

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

A TOUCH  
OF  
THE  
POET

BY EUGENE O'NEILL

DIRECTED BY  
CIARÁN O'REILLY



IRISH  
REPERTORY  
THEATRE

# IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | CIARÁN O'REILLY, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

ON THE FRANCIS J. GREENBURGER MAINSTAGE

# A TOUCH OF THE POET

BY **EUGENE O'NEILL**

DIRECTED BY **CIARÁN O'REILLY**

with **BELLE AYKROYD, DAVID BECK, ROBERT CUCCIOLI,  
KATE FORBES, MARY McCANN, ANDY MURRAY, JAMES RUSSELL,  
DAVID SITLER, JOHN C. VENNEMA, and REX YOUNG**

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scenic design

**CHARLIE  
CORCORAN**

co-costume design

**ALEJO VIETTI  
& GAIL BALDONI**

lighting design

**MICHAEL  
GOTTLIEB**

sound design

**M. FLORIAN  
STAAB**

original music

**RYAN  
RUMERY**

properties

**BRANDY  
HOANG COLLIER**

hair & wig design

**ROBERT-CHARLES  
VALLANCE**

dialect coach

**AMANDA  
QUAID**

fight choreography

**RICK  
SORDELET**

makeup artist

**JOE  
DELUDE**

production stage manager

**APRIL ANN  
KLINE**

assistant stage manager

**JADE  
DOINA**

casting

**DEBORAH  
BROWN CASTING**

press representative

**MATT ROSS  
PUBLIC RELATIONS**

general manager

**LISA  
FANE**

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**OPENING NIGHT: MARCH 8, 2022**

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE'S 2021-2022 SEASON IS SUPPORTED, IN PART, BY YOUR TAXPAYER DOLLARS THROUGH THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH THE SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY COUNCIL; AS WELL AS CULTURE IRELAND, THE AGENCY FOR THE PROMOTION OF IRISH ARTS WORLDWIDE; THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE CONSULATE OF IRELAND IN NEW YORK; THE HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION, THE SHUBERT FOUNDATION, THE HAROLD & MIMI STEINBERG CHARITABLE TRUST, IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA, MUTUAL OF AMERICA, THE MICHAEL TUCH FOUNDATION, AND OUR MANY GENEROUS MEMBERS AND DONORS.

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# CAST

(in order of appearance)

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<i>Mick Maloy</i> .....	James Russell
<i>Jamie Cregan</i> .....	Andy Murray
<i>Sara Melody</i> .....	Belle Aykroyd
<i>Nora Melody</i> .....	Kate Forbes
<i>Cornelius "Con" Melody</i> .....	Robert Cuccioli
<i>Deborah Hartford</i> .....	Mary McCann
<i>Dan Roche (U/S Maloy, Cregan, Gadsby)</i> .....	David Beck
<i>Paddy O'Dowd (U/S Con Melody)</i> .....	Rex Young
<i>Patch Riley</i> .....	David Sitler
<i>Nicolas Gadsby</i> .....	John C. Vennema
<i>Understudy (Sara, Nora, Deborah)</i> .....	Emma O'Donnell

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## TIME & PLACE

1828

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A village, a few miles away from  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Running Time:** 2 hours and 40 minutes, including a 15 minute intermission.

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## SPECIAL THANKS

Robert M. Dowling, Neil Bradley, Bruce Foley, Simon Patrick Geaney

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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**BELLE AYKROYD** (*Sara Melody*) Belle Aykroyd is thrilled to be making her New York City theater debut at Irish Rep.

She is a 2019 graduate of the MFA program at American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco, where her favorite roles included Agave in *The Bacchae*, Emilia in *Othello*, and The Ghost of Christmas Past in *The Christmas Carol*. Her most recent film credits include indie short *A Girl Called Johnny* (2021) and Martha in feature film *Highway One*.



