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

ON THE FRANCIS J. GREENBURGER MAINSTAGE

As part of THE FRIEL PROJECT

ARISTOCRATS

BY BRIAN FRIEL DIRECTED BY CHARLOTTE MOORE

STARRING

ROGER DOMINIC CASEY, MEG HENNESSY, TOM HOLCOMB, COLIN LANE, SHANE MCNAUGHTON, TIM RUDDY, DANIELLE RYAN AND SARAH STREET

scenic design costume design lighting design
CHARLIE DAVID MICHAEL
CORCORAN TOSER GOTTLIEB

sound design & original music RYAN RUMERY & M. FLORIAN STAAB

properties
NICOLE
ROZANSKI

production stage manager PAMELA

PAMELA REBECCA C. BRUSOSKI MONROE PRINT SHOP PR general manager
LISA
FANF

OPENING NIGHT: JANUARY 21, 2024

assistant stage manager

THE FRIEL PROJECT IS UNDERWRITTEN IN PART BY MARY LOU AND JOE QUINLAN

ARISTOCRATS WAS FIRST PRODUCED IN MARCH 1979 AT THE ABBEY THEATRE IN DUBLIN.

THIS PRODUCTION OF ARISTOCRATS HAS BEEN LICENSED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE AGENCY (LONDON) LTD. 24 POTTERY LANE. LONDON W11 4LZ E-MAIL: INFO@THEAGENCY.CO.UK

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE'S 2023-2024 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 CHARINA ENDOWMENT FUND, THE MORRIS & ALMA SCHAPIRO FUND, THE HAROLD & MIMI STEINBERG CHARITABLE TRUST, THE HUGOTON FOUNDATION, THE LEON LEVY FOUNDATION, THE TOW FOUNDATION, IRELAND FUNDS AMERICA, MUTUAL OF AMERICA, THE MICHAEL TUCH FOUNDATION, AND OUR MANY GENEROUS MEMBERS AND DONORS.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT: IRELAND IN THE 1960s-1970s

Brian Friel's *Aristocrats* and *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* take place approximately a decade apart, with the latter set in 1962 and the former in the mid-1970s. Despite depicting vastly different families, the two plays are both set in Ballybeg, the fictional Donegal town featured in several of Friel's plays.

"He must primarily be himself, highly individual, but he is also THE IRISHMAN who appears to conform — and does — but who leaves." — Brian Friel, on Philadelphia, Here I Come!

The '60s and '70s saw Ireland in a period of transition. The beginning of the 20th century had been characterized by the struggle for Irish independence, the partition of the island, and the establishment of a new political order, marked by events like the Easter Rising in 1916, the War of Independence (1919-1921), and the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922. Political leader Eamon De Valera – who served three terms as Taoiseach (Prime Minister) and once as president between 1937 and 1973 – sought to disentangle Ireland from British influence after independence was achieved. A new Irish identity was modeled on traditional, conservative values and tied up in the rule of the Catholic Church, which had become a key proponent of Irish nationalism.

By the 1960s, Ireland was moving away from this conservatism and toward a more modern and secular society. As the grip of the Catholic Church on societal norms began to loosen, a tension between traditional Irish culture and a more modern Ireland began to take place, particularly between generations. This social and cultural shift, combined with Ireland's changing economic landscape, was a catalyst for the decline of the aristocracy.

"Ballybeg Hall — From Supreme Court to Sausage Factory" — Eamon, Aristocrats

Following the Irish War of Independence in 1922, the once-powerful Anglo-Irish aristocracy found itself grappling with cultural and economic challenges. The predominantly Protestant aristocracy had played a major role in Irish politics and owned estates which sometimes exceeded 2,000 acres in size, in stark contrast to the Catholic majority. However, there were in fact Catholic members of this social class – such as the O'Donnell family in *Aristocrats* – who were removed from their fellow Catholics socially, economically, and even physically with the dominance of what was known in Ireland as the "big house".

The term "big house" refers to the grand country residences of the landed gentry, symbolizing both social and economic privilege. These houses were not just dwellings but hubs of economic activity, surrounded by farmland which the aristocracy rented to tenant farmers who cultivated the land. Tenant farmers were vulnerable to crop failure, had limited security, and were subject to their landlords.

This dynamic between aristocratic landlords and tenant farmers changed at the turn of the 20th century. The Irish Land Acts in the late 19th and early 20th centuries sought to break up large estates and transfer land ownership to tenant farmers. During the War of Independence and the Civil War, approximately 275 big houses were burned by the Irish Republican Army, since they symbolized an oppressive age-old social order which was at odds with the fight for an independent and equal Ireland. Due to both this destruction and the land reforms, 80% of the land had been transferred to tenants by the end of World War I. Today, some big houses stand as preserved landmarks, offering glimpses into Ireland's past and representing both historical grandeur and the inequality of a bygone era.

"I've stuck around this hole far too long. I'm telling you, it's a bloody quagmire, a backwater, a dead-end! And everybody in it goes crazy sooner or later! Everybody!"

— Gar Public, Philadelphia, Here I Come!

HISTORICAL CONTEXT: IRELAND IN THE 1960s-1970s

Ireland was plagued by economic challenges in the 1950s, with high unemployment rates and low wages leaving many with limited career prospects, especially the younger generation. The small farm rural economy was in an irreversible decline and the state did not fill the gap with the development of new industries. Emigration, which had long been commonplace in Ireland, prevailed, as a significant number sought better economic opportunities abroad. This was spurred on by the advances in transportation making international travel more accessible than ever, and emigration became a tempting choice for those feeling stuck in rural areas. In the 1950s, Ireland – which had a population of under three million – lost approximately half a million people to emigration.

