ABSOLUT® DUBLIN GAY® THEATRE FESTIVAL



4th-17th May 2009 www.gaytheatre.ie



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 7.45pm

THE ACTORS CIRCLE, LONDON, UK

THE BIRD SANCTUARY

IRISH PREMIERE

Set in one of the grandest houses in Dublin, the play is a mystical comedydrama from one of Ireland's finest playwrights Frank Mc Guinness. One magnificent day of tension, fighting, drinking, crying, laughing and soulsearching in the life of the Henryson family. Eleanor left the family home three years ago - now her previously distant sister returns with an almost irresistible deal...not seen in Dublin since its Irish premiere at the Abbey Theatre.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10) Duration 100 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

IMDLALO PRODUCTIONS, ZWIMBABWE

FUROPFAN PREMIFRE

Zimbabwe - a homophobic, menacing environment where family bonds are put to the test as sexuality and political intolerance foster hatred. Kilem and Sizwe are blood brothers but when their realities are challenged by HIV a trail of destruction follows. This moving comedy leaves you in tears and stitches as it illustrates the nuances of Zimbabwe's politics and takes a magnified look at a troubled society, sexuality, HIV and brotherly love.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 4.30pm €10) Duration 70 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8.15pm

BRIGHT HEIGHTS THEATRE, LONDON, UK

A DOG CALLED REDEMPTION

IRISH PREMIERE

Winner: Best New Play Award, Manchester Evening News Theatre Awards 2008. A 'luminous portrait of men damaged not only by life on the streets, but life in general', (The Metro) it is the hilarious and touching story of the unlikely friendship formed by two homeless men on the cold streets of London. Top class performances by the young writer, Matthew Landers, himself and Graham Elwell the play contains strong language, graphic imagery and brief male nudity.

PROJECT ATRS

CENTRE

(2)

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 3pm €10) Duration 65 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 9.30pm

SUDHAM TEATRO, MADRID, SPAIN

SILENCIADOS

IRISH PREMIERE

Five separate stories, tied together through a common theme of sexual discrimination. Prisoner 1895 is in Auschwitz, caught in a Pink Triangle; Octavio Acuna is a gay activist, killed in a small town in 2004; Jesus Prieto is a gay Christian struggling with his religious and sexual identity; Paulina is a Guatemalan transsexual and, finally, Mateo Radriguez, a victim of bullying. Silenciados is a story of gay men but with a universal message. It is a visual treat of a human tale of abuse of power, struggle against injustice and ignorance, and finding self-acceptance and the acceptance of others. Uplifting.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 4.30pm €10) Duration 70 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 8pm

IMAGINARY FORCES, LONDON, UK

THE IRON EYELASHES -AFTER THE WALL

WORLD PREMIERE

Pieter is a drag artist who works in West Berlin, but lives with Anna in East Berlin. The play explores the lives of the siblings separated the night the wall goes up. The day after the wall's rise, Pieter must make a decision: return to his family and face the restrictions of the East, or find freedom in the West. - alone. The events either side of the wall conspire to dominate the rest of Pieter and Anna's lives through music, drama and memory.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

CREATIVE CONCEPT PRODUCTIONS, NEW YORK, USA

TWO BOYS IN A BED on a cold winter's night

2 Boys in a Bed on a Cold Winter's Night – James Edwin Parker's comic tale is about how not to behave during a one-night stand, but it is also a sharp-eyed exploration of emotional intimacy. The complete innocence of the acting, never loses track of the inner desires and longings of the heart. 2 Boys in a Bed is a beautifully crafted chamber timeless piece containing nudity.

TICKETS: **€15 (Conc. €13)** (Mon. & Sat. Matinee @ 5pm €10) Duration 65 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8pm

MUSIC THEATRE, DUBLIN, IRELAND

LISTEN TO MY HEART

IRISH PREMIERE

The songs of gay icon David Friedman,makes its long awaited Irish Premiere starring a group of West End and internationally renowned performers. This wonderful contemporary musical journey, will lift your spirits and send you singing into the streets. New York composer David Friedman is best known for his compositions for Disney and Diana Ross. Listen To My Heart was first performed at the infamous Studio 54 Broadway, which placed Friedman firmly on the world musical map. Writing from the heart, his music addresses issues that are universal to us all, which chronicle the lives, loves and losses of our modern times.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 1pm €10) Duration 80 mins.



