



19TH INTERNATIONAL DUBLIN GAY THEATRE FESTIVAL

We are back!



1-15

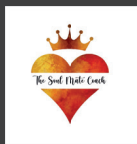
MAY

2022

19TH International Dublin
Gay Theatre Festival
acknowledges the
generous support of:

2022

FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS



TICKETS

€15 Standard Ticket

€13 Concession

€10 All matinees

€25 Venue Ticket

A venue ticket entitles you to attend both the 7.30pm and 9.00pm shows, same venue, same night. Concession tickets are available for students, seniors and unwaged citizens.

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE

Tickets for all performances are now available to book securely online at www.gaytheatre.ie

In Person:

Book in person or over the phone at our Festival Box Office from Monday, April 25th to Saturday May 14th 12.00 to 3.00pm

Festival Box Office:

Street 66 // 33-34 Parliament Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.
Tel: 089 2196898

AT THE DOOR:

There may be some seats available for each performances on the night. You can buy these in the theatre from 30 minutes before curtain up!





PwC is proud to support
the International Dublin
Gay Theatre Festival.



www.pwc.ie

Proud to support The 19th International Festival



DUBLIN LGBTQ+ PRIDE

Dublin Pride Festival - June 22nd to 26th, 2022

dublinpride.ie

Welcome

We are back and we are delighted to welcome you to our 19th Festival! With Covid challenges and the Arts Council denying us any recovery support, it has been quite a roller coaster time since our last successful Festival in 2019. In the interim, we sponsored two Bursary opportunities for new Irish LGBTQ+ theatre which resulted in 65 new plays being created. We published as many as we could in two books, 'The Plays Inside' and '18 and Coming Of Age – the Director's Cut' – both are available at venues and are a great read. Thanks to the support of many kind friends and Dublin LGBTQ Pride, we did our first ever digital festival online in 2021.



Brian Merriman
Founder and
Artistic Director

We recruited many new Executive Committee members to deliver this come-back festival and we are delighted to welcome and thank them. It was great to reach out to companies and to present to you, the best of new Irish writing alongside our friends, from the UK, USA, Australia, Germany, and Canada, all of whom could not wait to come back to Dublin and to engage with you, our loyal and supportive audiences! You will also meet our new volunteers in the venues and backstage - they are the heartbeat of our inclusive Festival.

A particular thanks to all our advertisers here and please support them. Abandoned by the Arts Council, at a time when they were awash with funds, meant we rely on our sponsors and kind donors for support to keep going. Thank you! If you enjoy the Festival, pop the Arts Council an email at info@artscouncil.ie and let them know what they are missing!

We have maintained our low price tickets and maintained our great free events programme for your enjoyment, including our first Irish language event – Failte! Take part in our Seminar and pop along to the free play readings. Tell us what you enjoyed at our nightly Festival Club in a local bar.

Many years ago, our diverse Festival presented an LGBT play from Ukraine, in their own language. They are in our thoughts as they endure unprovoked invasion, as are our Russian LGBT+ family, long terrorised by their own State. It reminds us that the arts, freedom and our democratic ways are worth celebrating in their honour. Let's place their plight central to our own celebratory return of our important work this year. Enjoy the shows!

Brian Merriman, Founder and Artistic Director,

Gareth Hurley, Administrative Director.

Executive Committee 2022:

Ivan O'Loinsaigh Treasurer

Maurice Whelan, Sponsorship

Eimhear O'Dalaigh, Volunteers

Robert C Bates, Technical Director

Derek O'Neill, Technical Director

Gilly Pardy, Administration and support

Niall Williams, Administration

Sarah Busch Seminar Coordinator

David Donovan, Programming Assistant

Brochure designed by Kevin Maciels

Printed by Pisces Print

Join us for our 20th International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival
May 1-14th 2023.

Submissions deadline December 1st 2022

Information on www.gaytheatre.ie

Week One: May 2-7th Players Theatre TCD 7.30pm + matinees

"Curiosity is pretty damn good." The Irish Independent

"Curiosity deals with bisexuality in a very sensitive manner." The Sunday World

**Starring Fair City's
Sorcha Furlong & Annette Flynn**



CURIOSITY

By Amanda Brunker

Curiosity is a tale of female seduction and healing by the No.1 bestselling author Amanda Brunker. Amy has recently learned her husband was cheating on her, with other men. After years of feeling isolated within her marriage, this reality hits her hard and her mental health is suffering.