This emigration wave was not entirely novel, considering Ireland's history of migration due to causes like the Great Famine, economic hardships, and colonial influence. In 1955, the commission on emigration noted that leaving the island was now 'a part of the generally accepted pattern of life'.

"That was across the border — away in the north." - Alice, Aristocrats

By the late 1960s, tensions were escalating in Northern Ireland, particularly between the Catholic nationalist minority and the unionist-dominated government, which favored the Protestant majority. Inspired by civil rights movements in the US, the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association demaned an end to discrimination faced by the Catholic minority in areas such as housing and employment.

In August 1969, a peaceful civil rights march in Derry turned violent when the police used batons and water cannons against the protesters; two days later, the Battle of the Bogside began when violence broke out between police and Catholic residents in Derry's Bogside community. The deployment of British troops to the area in response to rising tensions marked a turning point for the North, leading to a prolonged period of military involvement in the region.

While *Aristocrats* and *Philadelphia*, *Here I Come!* may not directly engage with The Troubles, they exist within the broader context of political unrest and violence. The Troubles further deepened the complexities of Irish identity, sparking debates and discussions that resonated far beyond the borders of Northern Ireland.



The Friel Project Directors

Ciarán O'Reilly (Philadelphia, Here I Come!), Doug Hughes (Translations), and Charlotte Moore (Aristocrats)

ARISTOCRATS: PRODUCTION HISTORY & CHEKHOVIAN INFLUENCES

Aristocrats was first performed in 1979 at Dublin's Abbey Theatre, the National Theatre of Ireland. The inaugural production was directed by Joseph Dowling, formerly the artistic director of the Abbey, and featured John Kavanagh and Stephen Rea in the roles of Casimir and Eamon respectively.

Friel was dubbed, in his time, the "Irish Chekhov". *Aristocrats* was somewhat of a breakthrough for Friel in terms of style. In the 1970s, Friel began to move away from lightheartedness, partially as a natural aspect of career progression, but also due to the political upheaval he was forced to reckon with in the North. His presence at the Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry in 1972 spurred Friel toward political works such as *The Freedom of the City* (1973) and *Volunteers* (1975), which served as what Irish literature scholar Christopher Murray called "angry and bitter public responses to terrible injustice and hypocrisy." In 1979, Friel produced some of his finest work with *Aristocrats*, moving into the Chekhovian theatrical style he would become associated with. Parallels may be drawn between *Aristocrats* and Chekhov's *Three Sisters* and *The Cherry Orchard*, since it employs the basic Chekhovian situation of a family no longer able to maintain its status or estate, and again paralleling some of Chekhov's characters.

Almost a decade after its premiere in Dublin, a West End production of *Aristocrats* was staged at the Lyric Theatre in London in 1988, which went on to win the Evening Standard Award for Best Play. Shortly thereafter, the play moved to New York with an Off-Broadway production at the Manhattan Theatre Club in 1989, where it won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Foreign Play.

In 1999, *Aristocrats* was produced at the Gate Theatre in Dublin as part of the Brian Friel Festival, which took place throughout the city to coincide with Friel's 70th birthday. In the same year, *Aristocrats* was one of three Friel plays staged in New York as part of the Lincoln Center Festival '99, with *The Freedom of the City* and his adaptation of *Uncle Vanya* also staged as a tribute to the playwright.

Aristocrats was first produced at the Irish Repertory Theatre in 2009, with direction by Charlotte Moore. The play has since been notably revived on the Abbey Theatre stage in 2014 and at London's Donmar Warehouse in 2018.

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ARISTOCRATS: GLOSSARY

Jarvey:

Driver of a coach or jaunting car.

Bog:

A type of wetland common across Ireland from which peat/turf is extracted and used for fuel.

Catholic Emancipation:

A series of legislative measures in the early 19th century, particularly the Catholic Relief Act of 1829, which granted political and civil rights to Catholics, allowing them to sit in the Parliament and hold government offices.

Daniel O'Connell:

Nationalist leader in Ireland, also known as 'The Liberator' for his mobilization of Catholic Ireland.

Referenced also in *Translations*.

Civil Right Movement (1968):

A campaign for equal rights and an end to discrimination against the Catholic nationalist community in Northern Ireland, led by the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA). Inspired by the broader civil rights movements of the time, it sought to address issues such as housing, employment, and voting rights, but it ultimately escalated into a larger conflict amid tensions between the Catholic nationalist and Protestant unionist communities.

Battle of the Bogside (1969):

Clashes between Catholic nationalist residents of Derry's Bogside neighborhood and the Royal Ulster Constabulary escalated into intense rioting. This marked a pivotal moment in the early stages of the Troubles.

Anglo-Irish:

Social group in Ireland composed of the Protestant ascendancy, who were often of English descent, and held political, economic, and social power during the period of British rule in Ireland.

Big house:

Historically refers to the large country estates owned by the Anglo-Irish Protestant landowning class. These estates were often characterized by grand houses and extensive lands, symbolizing the social and economic divide between the Protestant ascendancy and the predominantly Catholic population.

'Colleen Bawn' / 'Cailín Bán'

Directly translates from Irish as "the white girl", meaning pure or innocent. It was used to refer to Ellen Hanley, a 15-year-old murder victim whose remains washed ashore in Moneypoint, County Clare in early autumn 1819. *The Colleen Bawn* (or *The Brides of Garryowen*) is a play by Dion Boucicault, published in 1860, which regularly toured with traveling theatrical group.

