

**IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE**

# **CHESTER BAILEY**



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# IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

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

A NEW YORK PREMIERE  
ON THE FRANCIS J. GREENBURGER MAINSTAGE

# CHESTER BAILEY

BY JOSEPH DOUGHERTY

DIRECTED BY RON LAGOMARSINO

STARRING

REED BIRNEY AND EPHRAIM BIRNEY

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scenic design  
JOHN LEE  
BEATTY

costume design  
TONI-LESLIE  
JAMES

lighting design  
BRIAN  
MACDEVITT

sound design  
BRENDAN  
AANES

casting by  
PAT  
McCORKLE

production stage manager  
APRIL ANN  
KLINE

assistant stage manager  
JADE  
DOINA

press representative  
MATT ROSS  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

general manager  
LISA  
FANE

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**OPENING NIGHT: OCTOBER 19, 2022**

PRODUCED BY AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER, SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 31, 2016, CAREY PERLOFF, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.

SUBSEQUENTLY PRODUCED BY THE CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN THEATER FESTIVAL, SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV, JULY 10-AUGUST 2, 2019

SUBSEQUENT PRODUCTION PRESENTED AT BARRINGTON STAGE, PITTSFIELD, MA, JUNE 2021, JULIANNE BOYD, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND BRANDEN HULDEEN, ARTISTIC PRODUCER

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE'S 2022-2023 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

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*Chester Bailey*..... Ephraim Birney  
*Dr. Philip Cotton*..... Reed Birney

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## TIME & PLACE

A hospital on Long Island  
1945

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**Running Time:** 95 minutes, no intermission

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## NOTE FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT

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Reynolds Price, at the end of his memoir *A Whole New Life: An Illness and Healing*, looks at his handwriting and decides, “It comes down the arm of a grateful man.” I feel that way about my own writing, when I get it right, and never more so then when I consider *Chester Bailey*. The most satisfying work a writer does is that for which she or he feels the least conscious responsibility. It arrives from somewhere. You don’t write it down so much as the paper is there to catch it.

I was thinking about language and loss and what we do to make it through a lifetime. And while I was thinking, Philip Cotton and Chester Bailey arrived and started talking. I wrote down what they told me.

It was a gift.

I’ve been able to share that gift with a group of remarkably talented, dedicated, and generous people. You’ll find their names throughout this program. They committed to the words and lifted them from the page. The play belongs to them as much as it ever belonged to me.

And now, you’re here. I hope *Chester Bailey* will belong to you as well.

Thank you for coming.

— Joseph Dougherty

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## NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

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“Life is what you make of it.”

I once saw that on a crocheted pillow in a thrift store. I knew someone whose default stance was “life is what happens while you’re waiting to die.” Cheery. To be sure, during our lives *stuff* happens. Sometimes good, sometimes bad—even tragic. What then?

“The universe only gives you what you can handle, so trust that whatever is happening to you is exactly what you need. Just trust. Have certainty!” Put another way, “The people who struggle the most have been chosen by God to be the strongest ones.” OK... not much of an incentive to be strong if you’re going to be picked on for it.

Lou Holtz, much-revered football coach and erstwhile philosopher, opined, “Life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you respond to it.” Hemingway butts in: “We are all broken...that’s how the light gets in.” I like that. Sort of glass-half-full. After all, Kierkegaard assures us that “life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced.” Thank you, sir.

But what is reality anyway?

“Nothin’ but a collective hunch.”  
— Lily Tomlin.

I’d like that on a pillow.

— Ron Lagomarsino

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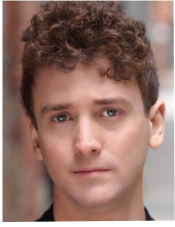
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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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### **EPHRAIM BIRNEY**

(Chester Bailey) is a New York City actor and writer. His screen credits include TV shows like *Gotham*, and *The Americans*, as well as the independent film *Sylvio*, and most recently, *Strawberry Mansion*, which premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival. He's worked in theatre both Off-Broadway and regionally in plays such as, *The Goodperson of Szechwan* at The Public Theatre, *Admissions* at Studio Theatre in Washington DC, and *The Sound Inside* at TheaterWorks Hartford in March of 2021. This is his third round as Chester, previously at Barrington Stage Company, and before that at The Contemporary American Theater Festival. He feels as though he bears a striking resemblance to his co-star.