MON. 11th - WED. 13th MAY @ 9.30pm

NEW THEMATICAL DANCE THEATRE, BERLIN, GERMANY

TCHAIKOVSKY'S WIFE

IRISH PREMIERE

Who knows about Tchaikovsky's brief and hidden marriage? The composer was gay — the forbidden love, which caused his pain and passion, the sweet element of his music, the dreams, which came to life in notes. The play is about the last days of Tchaikovsky's wife who sacrificed everything for the person she loved and eventually went mad. The play uses elements of dance, pantomime and visual effects.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13)
Duration 70 mins.



THU. 14th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 9.30 pm

BANG OUT OF ORDER THEATRE, DUBLIN

GOODNIGHT ALICE

WORLD PREMIERE

Tim's life as a gay single father is difficult enough without the interference of his over protective mother Rose and Alice the aunt from hell. 'Goodnight Alice' now a full length play, is a funny and provocative look at a highly dysfunctional Dublin family. The play runs a mad gamut from an embarrassing court appearance, to stardom, to intimidating restaurants..... all guaranteed to put a smile on your face

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 5pm €10) Duration 70 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 8pm

THEATRE NORTH, NORTH YORKSHIRE, UK

LORD ARTHUR'S BED

IRISH PREMIERE

2008 - City slickers Donald and Jim are celebrating their civil partnership

1868 – Wealthy young cross-dressers Ernest (Stella) and Fred (Fanny) are celebrating Stella's "marriage" to Lord Arthur Clinton MP.

Weaving these stories together, this powerful and funny play documents the farcical trial that gripped England 25 years before the downfall of Oscar Wilde. Having 'Sold Out' in Brighton, Manchester and London, Theatre North now comes to Dublin with this extraordinary new play about the lives of gay men today and in the nineteenth century.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Mon. & Sat. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10) Duration 70 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

THE GAY4PAY CO-OP, ALBERTA, CANADA

BASH'd!

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

This fast paced, high energy, musical love story, told almost entirely in rhyme. Is performed by two gay hip hop artists, Feminem & T-BAG. BASH'd! tells the story of Jack and Dillon, a pair of lovers; one of whom is bashed, prompting the other to take revenge. Loosely based on a real life spike in hate crimes in Alberta, Canada during the national equal marriage debate, BASH'd! turns rap on itself and explores the effects of violence directed towards the LGBT community and the emotions of being treated like a second class citizen... Eminem watch out!



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8pm

INDEPENDENT THEATRE ENSEMBLE, INDIANA, USA

THE PICTURE (of DORIAN GRAY)

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

How far would you go to get everything you want?

Based on Oscar Wilde's novel The Picture of Dorian Gray, this highly physical, exciting new adaptation examines issues of gender, sexuality, and morality – which were central to Wilde's trail and conviction. Three actors explore Dorian's world as well as their own in this tale of obsession, extravagance, and lust.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10) Duration 75 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 9.30pm

THREE TO A ROOM, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

I LOVE YOU, BRO

IRISH PREMIERE

SEX, SPIES, LOVE & LIES: THE TRUE STORY OF THE BOY WHO CONSPIRED TO MURDER HIMSELF

Inspired by real events, Adam Cass' bleakly funny, deeply theatrical monologue delves into the mind of a teenage chat-room junkie, who spins a web of deceit that destroys two lives - all for the glory of love. I Love You, Bro premiered at the 2007 Melbourne Fringe and wowed audiences in Edinburgh in 2008. Now, fresh from seasons at the Malthouse Theatre (Melbourne) and the famous Spiegeltent, Three to a Room makes a triumphant return to Europe with this transfixing original work.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 4pm €10) Duration 70 mins.





MON. 4th - WED. 6th MAY @ 8pm

INDEPENDENT YOUTH THEATRE, DUBLIN

KILLED BY CURRICULUM

This dark comedy is based around the concept of influence and is placed within the context of a typical sixth year classroom. One of the main themes in the play is the 'weight of words that resonate'. This is represented through the reactions of the students to the prescribed poetry on the Leaving Certificate Curriculum. The narrative dips in and out of rhyme as the six main characters compete through tragedy with their own stories that are all unified by the same question: 'Do you Identify?'.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Mon. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10)

THU. 7th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 8pm

DAN BERNITT PRODUCTIONS, NEW YORK, USA

PHI ΔLPHA GAMMA

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Two years after a gay-bashing scarred the fraternity's reputation, how will the group react when a brother comes out of the closet? Using the structure of a Greek tragedy, Phi Alpha Gamma weaves together the voices of four fraternity brothers as they grapple with the remnants of a hate crime and their own fears. This haunting portrait of panic focuses a compassionate eye on the complicated threads of this hidden brotherhood embedded in Americana.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13)



MON. 4th MAY - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

TRUANT COMPANY, MANCHESTER, UK

CARE TAKERS

WORLD PREMIERE

"Those who stay aren't the ones who care."