MEET THE CAST!



ROGER DOMINIC CASEY



MEG HENNESSY



TOM HOLCOMB



COLIN LANE



SHANE MCNAUGHTON



TIM RUDDY



DANIELLE RYAN



SARAH STREET



SUSAN DAVEY



ED MALONE

CAST

Tom Huffnung	Roger Dominic Casey
Claire	Meg Hennessy
Casimir	Tom Holcomb
Uncle George/Father	Colin Lane
Willie Diver	Shane McNaughton
Eamon	Tim Ruddy
Judith	Danielle Ryan
Alice	Sarah Street

UNDERSTUDIES

For Claire/Judith/Alice — Susan Davey
For Tom Hoffnung/Casimir/Uncle George/Willie Diver/Eamon — Ed Malone

TIME & PLACE

Summer, mid-1970s Ballybeg Hall, the home of District Justice O'Donnell, a large and decaying house overlooking the village of Ballybeg, County Donegal, Ireland.

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours and 15 minutes, including an intermission

SPECIAL THANKS

Anne Friel and the Brian Friel Estate, Simon Blakey and The Agency, Ambassador Niall Burgess, Mark Hartman, James O'Malley and Lelia Ruckenstein, Sarah Moran and Zach Williamson.

ROGER DOMINIC CASEY (Tom Hoffnung) is a NY-based artist. Recent Theater credits: BENT as part of the Transatlantic Commissions Program: Shayo's Father/Boss/Taxi Driver/Lover (Irish Rep), Dick Rivington & The Cat as Councillor Warren/Mr. Ice), Don Juan as Don Alonso/Pierro (Fischer Center, Bard), BrandoCapote as Marlon Brando (The Tank), Not Knowing as Bob (3-LeggedDog), Living the Dream as Tyke Peacock (52nd St. Project), CasablancaBOX as Humphrey Bogart (HERE Arts), The Dudleys as Officer Peters (Loading Dock Theatre), H5: Life after Death as Steffon (Schomburg Center), Good Girl Gone Bad as The Man (HERE Arts), You Should Be Here as Dexter (The Amoralists), God is a Verb as Bob/ Undergrad (Hook & Eye Theater), Lunchtime in Heaven as Freddie Gray (48HOURS IN HARLEM, National Black Theatre), The Return as Adam (The Metropolitan Museum of Art), Tyson vs. Ali as Mike Tyson & Muhammad Ali (3-Legged Dog & Foxy Films), Coal Run Road as Caleb Cobb (Kraine Theatre), The Misanthrope as Acaste (Shakespeare Theatre of NJ), Twelfth Night as Antonio (STNJ). Recent Film/TV/Combat credits: Play This at My Funeral as The Man, New York, I'm Breaking Up with You as Jason, Iron Fist Season 1 Episode 3 as Marvel Operative. Recent VR/Mocap: BANFF: Bridging Realities, HamletVR, Street SmartsVR. Screenwriting: BOOK (Audience Favorite Award -Jersey Devil Film Festival), Cry Wolf (Best Suspense Short - NYC Chain Film Festival, Best Short Film Hoboken International Film Festival, Maverick Movie Award). Recent VO: NFCU -Scones for Everyone, Tiger Woods, The Unquiet Grave, The Book in Room 316. Roger is repped by the Lisa Lax Agency.

MEG HENNESSY (Claire) Off-Broadway credits include; Lily in The Dead, 1904, Mollser in Plough and The Stars, Minnie Powell in Shadow of a Gunman, and Pert in London Assurance at the Irish Repertory Theatre. Jailer's Daughter in Two Noble Kinsman and Perdita in The Winter's Tale with The Drilling Company. Meg originated the role of Cathleen Mullin in the world premiere of

Thirst at Dorset Theater Festival. Film/TV Credits include; Rose in Netflix's Archive 81, Ciara in The Parting Glass and Jackie in the upcoming film Ezra with Robert DeNiro. She is also a writer and spoken word artist and won the Arts and Culture award from the Irish Echo for her work with the American Irish Writers Association. She is also a very proud member of the Actors Center and the Actors Gym.

TOM HOLCOMB (Casimir) Off-Broadway: Meet Me In St Louis, London Assurance, It's A Wonderful Life, Ernest In Love (Irish Repertory Theatre), The Broken Heart, Macbeth (Theatre For A New Audience), Murder In The First (The Directors Company), Transport (Irish Arts Center), EightyThree Down (Under St Marks) Regional: We Are Continuous (Williamstown Theatre Festival, Geva Theatre Center), This Bitter Earth (TheaterWorks Hartford), Stupid F#*@ing Bird (Woolly Mammoth production for Syracuse Stage & Portland Center Stage), The Great Gatsby (Virginia Stage), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Geva Theater), Dial 'M' For Murder (Dorset Theatre Festival), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Guthrie Theater), Dying City (Bottling Company), Ghosts (Commonweal Theatre), Television/Streaming: CoExisting, #ThatThingFromBefore, Onion News Network Workshops: Fallen Angels One Night Gala Reading with Rose Byrne and Kelli O'Hara, Lydie, Or (S)he Who Looks Inside, Awakes (Roundabout Theatre Company) An Ideal Husband (actor & adaptor, Irish Repertory Theatre), Look Upon Our Lowliness (New York Theatre Workshop), Measured (The Public Theatre), This Bitter Earth (TOSOS) We Are Continuous (Playwrights Center) Training: University of MN/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program.

