

ABBAY THEATRE AMHARCLANN NA MAINISTREACH

IRELAND'S NATIONAL THEATRE
AMHARCLANN NAÍSIÚNTA NA HÉIREANN



On Raftery's Hill by Marina Carr.
Image by Ros Kavanagh

ANNUAL REVIEW 2018

The Unmanageable
Sisters
was a hit
THE LOST O'CASEY
and the Stars
OPERA BRIEFS
Rathmines Road
FRANKENSTEIN
DOUBLE CROSS
THE PATIENT
GLORIA
Swan Lake
NOT A HAUGHEY | GREGORY
FUNNY WORD
MUSICTOWN
HERE ALL ON Raftery's asking for
NIGHT
CLASS
OPEN
STUDIO
COME ON HOME
5X5
Dublin Fringe Festival
CATEDRAL
Hard to be So fit
Porcelain
JIMMY'S HALL

CONTENT

05.	WELCOME
09.	ON STAGE
15.	OUT OF THE ABBEY
17.	TOURING
18.	AWARDS
19.	NEW WORK
24.	COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION
27.	CASTING
29.	GENDER EQUALITY
31.	SUPPORT
33.	SUPPORTERS
34.	THE FUTURE
38.	STAFF

2018 OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

127,489

People attended performances
at the Abbey Theatre

398

Scripts and Ideas received by our
New Work Department

€80M

Government funding announced for the
redevelopment of the Abbey Theatre

14

Irish counties toured in 2018

5

New Plays on the Peacock Stage: *Come
On Home, Porcelain, Rathmines Road, The
Lost O'Casey and The Patient Gloria*

25,373

People who attended our top-selling show
– *Jimmy's Hall* in Limerick, Dublin, Galway
and Cork

1

Great Dane made his debut in *The
Rehearsal Playing The Dane*

14

Irish Sign Language Interpreted
Performances

14

Free First Previews attended by
over 4,000 people

80%

Total occupancy level

€2,914,472

Total box office revenue

(an 11% increase on 2017)

87%

of our audience
live in Ireland

65%

of booking revenue came online

100,000+

people watched the RTÉ Documentary
A Riot of Their Own

56%

of our audience were attending
for the first time

€7M

Funding from the Arts Council



WELCOME

Under the leadership of Graham McLaren and Neil Murray, 2018 saw a further increase in the volume and variety of activities at the Abbey Theatre. The Abbey Theatre's productions on both stages featured alongside co-productions, with leading Irish and international theatre companies, and further in-association productions and presentations. These widened the range of theatre for our audiences and gave other Irish theatre companies access to new audiences and opportunities to develop their work. The Abbey Theatre's productions toured in Ireland and internationally, with the support of the Arts Council, and Culture Ireland.

Abbey Theatre audiences responded very positively to the 2018 programme, and this was reflected in the continuing growth in the numbers attending. The demographic mix of the audience continues to widen, with a continuing increase in the numbers of young people attending shows on both stages. Diversity was a strong feature of the programme. It included memorable shows that combined humour with serious social and political commentary, such as Roddy Doyle's *Two Pints* (on its tour of pubs in Ireland and the UK) and *Come from Away* by Irene Sankoff and David Hein, which went on to win 4 Olivier Awards including the coveted Best Musical, in London in March 2019. It also included plays that dealt with current social issues head on, such as Marina Carr's *On Raftery's Hill* (for which Caitríona McLaughlin received the Irish Times Award for Best Director in April 2019), Deirdre Kinahan's *Rathmines Road* and Louise O'Neill's *Asking For It*.

David Ireland's *Cyprus Avenue* (with Stephen Rea) and ANU productions *The Lost O'Casey* were sobering reminders of the political and social challenges facing the island of Ireland, while *Come on Home*, *Porcelain* and *The Patient Gloria* were new plays that lit up the Peacock Stage.

The Board welcomed the establishment of the New Work Department, led by Jen Coppinger, and the appointment of Louise Stephens as Dramaturg. The Department's wide-ranging activities, which include our Community and Education programmes, are key to supporting Irish theatre creatives, including playwrights, directors, and designers and to widening the reach of the National Theatre into new communities. Its many new initiatives align closely with the Arts Council's ten-year strategy, Making Great Art Work, to widen the social reach of the Arts in Ireland.

A key item on the Board's agenda in 2018 was the completion of the Business Case for the exciting redevelopment of the Abbey Theatre (extending beyond its present footprint towards the river). The Business Case was submitted to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in June 2018, together with proposals for the governance of the project. The Board welcomes the strong commitment of the Government to the development of the country's cultural infrastructure in Project Ireland 2040 and was delighted to see the inclusion of the Abbey Theatre in the list of priority projects published on 1 April 2018.

"Abbey Theatre audiences responded very positively to the 2018 programme, and this was reflected in the continuing growth in the numbers attending."