**REED BIRNEY** (Dr. Philip Cotton) Last appeared in New York in Robert Icke's production of *Orwell's* 1984. Other New York appearances include: *Casa*

*Valentina* (Tony Nomination, Drama Desk Award); *Gemini*; *Picnic*; *Uncle Vanya* (Drama Desk Nomination); *Blasted* (Drama Desk Nomination); *Circle Mirror Transformation* (OBIE, Drama Desk Award); *The Man From Nebraska* (Lortel Nomination); *I'm Gonna Pray For You So Hard* (Outer Critics Circle Nomination, Drama Desk Nomination). TV/ Film: *Mass* (Independent Spirit's Robert Altman Award, Gotham Award Nomination), *Strawberry Mansion*; Netflix: *House of Cards*,

*The Forty Year Old Version*, *Lost Girls*; Hulu: *The Handmaid's Tale*; FX: *The Americans*; HBO: *Succession*, *High Maintenance*, *Titans*; NBC: *The Blacklist*; Blumhouse: *The Hunt*; Searchlight: *The Menu* (upcoming), and Bess Wohl's *Baby Ruby* (upcoming.) 2006 OBIE for Sustained Excellence. 2011 Drama Desk Award for Career Excellence. 2016 Tony Award for Best Featured Actor in a Play.

**JOSEPH DOUGHERTY** (Playwright) earned Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations for his play *Digby* produced by Manhattan Theatre Club. He wrote the libretto for the Tony-winning musical *My Favorite Year* presented at Lincoln Center. An Emmy and Humanitas Prize winner for his work on *thirtysomething*, he has written Emmy-winning movies for HBO and has contributed as a writer and director to several television series including *Judging Amy*, *Once and Again* and *Pretty Little Liars*. His play *Chester Bailey* was selected as Outstanding World Premiere Play by the TBA Awards when it was presented at A.C.T. in San Francisco. He is the author of *A Screenwriter's Companion: Instruction, Opinion, Encouragement*, and his novel *The First Cylinder* will be published in 2023.

**RON LAGOMARSINO** (Director) Broadway: Alfred Uhry's *Last Night of Ballyhoo* (Tony Award: Best Play, OCC nomination), *My Favorite Year*. Off-Broadway: Uhry's *Driving Miss Daisy* (Pulitzer Prize, Drama Desk nomination), Joseph Dougherty's *Digby* (Drama Desk, OCC nominations), *Abundance*, *Women of Manhattan*, and *Plunge*. Outer

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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Critics Circle Award for *Daisy*, Christopher Durang's *Laughing Wild*, and Timothy Mason's *Only You*. National Tour: *Daisy* with Julie Harris (Helen Hayes Award). West End: *Daisy* with Wendy Hiller. Regional: world premiere of *Chester Bailey* at San Francisco's ACT (Bay Area Theater Awards for Play and Production) and its subsequent productions including at Barrington Stage Company (Berkshire Theater Critics Award), Jane Anderson's *Looking for Normal* (world premiere, Ovation nomination); *November* (west coast premiere). Play Development: NY Stage & Film, Sundance Institute, O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, and Ojai Playwrights Conference. Television: pilot of David E. Kelley's *Picket Fences* (DGA Award); *Homefront* pilot (Emmy nomination); *My Sister's Keeper*, *Hallmark Hall of Fame* (National Association for Mental Illness Media Award). Favorite episodic: *thirtysomething*, *My So-Called Life*, *Ally McBeal*, *Switched at Birth*, *The Fosters*, *Nashville*, and the hugely popular *Pretty Little Liars* (25 episodes); Co-Executive Producer of *Ravenswood*, the PLL spin-off. Education: Santa Clara University (Valedictorian) and NYU School of the Arts (J.S. Seidman Award Graduate). A recipient of an NEA Directing Fellowship, he served as Resident Director of Hartford Stage Company. Upcoming film project: *Homegoing*, (director/co-writer). His play *Jerome* was a Finalist at the O'Neill.