COLIN LANE (Uncle George/Father) Irish Rep: Three Small Irish Masterpieces, The Colleen Bawn, A Child's Christmas in Wales, Burial At Thebes, all directed by Charlotte Moore. After

Luke/When I Was God (Dir: Tim Ruddy), Crackskull Row (The Cell co-production. Dir: Kira Simring), Seconds Out, Philadelphia, Here I Come! Also by Friel: Dancing at Lughnasa, Faith Healer (BTF. Dir: Eric Hill) and Molly Sweeney directed by the playwright at the Roundabout. Aeneas in Dido, Queen of Carthage (ART), Clyde in Hot'n'Throbbing (Arena DC), Molly Sweeney (Mark Taper). John Lennon in Larry Kirwan's Liverpool Fantasy at the Dublin Theatre Festival. For Shakespeare & Company and Elm Shakespeare: Macbeth, Pericles, Julius Caesar, Measure for Measure, The Winter's Tale, As You Like It, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, Rat In The Skull. and Gloucester to Alvin Epstein's King Lear (AST. Dir: Paddy Swanson) Movies: Lesser Prophets, The Blood Oranges, Broken Harvest, and Time Bomb. During the pandemic Mr. Lane played Jack Lennon, a man who uncertainly wanders the seashore during the first COVID Christmas in Fort Trumbull, a short movie conceived, directed, and produced during the lockdown by Stephanie Jean Lane. It was a winner at the Mystic International Film Festival for Best Narrative Short.

SHANE MCNAUGHTON (Willie Diver) is is an award winning stage and screen actor/writer from Cushendall, Northern Ireland. He played the Irish sport 'Hurling' for many years before transferring his talents to the stage and screen. He is a qualified therapist and spent five years working with young offenders and female prisoners in Northern Ireland's prison system. His father Terence McNaughton is a renowned Hurling player and his mother Ursula McNaughton is 1 of 21 children. Shane moved to New York after acceptance into the prestigious Stella Adler Studio of Acting. He has been nominated for Best Actor on several occasions, most recently in November 2023 at The Richard Harris International Film Festival for his part in the award winning short film You, I Know which he also wrote. He was nominated for Best Actor alongside Andrew Scott (Fleabag) & Himesh Patel (Tenet) at The British Film Awards 2022 in London for his role in

The Painted Lady. He recently appeared opposite Queen Latifah in the season finale of the hit CBS show *The Equalizer*. In August 2024 he will begin production on his first feature film which is based upon his time working in prison. He is very honoured to be making his Irish Rep debut with such a talented cast and crew.

TIM RUDDY (Eamon) A Touch of the Poet, The Seafarer, The Weir, Prisoner of the Crown, The Shaughraun, The Yeats Project (Irish Rep), The Naturalists by Jaki McCarrick (Soho Rep), Stones in his Pockets (Broadway Tour). Philadelphia, Here I Come!, The Field, Defender of the Faith, Swansong (IRNE best actor), Pumpgirl (Manhattan Theatre Club), The Blowin of Baile Gall, Rockdoves (Irish Arts Center) Macbeth, Good Evening Mr. Collins, Shay (Abbey Theatre). DIRECTOR; The Cure by Conal Creedon (Arlene's Grocery.) After Luke/When I was God, by Conal Creedon and For Love by Laoisa Sexton (Irish Repertory Theatre), Beauty Queen of Leenane (Actors Studio), One For The Road by Harold Pinter (Studio Theatre Richmond, UK). TELEVISION/FILM (Actor); I Know This Much Is True (HBO), Blacklist (NBC), 79 Parts (Amazon), Glenroe (RTÉ 5 Seasons), Courier Opps (RTÉ), Ballykissangel (BBC), Gettysburg (TNT), Gods and Generals (Warner Bros). FILM (Director). Apocalypse 150 (short), Mikey's Lookin' For Ya' (short), The Robber (short), Lucky Swipe (short). PLAYWRIGHT; The International Playwrights Horizons/Cell Space Theater (best play Origins New York Theatre Festival in 2013). Two plays in development, Haze and Knock On The Roof. TV in development Subbies.

DANIELLE RYAN (*Judith*) most recently filmed alongside Tilda Swinton and Michael Shannon in the film *The End* coming out this spring. Additionally, she played the role of DS Vicky Boyle in the television series *Harry Wild* alongside Jane Seymour for Acorn TV and on stage the role of Woman in *The Cordelia Dream* for Irish Repertory Theatre's digital online season. Recent feature credits include Lady Margaret in *Mr. Malcolm's*

List starring Freda Pinto, Zawe Ashton, Theo James and Ashley Park directed by Emma Holly Jones, Vivarium opposite Imogen Poots for Fantastic Films, the role of Dr. Patel in The Silencing with Nikolaj Coster-Waldau directed by Robin Pront, the role of Maeve in John Patrick Shanley's feature Wild Mountian Thyme opposite Jamie Dornan and Emily Blunt, and How About You starring Vanessa Redgrave, Imelda Staunton, and Brenda Fricker. Recent TV credits include the role of Alice in *Magpie Murders* alongside Leslie Manville, Agent Sophia Elias in The Professionals alongside Brendan Frasier as a series regular, The Tudors directed by Jeremy Podeswa, The Trial of Tony Blair directed by Simon Cellan Jones, and Jen directed by Julian Allder. She also played the role of Cordelia/Brigitte in the stage production Food, directed by Christopher Heimann, which won the Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Festival and toured extensively. Danielle trained at RADA. She is based in Dublin and founded the Lir Academy in collaboration with Trinity College Dublin.

