

The Abbey Theatre

A story that connects us to who we are



Abbey Theatre logo



Irish Literary Theatre

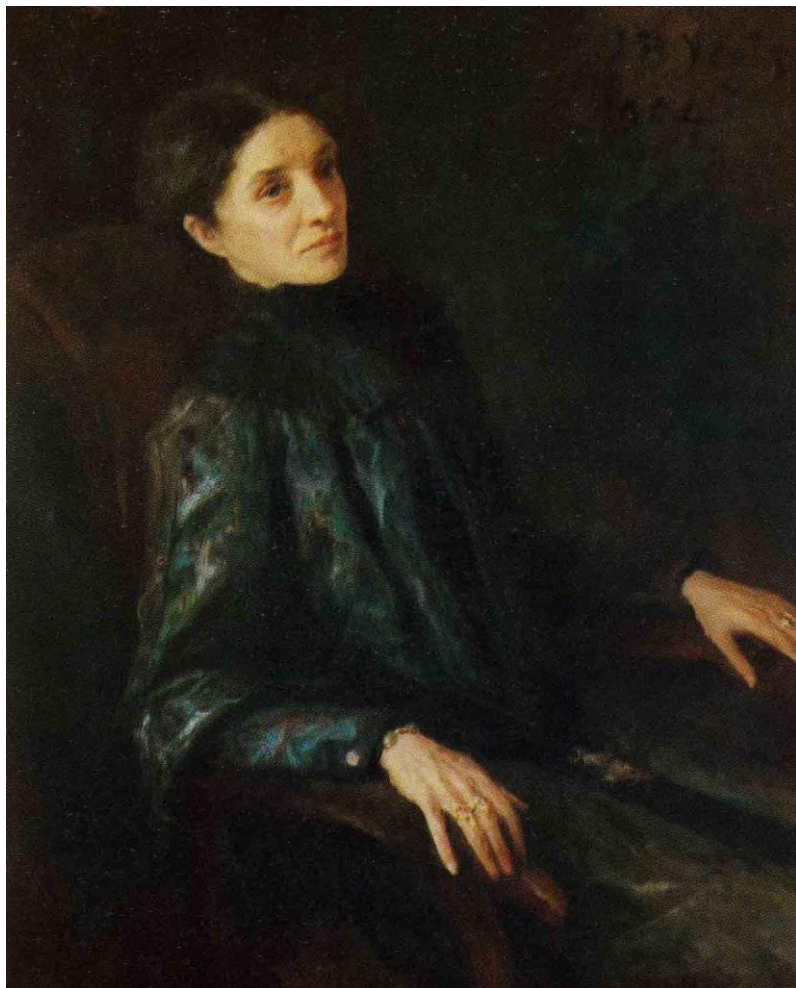


Irish Literary Theatre

We propose to have performed, in Dublin, in the spring of every year certain Celtic and Irish plays, which, whatever their degree of excellence, will be written with a high ambition, and so ***build up a Celtic and Irish school of dramatic literature***. We hope to find in Ireland an uncorrupted and imaginative audience, trained to listen by its passion for oratory, and believe that our desire ***to bring upon the stage the deeper thoughts and emotions of Ireland*** will ensure for us a tolerant welcome, and that freedom to experiment which is not found in the theatres of England, and without which no new movement in art or literature can succeed. We will show that Ireland is not the home of buffoonery and easy sentiment, as it has been represented, but the home of an ancient idealism. We are confident of the support of all Irish people, who are weary of misrepresentation, in carrying out ***a work that is outside all the political questions that divide us***.



Annie Horniman



Opening of the Abbey Theatre 1904



Opening performances

Production for the first time on any Stage of **On Baile's Strand** and **Spreading the News**, on Tuesday, 27th December, 1904, and every evening till Tuesday, 3rd January, 1905.

ON BAILE'S STRAND, A PLAY IN ONE ACT, BY W. B. YEATS.

