82, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 017040126. A stylish and (thank heavens) affordable brasserie, and a welcome addition to the northside.

KUDOS. Clarion Hotel, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 014338866. The Clarion's Kudos restaurant has considerable style.

MONGOLIAN BBQ. 7, Anglesea Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703802. An all-you-can eat restaurant with fresh Mongolian fare.

MYO. Lower Mayor Street, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016721031. Create your own wraps, sandwiches or even pizzas from a good buffet of ingredients at this innovative new spot.

NEWYORK GRIND. 5, Excise Walk, Clarion Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 016360110. A pretty good recreation of the classic Big Apple diner, NYG is known for doing a mean brunch and some tasty wraps.

ODESSA. 13, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707634. A mouth-watering menu and a laid back atmosphere makes this a perfect 'unwinding' restaurant.

PACINO'S. 18, Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775651. A very lively Italian restaurant and club just off Grafton Street.

PASTA FRESCA. 2, Chatham Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016792402. Good value, fresh Italian food in the heart of the city.

PEPLOE'S WINE BISTRO. 16, St Stephen's Green - Dublin 2. Tel: 016763144. Lovingly decorated restaurant set below a Georgian home. The menu is also packed with variety.

PLAN B. 56, Manor Street - Dublin 7. Tel: 016706431. Ambitious restaurant with a dash of local charm in Stoneybatter.

ROLYS BISTRO. 7, Ballsbridge Terrace - Dublin 4. Tel: 016682611. Another Dublin institution, Roly's is best enjoyed at quiet lunchtimes. However, there's a nice lively feel to the evening sitting.

SABA. 26-28, Clarendon Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016792000. One of Dublin's coolest Thai restaurants, with an award winning cocktail bar to boot.

SALAMANCA. 1, St Andrew's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774799. A fantastic long-standing tapas restaurant. Doesn't usually take reservations.

SAMSARA CAFÉ BAR. 35, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774444. Thai food café bar, with a strong cocktail menu.

SOHO. 17, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 017079596. American-style diner food done with a bit of class and creativity.

SUSHI KING. Baggot Street Dublin 2. Tel: 016449836. Cheap – and tasty – sushi will always appeal to tastebuds. This smaller Baggot place is ideal for grab-and-go.

SUSHI KING. 13, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016752000. You can grab a seat at this outlet from the increasingly-popular Sushi King.

SWAI. Unit B, The Campshires, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018561633. A modern Malaysian restaurant set with views over the Liffey.

TOWN BAR & GRILL. 21, Kildare Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016624800. A fun New York style eatery, Town's strong menu and service ensures it packs out most evenings.

THE BAD ASS CAFÉ. Temple Bar Square, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016712596. There are great pizzas to be tasted, along with plenty of unpretentious fare at this spot in Temple Bar Square.

THE CEDAR TREE. 11, St Andrew's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016772121. An authentic Lebanese restaurant with a rich and intriguing décor. An early bird menu also offers good value.

THE CHILLI CLUB. 1 Anne's Lane, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773721. Reportedly Dublin's first Thai restaurant, and still a popular choice.

THE EXCHEQUER. 3-5, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706856. Brilliantly restored hotel bar with a very strong food menu using Irish-sourced ingredients.

THE FARM. 3, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016718654. This organic-themed restaurant also has a pleasant little cocktail menu.

THE PIG'S EAR. 4, Nassau Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703865. An excellent new little bistro, with hearty fare and charming views of Trinity College.

THE UNICORN. 12, Merrion Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016624757. Established long ago and still going strong, the Unicorn repays Dubliners' continued affection with hearty Italian fare.

THE WINDING STAIR. 40, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018726576. The restaurant above this well-loved bookshop has gone all upmarket in recent years, with considerable success. Some great value lunch deals are on offer.

THUNDER ROAD CAFÉ. Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794057. A big restaurant with big portions and big rock'n'roll playing.

TOSCANA. 3, Cork Hill Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709785. Authentic Tuscan food served in very-pleasant surroundings.

VENU. 2, Anne's Lane, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706755. This brasserie-cum-cocktail bar is nothing if not stylish, with both the food and cocktail menus having plenty of appeal.