SARAH STREET (Alice) is delighted to be back at the Irish Rep! Sarah is an actor, writer, and most importantly, a Cork city native. Recent theatre credits include Good Vibrations U/S directed by Des Kennedy (Irish Arts Center), Intelligence, Dutch Kills Theater Co. at Edinburgh Fringe directed by Jess Chayes, Belfast Girls directed by Nicola Murphy (Irish Rep), Afterwards written and directed by Enda Walsh (Irish Arts Center). Other theatre credits include: Skylight, Palm Beach Dramaworks directed by Vanessa Moroscoe; Dublin Carol directed by Ciarán O'Reilly, Juno and the Paycock directed by Neil Pepe, The Plough and the Stars and Rebel in the Soul directed by Charlotte Moore (Irish Rep), Sing Street V/O, The New York Theatre Workshop directed by Rebecca Taichman, The Naturalists co-directed by Colleen Clinton and Lily Dorment (The Pond Theatre) Muswell Hill directed by Shannon Patterson (The Barrow Group), Dyin for it directed by John Keating (Origin Theatre) and Abigail's Party directed by Lee Brock (The Barrow Group/The Pond Theatre). Recent TV credits include-Inside Amy Schumer Season 5 (Paramount Plus) Law & Order: SVU (NBC). Sarah also works in film, commercials and voiceover. She was just nominated for "Outstanding Actress in a Film" at The Nice International Film Festival 2023. Her first feature film The Mustache Ride is currently in development.

SUSAN DAVEY (u/s Claire, Judith, Alice) is an Irish actor based in New York. Her theatre credits include: Philadelphia, Here I Come!, Here Comes the Night and Playboy of the Western World (Lyric Theatre, Belfast), Borstal Boy (Gaiety Theatre, Dublin) and Me, Mollser (Abbey Theatre, Dublin). Her screen credits include: Betrayal of Trust (BBC) and A Belfast Story (feature film). Voicework has included the role of Eveline for an audio walking tour of Dubliners and the audio play Gold Tier Sky as part of "Listen at the Lyric". Susan was a finalist in the BBC Radio Drama Norman Beaton fellowship awards. Susan also performs as a singer most recently touring with the American company Celtic Angels. She is delighted to be joining the Irish Rep for the first time.

ED MALONE (u/s Tom, Casimir, George/Father, Willie Diver, Eamon) is honored to understudy such an amazing cast at the Rep! Thanks so much to Ciáran and Charlotte and all the cast and crew. Irish Rep credits: Juno and The Paycock (2013-2014 season), The Weir, The Home Place and The O' Casey Cycle. Other Off-Broadway credits: The Winter's Tale (TFANA), Alone it Stands (59e59) Select TV credits: Would it kill you laugh? (Peacock) A wilderness of error (FX), Lipstick Jungle (NBC). Ed teaches clown at Suny Purchase and teaches acting at Suny Old Westbury. edmaloneactor.com

BRIAN FRIEL (*Playwright*) (1929-2015) is widely regarded as one of Ireland's greatest dramatists, having written over 30 plays across six decades. He was a member of Aosdána, the

society of Irish artists, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Irish Academy of Letters, and the Royal Society of Literature where he was made a Companion of Literature. He was awarded the Ulysses Medal by University College, Dublin. Plays include Hedda Gabler (after Ibsen), The Home Place, Performances, Three Plays After (Afterplay, The Bear, The Yalta Game), Uncle Vanya (after Chekhov), Give Me Your Answer Do!, Molly Sweeney (Winner of the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Foreign Play), Wonderful Tennessee, A Month in the Country and Fathers and Sons (both after Turgenev), The London Vertigo (after Charles Macklin), Dancing at Lughnasa (Winner of 3 Tony Awards including Best Play, New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play, Olivier Award for Best Play), Making History, The Communication Cord, American Welcome, Three Sisters (after Chekhov), Translations, Aristocrats (Winner of the Evening Standard Award for Best Play and New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Foreign Play), Faith Healer, Living Quarters, Volunteers, The Freedom of the City, The Gentle Island, The Mundy Scheme, Crystal and Fox, Lovers: Winners and Losers, The Loves of Cass Maguire, and Philadelphia, Here I Come!.

CHARLOTTE MOORE (Director, Artistic Director) Recent directing assignments: Dear Liar (as part of the Letters Series), A Child's Christmas in Wales, 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, 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 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.

CHARLIE CORCORAN (Scenic Design) NY designs include: Endgame, The Butcher Boy, A Touch of the Poet, Autumn Royal, The O'Casey Cycle (Henry Hewes Design Award), The Seafarer, On Beckett, Shining City, The Emperor Jones (Hewes Design Award nom.), The Weir (Irish Rep), The Quare Land (Origin First Irish Award), Billy and Ray (Vineyard Theatre), Straight (Acorn Theatre), 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), Cosi 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).

DAVID TOSER (*Costume Design*) has designed costumes for over twenty-eight productions at Irish Repertory Theatre - most recently for *Two by Synge*, *The O'Casey Cycle* and *The Home Place*. His work has been seen on and Off-Broadway and in over 100 regional theatre productions as well as on TV. He has been the costume designer/consultant for 30 Tony Award shows.

