

AN ABBEY THEATRE PRODUCTION

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE YOU

WRITTEN BY NANCY HARRIS
DIRECTED BY WAYNE JORDAN

27 SEP—4 NOV 2023
ON THE ABBEY STAGE

ABBETHEATRE.IE
#SOMEWHEREOUTTHEREYOU



Ar Rann Tuarascail, Cúlraí,
Faisnéis, Gairneacha, Spórt agus Meia
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



IMAGE BY SARAH DOYLE

CREATIVES

CAST

Sebastian
 Marcus
 Brett
 Marcus
 Cynthia
 Ensemble
 Casey
 Pauline
 Ensemble
 Gareth/Dave/Ensemble
 Ensemble
 Alan
 Eric
 Tess/Karen
 Writer

Stephen Brennan
 Oscar Clancy
 Cameron Cuffe
 Harley Cullen-Walsh
 Danielle Galligan
 Jess Kavanagh
 Eimear Keating
 Lise-Ann McLaughlin
 Teddy Moore
 Donncha O'Dea
 Aisling O'Mara
 Enda Oates
 Paul Reid
 Kate Stanley Brennan
 Nancy Harris

Director
 Set Designer
 Costume Designer
 Lighting Designer
 Composer, Sound Designer
 and Musical Director
 Movement Director
 Wigs, Hair and Makeup
 Casting Director
 Voice Director
 Fight Director
 AV Design
 Assistant Director
 Assistant Set Designer
 Assistant Movement
 Director

Wayne Jordan
 Maree Kearns
 Catherine Fay
 Sinéad McKenna
 Sinéad Diskin
 Paula O'Reilly
 Val Sherlock
 Sarah Jones
 Andrea Ainsworth
 Ciaran O'Grady
 Patricio Cassinoni
 Dolores Rice
 Ronan Duffy
 Neil O'Brien



The **Somewhere Out There You** team on the first day of rehearsals.
 Image Ailbhe O'Donnell



The performance on Friday 20th October has a professional interpreter who translates the production into Irish Sign Language.



The matinee performance on Saturday 28th October has Audio Description. This is a live verbal commentary fed through an ear-piece that captures the visual elements of a production as it unfolds, that a blind or partially sighted person might otherwise miss.



The matinee performance on Saturday 28th October has Captioning. Captioning is similar to television subtitling and gives deaf and hard of hearing audiences access to live performance.

COMPANY

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer	Jen Coppinger
Company Manager	Danny Erskine
Production Manager	Anthony Hanley
Company Stage Manager	Bronagh Doherty
Deputy Stage Manager	Tara Furlong
Assistant Stage Manager	Aidan Doheny
Producing Assistant	Clara Purcell
Technical Production Co-ordinator	Justin Murphy
Head of Costume and Costume Hire	Donna Geraghty
Costume Supervisor	Eimear Farrell
Breakdown Artist	Sandra Gibney
Costume Maintenance	Vicky Miller
Cutter/Maker	Tara Mulvihill
Costume Dresser	Juliana Schmidt Tomazini
Props Master	Eimer Murphy
Props Supervisor	Adam O'Connell
LX Programmer	Simon Burke
Sound Supervisor	Morgan Dunne
Sound Engineer	Sean McKeown
Radio Technician	Kate Crook
Stage Technicians	Larry Jones Phil Hughes Oisín McMahon Eimear O'Meara Emmett Brady Dunne Darren Magnier

Fly Crew

Pat Russell
Pat Dillon
Davy McChrystal
Triangle Productions
Andrew Clancy
Gorilla Design
Crew Metalwork
Vinnie Bell
Maria Ryan
Kevin Foran
Jake Nagle
Oleh Mytrofanov

Set Construction

Scenic Artist

Musician—Violin
Musician—Trumpets
Musician—Drums
Musician—Strings

Marketing

Muireann Kane
Heather Maher
John Tierney
Stephen Moloney
Jack O'Dea

Press

Social Media

Publicity Image
Photograph

Production Photographs

Irish Sign Language
Interpreter

Audio Describer

Artistic Director/
Co-Director

Executive Director/
Co-Director

Sarah Doyle
Ros Kavanagh

Vanessa O'Connell
Bríd Ní Ghruagáin

Caitríona McLaughlin

Mark O'Brien

Somewhere Out There You play scripts,
published by Nick Hern Books, are available
to purchase in the Abbey Theatre foyer.

Running time

Approx. 2 hours and 30 minutes

THANK YOU

Thank you to Cian O'Brien, Project Arts Centre,
Annaghmakerrig Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Willie White
and all at the Dublin Theatre Festival, Anne Harris and Dublin Bus.



PROGRAMME NOTE

Writer Nancy Harris

September 2023

"I don't want realism. I want magic!"

—Tennessee Williams, **A Streetcar Named Desire**

Romantic comedy is possibly the genre most often referred to as 'escapism', especially as it follows that most familiar of narrative structures – the love story. It is also a deeply comforting genre because we always know how it's going to end. The protagonists are going to fall in love. It's going to work out, they're going to live happily ever after. In essence, it's a genre of magical thinking.

