

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

presents

THE NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT READING SERIES

JOHN MILLINGTON SYNGE'S

**THE PLAYBOY
OF THE
WESTERN
WORLD**

IN A NEW VERSION BY

BISI ADIGUN & RODDY DOYLE

DIRECTED BY **OLIVIA SONGER**



WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

<i>Pegeen</i>	Sarah Street
<i>Sean</i>	Rob McDermott
<i>Christopher</i>	Roger Casey
<i>RogMichael</i>	Ciaran O'Reilly
<i>Jimmy</i>	Michael Mellamphy
<i>Philly</i>	Harry Smith
<i>Widow Quin</i>	Brenda Meaney
<i>Malomo</i>	Lenwood Sloan
<i>Honor</i>	Nora Sullivan
<i>Sarah</i>	Meg Hennessy
<i>Susan</i>	Anna Berman

Directed by **Olivia Songer**
Production Stage Manager **Michael Palmer**

In the **W. Scott McLucas Studio Theatre**,
as part of Irish Rep's **New Play Development Program**

TIME & PLACE

The Present



West side of Dublin City

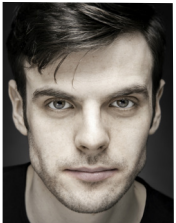
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**SARAH STREET** (*Pegeen*)

Recent credits include: *Afterwards*, written and directed by Enda Walsh (Irish Arts Center), *Skylight* (Palm Beach Dramaworks,) *Dublin Carol*, *The Plough*

and the Stars, *Juno and the Paycock* (Irish Rep), *Alone it Stands* (59E59), *The Love Parts* (The Poor Mouth Theatre,) *The Naturalists* (The Pond Theatre Co. at Walkerspace,) *Dyin' for it* (Origin Theatre's First Irish Festival,) *Muswell Hill* (The Barrow Group,) *Rebel in the Soul* (Irish Rep,) *Subprime* (NJ Theater Center,) and *Abigail's Party* (The Barrow Group/The Pond Theatre Co.) Sarah also works in Film, TV, Voiceover, and is co-founder of The Pond Theatre Company.

Dog, *Living the Dream* - Tyke Peacock (52nd st. Project), *CasablancaBOX* - Humphrey Bogart (HERE Arts), *The Dudleys* - Officer Peters (Loading Dock Theatre), *H5: Life after Death* - Steffon (Schomburg Center), *Good Girl Gone Bad* - The Man (HERE Arts,) *You Should Be here* - Dexter (The Amoralists), *God is a Verb* - Bob/Undergrad (Hook & Eye Theater), *Lunchtime in Heaven* - Freddie Gray (48hrs in Harlem, National Black Theatre), *The Return* - Adam (The Metropolitan Museum of Art), *Tyson Vs. Ali* - Mike Tyson & Muhammad Ali (3-Legged Dog & Foxy Films), *Coal Run Road* - Caleb Cobb (Krairie Theatre), *The Misanthrope* - Acaste (Shakespeare Theatre of NJ), *12th Night* - Antonio (STNJ). Recent Film/TV/Combat Credits: *Coyote In Inglewood* - (The Man), *Iron Fist Season 1 Episode 3* - (Marvel Operative). Recent VR/Mocap: *BANFF: Bridging Realities*, *HamletVR*, *Street SmartsVR*. Screenwriting: *Cry Wolf* (Best Suspense Short - NYC Chain Film Festival, Best Short Film Hoboken International Film Festival, Maverick Movie Award), *Book* (Crimson Horror Film Fest Audience Award Winner). Recent VO: *Tiger Woods*, *The Unquiet Grave*, *The Book in room 316*.