MICHAEL GOTTLIEB (Lighting Design) has designed over 50 productions at the Irish Repertory Theatre, where his credits include A Touch of the Poet (Henry Hewes Design Award nomination), The O'Casey Cycle (Henry Hewes Design Award nomination), 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 nominations for his work in television. Michael is a graduate of Vassar and The British & European Studies Group, London. mgld.com

M. FLORIAN STAAB (*Sound Design*) is a composer and sound designer based in Brooklyn, NY. Staab was born and raised in Germany and received a BA from Oberlin College and MFA from

UIUC/Krannert Center. He is an associate artist with Sinking Ship Productions and teaches at Playwrights Horizons Theater School. His designs have been heard at the Public Theater, Irish Repertory Theatre, Harlem Stage, Trinity Repertory Company, City Theatre Pittsburgh, Center Theatre Group, Mint Theater Company, Pearl Theatre Company, The Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, The Drama League, New Saloon, Chicago Opera Vanguard and The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Staab is recording and mixing engineer and designs sound for narrative fiction podcasts. He also directed Bill Irwin's On Beckett / In Screen for the camera. florianstaab.com

RYAN RUMERY (Original Music) Broadway: Between Riverside and Crazy, The Lightning Thief, Be More Chill, Fool for Love, Thurgood. Off Broadway: Over 50 productions. Regional: Over 250 productions. Film: Food and Country (Sundance 2023), Ottolenghi and the Cakes of Versailles (Tribeca 2020), When We Walk (AFI 2019), Awake: A Dream from Standing Rock (Tribeca 2017), City of Gold (Sundance 2015). Selected composer for the Sundance Institute of Music and Sound Design Labs at Skywalker Sound (2017), and Obie Award for Sustained Excellence in Sound Design and Composition.

NICOLE ROZANSKI (Properties) is excited to be prop designing her first show at The Irish Rep! She is a New York based Props Designer, Manager, and Artisan, and can also be found working as Props Lead for the Year 2 Graduate Program at NYU Tisch, having worked on shows there such as A Midsummer Night's Dream, Fifth of July, Fabulation, Yerma, Major Barbara, and Project Project. Since graduating from Rollins College in 2021, Nicole has freelanced in various states before moving to New York City in November 2022. Past credits include; Regional: Double Helix, Dial M for Murder (Props Designer, Bay Street Theater); The Karate Kid: the Musical,

In the Heights, A Chorus Line (Props Supervisor, STAGES St. Louis); Buddy: the Buddy Holly Story, American in One Room, The Play that Goes Wrong, Rounding Third, My Lord What a Night (Florida Studio Theater); Educational: Fall Scenes (Props Manager, Yale Opera, School of Music). Nicole would like to thank her mom, dad, sister, grandparents, and friends for all their incredible support and love through the years. For Diana Camilleri, formerly O'Flaherty, thank you. nicolerozanski.com, IG @nicolemarierose.

PAMELA BRUSOSKI (Production Stage Manager) has been a stage manager at Irish Rep for 20 years and for more than 40 shows. Notable/favorite productions include Dancing at Lughnasa, Finian's Rainbow, The Emperor Jones, Molly Sweeney, and Freedom of the City. Broadway: Beauty and the Beast and Little Women. Selected Off-Broadway: Charles Grodin's The Right Kind of People (Primary Stages) A Last Dance for Sybil with Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis (New Federal Theatre), Mint Theater Company, The York Theatre Company, and Carnegie Hall. Regionally: Pioneer Theatre Company, Pittsburgh CLO and Pittsburgh Public Theater. MFA in Directing: Brooklyn College (CUNY).

REBECCA C. MONROE (Assistant Stage Manager) has done a show before.

CIARÁN O'REILLY (Producing Director) Favorite directing credits include: Love Letters, Endgame (Off-Broadway Alliance Award for Best Play Revival, OCC Nom., Lortel Nom., and Drama Desk Nom.), The Butcher Boy, A Touch of the Poet, Autumn Royal, A Touch Of the Poet*, The Weir* (*Performances 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 35th 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 presented 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
Producing Director	
General Manager	
Director of Development	
Director of Marketing & Art Dire	ctor Muireann Lalor
Director of Audience & Play Develop	
Assistant General Manager	
Development Manager	
Digital Media & Marketing Manag	
Development Associate	
Audience Services Manager	
Production & Venue Coordinato	
Production Associate	
Literary Intern	
Box Office Associates	
House Managers	Olivia Gesualdi,
	, Maggie Winslow, Cynthia Bajor
Front of House Associates	Alana Bowers, Graydon Gund,
Anjelica Mitlitsky, Mic	haela Pascuzzi, Veronica Perez,
Luc	cy Roberts, Hannah Rody-Wright
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	Jeremy Keele, Kathryn Smith,
Car	
Accountants	PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP.
Human Resources/Payroll	Paychex
Insurance	AJG Risk Management
Bank	
IT Consultants	Red Paladin
Financial Services	Patricia Taylor



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.





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. For assisted listening devices, please see a House Manager or Front of House Associate.

ADVERTISE in our program! For options and rates call 212.255.0270, or email samantha@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 audience members may choose whether or not they wear face masks throughout our theatre spaces. Learn more at irishrep.org/covid19

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	Josh Allen
Associate Production Manager	
Head Electrician/Programmer	Megan Peti
Wardrobe Supervisor	Dan Bass
Production Stage Manager	
Stage Manager	Rebecca C. Monroe
COVID Safety Manager	Via Greene, Jason Brubaker
Set Construction	Hillbolic Arts & Carpentry
Carpenters Rahim Cob	
Scenic Charge	Kelsey Abberger
Electrics	
Joseph Fisher, Aidan Sartori, Raf Tawasil	
Paint Crew	Nicole Spencer
i-Caption Preparation	
Historical Program Content	
Key Art	Muireann Lalor
Photography	

PRESS REPRESENTATION

Print House PR Matt Ross, Nicole Capatasto, Liz Lombardi, Claire Wojciechowski

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

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.



