

Druid



ANNUAL REVIEW

2022

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Sean Kearns and Naoise Dunbar in *The Cavaladers* by Billy Roche. Image by Emiliija Jefremova.

CHAIRPERSON'S NOTE

2022 WAS A YEAR OF RENEWAL and returns for Druid and the Irish theatre industry. While the continuing global pandemic combined with the cost of living crisis provided many challenges, Druid overcame them through determination and dexterity.

In 2022 Druid produced theatre and entertained audiences at home and abroad, provided employment opportunities for dozens of people, and represented Ireland on the international stage.

I wish to pay tribute to all the Druids for their dedication, enthusiasm and hard work over the past 12 months: the Staff, the Druid Ensemble, and my fellow Directors on the Board.

I would also like to acknowledge the unwavering support we received from the Arts Council, and to thank Minister Martin and her Department. Thanks also to all our Friends and Supporters, in particular to our strategic partners University of Galway and Galway City Council, and programme partners such as Aerogen and the Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation.

A series of recently published governance documents continued to guide us in our work this year including our 2022 – 2024 Strategy and our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy. While Druid is an ever-expanding organisation, these governance documents help us to concentrate our collective efforts and ensure we strive for excellence in all our activities.

We look forward to 2023 with great excitement. It will be a year of ambition and risk, and hopefully great returns.

TOM JOYCE



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S NOTE

2022 IS A YEAR I will remember with great pride. We began the year with a celebration of the Irish theatrical canon, a new production of *The Cavalcaders* by Billy Roche. A play about friendship and nostalgia, punctuated by moments of sweet music, *The Cavalcaders* was directed by Druid Ensemble member Aaron Monaghan in his Druid directorial debut. Earning acclaim from critics, we toured the play around Ireland, reconnecting with audiences we had not seen since before the pandemic.

In the summer of 2022, we produced the world premiere of *The Last Return*, a new comedy by Sonya Kelly, our third time producing this incredible writer's work, following *Furniture* in 2018 and *Once Upon a Bridge* in 2021. From a barnstorming run at Galway International Arts Festival, through an award-winning month at Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and an extended run at Dublin's Gate Theatre, *The Last Return* did the business for us in more ways than one. And the curtain has yet to fall on this thrilling comedy directed by Sara Joyce as we will take it on a tour of Ireland in the spring of 2023.

The end of 2022 saw Druid embark on a transatlantic voyage of discovery with **The Stars and Stripes Shaded Green**, an Irish American play reading series. With my friend and collaborator, the great Broadway producer Jack Viertel, and a tremendous company of actors, I was delighted to hear these Irish American plays read aloud in an Irish theatre.

This year we also continued to invest in the future of Irish theatre through our artist development initiatives: our FUEL residency programme; the Marie Mullen Bursary; the New Writing Window and Druid Debuts rehearsed play readings; the Druid Academy at University of Galway; and our award-winning Community and Education programme.

We now look ahead to 2023 and what is set to be Druid's busiest and most ambitious year ever. We won't say anymore for now but we can't wait to reveal our plans to you.

GARRY HYNES

2022: A YEAR IN NUMBERS

107

performances in

12 VENUES

8 ACTORS

made their

DRUID STAGE DEBUT

OVER 12,000 PEOPLE

engaged with
our Community and
Education programme

508 SCRIPTS

submitted to our new
writing programme

105

freelance theatre
professionals employed

10% INCREASE

in funds spent directly on
artist and support wages
from 2021 to 2022

29% INCREASE

in website visitors
from 2021 to 2022

100% INCREASE

in applications for the
Marie Mullen Bursary
from 2021 to 2022

130% INCREASE

in applications for
FUEL artist residency
from 2021 to 2022

Once Upon a Bridge

by Sonya Kelly

CAST

A Woman
Siobhán Cullen

The Bus Driver
Adetomiwa Edun

A Man
Aaron Monaghan

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer
Sonya Kelly

Director
Sara Joyce

Lighting & Set Design
Sinéad McKenna

Sound Design & Composition
Alma Kelliher

Movement
David Bolger

Costume Design
Clíodhna Hallissey

Assistant Director
Emily Foran

Online Screening
16 – 18 March

'packs a terrific, touching punch'
SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

'compelling', 'uplifting'
THE GUARDIAN

Inspired by real events, *Once Upon a Bridge* weaves a tale about human triumph and frailty, about the power of destiny and chance, and why sometimes we choose to hate, and other times we choose to dance.

Written by Sonya Kelly and directed by Sara Joyce, Druid's first live stream production was originally seen by audiences around the world in February 2021, as part of Druid's Druid at Home programme. In December 2021, *Once Upon a Bridge* was nominated for Best Play at the 29th Writers' Guild of Great Britain Awards.

In March 2022, *Once Upon a Bridge* received a Druid at Home online encore screening, presented free to view as part of SEODA, Culture Ireland's online showcase of Irish arts, becoming the most viewed screening of the 2022 showcase.

As part of our Community and Education programme, we also invited secondary schools around the country to view *Once Upon a Bridge* in their classrooms. Through an education pack and supplementary materials, we encouraged young people to engage with the topics of the play and to write their own dramatic monologues.