Significant Board time was also spent on the completion of a five-year strategy, covering the period 2019 - 2023. The strategy, which was presented to Josepha Madigan, Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, in December 2018, sets out the three-strand framework for the Executive in establishing its programme of productions and activities that reaches out across the country and beyond. Strand 1 - Art and Audience - expresses our promise to both Irish and Irish-based artists in Ireland, and to greater engagement with the increasingly diverse population in Ireland. Strand 2 - Internationalisation and Investment - sets out the focus for engaging internationally and for our commitment to working with government and others on building a new home for our National Theatre. Strand 3 - People and Processes - recognises the organisational developments needed to deliver a National Theatre that can innovate artistically and respond to new directions.

I want to take this opportunity to recognise the exceptional contribution of three of our colleagues who left the Board during 2018 - Mark Ryan, James McNally and Donáll Curtin. I also want to welcome to the Board, Bosco Hogan, who brings great experience of working in the Irish theatre and film sectors; and Peter Lowry, who brings important financial skills to the Board.

I also wish to acknowledge the exceptional commitment of the Directors and staff of the Theatre to the theatre's work, the contribution of the creative artists who work with us, and to the strong support of our audiences. We hope that the Theatre's drive to bring new faces and voices to the Abbey Theatre stages is continuing to have a transformative effect on Irish theatre.

We are all aware that what we do would be impossible without the public funds which come from our taxpayers. I take this opportunity to thank the Arts Council for its continued support through our annual grant, and to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for the funding it provides to support the cost of maintaining our buildings and for our international touring, through Culture Ireland. I also want to acknowledge the support we get from our Irish and international donors, both individual and corporate and from our sponsors. We are grateful for the funds they provide to us and for the continued support of those who attend the theatre in such large numbers.

Dr. Frances Ruane
CHAIR



In rehearsals for *The Patient Gloria* by Gina Moxley.
Image by Ros Kavanagh

2018 was an incredibly busy and successful year for the Abbey Theatre. On Abbey Street, the Theatre attracted ever-growing numbers to its home, whilst the Company increasingly ventured Out of the Abbey with appearances across Ireland as well as in London, New York and Edinburgh.

The policy of developing our own Abbey productions whilst remaining a collaborative partner for other companies in Ireland and, occasionally beyond, bore fruit with strongly attended productions of *The Unmanageable Sisters* and *Jimmy's Hall* from the Abbey's own locker and similar success for our partnerships with Druid and Landmark with *Richard III* and *Asking For It*, respectively. Indeed, shows throughout the year, on both stages played to packed, diverse and appreciative audiences.

The New Work Department continues to thrive and grow. The appointment of a new, full-time Dramaturg has energised the new writing community and we anticipate a steady stream of new plays at the Abbey in 2019 and beyond.

We are incredibly appreciative of our audience who continue to flock to the Abbey in ever-increasing numbers. From those who queue in the rain for the Free First Previews at the Abbey, to our audiences across Ireland seeing our touring work, to our supporters in New York and London, supporting Irish theatre internationally, we wholeheartedly thank you.

In 2019 we will continue to drive the Abbey as a major producing theatre, open to innovation and collaboration and to artists and audiences from all areas of society.

**Graham McLaren
& Neil Murray**

DIRECTORS OF THE ABBEY THEATRE

ON STAGE

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN	2 - 20 January
CLASS	24 January - 3 February
THE 24 HOUR PLAYS: DUBLIN	28 January
THE SOUND OF IRELAND	30 January
RTÉ TOM MURPHY SPECIAL	01 February
HAUGHEY GREGORY	8 - 10 February
SWAN LAKE	8 - 17 February
PORCELAIN	16 February - 10 March



LET THE RIGHT ONE IN

ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY: JACK THORNE DIRECTOR: JOHN TIFFANY

Image by Fios Kavanagh

'close to a triumph'

Sunday Independent

THE UNMANAGEABLE SISTERS	26 February - 7 April
NOT A FUNNY WORD (DUBLIN)	6 - 10 March at The Complex
THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS (LONDON)	15 March - 7 April at Lyric Hammersmith
HERE, THERE AND NOW	26 March
THE LIR: OPERA BRIEFS	27 - 29 March
5X5 (SHADOWBOX)	3 - 7 April
5X5 (PAVEE POINT)	9 - 13 April

'this production beautifully captures a time of SodaStreams and Gay Byrne, boats to England and rosary beads.'

The Sunday Times



THE UNMANAGEABLE SISTERS

A VERSION OF MICHEL TREMBLAY'S LES BELLES-SOEURS BY DEIRDRE KINAHAN

DIRECTOR: GRAHAM MCLAREN

Image by Fios Kavanagh

HERE ALL NIGHT	11 - 14 April
MUSICTOWN	16 - 21 April
OPEN STUDIO	18 - 21 April



THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS

WRITTEN BY: SEAN O'CASEY DIRECTED BY: SEAN HOLMES

Image by Tristram Kenton

*'powerfully acted
account of Irish
identity'*

★★★★

The Telegraph

THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS	24 April – 5 May at the Gaiety Theatre
NOT A FUNNY WORD	26 April at The Everyman
ON RAFTERY'S HILL	26 April - 12 May
CYPRUS AVENUE	27 April - 19 May
CATEDRAL	15 - 16 May
HARD TO BE SOFT - A BELFAST PRAYER	18 - 19 May