CUCHULLAIN, the King of Muirthemne	F. J. Fay
CONCOBAR, the High King of Ullad	George Roberts
DAIRE, a King	Arthur Sinclair
FINTAIN, a blind man	Seumas O'Sullivan
BARACH, a fool	W. G. Fay
A YOUNG MAN	P. MacSiubhlaigh
YOUNG KINGS and	{ Maire Ni Gharbhaigh, Emma Vernon, Sara Algood, Doreen Gunning, R. Nash, N. Power, U. Wright, E. Keegan.
OLD KINGS	

SCENE—A Great Hall by the Sea close to Dundalغان.

Costumes designed by Miss Horniman.

SPREADING THE NEWS, A COMEDY IN ONE ACT, BY LADY GREGORY.

BARTLEY FALLON	W. G. Fay
Mrs. FALLON	Sara Algood
Mrs. TULLY	Emma Vernon
Mrs. TARPEY	Maire Ni Gharbhaigh
SHAWN EARLY	J. H. Dunne
TIM CASEY	George Roberts
JAMES RYAN	Arthur Sinclair
JACK SMITH	P. MacSiubhlaigh
A POLICEMAN	R. S. Nash
A REMOVABLE MAGISTRATE	F. J. Fay

SCENE—The Outskirts of a Fair.

On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 27th, 29th, and 31st December, **On Baile's Strand** will be followed by:—

KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN, A PLAY IN ONE ACT, BY W. B. YEATS

KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN	Marie Nic Shiublaigh
PETER GILLANE	W. G. Fay
BRIDGET GILLANE, his Wife	Sara Algood
MICHAEL GILLANE	{ P. MacSiubhlaigh U. Wright
PATRICK GILLANE	
DELIA CAHEL	Maire Ni Gharbhaigh

SCENE—A Cottage near to Killala, in 1798.

On Wednesday and Friday, 28th and 30th December, and on Monday and Tuesday, 2nd and 3rd January, **On Baile's Strand** will be followed by:—

IN THE SHADOW OF THE GLEN, A PLAY IN ONE ACT, BY J. M. SYNGE.

DAN BURKE, Farmer and Herd	George Roberts
NORA BURKE, his Wife	Maire Nic Shiubhlaigh
MICHAEL DARA, a Young Herd	P. MacSiubhlaigh
A TRAMP	W. G. Fay

SCENE—The last Cottage at the head of a long glen in County Wicklow.

The next production will be a new play in three acts,
by J. M. Synge.

Rentals at the Abbey Theatre 1905 – De Valera on Abbey Stage

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valuable clientele and will
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We do Printing of every description.
Covers, Programmes and Tickets
& Spectacles.
ESTABLISHED 1840.

DR. MA.

A Christmas Hamper.
In III. Acts.

SCENE—The Back-Parlour of Philip Greenish's Shop.

CASTE.

Philip Greenish	(Brother.)	Mr. McHardy-Flint.
Edward Greenish	(Bookseller)	Frank Manico.
Dr. Kelly		E. de Valera.
Tot	(Philip's Grandchild)	Miss C. McHardy-Flint.
Gerty		Mary Hogg.
Amy	(Nieces of the Brothers)	Frances Hogg.
Sister Mary	(Nursing Sister)	Clare Breerton.
Ann Jane	(An Old Servant)	Mrs. McHardy-Flint.

CAROL SINGERS

Miss Margaret Dumpay,	Mr. C. L. A. Scott
Fair Gold Medalist.	Mr. H. Tisdall
Miss Cleore, L.L.S.M.	Mr. Frederick Flint.
Pupils of Mr. RANDAL WOODHOUSE.	

Stage Manager . . . MR. H. TISDALL.

MR. HILLIS'S ORCHESTRA
will play the following Selections:—

OVERTURE	Fra. Davello	AUBER
CHANSON	Trieste	TSCHAIKOWSKY
ROMANZA	—	MATT
SELECTION	Irish	—
MOSQUITOS PARADE	—	WHITNEY
VILLAGE REVELS	—	MATT

WIGS BY LUCAS, COSTUMES BY BURKINSHAW.

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SHIRTMAKING . . . ONLY RELIABLE
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Suburbs.
FINEST CREAMERY BUTTER,
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EGGS.
HOT BUTTERED EGGS
RICH THICK CREAM
SPECIALTY. Is not "branded"
to show what has gone as it should
show the Care.
A Postcard will bring our Year.

