Culture Ireland

Culture Ireland creates and supports opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present their work at international festivals, venues, showcases and arts markets including the Edinburgh Festivals, Celtic Connections (Glasgow), the Venice Art and Architecture Biennales, WOMEX World Music Expo, South by Southwest (in partnership with First Music Contact), Frankfurt Book Fair (in partnership with Literature Ireland), Tanzmesse (Düsseldorf) and Classical: NEXT (Rotterdam).

Culture Ireland runs a regular funding scheme to support the international presentation of work by Irish artists and companies. Applications are accepted from both participating artists and from international presenters. Culture Ireland also operates See Here, a scheme to support the inward travel to Ireland of international presenters, curators and promoters to see new Irish work available for touring.

In 2017, Culture Ireland supported Irish artists at over 450 events across 50 countries with over 4.5 million audience members and 7 million online/digital viewers.

This year’s Edinburgh Showcase programme is part of Culture Ireland GB18, a yearlong initiative promoting Irish arts in Britain. Full programme details are available at: cultureireland.ie/gb18
One of the most iconic and significant plays of the 20th century, Samuel Beckett’s Waiting for Godot is also one of his funniest, most immediate creations. Drawing endless interpretations, it crackles with deadpan wit and linguistic invention, as well as offering compelling glimpses into our existential absurdity.

Druid’s powerful staging has been hailed as one of the greatest ever productions of Waiting for Godot. Bringing together charm, absurdity, high comedy and touching humanity, it cracks open the play’s broad humour and reaffirms all of Beckett’s power to shock and surprise us.

Friday 3 – Sunday 12 August 7.30pm
Matinees Sun 5, Sat 11 August 2.30pm
No Performance Tuesday 7 August
(2 hours 30 minutes)
This is a show about memory (but not nostalgia). Come see ex-lovers argue about when they were happiest. Come see police officers accidentally rewrite history. Come see Rasputin dance like no one’s watching. Also, the Queen is there. We’re going to feed the present to the past. It’s a kind of ritual. A kind of sacrifice. Memory always is.

★★★★ A fascinating, maze-like meditation on reminiscence and record’ THE IRISH TIMES

‘Superb. A flash of theatricality this awesome isn’t as easy to forget’ EXEUNT MAGAZINE

‘Clever, irreverent and thought-provoking’ THE INDEPENDENT

Wednesday 1 – Sunday 26 August
Previews Wed 1 and Fri 3 August
No Performances Thurs 2, Mon 13, Mon 20 Aug
5.50pm (60 minutes)

MALAPROP are also presenting Jericho as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival at Underbelly. Further details are available here: www.underbellyedinburgh.co.uk

Old Lab
Summerhall, 1 Summerhall Place

Booking
T +44 131 560 158
https://festival18.summerhall.co.uk/event/everything-not-saved/

Contact
Breffni Holahan
Producer
E malaproptheatre@gmail.com
T +353 87 234 0832
www.malaproptheatre.com
Brian and Donna’s son is nine years old, and he’s struggling. That’s what his teacher says. Says he should see a psychologist. But Brian and Donna – recently separated – never liked school, never liked teachers. So are they going to trust this one? And should they?

*Class* is an explosive triple confrontation in a classroom over learning difficulties, love and entitlement. Funny, heart-breaking and beautifully observed, with rave reviews and a sold-out run at the Abbey Theatre, *Class* is new Irish writing at its finest.

★★★★★ ‘An inspired look at society through the prism of a parent-teacher meeting’ SUNDAY TIMES IRELAND

Thursday 2 – Sunday 26 August
Various Times – please see grid at the back of this brochure
(1 hour 25 minutes)
Giselle is a haunting story of love and betrayal. Our modern re-telling of this romantic classic is a timeless tale about the redemptive power of love. Betrayed by Albrecht, Giselle dies of a broken heart but her spirit returns to protect and forgive her now repenting lover from death at the hands of the vengeful Wilis.

★★★★ ‘A 21st century Giselle... Brave and breathtakingly beautiful at times, Ballet Ireland’s Giselle borders on the sublime... exquisitely executed, with traditional en pointe sequences seeming to find a new, expressive freedom.’