*'a striking and
pummelling
production'*

★★★★

The Irish Times



ON RAFTERY'S HILL

WRITTEN BY: MARINA CARR DIRECTED BY: CAITRÍONA MCLAUGHLIN

Image by Ros Kavanagh

NOT A FUNNY WORD (GALWAY)	19 May at The Mick Lally Theatre
5X5 (GARRAÍ AN GHIORRIA)	21 - 25 May
CYPRUS AVENUE (BELFAST)	22 - 26 May
THE REHEARSAL, PLAYING THE DANE	23 - 26 May
NOT A FUNNY WORD (DUBLIN)	23 May at The Working Man's Club
5X5 (DISCOVERY GOSPEL CHOIR)	28 May - 1 June
CYPRUS AVENUE (NEW YORK)	2 June - 29 July at the Public Theater

*'A production that throws
its arms wide open and
bids everyone welcome.'*



The Arts Review



ULYSSES

WRITTEN BY: JAMES JOYCE ADAPTED BY: DERMOT BOLGER

DIRECTED & DESIGNED BY: GRAHAM MCLAREN

Image by Ros Kavanagh

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW? - CONVERSATIONS WITH NICK CAVE	5 June
ALL IRELAND DRAMA FESTIVAL - SYLVIA	7 - 9 June
ASKING FOR IT (CORK)	9 - 23 June
ULYSSES	11 June - 21 July
THE LOST O'CASEY	25 - 30 June
TO THE LIGHTHOUSE - DEVELOPMENT WEEK	2 - 6 July
FOYLE PUNT (SLIGO, DONEGAL, DERRY)	11 - 22 July

**HAMNET**

BY: WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, BUSH MOUKARZEL AND BEN KIDD

*'Dead Centre's
riveting new work'*

★★★★★

The Irish Times

COME ON HOME	13 July - 4 August
JIMMY'S HALL (LIMERICK)	14 - 21 July at the Lime Tree Theatre
BAOITE (GALWAY)	12 - 22 July at An Taibhdhearc / GIAF
MANCHAN MAGAN INSTALLATIONS (LIMERICK)	20 - 21 July at the Lime Tree Theatre
JIMMY'S HALL	26 July - 8 September
CLASS (GALWAY)	24 - 29 July
CLASS (EDINBURGH)	2 - 26 August
FRNKNSTN	17 August - 1 September
THOMAS KILROY IN CONVERSATION WITH OLIVIA O'LEARY (KILKENNY)	13 August at Kilkenny Arts Festival
TWO PINTS TOUR	14 August - 28 September
MANCHÁN MAGAN INSTALLATIONS	17 - 18 August
HAMNET (DUBLIN)	1 September at the Samuel Beckett Theatre
MADHOUSE	7 - 22 September (Dublin Fringe)
A HOLY SHOW	10 - 15 September (Dublin Fringe)
JIMMY'S HALL (GALWAY)	11 - 15 September at the Town Hall Theatre
SCOTTIES (SCOTTISH TOUR)	13 - 29 September Scottish Tour
MELTYBRAINS	18 September (Dublin Fringe)
MANCHÁN MAGAN INSTALLATIONS (GALWAY)	14 - 15 September at the Town Hall Theatre

JIMMY'S HALL (CORK)	18 – 22 September at the Cork Opera House
SHAME	18 - 22 September (Fringe)
CULTURE NIGHT	21 September
MANCHAN MAGAN INSTALLATIONS (CORK)	21 - 22 September at the Cork Opera House
PEACHES CHRIST SUPERSTAR	21 - 22 September (Fringe)
THE PATIENT GLORIA	28 September - 6 October
RICHARD III	3 - 27 October
SCOTTIES (ACHILL ISLAND)	4 - 6 October
RATHMINES ROAD	9 - 27 October
WOMEN IN THEATRE ROADSHOW	12 October
DOUBLE CROSS	31 October - 10 November
TS ELIOT LECTURE SERIES	11 November
ASKING FOR IT	9 - 24 November
MISE MICHAEL	12 November - 7 December
DUBLIN STORY SLAM	18 November
COME FROM AWAY	8 - 29 December
SHAME	10 - 15 December
GAVIN KOSTICK	14 - 21 December
TINY DANCER	15 - 31 December
THIRST (AND OTHER BITS OF FLANN)	18 December – 5 January 2019



OUT OF THE ABBEY

Touring both nationally
and internationally is at the
heart of our 2019 - 2023
five year strategy.

