

ABBEY THEATRE AMHARCLANN NA MAINISTREACH

The Abbey Theatre presents 'BOOKWORMS' by Bernard Farrell

~ Back by popular demand on the Abbey stage ~

Thursday 9th February 2012 – Saturday 17th March 2012

(Previews Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th February 2012)

***“deserves to become a perennial favourite” - Sunday
Independent***

Monday, 30th January 2012 – The Abbey Theatre is delighted to present a revival of **BOOKWORMS** by celebrated Irish playwright **Bernard Farrell**. As part of our strategy to extend the life-span of new plays commissioned by the Abbey Theatre, **BOOKWORMS** opens on Thursday 9th February 2012 for a five week run. Back by popular demand, **BOOKWORMS** premiered at the Abbey Theatre in 2010 and is **Farrell**'s twenty-first stage play.

“a laugh a minute romp” - Evening Herald

*'I'm delighted to bring back **BOOKWORMS** by **Bernard Farrell**. Reviving Abbey commissioned plays forms an important part of our strategy of supporting Irish playwrights and extending the life-span of a new play. The Abbey Theatre first produced **Bernard**'s work back in 1982 with **I DO NOT LIKE THEE, DR FELL**. Our relationship with **Bernard** has been strong ever since with eleven world premieres of his work. I'm also delighted to welcome back director **Jim Culleton** of **Fishamble: The New Play Company** and all the cast, with the addition of **Donna Dent**,' said **Fiach Mac Conghail**, Director of the Abbey Theatre.*

In **BOOKWORMS**, this month's Book Club hostess Ann is struggling to stay calm, desperate to deliver the perfect evening of literary classics and late-night canapés. Changing the rules of their

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all-female group she includes men for the evening, inviting their husbands to join.

Opinions are challenged, suspicions aroused and tempers flare as their daily lives unravel into a saga to rival even the most outrageous fiction.

“brilliant, fun, entertaining comedy. Delivers a lot of laughs. Really enjoyable.” – Arena, RTE Radio One

Director **Jim Culleton** brings to life this hugely entertaining play with an outstanding cast that includes **Donna Dent, Deirdre Donnelly, Phelim Drew, Liz Fitzgibbon, Louis Lovett, Michael Glenn Murphy** and **Marion O’Dwyer**.

Other recent revivals have included **THE SEAFARER** by **Conor McPherson**, **TERMINUS** by **Mark O’Rowe** and **THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD** in a new version by **Bisi Adigun** and **Roddy Doyle**.

Set and costume design is by **Anthony Lamble**, lighting design by **Kevin McFadden** and sound design by **Ben Delaney**.

Currently on the Peacock stage is **HotForTheatre’s** award-winning production of **I ♥ ALICE ♥ I** (also as **I (HEART) ALICE (HEART) I**) written and directed by **Amy Conroy**. **Conroy** has also been nominated in the Best Actress category for her play **ETERNAL RISING OF THE SUN** in the *Irish Times* Theatre Awards. She joins Abbey nominees **Charlie Murphy** (Best Actress in **PYGMALION**), **Rory Nolan** (Best Supporting Actor in **THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR**), **Nancy Harris** (Best New Play **NO ROMANCE**), **Peter O’Brien** (Best Designer Costume **PYGMALION**), **Paul O’Mahony** (Best Designer Set **PYGMALION**) and **Mel Mercier** (Best Designer Sound **SÉTANTA**).

The Abbey Theatre acknowledges the financial support of the Arts Council.

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Booking and further information on www.abbeytheatre.ie
and (01) 87 87 222.

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**Monday – Saturday evening 7.30pm, Saturday matinees
2.00pm.**

**Audio-described and captioned performance on Saturday
10th March, 2pm**

**Sign language interpreted performance on Thursday 8th
March, 7.30pm**

Tickets: €13 – €40

For further information please contact:

David McCadden, Press Officer

david.mccadden@abbeytheatre.ie / (01) 887 2229

Maura Campbell, Press and Marketing Assistant

maura.campbell@abbeytheatre.ie / (01) 879 7268