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LUCAS'S, 6 Suffolk Street, DUBLIN. Every description of Theatrical Make-up kept in Stock.

The Playboy of the Western World by J.M. Synge

26 January 1907

PROGRAMME.

Saturday, 26th January, 1907, at 8.15 p.m., for seven nights, and Matinée, Saturday, February 2nd at 2.30.

RIDERS TO THE SEA, A PLAY IN ONE ACT, BY J. M. SYNGE.

MAURYA	Sara Allgood
BARTLEY (her son)	W. G. Fay
CATHLEEN	Maire O'Neill
NORA	her Two Daughters
MEN & WOMEN	Brigit O'Dempsey
	Alice O'Sullivan, Annie Allgood, A. Power, U. Wright, J. M. Kerrigan.

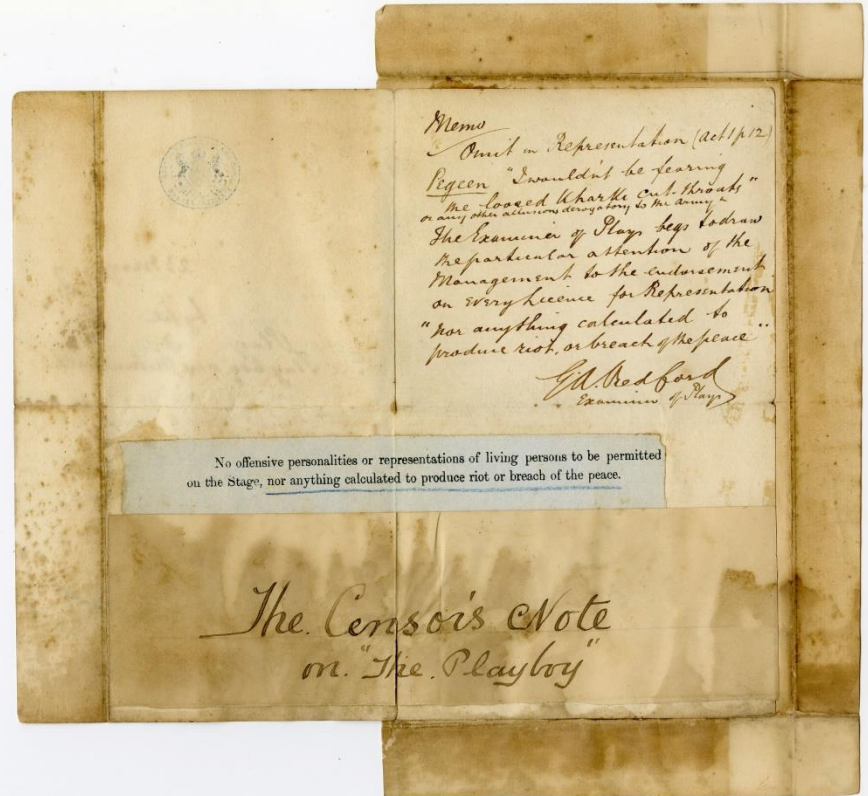
SCENE—A Cottage on an Island off the West of Ireland.

THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD, A COMEDY IN THREE ACTS, BY J. M. SYNGE.