Interestingly, for a genre that is considered so contrived, romantic comedy is largely preoccupied with questions of authenticity. The most famous romcoms tend to take us on the same journey – usually involving an ending where a protagonist is seen and loved for who they really are, in all their goofy, flawed humanity – think Bridget Jones and Mark Darcy or even Elizabeth Bennet and Mr Darcy... and is it a surprise. For isn't that what we all want?

But when we ask someone to love us for who we are, who are we actually asking them to love? In other words, who are we? And how do we know?

Somewhere Out There You sits somewhere within the genre of romantic comedy, but the genesis of the idea started with the above line from Tennessee Williams' **A Streetcar Named Desire**, one of my favourite plays and undoubtedly, a tragedy.

Divorced from its context, the line can sometimes read as a little fey or flowery. Within Williams' play and coming out of the mouth of an emotionally complex protagonist like Blanche Dubois, it's as ambiguous as it is poignant. Are these the words

of a narcissistic fantasist who won't accept the reality of her life and past? Or the soul cry of a woman so brutalised by experience – in the end raped by her sister's husband and incarcerated when no one believes her – that she is in fact, the ultimate realist? A person who accepts that in the face of life's savage and unjust 'realities', a logical response might be an escape into fantasy – as opposed to the descent into 'madness' so often attributed to her – where a better 'reality' might be created?

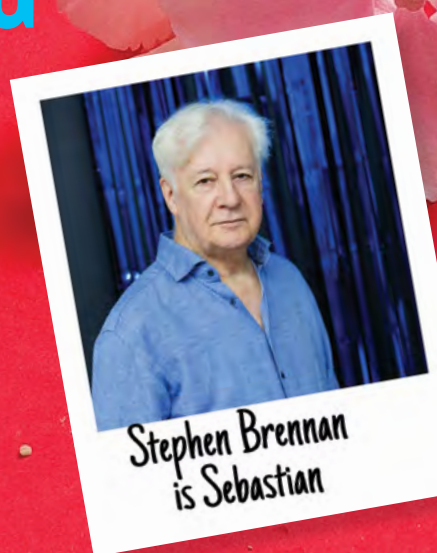
In theatre, we are often engaged with ideas of 'truth': the truth of a character, or a performance or an idea, despite the fact we know that what we are watching isn't (for want of a better word) 'real'. And in life, we all occupy 'roles': at work, in friendships, and especially within our families. Some roles sit more comfortably than others, but does that make them an authentic expression of our true selves? Or are we all simply playing the parts we've been assigned – by society, our peers, circumstance? And what happens when these parts become a prison?

Somewhere Out There You is my attempt to explore these sometimes paradoxical ideas of truth, fantasy, narrative and how we express our authentic selves in the world – and what happens when the world refuses to allow us to do so. Ideas which are ultimately deeply serious. But the play is still at its heart a romantic comedy, intended with all the joy, exuberance, and magic those of us who love the genre hope for. For who said romantic comedy can't be serious? After all, the very existence of a genre that can so easily be described as 'escapism' leaves one glaringly serious question to be answered: what is it that we are trying to escape?



WHEN WE ASK
SOMEONE TO LOVE
US FOR WHO WE
ARE, WHO ARE WE
ACTUALLY ASKING
THEM TO LOVE?

Nancy Harris





Jess Kavanagh
Ensemble



Enda Oates
is Alan

WE ARE ALL THE AUTHORS OF OUR OWN LOVE STORY.

Sebastian



Donncha O'Dea
is Gareth / Dave



Danielle Galligan
is Cynthia



Teddy Moore
Ensemble

ABBAY THEATRE SUPPORTERS



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



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Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
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Elizabeth Papp Kamali in memory
of Lloyd Weinreb R.I.P.
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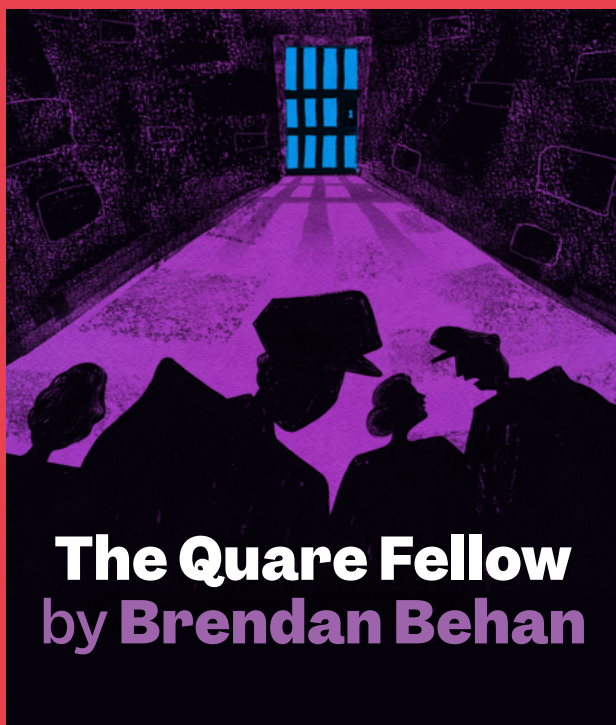
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