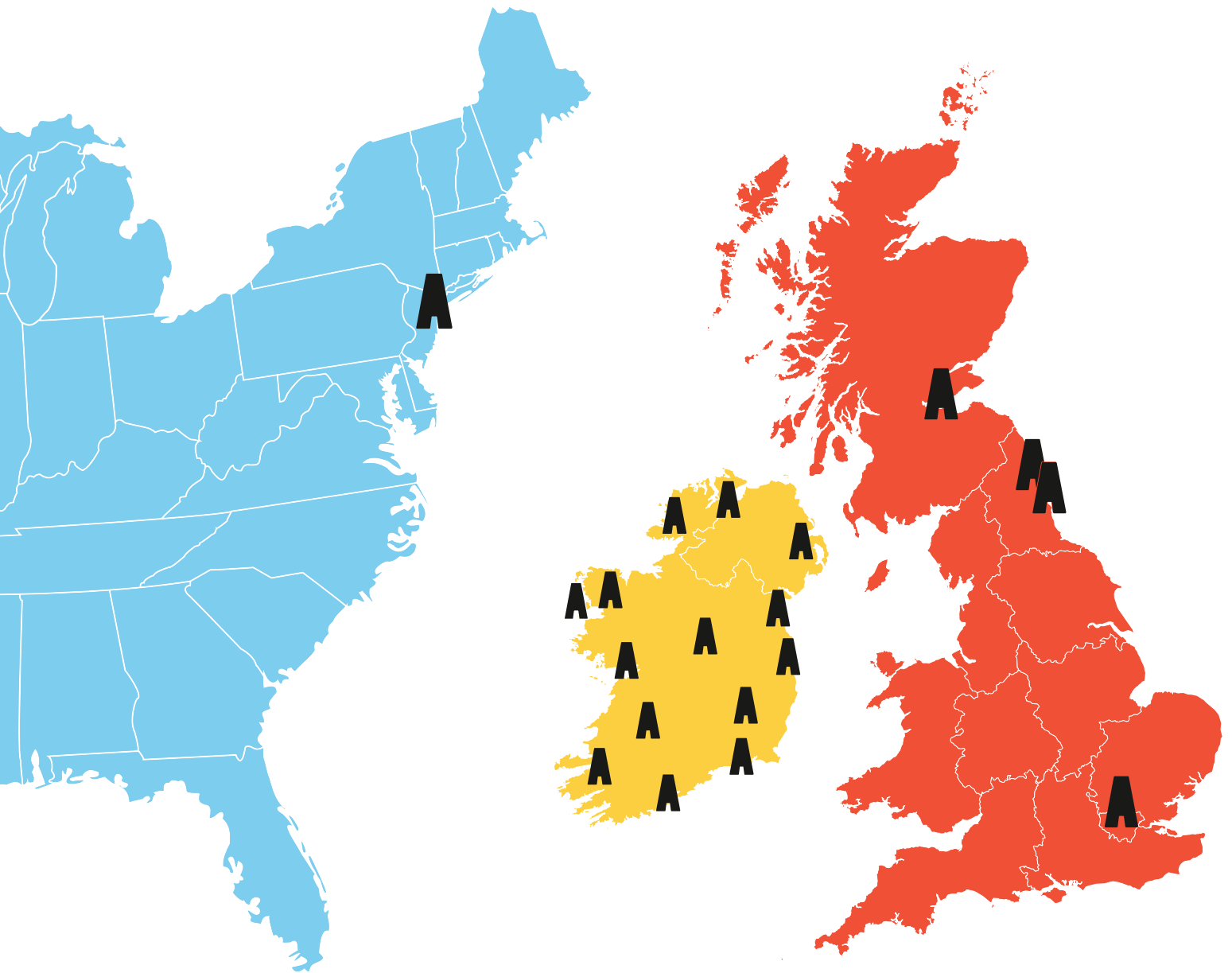
Our goals are:

Tour work nationally each year to a wide range of theatres

In 2018 we got Out of the Abbey and visited 14 different Irish counties with performances in theatres, pubs, community halls, and schools in Gaeltacht areas around the country.

Tour the Abbey Theatre's work internationally, breaking into new territories, showcasing all dimensions of Irish theatrical talent, reaching out both to the Irish diaspora and to audiences new to Irish theatre

Our international touring programme in 2018 brought four productions on tour internationally to Newcastle, Sunderland, London and Edinburgh in the UK and New York in the US.



UNITED STATES

New York

IRELAND & N.I.

Achill Island
Belfast
Cork
Derry
Donegal
Dublin
Galway

Kerry
Limerick
Longford
Louth
Mayo
Waterford

UNITED KINGDOM

Edinburgh
London
Newcastle
Sunderland

TOURING



AWARDS



01 SPECIAL JUDGES AWARD
at the **Irish Times Theatre Awards** for our **Free First Preview Series**

02 BEST NEW WEBSITE
at the **Digital Media Awards 2018**

03 SCOTSMAN FRINGE FIRST AWARD
for **CLASS** at the **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**

NEW WORK

The New Work Department supports the Directors of the Abbey Theatre to develop, programme and deliver the artistic work of the theatre.

5X5

In 2018, we put a call out for five communities who felt underrepresented to take part in our inaugural 5x5 development series. These projects received five days' worth of space, technical assistance and €5,000 to help in the development of a theatre piece. The series enabled the five groups to engage with their National Theatre for the first time and also fostered new connections between audiences, artists and the Abbey Theatre.



**MOYROSS COMMUNITY
DRAMA & ADAPT DOMESTIC
ABUSE SERVICE**

15 – 19 January

SHADOWBOX

3 – 7 April

**PAVEE POINT & TRAVELLER
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
PROJECTS**

9 – 13 April

GARRAÍ AN GHIORRIA

21 – 25 May

DISCOVERY GOSPEL CHOIR

28 May – 1 June

YOUNG CURATORS

In March 2018, we issued the first-ever call out for 18 – 25-year-olds to help us to programme a two-week festival at their National Theatre. They answered. Over 120 people applied from all across the country. After some very impressive presentations, we appointed five young people to join us as our first-ever Young Curators.

