

Balally Players presents

the moon cut like a sickle

Written by Ken Armstrong

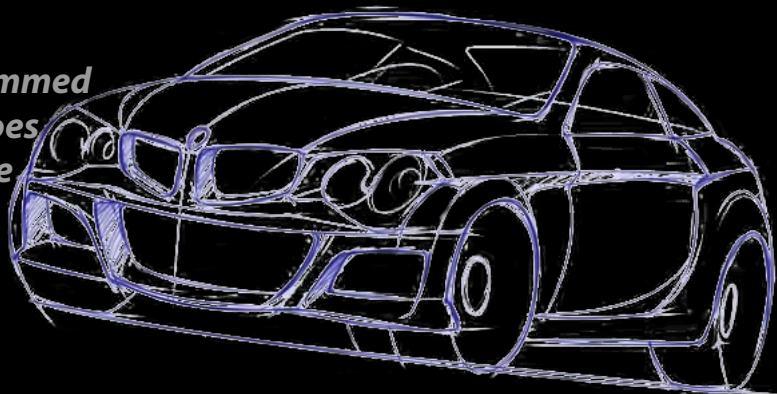
Directed by Óran O'Rua

Mill Theatre Studio

Tue 15 - Sat 19

April 2008

*"... the highway's jammed
with broken heroes
on a last chance
power drive."*



"TWO TEENAGERS DEAD IN TRAGIC ROAD ACCIDENT– the all-too-familiar headline that features weekly in our media. "BLOODY BOY-RACERS", the all-too-familiar angry response to such tragic taking of young lives. In 'The Moon Cut Like A Sickle', Ken Armstrong gets behind the headlines and the public outcry, to the very heart of the carnage on Irish roads – young male drivers. This powerful and passionate piece speaks through the voices of young people telling us their side of the story. The Tom Waits song, 'Romeo is Bleeding', has a line that gives not only the title of the play, but also commentary on the way a gang divides into watchers and doers, before and after the inevitable tragic consequence of its dangerous bravado is acted out "... and they all try to stand like Romeo beneath the moon cut like a sickle ...". The fast-paced and comic dialogue of the play, shows that much of the solution to young road deaths can come from young people themselves.

Amy Morrison (Lisa)

Amy has been acting since the age of four, when she joined Act 3 Stage School, where she now works as a drama teacher. She is currently in first year Music at Trinity College Dublin.

Matt Powell (Ratchett)

A former student at the Act 3 Stage School, Matt performed in 'A Tribute to Oscar Wilde' in the Mill Theatre. He was also a housewife in a movement to 'I Want to Break Free' by Queen.

Niamh Holland (Daisy)

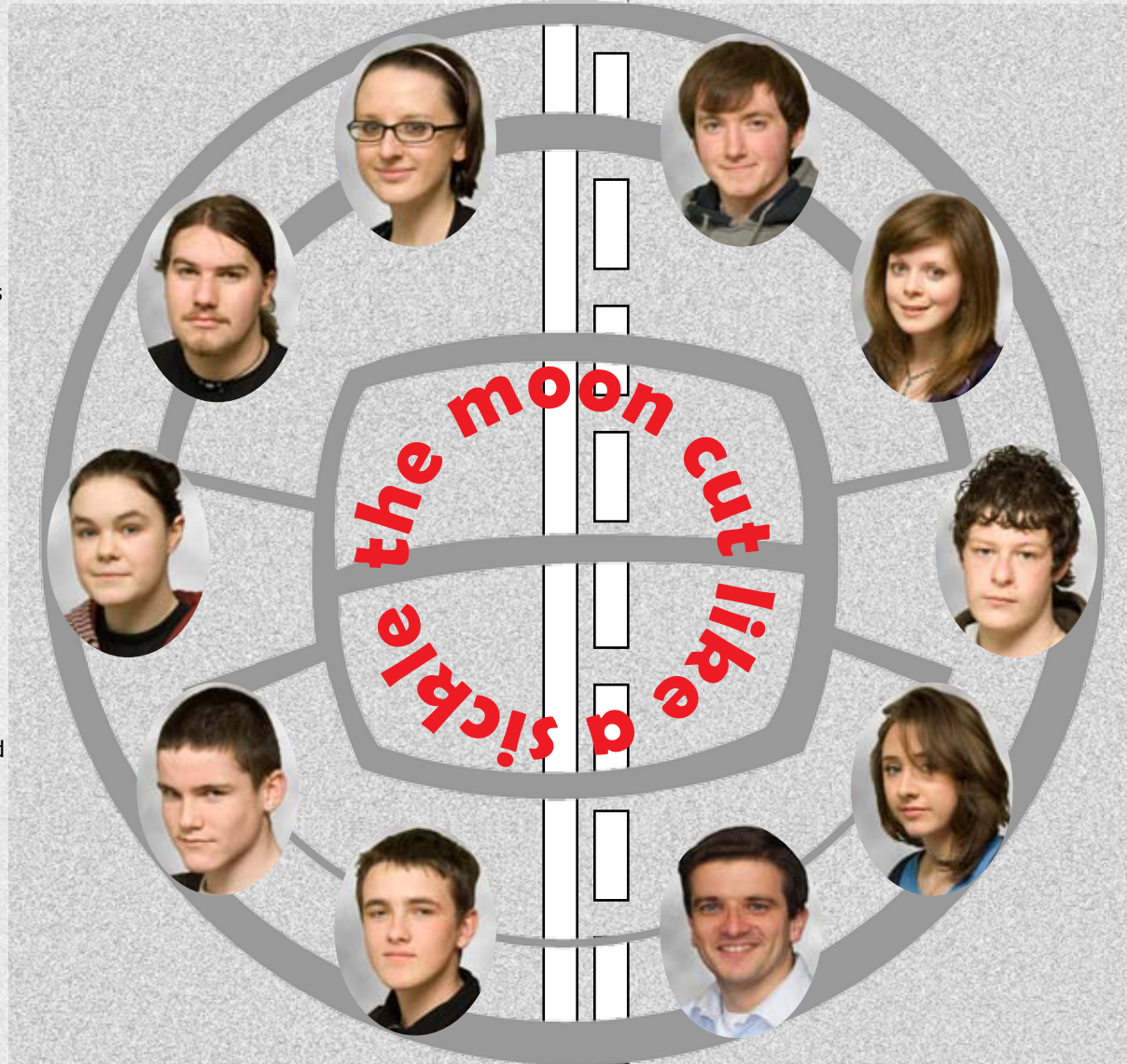
Niamh played Nora in the award winning Balally Players production of J. M. Synge's, 'Riders to the Sea'. Previously Niamh has acted as the narrator in 'Joseph and The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' and as Gwendolyn in 'The Importance of Being Earnest'. This year, Niamh completed her final grade in Speech and Drama.