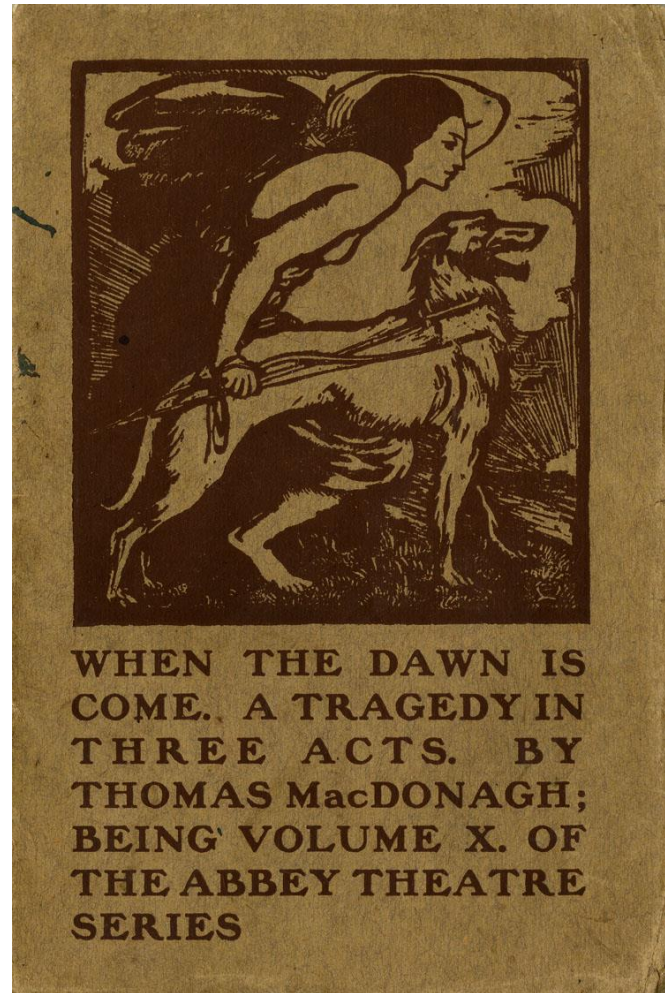
CHRISTOPHER MAHON	W. G. Fay
OLD MAHON, his father, a squatter	A. Power
MICHAEL JAMES FLAHERTY (called "Michael James") a publican	Arthur Sinclair
MARGARET FLAHERTY (called "Pegeen Mike") his daughter	Maire O'Neill
SHAWN KEOGH, her second cousin, a young farmer	F. J. Fay
PHILLY O'CULLEN	J. A. O'Rourke
JIMMY FARRELL	small farmers
WIDOW QUIN	J. M. Kerrigan
SARA TANSEY	Sara Allgood
SUSAN BRADY	Brigit O'Dempsey
HONOR BLAKE	Alice O'Sullivan
PEASANTS	Mary Craig
	U. Wright, Harry Young

SCENE—Flaherty's publichouse.

The action takes place on a dark autumn evening and the following day, on a wild coast of Mayo.



***When the Dawn is Come* by Thomas MacDonagh,
17 October 1908**



First American tour 1911 - 1912



Boston, MA
Providence, RI
Lowell, MA
Salem, MA
Lawrence, MA
New Haven, CT
Northampton, MA
Springfield, MA
Albany, NY
Washington D.C.
New York, NY
Wilkes-Barre, PA
Scranton, PA
Allentown, PA
Easton, PA
Dover, NJ
Philadelphia, PA

Johnston, PA
Pittsburg, PA
Richmond, PA
Indianapolis, IN
Bloomington, IN
Lafayette, IN
Frankfort, IN
Crawfordsville, IN
Champaign, IN
Bloomington, IL
Chicago, IL
Boston, MA



An Rí by P.H. Pearse 1913



Performance in aid of the Building Fund of St. Enda's College, by the Abbey Company (2nd Co.), and the Students of St. Enda's College.

Saturday, 17th May, 1913, at 8.15 p.m.

FIRST PRODUCTION IN DUBLIN:
THE POST OFFICE, A PLAY IN TWO ACTS,
BY RABINDRANATH TAGORE.
PRODUCED BY LENNOX ROBINSON

MADHAV	Philip Guiry
DOCTOR	Charles Power
GAPPER	Michael Conniffe
AMAL, Madhav's adopted child	Lilian Jago
DAIRYMAN	Farrell Pelly
WATCHMAN	H. E. Hutchinson
HEADMAN	James Duffy
SUDHA	Nell Stewart
BOYS	Desmond Murphy, Owen Clarke, Horace Jennings
KING'S HERALD	Thomas Barrett
KING'S PHYSICIAN	Sean Connolly

Act I.—Outside Madhav's House
Act II.—Inside Madhav's House

The Scene (composed of Gordon Craig Screens) has been arranged by J. F. Barlow.

AN RÍ, A MORALITY IN ONE ACT, BY P. H. PEARSE.

