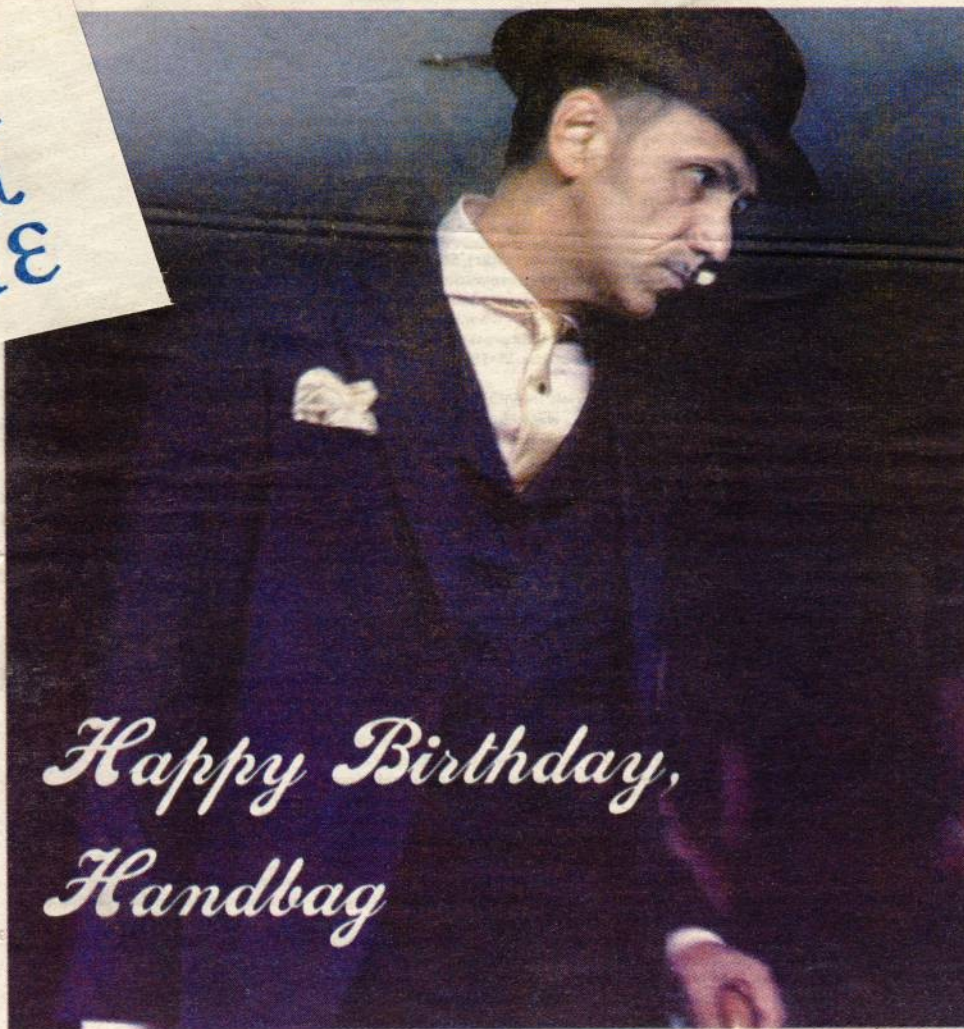


the
event
guide



Dublin's longest running club-night will be celebrating its thirteenth year with the help of some very special guests for its upcoming weekender. Strictly Handbag is a much loved night, and has become synonymous with inventiveness, stretching from its music policy through to its flyers (designed by Brian Nolan at www.detail.ie). It started in the much missed Kitchen nightclub (initially as a bet, over trying to fill a club on Mondays) in 1994, and has weathered the often fickle musical landscape to become one of the leading 'survivors' from that period.

Part of Strictly Handbag's success is the atmosphere it helped to create in 1994 – which was a sense of heady inclusiveness, and quite literally, it has continued to provide something to look forward to on a Monday night. The music policy also has something to do with its success, which veers from The Clash through to New Order, and indeed those two bands have often provided the nights' most popular accompaniment. Yet Strictly Handbag has always engaged with the best in new releases set amidst its anchor of seventies and eighties tracks, and since their tagline is 'Music with words for your dancing pleasure' – what more could you ask for?

Since Handbag moved to Rí-Rá it has continued to provide one of the city's most consistently brilliant nights, and

their imminent thirteenth birthday line-up is testament to that ethic. The Rock & Roll Rescue Squad are running the special weekender from Saturday 27th October – Monday 29th October across different venues in the city, and it will include performances from Dexy's Midnight Runners' Kevin Rowland (Sun 28th, Whelan's), Echo & The Bunnymen's Will Sergeant (Mon 29th, Rí-Rá) and long-time Handbag associate Dandelion, who will be providing a northern sulphuric soul sound to the second area of Rí-Rá on the same night. So there are a few opportunities through which you can pay your respects to this Dublin institution, and cake will no doubt be welcome. – **Siobhán Kane**

The Strictly Handbag 13th Birthday Weekender takes place on Sunday 28th October – Monday 29th October at Whelan's, Wexford Street, Dublin 2 and Rí-Rá, Dame Court, Dublin 2. More information and updates at www.myspace.com/strictlyhandbag. Tickets are between €12 - €15 and are available from the WAV Ticketbox, Camden Row, Dublin 2.

www.myspace.com/strictlyhandbag/ www.therescuesquad.com

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