



THE BELFAST
EMPIRE

MAY/JUN 2019





BOOKING INFORMATION

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
THE EMPIRE BAR (no booking fees)
ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS
24 hr booking line 0844 277 445
www.ticketmaster.ie

Should you or any member of your party require any special assistance, our staff will be delighted to help.

We recommend that when possible, you notify
The Belfast Empire prior to your visit.

Please note that some performances may use special effects, such as strobe lighting and smoke effects.

All patrons must be aged 18 or over.

FOLLOW US ON
Twitter, Facebook & Instagram

42 Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JQ | 028 9024 9276
WWW.THEBELFASTEMPIRE.COM



Dear all,

Good day to you all! We're thrilled about the summer coming in, and after an exciting Six Nations we're already pretty hyped for the Rugby World Cup. There's the closing fight for the premiership with all that entails, so a healthy few months.

And looking ahead, live wise, we've some cracking bookings for later on in the year. We've indie legend LLOYD COLE in November, and E-Street Band alumni JAKE CLEMONS.

Speaking of brass, next month sees the amazing BRASS AGAINST - the music of Rage Against the Machine, Pearl Jam and Tool interpreted for a full brass section. We've indie-pop goddess ALEX LAHEY incoming and the return of THESE CHARMING MEN.

REBECCA O'CONNOR blew us away last year with her amazing Tina Turner tribute, so we've booked her for the May Bank Holiday weekend - Friday and Saturday - an unprecedented move. Ken's in the Basement and the Music Hall this time around and there's the ultimate night for Springsteen fans in HUNGRY HEART!

We're only scraping the surface.
Dive in and start summer in style!

As always, I remain yours,

Fitty 





EVERY NIGHT IN THE BAR

ENTERTAINMENT

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| SUN | 10PM - BELFAST'S BEST SUNDAY NIGHT KEN HADDOCK SUPPERCLUB | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MON | 10PM - LIVE IRISH TRADITIONAL & FOLK THE RARE AUL STUFF | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TUE | 11PM - HIP, HAPPY AND HAIRY DISCOBEARD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WED | 10PM - THE ULTIMATE ALTERNATIVE PUB CHALLENGE THE BIG EMPIRE QUIZ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| THU | 10.30PM - EMPIRE BLUES RAB MCCULLOUGH & BAND | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FRI | 5.30PM - SWEET BEATS JACKIE RAINEY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FRI | 10.30PM 100% FRESH ROOTS <small>SEE OVERLEAF</small> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SAT | 10.30PM LIVE ROCK & SOUL <table><tr><td>4 MAY</td><td>STRICTLY NO BALLROOM</td></tr><tr><td>11 MAY</td><td>THE PRETTY BOY TOUGH GUYS</td></tr><tr><td>18 MAY</td><td>THE BREAKFAST CLUB</td></tr><tr><td>25 MAY</td><td>THE MOONSHINES</td></tr><tr><td>1 JUN</td><td>ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO</td></tr><tr><td>8 JUN</td><td>ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO</td></tr><tr><td>15 JUN</td><td>MOTHERS LITTLE HELPERS</td></tr><tr><td>22 JUN</td><td>BLACK MARKET ICONS</td></tr><tr><td>29 JUN</td><td>BLACK MARKET ICONS</td></tr></table> | 4 MAY | STRICTLY NO BALLROOM | 11 MAY | THE PRETTY BOY TOUGH GUYS | 18 MAY | THE BREAKFAST CLUB | 25 MAY | THE MOONSHINES | 1 JUN | ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO | 8 JUN | ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO | 15 JUN | MOTHERS LITTLE HELPERS | 22 JUN | BLACK MARKET ICONS | 29 JUN | BLACK MARKET ICONS |
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DRINK OFFERS | LATE BAR | FREE ADMISSION
FOOD SERVED MON-SAT 12-9PM SUN 12.30-6PM

FRIDAYS | 10.30PM



100% FRESH ROOTS

ORIGINAL ARTISTS PLAYING THEIR OWN MUSIC & MORE!