They are Luke Casserly (Longford), Martha Knight (Dublin), Aoife Nugent (Antrim)*, CN Smith (Louth), and Allie Whelan (Kildare).

Together with our staff, the Young Curators programmed a two-week Young Curators' Festival in 2019, filled with work to provoke our young and young at heart citizens.

**As of April 2019, due to personal commitments, Aoife Nugent could no longer participate in the Young Curators*



WRITERS

We operate a year-round open submission system for scripts and other ideas for our stages. In 2018, 398 scripts and ideas were received by our New Work Department.

Our New Work Department is supported by a team of approximately ten freelance readers. Each unsolicited play submission is carefully considered by the core New Work team, as well as being read by the experienced professionals on the panel.

Reading plays is important to find work we might produce and to get to know writers that we can work with in the future. Scripts like *Porcelain*, by Margaret Perry, can be discovered through our open submission system.



DRAMATURG

In September 2018 the New Work Department welcomed a new Dramaturg, Louise Stephens, to oversee the commissioning and artistic development of plays and productions in addition to developing projects and relationships with writers.

Louise has worked in literary departments and with theatre companies for over a decade. She was the Literary Officer at the Traverse Theatre and, most recently, Deputy Literary Manager of the Royal Court Theatre.



ASSOCIATE PLAYWRIGHTS

In October 2018 four new writers were announced as Associate Playwrights: Amy Conroy, Jimmy McAleavey, Darren Murphy and Lisa Tierney-Keogh.

Over the course of eighteen months, the four playwrights will each develop a play. As part of their associateship, each playwright is also engaged for two days a month with the New Work Department to represent the interests of, advocate for and deliver useful tools to playwrights. Lisa Tierney-Keogh's new play *This Beautiful Village* was programmed on a reconfigured Abbey Stage and ran in September 2019.

NEW WORK



LOCAL ARTISTS

Alongside the tour of *Jimmy's Hall*, our team met with local artists in Limerick, Cork and Galway to hear more about their work and to share information on how the New Work Department feeds into the Abbey artistic programme.

ABBHEY 20for20

In November 2018, we put out a call for theatre-makers who want to see more work at the Abbey Theatre. Abbey 20 for 20 brings 20 theatre makers to see 20 shows at the Abbey in 2019 – for free.

We were thrilled to receive over 70 diverse applications from artists around the country. The 20 participating theatre-makers are aged 22 to 60 and are based across the island of Ireland in Belfast, Clare, Cork, Derry, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Mayo and Roscommon.

They are Alice Barry, Sonja Brodie, Seamus Collins, Maggie Cronin, Sinéad Diskin, John Doran, Rose Henderson, Rosey Hayes, Fenna von Hirschheydt, Thalia Kane, Annie Keegan, Claire Mullane, Laoise Murray, Orlaith Ní Chearra, Aine O'Hara, Dermott Petty, Sarah-Jane Scott, Hanan Sheedy, Peter Shine and Philip St John.

COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION

ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES

We offer a range of accessible performances and services for visitors who are Deaf, hard of hearing or visually impaired.

In 2018 there were 14 – Irish Sign Language Interpreted Performances of productions at the Abbey Theatre. We also introduced Touch Tours of Stage and Set, a new initiative for

blind or visually impaired audience members. On a touch tour, blind or visually impaired patrons have access to the stage and set before a matinee performance to explore the geography of the space and to handle selected props, costumes and furniture. In 2018 there were 4 touch tours of productions at the Abbey Theatre.

BROWBEATING PROJECT

In collaboration with The Complex, we have been working with local women's groups who wanted to explore their experience of intimidation by loan sharks in Dublin's North Inner City.

Playwright Tracy Martin was present for this six month series of workshops and wrote a play exposing the reality of the participants' lives.

Tracy Martin's play, *Dublin Will Show You How*, premiered on the Peacock Stage at the Abbey Theatre and ran in The Complex in April 2019.



ASKING FOR IT WORKSHOPS

A series of pre and post-show workshops for young people explored the important issues raised by Louise O'Neill's *Asking for It*. A free study pack is now available to teachers and students so that the themes can also be explored in a classroom setting.

Image by Hugh O'Connor

BEREAVEMENT PROJECT

In partnership with the Royal College of Physicians, Féilecáin and Patient Focus, we have created a series of workshops dedicated to helping trainee obstetricians and gynaecologists explore better communication and care for mothers who experience stillbirth.



MISE, MÍCHEÁL

by Tara McKevitt

translated by Caitríona Ní Mhurchú - Gaeltacht Schools Tour.

In our Priming the Canon series, we create plays for young people and perform them in schools, libraries and arts centres all over Ireland. With pre and post-show workshops and online learning materials, we bring classic Irish plays into the heart of the classroom.



