

= Giveamanakick =

Giveamanakick ? typeset as giveamanakick and abbreviated as GAMAK ? are an Irish rock music duo from Limerick . The two band members were Stephen Ryan (Steveamanakick) , the vocalist and guitarist , and Keith Lawler (Giveamanakeith) , the drummer .

Giveamanakick performed regularly in Ireland , toured the United Kingdom with The Undertones and also performed in Germany during their existence . The duo featured at festivals such as Electric Picnic , Indie @-@ pendence and Hard Working Class Heroes and also took part in the 2fm 2moro 2our . They released three albums ; Is it ok to be loud , Jesus ? (2003) , We Are the Way Forward (2005) and Welcome to the Cusp (2008) before the end was announced in August 2009 .

Remaining in Limerick throughout the existence of Giveamanakick , the duo were declared " the best hard @-@ rock band in the country " by rock critic Eamon Sweeney and received the approval of Hot Press , No Disco 's Leagues O 'Toole and Fight Like Apes .

= = History = =

Giveamanakick formed in 2001 following the demise of Tooth . Left with several songs , Ryan performed as a solo artist with an electric guitar . One night , he encountered Keith Lawler , who played guitar in another band at the time , and Lawler began drumming with Ryan . In 2002 , the duo released a split single with Mr. Creosote titled " Darko Filopovic " , a song which would later feature as the final track on their debut album . By 2003 , they had supported several more established acts , including Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Rocket from the Crypt . In 2003 , there were reports that the duo 's debut album , titled Is it ok to be loud , Jesus ? , would be released on a label called Larry Gogan Records but this later emerged to be a joke published by a fledgling Foggy Notions . The duo 's debut album was in fact published on 3 July 2003 with that same title by the independent label Out On A Limb Records as the label 's first release , with Giveamanakick having finished recording it in January that year . It received two out of five stars in a review by RTÉ 's Tom Grealis who wrote , " this is what happens when rawness comes without any real sense of purpose " . The Hot Press reviewer said listening to the album was " something akin to being battered round the head with a plank of wood for half an hour " but , nonetheless , " bloody fantastic " .

A second album , We Are the Way Forward , was recorded over an eight @-@ day period and released by Out On a Limb in 2005 . It received three from five stars in a review by RTÉ 's Harry Guerin who said : " you 'll get what you paid for from their stomp and swing " . Phil Udell 's Hot Press review gave the album 4 @.@ 5 out of five stars , saying it " gives you that much sought after visceral thrill " and that the duo " wrote it , recorded it , fucked off . A classic " . Their live performances also came in for increasing critical acclaim . When Eamon Sweeney of the Irish Independent attended a show by The Presidents of the United States of America in May 2006 , his review stated that they " were well and truly blown off the stage by the support band " who were Giveamanakick . Stephen Ryan has said in several interviews that their early Sunday morning performance at Electric Picnic in 2006 was " one to remember " with so many festival @-@ goers coming to view them . He described the performance as a " bit of a blur " as they " pretty dumbfounded by the reaction " and the idea of " playing with some of our musical heroes such as Dinosaur Jr. and Deftones was a dream come through [sic] " .

In 2007 , Giveamanakick toured Germany before beginning to record their follow @-@ up album . They did the 2fm 2moro 2our with The Flaws and Messiah J & The Expert . In October that year , rock critic Eamon Sweeney , bemoaning the lack of original Irish music that year , singled out Giveamanakick as " the best hard @-@ rock band in the country " and said they " could teach all those Dublin chancers with stupid haircuts and no ideas a thing or two " .

Giveamanakick were described as a " promising act " for 2008 by Eamon Sweeney of the Irish Independent in January of that year . They performed several Irish dates in January that year . Their third album , Welcome to the Cusp , was recorded over a ten @-@ day period in Letterkenny , County Donegal and released on 2 May 2008 on the duo 's own label , Monkeyheart Recordings . It

received three from five stars in a review by RTÉ 's Harry Guerin who described the music as " immediate and memorable " . Other publications called it " the best Irish record of 2008 " . The track " Brittle Bones " , released as the second single from the album , marked the first use of an acoustic guitar by the duo . Ryan claimed that Welcome to the Cusp was the album which " most accurately represents what the Giveamanakick sound actually is " and described the songs as " possibly the most structurally challenging ones so far " .

Giveamanakick performed a nationwide tour following the release of Welcome to the Cusp , including a date at Indie @-@ pendence in August 2008 . Prior to their Friday night performance at Electric Picnic in 2008 , Tony Clayton @-@ Lea , writing in The Irish Times , recommended festival @-@ goers to see them , remarking that " despite keeping a profile lower than a Dachshund 's belly , Giveamanakick have managed to keep things grooving along by virtue of their innate boisterousness and musical flash @-@ bang @-@ wallop " .

In September 2008 , Giveamanakick played Hard Working Class Heroes , at which the organisers selected them alongside acts such as The Blizzards and Heathers to play the CMJ Festival in New York the following month . On 3 April 2009 , the duo appeared on Phantom FM alongside Royseven to perform cover versions of Nirvana songs . Giveamanakick 's end came with an announcement on 17 August 2009 . The final shows are scheduled to take place in Cork , Dublin , Galway and Limerick in November and December 2009 . \\ In June 2013 , it was announced that giveamanakick were to reform for one night only to celebrate their label 's 10th birthday .

= = Style = =

The duo were described as " noise rock 's version of The Odd Couple " by RTÉ . Ryan once described himself as a " Beastie Boys fanatic " and the duo were compared to acts such as Pixies . His lyrics regularly featured references to popular culture . However , the opening track on their debut album , titled " Ger Canning " , was not a reference to the broadcaster of the same name . They wrote self @-@ described pop songs , where " Keith hits his drums really hard and I [Steve Ryan] like my guitars turned up very loud but we do this with a pop sensibility " , and employed techniques such as using gas masks to distort their vocals when playing live , performing with streamers and encouraging their audience to disorientate themselves by clapping their own ears . They lived in Limerick throughout their existence , citing a positive music scene , the humour and the hurling as being some of their reasons for liking their home city .

= = Members = =

Stephen Ryan was the guitarist and vocalist . He is originally from Castletroy . He grew up in a background of traditional music , listened to The Beatles on his father 's record player , learned how to play the keyboard at the age of ten , the guitar at the age of fifteen and joined a band called Tooth in his early twenties . He has also performed as Windings .

Keith Lawler was the drummer . He is from Parteen , Co . Clare . He liked Nirvana when he was fourteen years of age , and learned how to play the guitar when he was a teenager but began to learn the drums at the age of sixteen when he realised that there was a surplus of guitarists in his area . Tooth used to rehearse near his house and he often listened to them from outside . Two of his cousins were already drummers , having performed with The Charming and The Cranberries .

= = Discography = =

Giveamanakick released three albums .

Is it ok to be loud , Jesus ? (2003)

We Are the Way Forward (2005)

Welcome to the Cusp (2008)