3 MAY **THE UNHOLY
GOSPEL BAND**

7 JUN **THE UNHOLY
GOSPEL BAND**

10 MAY **JOE MCVEIGH**

14 JUN **THE MOONSHINES**

17 MAY **THE PEACE PROCESS**

21 JUN **THE VIBES**

24 MAY **HOT SAUSAGE & MUSTARD**

28 JUN **LONESOME GEORGE**

31 MAY **LONESOME GEORGE**



THU 2 MAY | 9PM | £5
COLM MCINTYRE REDEMPTION
DONAL SCULLION ALBUM LAUNCH
THE MAD DALTON
RONAN MCSORLEY



Colm's been fronting bands from the tender age of 16, notably the cult heroes Concrete Circus, before picking up a distinction in his higher national diploma in music. He's collaborated with reggae rascals The Vibes in aid of local charity Homeplus and 2019 sees the release of his first full length album, Redemption.



Support comes in the form of scene stalwart DONAL SCULLION, soulful Scots-Canadian songwriter THE MAD DALTON, and up and coming singer-songwriter RONAN MCSORLEY.



THU 6 JUN | 9PM | £3
THE MANNERLY HOODS
ANTO & THE ECHOES
OUR NATIVE DEVILS
SAD TOMORROW



Up the MANNERLY HOODS, because they've discovered a rare groove of classic indie rock and roll, evoking the glory days of the likes of The Las, The Bluetones and Gomez. Formerly known as the Late Twos, Ryan and David have been writing and performing together for the guts of ten years.



ANTO & THE ECHOES hail from the wilds of Fermanagh and draw influence from everyone from Queen to Florence and the Machine, there's dark folk from OUR NATIVE DEVILS and SAD TOMORROW bring indie from the North Coast.



A FOREIGNER'S JOURNEY

SAT 4 MAY | 8.30PM | £12

Bloody Foreigner, coming over here, wanting to know what love is... A night saluting two of the biggest bands in Adult Orientated Rock, with both Foreigner and Journey represented – acts that between them have sold in excess of 80 million records.

A FOREIGNER'S JOURNEY have toured throughout the UK and Europe for the past 8 years, cementing a reputation as one of the finest tribute bands on the circuit. Don't Stop Believing, Cold as Ice, I Wanna Know What Love is – it's a night of stone-cold drive-time anthems.



KEN HADDOCK'S BANK HOLIDAY SUPPERCLUB

SUN 5 MAY | 7PM | FREE

Bank Holidays mean only one thing - a bonus night out! Who better to curate this extra special time than our very own KEN HADDOCK, and friends? Find out why this is Belfast's longest running residency, as Ken and Co. take you through a journey of the best covers, classics and the odd original thrown in for the craic.

One of Ireland's greatest living guitarists, Ken has assembled a long serving band, and has been known to invite some of the finest up and coming, our out of town blues musicians, and when you throw in the free nibbles for early arrivals you can see why it's a sell-out show.



NOW THE 90'S

SAT 11 MAY | 8.30PM | £11

As far as we're concerned, the 90s were just ten years ago now. And if you're feeling old and think that the music of today doesn't quite add up, NOW THE 90'S is the band for you!

From the people that bring you the Pleasuredome, it's the first and only all live tribute to the 90s.

Blur vs Oasis, Britney vs Christina, combat trousers and scrunchies, Mr Blobby and Super Nintendo – it's a breakneck trip down memory lane, with the finest, hand picked tunes from the decade that defined us all.



ALEX LAHEY

WED 15 MAY | 7.30PM | £15

ALEX LAHEY had a beautiful blue Ford Corolla, which was sacrificed on the altar of funding her debut EP. But when the results are of the quality of 2015's *Air Mail*, we think she made the right choice.

This Melbourne based Singer-Songwriter has set the music industry abuzz, with the follow-up *You Don't Think You Like People Like Me* netting a Pitchfork Best New Track accolade.

A founding member of Avant Garde outfit Animaux, Lahey's ear for a hook and moxie swerves between the cool of The Strokes and Courtney Barnett's spiky amiability.



THE NUDE PARTY

THU 16 MAY | 7.30PM | £12

Take a dash of the Kingsmen, a chunk of surf, some country and western and add a generous helping of early 00s garage rock and we have THE NUDE PARTY. Don't google it in work.

THE NUDE PARTY took root at the Appalachian State University in North Carolina - the sextet honing their craft in the basement of a local lake house often performing in the nip – hence the name. In 2014 they met Black Lips' drummer Oakley Munson at who recorded their first EP.

The rest is history in the making. Join THE NUDE PARTY on their wild ride to the top!



HUNGRY HEART

FRI 17 MAY | 7PM | £12

The world's only Bruce Springsteen dedicated touring club night makes it's Empire Music Hall debut in May – and with phase one and two tickets all gone, you may get a move on if you want to get to Jungleland.