- 12 NOVEMBER** Scoil Mhuire Caiseal, Fanad Co. Donegal
- 12 NOVEMBER** Termon National School, Termon Co. Donegal
- 13 NOVEMBER** Scoil Naisiúnta Fhionnán, Falcarragh Co. Donegal
- 15 NOVEMBER** Scoil Chonaill, Magheraclogher Co. Donegal
- 15 NOVEMBER** Scoil Phádraig, Gweedore Co. Donegal
- 16 NOVEMBER** Gairmscoil Mhic Diarmada, Arranmore Co. Donegal
- 19 NOVEMBER** Bun Scoil Rath Cairn, Ráth Chairn Co. Meath
- 20 NOVEMBER** Scoil Naisiúnta Caomháin, Inisheer Co. Galway
- 23 NOVEMBER** Scoil Einne, Spiddle Co. Galway
- 26 NOVEMBER** Scoil Naisiunta Naomh Padraig Saile, Achill Island Co. Mayo
- 29 NOVEMBER** Colaiste na Sceilge Cahersiveen, Cahersiveen Co. Kerry
- 29 NOVEMBER** Ballinskellig Community Hall, Iveragh Peninsula Co. Kerry
- 03 DECEMBER** Áras Bhreanainn Oidhreacht Chorca Dhuibhne, Ballyferitor West Co. Kerry
- 04 DECEMBER** Scoil Naomh Ghobnait, Dunquin Co. Kerry
- 04 DECEMBER** Scoil Fionnbarra, Ballingeary Co. Cork
- 05 DECEMBER** Scoil Chúil Aodha, Cúil Aodha Co. Cork
- 07 DECEMBER** Halla Cholmán, Old Parish Co. Waterford
- 07 DECEMBER** Halla Pobail na Rinne, Ring Co. Waterford

CASTING

115 actors and 8 musicians

were directly employed by

the Abbey Theatre in 2018.

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN

Richard Clements, Craig Connolly, Nick Dunning, Gavin Fullam, *Jamie Hallahan*, *Tommy Harris*, *Katie Honan*, Bob Kelly, Ruth McGill

THE UNMANAGEABLE SISTERS

Karen Ardif, Clare Barrett, Charlotte Bradley, Noelle Brown, Catherine Byrne, Rachael Dowling, Tina Kellegher, Lisa Lambe, Sarah Madigan, *Clare Monnelly*, Márie Ní Ghráinne, Mary O'Driscoll, Marion O'Dwyer, Caoimhe O'Malley, Rynagh O'Grady, Catherine Walsh

PORCELAIN

Bamshad Abedi-Amin, Caitríona Ennis, Keith McErlean, Helen Norton, *Toni O'Rourke*, *Lola Petticrew*

ON RAFTERY'S HILL

Peter Coonan, Lorcan Cranitch, *Zara Devlin*, Maeve Fitzgerald, *Kwaku Fortune*, Peter Gowen, Marie Mullen

CYPRUS AVENUE

Ronke Adekoluejo, Chris Corrigan, Andrea Irvine, Amy Molloy, Stephen Rea

THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS

Ian-Lloyd Anderson, Kate Stanley Brennan, Niall Buggy, *Charlie Cassen*, John Currivan, Phelim Drew, Hilda Fay, Liam Heslin, Julie Maguire, *Paul Mescal*, Janet Moran, Ciaran O'Brien, *Adam Strawford*, Nyree Yergainharsian

ULYSSES

Bryan Burroughs, Faoileann Cunningham, Caitríona Ennis, Donal Gallery, Raymond Keane, Stephen Jones, Janet Moran, David Pearse

COME ON HOME

Ian-Lloyd Anderson, *Billy Carter*, Declan Conlon, Kathy Rose O'Brien, *Seán O'Callaghan*, Aislín McGuckin, Des Nealon

JIMMY'S HALL

Catherine Bell, Richard Clements, Muiris Crowley, Aindrias de Staic, Alan Devally, *Brian Gilligan*, Bosco Hogan, Lisa Lambe, *Andrew Linnie*, Sarah Madigan, Ruth McGill, Bríd Ní Neachtain, Donal O'Kelly

TWO PINTS

Ronan Carr, Liam Carney, Philip Judge

DOUBLE CROSS

Sean Kearns, Charlotte McCurry, Ian Toner

COME FROM AWAY

Matt Bashford, Alan Berry, Aoife Ní Bhriain, Jenna Boyd, *Nathanael Campbell*, *Clive Carter*, Dan Day, *Mary Doherty*, Ray Fean, Robert Hands, Bob Harms, Helen Hobson, Jonathan Andrew Hume, *Kiara Jay*, *Kirsty Malpass*, Harry Morrison, Cormac O'Brien, Justin Quinn, Emma Salvo, *Brandon Lee Sears*, *Cat Simmons*, David Shannon, *Rachel Tucker*, *Mark Wraith*

SHAME

Patricia Boyd, *Sarah Kinlen*, Sean Miller, *Kim V Porcelli*



GENDER EQUALITY

In July 2018 the Abbey Theatre joined representatives from 10 Irish theatre companies to announce their commitment to gender equality in their cultural sector by publishing Gender Equality policy statements.





