



Crowd addicted to Casey's company at Olympia show

Paddy Casey

The Olympia, Dublin

ED POWER

PADDY Casey has a confession to make: "I haven't played somewhere this large in a while," he says, gazing out over a heaving and adoring Olympia. "I hope I haven't forgotten how to do it."

Needless to say, he's joking. Casey may have spent the past few months road-testing his new record, 'Addicted To Company', in intimate club settings but he's clearly more comfortable in A-list venues such as The Olympia.

Backed by a string section, two guitarists and a keyboard player, Casey's set juxtaposes crunching harshness with eerie melodies and dreamy lyrics.

'Addicted To Company' sees him branch into Americana, blues and even doff his hat to Latin music. Predictably, The Olympia only fully erupts into life as he performs hits from his 'Livin' album, and especially for songs like 'Don't Need Anyone', 'Saints and Sinners' and 'Livin'.

As the audience bursts into a mass singalong, Casey smiles from behind his corkscrew fringe. He looks like he's finally come home.