YAMAMORI SUSHI. 38-39, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018720003. Excellent spot for sushi from the same folks behind the George's Street restaurant.

YO'SUSHI. Brown Thomas, Clarendon Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016728950. A sushi bar made unmissable by the charming addition of a conveyor belt carrying the food. It's also quite affordable by Dublin standards.

AFTER DINNER

4 DAME LANE. 4, Dame Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016790291. Yummy cocktails and great DJs make this place a winner.

BRANNIGANS. Cathedral Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018725315. An old-school Northside pub with a friendly welcome.

BRUXELLES. 7-8, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775362. A favoured indie/metal music bar, this place gets packed out by 18:00 most evenings.

CAPITOL. 18/19, Lower Stephen Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014757166. A popular cocktail bar, particularly with the younger crowd – we think drinks for €5 may have something to do with it.

CASSIDYS. 27, Westmoreland Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016708604. Welcoming pub with lots going on most evenings.

CENTRE STAGE CAFE. 6, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703390. A lovely little café-cum-club with lots of atmosphere.

DAKOTA. 9, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016727690. This trendy place still packs them in on Fridays – it's just as nice for a lunchtime visit if you don't fancy a crowd.

DANDELION. St Stephens Green West - Dublin 2. Tel: 014760870. A popular club with cheap cocktails, celeb appearances and contemporary music.

DAVY BYRNES. 21, Duke Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775217. A literary pub with a great bar food menu.

DICEY'S GARDEN BAR. 21-25, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014784066. The staging point for many a raid into Copper's, this place is a nice drinking den in its own right.

DOYLES. 9, College Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016710616. A traditional bar by day and student mecca by night. Opens late at weekends.

ELY. CHQ, IFSC, Docklands - Dublin 1. Tel: 016768986. Another branch of the successful Ely wine bar chain.

FITZSIMONS BAR AND HOTEL. 21-22, Wellington Quay, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779315. Even if you're not looking for a room, the relaxing bar is a nice place to spend an evening.

JACK NEALON. 165, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018723247. Nealon's traditional pub is a welcome - and welcoming - sight in these parts.

KATE'S COTTAGE. 1, Amiens Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 87135291. A traditional Irish pub with a warm atmosphere.

LOTTS BAR. 9, Lower Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018727669. A mixed decor of a traditional and modern café bar, and a trendy crowd.

MADIGANS. 25, North Earl Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018746362. A very casual, laid-back pub.

MCDAIDS. 7, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794395. A haunt of no less than Brendan Behan in its day, this is one of the oldest pubs in the city and one of the best.

MILANO. 38, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707744. The first outlet of Milano's (Pizza Express in the UK) to make it over to these shores.

MILANO. 19, East Essex Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703384. A great place for a quick pizza in Temple Bar.

MILANO. 6, Excise Walk, Clarion Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 016119012. A spacious and airy branch of the successful Milanos chain.

ONE PICO. 5/6, Molesworth Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 016760300. A delightful little restaurant, that

knows it's a little bit special. Great French-influenced food.

O'NEILLS. 2, Suffolk Street - D2. Tel: 016793656. A sprawling pub with oodles of atmosphere and a mean selection of gourmet beers.

LA CUVÉ. Burton Hall, Mayor Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016054912. A renamed and revamped wine bar in the heart of the docklands.

LE CIRK. 2, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016350058. The boutique hotel-cum-cocktail bar and Jazz club is nothing if not original, and the décor is plenty interesting too.

LEMON JELLY. 11, Essex Street East - Dublin 2. Tel: 016776297. Delicious crepes and more are available at this trendy café.

O'DONOGHUE'S. Suffolk Street Dublin 2. Tel: 016770605. A very popular spot with people who want that 'local pub' feel in Dublin 2.

PANAMA. 30, Batchelor's Walk - Dublin 1. Tel: 018745730. A Panamanian theme lends this lively-side pub plenty of character.

PANTIBAR. 7-8, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740710. The fabulous Pantí presides over this popular gay bar.

PRAVDA. 35, Lower Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740090. A deceptively spacious club with a great range of vodkas.