Show your partner who the Boss is with a night of bumper to bumper Springsteen, complete with b-sides, live versions and rarities for the hardcore E-Street Band fan in you!

'You ain't a beauty, but hey you're alright' – Cheers, Bruce.



THESE CHARMING MEN

SAT 18 MAY | 8.30PM | £11

We Hate it When Our Friends Become Successful, as THESE CHARMING MEN return to the Empire Music Hall.

The Smith's fans' tribute band, the Dublin based outfit have performed at Smiths conventions worldwide, including the massive Fuji Rocks festival in Japan.

With over 20 years playing the music of Morrissey and the Smiths, THESE CHARMING MEN cover the greatest hits, the B-sides and the odd surprise, making them a top draw for fans of all shapes and sizes.



LESS THAN JAKE BUSTER SHUFFLE

WED 22 MAY | 7.30PM | £24.50

With over 300 separate releases under their belt, a punishing live regimen that includes up to 150 shows a year and a disregard for musical trends, LESS THAN JAKE remain one of the great live acts of the 90s and 00s.

Having quietly sold over 2 million records over their career, LESS THAN JAKE's commitment to touring and performing has built up a global fan base that bucks the doom and gloom stories of our music industry, showing us that a great live band will always prove a draw.

With fresh new material that stops the band becoming a mere nostalgia trip, the Florida outfit deliver where it matters – on the stage.



REBECCA O'CONNOR AS TINA: SIMPLY THE BEST

FRI 24 & SAT 25 MAY | 8.30PM | £14

Just listen to the timeless production of River Deep, Mountain High. The build, the Spector 'wall of sound' and the voice of Tina Turner. It's, frankly, peerless and remains a staple in Tina's set to this day, 50 years on! And that's just the start – throughout the 60s, 70s and 80's Tina Turner helped define soul music.

SIMPLY THE BEST is Rebecca O'Connor's tribute to the Queen of Rock and Roll. There are no backing tracks or miming here, only the raw power of a 100% live band behind Rebecca's formidable lungs. We've a whole weekend of Tina for your delectation – Rebecca is just that good!

AT A GLANCE...

EVERY TUE | 8PM | £10/£8 PAY AT THE DOOR
EMPIRE LAUGHS BACK COMEDY CLUB

THU 2 MAY | 9PM | £5
GIFTED COLM MCINTYRE | DONAL SCULLION
THE MAD DALTON | RONAN MCSORLEY

SAT 4 MAY | 8.30PM | £12
A FOREIGNERS JOURNEY

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WITH EMMA WALLACE

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CLUB NIGHT

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LESS THAN JAKE

FRI 24 & SAT 25 MAY | 8.30PM | £14
REBECCA O' CONNOR AS TINA:
SIMPLY THE BEST

SUN 26 MAY | 7PM | £22.50
THE WEDDING PRESENT

THU 30 MAY | 8.30PM | £5
SOUNDS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

SAT 1 JUN | 8.30PM | £11
PLEASUREDOME SCHOOL'S OUT

WED 5 JUN | 8.30PM | £10
JEALOUS OF THE BIRDS ROE | BLXXD
GEMMA BRADLEY

THU 6 JUN | 9PM | £3
GIFTED THE MANNERLY HOODS | ANTO & THE ECHOES
OUR NATIVE DEVILS | SAD TOMORROW

FRI 7 JUN | 8PM | £14
THE TWILIGHT SAD

SAT 8 JUN | 8PM | £22.50
THE MEAT PUPPETS

SUN 9 JUN | 7PM | £20
BRASS AGAINST

SAT 15 JUN | 8.30PM | £10
RAISED ON ROCK

WED 19 JUN | 8PM | £22.50
COOLIO

THU 20 JUN | 8.30PM | £5
SOUNDS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

SAT 22 JUN | 8.30PM | £12
THE BJORN IDENTITY

SUN 23 JUN | 7PM | £20
AN EVENING WITH DOM JOLY

MON 24 JUN | 8PM | £24.50
STEREOLAB

SAT 29 JUN | 8.30PM | £12
THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE



THE WEDDING PRESENT

SUN 26 MAY | 7PM | £22.50

An amazing 30 years since the wonderful Bizarro was released, David Gedge and his merry crew of misfits roll into the Empire Music Hall with the energy and joie de vivre of a band half their age. And with the QFT showing the Something Left Behind Documentary that afternoon, the stage is set for a day of Dave.