THEARTSREVIEW.COM

Friday 3 – Sunday 19 August
No Performance 6 or 13 August
8.45pm (100 minutes including 20-minute interval)

Dance Base
Venue 22, 14 – 16 Grassmarket

Booking
T +44 131 225 5525
E dance@dancebase.co.uk
www.dancebase.co.uk

Contact
Martin Lindinger
General Manager
E martin@balletireland.ie
T +44 7513 501260
www.balletireland.ie
Three women. Three conversations. Listen carefully. A psychological puzzle and a quietly devastating tragedy, The Approach explores the inner lives of Anna, Cora and Denise as they desperately try to make sense of their world.

What will their conversations reveal? And what does each of them have to hide?

Mark O’Rowe (Howie the Rookie, Terminus) is one of Ireland’s leading playwrights.

‘Three of the finest performers of their generation’ (IRISH TIMES) – Cathy Belton, Derbhle Crotty, Aisling O’Sullivan – star in O’Rowe’s ‘quite simply stunning new play (SUNDAY INDEPENDENT).

‘a dream team of actors at the top of their game … superlative’ SUNDAY TIMES

Thursday 2 – Sunday 26 August
No Performance 8, 15, 22 August
1.25pm (65 minutes)
Triple Fringe First and Olivier Award-winning Fishamble’s Maz and Bricks tells the story of two young people who meet over the course of a day in Dublin.

Maz is attending a ‘Repeal the 8th’ demonstration, while Bricks is going to meet the mother of his young daughter. As the day unfolds, the two become unlikely friends, changing each other in ways they never thought possible.

Fishamble recently premiered the play in Ireland to great critical acclaim: ‘marvellous theatre... perfect and unmissable’ (SUNDAY INDEPENDENT); ‘original… inspired’ (SUNDAY BUSINESS POST); ‘particularly timely… excruciatingly funny… powerful’ (IRISH INDEPENDENT).

Wednesday 1 – Sunday 26 August. Previews 1 & 3 August No Performances on 2, 6, 13, 20 August 5.55pm (80 minutes)
Liz Roche’s WRoNGHEADED merges film, voice and movement to confront the realities of women’s rights and freedom of choice in Ireland. The fierce spoken words of Galway poet Elaine Feeney drive the piece, with electrifying performances by exceptional dancers Sarah Cerneaux and Justine Cooper interwoven with the exquisite work of film maker Mary Wycherley, composer Ray Harman and lighting designer Stephen Dodd. All elements are gathered together to create an intense forum for emotion and physicality but ultimately, WRoNGHEADED is a refuge from the debate and an expression of hope as Ireland enters brave new territory after it historic landslide vote to change its constitution and allow women the possibility of choice.

★★★★ “...there’s an urgency, immediacy and power to Wrongheaded that catches your breath… Not to be missed.’

THE ARTS REVIEW

Thursday 2 – Sunday 19 August
No Performance 6, 13 August
1.30pm (30 minutes)

Dance Base
Venue 22, 14 – 16 Grassmarket

Booking
T +44 131 225 5525
E dance@dancebase.co.uk

Contact
Moyra D’Arcy
Company Manager
E moyra@lizrochecompany.com
T +353 87 231 4183
www.lizrochecompany.com
PAN NARRANS THEATRE/PRIME CUT PRODUCTIONS

MY LEFT NUT

Written by Michael Patrick and Oisín Kearney

The true story of a Belfast boy growing up with no father to guide him through, and a giant ball to weigh him down. Nominated for the Bewley’s Little Gem Award at Dublin Fringe 2017.

★★★★ ‘laughing one minute, crying the next... a terrific performance of a touching story’ IRISH SUNDAY TIMES

★★★★ ‘what fringe theatre is all about... fresh, pure entertainment that shouldn’t be missed.’ THE REVIEWS HUB

‘by far, the funniest and most heartbreaking piece of work I have seen at The [Dublin] Fringe... A fantastically innovative piece of work which expertly combines comedy and tragedy’ MONTHLY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Wednesday 1 – Sunday 26 August
No Performances 6, 13, 20 August
1.15pm (55 minutes)

Red Lecture Theatre
Summerhall
1 Summerhall

Booking
T +44 131 560 1580
https://festival18.summerhall.co.uk/event/my-left-nut/