A Letter from the Directors

In 2005, our lease was running out on our space on West 22nd Street. Chelsea had become a much more sought-after destination than when we had begun seventeen years before and the real estate wolves were circling to claim our cherished ground.

We knew if we didn't find a way to own our crib, we were destined to become a traveling fit-up show and probably fade away. Friends came to our rescue but none more elegant than Brian Friel, who sent the following dispatch:

"For seventeen years the Irish Repertory Theatre has offered excellent theatre to thousands of New Yorkers, some with Irish connections, some without.

And because that excellence has been pursued with dedication and so selflessly, and because the best theatre involves an experience of the spirit, the ground they occupy has now been made sacred by them.

They have made their space hallowed.

It would be unthinkable if 132 W. 22nd St. were to slip from them and become secularized.

It must remain under their wonderful guardianship." — Brian Friel

Those ringing words inspired us then and has sustained us through the years. Many of those years were occupied in presenting this great playwright's work, thirteen productions in all, which makes this hallowed space all the more sacred by his genius.

CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Charlotte Washe

CIARÁN O'REILLY, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

BRIAN FRIEL (1929-2015)

Brian Friel was a dramatist and writer often referred to as the 'Irish Chekhov' for his plays exploring social and political life in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Over the course of a career spanning more than sixty years, Friel examined the tangled relationships between nationality, history, and narrative, with large, intergenerational casts of characters. His work was influenced by his upbringing in the rural north of Ireland, with more than a dozen of Friel's works set in the fictional Donegal town of Ballybeg (translating to "small town").

Friel was born in Killyclogher near Omagh, County Tyrone, to Sean Friel, a primary-school principal, and Mary McLoone, a postmistress. Friel spent half of his childhood in his father's home city of Derry before attending St. Patrick's College in Maynooth as a seminarian — he was never ordained, but graduated with a BA in 1948. In 1954, Friel married Anne Morrison, with whom he raised four daughters and a son. Alongside his work as a teacher, Friel began his career as a writer of short fiction, publishing his first short story in an Irish literary magazine before having work published in *The New Yorker*. By 1960, he was able to leave his teaching post to work full time as a writer.

Friel was given the opportunity to hone his skills as a dramatist when, in 1963, Tyrone Guthrie invited him to observe rehearsals in the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, an experience which Friel described as "enabling." Shortly after, Friel wrote his first major success, *Philadelphia, Here I Comel*, which takes place the evening before a young man emigrates to the United States from Ballybeg. Initially produced at the Gaiety Theatre as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival, the play came to Broadway in 1966, where it received six Tony Award nominations including Best Play and Best Director.

Friel's momentum as a playwright coincided with The Troubles in Northern Ireland, a period of violent sectarian conflict between nationalists, who wanted Northern Ireland to be part of the Republic of Ireland, and unionists, who wanted Northern Ireland to remain part of the United Kingdom. In 1972, Friel was a member of the crowd present at the Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry as he marched in protest of internment without trial. British soldiers opened fire on protesters, killing at least thirteen civilians and injuring several more. The incident — and its cover-up — inspired Friel's 1973 play *The Freedom of the City*, which led Friel to meet actor Stephen Rea.

In 1980, Friel and Rea founded Field Day Theatre Company, and its inaugural production of Friel's new play *Translations* was performed in the Guildhall in Derry. Field Day began publishing pamphlets — and, later, anthologies — on a wide variety of historical, cultural, and academic subjects. At this point in his career, Friel began adapting the works of Anton Chekhov — including *Three Sisters*, *Uncle Vanya*, and *The Bear* — a practice he would continue for more than two decades.

Perhaps Friel's best-known work, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, premiered at the Abbey Theatre in 1990, and shortly thereafter transferred to the National Theatre in London, winning the Olivier Award for Play of the Year. *Dancing at Lughnasa* ran for more than a year on Broadway and received three Tony Awards including Best Play. A film version was released in 1998 starring Meryl Streep and directed by Pat O'Connor.

In 2006, Friel was elected to the position of Saoi of the Aosdána, the highest honor bestowed by the Irish association of artists, and in 2009 Queen's University, Belfast, inaugurated the Brian Friel Theatre and Centre for Theatre Research. Friel died on October 2, 2015.

TIMELINE OF BRIAN FRIEL'S LIFE AND WORK



1929 Brian Friel born on January 9th in Killyclogher, County Tyrone, to Sean Friel, a primary-school principal, and Mary McLoone, a postmistress.

Friel and his family move to Derry, his father's home city.

Friel graduates from St. Patrick's College in Maynooth with a BA.

Friel Publishes his first short story, *The Child*, in the Irish literary magazine The Bell.

Friel marries Anne Morrison. They will go on to have four daughters and a son.

1958-1959 His first radio play, *A Sort of Freedom*, is produced by BBC Radio Northern Ireland, followed shortly by his second, *To This Hard House*. *The New Yorker* magazine publishes his story *The Skelper*.

His first stage play, *The Francophile*, later retitled *A Doubtful Paradise*, is premiered by the Group Theatre in Belfast. The same year, with a contract from *The New Yorker*, he leaves teaching to write full time.

His play *The Enemy Within* premieres in the Abbey Theatre. His first short-story collection, *A Saucer of Larks*, is published. He begins writing a weekly column in the Irish Press.

The Blind Mice premieres in Dublin at the Eblana Theatre. At the invitation of Tyrone Guthrie, Friel spends time as "an observer" at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

Philadelphia, Here I Come! premieres at the Gaiety during Dublin Theatre Festival, produced by the Gate Theatre.