**DAVID BECK** (*Dan Roche, Understudy Mick Maloy, Creegan, Gadsby*) David is happy to return to Irish Rep, having appeared in the O'Casey reading series, directed by Nicola Murphy. New York theatre includes work at 59E59, La Mama, 1st Irish, SoHo Playhouse, Cherry Lane, Dixon Place, Symphony Space, Theatre Row, and American Lyric Theatre. Regional credits include *Hamlet* and *Our Town* (Mirror Rep), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Ivoryton Playhouse, CT), and *Rabbit Hole* (Human Race, OH). Also a filmmaker and composer, David's short films *For Francis* and *Backup Plan* and his web series *Spring Street* have won many

accolades and played festivals around the world. He is a graduate of Marymount Manhattan College's acting program. In loving memory of his mentor, John McCormack. [davidGbeck.com](http://davidGbeck.com)



**ROBERT CUCCIOLI** (*Cornelius "Con" Melody*) Broadway: *Jekyll & Hyde* (Tony nom., Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, FANY, and Chicago's Joseph Jefferson Awards), *Les Miserables*, and *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*. Off-Broadway Robert was most recently seen in *The White Devil*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and as Caesar in *Caesar & Cleopatra*. Other favorite Off-Broadway credits include: *And The World Goes 'Round* (Outer Critics Circle Award), *Rothschild and Sons* (London's Offie Award Nom.), *Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well And Living In Paris*, *White Guy On The Bus*, and *Snow Orchid*. Robert has performed at such notable Regional Theatres as The Guthrie, Paper Mill Playhouse, The Shakespeare Theatre of NJ, The Shakespeare Theatre of DC (Lorenzaccio - Helen Hayes Award Nom.), the McCarter Theatre, George Street Playhouse, and Ford's Theatre (1776-Helen Hayes Award Nom.). Television: *The Sinner*, *Elementary*, *White Collar*, *Sliders*,

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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*Baywatch, The Guiding Light. Film: Celebrity, The Stranger, The Rest of Us, Impossible Monsters, Columbus on Trial, Tradecraft: On The Run.* robertcuccioli.com.



**KATE FORBES** (*Nora Melody*) This is Kate's Irish Rep debut. Other Eugene O'Neill productions: Josie in *A Moon for the Misbegotten* at the Theatre Royal, Waterford, Ireland, Lyric Theatre, Belfast. Broadway: *The School for Scandal* (Theater World Award), *Inherit the Wind* (w/ George C. Scott), *Macbeth*, and *Sight Unseen*. Off-Broadway: *All's Well That Ends Well*, *The Merchant of Venice* (w/F.Murray Abraham, also at the RSC), *The Jew of Malta*, *Othello* (Calloway Award), Theater For A New Audience. *Janis Joplin in Love*, Janis at The Village Theater; *Desdemona* in *Othello* (with Liev Schreiber) for the Public Theater; *The Entertainer*, CSC. Recent regional: *Steel Magnolias* (Heritage Theater), *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Henry V*, *La Dispute*, *The Crucible* (Hartford Stage). Two tours with The Acting Company. TV/film credits: *Wanda/Vision*, *Mercy Street*, *Law and Order. The Sacramento*, *The Longest Ride*, *Term Life*, *Steel Country*, *Hot Summer Nights*, *All Saints*.



**MARY McCANN** (*Deborah Hartford*) Mary is thrilled to return to Irish Rep, where she performed *The Weir* by Conor McPherson. Mary is a founding member of the Atlantic Theater Company where she has done many plays including: *On the Shore of the Wide World*, *Harper Regan* (title role), and *Bluebird* by Simon Stephens, *Our New Girl*, *Offices and Almost and Evening* by Ethan Coen and *Night Heron* by Jez Butterworth. Recent TV: *The Chair*, *Dirty John*, *Madam Secretary*, *Elementary*, *Jessica Jones*, *Law and Order Special Victims Unit* (recurring), *The Blacklist*, *Boardwalk Empire* (recurring), *Person of Interest* and *A Gifted Man* directed by Jonathan Demme. Film: *Rushed*, *Can you Ever Forgive Me*, *Caught* (Lifetime), *Choke*, *Little Children*, *Phil Spector*, *It Must Be Love*, *Door to Door*, and more. Broadway: *The Old Neighborhood*, *Our Town* with Spalding Gray and *Search and Destroy*. Other Off-Broadway Credits include: *Oleanna* (Orpheum Theatre), *Second Stage*, *Lincoln Center* and *Naked Angels*.



