

THE BELFAST
EMPIRE

NOV/DEC 2017





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.

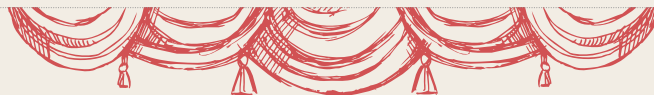
Please note that some performances may use special effects, such as strobe lighting and smoke effects.

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,

Where'd the year go? It doesn't seem like January since we sat down to discuss Elvis, comedy and 30 years of The Belfast Empire. Now it's nearly Christmas and we're hurtling towards the end of 2017.

Speaking of which, have you got your 'Christmas do' sorted? If not, it'll soon be a Christmas don't. Check out our website for menus and booking details!

We've a very busy few months ahead, with the SOUNDS OF BELFAST festival throwing up gigs from the likes of THE TRAGEDY OF DR. HANNIGAN, SISTER GHOST, NO OIL PAINTINGS, CIVIL SIMIAN and so much more.

COMEDY continues through the month, as well as our usual residencies, with KEN HADDOCK gracing the Music Hall on the 17th and 26th of December for festive specials.

OPPORTUNITY FROCKS for the last time and the BJORN IDENTITY return for another great ABBA tribute. If that's not your thing, RAISED ON ROCK will be wishing you a Merry Riffmas and KAZ HAWKINS will be playing her final show.

RICKY ROSS of Deacon Blue, THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE, STU LARSEN...too much to mention here!

Wishing joy to you from me this festive season.
As always, I remain yours,

Kitty





EVERY NIGHT IN THE BAR

ENTERTAINMENT

SUN 10PM **KEN HADDOCK SUPPERCLUB**

MON 10PM **THE RARE AUL STUFF**

TUE 11PM **DISCOBEARD**

WED 10PM **THE BIG EMPIRE QUIZ**

THU 10.30PM **RAB MCCULLOUGH & BAND**

FRI 5.30PM **JACKIE RAINEY**

FRI 10.30PM **100% FRESH ROOTS**

SAT 10.30PM **LIVE ROCK & SOUL**

4 & 11 NOV ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO
18 NOV THE MOONSHINES
25 NOV UNUSUAL SUSPECTS
2 DEC BLACK MARKET ICONS
9 DEC THE EL DUDE BROTHERS
16 & 23 DEC ... ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO
30 DEC THE MOONSHINES

**LATE BAR | FREE ADMISSION | 7 NIGHTS A WEEK
FOOD SERVED MON-SAT 12-9PM SUN 12.30-6PM**

FRIDAYS | 10.30PM



100% FRESH ROOTS

ORIGINAL ARTISTS PLAYING THEIR OWN MUSIC & MORE!

3 NOV **OUTLAW COUNTRY MEN**

1 DEC **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

10 NOV **HIM & HER**

8 DEC **UNHOLY GOSPEL BAND**

17 NOV **CHRIS KEYS BAND**

15 DEC **CROW BLACK CHICKEN**

24 NOV **LONESOME GEORGE**

22 DEC **THE MOONSHINES**

29 DEC **THE HARD CHARGERS**

COMEDY TUESDAY



BEER BUCKET £10 | COCKTAIL JUG £12 | HOUSE WINE £12

8PM

£8/£7 STUDENT



THE BELFAST
EMPIRE
MUSIC HALL



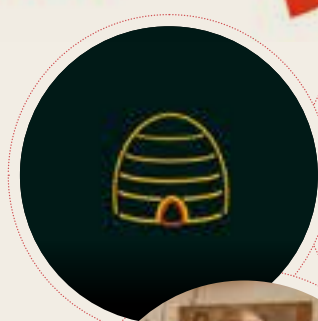
THU 2 NOV | 9PM | £3

SISTER GHOST BORN ONLY YESTERDAY THE SEA, CLOSE BY LET GO DIVE

Known to her parents as Shannon Delores O'Neill, **SISTER GHOST** combine the abrasive power of Lee Ronaldo with the boundary pushing sensibility of Kate Bush and the classic licks of Thin Lizzy. There's a big buzz around this talented lady, folks.