**JOHN LEE BEATTY** (*Scenic Design*) in a 50 year career, has designed 117 Broadway plays, recently the *Plaza Suite* revival,

*Sweat*, *Disgraced*, *The Nance*, *Doubt*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Good People*, *Proof*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, *Burn This*, *5th of July*, *Talley's Folly*, as well as celebrated revivals of *A Delicate Balance*, *The Heiress*, *Dinner at Eight*, and the musicals *Chicago*, *The Color Purple*, *After Midnight*, *Ain't Misbehavin'* and *The Most Happy Fella*. He has designed premieres by playwrights Lanford Wilson, Mamet, Pinter, Miller, Henley, Baitz, McNally, Nottage, Wasserstein, Ives, Lindsay-Abaire, Gurney, Friel, Auburn, Shanley, and more. Equally prolific off-Broadway at Circle Rep Co, Lincoln Center Theater (the recent *Epiphany*) the Manhattan Theater Club, Shakespeare in the Park, 22 seasons of Encores!, and at the major regional theaters, he has also designed opera, film, television, circus, and 7 restaurants. Multiple Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, Obie awards, and the Theater Hall of Fame.

**TONI-LESLIE JAMES** (*Costume Design*) Broadway: *The Piano Lesson*, *Birthday Candles*, *Paradise Square*, *Thoughts of a Colored Man*, *Bernhardt/Hamlet*, *Come From Away*, *Jitney*, *Amazing Grace*, *Lucky Guy*, *The Scottsboro Brothers*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *King Hedley II*, *One Mo' Time*, *The Wild Party*, *Marie Christine*, *Footloose*, *The Tempest*, *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*, *Angels in America*, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*, and *Jelly's Last Jam*. Awards: Four Tony nominations, Drama Desk Award, Lucille Lortel Award, and 2 Hewes Design Awards.

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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**BRIAN MACDEVITT** (*Lighting Design*) the 70 plus shows he designed lighting for on Broadway, include *The Music Man*, *Plaza Suite*, *The Minutes*, He received TONY awards for *The Book of Mormon*, *The Coast of Utopia*, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, *The Pillowman*, and *Into the Woods*. Other awards include an Obie Award for Sustained Excellence, a Bessie Award, and others. For dance, The Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theater, Tere O'Connor Dance, Merce Cunningham, Lar Lubovitch, Nancy Bannon, and many others. His designs for the Metropolitan Opera include *The Enchanted Island* and *Doctor Atomic*. Mr. MacDevitt recently directed *Between Riverside and Crazy* for Studio Theater in DC, *Proof* for Theater Three in NY and *Spring Awakening* at The Clarice Smith Center in Maryland. Mr. MacDevitt is a member of the Naked Angels Theater Company.

**BRENDAN AANES** (*Sound Design*) Previously at Irish Rep: *Wild Abandon*. Elsewhere off-Broadway: *Fire in Dreamland* at The Public Theater, *Balls with One Year Lease* (Drama Desk Nomination), *{my lingerie play}* at Rattlestick, *Beep Boop* at HERE and Edinburgh Fringe. Regional: *Everybody* at Shakespeare Theater DC, *The Good Person of Szechwan* and *War Of The Roses* at Cal Shakes, *The Unfortunates*, *John*, *The Hard Problem* and *Chester Bailey* at American Conservatory Theater, *Curious Incident Of The Dog in the Night-Time* at Kansas City Rep, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Othello* at California Shakespeare Theater, *Bakkhai* at Baltimore Center Stage.

**APRIL ANN KLINE** (*Production Stage Manager*) Some NYC credits include: Irish Repertory Theatre (*The Butcher Boy*, *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), *The Butcher Boy*, *A Touch of the Poet*, *Dublin Carol*, *The 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

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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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.