PROJECT ARTS CENTRE. 39, East Essex Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 018819613. An excellent theatre and general arts space with a consistently interesting programme.

PYGMALION. Powerscourt Townhouse Centre, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014539890. Another expansion to the Body-tonic empire, this place has taken over Bar Mizu's prime location, and offers a great atmosphere.

Q-BAR. 1-2, Burgh Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777835. One of the first places to serve good-quality cocktails at prices to compete with a pint, Q-Bar is still a fun venue.

SLATTERYS. 129, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018727971. One of the more traditional pubs on the Capel Street strip, and well known for its early house.

SOLAS. 31, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583. A cocktail bar with a bit of outsider charm - and a very nice lunch menu.

SOUTH WILLIAM. 52, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725946. Trendy club with a pie-themed food menu, extensive cocktails and varied club nights.

THE BAILEY. 2, Duke Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 016773055. This hip place also serves a nice little food menu.

THE BERNARD SHAW. 50/51, South Richmond Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 0857128342. Imagine an old-man bar on powerful hallucinogens. It's better than you think.

THE BOAR'S HEAD. 149, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 014752705. A very popular spot for lunch and a pint, this is also fun to visit after work.

THE BULL & CASTLE. Christchurch Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751122. A huge gastropub with a great range of craft beers.

THE CHURCH. Junction of Mary Street and Jervis Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018280102. Excellent pub-cum-restaurant-cum-club that ticks all the boxes.

THE CLARENCE HOTEL. 6-8, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 014070800. One of the city's best hotels and home to both the Tea Rooms and the Octagon Bar.

THE CLIFTON COURT HOTEL. 11, Eden Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018743535. A welcoming hotel with an excellent bar in 'The Metropolitan'.

THE CZECH INN. Essex Gate, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711535. Czech-themed bar with plenty to appeal to everyone, including an extensive beer range.

THE DAWSON LOUNGE. 25, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016771487. An antidote to the trendiness of the Dawson Street strip, The Dawson lounge claims to be the smallest pub in the city. We believe it.

THE DICE BAR. 79, Queen Street, Smithfield - Dublin 7. Tel: 016746710. Part-owned by fun loving criminal Huey Morgan, this cool little bar has a lot of noo yawk charm.

THE DRAGON. 64, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014781590. A relatively new kid on the gay bar block, this pub has a packed event programme.

THE DUKE. 8-9, Duke Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 876764657. A nice large traditional pub with good service and a trad evening on Sundays.

THE FLOWING TIDE/NEPTUNE BAR. 9, Abbey Street Lower - Dublin 1. Tel: 018744108. Very popular with the post-theatre crowd, and home to a comedy club that's generating considerable buzz.

THE FRONT LOUNGE. 33, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704112. A relatively quiet - but nonetheless fun - gay bar.

THE GEORGE. 87-89, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782983. The city's oldest gay bar has moved with the times and remains unimpeachably hip.

THE HARBOURMASTER. Customs House Dock, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016701688. Great coffee by day and a crackling atmosphere by night make this a winner.

THE INTERNATIONAL. 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250. Home to the legendary International Comedy Club and a very nice little bar in its own right.

THE ISAAC BUTT. Store Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018555021. A large hotel bar with a great downstairs music venue in The Good Bits.

THE LONG HALL. 51, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751590. A popular pub with impeccable traditional credentials.

THE MARKET BAR. 14a, Fede Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016139094. No piped music, a tapas menu, and a surreal decorative display of used shoes. You can't accuse it of being unoriginal!

THE MARBLE BAR. The Westbury Hotel, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016791122. Just off Grafton Street lies one of the most relaxing and best-staffed cocktail bars in the city.

THE MINT BAR. Westin Hotel, Westmoreland Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016451322. This underground bar has a cozy atmosphere and great drinks - try the elderflower Collins.

THE MILL STONE. 39, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799931. An intimate, warm restaurant with some surprisingly creative pizzas.

THE PINT. 28, Aston Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 018745255. Neighbourhood bar with a varied live music mix.

THE PORT HOUSE. 64, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770298. A gorgeous little tapas bar with candlelight, and some innovative dishes.