Full support comes from post rock types **BORN ONLY YESTERDAY**, alt-rock trio **THE SEA**, **CLOSE BY** and the punchy four piece **LET GO DIVE**. It's a great line-up for Sounds of Belfast, at the usual low price.





THE BEEHIVE

FRI 03 NOV | 8.30PM | £6

Long a bastion of jagged alt-rock – the Therapy Effect- Northern Ireland has often struggled to provide an alternative to the alternative. No more! The Beehive collective have put together a line-up with enough soul power to put Ballylumford out of action.

BLACKJACK, CIVIL SIMIAN, SCREAM BLUE MURMUR and VELVET ALIBI are all coming fresh off the Soul Train and straight into the Empire. Bring your dancing shoes, because this is going to get funky.

THE TRAGEDY OF DR HANNIGAN

WED 08 NOV | 8.30PM | £6

THE TRAGEDY OF DR. HANNIGAN is a Frankenstein of a musical act, and the music they produce is the monster...it's important to make the distinction between product and creator.

Featuring VCV maestro Tony Wright, and studio boffin Dean Stevens, the Tragedy...have gained comparisons to Tom Waits, Grinderman and Alabama 3. Support comes from Open House Festival's house band NO OIL PAINTINGS, AIDEN LOGAN and female two piece WHALE TALK.

EMPTY LUNGS & LOST LOVE

THU 09 NOV | 8.30PM | £7

Too punk for the indie kids, too melodic for the Punks, EMPTY LUNGS inhabit that no man's land previously occupied by the likes of Husker Du and The Replacements. One of Northern Ireland's finest live prospects are joined on this double headliner night with Montreal's touring behemoth LOST LOVE. With over 200 shows over the past 3 years, they're a hardened live prospect. The line-up is completed by HAND MODELS and SLEEPING OUTSIDE.

OF THE MONTH



BOURBON



JIM BEAM
RED STAG

SINGLE & MIXER

£4.75

DOUBLE & MIXER

£6.50

SUN - THU

BEER



BOYNE BREWHOUSE
IRISH CRAFT SAISON

£3.95

GIN



*Adnams
Copperhouse*
with Fentimans
Grapefruit Tonic

£6.50

COCKTAIL



Cachaca Smash
Cachaca Velha, Strawberry Puree,
Lime and Sugar Syrup

£5.50



OPPORTUNITY FROCKS

SAT 04 NOV | 6PM | £13/£15

It's hard to believe that Belfast's biggest drag competition is ten years old. It's even harder to believe that it'll be the last one. Sad times, but all the more reason to make it memorable.

Featuring drag queen musical chairs, a talent competition designed to sort the queens from the pretenders and a series of heart stopping showstoppers, OPPORTUNITY FROCKS has always been an Empire highlight.

We'll be sorry to see you go!



SPRINGBREAK

SAT 11 NOV | 8.30PM | £11

The 80's are back in again, but down at SPRINGBREAK they never really went away. Formed in 2005, the band have played over 2000 shows since, honing their eighties chops to peak condition and having a hella lot of fun along the way.

Relive the fashion, the fun and the tunes as the party hearty 6 piece run through the greatest hits of the 80s. Whether it's for a trip down memory lane, or experiencing it for the first time, let SPRINGBREAK be your Ferris Bueller and the Empire be your day off.



PADDY CASEY

FRI 17 NOV | 8.30PM | £15

It doesn't seem like eighteen years since PADDY CASEY released his debut album Amen (So Be It). Triple platinum in Ireland and universally acclaimed, it announced a vital new talent to these shores.

With four studio albums under his belt, a spot on U2's massive Vertigo tour and appearances on The Late Late Show and Letterman confirmed Paddy's superstar status. In 2014 he announced a greatest hits album and a hiatus – which is only now coming to an end.

You can't miss this very special comeback show.



