

Announcing the 2018 DUBLIN THEATRE FESTIVAL

Dublin Theatre Festival runs from 27 Sept – 14 Oct
dublintheatrefestival.com

This year's Dublin Theatre Festival features a seductive selection of new work, including World and European Premieres, fresh versions of classic plays and adventurous international productions created by both renowned artists and emerging voices.

A powerful Irish programme by leading theatre makers includes 10 new works, and is complemented by a strong international programme including two productions from the US and Belgium, work from Poland, Netherlands, Australia and the UK. From intimate encounters in found spaces to the grander scale of Shakespearean drama, ballet and opera, there are portraits of individuals corrupted by power, testimonies from dissenting voices and challenges to received narratives. These theatrical experiences are all connected by one thing, the need for an audience to gather together in a shared time and space.

'Whether this is your first time seeing a festival show or you have been coming for years, there's something for you. The programme showcases many different ways that artists use theatre to engage with the world they're living in. It's a world where individuals, communities and the environment are under threat but also one where the desire for human connection is strong and the radical possibilities of imagination burn fiercely against the advancing darkness. This programme is full of moments where you can laugh, cry or have your mind blown. A festival is the time to take chances. Go and see something you might not otherwise.'

Willie White, Artistic Director

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The 2018 line-up includes:

- Oscar nominated Ruth Negga leads the cast in the title role of **Hamlet** at the Gate.
- Arthur Miller's iconic film, **The Misfits**, is brought to the stage for the first time in a reimagining by Annie Ryan (The Corn Exchange).
- From the US: Obie-award winning Elevator Repair Service follow the ground breaking Gatz with **Everyone's Fine with Virginia Woolf**, and 600 HIGHWAYMEN's response to the current polarised social and political climate of the US, **The Fever**.
- After an absence of 16 years Brendan Coyle returns to the Irish stage in a new production of Conor McPherson's chilling play **St Nicholas** (Donmar Warehouse) which will open at Dublin Theatre Festival.
- 2 productions from Belgium: renowned theatre company CAMPO with Louis Vanhaverbeke in the humorous **Multiverse**, and Silke Huysmans & Hannes Dereere's documentary theatre performance **Mining Stories**, which explores the legacy of the toxic mining waste disaster in Brazil.
- Arthur Riordan's stage adaptation of **A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man**, from Rough Magic will premiere.
- The blistering production from ANU and the Abbey Theatre, **The Lost O'Casey**, moves into the streets of Dublin.

- From Enda Walsh and Irish National Opera, **Bluebeard's Castle** with mezzo-soprano Paula Murrihy and Joshua Bloom.
- 2 productions from Poland – TR Warszawa returns with **Fantasia**, while Turkowski / Nowacka invite audiences on a virtual trip through stories documenting an artist community in a changing neighbourhood in **Klosterhof**.
- A new work by Gina Moxley, **The Patient Gloria** in association with Pan Pan Theatre.
- Junk Ensemble's **The Bystander** reveals some of the murkier and complex behaviours of contemporary society.
- Olivier Award-winning Fishamble: the New Play Company and the Abbey Theatre present Deirdre Kinahan's latest drama **Rathmines Road**.
- Decadent Theatre's revival of Marina Carr's award-winning breakthrough play **The Mai** featuring Derbhle Crotty.
- Raymond Keane explores Beckett's prose in **Company** from Company SJ.
- **Home Theatre** - 30 Dublin 15 'hosts' paired with 30 leading theatre makers results in 30 new plays performed in houses across Dublin 15 and a selection presented in Draíocht.
- Pan Pan Theatre contemplate artificial intelligence software in **ELIZA'S Adventures in the Uncanny Valley**.
- Druid continues its exploration of Shakespeare's kings with **DruidShakespeare: Richard III**, in association with the Abbey Theatre.
- Following *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, Iranian playwright Nassim Soleimanpour and Bush Theatre with an audacious new theatrical experiment in **NASSIM**.
- A satirical look at the legacy of institutional Ireland in **The M House** from Equinox Theatre Company.
- Dance Consortium's (UK) all-male comedy ballet company **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**.
- **The End of Eddy** from The Unicorn Theatre and Untitled Projects (UK), the story of Eddy's struggle to understand who he is and who he might become (for ages 16+).
- Dutch visual artist Nicoline van Harskamp with **My Name is Language**, a performative work about names.
- A programme of Theatre for Children from ages 2+, presented by Dublin Theatre Festival and The Ark which includes work from Second Hand Dance (UK) with **Grass**, Slingsby Australia with an adaptation of Oscar Wilde's **The Young King**, and Andy Manley (UK) and Teater Refleksion (Denmark) with **Nightlight**.