WOMEN IN THEATRE ROADSHOW

A collaboration between the Abbey Theatre and The Lir Academy which introduces young women to careers in lighting, sound and stage management took place in Winter 2018.

The Women in Theatre Roadshow engages female pupils from secondary level schools throughout Ireland by presenting and facilitating workshops geared towards increasing awareness of technical theatre, stage management and the importance that these departments play in the professional creation of live performance.

These workshops, held in Dublin, Cork, Wexford and Longford, were designed and facilitated by industry professionals from The Abbey's Community and Education department and technical departments at The Lir Academy. They forge the way for women to pursue careers in areas of technical production.

2018 GENDER STATISTICS

The Abbey Theatre's mission promotes inclusiveness, diversity and equality in both the internal and external ecosystem of the theatre. We are committed to meeting our goals in gender equality across our programming and activities.

CATEGORY	ROLES	WOMEN
Writers	39	38%
Directors	40	47%
Set Design	39	39%
Costume Design	37	89%
Lighting Design	37	30%
Sound Design	32	3%
Stage Management	36	54%
Actors	294	45%
TOTAL	554	45%

SUPPORT

GALA DINNER

On Friday 2 November, An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, addressed our supporters, artists, champions and investors at a special event sponsored by The Doyle Collection at the Westbury Hotel.

"The Abbey Theatre has been tested many times over the past 12 decades...Each time, you have found new ways and better ways of doing things. In every generation, you have posed searching questions, and have inspired us to find our own answers. Great art tends to do that."

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD





Image by Mark Stedman

AVOLON WINTER SEASON

With the support of Avolon, we presented a winter programme which included; *Come From Away*, *12 Christmas Poems*, *Shame*, *Thirst and Other Bits of Flann*, and *Tiny Dancer*.

The partnership was included in the Avolon's Business to Arts 2019 nomination.

BANK OF AMERICA

In November 2018 we were delighted to announce Bank of America Merrill Lynch as the first-ever Principal Partner of Ireland's National Theatre.

Directors of the Abbey Theatre, Graham McLaren and Neil Murray welcomed them by saying;

'Bank of America Merrill Lynch's commitment to Ireland, the arts, and to diversity and inclusion is inspiring. Our goal is to make and show work that is relevant and interesting to a modern, diverse Ireland and we are delighted that Bank of America Merrill Lynch are partnering with us in this ambition. The Abbey Theatre is artist-led and audience-focused. The support that this partnership brings will go towards our artists, access programmes and productions, which ultimately will benefit our audience.'

Peter Keegan, Ireland Country Executive, Bank of America Merrill Lynch added;

'Bank of America Merrill Lynch is proud to support the Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National Theatre. As the Abbey's first-ever Principal Partner, we are able to support the theatre's creative endeavours, from world-class shows and Irish language tours across the country, to young people's workshops, mentor programmes and roadshows encouraging women into theatre production. We are proud to support an organisation that is telling important stories, broadening access to theatre, skilling for jobs and enriching the cultural lives of so many.'

SUPPORTERS

2018 PARTNERS



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



WINTER SEASON PARTNER



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



CORPORATE GUARDIANS



Gold Ambassadors

Credit Suisse
US Visa Solutions

Silver Ambassadors

101 Talbot Restaurant
The Church Bar & Restaurant
Clarion Consulting Ltd, Dept
FCM Travel Solutions
Irish Poster Advertising
Kilkea Castle
Le Bon Crubeen
The Merrion Hotel
National Radio Cabs
Original Irish Hotels
Sims IVF
Spector Information Security
Thompson and Knight LLP
Trocadero
Wynn's Hotel
Zero-G

Directors' Circle

Tony Ahearne
Honorable Elizabeth Frawley Bagley
Richard & Sherril Burrows
Pat Butler
Jay and Christy Cashman
The Cielinski Family
Fiona and Niall Coffey
John Connors
Roma Downey
John P. Drew
Deirdre Finan
John and Bebe Finn
Emer & Basil Geoghegan
James Healy
Marjorie & Simon Hewett
Adrian Jones
Declan Kelly
Bernard & Muriel Lauren
Foundation
John & Ann Leahy

Pat Lonergan
Dwayne & Eimear Lysaght
Paul Lonergan
Robert and Cynthia McCann
Mick & Claire McCormack
James McNally
Peter Merrigan
Donal Moore
Larry Moulter & Pamela Frechette
Jason and Kathryn O'Connor
William O'Connor
Moira & Cormac O'Malley
Tom and Shelly O'Neill
Sheelagh O'Neill
Thomas F & Carol O'Neill
Joseph and Mary Lou Quinlan
Sarah & Sean Reynolds
Susan & Denis Tinsley
Steve & Mitra Van
Mark Walsh
Zachary Webb
Lloyd Weinreb

Silver Patrons

James Adrian
Majella Altschuler
Frances Britton
Catherine Byrne
Tommy Gibbons
Liam & Eibhlin Howard
Bogdan & Holly Kaczmarczyk
Dr John Keane
Andrew Mackey
Eugenie Mackey
Eugenie Magee
John & Irene McGrane
Gerard & Liv McNaughton
Pat Moylan
Jason and Kathryn O'Connor
Alan O'Sullivan
Marie Rogan & Paul Moore
Jan Velund
Prof. Joseph Walshe

Image by Mark Stedman

THE FUTURE

FIVE YEAR STRATEGY

In December 2018 we presented our five-year strategy (2019 - 2023) to Josepha Madigan T.D. Minister of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The Strategy covers a period that will see the Theatre begin a long overdue, landmark project - planning for and building the new Abbey Theatre.