ROB MCDERMOTT (*Sean*) is an actor from Ireland. As a founding member of the theatre group The Company, he has toured with their award-winning work to Germany, England, Portugal, Romania and LA. Recent theatre work includes *Steeplechase* (Hudson Guild Theater), *Alone It Stands* (59E59), *Closer* (Cumberland Theatre), *Macbeth* (Bryant Park), *Constellations* (Access Theater). Previous work in Ireland includes *It Folds* (Brokentalkers/Junk Ensemble), *The Rest Is Action* (The Company), and *The Secret Art Of Murder* (Five Gallants).



ROGER CASEY (*Christopher*) is an NY based artist. Recent Theater credits: *BrandoCapote* - Marlon Brando (The Tank), *Not Knowing* - Bob (3-Legged-

**CIARAN O'REILLY** (*Michael*)

His favorite directing credits include: *A Touch Of The Poet: A Performance on Screen*, *The Weir: A Performance on Screen*, *Lady G: Plays and Whisperings of Lady Gregory*,

Dublin Carol, *The Shadow of a Gunman*, *The Seafarer*, *The Dead*, *1904*, *Shining City*, *Off the Meter*, *On the Record*, *The Weir* (Calloway Nom.), *Banished Children of Eve*, *The Emperor Jones*, (Callaway Award, O'Neill Credo Award, Drama

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Desk, Drama League, and Lucille Lortel Nom.), *The Hairy Ape* (Drama Desk Drama League and Callaway Nom.), *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (Drama Desk Nom). Irish Rep acting roles include *Da, Juno and the Paycock, Dancing at Lughnasa, Molly Sweeney, Candida, Aristocrats, A Whistle in the Dark, The Shaughraun, and The Irish and How They Got That Way*. He appeared in the Roundabout Theatre Company's production of *A Touch of the Poet* with Gabriel Byrne. He has appeared at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin and made his Broadway debut in *The Corn is Green*. Films include *The Devil's Own* (starring Harrison Ford), "Law & Order," "The Irish...and How They Got That Way," "Third Watch," "Bored to Death" and "The Knick." Ciarán has recently been inducted in to the *Irish America Hall of Fame* and has been awarded the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad, 2019 by President Michael D. Higgins.



MICHAEL MELLAMPHY (*Jimmy*) (Theatre: *The Unsung Hero, The Cure* (The Pigeon Theatre Company), *The Plough and the Stars, Shadow of a Gunman, Juno and The*

Paycock (Irish Repertory Theatre), *The Smuggler* (Fat Violet Productions), *The Naturalists* (The Pond Theatre Co.), *The Seafarer* (Irish Repertory Theatre), *Guy Walks into a Bar* (1st Irish Best Actor Award 2018), *Yeats In The Toilet* (Putting On Your Shorts), *The Last Days of Cleopatra* (Urban Stages), *The Prophet of Monto* (The Flea Theatre), *After Luke and When I was God* (Irish Rep), *The Hairy Ape* (Irish Rep), *The*

Field (Irish Rep), *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (Irish Rep), *The Cure*, (1st Irish Best Actor Award 2013), *Dirty Money* (Plays Upstairs), *Romeo and Juliet* (Petrolab productions), *In a Bucket of Blood* (Plays Upstairs), *The Prophet of Monto* (Axis Ballymun), *The Agamemnon* (SFX Theatre), *Purgatory* (RHA Gallery), *Oliver* (IORC, Cork Opera House), *Reign Man* (Cork Arts Theatre), *The Pirates of Penzance* (IORC, Cork Opera House), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (UCC Granary Theatre Cork), *Orpheus In The Underworld* (IORC, Cork Opera House), *Brothers of the Brush* (St Anthony's Hall). TV /Film/Video Game credits include "I Know This Much is True," (HBO release 2020), "Law and Order - SVU," (NBC), "Red Dead Redemption 2" as Sean MacGuire, (Rockstar/Take Two), "The Good Wife" (CBS), "Quantico" (ABC), "Bartender Wars" (FLN), "The Hindenburg Omen," and "Living in Exile." Michael is co-founder of The Pigeon Theatre Company and serves as the Artistic Director of Origin Theatre Company.