Heading to 'Sunset Meadow Health Farm' was to be her escape from hatred and self-loathing. Instead an aggressive dose of the winter vomiting bug sweeps the complex leaving her and the other wellness seekers, "abandoned in our shitty rooms to literally shit ourselves into next week!"

There she meets force of nature Martha who manages to seduce her, and ultimately help heal her broken heart and soul.

By novelist and playwright Amanda Brunker. STARRING Fair City's Sorcha Furlong and Annette Flynn.

'Curiosity' contains some strong language, and adult content throughout.

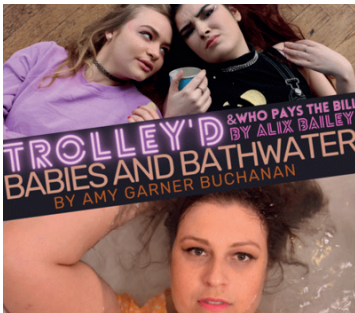
DURATION: 65 minutes

A triple-bill of female comedy drama

TROLLEY'D by Alix Bailey (Ireland)

Jo is struggling to let go of her girlfriend (and her girlfriend's Netflix account), while Paige has accepted her boyfriend will never quite get her where she needs to go. When the two wake up in a trolley on the quays after a long night of vodka, ex's, parties, and Pringles, they must decide whether to get McDonald's or keep the party going.

Starring Alix Bailey and Ashlyn O'Neill, directed by Aoife Morrison, produced by Muirenn Lyons. Lighting design and technical operation by Shauna Anne Lynch.



WHO PAYS THE BILL? by Alix Bailey (Ireland)

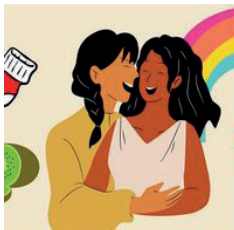
"I don't know if I'm turned on or pissed off."

This three minute spoken word monologue delves into the trials and tribulations of the inexperienced bisexual. Winner of the IDGTF Diversity Short Play Bursary

BABIES AND BATHWATER by Amy Garner Buchanan (Australia) 1956, Melbourne, Australia. Evelyn Parker is the perfect housewife who's taking her almighty husband to court for the most epic divorce imaginable. A surreal short drama about destroying your truth to find out who you are.

"Terrific humour; important drama from an exciting artist" **** – Spy in the Stalls

A double-bill of Irish drama.



THREE QUEENS STUCK IN DUBLIN CITY

by Tadgh Dolan

We're all born naked, but the rest is shade!

Three drag queens from different generations get stuck in an elevator on their way to a corporate pride event. God help us all!

Writer: Tadgh Dolan | *Director:* Clíodhna McAllister | *Cast:* Benjamin Reilly, Biana Ryan | *Lighting:* Chris Merton

QUARANTINE

Terri and Adrian are in love and living together. But what started out as the dream home quickly became an unbearable prison once lockdown started. Frozen chickens, furry gooseberries and frayed nerves impose on a relationship under the strain of confinement.

Will love conquer all?

Will the lockdown ever end?

Will Terri's mother remember why she bought twenty-four kiwi's?

Photo by Ícaro Reis

Week One: May 2-7th Teachers Club Main Hall 9pm + matinees



THE REAL BLACK SWANN

by Les Kurdendall

Les Kurdendall presents the true story of William Dorsey Swann, a former slave who became the Queen of Drag in Washington DC in the late 1800's. Swann fought racism and homophobia and was one of the first LGBTQIA activists in the US. Swann's bravery paved the way for members of the gay community today .

This is a historical trip, prompted by a contemporary medical experience, that you don't want to miss.

DURATION: 60 minutes

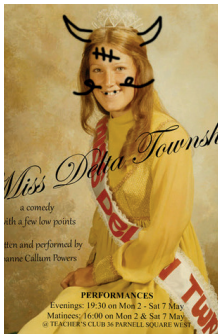
MISS DELTA TOWNSHIP

Can it be a 'coming of age' tale when you've reached a certain age? Who cares? —a story about trying to fit your fantastical dreams into an ordinary life.

Writer/actor Joanne Powers' one-woman show is fast, hilarious, surprising and deeply moving.

'the audience was on their feet clapping and hooting wildly and calling Ms Powers back again and again for one more bow'
— Jerry Reilly.

DURATION: 70 minutes



STRAIGHT ACTING

'Straight Acting' is a situational comedy because Tom cheated on Harry, Audrey has dumped Alan and there's a gay play to be cast by Monday! Harry needs no more complications on or off stage. Alan desperately needs a job and a life. They both need a wingman.