THESE CHARMING MEN

SAT 18 NOV | 8.30PM | £11

November spawned a Morrissey tribute, as THESE CHARMING MEN return to The Empire Music Hall.

The Smiths' 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.



STU LARSEN

MON 20 NOV | 7.30PM | £11

You'll find many a musician living the nomadic lifestyle, before returning home to rest and recuperate. Not so for Australian STU LARSEN, who's eschewed a basecamp, choosing instead to end up where his remorseless touring schedule takes him.

The result? 2017's *Resolute*, an album recorded everywhere from a Scottish Cottage to an abandoned Australian nuclear bunker. His travelling experiences, good and bad, have distilled to make this unsung classic a special piece of work. If well crafted, upbeat folk is your thing, make a date with STU LARSEN and The Empire Music Hall.



JOE O'SULLIVAN

WED 23 NOV | 8PM | £10

It's always good to see JOE O'SULLIVAN back at the Empire. It was back in 2015 that the Oncologist at Belfast City Hospital wrote an album based on the small acts of heroism he saw on a daily basis. A date was booked to perform live, expecting a few friends and relatives to show.

Instead it was a resounding success, raising thousands of pounds for the Friends of the Cancer Centre. With his new album *Another Light* about to drop, Joe will be performing another unmissable charity show this November. All proceeds will go to Friends of the Cancer Centre.



HERMITAGE GREEN

FRI 24 NOV | 8.30PM | £14

One listen to any of HERMITAGE GREEN's anthems in waiting will convince you that these lads from Limerick are bound for the stadiums of the world – which is all the more reason to see them on the way up.

The Empire Music Hall will host their first headline Belfast date as the band, who've supported everyone from the Pogues to Josh Ritter prepare to release their second album.

Essential stuff from the band dubbed 'Ireland's Answer to Mumford and Sons'.

AT A GLANCE...

THE BELFAST
EMPIRE
MUSIC HALL

EVERY TUE | 8PM | £8/£7 PAY AT THE DOOR
COMEDY

THU 2 NOV | 9PM | £3
GIFTED SISTER GHOST, BORN ONLY YESTERDAY,
THE SEA, CLOSE BY, LET GO DIVE

FRI 3 NOV | 8.30PM | £6
THE BEEHIVE BLACKJACK, CIVIL SIMIAN,
SCREAM BLUE MURMUR, VELVET ALIBI

SAT 4 NOV | 6PM | £13/£15
OPPORTUNITY FROCKS

WED 8 NOV | 8.30PM | £6
THE TRAGEDY OF DR HANNIGAN & GUESTS

THU 9 NOV | 8.30PM | £7
EMPTY LUNGS & LOST LOVE

SAT 11 NOV | 8.30PM | £11
SPRINGBREAK

THU 16 NOV | 8.30PM | £5
SOUNDS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

FR1 17 NOV | 8.30PM | £15
PADDY CASEY

SAT 18 NOV | 8.30PM | £11
THESE CHARMING MEN

MON 20 NOV | 7.30PM | £11
STU LARSEN

THU 23 NOV | 8PM | £10
JOE O'SULLIVAN

FRI 24 NOV | 8.30PM | £14
HERMITAGE GREEN

SAT 25 NOV | 8.30PM | £12
THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE

