

## CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

*Balally Players have pleasure in welcoming you to the world of Jane Austen. Her short life (1775-1817) was as difficult as that of many of the people in her novels. In her early twenties she was compelled to end a love affair because neither she nor the young man concerned nor their families could financially support their marriage. In a letter to her sister, she wrote "At length the day is come on which I am to flirt my last with Tom Lefroy and when you receive this it will be over. My tears flow as I write." She never married but she seems, from her writing, to have observed life with compassion and perhaps slightly acerbic humour. Incidentally, "Tom Lefroy" was Huguenot Irish from Limerick.*

*Pride and Prejudice is 200 years old yet we can identify easily with its peoples' joys and sorrows, triumphs and failures. It is a pleasure to introduce them to you and to tell you their story. Enjoy!*

**Tony McGettigan**  
Chairman

### OUR NEXT PRODUCTION:

*The Merchant of Venice*  
by William Shakespeare

This year, we have chosen *The Merchant of Venice* for our Summer Shakespeare production in the beautiful outdoor setting of St. Enda's Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16.

*The Merchant of Venice* tells the controversial tale of a merchant, Antonio, who must default on a large loan provided by an oft-abused and vicious moneylender.

Unfortunately, the cost of forfeiture is 'a pound of flesh'.

*The Merchant of Venice* will run from the  
**21st June to 24th June 2017.**

Check out The Balally Players Facebook page and website for further updates.



## DIRECTOR – BRIAN MOLLOY

Brian is a graduate of Drama and Theatre Studies and Directing for Theatre and Stage at NUI Maynooth. Brian has acted in many roles, including Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, Duncan in *Macbeth*, Roderigo in *Othello*, Michael in *God of Carnage*, Kent in *King Lear*. His work as Director includes David Mamet's *Oleanna*, Jane Austen's *Emma*, *Unoriginal Sin* by David Tristram, *Absent Friends* by Alan Ayckbourn, *The Proposal* by Anton Chekhov, J.B. Keane's *Big Maggie* and *Off the Menu* for Living Room Theatre Company.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager	Judy McKeever
Costume Designer	Dympna Murray
Assistant Costume	Treasa Walsh
Stage Manager	Aoife Braiden
Stage Hands	Gemma Stack, Claire Hartin, Fergal Cleary, Gillian Higgins
Set Designer	Gerard Bourke
Set Construction	Pat Hand
Choreography	Aoibhinn Finnegan & Brendan O' Sullivan
Sound	Kevin Nolan
Lighting	Paul Macken
Hair & Makeup	Joan Thorpe & Teresa Dempsey
Sound Operator	Fiona Walsh
Marketing	Brendan O' Sullivan & Mairin Condon
Finance	Sean Murphy

Thank you to Barry, Kris, Aoife and Kate and all staff at the Mill.

With thanks to Signscript who provided the backdrop for tonight's performance. [www.signscript.ie](http://www.signscript.ie)



The Balally Players Theatre Company

# Pride & Prejudice

by Jane Austen

Adaptation by Mary Keith Medbery  
Revised and Directed by Brian Molloy

21st to 25th February 2017





# CAST



**Elizabeth - Sharon McCoy**

Sharon trained at East 15 Acting School, London. Theatre credits include the title role in Balally Players' *The King*, directed by Geoff O'Keeffe, and Lady Hazel Lavery in Mill Productions' *Good Evening Mr. Collins*, directed by Padraic McIntyre. A published author, her short play *Breeze and Onion Crisps* was recently produced by Shiva Productions. Sharon is represented by Fraser Management.



**Mr Darcy - Emmet Mahony**

Emmet graduated from Trinity College Dublin in 2016, completing a degree in Film Studies and French. He became involved in acting with the Trinity Players Society and through a number of short film projects. In June 2016, Emmet performed in the annual Bloomsday festival production of *Ulysses* in Blackrock Community Centre. Emmet joined Balally Players in September 2016. *Pride & Prejudice* will be his first performance with the company.



**Mrs Bennet - Eilish Rafferty**

This is Eilish's first production with Balally Players, and though drawn to darker characters, she is thoroughly enjoying the comedic Mrs Bennet. Memorable roles include Goneril in Mill Production's *King Lear* (2015), Helena in *Midsummer Night's Dream* (2016), Hedda in *Hedda Gabler* (2015) and Maud Dunne in *The Steward of Christendom* (2014) all with the Moat Club, Naas.



**Jane - Aoibhinn Finnegan**

Aoibhinn has been a member of Balally Players for the past 8 years. Recent roles include Abigail in *The Crucible*, Natasha in *The Proposal*, and Mollser in *The Plough and the Stars* (Balally Players) Suki in *Celebration* (Dublin Shakes) Carol in *Oleanna* (Vermillion Productions), Kitty Kiernan in *Good Evening Mr Collins* (Mill Productions) Aoibhinn has won best actress awards on the All Ireland Drama Circuit and thoroughly enjoys being on stage.