REDEVELOPMENT

In April, the Abbey Theatre welcomed the announcement by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht detailing their plans for investing in Ireland's National Cultural Institutions which includes a future redevelopment of Ireland's National Theatre. This crucial announcement has helped to set in motion plans for

a much-needed new building for the Abbey. With the assistance of BOP Consulting, a Business Case for the new Abbey Theatre project was developed and forwarded to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

'We are delighted with today's announcement which takes us on another significant step on the road to a new National Theatre for the people of Ireland. Our ambition is to build an iconic, welcoming building on a site which incorporates our present site at the junction of Abbey Street and Marlborough Street, and stretches down to open out on Eden Quay facing onto the River Liffey. A theatre has existed on this site since 1834 and we are pleased to see this tradition continuing with the creation of a new cultural centre in this part of the city.'

Graham McLaren & Neil Murray

DIRECTORS OF THE ABBEY THEATRE

10 APRIL 2018



STAFF

Andrea Ainsworth
 Donal Ayton
 Cliff Barragry
 Aoife Brady
 Susan Bryan
 Niamh Buckley
 Nicola Burke
 Simon Burke
 Orla Burke
 Christina Byrne
 Eoin Byrne
 Hannah Byrne
 Maura Campbell
 David Carpenter
 Luke Casserly
 Daire Cavanagh
 Jack Cawley
 Connall Coleman
 Derek Conaghy
 Laura Condon
 Evan Connolly
 Niamh Cooke-Escapli
 Jen Coppinger
 Johnathon Crabtree
 Diane Crotty
 Richard Curwood
 Mairéad Delaney
 Sean Dennehy
 Pat Dillon
 Debbie Doak
 Aidan Doheny
 Bronagh Doherty
 David Doyle
 Con Doyle
 Patrick Doyle
 Laura Doyle
 Morgan Dunne
 Ken Dunne
 Danny Erskine

David Espino
 Aoife Eustace Doyle
 Breege Fahy
 Eimear Farrell
 Lisa Farrelly
 John Finnegan
 Ellen Fleming
 David Fleming
 Veronica Foo
 Tara Furlong
 Sophie Furlong Tighe
 Brendan Galvin
 Derek Garland
 Donna Geraghty
 Sandra Gibney
 Shane Gill
 Holly Goldrick Kelly
 Catherine Griffi
 John Gunning
 Clíodhna Hallissey
 Fergus Hannigan
 Chris Hay
 Grace Healy
 Marie Hegarty
 Daniel Hickey
 William Hickey
 Dermot Hicks
 James Hickson
 Dara Hogan
 Laura Honan
 Narges Jahani
 Sarah Jones
 Larry Jones
 Maeve Keane
 Yvonne Kelly
 Brian Kelly
 Fergus Kelly
 Ailbhe Kelly-Miller
 Tom Kennedy

Shane Kenny
 Andy Keogh
 Phil Kingston
 Anne Kyle
 Michael Kyle
 Marie Lawlor
 Adrian Leake
 Ciara Lynch
 Bridget Lynskey Faus
 Julia MacConville
 Darren Magnier
 Heather Maher
 Patricia Malpas
 Elaine Mannion
 Shannon Matthews
 Katie McCann
 Eadaoin McCarrick
 Davy McChrystal
 Dan McDermott
 Kevin McFadden
 Róisín McGann
 Ciaran McGlynn
 Terence McGoff
 Graham McLaren
 Caitríona McLaughlin
 Shauna McNally
 Gus McNamara
 Victoria Miller
 Nadine Mary Moore
 Conor Mullan
 David Mullane
 Tara Mulvihill
 Orlagh Murphy
 Eimer Murphy
 Donna Murphy
 Neil Murray
 Agnieszka Myszk
 Alexis Nealon
 Emily Ni Bhroin

Siofra Ni Chiardha
 Pawel Nieworaj
 Holly O'Brien
 Adam O'Connell
 Colin O'Connor
 Esther O'Connor
 Aoife O'Neill
 Tara O'Reilly
 Feidhlim O'Shea
 Laura Pulling
 Sinead Purcell
 Valentina Quiroga
 Martin Reid
 Dean Reidy
 Fiona Reynolds
 Ed Rourke
 Josh Roxby
 Pat Russell
 Barbara Ryan
 Joe Sanders
 Lisa Ellen Schon
 Brian Smith
 Conleth Stanley
 Eoin Stapleton
 Louise Stephens
 Rachel Stout
 Fergal Styles
 Ceri May Thomas
 Sean Treacy
 Renee Van De Schoor
 Sean Walsh
 Tanya Warren
 Jesse Weaver
 Sarah-Jane Williams
 Sally Withnell
 Bill Woodland
 Diarmuid Woods