This modern day 'Pygmalion' story throws two unlikely co-stars together on a 24-hour journey that could change their lives. How do you 'play gay' ... in a day?

Written and directed by Brian Merriman. Starring Dane O'Sullivan and Colin Malone. DURATION: 50 minutes. Contains nudity

Colin Malone



Dane O'Sullivan



TAKE DESIRE AWAY

**The queer sensibility of
A.E. Housman, in his own words**

Conceived & performed
by Mansel David

**"A beautifully delivered homage.
I was constantly engaged."**

International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival Reviews

"Very accomplished"

Diarmaid Ferriter, RTE The View

The queer sensibility
of A.E. Housman, in
his own words.

Mansel David revives
his acclaimed show
about A.E. Housman,
the classics scholar
whose self-pu-
blished 1896 poem
cycle 'A Shropshire
Lad' became a
publishing pheno-
menon and con-
nected deeply with
thousands of young
men.

David brings a clear,
queer eye to
Housman's words
– his wistful poems
and very funny let-
ters – and discovers

the yearning and passion burning beneath them.

**"A crafted, beautifully delivered homage to Housman... I was constantly en-
gaged."** – International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival Reviews

"A polished, effective and very accomplished performance." – Diarmaid Fer-
riter, RTE's 'The View'.

Conceived and performed by Mansel David, star of 'The Magnificent Evans'
and 'Yes, Prime Minister'.

DURATION: 60 minutes

Week One: May 2-7th Ireland Institute 27 Pearse Street 9.00pm + matinees

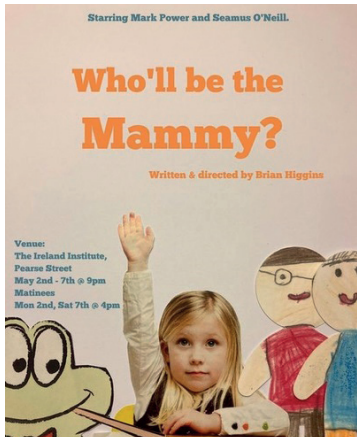
Peter (Seamus O'Neill) wants to have a family but hubby Adam (Mark Power) isn't so sure. It's been off the cards for so much of his life that he's not even given it much thought at all.

But it's now or never for the newlyweds as they enter their fab forties and a tough choice must be made.

Who'll be the Mammy is a comedic dalliance into the minds of these men where we meet unexpected advisors on all things parenting.

Written and directed by IDGTF Best Actor winner 2015, Brian Higgins

DURATION: 60 minutes



For more information visit gaytheatre.ie

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Proudly supporting the 19th Festival.



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Sunday May 1st in Pennylane Bar 3pm Free



A double-bill of free play-readings to open this year's Festival.

HALF OF NOTHING: In a near-future utopia where gender binaries no longer exist, a young teenager struggles with their desire to live as a man. Yaretsi is at that awkward age: their testicles have descended, but their periods haven't started yet, and sex-ed class isn't helping them feel less worried. Yaretsi begins to suspect they might be a man, but that's impossible – no one is a man, or a woman, and anyone who claims otherwise threatens the stability of their genderless utopia?

PORN!: You don't watch it, do you? And you'd never make it, would you? A and B make adult content together. The money is quite good. Their relationship is not. B's need to degrade and objectify her is intensifying. A wonders if she can abandon her relationship – and her income – to escape. Lonely schoolboy C finds excitement and validation in exploring his queer identity in online cam rooms. When B decides to recruit him into his fledgling pornographic empire, their collective plans fall into the gulf between fantasy and reality. **WRITTEN BY:** Ella Skolimowski. **DURATION:** 65 minutes (approx.)

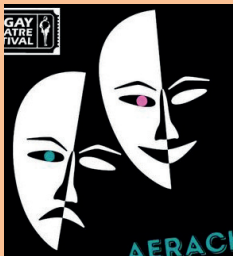
Sunday May 8th Street 66, Parliament Street 3pm Free

Ireland's favourite game show is back and this season we are shaking things up! Twists, turns and in a first for the show, a live studio audience. Tune in to see our three unwitting participants expose their darkest secrets live on air!