**TOM VIERTEL** (*Producer*) he and his partners are Executive Producers of the Olivier Award-winning *Back to the Future: The Musical*. They have produced a wide range of productions over 35 years, including the original Broadway productions of *The Producers*, *Hairspray*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Angels in America*, *Penn & Teller*, *The Weir*, and *Swing*. Their notable revivals include *Gypsy*, *The Norman Conquests*, *A Little Night Music*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Company*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Damn Yankees*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Notable off-Broadway premieres include *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Frankie & Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Love Letters*, *Oleanna*, *Jeffrey*, and *Marvin's Room*. They've mounted many national tours and productions in London, Australia and throughout Asia. Their productions have received dozens of awards, including 2 Pulitzer Prizes, 4 Grammy Awards, and 3 Olivier Awards for Best Musical. Their 9 Tony Awards include all 4 "Best" categories – play, musical, revival of a play and revival of a musical. They own and operate the acclaimed supper club, 54 Below. Mr. Viertel is Chairman of the Board of The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center,

America's foremost development center for new theatrical work, in Waterford, Connecticut, winner of two Tony Awards and the National Medal of Arts.

**CHARLOTTE MOORE** (*Artistic Director*)

Recent directing assignments: *Two by Synge*, *The Streets of New York*, *Meet Me in St. Louis\**, *Love, Noël\**, *Molly Sweeney\**, (\*Performances 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

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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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 been inducted in to the Irish America Hall of Fame and awarded the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad in 2019 by President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins.

**CIARÁN O'REILLY** (*Producing Director*) Favorite directing credits include: *The Butcher Boy*, *A Touch of the Poet*, *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 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 of Ireland, 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 34th 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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All those who make a legacy gift are invited to join the **Frank McCourt Legacy Circle**, named for the longtime Irish Rep company member whose Pulitzer Prize-winning memoir, *Angela's Ashes*, catapulted him to fame. The Legacy Circle stems from Frank's dedication and generosity to the theatre throughout his life and recognizes those who make a legacy gift to ensure Irish Rep's strong future.

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The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



The Director is a member of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.



The Designers at this Theatre are Represented by United Scenic Artists • Local USA 829 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

## SERVICES

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**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](http://irishrep.org/covid19)

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager .....	Josh Allen
Associate Production Manager .....	Marissa Crowe
Master Electrician/Programmer .....	Megan Peti
Wardrobe Supervisor .....	Dan Bass
Production Stage Manager .....	April Ann Kline
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Jade Doina
Associate Lighting Design .....	Jackie Fox
Associate Lighting Design .....	Gabrielle Strong
Associate Sound Design .....	Lawrence Schober
Assistant Costume Design .....	Joshua Neufeld
Assistant Director/ COVID Safety Manager .....	Liam Prendergast
Assistant to Mr. Viertel .....	Madeline LeFleur Carney
Set Construction .....	Hillbolic Arts & Carpentry
Carpenters .....	Andy Diaz, Raheem Cobb, Alfonso Taylor, Victor Gonzalez, Dominique Thomas
Scenic Charge .....	Kelsey Abberger
Paint Crew .....	Jax Koyote, Elizabeth Brady
Electrics .....	Gary McStea, Andrew Crawbuck, Molly Siskin, Aidan Sartori, Scott McBride, Megan Lang, Jen Leno, Claudia Zajic, Rafa Abdulmajid
Key Art .....	Muireann Lalor
Photography .....	Carol Rosegg

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## CREDITS

Hillbolic Arts & Carpentry

Lighting Equipment Provided by Hayden Production Services

## 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

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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.



## A Letter from the Directors

On a wintry day back in January 2015, we were still in exile from our home on West 22nd Street. The big renovation was taking place, and we were flying the flag at our temporary home, the DR2 Theatre at Union Square.

Our reading series scheduled for that day featured a new play called *Chester Bailey* by Joseph Dougherty. Ron Lagomarsino was the director.

We gathered in the Theatre and heard those words that insinuated their way into our consciousness and refused to leave. When the reading ended, there was not a breath to be heard. Finally, someone whispered, "Wow!" and we all had permission to breathe again.

For a myriad of reasons, our scheduling did not allow an immediate production, but the play continued to simmer and was always on our list.

We could not be happier that the moment has arrived. Still led by Ron Lagomarsino, he has assembled an extraordinary team of creatives in John Lee Beatty, Toni-Leslie James, Brian MacDevitt, and Brendan Aanes. The casting of our pals Reed and Ephraim Birney is a gift from the Gods.

Our wish is that it moves you as it does us.

CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CIARÁN O'REILLY, PRODUCING DIRECTOR





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(as of October 4, 2022)

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*Although space limitations allow us only to list donors of \$250 and above, we thank our supporters at all levels.*

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