PERFORMED BY THE STUDENTS OF ST. ENDA'S COLLEGE

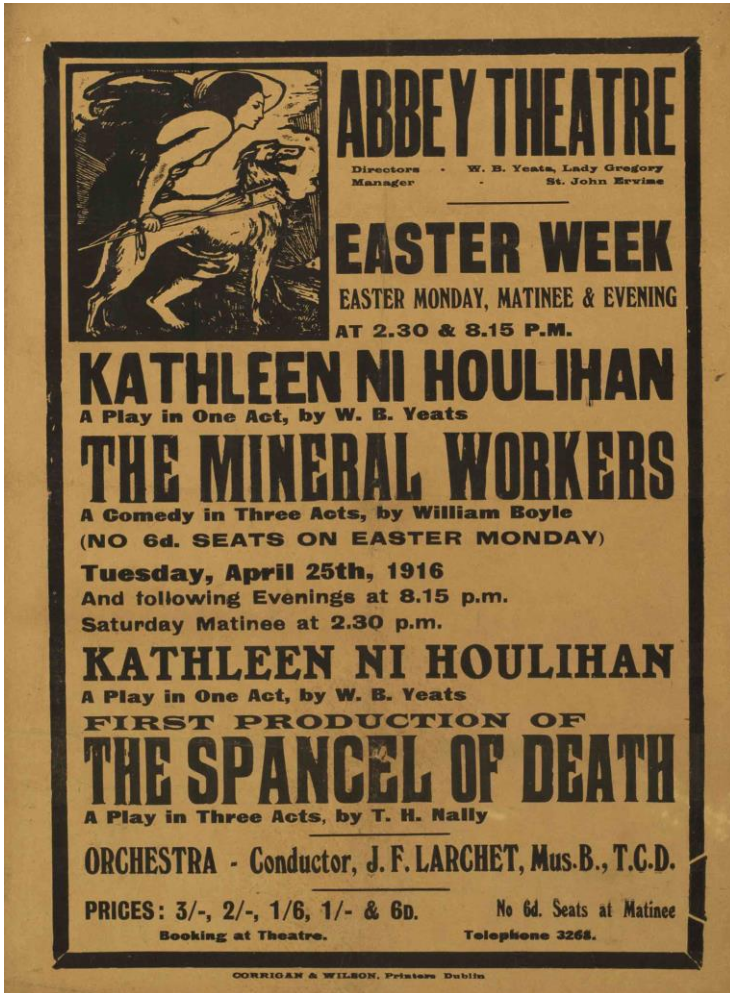
BOYS	{ Alfred Gaynor, Niall MacNeill Brian MacNeill, David Sears
GIOLLA NA NAOMH (the "Servant of the Saints") a little boy	Desmond Carney
MONKS	Desmond Ryan, Bryan Joyce, Frank Burke
AN ABBOT	William Pearse
A SOLDIER	Frank Connolly
A KING	Eamonn Bulfin
HEROES	{ William Kenny, Donal O'Driscoll James C. Rowan, Fred O'Doherty
GILLIES	Joseph Sweeney, Edward Boyle

Scene—An Ancient Monastery

The Play is produced by William Pearse.

THE ABBEY ORCHESTRA, under the direction of JOHN F. LARCHET, R.I.A.M., will play a selection of music during the evening.

Easter Week 1916



ABBAY THEATRE
Directors - W. B. Yeats, Lady Gregory
Manager - St. John Ervine

EASTER WEEK
EASTER MONDAY, MATINEE & EVENING
AT 2.30 & 8.15 P.M.

KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN
A Play in One Act, by W. B. Yeats

THE MINERAL WORKERS
A Comedy in Three Acts, by William Boyle
(NO 6d. SEATS ON EASTER MONDAY)

Tuesday, April 25th, 1916
And following Evenings at 8.15 p.m.
Saturday Matinee at 2.30 p.m.

KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN
A Play in One Act, by W. B. Yeats

FIRST PRODUCTION OF
THE SPANCEL OF DEATH
A Play in Three Acts, by T. H. Nally

ORCHESTRA - Conductor, J. F. LARCHET, Mus.B., T.C.D.