'Shame is the Name of the Game' written by Robert Downes and dramaturgy by Tamar Keane is a script currently being developed by SQUAD Productions. We are delighted to be presenting this staged reading of the first act of the play with the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival. **DURATION:** 60 minutes

Saturday May 7th 4.00pm Players Theatre TCD Free



Join us for 5 Irish language mini-plays under development by playwrights from the queer Irish-language arts collective AerachAiteachGaelach. AerachAiteachGaelach was founded by Ciara Ní É and Eoin Mc Evoy in the Abbey Theatre in 2020 and has over 60 members who represent a wide variety of art forms – playwrights, writers, musicians, drag performers and visual artists. AerachAiteachGaelach provides development opportunities, a support network and an audience for our artists to encourage them to continue working through the

medium of Irish. Read more about us at www.aerachaiteachgaelach.net and come find out what our playwrights have been cooking up! DURATION: 65 minutes / FAD: 65 nóiméad. FREE / SAOR IN AISCE

Sunday May 15th Teachers Club Main Hall 3pm Free

We want to engage in a discussion with queer creatives and the audiences they make theatre for. How do artists get LGBTQ work on stage in a heteronormative society? Who comes to see it and what are the genres and topics people seek out? Our panel discussion is with Tony Award winner Adam Weinstock, TOSOS associate Kathleen Warnock, actor Les Kurkendall-Barrett and Irish writer Ella Skolimowski and producer Margaret Van Sant on the challenges they face in making work that is queer, political and challenging the norm. We also want to hear from you our audience members as to how and where they seek out queer art and what it is they want to see on stage? Curated by Sarah Busch.





THE GEORGE

MONDAY
WIN, LOSE OR DRAG

TUESDAY
THE DOLLY GRIP EXPERIENCE

WEDNESDAY
WITCHY WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY
THIRSTY THURSDAY

FRIDAY
DJ SETS

SATURDAY
KARAOKE

SUNDAY
BINGO

WITH PHIL T GORGEOUS, MIZZA,
& DJ STEPHEN DOWLING

WITH DOLLY GRIP & THE GRIPETTES
DJ KAREN

WITH VEDA & HER COVEN
DJ ROCKY T DELGADO

WITH DAVINA DEVINE
DJ CONOR BEHAN


DJ RUTH &
DJ MO

WITH DAVINA DEVINE, VEDA &
DJ CONOR BEHAN

WITH SHIRLEY TEMPLE BAR

SHOWS FROM 8PM

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TOO MUCH?



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& Author of *Be the Soul Mate You Want to Attract*



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At Harold's Cross Surgery we offer full Specialist screening for Sexually Transmitted Infections for men and women. Screening is carried out in a confidential manner in comfortable surroundings. The screening includes blood testing for HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B. We also test for gonorrhea and chlamydia, the commonest bacterial sexually transmitted infection in Ireland and the UK.

At the surgery we provide on-site treatment for genital warts and offer an HIV test and result in 10 minutes. In addition, we offer vaccination against hepatitis A and B.

Guarding your confidentiality
is of utmost importance to the staff of the clinic

www.stdclinic.ie

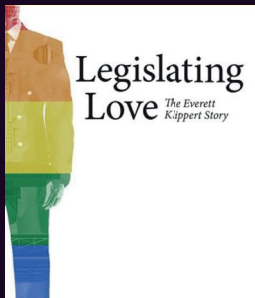
The clinic runs Monday to Friday and is strictly by appointment. Appointments can be made by calling 01-4970022 or 087-2345551

Prices:

Basic Consultation: 60 Euro
Full Sexual Screening: 120 Euro

Dr. Shay Keating, MB, PhD, MRCP, Dip Gum, Dip Occ, Med—Medical Practitioner





Everett Klippert was the last person to be tried, convicted, and jailed for homosexuality in Canada before it was decriminalised.

Everett was a beloved downtown bus driver in Calgary who brightened the day of his passengers. He played on the family baseball team and was everyone's 'favourite uncle'.

Aspiring historian (Maxine) becomes fascinated by Everett's case. Maxine is interviewing people who knew the late Mr. Klippert, including 'Handsome', a former lover of Klippert now in his later years who illuminates Calgary's gay history for her...

