IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

presents

THE NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT READING SERIES

BELFAST GIRLS

BY JAKI MCCARRICK Directed by NICOLA MURPHY

> IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

Judith	Caroline Strange
Molly	Aida Leventaki
Hannah	Mary Mallen
Sarah	Sarah Street
Ellen	

BELFAST GIRLS by Jaki McCarrick

Directed by Nicola Murphy

Stage Manager Michael Palmer

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

TIME & PLACE

1850

Belfast to Australia



AIDA LEVENTAKI (Molly) grew up in Athens, Greece where her parents ran an animal shelter. After moving to Scotland when she was eight, she has worked extensively across the UK at The Citizens Theatre in Glasgow. The

National Theatre in London and with BBC Radio. Aida was one of six girls to be accepted onto the ATCL Theater Course at the Dance School of Scotland and received a distinction and the singing award. Aida graduated from AADA NYC with the Lawrence Langer Award for voice and speech and recently appeared on 'Power:Raising Kanan' (HBO Starz).



LABHAOISE MAGEE (Ellen) is delighted to be back at the Irish Rep having most recently played Pumpgirl in Pumpgirl. Other credits include: Marmalade in Round Room (Origin 1st Irish Festival), Chrissie in

Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood (Ú.S. National Tour), Rose in Dancing At Lughnasa (Everyman Theatre), 1st Witch in Macbeth (EU Tour), Amanda in Move to Junk (White Horse Theatre), Banquo in Macbeth (dir. Will Frears), Girl in I Once Knew a Girl (Theatre of Witness EU Tour). Her film work includes: Wetware, dir. Jay Craven (Kingdom County Productions), Big Two Five, dir. Ashley Thomas (Yellow Moth Productions). Labhaoise graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 2017.



MARY MALLEN (Hannah) Irish Rep: Juno and the Paycock (Mary), Donnybrook! (Esme), The Silver Tassie (Jessie) UK Work: The Veil (National Theatre), The Cement Garden (National Theatre

Studio), A Life (Finborough Theatre), Company (Vanbrugh Theatre), A Lie of The Mind (Gielgud Theatre). Film: *Trailer Park Princess, Manchester by the Sea*. Training: RADA. Love, thanks and snugs to Alex and Sebastian Mallen-Robbins.



CAROLINE STRANGE (Judith) She was most recently seen a Zoom workshop of A Christmas Carol with People's Light Theatre, PA (new adaptation by Zak Bergman, directed by

David Bradley) and is looking forward to the release of the "Convene: Hybrid Space" webcommercial where she plays the role of Jane. She recently was seen in London Assurance at the Irish Rep and Tiny Beautiful Things at Merrimack Repertory Theatre. New York: Othello (The Brick) Meditations on a Magnetic North (The Tank), Regional: The Bluest Eye (Guthrie Theatre), The Tempest, Metamorphoses, Into The Woods, We Are Proud To Present.... Sweeney Todd, Private Lives (Playmakers Rep), Cinderella, The Diary of Anne Frank (People's Light), The Legend Of Georgia McBride (Hippodrome Theatre), Beauty and the Beast, I Do. I Do!. Steel Magnolias, Once Upon A Mattress (RedHouse Arts). Training: MFA, UNC- Chapel Hill Professional Actor Training Program. BA Music, Western Connecticut State.



SARAH STREET (Sarah) 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.

JAKI MCCARRICK (Playwright) is an awardwinning writer of plays, poetry and fiction. A former winner of the Papatango Prize for New Writing (for her play LEOPOLDVILLE), her play BELFAST GIRLS was developed at the National Theatre Studio in London, and was shortlisted for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and the 2014 BBC Tony Doyle Award. It premiered in the US in Chicago in 2015 to much critical acclaim and has since been staged many times internationally. Her play THE NATURALISTS premiered at the Soho Repertory Theatre. New York in 2018 to rave reviews. Jaki's plays have been published by Samuel French, Routledge and Aurora Metro, Her debut short story collection The Scattering was shortlisted for the 2014 Edge Hill Prize. The collection includes her story The Visit which won the Wasafiri Prize for Short Fiction. Longlisted in 2014 for the inaugural Irish Fiction Laureate, she is currently editing her second collection of short stories and her first novel, "The bright, bright world".

Theatre NICOLA **MURPHY** (Director) directing credits include: A Girl is a Halfformed Thing (NY Times Critic's Pick), Pumpgirl (NY Times Critic's Pick) and The O'Casey Season Reading Series at Irish Repertory Theatre; the premiere production of Stop/Over by Gary Duggan at The Chocolate Factory Dublin as part of FRINGE 2018; the premiere production of RENT at Cas Di Cultura. Aruba's National Theatre: the World Premiere of Beef by Michael Musi at The Box Theatre in Toronto: The Events by David Greig at The Lir Academy; and Mighty Atoms, Dancing at Lughnasa, Belfast Girls and Be My Baby at The American Academy Of Dramatic Arts. Assistant Directing credits include Katie Roche at The Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Silence is Requested at The Lir Academy, *Trans-Euro Express* at The Irish Arts Center & an assistantship placement with Neal Street Productions on the hit UK Show *Call the Midwife* (BBC & PBS). Film credits include *FLOAT* (co-written & directed with Katy Wright-Mead), and *Reemergence: A Queer Visual Album*. MFA in Directing from The Lir Academy, Trinity College. Artistic Director at On The Quays and Artistic Associate at Irish Repertory Theatre. nicolacmurphy.com

MICHAEL PALMER (Stage Manager) Irish Repertory Theater credits include: A Girl is a Half-formed Thing, Pumpgirl, The Dead 1904, For Love, It's a Wonderful Life, Air Swimming, My Scandalous Life, St. Nicholas, Johnny Titanic. The Aran Islands. Other New York Credits include: Sabbath Girl. After. Daniel's Husband, My Brilliant Divorce, Small World, The Hundred We Are. The Winter's Tale. Drop Dead Perfect, The Rivals, Have I No Mouth, The Wheelchair On My Face, Silent, Miracle On South Division Street, Bogboy, Fall To Earth, Mr. Parker, Relativity, Syncopation, The Immigrant, My Name Is Asher Lev. Michael is a proud member of AEA and SAG/ AFTRA.

CIARAN O'REILLY (Producing Director) His favorite directing credits include: Autumn Roayl, 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 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.

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, Ladv 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 in to 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 devoted to bringing Irish and America Irish-American works to the stage. Recognized with the Jujamcvn 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 who Irish-American writers transforming the stage. Located in the of New York's Off-Broadway heart 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.

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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.

ADVERTISE in our playbills! For options and rates call 212.255.0270, or email grainne@irishrep.org

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 <u>irishrep.org/covid19</u>

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Stage Manager	Michael Palmer
Production Manager/Technical Director	Jeremy Ping
Wardrobe Supervisor	Dan Bass
Master Electrician	Megan Peti

PRESS REPRESENTATION

Matt Ross Public Relations Matt Ross, Nicole Capatasto, Liz Lombardi, Claire Wojciechowski

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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.

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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.



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IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE



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