**ANDY MURRAY** (*Jamie Cregan*) Andy has previously appeared at Irish Rep in *The Emperor Jones* and *The*

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

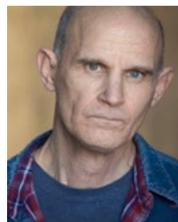
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*Seafarer*, both directed by Ciarán O'Reilly. Broadway: *War Horse* at Lincoln Center. Off-Broadway: *Judgment Day* at the Park Ave Armory. Regionally he's worked at the McCarter, Yale Rep, The Shakespeare Theater in DC, Centerstage in Baltimore, American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco, Berkeley Rep, The Magic Theater, California Shakespeare Theater, Seattle Rep, San Jose Rep, among others. Film and TV includes *Borgen 2022*, *Daredevil*, *House of Cards*, *The Knick*, *Run All Night*, *Aloft*, *Wormwood*, *Chicago PD*, *Shades of Blue*, *Bull*, *The Blacklist*, *Person of Interest*, *Elementary*, *Law and Order CI* and *Forever*. He has taught acting at the Berkeley Repertory School of Theater, California Shakespeare Theater, Alameda County Juvenile Hall and San Quentin State Prison.



**JAMES RUSSELL** (*Mickey Maloy*) At Irish Rep: *Lady Gregory: The Plays and Whisperings of Lady Gregory*, *The O'Casey Cycle*, *The Dead*, *1904*, *Shining City*, *Port Authority*, *Juno and the Paycock*, *The Freedom of the City*. Other credits include: *Hamlet* (Tim Carroll's *The Factory*), *Major Barbara* (Shaw Project), *Midsummer Nights Dream*, *The*

*Liar*, *Playboy of the Western World* (Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey) International Theater: *The Flood* (Lyric Theatre, Belfast) *Cymbeline* (Shakespeare's Globe, London); Film: *The Boy* (Lakeshore Ent, STX), *Free/Lance* (Pegalo), *What's Left Behind*; TV: "Unforgettable" (A&E), "Forever" (ABC), "Deception" (NBC), "Infamous" (NBC), "Blue Bloods" (CBS). For Dad.



**DAVID SITLER** (*Patch Riley*, *Fight Captain*) is thrilled to be back at Irish Rep working with this great company for his hat trick, having

been in *Beyond the Horizon* and *Donnybrook!* at Irish Rep in the past. He has been on Broadway (*An Inspector Calls* with Rosemary Harris), National Tour (*Frost Nixon* with Stacy Keach), worked with over sixteen theatre companies in NYC and Regionally from Maine to California in roles from Atticus to Scrooge. Recent Film credits include: *Girl Boxer*, *The True Ones*, *Bugs And Slugs*. TV Credits "Little America," "Hunters," and the game "Red Dead Redemption 2." Thanks to Ciarán and Charlotte, an amazing PSM, cast and crew, DBA and BWA and wife and actor, Carolyn Popp.

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**JOHN C. VENNEMA** (*Nicholas Gadsby*) has been seen at Irish Rep in *Freedom Of The City* and *Prisoner Of The Crown*.

His Broadway credits include: *The Ride Down Mt. Morgan*, *The Royal Family*, *Otherwise Engaged*, *The Elephant Man*, *Racing Demon*, and *Bells Are Ringing* (Encores). He toured Ireland and England in the Druid Theatre production of *Cripple Of Inishmaan*, ending at the Atlantic Theater, NY (Drama Desk award). Off-Broadway credits include: *Linda, House and Garden*, *In Celebration*, *Terms Of Endearment*, *Shadowlands* and many others. Film: *The Cat's Meow*, *City Hall*, *Die Hard With a Vengeance*. Television: *Boardwalk Empire*, *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *House Of Cards* (recurring roles).