Swinging from the success of debut album George Best, Bizarro was THE WEDDING PRESENT's first major label release, and netted them a top 40 hit in the shape of Kennedy, as well as mass college radio exposure in the States. Now entrenched as one of the finest albums of the 80s, we're thrilled to be celebrating it's anniversary.



PLEASUREDOME SCHOOL'S OUT

SAT 1 JUN | 8.30PM | £11

Whether you're taking the day off, like Ferris, or looking the time of your life, let Maurice Jay run the detention (but fun) of your life in the Empire Music Hall. With all the classics from all your favourite 80's movies, the power ballads and the anthems, it's like the nineties, and every year ever since, never happened!

It's Belfast's greatest party band, on Belfast's greatest party night and with full live band, some of the best drinks offers around and one of the most up for it crowds in the city, it's no wonder that it's the first stop for Hen dos, work parties and trips down memory lane alike.



JEALOUS OF THE BIRDS

ROE | BLXXD | GEMMA BRADLEY

WED 5 JUN | 8.30PM | £10

Women's Work Festival was started with the intention to lift and inspire aspiring young female artists to get involved knowing there is a positive and supportive network locally. We're thrilled to host a night of amazing lady-led talent with Jealous of the Birds, ROE, Blxxd and Gemma Bradley.

The vehicle for singer-songwriter Naomi Hamilton, JEALOUS OF THE BIRDS have many touchstones – indie, folk, the angular beauty of post-punk, while ROE is fresh from a well-received headline Irish tour. BLXXD's cool production never fails to impress while GEMMA BRADLEY's warmth and song-writing nous mark her as one to watch.



THE TWILIGHT SAD

FRI 7 JUN | 8PM | £14

Signed to Mogwai's Rock Action records and championed by none less than the Cure's Robert Smith, THE TWILIGHT SAD belong to that very special Scottish niche of indie rock that pairs the words of despair with some of the most uplifting and epic music going.

January 2019's *It Won't Be Like This All the Time* is the band's most accessible and epic album yet, while maintaining the heart of the Twilight Sad intact. Recorded on the banks of Loch Fyne has distilled a truly Caledonian album, equal parts comfort and anger.



THE MEAT PUPPETS

SAT 8 JUN | 8PM | £22.50

Arizona proto-grunge legends THE MEAT PUPPETS return to the global stage, with the original line-up, a new album and a brand-new appetite for distortion. Reunited for their induction into the Arizona Music Hall of Fame, they discovered that the chemistry was still there. This tour is the result!

With two songs featured on the legendary Nirvana Unplugged; Live in New York album, THE MEAT PUPPETS suddenly found themselves discovered by every moody teen in the 90's – but that's a great disservice to the band that practically invented what we know now to be grunge.



BRASS AGAINST

SUN 9 JUN | 7PM | £20

Do you like Brass Bands? Of course you do, nothing gets the blood pumping like a brass section in full flow. Do you like Rage Against the Machine? Only fools don't like Rage Against the Machine. Let's throw a bit of Pearl Jam, Tool and Audioslave into the mix.

How does that sound? Good, as BRASS AGAINST will be making their Belfast debut in the Empire Music Hall on June 9th. Following a sold out show in the Button Factory, the collective will return to Ireland for an expanded tour, bringing their politically charged brass extravaganza to the masses.



RAISED ON ROCK

SAT 15 JUN | 8.30PM | £10

Easily one of the most popular bands here at The Empire, RAISED ON ROCK are simply the finest local hard rock and metal musicians playing the finest in metal and hard rock. It's so easy.

From AC/DC through to Zeppelin, Free to Springsteen, it's a thrill-ride along the highway to hell that is our dark mistress, Rock and Roll. Nearly two hours of the finest fist-punching, formation clapping, crowd surfing (careful now) night out you could ever wish for.

RAISED ON ROCK will raise the roof!



COOLIO

WED 19 JUN | 8PM | £22.50

Sampling Stevie Wonder and sound-tracking the cultural touchstone of *Dangerous Minds*, Coolio's *Gangsta's Paradise* was the sleeper hit of 1995, going on to sell at least 6 million copies worldwide, snaring two MTV Music awards, a Grammy and a Billboard Best Music Award.

This slice of life on the streets introduced the globe to the prodigious talent of COOLIO and propelled the album of the same name to the top of the charts. The follow-up charted platinum and since then he's collaborated with Snoop and the Insane Clown Posse. This tour sees him reconnect with the music in a series of intimate club venues with a full live band.