The Cavalcaders

by Billy Roche

CAST

Breda
Amelia Crowley

Rory
Naoise Dunbar

Josie
Sean Kearns

Terry
Garrett Lombard

Nuala
Éilish McLaughlin

Ted
Tiernan Messitt-Greene

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer
Billy Roche

Director
Aaron Monaghan

Set and Lighting Design
Ciaran Bagnall

Sound Design and Composition
Alexandra Faye Braithwaite

Costume Design
Clíodhna Hallissey

Musical Director
Morgan Cooke

Hair and Make-Up
Gráinne Coughlan

GALWAY The Mick Lally Theatre 20 May – 5 June

SLIGO Hawk's Well Theatre 8 June

LONGFORD Backstage Theatre 10 June

ROSCOMMON Roscommon Arts Centre 12 June

LIMERICK Lime Tree Theatre 15 - 16 June

TRALEE Siamsa Tíre 18 June

WEXFORD National Opera House 21 – 22 June

WATERFORD Theatre Royal 24 June

THURLES The Source Arts Centre 26 June

DÚN LAOGHAIRE Pavilion Theatre 29 June – 2 July 2022

'a resolutely feelgood drama ... performed with perfect harmony'
THE IRISH TIMES

'Director Aaron Monaghan has a perfect instinct for performance'
IRISH INDEPENDENT

'Garrett Lombard is an electrifying Terry'
SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

'a rousing theatrical experience from the best in the business'
TUAM HERALD

The Cavalcaders is a comic and tender portrait of life in small-town, pre-Celtic Tiger Ireland and those who lived there.

Druid's new production of Billy Roche's acclaimed memory play opened at The Mick Lally Theatre, Druid's home in Galway, before embarking on a summer tour of Ireland.

Directed by Druid Ensemble member Aaron Monaghan, this celebrated play from the Irish canon took audiences on a journey back in time to the 1990s, to heartache, companionship and the redemptive power of song.

As part of our Community and Education programme, we delivered a free matinee performance during our Galway run for local secondary schools and a theatre workshop for local children while on tour in Wexford.

The Last Return

by Sonya Kelly

CAST

Galway & Edinburgh 2022

Umbrella Woman **Fiona Bell**

Ticket Person **Anna Healy**

Newspaper Man **Bosco Hogan**

Military Man **Fionn Ó Loingsigh**

Woman in Pink **Naima Swaleh**

CAST

Dublin 2022

Ticket Person **Anna Healy**

Newspaper Man **Bosco Hogan**

Military Man **Fionn Ó Loingsigh**

Umbrella Woman **Rebecca O'Mara**

Woman in Pink **Naima Swaleh**

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer

Sonya Kelly

Director

Sara Joyce

Set and Costume Design

Francis O'Connor

Lighting Design

Amy Mae

Sound Design and Composition

Michael John McCarthy

Movement

Jessica and Megan Kennedy

(Junk Ensemble)

Dramatherapy

Wabriya King

Hair and Make-Up

Gráinne Coughlan

Associate Costume Designer

Clíodhna Hallissey

Assistant Director

Katie O'Halloran

GALWAY

Galway International Arts Festival at The Mick Lally Theatre

8 – 23 July

EDINBURGH

Edinburgh Festival Fringe at Traverse Theatre

4 – 28 August

DUBLIN

Dublin Theatre Festival at Gate Theatre

13 October – 12 November

Not all good things come to those who wait.

One final night. One last chance. Five people queue for a ticket to the hottest show in town. All they must do is simply wait in line. But what in life is ever simple?

Who will triumph, who will fail, and who will walk away with... *The Last Return*?

A new play by acclaimed playwright Sonya Kelly (*Once Upon a Bridge, Furniture*), *The Last Return* is a thrilling comedy about conflict, peace and the pursuit of territory at any cost.

Directed by Sara Joyce (*Once Upon a Bridge*), Druid's world premiere production of *The Last Return* opened at Galway International Arts Festival 2022 and then played Edinburgh Festival Fringe (where it won a Fringe First Award) and Dublin Theatre Festival at the Gate Theatre.

In spring 2023, *The Last Return* will embark on an 8-venue tour of Ireland.



The Last Return

by Sonya Kelly

WINNER

Scotsman Fringe First Award
2022

★★★★★

'a spectacular piece of theatre'
THE WEE REVIEW

WINNER

Best Ensemble, Irish Times Irish
Theatre Awards 2022

★★★★★

'astonishing dark comedy'
FEELING GOOD

WINNER

Best Supporting Actress, Anna
Healy, Irish Times Irish Theatre
Awards 2022

★★★★★

'a compelling piece of theatre'
MICKEY JO THEATRE

'Hottest ticket in town ...
hilarious'

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

★★★★★

'pitch black comic mayhem'
THE GUARDIAN

'wonderful ...
unexpectedly touching'

THE NEW YORK TIMES

★★★★★

'a shocking and very funny play'
THE IRISH TIMES

'Sonya Kelly establishes herself
as a major Irish playwright'