Cast: Everett: Matt McKinney; Maxine: Kathy Zaborsky; Handsome: Jay Whitehead. Director: Jason Mehmel
Stage Manager: Deonie Hudson Playwright: Natalie Meisner

DURATION: 75 minutes

333

by Jay Whitehead



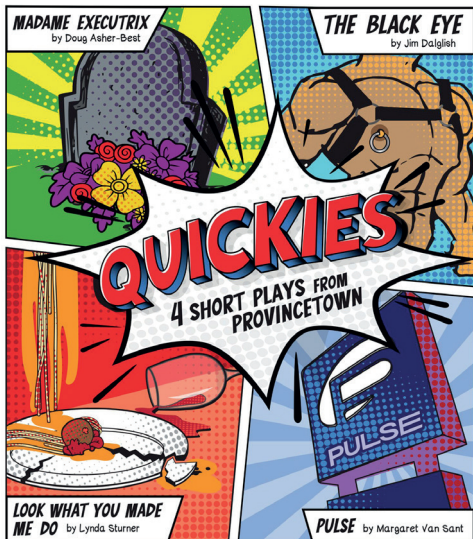
In 1981 several bathhouses in Toronto were brutally and violently raided in one of the largest mass arrests in Canadian history called “Operation Soap”. The resulting protests, rallies and demonstrations have been credited with launching the Pride movement in Canada.

Room 333, in a bathhouse, is the setting to retell these historical events through the eyes of three fictional characters caught up in these raids.

Contains nudity, coarse language.
A new play by Jay Whitehead.

DURATION: 70 minutes

QUICKIES - 4 PLAYS FROM PROVINCETOWN



Week Two: May 9-14th Teachers Club Main Hall 7.30pm + matinee

Look What You Made Me Do

Written & Directed by IDGTF award winner Lynda Sturner

Starring: Tia Scalcione and Vanessa Rose

Grace and Brenda have everything going for them - great jobs, a beautiful apartment in Manhattan, and enough red-hot passion to make the snow melt. But can their marriage survive a pandemic?

The Black Eye

Written & Directed by IDGTF award winner Jim Dalglish

Starring: Joe MacDougall and Tommy Walsh

When an ageing gay man asks a street-wise kid if he needs a lift home, is he prepared to go where the dangerous young man is about to take him?

Madame Executrix

Written by Doug Asher-Best

Directed by Margaret Van Sant

Starring: Tommy Walsh, Joe MacDougall, and Ellen Rubenstein

Natalie has one job after her brother's death, to give away his beloved possessions according to his will, but Natalie has better ideas. Can he stop her from the afterlife?

Pulse

Written and directed by Margaret Van Sant

Starring: Vanessa Rose, Tommy Walsh, Tia Scalcione, and Joe MacDougall

Everybody who loves Isabelle knows what she should do with her life now, except Isabelle. Who should she listen to? Her Mother, her Father, her friend, her nurse? Can she find a future after Pulse?

QUICKIES - 4 PLAYS FROM PROVINCETOWN



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Gay Theatre Festival .

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Unleash Potential

UNLOCKING THE
POWER WITHIN

THE SILVER BELL



It starts as all good stories do: boy meets boy. But then boy meets end, leaving a huge void and a lot of time to fill before the curtain call...

When Mico loses the love of his life to motor neurone disease, he should begin the slow process of grieving, but instead he does the next best thing: he punches a hole in the universe and travels to parallel worlds, all in the hope of getting his husband back. Join Mico and James (and a million other Jameses) as they tell you their story of life, death and trying to find decent sausage rolls in a universe that never invented Greggs.

The Silver Bell is a new play about love and loss. It explores the place of care in intimate relationships, and asks what happens when all the time in the universe isn't enough. Written by: Alan Flanagan (Hollyoaks) Starring: Alan Flanagan ('Mico') and Brendan O'Rourke ('James')

Directed by: Dan Hutton (Barrel Organ and The Yard Theatre associate) Movement Director: Sacha Plaige. DURATION: 60 minutes

QUILT



‘Quilt’ is the story of AIDS. AIDS rocked our world. Guilt is for the State and Churches. This global pandemic took the famous and the forgotten.

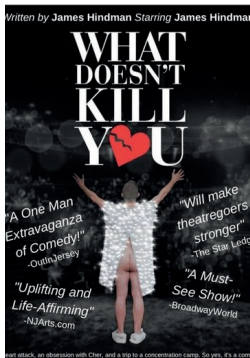
Four people tell the true stories of the heroes who lived, loved, lost, fought and survived. Quilts offer comfort, warmth and remembrance. Using factual records, and some online testimonials, Quilt reminds us of an ignored pandemic and it's legacies today.

Written and directed by Brian Merriman.

Starring Lia Monahan, Stephen Gorman, Ciara Andrea Murphy and Karl Keogh.