**REX YOUNG** (*Paddy O'Dowd*, *Understudy for Cornelious "Con" Melody*) is happy to be making his Irish Rep debut. He has

just moved back to NYC after a 16-year absence. During that time, he was an acting company member at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. His work there included Shakespeare, of course, as well as modern classics and world premieres. He has also worked around the country



**EMMA O'DONNELL** (*Understudy*) At Irish Rep: Sean O'Casey's *Juno and the Paycock*, Dion Boucicault's *The Shaughraun*, and

*Prisoner of the Crown*, *The Hairy Ape*, *Yeats Festival Readings*. Off Broadway: *Court Martial at Fort Devins* (New Federal/Castillo Theater: Audelco Award), *Freed* (59E59: Audelco Nomination). Select Regional: *Marisol* (Luna Stage), *A Christmas Carol*, *It's A Wonderful Life*, *They Don't Pay! We Don't Pay!*, *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Portland Stage Company), *The Royal Family*, *Playboy of the Western World*, *A Christmas Carol*, (Shakespeare Theater of NJ). Regional credits include the Walnut Street Theater, Act II Playhouse, The Guthrie, Florida Studio Theater, Mountain Playhouse, Ivoryton Playhouse, The Village Theater, The Public Theatre in Lewiston, ME, and The Children's Theater Co. Emma originated the role of Beezus for Theater Works U.S.A's inaugural tour of *Ramona Quimby*. Emma is a member of The Actor's Center Workshop Company. Training: Circle in the Square (NYC),

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British American Drama Academy (London). BFA: Carleton College. emmaodonnell.net

**EUGENE O'NEILL** (*Playwright*) (1888-1953) was born in New York City on October 16, 1888 and began writing in the early 1910s. He eschewed the melodramas and vaudeville styles of his period in favor of dramatic realism. He published his first plays in 1914, and had been awarded three of his four Pulitzer Prizes by 1928 for *Beyond the Horizon* (1918), *Anna Christie* (1920), and *Strange Interlude* (1928). In 1936 he received the Nobel Prize for Literature – the only American playwright to hold this honor. Other notable works include *The Emperor Jones* (1920); *The Hairy Ape* (1922); *Desire Under the Elms* (1924); *Mourning Becomes Electra* (1931); *Ah, Wilderness!* (1933); *The Iceman Cometh* (1939); *Long Day's Journey into Night* (1941 – Pulitzer Prize 1957); *A Moon for the Misbegotten* (1943); and, finally, *A Touch of the Poet* (1942).

**CIARÁN O'REILLY** (*Director, Producing Director*) Favorite directing credits include: *Autumn Royal*, *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.

**CHARLIE CORCORAN** (*Scenic Design*) NY designs include: *Autumn Royal*, *Lady G*, *The O'Casey Cycle* (winner of

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the Henry Hewes Design Award), *The Seafarer*, *On Beckett*, *Shining City*, *The Emperor Jones* (Hewes design award nomination), *The Quare Land* (Origin First Irish Award), *The Weir* (Irish Rep) *Billy and Ray* (Vineyard Theatre), *Straight* (Acorn Theatre) and *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Triumph of Love* (Juilliard). *Craving for Travel* (Peter J. sharp Theatre), *The Last Smoker In America* (Westside Theatre), *A Perfect Future* (Cherry Lane), *The Bully Pulpit* (Beckett Theatre), *Exits And Entrances* (Primary Stages). Regional theatre designs include: *A Comedy of Tenors*, (Outer Critics Circle Award) (Cleveland Playhouse / McCarter Theatre), *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* (The Goodman Theatre), *The Barber Of Seville*, *The Marriage Of Figaro* (The McCarter Theatre), *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Absurd Person Singular*, *Noises Off* (Two River Theatre), *Without Walls* (Center Theatre Group), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Buck's County Playhouse) *Bad Jews* (Ensemble Theatre Company/ English Theatre of Frankfurt) Opera designs include: *Fidelio* (Santa Fe Opera), *Così Fan Tutte* (co-production Metropolitan Opera And Juilliard), *Don Giovanni*, *Katya Kabanova* (Juilliard) *The Turn of the Screw*, *The Flood* (Opera Columbus), *The Magic Flute*, *The Bartered Bride* (Granada Theatre, Santa Barbara),