IRISH INDEPENDENT

★★★★★

'elegant and powerful ...
beautifully delivered'
THE SCOTSMAN

★★★★★

'a true work of genius'
THE TIMES

★★★★★

'a scathing satire'
FEST MAG

★★★★★

'astonishingly original'
WHAT'S ON STAGE

★★★★★

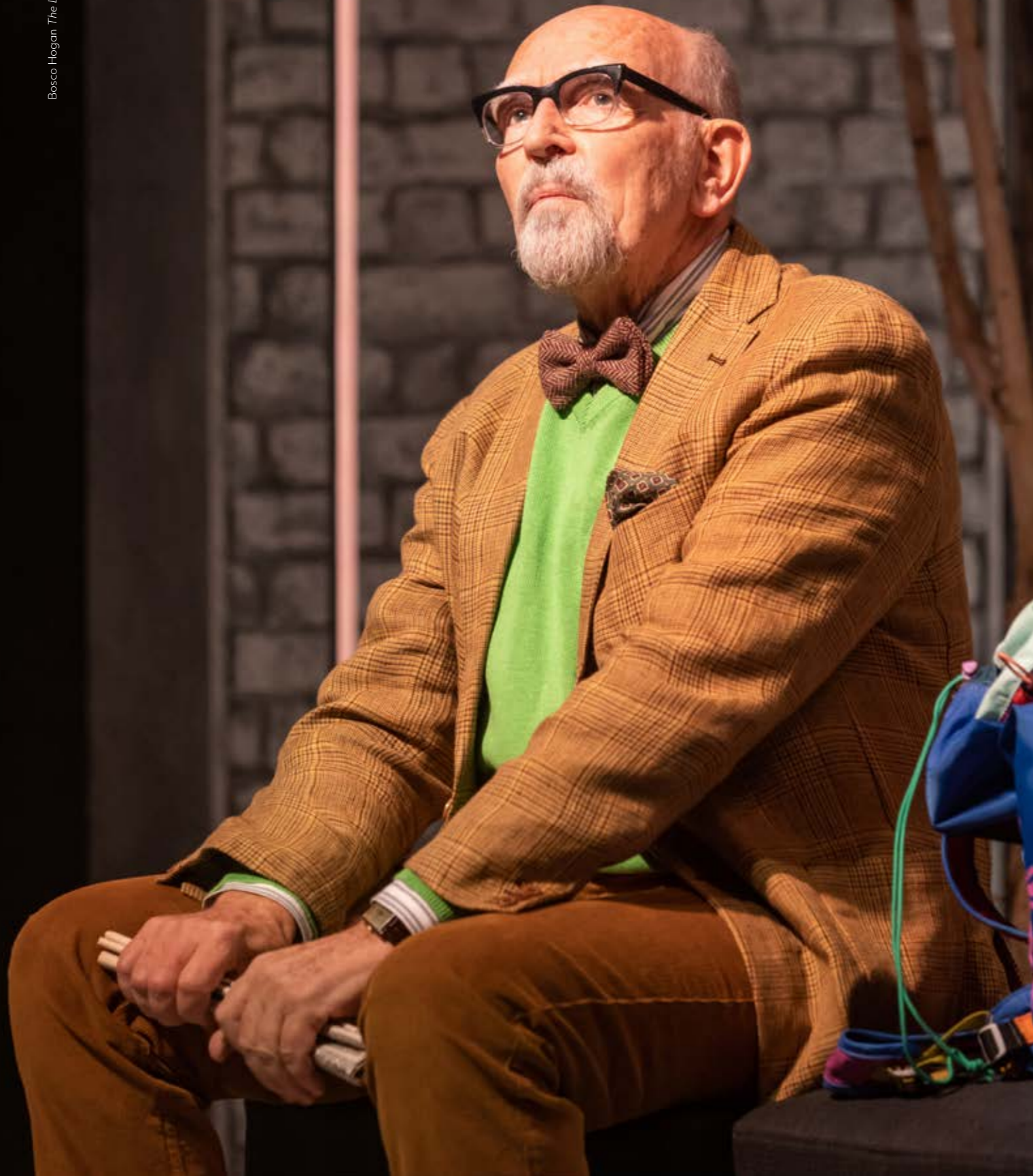
'remarkably clever'
THE REVIEWS HUB

★★★★★

'blisteringly funny'
THE ARTS DESK

★★★★★

'hilarious, thought-provoking'
THE ARTS REVIEW



The Stars and Stripes Shaded Green

Irish American Play Readings

CAST

Curtis-Lee Ashqar
 Venetia Bowe
 Jane Brennan
 Derbhle Crotty
 Brian Doherty
 Liam Heslin
 Bosco Hogan
 Sophie Lenglinger
 Garrett Lombard
 Aisling O'Sullivan

CREATIVE TEAM

Director
 Garry Hynes

Guest Dramaturg
 Jack Viertel

Consultant and Editor
 Thomas Conway

Assistant Director
 Sarah Baxter

Brian Friel's *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* and other Irish plays have told the stories of the Irish who emigrated to America. But what about the stories of the Irish Americans, the Irish who settled in America, and their descendants?

This series of public readings explored plays written by Irish Americans and about Irish Americans, examined the connections between Irish and American myth, and shone an Irish light on works of the Irish American canon. These plays were written an ocean away from their ancestral home yet they are infused with the cadences of Irish thought and language.

Garry Hynes directed a company of 10 actors who brought to life three Irish American plays: *Harvey* (1944) by Mary Chase, *Hogan's Goat* (1965) by William Alfred and *Good People* (2011) by David Lindsay-Abaire.

To conclude the play reading series, Patrick Lonergan, Professor of Drama and Theatre Studies at the University of Galway, chaired a discussion between Druid's Artistic Director Garry Hynes and acclaimed American theatre producer Jack Viertel, who has collaborated with Garry and Druid for many years and was a guest dramaturg for *The Stars and Stripes Shaded Green*.



Coole Park Poetry Series

Veneria Bowe. Image by Matthew Thompson.



Bloomsday Film Festival
DUBLIN
June 2022



ZEBRA Film Festival
BERLIN
November 2022



Ó Bhéal Film Competition
CORK
November 2022

PoetryFest
Irish Arts Center
NEW YORK
December 2022

Living Canvas
Wilton Park
DUBLIN
December 2022 – January 2023

The Coole Park Poetry Series are two editions of poetry films shot in Coole Park in Galway in 2020 and 2021. The series, co-produced with the Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation, continued to be screened and exhibited across the world in 2022.