HARRY SMITH (*Philly*) Irish Rep: *Shadow of a Gunman; Juno and the Paycock; The Plough and the Stars*. Broadway: *Hangmen; King Charles*

III (also at ACT, Seattle Rep and the Shakespeare Theatre of DC). Regional includes: *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Two River Theater); *The Body of an American; The Real Thing; Rapture, Blister, Burn* (The Wilma Theater); *The Explorer's Club* (Delaware Theatre Company); *And Then There Were None; The Mousetrap; An Ideal Husband*

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Walnut Street Theatre); *Emma*; *Photograph* 51 (Lantern Theatre Company); *Pride and Prejudice* (People's Light); *Pumpgirl*; *The Walworth Farce*; *The Hand of Gaul* (Inis Nua). U.K. credits include: *The Merchant of Venice* (Edinburgh Royal Lyceum); *Twelfth Night*; *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Bristol Old Vic). Television includes: "The Good Wife;" "Crossbones;" "Blacklist;" "Elementary;" "Jessica Jones;" "Sprung". Film includes: *Freedom*; *The Goldfinch*. Training: Cambridge University, Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.



BRENDA MEANEY (Widow Quin) *Little Gem: A Performance on Screen and Little Gem* (Irish Repertory Theatre,) *Tom Stoppard's Indian Ink* (Roundabout); *Incognito* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *Party Face* (New York City Center), *The Neil Labute Short Play Festival* (The Davenport), *The Mountains Look Different and The New Morality* (The Mint Theatre). Regional: *The Hard Problem*, *Indian Ink*, *Venus in Fur* (American Conservatory Theatre); Pulitzer prize-winner *Martyna Mayok's Queens* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Caucasian Chalk Circle* and *Caryl Churchill's Owners* (Yale Repertory Theatre); *And a Nightingale Sang...* (Westport Country Playhouse); *Lewis Black's One Slight Hitch* (Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre). Foreign credits include *Basin* (Abbey Theatre Studio/Anu Productions); *The Way of the Language: Voices from the War on Terror* (Project Arts Centre, Dublin); and *Biography of Bernie Ward* (Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin). Television/Film:

"For Life" (ABC), *"Hell on Wheels"* (AMC), *"Love/Hate"* (Radio Teilifís Éireann), *"Under the Waves"* and the forthcoming *"There's Always Hope."* Education: MFA, Yale School of Drama.



LENWOOD SLOAN (*Malomo*) Lenwood (Leni) Sloan is well known across the U.S. as a catalytic agent, animator, and facilitator of cultural and heritage programs.

Artistic credits incl. "Art in the Marketplace" for the Rouse Corporation in New Orleans, St. Louis, Boston, and Baltimore. He participated in the artistic team for five national public television documentaries: *Treme: Untold Story*, Emmy Award-winning *Ethnic Notions*, Stephen Foster, the internationally acclaimed *Re-imaging Ireland*, and the Emmy Award-winning *Dance Black America*. Audiences have enjoyed national tours of *13 Lessons*, a play about adult literacy; *Vo-du Macbeth* voted one of the 10 best plays of the New South; *The Creole Mass*, commissioned for the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans; *Her Talking Drums* and *Williams and Walker* for Off-Broadway's American Place Theater; *Sweet Saturday Night*, for Brooklyn Academy of Music; and the internationally acclaimed *The Wake*, which received the San Francisco Drama Critics Award before touring Berlin Fest, Adelaide Festival, Holland's Festival International, and the U.S. For the past 30 years, he has collaborated with Mick Maloney, presenting programs, concerts, and masterclasses on the convergence,

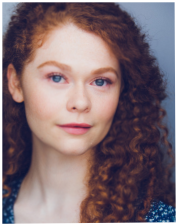
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

contributions, and conflicts of Black and Irish experiences in the United States.