*L'Opera Seria* (Wolftrap Opera), TV designs include: "Full Frontal with Samantha Bee" (TBS), "Mozart in the Jungle" (Amazon), "Believe" (NBC), "Madam Secretary" (CBS).

**ALEJO VIETTI** (*Co-Costume Design*) New York: Broadway's *Holiday Inn*, *The New Irving Berlin Musical*, *Allegiance* (Drama Desk Award nomination), and *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (also national tour, West End -Olivier Award nomination, Australia, Japan and UK tour). *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Amy and the Orphans*, *The Dance of Death*, *Storefront Church*, *The Last Sunday in June*, and *Secrets of the Trade* among others. He has designed for the Radio City Rockettes, Roundabout Theatre Company, Manhattan Theatre Club, New York City Opera, Atlantic Theater Company and Primary Stages among others. Other credits include Disney's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Japan and Germany), Lyric Opera of Chicago, Minnesota Opera, Donesk Opera (Ukraine), Colorado Ballet, and the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Regional: Alley Theatre, Goodspeed Opera, Guthrie, Hartford Stage, Paper Mill, Shakespeare Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival, The Old Globe, among others. Recipient of the 2010 TDF Irene Sharaff Young Master Award.

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**GAIL BALDONI** (*Co-Costume Design*) *My Fair Lady* at New York Philharmonic, *Wonderful Town* at New York City Opera and NBC's *Another World* (Emmy nomination). *Mermaids*, patternmaker for Cher, Papermill Playhouse, Goodspeed Opera, Ahmanson Theater, North Shore Music Theatre, City Center, Cape Playhouse, Theatre Aspen, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera multiple seasons. Favorite projects include *Swan Lake* with the Boston Ballet, Kirov and Bolshoi Ballet, The Rockette's Christmas Show, and Ringling Bros. Circus. Gail tours with Barry Manilow and teaches Costume Design for SUNY Purchase currently. Recently, assisted on Irish Repertory's *The Streets of New York*.

**MICHAEL GOTTLIEB** (*Lighting Design*) has designed over forty productions at Irish Rep, where his credits include *The O'Casey Cycle* (Henry Hewes Design Award nom.), *Bill Irwin: On Beckett*, *Woody Sez*, *Woman & Scarecrow* and *The Weir*. His other New York designs include the Broadway musical *Lysistrata Jones*, *Storyville* (York), *Major Barbara* (Pearl), *Signs of Life* (AMAS), *Spain* (MCC) and *Election Day* (Second Stage). Regional work includes credits at The Goodspeed, Trinity Rep, The Hangar, The Long Wharf and The Old Globe. He has an Emmy Award and several other award nom for his

work in television. Michael is a graduate of Vassar and The British & European Studies Group, London. [mgld.com](http://mgld.com)

**M. FLORIAN STAAB** (*Sound Design*) is a sound designer and composer based in Brooklyn, NY. Credits incl: *The Library*, *Pretty Hunger* and *Teenage Dick* (Public Theater); *Uncle Vanya* (Pearl Theatre Company); *Nomad Motel* (Pittsburgh City Theatre); *Into the Breeches!* (Trinity Rep); *Winners* (Ensemble Studio Theatre); *Death of the Liberal Class* (New Ohio); *Crackskull Row* (The Cell & Irish Rep); *On Beckett* with Bill Irwin (Irish Rep); *Minor Character* (New Saloon); *A Hunger Artist* (Tank/Sinking Ship); *This Lingering Life* (Here Arts); *Mad Libs Live!* (New World Stages); *The Bonapartes* (Ars Nova); *A Bright New Boise* (Partial Comfort) and *The Suitcase Opera* (Chicago Opera Vanguard). He was born and raised in Germany and received his BA from Oberlin College and MFA from Krannert Center. He is an associate artist with Sinking Ship Productions and the resident sound designer at the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. [florianstaab.com](http://florianstaab.com)