At Bloomsday Film Festival in June, 'The Echo at Coole' received a Special Mention from the festival's awards jury. 'The Echo at Coole' by Austin Clarke is read by Tommy Tiernan, filmed by Matthew Thompson.



Eilish McLaughlin in *The Cavaladers* by Billy Roche. Image by Emilija Jefremova.

2022 THEATRE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



Community and Education

Druid's Community and Education programme deepens engagement with professional theatre within local community and education settings, focusing on inclusion and access to the arts, community togetherness, and artistic and cultural expression.

With our partners Aerogen and the Adrian Brinkerhoff Poetry Foundation, the programme had a transformative impact on communities and schools across 2022.

Highlights of our 2022 Community and Education programme include:

- 1,465 students viewed *Once Upon a Bridge* in their classrooms and were then invited to make use of our educational resources
- Almost 4,000 views achieved of our Community and Education video content online
- 6,830 students registered to take part in Druid: 20 Days of Poetry, a month-long celebration of Irish poetry featuring the Coole Park Poetry Series
- Students from 3 schools attended a free matinee performance of *The Cavalcaders* at The Mick Lally Theatre in Galway
- Students from a local drama school, Discovering Drama, attended a performance of *The Cavalcaders* at the National Opera House in Wexford and then took part in a workshop with actors from the production, including Tiernan Messitt-Greene who is a past pupil of Discovering Drama
- Students from a local drama school, ITW Studios, attended a performance of *The Last Return* at the Gate Theatre in Dublin and also enjoyed a backstage tour of the theatre



Image by Emiliija Jefremova.

Druid Debuts

Druid Debuts is our annual series of rehearsed readings of new plays. Each summer, a number of new plays are selected to be read which have been submitted through our New Writing submission window.

The selected playwrights are given professional support, a director, cast and space in which to develop their script to a rehearsed reading level. After the reading, audience feedback is invited as a means of further development.

Druid Debuts is an essential part of our production pipeline and many Druid Debuts have developed into full Druid productions including *Furniture* by Sonya Kelly, *Shelter* by Cristín Kehoe and *Helen and I* by Meadhbh McHugh.

Following two years of online readings, this year Druid Debuts returned to The Mick Lally Theatre as part of Galway International Arts Festival. From almost 400 submissions, two plays were selected: *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You* by Méabh de Brún and *The Pendulum Moon* by Laura Hennessey DeSena.

Méabh de Brún is a writer, playwright and actor, based in Kerry. She is a recipient of the DCLI/ACDI Playwriting Award, a finalist for the Kerry International Film Festival's Screenwriting Award, and was shortlisted for The Women's Prize for Playwriting. *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You* is a poignant dark comedy that explores sibling relationships, the magnitude of grief, and how we keep living after loss.

Laura Hennessey DeSena, retired Adjunct Assistant Professor (NYU), currently teaches at West Milford High School, New Jersey. Her articles, "Mary Cassatt" and "Diane Arbus", are published in *Contemporary Women Artists* (St. Martin's); her plays, *Eden Within Us* and *The Men's Club*, have been performed in New York and New Jersey. *The Pendulum Moon* is a ghost story about early 20th-century Irish immigrants putting down roots in Summit Hill, a coal-mining town in Pennsylvania.

The script submission window for the 2023 Druid Debuts was opened in the summer of 2022 and more than 500 scripts were submitted, a record for Druid's new writing programme.

Image by Declan Colohan.



Marie Mullen Bursary

Now in its fifth year, the annual Marie Mullen Bursary is an award for female theatre artists working in Ireland in the fields of design, directing and dramaturgy.

Named in honour of actor and Druid co-founder, Marie Mullen, the award is intended to address the historic imbalance of female representation in theatre and to support the professional development of women in Irish theatre.

This award provides a female theatre artist with the time, physical resources and mentoring necessary to support their work. They also receive paid work opportunities with Druid.

Director Katie O'Halloran was selected as the 2022 recipient of the Marie Mullen Bursary. A Dublin-based interdisciplinary director and creator, Katie's work celebrates theatricality, examines the materiality and effects of borders and confines, and prioritises a thorough probing of the text. She is a co-founder and resident director with Full Measure Theatre in Dublin, and has worked with Dublin Fringe Festival, Fishamble, and the Irish National Opera.

Among other projects, during her bursary year, Katie worked as Assistant Director on *The Last Return* and directed a rehearsed reading of *The Pendulum Moon* (Druid Debuts 2022).



Image by Emilija Jefremova.

FUEL Artist Residency

FUEL is a nine-month artist residency programme run by Druid at The Mick Lally Theatre in Galway. The programme is open to theatre-makers based in the West of Ireland, with an original idea that is ready to be developed.

FUEL offers participants: workshops with theatre professionals; development and rehearsal periods in The Mick Lally Theatre; engagement with Druid's artistic programme through attendance at rehearsals, meetings with Ensemble members and invitations to events; the opportunity to showcase work at The Mick Lally Theatre; advice and support from Druid staff on producing, finance, marketing and touring; assistance with funding and festival applications; and a fee for each contact-day of the programme.