THE MORGAN HOTEL. The Morgan Hotel, 10, Fleet Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014757166. This place is very popular, and it's easy to see why - the cocktails are frankly fantastic.

THE ODEON. 57, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088. With more room to breathe, you can appreciate the wonderfully restored décor of this place all the better - arrive before the late-night rush.

THE ORMOND WINE BAR. 6, Ormond Quay Upper - Dublin 7. Tel: 018749778. A recently-opened gem, this place has frankly stunning décor and a great range of wines.

THE PALACE BAR. 21, Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016717388. One of the most welcoming traditional pubs to survive in Dublin city centre.

'THE SECRET BAR.' 3, Fade Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 017645681. The city's worst-kept secret doesn't even need a name badge to draw in the punters.

THE TEMPLE BAR HOTEL. 13-17, Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773333. Handy, centrally-located hotel with some good last-minute deals.

THE TURKS HEAD. Junction of Parliament Street and Essex Gate, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 876764657. Criminally underrated nightspot with lashings of atmosphere and a fun crowd.

THE VILLAGE. 26, Wexford street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555. A worthy addition to the Camden/Wicklow Street Strip, this place has booze, music and atmosphere in abundance.

THE WOOLSHED. Unit 4, Parnell Centre, Parnell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018724325. A popular sports bar with many drinks promotions on quieter nights.

TGI FRIDAYS. St Stephens Green West - Dublin 2. Tel: 014781233. Cheap cocktails and a consistently lively atmosphere make this a handy hangout for the young.

WHELAN'S. 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766. A long-standing indie music pub, this place is increasingly featuring innovative live acts.

LATE NIGHT

BOOMERANG. Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016715485. This late night club in Temple Bar is just as busy and buzzing as you'd expect.

BUCK WHALLEYS. 67, Lower Leeson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016334200. Popular wine bar, now with a full bar license and late opening.

CLUB NASSUA. 1-2, Nassua Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794388. The 'home of the slow set' plays old school hits from the 1980s and other decades every week.

COPPER FACE JACKS. 29, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 867816251. Many a romance has begun (and ended) in this heaving Dublin club.

CRAWDADDY. Old Harcourt Street Train Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780225. An intimate live venue downstairs at the POD complex.

DYLANBAR. The Dylan Hotel, Eastmoreland Place - Dublin 4. Tel: 016603000. A stylish cocktail bar that's worth the journey out to D4.

HOWL AT THE MOON. 7-8, Lower Mount Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016345460. A spacious club with many levels - and lots going on most evenings.

ICE BAR. Four Seasons Hotel, Simonscourt Road - Dublin 4. Tel: 016654000. You can now get top-drawer sushi at this stylish cocktail bar - we're amazed nobody thought of the combination before.

KRYSTLE. 21-25, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014784066. A club clearly aiming for the high-class, high-spending market, and hitting it right on the button.

LILLIES BORDELLO. Adam Court, Grafton Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799204. The playground for the super-rich is increasingly letting in the hoi-polloi.

SIN. 17-19, Sycamore Street - Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016334232. Uber-popular Temple Bar nightclub with a mixed music policy.

THE BUTTON FACTORY. Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202. The refurbished and revamped Temple Bar Music Centre is a great place for smaller gigs.

THE MEZZ. 23, Eustace Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707655. Formerly the mezzanine bar, this Temple Bar club is winning many new converts.

THE SUGAR CLUB. 8, Lower Leeson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016787188. An intimate live venue with comfy seating, a pleasant bar, and a strong event line-up.

THE TWISTED PEPPER. 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734038. This venue gives a welcome stage to some cutting edge electronic musicians and DJs. Regular club nights Pogo and Mud are also great fun.

THE WRIGHT VENUE. Airside Business Park, Swords - Co. Dublin. Tel: 018900099. Gigantic Miami-style club. Buses are available as transport to the venue from the city centre.

TRAMCO BREWERY. 121, Lower Rathmines Road - Dublin 6. Tel: 014968050. A purveyor or craft beer by day and hip student club by night, this place ticks two very different boxes very well.

TRIPOD. Old Harcourt Street Train Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374. One of the best clubs and live venues in the city, Tripod hosts some top international acts along with more offbeat artists.

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