**RYAN RUMERY** (*Original Music*) is a musician, composer, and producer. Ryan is currently scoring a documentary about Yotam Ottolenghi. His music is in the films *The*

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*Spectacular Rise; Fall of Paul Manafort* (Washington Post), *Afghan Cycles* (Brooklyn Film Festival 2018), *Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock* (Tribeca 2017), *How to Let Go of the World (And Love All the Things Climate Can't Change)* (Sundance 2016, HBO), and *City of Gold* (Sundance, SXSW 2015). Recent theatrical projects include *Apologia* (Roundabout), *Be More Chill* (Signature Theatre), and *Fool For Love* (Broadway). Rumery recently received the Obie for Sustained Excellence in Sound Design and Composition, and was a selected composer for the Sundance Institute of Music and Sound Design Labs at Skywalker Sound.

**AMANDA QUAID** (*Dialect Coach*) teaches speech, voice, and breathwork to actors, and everyone else. She offers monthly group classes and private classes, incl. by-donation offerings, learn more at [talkshopnyc.com](http://talkshopnyc.com).

**BRANDY HOANG COLLIER** (*Properties*) is a props master, playwright, and problem-solver from San Antonio, TX. She has designed and built props, thingamabobs, and doohickeys for a wide variety of productions. Off-Broadway credits include *Mrs. Warren's Profession* (Gingold Theatrical Group) and *The Streets of New York* (Irish Repertory Theatre). She is also Co-Founder and Co-Artistic

Director of Root Beer Occasion Theatre Company in Brooklyn, NY. Among other projects, Collier orchestrated Root Beer Occasion's inaugural event, *The Living Room Stories Play Festival* and their bad play contest *The Garbage Revue* (including the staged reading of the finalists). Writing credits include book and lyrics for *The Blazing World* (Polyphone 2021 Festival of New and Emerging Musicals) and book for *Yoko's Husband's Killer's Japanese Wife, Gloria* (The 5th Avenue Theatre "First Draft: Raise Your Voice" 2021 commission).

**ROBERT-CHARLES VALLANCE** (*Hair and Wig Design*) Broadway: *Jitney, Come from Away, Amazing Grace, Lucky Guy, Little Shop of Horrors, Long Day's Journey, Play What I Wrote, Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Our Town, Hollywood Arms, The Elephant Man, Dance of Death, Amy's View, The Blue Room, Master Class*. Resident designer: Irish Rep, 42 Productions. Proprietor of [BroadwayWigs.com](http://BroadwayWigs.com). Angels of New York [AngelsOfNY.com](http://AngelsOfNY.com).

**RICK SORDELET** (*Fight Director*) Rick and Christian Kelly-Sordelet created Sordelet Inc., a Native-owned action movement company with 30 years experience. They have done 80 Broadway productions, including *The Lion King, Beauty and the Beast*, and *Tina*, with 52 first-class

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productions worldwide as well as many, operas, films and loads of television productions. They teach at William Esper Studio, HB Studio, CUNY Harlem, Montclair State, Kean University, and 22 years at Yale School of Drama. Rick is a board member for Red Bull Theater. To learn more, visit [sordeletink.com](http://sordeletink.com).