Contact
Michael Patrick
Co-artistic director, Pan Narrans Theatre/co-author/performer
E mtpatrick314@gmail.com
T +44 7821 756 437
www.pannarranstheatre.com
www.primecutproductions.co.uk
Edinburgh International Book Festival

11 - 27 August
Charlotte Square Gardens
BOOKING
T +44 (0)345 373 5888
E boxoffice@edbookfest.co.uk

Full Festival details are available here:
www.edbookfest.co.uk

Culture Ireland continues its support of the Edinburgh International Book Festival and its programme. The following is just a selection of the many events featuring Irish writers.
DARREN SHAN’S DARK CREATURES
12 August, 3.30pm, Spiegeltent
For Ages 12+

Darren Shan’s Zom-B series is contagiously addictive, Lord Loss is the demonic creature of nightmares and Cirque Du Freak has the reader making deals with vampires. For this event, Darren Shan talks about his monstrous writing career in all its gory detail.

PAUL LYNCH & PAUL HOWARTH
12 August, 5.00pm, Writers’ Retreat

Paul Lynch’s novel Grace is a haunting evocation of the Great Irish Famine of 1845. Joining with Paul Howarth’s Only Killers and Thieves each book, in different ways, is reminiscent of Cormac McCarthy and they add up to unforgettable stories laced with myth, memory and violence.
MALACHI O’DOHERTY – DISSECTING GERRY ADAMS
16 August, 12.15pm,
Spark Theatre on George Street

Malachi O’Doherty’s experiences covering Ireland as a journalist and growing up in Belfast during the Troubles leave him well-placed to analyse the character and legacy of Gerry Adams, the man who transformed from a revolutionary street activist to a mover and shaker with Prime Ministers and Presidents.

DEREK LANDY – SKULDUSSERY PLEASANT
19 August, 3.45pm,
Spark Theatre on George Street
For ages 10 – 14

Skulduggery Pleasant and Valkyrie Cain are back in Derek Landy’s most gripping story yet. Midnight, the 11th instalment in Derek’s hugely successful series, picks up where Resurrection left off. Come along to a bone-shaking event with the author of this edge-of-your-seat story and help Derek to crack his latest case. A non-stop action-filled thriller.
HELENA DUGGAN & CHRISTOPHER EDGE: QUIRKY ADVENTURES
19 August, 5.00pm, Baillie Gifford Imagination Lab
For ages 10 – 14

Two masters of quirky and unforgettable adventures have been invited to share the stage. Explore the real-life science behind Christopher Edge’s new mind-bending mystery, The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day, and venture back to Perfect with Helena Duggan in the second instalment of her creepy A Place Called Perfect series.

DONAL RYAN & KAMILA SHAMSIE – CROSSING CONTINENTS
24 August, 10.15am, Spiegeltent

Donal Ryan’s novels are a thrilling journey into the psyche of everyday Irish folk, but From a Low and Quiet Sea departs from his previous three books by extending its setting beyond rural Ireland into war-torn Syria. Kamila Shamsie’s highly praised Home Fire is another transnational novel, a contemporary take on the Antigone myth, looking at why people become radicalised in the modern world.
UNBOUND – POETRY IRELAND
SOUL CLAP ITS HANDS AND SING
24 August 9.00pm, Spiegeltent

Bilingual poet Doireann Ní Ghríofa presents a series of new poems, in a live performance with a sonic landscape by composer Linda Buckley. They are joined by two of Scotland’s finest traditional musicians, Brighde Chaimbeul and Aidan O’Rourke, weaving in and out of each others’ work to spin a tapestry of Celtic music and lyric. *Presented in partnership with Poetry Ireland*

JOHN BOYNE – BEG, BORROW AND STEAL
25 August, 2:00pm, Spark Theatre on George Street