You are welcome to have the name of any loved one lost to AIDS remembered on stage, by giving their name to the cast before each performance.

DURATION: 70 minutes



'WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU

What Doesn't Kill You...! A witty, contemporary comedy, that follows one man's awakening after a near-death experience.

A heart attack, an obsession with Cher and, oh yeah, a trip to a concentration camp. So yes, It's a comedy!

Starring and written by James Hindman. Directed by SuzAnne Barabas. Stage Manager: Rose Riccardi. Produced by Tony Award winner Adam Weinstock.

'A Must-See Show!' – Broadway World 'A One Man Extravaganza of Comedy!' – OUT in Jersey 'Uplifting and Life-Affirming' – NJ Arts 'Makes Theatregoers stronger' – Star Ledger

DURATION: 60 minutes

For more information visit gaytheatre.ie



THE DEATH OF ME

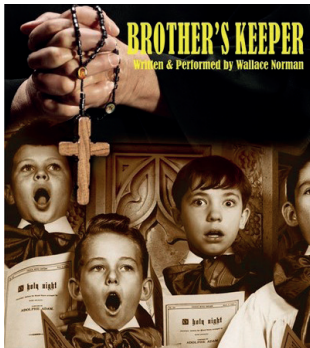
Susanne has a great life – a job she loves, a fantastic Polish wife called Magda, a child she adores, and a gay ex-husband who is now her best friend. But after a lump in her breast is discovered, her life may never be the same again.

Combining humour with pathos, this new play, by the award-winning writer of 'The Ref' and 'The Decriminalisation Monologues', explores one woman's cancer journey; one which will force her to examine the most important question facing us all.

What is it I want, out of the life I have left?

From Acting Out, Dublin's LGBT drama group.

DURATION: 55 mins.



BROTHER'S KEEPER

Brother's Keeper is about courageous survival. This is William's journey, from aged ten years to middle age. Like many LGBTQ+ youths, he suffers brutal abuse in school just because he is 'different'.

Brother James, his priest, takes a "special" interest in William. What damage is done when a priest sexually abuses boys? How do predators justify this? Some victims survive. Others perish.

'Brother's Keeper' is a play about courage, loyalty, brotherhood and finding the will to survive.

DURATION: 65 minutes



Don't forget to buy our books of LGBT+ new Irish drama:

'Wilde Stages in Dublin - A Decade of Gay Theatre'

'Eirebrushed/Wretched Little Brat' two plays: an LGBT 1916 play and the Oscar Wilde story

'10 HISstories - voices through decriminalisation'

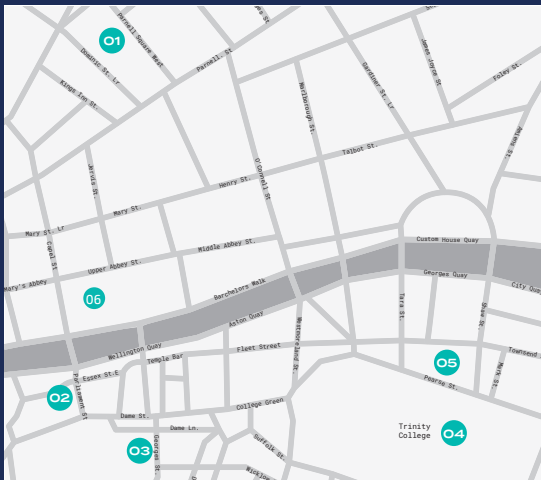
'The Plays Inside' - 22 Bursary winning plays

'18 & Coming of Age - the Director's Cut' with 11 new Irish LGBT+ plays

Available during the Festival from our venues or box office.

Also available from Books Upstairs in D'Olier Street, Dublin 2 or online at www.gaytheatre.ie.

Venue Map



01 The Teachers Club
36 Parnell Square West,
Dublin 1

02 Festival Box Office
Street 66
33-34 Parliament Street,
Dublin 2
t / +353 (0) 89 219 6898

03 The George
S. Grt George's Street,
Dublin 2

04 Players Theatre*
Trinity College,
Dublin 2
*Follow signs for Samuel
Beckett Theatre.

**05 The Ireland
Institute***
27 Pearse Street,
Dublin 2

*Opposite Trinity College on
Pearse Street

06 Pennylane Bar
2 Strand Street Great D 1



**Join us in
The Teachers Club Main Hall on
Sunday, May 15th at 8.00pm
for our annual
GALA CONCERT AND AWARDS
CELEBRATION!**

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TICKETS

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