**APRIL ANN KLINE** (*Production Stage Manager*) Some NYC credits include: Irish Repertory Theatre (*The Streets of New York, A Touch of the Poet: A Performance on Screen, The O'Casey Cycle, Disco Pigs, Woody Sez, The Pigeon in the Taj Mahal*); Gingold Theatrical Group (*Mrs. Warren's Profession, Caesar & Cleopatra*); *My Life On A diet with Renee Taylor* at St. Clement's Theatre; Pearl Theatre Company (*A Taste of Honey, No Exit*); Red Bull Theatre (*Tis Pity She's A Whore, Dance of Death*); Naked Angels Theatre (*This Wide Night*); Ma-Yi Theatre Company (*The Romance of Magno Rubio*). Favorite regional credits include Bay Street Theatre (*Lend Me A Tenor, The Mystery of Irma Vep*); Chester Theatre Company (*The Retreat from Moscow*); Long Wharf Theatre (*The Romance of Magno Rubio*); Bard Summerscape (*The Wild Duck*). April has also done various shows with the Juilliard School and the New School for Drama drama programs. April is a proud member of Actors'

Equity Association. Love to my family and Marc.

**JADE DOINA** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is thrilled to be returning to Irish Rep! Off-Broadway: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, (Gingold Theatrical Group) *Lunch Bunch* (PlayCo), *Dublin Carol, Plough and the Stars, The Shadow of a Gunman, The Dead 1904*, (Irish Repertory Theatre), *Dogg's Hamlet/Cahoot's Macbeth, Brecht on Brecht*, (Potomac Theatre Project). New York: *Doctor Faustus*, (The Secret Theatre), *Henry V, The Three Musketeers, Triumph of Love*, (Hudson Classical Theatre Company). Regional: *Rock of Ages, The Full Monty, Man of La Mancha*, (Alpine Theatre Project). Grad: Marymount Manhattan College '19.

**DEBORAH BROWN** (*Casting*) has cast for Broadway, Off-Broadway and many of the leading regional theatres in the country. She shared an Emmy for HBO's series *From the Earth to the Moon*. Other television projects include *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd* and New York casting on *Band of Brothers*. This is her 14th season casting for Irish Repertory Theatre.

**CHARLOTTE MOORE** (*Artistic Director*) Recent directing assignments: *The Streets of New York, Meet Me in St. Louis: A Performance on Screen, Love Noël: A Performance on Screen, Molly Sweeney: A Performance on Screen*,

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*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 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 Repertory Theatre 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 in 2007, a special Drama Desk Award for "Excellence in Presenting Distinguished Irish Drama," in 1992, the Lucille Lortel Award for "Outstanding Body of Work," in 2005, and a 2013 Outer Critics Circle Special Achievement Award for 25 years of producing outstanding theatre. Irish Repertory Theatre is proud to present 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 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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## A Letter from the Directors

They say that the third time is a charm...

Our first attempt to mount *A Touch of the Poet* began in February 2020 and ended in March 2020 before the actors set foot on our stage. It was then we discovered what the word “lockdown” meant. When we said goodbye to the cast, with the hopeful “see you in a few weeks,” we could have had no idea of the maelstrom that was to envelop the world.

Six months passed. Our second attempt to mount the play was made possible by a new hybrid involving green screens and zoom where actors could be filmed safely from their own homes. Through the magic of technology, our designers and editors could place them all in the same tavern—even though several were thousands of miles apart.

We were very proud of the results of that experiment, but NOTHING compares to LIVE theatre. Another 15 months crawled by and the pandemical clouds began to lift. The costumes were still hanging on the rack and the set was still waiting in storage. We began making phone calls to the cast with the burning question: Are you ready to return to the Melody Tavern?  
Miraculously, the answer was a resounding YES!

And so here we are...

Throughout the eternal wait. We held a vision of Eugene O’Neill sitting in his study at Tao House; wracked with the tremors of Parkinson’s disease and barely able to hold his pencil, he poured his heart and soul into the story of the Melody family.

It’s the least we can do to raise the curtain.

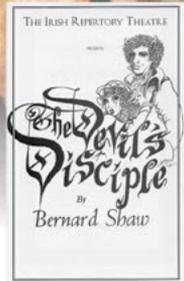
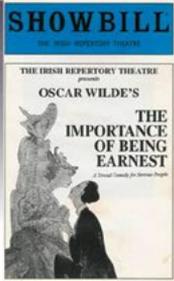
CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Photo: Sara Krautwich/The New York Times. Tony Walton with the cast of *The Importance of Being Earnest* in 1996.