**Lydia - Aisling McDonnell**

This is Aisling's first production with Balally Players. Previous roles include Pegeen Mike in *Playboy of the Western World*, Maria Feletti in *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, various roles in *We Won't Pay, We Won't Pay* and Amber Von Tussle in *Hairspray*, the latter two productions resulting in her winning Best Supporting Actress and Best Actress at the Hong Kong HKELD awards.



**Mr Bennet - Brendan Dunne**

Brendan has been a member of Balally Players for many years. He has performed in both the One Act and Three Act circuits over the years, and acted in the winning play in 2009. Most recently he played a monk in *The King*, Capulet in *Romeo and Juliet* and Joe Keller in *All My Sons*.



**Mr Bingley - Oran O'Rua**

Oran began acting and directing with UCD Dramsoc, where he was awarded an ISDA Best Actor award. Since then, Oran has played diverse roles both on and off-stage and was a participant on the Fishamble Theatre Director Programme in 2012. Most recently he directed *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, by Tennessee Williams, which was performed in dlr Mill Theatre.



**Mr Collins - Brendan Phelan**

Brendan works with any drama group that will have him! Previous roles include Alistair in *Move Over Mrs Markham*, George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*, Lord Goring in *An Ideal Husband*, Gerry in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, Joe Fell in *I Do Not Like Thee, Dr Fell*, and Bird O'Donnell in *The Field*. He also directed *Plaza Suite* (2014), *Almost, Maine* (2016) and *Hay Fever* (2016) at dlr Mill Theatre.



**Lady Catherine de Bourg - Muriel Caslin O'Hagan**

A regular with Balally Players on and off stage, Muriel has played a variety of roles, most recently, The Abbot in the widely acclaimed production of Patrick Pearse's *The King*. She has also appeared with Mill Productions and is currently playing Nurse in their latest project, *Romeo and Juliet*, which resumes next week at the Mill. She keeps busy!



**Mr Wickham - Brendan O'Sullivan**

Brendan has appeared in many shows at dlr Mill Theatre over the years with various local drama groups. He has appeared in various TV shows including *The Republic of Telly*, *Raw*, *Saving the Titanic* and *Titanic: Blood and Steel* as well as numerous TV and press advertising campaigns.



**Miss Bingley - Mairin Condon**

Máirín is no stranger to the Mill stage, appearing in Balally and RTG shows. Her recent roles were Cat in *Love in the Title* and Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Other shows include - *Blythe Spirit*, *The Crucible*, *Present Laughter*, *Charley's Aunt* and *Don't Dress for Dinner*. She holds a Diploma in Drama with the Leinster School of Music.



**Charlotte Lucas - Sarah McDonagh**

This is Sarah's second outing with Balally Players, having performed in the Culture Night shows in 2015. Sarah has previously played Laura Jesson in *Brief Encounter* by Noel Coward with Sandyford Little Theatre group and Eliza Doolittle in Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* with The Ranelagh Players.



**Colonel Forster - Len Nealon**

Len joined Balally Players in 2005 and has appeared in many productions with the group. He also pops up occasionally on TV and advertisements. When he's not treading the boards, he enjoys nothing more than walking the trails of Wicklow and beyond, as a keen hill walker.



**Colonel Fitzwilliam - Barry O'Connor**

Barry has been a member of a number of amateur drama groups, including Club Players and Olivian Players over the years. He joined Balally Players in 2015 and has been in a number of productions including *Move Over*, *Mrs. Markham*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *The Nightingale* and *Not the Lark*.



**Lady Lucas - Hilary Madigan**

Hilary is a long-time member of Balally Players and has been awarded several awards from the One Act Drama Festival. She has represented Ireland in productions in Florida and Monaco. Recent productions include *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Blythe Spirit*, *Macbeth*. She is delighted to be back acting with Balally Players at dlr Mill Theatre.



**Harris - Tony McGettigan**

Tony has acted regularly with Balally Players. Parts include Tom Maher in *The Country Boy*, which went to the Acting Irish Festival, Delray Beach, Florida and Captain Mummer in the group's 25th Anniversary Celebration production *At the Black Pig's Dyke*. He has played in many of the group's mid-summer Shakespeare and Christmas Revue productions.



**Mr Denny - Mark Coen**

Getting back on the stage has been on Mark's to do list for a while, and this is his first outing with Balally Players. Previously, he wrote and starred in sketches at the Trinity Law School Cabaret and played the part of Vicar in a school production of *Gosforth's Fete*.



**Sir William Lucas - Michael Sharp**

Michael has played in drama, variety and pantomime with various Dublin groups, in the RTE Television drama documentary *No More Blooms* and in various parts with the Near FM radio drama group. Roles with Balally Players include Friar Laurence in *Romeo and Juliet*, Father in *Aristocrats* and Morganhall in *The Dock Brief*.



**Martha - Eimear Smyth**

Eimear joined Balally Players in 2016. She has since been in the award winning one act play, *The Nightingale and Not the Lark*. She has previously performed in The Gate Theatre in *Jane Eyre* and was a voiceover regular for TG4 in the television series *Ben 10* and *Ellen & Edgar*. Eimear trained in the Gaiety School of Acting.