THU 30 NOV | 8.30PM | £15
KAZ HAWKINS BAND FAREWELL SHOW

SAT 2 DEC | 8.30PM | £12
THE BJORN IDENTITY

WED 6 DEC | 7.30PM | £20
TOM ROBINSON BAND

THU 7 DEC | 8PM | £22.50
RICKY ROSS

FRI 8 DEC | 8.30PM | £16
THE CABEYTU BROTHERS

SAT 9 DEC | 8.30PM | £10
PLEASUREDOME CHRISTMAS CRACKER

WED 13 DEC | 7.30PM | £22.50
SIKTH

THU 14 DEC | 8.30PM | £5
SOUNDS OF NORTHERN IRELAND

FRI 15 DEC | 8.30PM | £10
RAISED ON ROCK

SAT 16 DEC | 8.30PM | £10
PLEASUREDOME CHRISTMAS CRACKER

SUN 17 DEC | 7PM | FREE
KEN HADDOCK WHISKEY & SHORTBREAD SUPPER

THU 21 DEC | 8.30PM | £7
GASCAN RUCKUS VIA:BARVIKHA,
WASPS, THE VICUNAS

SAT 23 DEC | 8.30PM | MORE INFO COMING SOON
INSIDE MOVES

TUE 26 DEC | 7PM | FREE
KEN HADDOCK BOXING NIGHT JUMPER PARTY

FRI 29 DEC | 8PM | £8
THE EMERALD ARMADA & GUESTS

SAT 30 DEC | 7.30PM | £15
SMALL FAKERS

SUN 31 DEC | 8.30PM | £15
SUITED & BOOTED NYE

Check out THEBELFASTEMPIRE.COM
for more shows and info.



THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE

SAT 25 NOV | 8.30PM | £12

You might have heard that THE BON JOVI EXPERIENCE cut the mustard, but until you've experienced the show in the flesh you can't really appreciate just how close it is to an actual Bon Jovi show.

Tony is the double of the man himself, so much so that he appeared as his idol on film and screen, as well as earning the admiration of Nickleback's Chad Kroeger.

Living On a Prayer, Blaze of Glory, You Give Love A Bad Name, it's time to punch the air with the only Bon Jovi tribute to have performed with Jon himself.



KAZ HAWKINS BAND FAREWELL SHOW

THU 30 NOV | 8.30PM | £15

It's with a heavy heart that we announce Belfast Blues Queen Kaz Hawkins' last ever show. With a career that encompasses support slots for Van Morrison and collaborations with Eric Bell, we'll be sad to see her go. But not before we have one hell of a party.

Years of touring Ireland and Europe have honed the KAZ HAWKINS BAND into a formidable live machine, while the lady herself has a formidable vocal talent. Get your tickets early for this last ever chance to catch the band live.





THE BJORN IDENTITY

SAT 02 DEC | 8.30PM | £12

Knowing me, the Empire, knowing you, BJORN IDENTITY! Ahaaa!!!

So who are THE BJORN IDENTITY? Only the UK and Ireland's finest tribute to the Swedish four piece that helped define disco, soundtrack the seventies and possibly pulled your parents together.

One of the few Abba tributes to play fully live, THE BJORN IDENTITY bring the show to the audience, with singalongs, handmade authentic costumes and audience interaction designed to put you slap bang in the middle of the show.



TOM ROBINSON POWER IN THE DARKNESS 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

WED 06 DEC | 7.30PM | £20

Songwriter, DJ, Gay Rights activist, TOM ROBINSON has certainly lived a life. On the 40th anniversary of the acclaimed album *Power in the Darkness*, Tom takes to the road once more, preaching a message of inclusivity that sadly is still relevant.

From the early days of the Cafe Society Trio on Ray Davies' label to 2-4-6-8 Motorway and the Tom Robinson Band, compromise has not been in Tom's vocabulary.

You know more TOM ROBINSON songs than you think. Essential stuff for fans of Billy Bragg and Woody Guthrie.



RICKY ROSS

THU 07 DEC | 8PM | £22.50

A rare chance to catch the frontman of one of Scotland's finest bands in an intimate, acoustic show in The Belfast Empire. Deacon Blue, like Simple Minds and U2 were part of the Big Music scene, with epic tunes destined for the stadiums.

Albums like Raintown and When the World Knows Your Name propelled the band to the heights of the album charts, with anthems like Dignity and Chocolate Girl providing an insight to RICKY ROSS' fiercely working class Glaswegian roots. Expect a stripped back set that showcases Ricky's song writing talent, alongside his own material.



THE CABEYTU BROTHERS

FRI 08 DEC | 8.30PM | £16

Cristian and Diego Cabeytu are legends on the Benidorm coast.

People flock to their residency, drawn by tales of the two classically trained musicians who between them have mastered 15 different instruments and interpret the classics in their own unique way.