In addition a vibrant **Festival+** programme with work-in-progress showcases, panel discussions and post-show talks will give audiences an insight behind the work, and **Gala Night 2018** will celebrate the extraordinary contribution made to the world of theatre by Cillian Murphy.

IN MORE DETAIL:

Irish Theatre

Oscar-nominated Irish actress, Ruth Negga, makes her Gate stage debut in the title role of **Hamlet** directed by award-winning director Yaël Farber in a visionary Gate Theatre production for today's audience.

The Corn Exchange brings Arthur Miller's iconic film, **The Misfits**, to the stage for the first time in this new reimagining by Annie Ryan.

Writer/director Enda Walsh and the award-winning team that created *The Second Violinist* in a new production of Béla Bartók's searing, early 20th Century tale of Bluebeard. Irish National Opera's **Bluebeard's Castle** sees Paula Murrihy return home for a rare performance in Ireland, alongside Joshua Bloom.

Olivier Award-winning Fishamble: the New Play Company and the Abbey Theatre present Deirdre Kinahan's latest powerful drama. Set over one evening, **Rathmines Road** is a play that rages in a tiny room. Fraught, funny and ferocious, this new drama challenges the cultural response to accusations of sexual assault.

Rough Magic bring the World Premiere of Arthur Riordan's stage adaptation of James Joyce's seminal novel, **A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man**. A dynamic, new, creative ensemble of actors and designers is directed by Ronan Phelan.

Nannie's Night Out is a lost Sean O'Casey play, taking its inspiration from real people and places of Dublin's inner city, performed at the Abbey Theatre only once, in 1924. Reframing *Nannie's Night Out* as a catalyst for urgent action, **The Lost O'Casey** from ANU and the Abbey Theatre is a blistering production which propels the lost Nannie into a contemporary Dublin.

From Decadent Theatre a major revival of Marina Carr's award winning breakthrough play **The Mai**, an epic tale of three generations of a family inspired by love but shattered by inescapable reality featuring a stellar cast led by Derbhle Crotty.

A new work by Gina Moxley, **The Patient Gloria** is inspired by the 1965 films *Three Approaches to Psychotherapy*, also known as *The Gloria Films*. A timely meditation on female desire in a new political context where misogyny is the winning ticket, from The Abbey Theatre and Gina Moxley, in association with Pan Pan Theatre.

Raymond Keane explores Beckett's prose through the use of projected text, live and recorded voice, and the body in movement and stillness in his intensely moving and lyrical work **Company** (from Company SJ).

In the early 1960s, MIT developed artificial intelligence software called ELIZA which made certain kinds of natural language conversations between humans and computers possible. In **ELIZA'S Adventures in the Uncanny Valley** from Pan Pan Theatre, Eliza is sent into an anonymous motel, where she interacts with four characters who are all mysteriously booked into the same room.

Shakespeare gives us one of the great villains in **DruidShakespeare: Richard III**, in a chilling and darkly comic story of power and ambition. Druid continues its exploration of Shakespeare's kings with the acclaimed creative team and Druid Ensemble who worked on *DruidShakespeare: Richard II, Henry IV (Pts. 1 & 2)* and *Henry V*. In association with the Abbey Theatre.

An intriguing and adventurous production by multi-award winning dance theatre innovators Junk Ensemble. **The Bystander** takes its name from the 'bystander effect' phenomenon of the murder of Kitty Genovese outside her apartment in New York City in 1964, when thirty-eight witnesses saw or heard the attack, yet none of them called for help. *The Bystander* brings to the surface some of the murkier and complex behaviours of contemporary society.

A satirical look at the legacy of institutional Ireland, **The M House** from Equinox Theatre Company is an adventure story. A scramble to make sense of our one-size-fits-all culture, a parable of our times about the treatment of our vulnerable.