Ms Lawson, a new teacher at St Margaret's High, believes Jamie Harrow is being bullied because he's gay. She wants to help but Mrs Rutter, the Deputy Head, seems to think it will sort itself out. Is she speaking from experience or is there something more unsavoury about her unwillingness to help? A powerful and gripping new drama by award-winning playwright Billy Cowan, winner of 2003 Writing Out International Award for Best New Gay Play and Best New Play of the Year 2005 nominee, Manchester Evening News for Smilin' Through.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Mon. & Sat. Matinee @ 4pm €10) Duration 60 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8pm

TOSOS, NEW YORK, USA

PIG TALE - an Urban Faerie Tale

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Johnny and Dave have been dating casually until one night Dave turns into a pig – literally. Does this mean it's over? Director Mark Finley skilfully trots out an amazingly versatile cast: Patrick Porter as the hunky yet sensitive Johnny, Jesse May as Dave, the boyfriend who morphs into a pig, wearing little more than a snout and leather harness. Tim Dietrich as the hilarious stoner Kyle and Moe Bertran is the wise Cuban trannie, Mama Truth. Chris Weikel's PIG TALE is a witty, 'sexy urban fairy tale with a twist'.

T36

THEATRE

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10) Duration 75 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 9.30pm

ARTSCAPE NEW WRITING PROGRAMME, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

CAREFUL

WORLD PREMIERE

Jean Baxter, a South African actress, finds work difficult to come by in the new South Africa. Then she gets the opportunity to characterise a lesbian in a play. Undertaking this role would mean achieving a lifelong ambition for Jean, the opportunity to travel abroad. Jean, a warm, sensitive, married woman and actress whose preparation is meticulous invites the gay theatre critic Leila Russell who is going to guide Jean with the interpretation of the role. This is the beginning of a delightfully witty and warm-hearted exploration of gender and sexuality, but also of a unique friendship from this multi-award winning group.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 4pm €10) Duration 70 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 8pm

WICZY THEATRE, TORUN, POLAND

BROKEN NAILS

IKISH PKEMIEKE

CAPEL STREET

Marlene Dietrich, old and unhappy, spent the final 13 years of her life in her house in Paris. Away from camera flashes and family, she died alone. The play is an intimate portrait of the star who created a new image of woman – beautiful, independent, enjoying love, being the object of desire of both sexes, distanced, passionate, unearthly. It is a depiction of sacrifices made for love and beauty, and the price one has to pay to parley with fame. A magnificent award winning performance, full of Dietrich classics.

TICKETS: eq 15 (Conc. eq 13)
(Mon. & Sat. Matinee @ 1pm eq 10)
Duration 60 mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

JOHN ARTHUR PINCKARD PRODUCTIONS, NEW YORK, USA

MINOR GODS

FUROPEAN PREMIERE

In a dingy motel room outside Washington D.C., Henry, a prominent geneticist hires a rent boy, Felix, only hours prior to testifying to a senate sub-committee on his 'life's work'. As the night unfolds an enduring connection that has haunted these two men since childhood reveals itself despite the paths they've chosen. Henry asks Felix a simple question: if he could erase the source of all alienation in his life, would he? Teetering between ethics and genetics, sin and sexuality, love and lust, both men must confront their desires and deepest fears before dawn and Henry's release of his solution.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Mon. & Sat. Matinee @ 5pm €10) Duration 75 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8pm

JEFFREY SOLOMON PRODUCTIONS, JACKSON HEIGHTS, USA

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING OUT

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Jeffrey Solomon's madcap and heart warming one man mock-u-mentary reveals the secret romantic life of the beloved childhood icon, and the scandal that stuns the world when the truth leaks out to the public. Mr. Solomon purports to have interviewed all the key characters in this delightful upending of the St. Nick myth, including Santa's toy-making lover, Santa's beard (Mrs. Claus), the Anti-gay crusader who tries to ban Santa, and the little gay boy whose heartfelt letter stirs Claus's conscience and changes Christmas forever. An acclaimed rollicking hit in the States.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 5pm €10) Duration 75 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 9.30pm