PRICES: 3/-, 2/-, 1/6, 1/- & 6d. No 6d. Seats at Matinee
Booking at Theatre. Telephone 3266.

CORRIGAN & WILSON, Printers Dublin



Sean Connolly



EASTER WEEK

Easter Monday, 24th April, 1916
Matinee and Evening Performances

KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN, A PLAY IN ONE ACT, BY W. B. YEATS

PETER GILLANE	Sean Connolly
PATRICK GILLANE	H. E. Hutchinson
MICHAEL GILLANE	Fred O'Donovan
BRIDGET GILLANE	Kathleen Drago
DELIA CAHEL	Beatrice Drury
KATHLEEN NI HOULIHAN	Nora Desmond

The Period is 1798.

The Scene is Peter Gillane's Cottage near Killala.

"One night I had a dream, almost as distinct as a vision, of a Cottage where there was well-being and firelight and talk of marriage, and into the midst of that cottage there came an old woman in a long cloak. She was Ireland herself, that Kathleen Ni Houlihan, for whom so many songs have been sung, and for whose sake so many have gone to their death. I thought if I could write this out as a little play I could make others see my dream as I had seen it."—W. B. YEATS.

THE MINERAL WORKERS, A COMEDY IN THREE ACTS, BY WM. BOYLE

MARY MULROY	Kathleen Drago
UNCLE BARTLE	J. A. O'Rourke
NED MULROY	Sydney J. Morgan
PATRICK	H. E. Hutchinson
KITTY	Mona O'Driscoll
DAN FOGARTY	Arthur Sinclair
STEPHEN J. O'REILLY	J. M. Kerrigan
MRS. WALTON	Beatrice Drury
MR. CASEY, P.L.G.	Arthur Shields
DICK	Fred Harford
SIR THOMAS MUSGROVE	Fred O'Donovan

ACT I.—A Farmhouse Kitchen

ACTS II. and III.—An Office

Máire Nic Shiubhlaigh 1883 - 1958

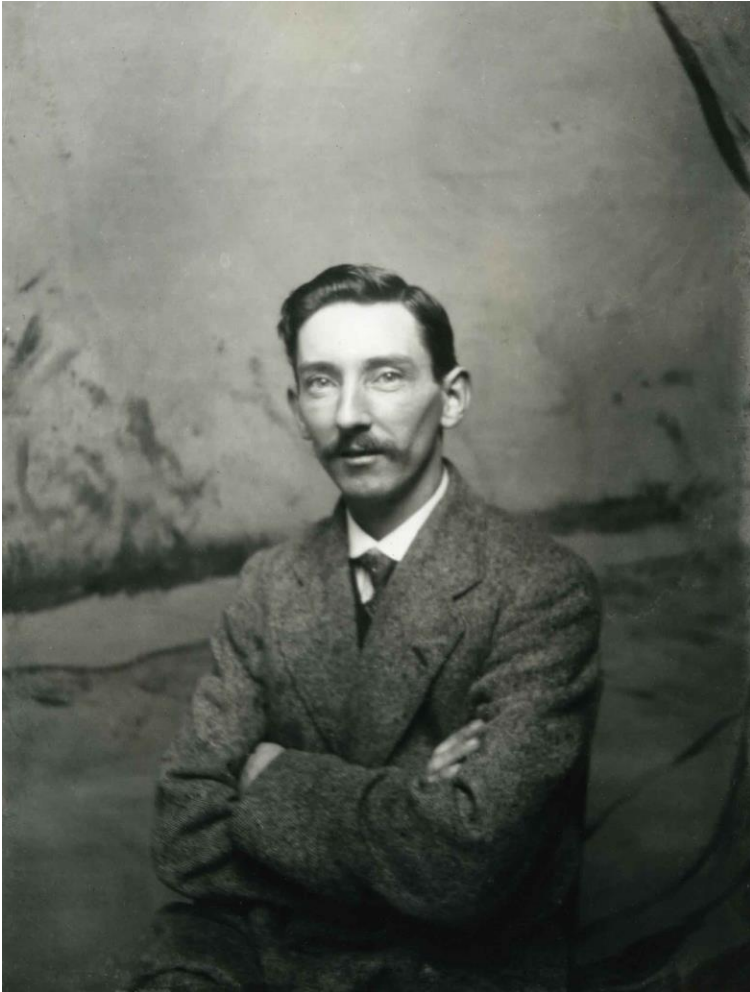


A leading lady of the Irish National Theatre Society and later the Abbey Theatre, Máire Nic Shiubhlaigh played the title role in *Kathleen Ni Houlihan* on the opening night of the theatre in 1904.