Philadelphia, Here I Come! transfers to the Helen Hayes Theater on Broadway and runs for nine months. At the same theater, *The Loves of Cass McGuire* premieres — and closes after 20 performances. Friel publishes a second short-story collection. *The Gold in the Sea.*

The Loves of Cass McGuire premieres at the Abbey Theatre, *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* opens in London, and Lovers is staged at the Gate Theatre.

The Mundy Scheme premieres at the Olympia Theatre in Dublin; its New York run at the Royale Theatre closes after two performances.

The Gentle Island premieres at the Olympia Theatre.

Friel marches with members of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association in Derry to protest against internment without trial. During the march, British soldiers open fire in the Bogside area, killing at least 13 civilians and injuring others, in an event which would become known as Bloody Sunday.

The Freedom of the City opens at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, informed by Bloody Sunday and the exoneration of British authorities by the Widgery tribunal. The play also premieres at the Royal Court in London, where Friel first meets actor Stephen Rea.

1975-1979 *Volunteers* (1975), *Living Quarters* (1977), and *Aristocrats* (1979) open at the Abbey Theatre.

TIMELINE OF BRIAN FRIEL'S LIFE AND WORK

1980 Friel and Stephen Rea found Field Day Theatre Company, with *Translations* as the company's first production in the Guildhall in Derry. *Faith Healer* has its Irish premiere at the Abbey Theatre, following a 20-day run on Broadway the previous year.

Faith Healer premieres at the Royal Court; *Translations* opens in New York and London. Friel's translation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* premieres in Derry for Field Day followed by a tour.

Premiere of *The Communication Cord* in Derry before touring. Friel is elected a member of Aosdána, an Irish association of established artists.

Friel is appointed to the Irish Senate, Seanad Éireann, where he serves until 1989. His adaptation of Turgenev's *Fathers and Sons* premieres in London at the National Theatre.

Making History premieres at the Guildhall in Derry as Friel's final play for the company.

Dancing at Lughnasa premieres at the Abbey Theatre then transfers to the National Theatre in London, winning the Olivier Award for Play of the Year. Irish Repertory Theatre produces a revival of *Philadelphia, Here I Come!*.

1991 *Dancing at Lughnasa* runs for more than a year at the Plymouth Theatre on Broadway, and wins three Tony Awards, including the award for Best Play. The American premiere of *Making History* takes place at the Irish Repertory Theatre.

Friel's version of Charles Macklin's *The London Vertigo* premieres at Andrew's Lane Theatre in a production by the Gate. His version of Turgenev's *A Month in the Country* premieres at the Gate.

1993-1997 *Wonderful Tennessee* (1993) premieres at the Abbey; its New York run at the Plymouth Theatre ends after nine shows. Friel resigns from Field Day in 1994 and his play *Molly Sweeney* premieres at the Gate Theater before transferring to the Almeida in London. *Give Me Your Answer, Do!* (1997) premieres at the Abbey Theatre.

The film adaptation of *Dancing at Lughnasa*, with a screenplay by Frank McGuinness, is released. Friel's version of *Uncle Vanya* premieres at the Gate Theatre.

The Friel Festival takes place in Dublin, coinciding with Friel's 70th birthday. *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *The Freedom of the City, Living Quarters*, and *Making History* are performed at the Abbey; *Aristocrats* is performed at the Gate; an RSC production of *A Month in the Country* is staged.

2001-2005 The National Library of Ireland archives Friel's body of work. *The Yalta Game* (2001) premieres at the Gate. *Two Plays After* (2002), *Performances* (2003), and *The Home Place* (2005) premiere at the Gate Theatre. Irish Repertory Theatre presents a revival of *Philadelphia*, *Here I Come!*.

Elected to the position of Saoi, Aosdána's highest honor.

Friel's version of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* opens at the Gate Theatre.

Aristocrats is produced at the Irish Repertory Theatre.

Friel is named Donegal Person of the Year for 2010. Irish Repertory Theatre presents *Dancing at Lughnasa* and *Molly Sweeney*; the latter moves to Long Wharf Theatre, New Haven.

Irish Repertory Theatre produces *The Freedom of the City*.

Brian Friel dies on October 2nd.

Afterplay has its New York premiere at the Irish Repertory Theatre.

2017 Irish Repertory Theatre presents the New York premiere of *The Home Place*.

Two by Friel is staged at the Irish Repertory Theatre, featuring *Lovers: Winners* and *The Yalta Game*.

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE COMPANY

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IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE COMPANY

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(List from the last 5 years as of Jan. 2024)



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Angela's Ashes author, Frank McCourt, & his widow, Chair of the Legacy Circle, Ellen McCourt

When you support Irish Rep as part of your legacy, you join those most dedicated to maintaining our mission: understanding the contemporary Irish-American experience through evocative works of theater, music, and dance, and you ensure that we remain a home for high-quality theatre for New Yorkers and devotees of Irish culture.

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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- Invitations to annual McCourt Circle luncheon and matinee performance
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Irish Rep gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for support received this year.

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

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(as of December 2023)

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The Brian Friel Trust was established in 2017 to found a 'Brian Friel Centre', honouring his rich cultural legacy. The vision and plan of the Trust is to establish a centre incorporating 'The Laurels' and 'The Court house' in Glenties, Co. Donegal.

The Laurels was home to Brian Friel's mother and is the setting of his play *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

Glenties, and the surrounding Donegal landscape, has become immortalised in several of his plays as the fictional village 'Ballybeg'.



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