It's off season and the boys have hit the road, following last years' sold out UK tour. Ask anyone who's seen them live, THE CABEYTU BROTHERS are more than just another cover band.



PLEASUREDOME CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

SAT 9 & 16 DEC | 8.30PM | £10

Following October's sold out Rocktober event, PLEASUREDOME return with a festive spectacular, promising the most memorable office party experience since Die Hard.

With all your favourite 80s rock and pop hits, the movie soundtrack classics and the power ballads at their disposal, Maurice Jay and his PLEASUREDOME crew will be bringing two hours plus of non-stop showstoppers from the decade that style forgot - or overtook! All live, all night long, the PLEASUREDOME party is one of Belfast's biggest draws.

Don't let your office do be like Last Christmas. Do something special.

SHIZZNIGH



SIKTH

WED 13 DEC | 7.30PM | £22.50

There's nothing like a bit of djent in December. SIKTH will be loosening your fillings and shaking the dust from the rafters as part of their latest long player *The Future in Whose Eyes?*

With massive shows at Download and Fuse adding to the credit, alongside a tour with metal legends Anthrax to boot, SIKTH's live shows more than match their formidable recorded output.

Full support for the night includes 7.5 TONNES OF BEARD, DRAKONIS and ALTUS, adding up to one value for money night of progressive metal.

AFTER DARK



RAISED ON ROCK

FRI 15 DEC | 8.30PM | £10

We wish you a merry Riffmas, with RAISED ON ROCK, simply the finest classic rock and metal covers band available. This is why you need to start pestering whoever's been landed with the chore of organising the work Christmas party right now!

From Meat Loaf to AC/DC, Toto to Def Leppard, consider Raised on Rock's set an education into the louder end of music. With some of the country's finest session musicians, with years of experience under their studded belts you know you're in good hands.

SUN 17 DEC | 7PM | FREE ADM

Ken Haddock's WHISKEY & SHORTBREAD Supper Club



SUPPORT FROM AMANDA AGNEW



GASCAN RUCKUS

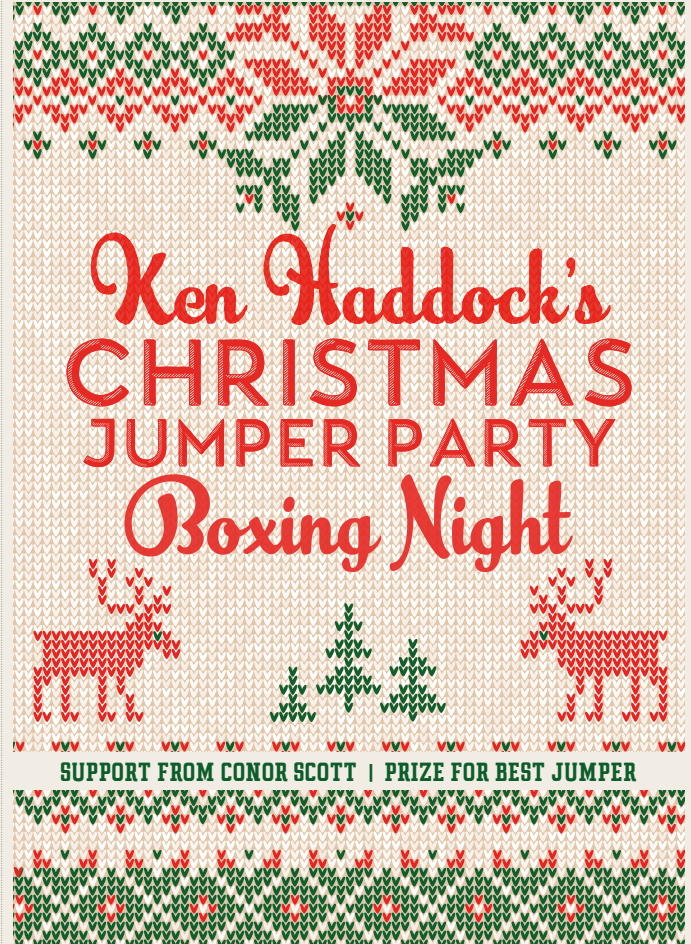
THU 21 DEC | 8.30PM | £7

GASCAN RUCKUS have been terrorising the venues and festivals of Northern Ireland and beyond since they emerged from the fields of rural Armagh in 2008.