The 2022 FUEL participants were Martina Carey, Luke Casserly, Edwin Mullane and Eva's Echo Theatre Company. During their nine-month residency: Martina developed *The Last Few Days*, a hybrid puppetry piece focusing on loss of independence, and the aging body and mind; Luke developed *Distillation*, a performance work which looks at our human relationship to landscapes through scent; Edwin developed *I Mother*, a play that balances humour and horror, character-based drama and abstraction; and Eva's Echo Theatre Company developed *Stardom*, a dark comedy-drama that follows three reality TV participants with very different experiences.

Image by Boyd Challenger.



Druid and University of Galway

In February 2022, Druid and University of Galway announced a new 10-year strategic partnership running until 2031. Building on the previous 10-year relationship, this new partnership will deliver greater impact and opportunities through student engagement, curricular innovation, local and global events, and the enrichment of the creative sector in the West of Ireland.

Speaking at the announcement, Garry Hynes, co-founder and artistic director of Druid, said: 'For the past 10 years, the Druid partnership with University of Galway has been a tremendous source of pride and inspiration for us as a company, working with students as they embark on their careers in theatre. We are delighted to announce the next stage of this academic partnership, deepening the relationship between ourselves, the students and the wider academic community in University of Galway, the place where Druid was founded in 1975.'

As Academic Partner, University of Galway will benefit from partnering with Druid across a broad range of activities including the Druid Academy, wider campus engagement, alumni and stakeholder events, community cultural engagement, and economic growth and industry development.

A highlight of this year's partnership activities was a Druid Academy masterclass delivered by acclaimed Broadway producer Jack Viertel who gave students a unique insight into the American theatre industry, art and business of Broadway, and the dramaturgical structure of the stage musical.



Image by Declan Colohan.

The Mick Lally Theatre

The Mick Lally Theatre welcomed thousands through its doors in 2022. As well as being home to Druid, the theatre also hosted artists and companies such as the Abbey Theatre, Galway Music Residency, The Black Gate, George Murphy, Sam Amidon, Teatroletta Theatre Company and Misleór Festival of Nomadic Cultures.

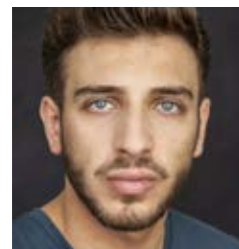
The theatre and our office building around the corner on Flood Street are centres for artistic development where artists and companies of all art forms can avail of: production, technical and administrative support; favourable hire fees; hot-desking spaces; and other in-kind supports.

The theatre also welcomes corporate and private hire, bringing activity of all kinds into the city's Latin Quarter.

Our neighbour on Druid Lane, Éan, is an inventive bakery, restaurant and wine bar from the creators of Galway's sustainable Michelin-starred restaurant, Loam. Located in the Druid Building and connected to The Mick Lally Theatre, Éan elevates the pre-show and post-show experience for audiences attending the theatre. In February 2022, the Michelin Guide awarded Éan a Bib Gourmand.

CASTING 2022

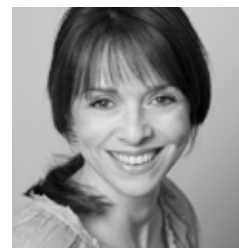
In 2022, we were delighted to work with 23 actors in 28 roles across 107 performances, including 8 actors who made their Druid stage debuts.



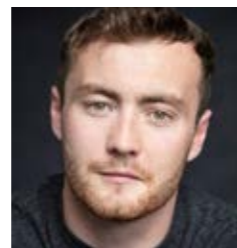
Curtis-Lee Ashqar
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



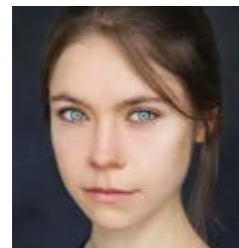
Brian Doherty
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Fiona Bell
The Last Return



Naoise Dunbar
The Cavaliers
(Druid stage debut)
Druid Debuts 2022:
The Pendulum Moon



Venetia Bowe
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Anna Healy
The Last Return
(Druid stage debut)



Jane Brennan
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Liam Heslin
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Derbhle Crotty
Druid Debuts 2022:
The Pendulum Moon
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Bosco Hogan
The Last Return
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Amelia Crowley
The Cavaliers
(Druid stage debut)



Sean Kearns
The Cavaliers
(Druid stage debut)



Sophie Lenglinger
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Simon O'Gorman
Druid Debuts 2022:
The Pendulum Moon



Garrett Lombard
The Cavaliers
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Maeve O'Mahony
Druid Debuts 2022: *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You*



Matthew Malone
Druid Debuts 2022: *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You*



Rebecca O'Mara
The Last Return



Éilish McLaughlin
The Cavaliers
(Druid stage debut)
Druid Debuts 2022: *The Pendulum Moon*



Aisling O'Sullivan
The Stars and Stripes
Shaded Green



Tiernan Messitt-Greene
The Cavaliers
(Druid stage debut)



Naima Swaleh
The Last Return
(Druid stage debut)



Fionn Ó Loingsigh
The Last Return (Druid stage debut)

2022 BEHIND THE SCENES

Finance

In 2022, Druid recorded an income of €2.12m, which represented a 19% increase on 2021. As we emerged from the ongoing but lessening impact of COVID-19, the priority throughout has been to continue serving our audience and supporting our theatre community. Funding and support from the Arts Council was our most significant source of income and together with the increased and generous support of our philanthropic Supporters, Friends, Corporate and Institutional Partners we were able to make an impact and undertake our artistic mission despite significantly reduced box office income due to pandemic restrictions.