A committed nationalist, she acted with both the Abbey Theatre and the Theatre of Ireland company.

A **Cumann na mBan** officer, she took part in the Easter Rising of 1916 serving at **Jacob's Biscuit Factory** under the command of Thomas McDonagh.

Peadar Kearney 1883 - 1942



Abbey Theatre stage hand, scenic artist and occasional actor.

An active member of the **Gaelic League**, **Irish Republican Brotherhood** (I.R.B.) and **Na Fianna Éireann**, Peadar was involved in a number of operations leading to the Rising. He abandoned an Abbey Theatre tour to Liverpool when he heard news of the imminent Rising.

He served with 'B' Company Battalion at **Jacob's Biscuit Factory** under Thomas Mac Donagh. He is also well known for his ballad 'A Soldier's Song' which he set to music composed by Patrick Heeney in 1907. Later it was adopted as the Irish National Anthem.

1926 The Plough and the Stars



1951 Fire



Queen's Theatre



1966 New Abbey Building



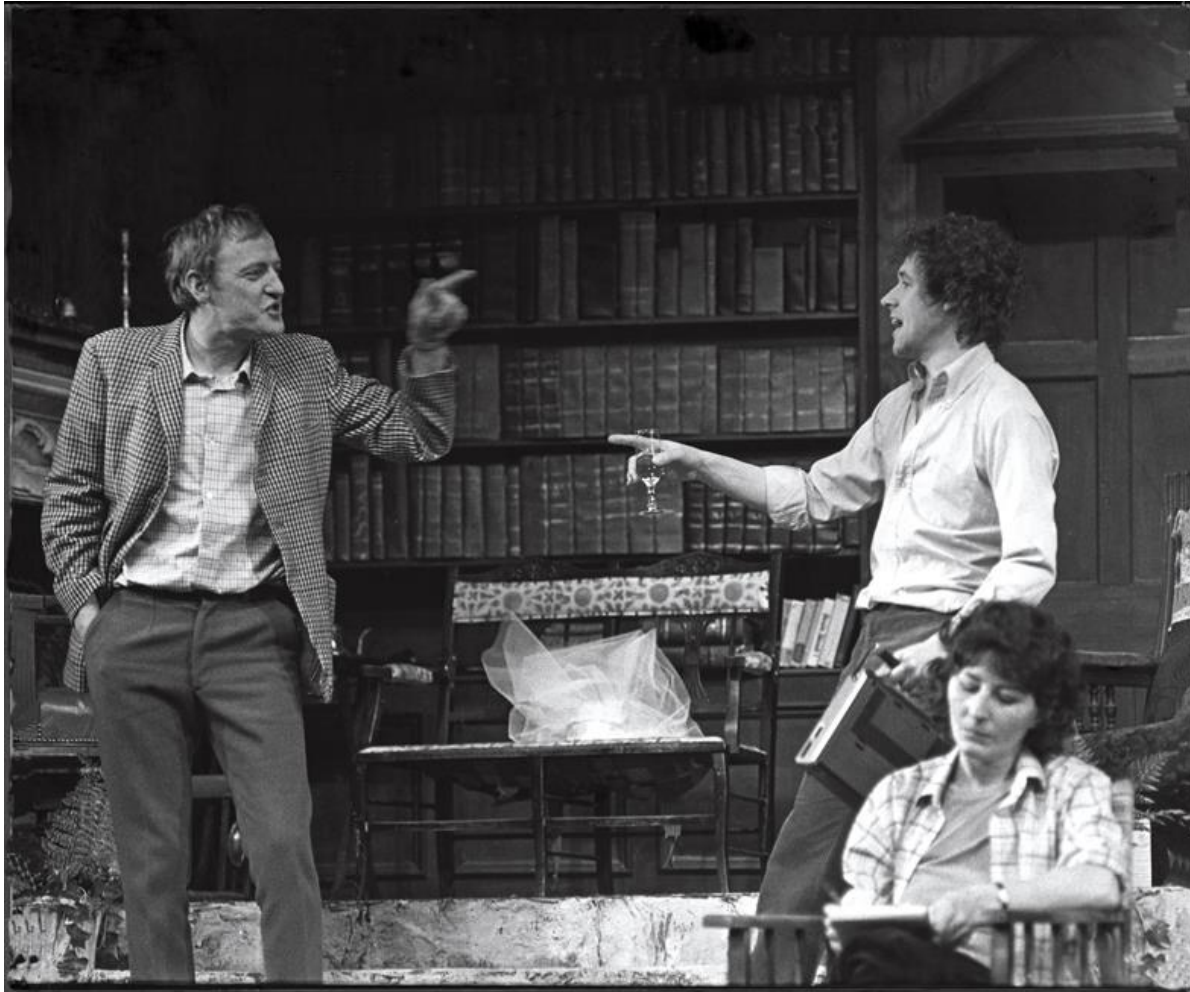
1973 King Oedipus



1978 Diarmaid agus Gráinne



***Aristocrats* by Brian Friel**
World premiere in 1979



Aristocrats by Brian Friel
1979 revival



***Observe the Sons of Ulster
go Marching Towards the Somme*** by Frank McGuinness



1990 Portico



***Dancing at Lughnasa* by Brian Friel**
1990



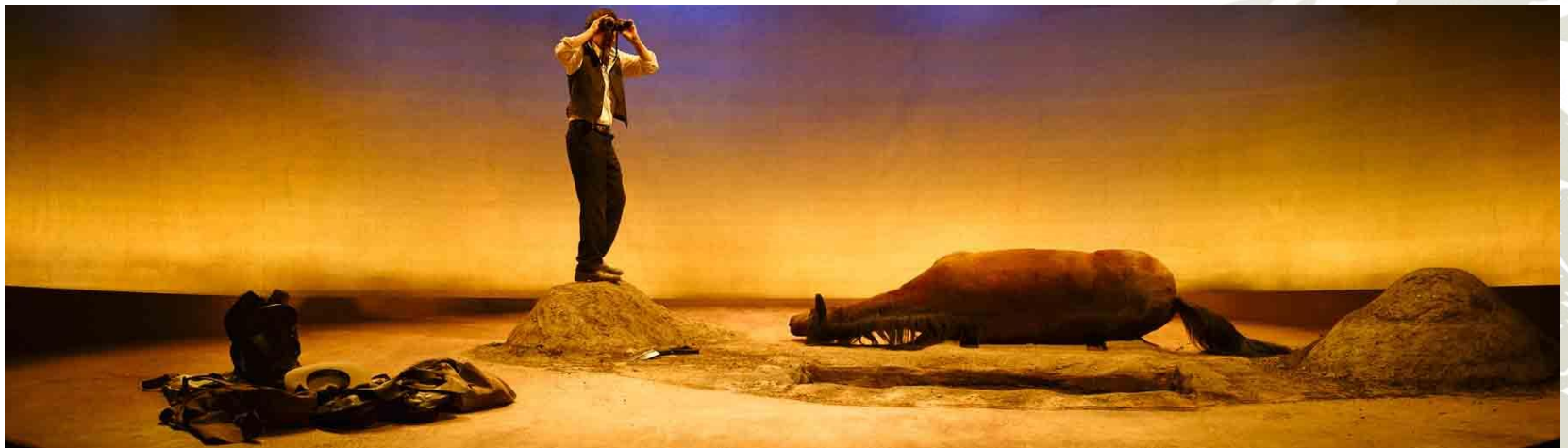
Observe the Sons of Ulster go Marching Towards the Somme Frank McGuinness



***By the Bog of Cats* by Marina Carr
1998**



***Kicking a Dead Horse* by Sam Shepard
2007**



The Burial at Thebes by Seamus Heaney
2008



Seamus Heaney and Brian Friel