With a decidedly grunge-pop angle they soon found themselves compared to primetime Weezer and Dinosaur Pile Up.

Selling out their last show in The Empire, GASCAN RUCKUS will be joined by a pretty kicking supporting line-up of VIA:BARVIKHA, WASPS and THE VICUÑAS. Admittance is a paltry seven squid and there's a strict No Slade policy.

TUE 26 DEC | 7PM | FREE ADM





THE EMERALD ARMADA WINTER SHOW

FRI 29 DEC | 8PM | £8

THE EMERALD ARMADA have cited influences as varied as Pearl Jam and the Waterboys, and have been ploughing their particular folk-rock furrow since well before Mumford and Sons brought swearing to the drive time.

Whether it's making like the Beatles and touring India, or selling out the Mandela Hall, the five-piece from Belfast have taken everything in their stride to date.

They'll be joined by NATHAN O'REGAN, ORCHID COLLECTIVE and FOX COLONY for a great value night of indie-folkery.



SMALL FAKERS

SAT 30 DEC | 7.30PM | £15

More so than any other band, Small Faces epitomised what would become known as Mod, with sharp tunes and sharper suits to boot, the Small Faces stormed the charts, invented the concept album and spawned Faces to boot. SMALL FAKERS have been bringing the music of Merriot and Co to life for ten years now, and we can't wait to have them for their Empire debut.

With the approval of two of the four original Small Faces, a record four appearances at the Isle of Wight festival and the cachet of being the world's only tribute to the band that bought us Ogden's Nut Flake, it's an unmissable night.



NYE STRICTLY NO BALLROOM

SUN 31 DEC | 9PM | £5
PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE BAR

THE BELFAST
EMPIRE
BAR

COMING UP...

**LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS
PRESENTS OR STOCKING FILLERS!**

CC HOULIHAN'S
ELVIS SPECTACULAR 13 JAN

THE ILLEGALS 27 JAN

HAYSEED DIXIE 31 JAN

UK GUN N ROSES 03 FEB

DUKE SPECIAL 23 FEB

Check out THEBELFASTEMPIRE.COM
for more shows and info!



Ni soul Troop's SUITED ^{AND} BOOTED NYE SPECIAL

- FAREWELL SHOW -

SUPPORT FROM CONCRETE CIRCUS & MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!

SUN 31 DEC | 8.30PM | £15



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

SUN 17 DEC **KEN HADDOCK'S WHISKEY & SHORTBREAD SUPPER**
WITH AMANDA AGNEW | 7PM | MUSIC HALL | FREE

MON 18 DEC **RARE AUL STUFF** YULETIDE SHINDIG
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

TUE 19 DEC **DISCOBEARD**
11PM | BAR | FREE

WED 20 DEC **CHRISTMAS QUIZ**
10PM | BAR | ENTRY £1

THU 21 DEC **CHRISTMAS BLUES WITH RAB** & A VISIT FROM SANTA
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

FRI 22 DEC **ROOTS: THE MOONSHINES**
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

SAT 23 DEC **ROCK AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE WITH**
ARMS OF VENUS DE MILO 10.30PM | BAR | FREE

TUE 26 DEC **KEN HADDOCK'S CHRISTMAS JUMPER PARTY**
WITH CONOR SCOTT | 7PM | MUSIC HALL | FREE

THU 28 DEC **RAB MCCULLOUGH** LAST BLUES OF 2017
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

FRI 29 DEC **ROOTS: THE HARDCHARGERS**
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

SAT 30 DEC **THE MOONSHINES**
10.30PM | BAR | FREE

SUN 31 DEC **NYE! STRICTLY NO BALLROOM**
9PM | BAR | £5 TICKETS FROM BAR