NORA SULLIVAN (*Honor*) is thrilled to be making her debut with Irish Rep. She is a recent graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Educational:

Ellen in *Belfast Girls* (AADA). Regional: *Sound of Music* (Reagle Music Theater). Local: *Little Red in Into the Woods* (Flyleaf Theater), Olive in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Weston Friendly Society). Love to MDDJB.



MEG HENNESSY (*Sarah*) Meg is an Irish actress from Limerick and has been a proud Irish Rep company member since 2018, when she made her off-broadway debut as

Lily in *The Dead*. She has since performed as Minnie Powell in *Shadow of a Gunman*, Mollser in *The Plough and The Stars*, neighbour in *Juno and the Paycock* and most recently as Pert in *London Assurance*. She will be making her on screen debut in January 2022 as the character of Rose on the Netflix series *Archive 81*. She is thrilled to finally be back in a room with her fellow company members and friends this evening.

ANNA BERMAN (*Susan*)

OLIVIA SONGER (*Director*) Olivia holds an MFA in Theatre Directing from the Lir Academy, Ireland's National Academy of

Dramatic Art at Trinity College Dublin, and a BFA in Drama from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Having worked all over the world, her strengths lie in creating across cultures and languages with an ability to seek out and engage atypical audiences. Her work takes on a highly collaborative, integrated approach. Olivia places the ensemble at the center of her work and often works closely with playwrights throughout the various stages of new play development. She served from 2014-2016 with the United States Peace Corps as a Primary Literacy Education Volunteer in Grenada, an island in the West Indies. She is a trained modern dancer and fluent in Italian. She was raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

EDMUND JOHN MILLINGTON (J.M.) SYNGE (1871–1909) Edmund John Millington Synge was an Irish playwright, poet, prose writer, travel writer, and collector of folklore. He was a key figure in the Irish Literary Revival and was one of the cofounders of the Abbey Theatre. W.B. Yeats encouraged him to live for a time in the Aran Islands to acquaint himself with the Irish people and to gain an understanding of the Irish language. His best known play, *The Playboy of the Western World*, was inspired by his time there, and caused riots in Dublin during its opening run at the Abbey Theatre. All of his dramatic works were written in the seven years between 1902 and his death, at the age of 37 in 1909.

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CHARLOTTE MOORE (*Artistic Director*) Recent directing assignments include: *Meet Me in St. Louis: A Performance on Screen*, *Love Noël*, *The Songs and Letters of Noël Coward: A Performance on Screen*, *Molly Sweeney: A Performance on Screen*, *London Assurance*, *Love, Noël: The Songs and Letters of Noël Coward*, *The Plough and the Stars* as part of *The O'Casey Cycle*, *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*, *Three Small Irish Masterpieces* by W.B. Yeats, *Lady Gregory* and *J.M. Synge*. New York premiere of Brian Friel's *The Home Place*, World premiere of Larry Kirwan's *Rebel in the Soul*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *The Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative gala*, *Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory*, and *Juno and the Paycock* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. New York stage appearances include *A Perfect Ganesh*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *The Perfect Party*, *Morning's at Seven*, *Private Lives* (with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton), and many performances with the New York Shakespeare Festival. Ms. Moore has received two Tony Award nominations, the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Drama Desk Award, the Drama League Award, the Irish America Top 100 Irish Award, The Eugene O'Neill Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2008 Irish Women Of The Year Award. She is the recipient of the St. Patrick's Committee in Holyoke's John F. Kennedy National Award, and has thrice been listed as one of the "Top 50 Power Women" in *Irish America Magazine*. Charlotte was named "Director of the Year" by *The Wall Street Journal* in 2011. Charlotte has recently been inducted into the *Irish America Hall of Fame* and been awarded the

Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad, 2019 by President Michael D. Higgins.