Expenditure in 2022 was €2.26m. People are central to the success of the organisation and funds spent directly on artist and support wages were €1.04m, an increase of 10.1% on 2021. The prioritisation and prompt payment of artists was and will continue to be central to operations. 2022 also represented the largest annual investment in our Community and Education programme and, as evidenced elsewhere in the document, that is thanks to the multi-annual support the programme receives from our supporting partners. Expanding the reach and impact of our programming strand is, and continues to be, a priority.

During 2022 we continued to develop our Green Strategy in conjunction with Green Arts Ireland. Sustainability and the green agenda is now a central tenet in all our planning and activities. We have made the commitment to consider sustainability as a core part of a value for money analysis when making purchases and we believe this will make a significant impact in reducing our carbon footprint and supporting more local and sustainable suppliers.

We are governed by a voluntary Board of Directors who met 7 times during 2022. We adhere to the highest standards of governance and accountability, having adopted the Code of Governance for Charities and the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising. In 2022 we also undertook an internal gender pay gap analysis for the third consecutive year. The results of which were Male:Female 1.04:1 (overall) and Male:Female 1:1.03 (actors). We will continue to monitor this annually as we strive towards equality.





Image by Shannon Light.

Ballybane and Nuns' Island

For almost 50 years, Galway has been our home – it is where we work, rehearse, produce and perform. It is also where we make our sets, props and costumes at our Ballybane Scenic Workshop on the outskirts of Galway and our Nuns' Island Costume Department in the historic core of the city.

These two buildings are physical representations of Druid's commitment to our hometown and to the craftspeople and technicians who work with us. What you see on stage would not be possible without the skill and talent of these people, making magic happen in our workshops. We are proud to play our part in supporting employment in the West of Ireland.

Be it the crown from *DruidShakespeare* or the tree from *Waiting for Godot*, it began life in Galway. And each life is often a long one - Druid's sustainability practices are evident throughout our workshops where our costumes, props and sets are reused, recycled and reimagined. Our work is built to last, created in Galway, toured around the world, and returned to Galway to become something new.

In 2022, our workshop and costume department helped us to produce Billy Roche's *The Cavalcadere*s and Sonya Kelly's *The Last Return*. This year also saw continued investment in both Ballybane and Nuns' Island in terms of refurbishment and renewal. We have large ambitions for the years to come and the infrastructure and facilities in Ballybane and Nuns' Island will help us to realise these ambitions.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Sustainability

For almost 50 years, Druid has sought to ensure the most exciting and excellent theatre is available to the widest possible audience. In August 2022, we published our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy to formalise this ethos and practice, and to identify a pathway for Druid to enhance this work.

Druid's EDI policy is people-focused; people are central to everything we do. This policy is structured around three groups of people:

- Our audiences – to provide universal access to our theatre productions
- Our artists, creative teams and crews – to ensure that professional opportunities at Druid are available to everyone
- Our staff and board – Druid recognises the rich creative outcomes that diversity brings to an arts organisation and aims to reflect this understanding through the way it recruits its staff and board

This EDI policy is a living document. We will revisit it regularly, through relevant board and staff meetings, to evaluate our progress and to set new goals and ambitions. We recognise that the fields of equality, diversity and inclusion are ever evolving and we aim to be a company that can evolve and improve at pace.

Druid is committed to embedding sustainability into all strands of our organisation, working with experts to implement best practices to reduce the company's environmental impact. We have conducted a root-and-branch review of our activities and will channel the creative energy and adaptability of the theatre industry to find innovative and ambitious solutions.

We continue to engage with the wider industry as a participant of the Greener Touring Project, a joint project of Green Arts Initiative in Ireland and Theatre Forum, funded by the Arts Council's capacity building support scheme.

In late 2022, we successfully applied for a Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) audit grant and worked with an energy auditor to investigate our administration offices on Flood Street and The Mick Lally Theatre on Druid Lane to analyse our energy usage.

We have now established a baseline of our carbon footprint against which we will measure our progress over the coming years. We will factor sustainability into all decision-making processes across our organisation and, in 2023, we will publish a strategy to formalise this commitment to sustainability.

Development

We are very lucky to have a dedicated community of individuals, businesses and partners who support Druid in variety of different ways, helping us to achieve our goals and ambitions. We are extremely grateful to all our wonderful Supporters, Friends and Partners from all across Ireland and around the world for their continued support throughout the year. Supporting Druid helps us to achieve a greater impact, not just for our audiences, but also for the various communities we work with and within.

A development highlight in 2022 was the announcement of a new 10-year strategic partnership with University of Galway focussed on expanding academic links, student engagement, local and global events, and the creative sector in the West. Building on the previous 10-year partnership, University of Galway will continue to be Druid's exclusive academic partner, with Druid offering internship opportunities to students and working to strengthen and enhance the success of University of Galway's Creative Arts programmes.

'Great things start at University of Galway, and Druid is one of those. We have a great tradition here of the creative arts and this partnership with Druid renews this relationship and is very much embedded in our values. When you ask why a student from Boston, Berlin or Beijing would choose to study in Galway, one aspect is the unique opportunity they have to learn with our world class creative organisations, including Druid.'
Professor Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh, President of University of Galway

'Druid is an institution of Galway's cultural scene and here at the Connacht Hospitality Group we're so proud to be associated with them. Their drive to put Galway on the global stage through their phenomenal productions and storytelling is a genuine inspiration. We're delighted to play a supporting role in their amazing journey, and we're looking forward to strengthening our great relationship long into the future.'
Eveanna Ryan, Group Marketing Manager, Connacht Hospitality Group Limited

'From attending early productions in Galway during the 1970s and 1980s, including the premiere of Tom Murphy's unforgettable *Conversations on a Homecoming*, to DruidShakespeare: Richard III in New York in 2019 and to stimulating livestream productions during lockdown, I have seen Druid develop into a world-class theatre company. In gratitude for all that joy, past, present and to come, I became a firm friend of Druid.'
Mary Finan, Druid Friend

Our wonderful Supporters and Friends come from all around Ireland as well as overseas.