THE BJORN IDENTITY

SAT 22 JUN | 8.30PM | £12

Meet your own personal Waterloo at The Empire, courtesy of Northern Ireland's greatest tribute to Sweden's greatest export, ABBA. You know you're doing something right when Sweden's second greatest export, IKEA, keep booking you for a variety of events. Add into the mix Belfast Pride, the Millennium Forum in Derry and a host of private bookings and you've got an in-demand band.

Complete with authentic, handmade replica outfits and a full live band, THE BJORN IDENTITY will take you on a journey celebrating the band that single-handedly invented pop groups as we know them, with classics such as Fernando, Dancing Queen and Mamma Mia.



AN EVENING WITH DOM JOLY

SUN 23 JUN | 7PM | £20

HELLO! I'M IN THE EMPIRE!

The unmistakeable sound of Mr DOM JOLY and his oversized Nokia nailed the spectre of the mobile phone twat, taught us never to stop for a man dressed as a snail and asked for ein kline nachtmusic.

Bringing the tired hidden camera genre slap bang into the 00s and inspiring a raft of pale imitators. Since then he hasn't let the grass grow under his feet. He's since become a well-regarded travel writer (check out his brilliant Hezbollah Hiking Club) and went on the run on Celebrity Hunted. And now he's in the Empire for his debut spoken word tour!



STEREOLAB

MON 24 JUN | 8PM | £24.50

One of the most enigmatic outfits of the 90s and 00s. Led by the gallic chanteuse Laetitia Sadier and former McCarthy frontman Tim Gane, STEREOLAB combined the influences running from lounge-pop, krautrock and 60s girl groups.

The massive French Disko fired up the dancefloors of the Word, and a series of acclaimed albums graced the turntables of the cognoscenti. They're back, with a massive re-issue programme and a series of intimate dates. This is pretty much an essential stop!



THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE

SAT 29 JUN | 8.30PM | £12

You've got to hold on, to what we've got! And what we've got here is a real live wire, the best BON JOVI EXPERIENCE short of seeing the native New Jersey dweller himself, a rare enough event at the best of times. That's right, the only Bon Jovi tribute band to have played with the man himself make a welcome return to the Empire Music Hall for what's bound to be another sell out blue collar gig! With the approval of Mr Avril Lavigne (Chad Kroeger) and the most authentic equipment that money can buy, front man Tony has appeared as his idol on several TV appearances and has been playing the music of Bon Jovi for well over 20 years. Get the denim on, the fists pumping and the singalong going for a sweaty night of classic rock anthems.

DRINK OFFERS

OF THE MONTH



BOURBON

JIM BEAM APPLE

SINGLE & MIXER

£4.95

DOUBLE & MIXER

£6.95

SUN - THU



BOURBON

JIM BEAM DOUBLE OAK

SINGLE & MIXER

£4.95

DOUBLE & MIXER

£6.95

SUN - THU



BEER

FOXES ROCK
IPA

£3.95



BEER

BOYNE BREWHOUSE
IRISH CRAFT LAGER

£3.95



GIN

Hla'penny Gin
with
Fentimans Mixer

£7.50



GIN

Jawbox
Rhubarb & Ginger
with Fentimans Mixer

£7.50



COCKTAIL

Moscow Mule

Vodka, Lime Juice & Fentimans Ginger Beer

£5.95



COCKTAIL

Raspberry Collins

Gin, Chambord, Lemon Juice & Soda Water

£5.95



AN EMPIRE TRIBUTE...



MACK FLEETWOOD

EUROPE'S PREMIER FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE

SAT
6 JUL
8.30PM | £13



LEGEND

A TRIBUTE TO BOB MARLEY

SAT
3 AUG
8.30PM | £13



CC HOULIHAN'S

Elvis Spectacular

SAT
24 AUG
8.30PM | £12



The Style Councillors

SAT
14 SEP
8.30PM | £15



Cloudbusting

The Music of Kate Bush

SAT
21 SEP
7.30PM | £22.50

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE ...

Check out THEBELFASTEMPIRE.COM for more shows and info!



COMEDY TUESDAY



BEER BUCKET £12 | COCKTAIL JUG £13.95 | HOUSE WINE £13

8PM

£10/£8 STUDENT



THE BELFAST
EMPIRE
MUSIC HALL

WWW.THEBELFASTEMPIRE.COM