Tomás Hoyne (Darko)

Tomás began acting last year. He received high praise for the role he played in the Taney Drama Society production of 'The Good Doctor'.

Fionn Staines (Joe)

Fionn has been involved both dramatically and musically with a number of Balally Players' productions, most recently playing the bodhrán in 'At The Black Pig's Dyke'. He has completed a drama course at the Gaiety School of Acting and hopes to pursue this further.



Séamus Neeson (Terry)

Séamus appeared in 'Joseph and The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' and in 'Our Town' at the Mill Theatre. He played 'Wishy-Washy' in Taney Drama Society's 'Aladdin, the Pantomime'. His most recent role was as Stanley in Neil Simon's 'Brighton Beach Memoirs'.

Laura Byrne (Madge)

Laura has played the lead (Nellie Forbush) in the St Raphaela's/St Benildus production of 'South Pacific'. She played Cecily in 'The Importance of Being Ernest', at the Mill and she also sang with a local band, LeftFootLucy, in a 'Battle of the Bands' in Radio City.

Shane Murphy (Louie)

Shane will soon play in 'The Beauty Queen of Lenane', with Taney Drama Society and a school production of 'Romeo and Juliet'. He has appeared in 'Brighton Beach Memoirs', 'The Good Doctor' and a short film, 'The Room'.

Rachel Fitzpatrick (Desdemona)

A student of drama, dance and singing, Rachel has been in 'South Pacific' and 'A Tribute to Oscar Wilde'. She attends the Billy Barry Stage School and will be in the Gaiety Theatre later this year.

Óran O'Rua (Director)

As an actor with Balally Players, Oran's recent roles were as Billy in 'The Cripple of Inishmaan' and Feste in 'Twelfth Night'. He will play Silvius in 'As You Like It' in Airfield and the Mill this summer.

Dancers Ellen Malone, Hannah O'Brien and Rachel Cullen are students of the Act 3 Stage School.

Ken Armstrong has written eight produced radio plays and five produced theatre plays. He is three-times winner in the London Radio Playwrights Festival and winner of the Charles Dickens Museum Short Story Prize. Ken has been shortlisted for a Society of Irish Playwrights Award, The Edith Ruddick Award and the P.J O'Connor Award.

Crew

Director	Óran O'Rua
Set Design	Pat Hand
Lighting Design	Paul Macken / Barry Donaldson
Lighting Operation	Hilary Madigan
Soundscape	Declan Brennan
Choreography	Ciara O'Byrne
Stage Manager	Doris Cullen
Make-up	Teresa Dempsey
Photography & Programme	Declan Brennan

This year, our Summer Shakespeare will be '**As You Like It**' directed by Karen Carleton. It is scheduled for open air performances from Saturday 21 June to Monday 23 June in the gardens of Airfield House, Dundrum. Two additional performances, in the round, are also planned for Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 June at the Mill Theatre.

Full details on all aspects of Balally Players activities are published on the group website: www.balallyplayers.com.

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