John Boyne has built on the staggering success of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* with a series of acclaimed novels for adults. Today he launches *A Ladder to the Sky*, a fascinating portrayal of Maurice Swift, a would-be writer who finds that literary success can come by stealing stories. Chaired by Lee Randall.
Eileen Battersby is an award-winning Irish critic with a passion for literature in translation. Nicola Lagioia is one of Italy’s finest living writers. Both have produced novels that are beautifully-crafted, mesmerising and remarkable. Eileen Battersby’s *Teethmarks on My Tongue* is the story of a horse-crazy teenager while Nicola Lagioia’s *Ferocity* (translated by Antony Shugaar) is a family tragedy centred around the daughter of a prominent property developer.
Founded in 2001, Branar has consistently produced high quality theatre for children throughout its 17 year history. Combining puppetry, ensemble performance, original music & storytelling they create shows that are distinctive in style, captivating audiences both young and old. The company tours throughout Ireland and internationally every year. Their work has been presented at festivals and venues in Europe, the USA, China and Japan, and they frequently collaborate with national and international co-producing partners, including Denmark’s Teatar Refleksion and Scotland’s Starcatchers. Later in August, they will present *How to Catch a Star* at the Purcell Room in London’s Southbank Centre as part of Culture Ireland GB18.
Irish Theatre Institute (ITI) is a resource organisation that nurtures, promotes and drives the ambition of Irish theatre-makers from its grassroots beginnings to its presentation on the world stage. Working to maximise creative opportunities and resources for performing artists and producers across theatre and dance both in Ireland and an international context, ITI provides mentoring, training and continuing professional development for theatre makers including writers, performers, producers, designers and directors. In addition, ITI runs bespoke artist development programmes, hosts tailor-made websites and searchable databases. In partnership with Culture Ireland, ITI presents key annual networking events in Dublin Fringe (Information Toolbox) and Dublin Theatre Festival (International Theatre eXchange), offering international presenters and programmers a setting in which to engage with Irish theatre makers with a view to developing collaborations and touring opportunities.
Maura O’Keeffe is an independent performing arts producer with over 25 years’ experience both nationally and internationally. She is currently working with Corcadorca on international opportunities for their production of *The Same* by Enda Walsh, premiered to acclaim in Cork in 2017. In addition, Maura is Associate Producer with Gare St Lazare Ireland, an Irish theatre company internationally renowned for their stagings of Beckett’s prose works. Other current independent producing projects include: *Concert*, a solo dance show by Colin Dunne created in collaboration with Mel Mercier and Sinead Rushe; *BackStage*, by Tom Lane commissioned by Cork Opera House for Cork Midsummer Festival 2018; *Duet*, a new dance collaboration by Colin Dunne and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui scheduled to premiere at Dublin Dance Festival 2019; *The Big Chapel*, a site-specific adaptation in Ireland of Tim Kilroy’s novel of the same name – an Asylum Productions/Abbey Theatre/Kilkenny Arts Festival coproduction (Kilkenny Arts Festival 2019); 2019); and *Elsewhere*, a new opera by Michael Gallen, a coproduction with Miroirs Étendus (Paris) and L’Opéra de Rouen (Normandie).
GEMMA REEVES
General Manager,
Rough Magic Theatre Company
T +353 1 671 9278
E gemma@roughmagic.ie
www.roughmagic.ie

Since its foundation in 1984, Rough Magic regularly performs at Dublin’s Project Arts Centre and other major venues, and tours in Ireland, the UK and beyond, garnering many awards both at home and abroad. The company has won many major awards including four Irish Times Awards for Best Production, two Edinburgh Fringe Firsts, a London Time Out Award and countless awards to individual artists working on Rough Magic productions. An acknowledged leader of professional development in Irish theatre, Rough Magic’s SEEDS programme was launched in 2001 and has become an engine for the support and advancement of a new generation of artists. In 2011 ADVANCE, a parallel programme for established artists, was founded. The Company is currently in rehearsals for *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* at Kilkenny Arts Festival 2018 and as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival 2018, will premiere a new stage adaptation by Arthur Riordan of *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce.
Joanne is a multi-award winning Irish actor, voice over artist and playwright. Her solo multimedia show *Eggsistentialism*, (written and performed by Joanne, directed and developed by Veronica Coburn) premiered in Dublin Fringe Festival in 2016 and was presented as part of Culture Ireland’s Showcase at the 2017 Edinburgh Fringe Festival where it enjoyed critical acclaim and won a Lustrum Award, a Best Storytelling Bouquet and The Melbourne Fringe Tour Ready Award. Subsequently Joanne has toured the show to Cyprus and was the first Irish theatre maker ever to present work there. Earlier this year, the work was presented in London at the Bush and Arcola Theatres and later in 2018, she travels to Malaysia, Australia and Liverpool for further performances.