DRUID SUPPORTERS 2022

Thank You to all our Supporters – your generosity is invaluable and we thank you for the part you play. Through your support, you enable us to create more work of a world class standard and to plan for future productions.

FUNDING PARTNERS

GRANT AIDED BY



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHĒ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



ACADEMIC PARTNER

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PROGRAMME PARTNERS



CORPORATE PATRONS



BUSINESS LEADERS



BUSINESS PARTNERS



DRUID FRIENDS 2022

Druid is a registered charity and we rely on the philanthropy and generous support of the public to continue making work that is acclaimed the world over. Whether you are a philanthropic organisation, a business or Druid enthusiast, we invite you to look over our Supporter initiatives and sign up with us today. Please visit druid.ie/support or contact john.mcevoy@druid.ie for further information.

Transformational Partners

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Fiona Whelan Prine
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Thanks also to all our supporters who wish to remain anonymous and to all those who made one-off donations.

THE DRUIDS 2022

Patron

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Mick Lally (1945–2010)

Marie Mullen

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Warehouse Manager*

Frank Commins (until Oct 2022)

Office Manager

Niamh Dolan

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Producer

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Company Manager

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Executive Director

Feargal Hynes

Artistic Director

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Cilian Fennell (Appointed May 2018)

Padraic Ferry (Appointed May 2018)

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Caroline Loughnane (Appointed Dec 2021)

Bernadette Murtagh

Company Secretary (Appointed Jul 2013)

Sean O'Rourke (Appointed Dec 2020)

Helen Ryan (Appointed Dec 2017)

Druid Ensemble

Derbhle Crotty

Garrett Lombard

Aaron Monaghan

Marie Mullen

Rory Nolan

Aisling O'Sullivan

Marty Rea

The Druid Ensemble is a core group of freelance actors who work closely with Druid to shape the future direction of the company's work.

*part-time position

Druid is a registered charity (CHY6800) with Charities Regulatory Authority reference 20013424 and prepares its financial statements in compliance with Charities Statement Of Recommended Practice (SORP). Druid complies with the Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary and Charitable Sector in Ireland.

ABOUT DRUID

FOUNDED IN 1975, Druid is a touring theatre company, anchored in the West of Ireland and looking to the world.

Druid passionately believes that audiences have the right to see first class professional theatre in their own communities. The company has toured the length and breadth of Ireland as well as touring internationally to the UK, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Hong Kong.

Production highlights include: *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (1996), in a co-production with The Royal Court Theatre, which went on to win four Tony Awards, including Best Director for Garry Hynes, the first woman to win an award for directing in the history of the Tony Awards; *The Leenane Trilogy* (1997, also with The Royal Court Theatre); *DruidSynge* (2005) – all six John Millington Synge plays in a single day; *DruidMurphy* – Plays by Tom Murphy (2011 & 2012), a trilogy of *Conversations on a Homecoming*, *A Whistle in the Dark* and *Famine*; *DruidShakespeare: Richard II*, *Henry IV (Pts. 1&2)*, *Henry V* in a new adaptation by Mark O'Rowe (2015) and *DruidShakespeare: Richard III* (2018); *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett which opened at Galway International Arts Festival in 2016 and by the end of 2018 had toured Ireland twice, played at the Abbey Theatre, Edinburgh International Festival and several US cities. In 2020, in a first for Irish theatre, Druid's production of Anton Chekhov's *The*

Cherry Orchard, in a version by Tom Murphy, was broadcast live from Galway to 34 cinemas in Ireland and the UK.

