



JUDY MCKEEVER

Judy joined Balally Players in 2000 and since has played many roles with the company and reached 5 All-Ireland Finals. Her roles include Slippy Helen in "The Cripple of Inishmaan", Celeste in "La Corbiere", Sandy in "Happy Birthday Dear Alice", Eileen in "The Country Boy" which toured to the USA. She won Best Actress for her role as Angela in "Bedtime Story" and recently won a scholarship at the All Ireland Drama Festival Finals for her role as Agnes in "The Great Hunger". Judy has trained with Classic Stage Ireland and is currently taking a course in Acting for Camera at the Irish Film Academy.



FERGAL CLEARY

This is Fergal's second production with Balally Players. He played the parts of Charles/Hymen in Shakespeare's "As you Like it". He is a member of The Attic Studio of actors and has recently performed in comedy improv at The Halpenny Bridge Inn.



BRENDAN DUNNE

Brendan has been a member of Balally Players for the past 5 years and has also appeared in 3 of our summer Shakespearean productions. Some recent roles include Jake in "27 Wagons Full of Cotton", Frank in "Molly Sweeney" and Coleman in "The Lonesome West".



DORIS CULLEN

Doris Cullen has been a member of Balally Players for the past 28 years, and has been in many, many productions both on-stage and back stage, including playing Bessie Burgess in a previous production of "The Plough". In more recent years, she was in "By The Bog of Cats", "At The Black Pig's Dyke", "The Cripple of Inishmaan", Christmas at Airfield and Summer Shakespeare productions.



OISÍN GIBSON

This is Oisín's second role with the company, his first being as Johnny Houlihan in our production of "Many Young Men of Twenty" last November.



DECLAN BRENNAN

Declan's roles with Balally Players have ranged from Lucentio in Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew' to the Prison Guard in 'Forward to the Right' by Lily Ann Green and most recently Daheen Timmineen Din in 'Many Young Men of Twenty' by John B Keane. He has also appeared in a number of Yeats' plays with Balally and Dublin Lyric Players and was the iconic doctor in 'Dr Who Meets Albert Einstein' by Justin Richards at the Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS. He took the lead in 'Our Town' by Thornton Wilder, the production that opened The Mill Theatre in 2006. Other performances include Patrick Pearse in Eugene McCabe's 'Pull Down a Horseman', Victor Velasco in Neil Simon's 'Barefoot in the Park' and the Cardinal Inquisitor in 'The Life of Galileo' by Brecht.



KEVIN FAHEY

Kevin is another of our long-time members, and also having taken part in roles too numerous to mention. He now lives "down the country" with his adoring wife and daughters.



SEAN DALY

This is Sean's second adventure with the company. He likes long walks and nights in. Any interested woman/man, please enquire at the box office.



Balally Players presents Sean O'Casey's

The Plough and the Stars

by kind permission of Samuel French Ltd

Mill Theatre

Tue 2 - Sat 6 Feb at 8pm
Box Office 01-296 9340

www.milltheatre.com



www.balallyplayers.com



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON

I would like to give you a warm welcome, on behalf of Balally Players Theatre Company, to 'The Plough and the Stars' arguably Sean O' Casey's greatest play. We are proud to be instrumental in the debut of this quintessentially Dublin play here in the Mill Theatre.

An outspoken commentator on human rights O' Casey was described by his first biographer David Krause as a 'moral pacifist as well as a militant socialist'.

The story focuses on the lead up to the 1916 rising; but, through narrowing the lens on the effect the turmoil had on the lives of ordinary people, we see the bigger picture. Comedy is finely interlaced with tragedy in this political tale of fighting for freedom.

Presented first in the Abbey Theatre 84 years ago it was viewed by many at the time as a slur on those who died in 1916, however to O' Casey himself 'The Plough and the Stars' was great art. Riots broke out on the fourth night of performances. We do not expect the same to happen in the Mill Theatre but hope you find the play moving and entertaining.

Many thanks to you, our audience and to the many Balally Players members and friends whose support is invaluable to us.