Home Theatre pairs 30 Dublin 15 'hosts', with 30 leading theatre makers. After spending time together, in the hosts' homes, in their lives, each theatre maker writes a piece of theatre that will be performed in the host's home. 30 new plays will be performed in houses across Dublin 15 and a selection of these plays are being presented in Draíocht as part of Dublin Theatre Festival.

International Theatre

Conor McPherson's chilling play **St Nicholas** opens at the festival with an intimate new production by the Donmar Warehouse (UK). Brendan Coyle (*Downton Abbey*, *Mary Queen of Scots*, *Paths to Freedom*) return to the Irish stage for the first time since 2002, directed by Simon Evans.

From the Obie-award winning Elevator Repair Service (USA), creators of *Gatz*, come the European Premiere of **Everyone's Fine with Virginia Woolf** by Kate Scelsa, directed by Artistic Director John Collins. Fresh from its world premiere in New York it's a loving homage and fierce feminist take-down of Edward Albee's drama *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

The latest work by 600 HIGHWAYMEN (USA) tests the limits of individual and collective responsibility A response to the current polarised social and political climate of the United States and performed in complete collaboration with the audience, **The Fever** examines how we assemble, organise and care for the bodies around us.

Renowned CAMPO (Belgium) returns with a marvellously inventive and humorous piece, **Multiverse** in which Louis Vanhaverbeke plays a multifunctional DJ, who needs little more than turntables and a myriad of colourful household objects to bring his music and creations to life.

Also from Belgium, the Festival welcomes Silke Huysmans & Hannes Dereere with **Mining Stories**. On the 5th November 2015, a dam containing toxic mining waste collapsed in the mountains of the Brazilian mining region of Minas Gerais killing 19 people. In this documentary theatre performance each interviewee tells the story of the disaster from their own perspective bringing the audience on a journey through a diverse collection of personal stories.

Following the extraordinary *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, Iranian playwright Nassim Soleimanpour and Bush Theatre bring an audacious new theatrical experiment. Each night a different performer joins the playwright on stage, while the script waits unseen in a sealed box....

In 2009 Janek Turkowski started to observe, film and document everyday life in **Klosterhof**, an artists community in the only building in a Polish town to survive Allied bombing, joined by Iwona Nowacka four years later. In this Polish production viewers are invited on a virtual trip through time exploring a collection of stories documenting its creators' changing neighbourhood, a film record of their own private universe.

TR Warszawa (Poland) return to Dublin with **Fantasia**, suggesting that imagination and theatre is a place where the world of fiction is born. How does this unique agreement between the audience and artists arise, allowing actors to create worlds on an empty stage?

Dance Consortium (UK) comes to Bord Gais Energy Theatre with the all-male comedy ballet company **Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo**. Loved worldwide for their sassy spoofs and hilarious homages to classical ballet.

Born into poverty in an isolated village in rural France, a boy grows up amongst hard men and women living hard and violent lives. Bullied relentlessly for being gay, **The End of Eddy** from The Unicorn Theatre and Untitled Projects, is the story of Eddy's struggle to understand who he is, who he might become, and of his fight to escape (for ages 16+).

Dutch visual artist Nicoline van Harskamp collected naming stories from around the world, asking people, 'What is your name, who gave it to you and what does it mean in your language?' The result is **My Name is Language** a performative work on the topic of names.

An exciting programme of Theatre for Children includes work for ages 2+. Presented by Dublin Theatre Festival and The Ark this year children and their friends and families can explore the ground and all of its wriggling inhabitants in a quirky dance show for children ages 2-5 from Second Hand Dance (UK) **Grass**; experience a magical journey through the dark and beautiful night in Andy Manley (UK) and Teater Refleksion's (Denmark) **Nightlight** or hear the tale of Oscar Wilde's **The Young King** adapted for the stage from Slingsby Australia.

BOOKING DETAILS:

Online dublintheatrefestival.com

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In person

Dublin Theatre Festival Box Office, Festival House, 12 Essex Street East,
Temple Bar, Dublin 2, D02 EH42

24 July, 1pm - Priority booking opens for Friends of the Festival

14 August, 10am - **General booking opens**

Funders / supporters:

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