## Remembering our close friend Tony Walton



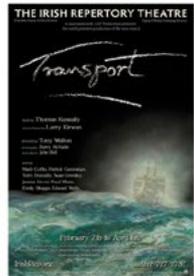
Irish Repertory Theatre mourns the loss of our close friend Tony Walton, a true champion of our cause and the kindest and most generous soul, not to mention a mammoth presence in theatre over the last 50+ years. We shall miss his warm presence at his regular perch in our lobby and his pivotal insights that always brought life to stories on stage. Although he began his career as a designer, he turned his talents to directing for us, including *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Major Barbara*, *Candida*, *The Devil's Disciple*, *Transport*, and Noël Coward's *After the Ball*.

We will miss him sorely, and our thoughts are with Gen, Emma, Bridget, and his loved ones.

Charlotte and Ciarán

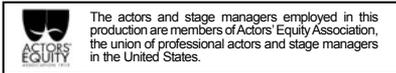


*Candida*  
BERNARD SHAW



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Make-Up Artist .....	Joe Dulude
Set Construction .....	Hillbolic Arts & Carpentry
Scenic .....	Raymond "Buddy" Connor, Molly Siskin
Scenic Charge .....	Aubrey Weeks
Painter .....	Ryan Dziedzich
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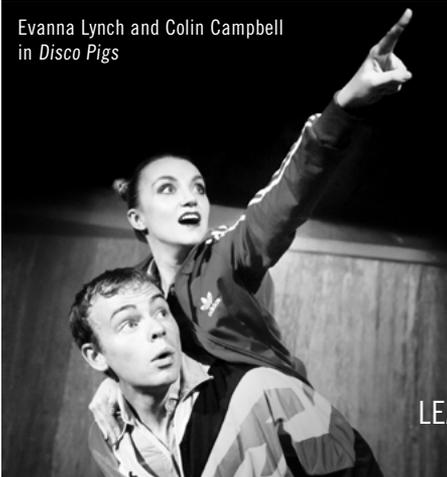


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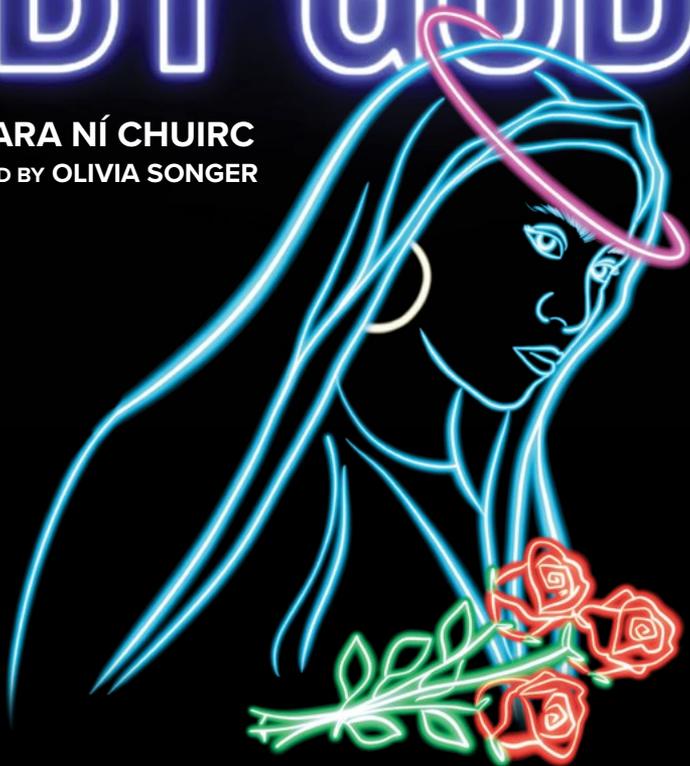
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