Ní neart go chur le chéile,

Joanne Keane
Chairperson

CAST LIST:

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Jack Clitheroe | Robert Webster |
| Nora Clitheroe | Aoife King |
| Uncle Peter | Peter Flood |
| The Young Covey | Oran Ó Rua |
| Bessie Burgess | Fiona Buckley |
| Mrs. Gogan | Claire O'Donovan |
| Fluther | Dave Walsh |
| Mollser | Aoibhinn Finnegan |
| Rosie Redmond | Judy McKeever |
| Barman | Brendan Dunne |
| Woman From Rathmines | Doris Cullen |
| Voice of the Speaker | Declan Brennan |
| Captain Brennan | Feargal Cleary |
| Lieutenant Langon | Oisín Gibson |
| Corporal Stoddard | Declan Brennan |
| Sergeant Tinley | Kevin Fahey |
| Soldiers | Francis Cahill |
| | Pat O'Grady |
| | Fionn Staines |
| | Darren McBride |
| | Sean Daly |
| Director | Gary Wall |
| Production Manager | Jean Monahan |
| Stage Manager | Wes Scully |
| ASM | Susie Nix |
| Voice coach | Doris Cullen |
| Make-up | Teresa Dempsey |
| Costumes | Jean Monahan, Doris Cullen |
| Sound | Hilary Madigan |
| Lighting Design | Barry Donaldson |
| Music | Jacqueline Dooley |
| Set design | Mark O'Donoghue |
| Set Construction & Transport | Pat Hand, Mick Behan |
| Crew | Izzy Fox, Aoife Walsh, Eithne Brennan, Orla Fitzpatrick, Fiona Walsh |

THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS



DAVE WALSH

A long-time member of Balally Players, Dave has played many parts over the years. Having had a bit of a break, he returns in this classic part. He now lives in Lucan with his wife and daughters.



PETER FLOOD

Peter has been acting with Balally Players for many years. He has appeared in numerous Shakespearean productions, and last appeared at The Mill in "The Cripple of Inishmaan".



ORAN Ó RUA

Oran began acting and directing with UCD Drama Society and has played many roles both on and off stage since joining the company. Memorable acting roles include Cripple Billy in "The Cripple of Inishmaan", Barry in "Happy Birthday Dear Alice" and Silvous in "As You Like It". He made his directorial debut for the company with his production of The Moon Cut Like A Sickle in 2007.



CLAIRE O'DONOVAN

Claire joined Balally players in 2008. She played Fiona Foster in last year's production of "How The Other Half Loves". Singing roles include "Many Young Men of Twenty" and Christmas at Airfield. She is a former Bunnratty singer.



FIONA BUCKLEY

Fiona joined Balally Players in 2008 and was in the 2009 Bray One-Act festival in the Balally Production of Caryl Churchill's "Vinegar Tom". Not a stranger to standing up in front of people and entertaining, Fiona is also a past pupil of The Gaiety School of Acting and appeared in scenes and adaptations from plays by Brian Friel and Anton Chekov. Fiona looks forward to starring in a variety of roles in the future.



AOIFE KING

This is Aoife King's first production with Balally Players. She previously performed in The Mill last year in Glencullen's production of "Red Roses and Petrol" as Meadh. Aoife also performed as Nancy in Glencullen's production of "Oliver" in The Mill last Christmas. She has previously performed with La Touche players in their production of "Stags and Hens" as Frances. Aoife is a former student of the Gaiety School of Acting.



ROBERT WEBSTER

A founder member of Bedrock Theatre Company. Robert won the best performance award at the 2008 all Ireland One-Act finals. This is Robert's first production with the company and he has been made feel very welcome. Robert loves lasagne and northern soul music.



AOIBHINN FINNEGAN

In her third performance with Balally Players, Aoibhinn is no stranger to the stage. Recent roles include: 'Dot' in 'Many Young Men of Twenty', 'Betty' in 'Vinegar Tom', 'Puck' in a 'Midsummer Nights Dream', Cecily in 'The Importance of being Ernest' and 'Deirdre' in Yeats' 'Deirdre'. She will be representing Ireland at the World Championships of Performing Arts this summer in Hollywood, L.A. Aoibhinn also has a passion for Musical theatre and dance with principle roles such as 'Peep-bo' in 'The Hot Mikado'. She has also done some TV. and short film work. Aside from her own stage work Aoibhinn is currently studying toward a Masters in Drama in Education and runs her own school of speech and drama.