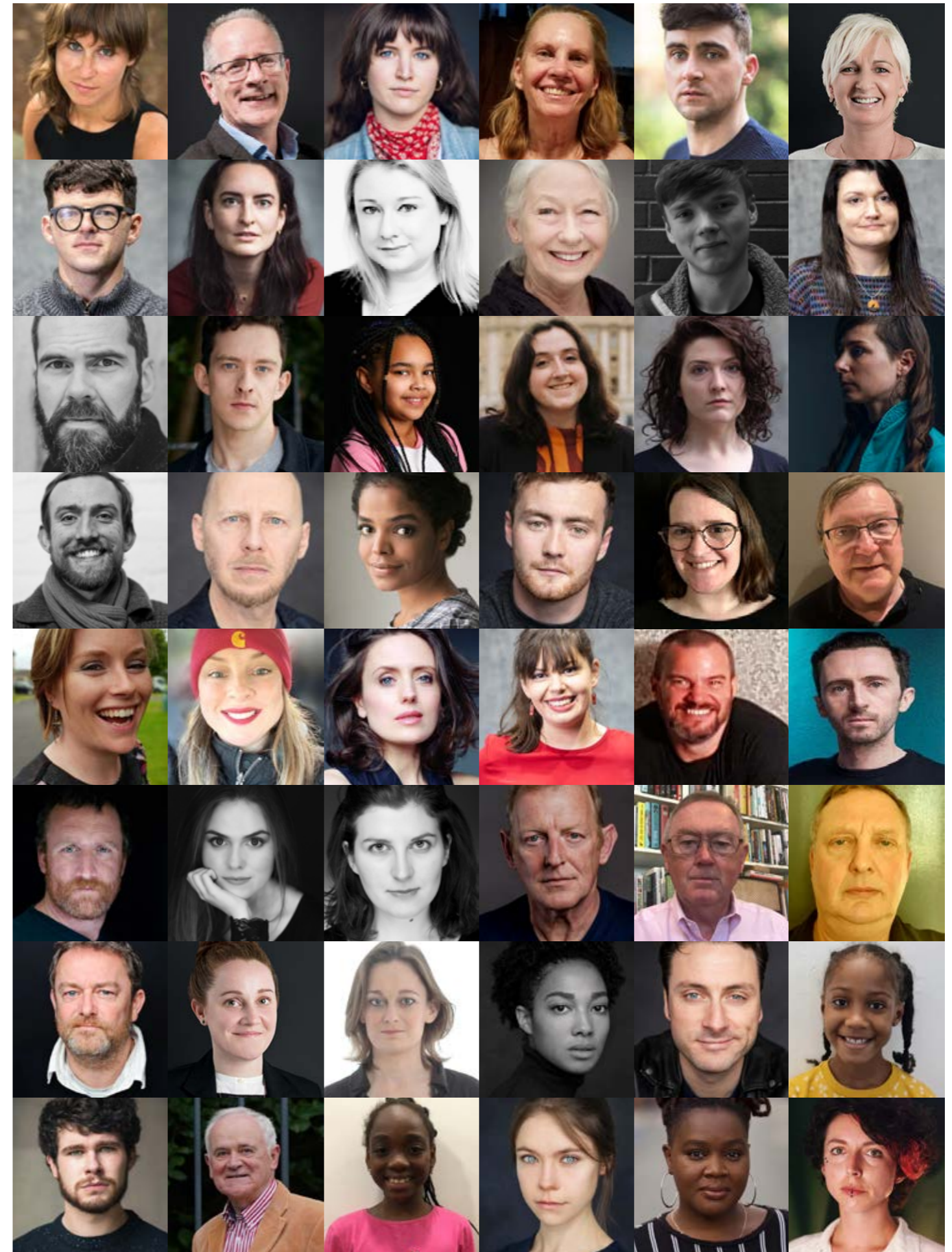
Druid is a writer's theatre, re-imagining classics and premiering new work annually, while exploring ambitious projects such as *DruidGregory*, a production of five of Lady Gregory's one-act plays in 2020, and Thomas Kilroy's *The Seagull* (after Chekhov) in 2021 - both of which were performed outdoors in Coole Park, County Galway. During 2020 and 2021, the company introduced *Druid at Home*, a new way of connecting with its audiences in Ireland and around the world, through presenting work on the digital stage. Notable successes include the company's first live stream production, the world premiere of *Once Upon a Bridge* by Sonya Kelly. Since March 2020, Druid has reached audiences in 130 countries with our ticketed and free-to-view *Druid at Home* productions.

The company continues to nurture playwrights and the next generation of theatre makers through its new writing and other artists support programmes. At the heart of its artistic programme is the *Druid Ensemble* who work closely with the Artistic Director and the *Druid* team to deliver a varied and ambitious body of work.

THE FACES OF DRUID 2022



THE FACES OF DRUID 2022



BEHIND THE SCENES



BEHIND THE SCENES



BEHIND THE SCENES



BEHIND THE SCENES



It's not theatre until
someone's watching.

Thank you to our audiences for
supporting us in 2022.
See you on the road in 2023.

Wednesday 20 July 2022
**And Tomorrow I'll
Dance With You**
Méabh de Brún

Connor is trying to practice his sister's eulogy before the funeral. Unfortunately, his sister has other plans. Wild and irreverent, Fadh takes Connor on a blast through the past, hoping to help him accept her death. A poignant dark comedy, *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You* explores sibling relationships, the magnitude of grief, and how we keep living after loss.

Druid Debuts

Druid Debuts is our annual series of rehearsed readings of new plays which have been selected through Druid's New Writing programme.

This year's two plays, *And Tomorrow I'll Dance With You* by Méabh de Brún and *The Penultimate Moon* by Laura Hennessy DeGera, were selected from almost 400 submissions.

Following their selection, Méabh de Brún and Laura Hennessy DeGera have been provided with professional support, a director, cast and space in which to develop their scripts to a rehearsed reading level.

Druid Debuts offers audiences a unique opportunity to experience brand new plays from off the page and to share an open discussion with the writer, director and cast.

Previous Druid Debuts have subsequently premiered as full Druid productions including *Furniture* by Conyn Kelly, *Shelter* by Chris Kehoe, *Waters and In* by Mashaal Maruf, *Be Informed* by Brian Miller and *My Brilliant Disgrace* by Geraldine Aron.

Writer	Méabh de Brún
Director	Maisie Lee
	Matthew Malone
	Maeve O'Mahony
Stage Manager	Emma Doyle
Lighting Operator	Shannon Light
Literary Intern	Fleur van den Heuvel

Méabh de Brún

Méabh de Brún is a writer, playwright and actor. She is a recipient of the DCU/ACCI Playwriting Award, a finalist for the Sony International Film Festival's Screenwriting Award, and was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Playwriting. A finalist for the Francis MacManus Award, her prose has appeared in publications including *The Singing* and *Singhaz Press*. www.meahdebrun.org

Druid

Flood Street, Galway, Ireland

+353 91 568 660

www.druid.ie



@druidtheatre