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE Founded by Ciarán O'Reilly and Charlotte Moore in 1988, Irish Rep opened its doors with Sean O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars* and is now in its 33rd Season. Irish Rep is the only year-round theatre company in North America devoted to bringing Irish and Irish-American works to the stage. Recognized with the Jujamcyn Theatres Award, a special Drama Desk Award for "Excellence in Presenting Distinguished Irish Drama," the Lucille Lortel Award for "Outstanding Body of Work," and a 2013 Outer Critics Circle Special Achievement Award for 25 years of producing outstanding theatre. In 2019, Irish Rep was named Company of the Year by the *Wall Street Journal*. Charlotte and Ciaran were also awarded by the President of Ireland with the Irish Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad. Irish Repertory Theatre presents the very best in Irish theatre, from the masters to the new generation of Irish and Irish-American writers who are transforming the stage. Located in the heart of New York's Off-Broadway community, Irish Rep offers an engaging perspective on the Irish and their unique contributions to the world of drama. In May of 2020, Irish Rep began presenting full-length digital productions as filmed during the COVID-19 pandemic as Irish Rep Online, welcoming new audiences from around the globe.

IRISH REP ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Artistic Director	Charlotte Moore
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Director of Marketing & Digital Strategy	Natalie Ault
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Digital Marketing & Media Asst.	Samantha X. Seaman
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.....	Jeremy Keele, Kathryn Smith,
.....	Carmine D. Boccuzzi, Leigh Giroux
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Human Resources/Payroll	Paychex
Insurance	AJG Risk Management
Bank	M&T Bank
IT Consultants	Red Paladin
Financial Services	Patricia Taylor

SERVICES

LATECOMERS will be seated at the discretion of the House Manager at the first appropriate interval on a space available basis.

ACCESSIBLE seating is available, by reservation, for patrons with disabilities. Infrared hearing assistance devices are available at the box office.

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TICKETS are available at IrishRep.org or by calling the box office at 212.727.2737. No refunds. No exchanges. All sales are final.

COVID-19 only individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 will be allowed to enter. Learn more about our protocols at irishrep.org/covid19

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FIRE NOTICE

The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please do not run — WALK TO THAT EXIT.

Thoughtless persons annoy patrons and endanger the safety of others by lighting matches or smoking in prohibited areas during the performance and intermissions. This violates a city ordinance and is punishable by law.

— FIRE COMMISSIONER

WARNING

The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possessing of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside this theatre, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law. Violators may be punished by ejection and violation may render the offender liable for money damages.

New York City Ordinance prohibits use of cellular phones, pagers, personal digital assistants, and other audible electronic devices during a performance. If you are in possession of one, please be sure it is turned off prior to the performance.

Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the premises. This violates a city ordinance & is punishable by law.



IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

Kathleen Begala, <i>Chair</i>	John Gardiner	Charlotte Moore
Tom Cashin	Edward Greene	Colleen Murphy
John DellaNoce	Michael Keogh	Dore Normille
Eoin Duane	Cornelius V. Kilbane, Jr.	Katie Rustum O'Neill
John Duane	Simon Lorne	Brendan O'Reilly
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Brian Friel, <i>in memory</i>	W. Scott McLucas	Bernadette Toomey
Jim Friel	Marty Murray	Patricia M. Weeks
	Liam Neeson	

- 
- An Aer Lingus Airbus A320neo aircraft is shown in flight, banking to the right. The plane is white with a blue and green shamrock logo on the tail and 'Aer Lingus' written on the side. It is flying over a dramatic coastal landscape featuring a steep, layered rock cliff. At the top of the cliff, there are ancient stone ruins, including a circular stone wall and other structures. The sea is visible at the base of the cliff, with white foam from the waves. The sky is not visible, as the background is filled with the landscape.
- ✓ Dreaming of Ireland?
 - ✓ Warm welcomes await

We're here to welcome you when you're ready.

Aer Lingus is proud to support
the Irish Repertory Theatre

aerlingus.com

Smart flies
Aer Lingus 