LIZABETH WHITNEY PRODUCTIONS, NEW YORK, USA

WONDER WOMAN - THE MUSICAL

TIROPFAN PRFMIFRF

Amazon Princess Diana makes the inevitable realisation that maybe she can't single handedly save the United States – but she can certainly entertain the world! After resigning from the U.S. military and finding that Paradise Island has changed – or maybe it's her – she re-invents herself as a karaokestyle lounge singer on her 'Magic Lasso Comeback Tour' to share thoughts on invincibility, invisibility, and the truth about her relationship with Major Steve Trevor.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. Matinee @ 2.30pm €10) Duration 60 mins.



MON. 4TH - SAT. 9TH MAY @ 8pm

DEAR CONJUNCTION THEATRE COMPANY, PARIS, FRANCE

MORE LIVES THAN ONE – Oscar Wilde and the Black Douglas

IRISH PREMIERE

Originally inspired by Michael MacLiammoir's 'The Importance of Being Oscar', this one man show, cleverly incorporates biography, hilarious and moving extracts from the works and the infamous trials that shocked the world. Leslie Clack presents the fantastic highs and tragic lows of the short, but dazzling life of the great Oscar Wilde and the Marquis of Queesnbury. He tells the story and plays the characters – Dorian, Salomé, Lady Bracknell, Herod, Edward Carson and others. This Wildean cocktail explores the ambition, genius and tragedy that Oscar assimilated, first produced in Paris before taking Edinburgh Festival by storm in 2008.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13)

Duration 70mins.



MON. 4th - SAT. 9th MAY @ 9.30pm

ELIZABETH MOYNIHAN in association with FOCUS THEATRE, DUBLIN

WALNUTS REMIND ME OF MY MOTHER

WORLD PREMIERE

A darkly comic tale of Rua, a young lesbian from a small village where 'everyone knows everyone'. After spending most of her life desperately trying to win her mother's respect and understanding, Rua is forced to leave her hostile environment behind. Rua begins her search hitting the 90's London and Paris club and drug scene. A comic coming of age tale, with a seething and dark under belly, Walnuts follows Rua as she searches for true love, and the understanding of a seemingly distant mother who appears remote for the love Rua craves.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Duration 65 mins.



MON. 11th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 8pm

INTERNATIONAL PLAYWRIGHTS AND ACTORS PRESENT

SHORT SHORTS & VERY SHORTS

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A new innovation of short pieces from Ireland and abroad in one diverse programme including:

THE ADVENTURES OF ... by Kathleen Warnock (USA) which tells the story of 12 year old Maggie and the discovery of just who she is through her favourite old sci-fi TV show.

FRAULEIN HERZIBOTTOMMITZENSCHAFTONLICHHOFF VON KLINKERHOFFEN

by Rachel Devlyn (IRE) a light hearted comedy piece involving song, dance and audience interaction.

BREAK by J. Stephen Brantley (USA) What happens late one night in a seaside mansion when its owner stumbles upon an intruder: a young man withdrawing from his heroin addiction cold turkey?

SEAMUS! SEAMUS? by Mark Yeates (IRE) Is heaven a place on earth? George is soon to be sent to earth against his wishes. His previous lives were unhappy ones; will this new one be any better

HAND JOB by Neal Utterback (USA) In a disconnected world, how do we make contact? This 'slutty romance' is about our deep human need to touch someone and be touched and the difficulty in doing so.

SEVENTY by Brian Merriman (IRE) asks can history repeat itself or is it already doing so?

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13)

Duration 120 mins.



MOSICAL COMES

FRI. 15th - SAT. 16th MAY @ 11pm

DAYMS THE MUSICAL WORKSHOP, IRE

SINGING OUT SIX

WORLD PREMIERE

Singing Out! is back for it's sixth show, about sex...with a lot of romance. Hear the songs of gay composers that get to the heart of the matter, from comedy to pathos in a late night show of music and fun. Join Brian Merriman, Thomas Creighton and Mark Power for the Festival's longest running show - a revue not to be missed.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13)
Duration 90 mins.

BUTTON FACTORY



GALA CELEBRATION & AWARDS

Meet the 'Stars' of the ABSOLUT Dublin Gay Theatre Festival in a night of Celebration at the Gala Concert and Awards Ceremony 2009. Dress to impress on this night of music, drama, dance and glamour as we see selected highlights of the 35 plays presented at this year's Festival together with plenty of Special Guests. Who will win this year's Tipperary Crystal Festival Awards? The Oscar Wilde Award for Best Writing, The Micheal Mac Liammoir Awards for outstanding performance, The Hilton Edwards Award for outstanding production, The Patrick Murray Award for outstanding contribution to Irish Gay Theatre plus the Intercultural Dialogue Award.

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) Doors Open: 7pm



FRI. 15th MAY - SUN. 17th MAY (Various Times) FRI. - 6.30pm SAT. - 1pm & 3.30pm SUN. - 2pm & 4.30pm

THE PECULIUS STAGE COMPANY, DURHAM, UK

THE HAPPY PRINCE

Colourful. Energetic. Fun. Prince and Swallow find friendship in this enchanting adaptation of Oscar Wilde's short story. A magical mix of drama, music and dance guarantees great entertainment for all ages. Every second is filled with a mass of colour and energy, using real life props from poverty-stricken areas around the globe. With advice from Sir Ian McKellen, five young actors imaginatively present Wilde's story, staying true to the intensely thought-provoking images whilst giving them a stimulating contemporary resonance. After many 'sold out' performances in Edinburgh, this heart warming fable is not one to be missed by 'kids' of all ages!

TICKETS: €15 (Conc. €13) (Sat. & SUN. Matinees €10) Duration 60 mins.



MON. 4th - FRI. 8th, SAT. 9th, SAT 16th & SUN. 17th MAY (Various Times) MON.3.30pm FRI.11pm SAT.3.30pm SAT.11pm SUN. 3.30pm

FITZGERALD & STAPLETON WITH LIGHTING BY BARRY MADDEN, DUBLIN

DOG OF ALL CREATION

This latest major choreographic piece creates a new language to convey the creation of being. It describes the will of a creative force, defying all impossibility, which makes life so that humanity can exist and suffer. A cosmic work that points to the future of human destiny. Please note, Fitzgerald & Stapleton along with Lighting Designer Barry Madden will be donating all their ticket income from these shows to St. James's Hospital Foundation 's The New Fill HIV Service. Nudity.

TICKETS: €10 Duration 35 mins.



THURSDAY, 30th APRIL @ 8pm

ABSOLUT DUBLI

ABSOLUT LAUNCH PARTY

BE THERE! You are invited to join us in celebrating the launch of the 2009 ABSOLUT Dublin Gay Theatre Festival in The Front Lounge, Parliament Street at 8.00pm for the ABSOLUT DRAMA QUEEN FESTIVAL LAUNCH PARTY. Join us for a free cocktail and great entertainment to thank you for six years of terrific support - it's all free!

FREE ADMISSION

Please use Parliament Street entrance.



TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT www.gaytheatre.ie also at

FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE, 12 EAST ESSEX ST. TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN 1.

PHONE: 01-677 8511 from 25th April 2009

Meet the casts, crews & volunteers ...

Join us every night for After Show Chat and Drinks at our late night Festival Club. Please ask Festival personnel at each venue for details



- **OUTHOUSE THEATRE** 105 Capel Street, D2
- **COBALT CAFÉ** 16 North Great Georges Street, D1
- **DUBLIN TOURIST CENTRE** Suffolk Street, D2
- FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE Temple Bar Cultural Information Centre, 12 East Essex Street, D2

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- **PANTI BAR** 7/8 Capel Street, D2
- **SMOCK ALLEY THEATRE** Lower Exchange Street, D2
- THE BUTTON FACTORY Curved Street, D2
- THE DRAGON South Great Georges Street, D2
- THE FRONT LOUNGE 33 Parliament Street, D2

- **10 THE GEORGE** 89 South Great Georges Street, D2
- 11 THE NEW THEATRE 43 East Essex Street, D2
- 12 THE PROJECT ARTS CENTRE 39 East Essex Street, D2
- **13** THE TEACHERS CLUB 36 Parnell Square, D1
- **14** GRAFTON CAPITAL HOTEL Lower Stephen Street, D2



















