

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

May 5th - 18th



2014



..... annual

**International Dublin
Gay Theatre Festival**

.....

#GayTheatre



Welcome to our second decade of bringing the best of international gay theatre to Dublin! You have played your part in supporting our 2,100 performances to date and we are honoured to present to you a programme of drama, music, comedy and cabaret from Ireland, Northern Ireland, Britain, USA, Canada, Israel, South Africa and Australia. We have our highest Irish entry in years with lots of people telling the stories of 1916, World War 1, Jean Genet, Oscar Wilde, gay marriage and divorce, soccer players, nightclubbers, Irish lesbians, Auntie Ben, transgender, Margaret Thatcher, Madonna, drugs, rent boys, lovers, dressers, and the music of the 80s, Stephen Sondheim and David Turpin. We are grateful to the Arts Council, Dublin City Council, Fáilte Ireland, RTÉ – supporting the arts, The Arlington Hotels and all our supporters for allowing us to survive. Despite our worldwide success, we still depend entirely on voluntary effort to run this large-scale event. Special thanks to all our volunteers from at home and abroad who will fill the Festival with skills and enthusiasm for a fortnight in May. We have the best in entertainment lined up in two separate weeks of great gay theatre. We rely on your support, so this year please bring a friend or a group to a show, and make sure we not only celebrate the Irish gay identity but the worldwide common culture that makes up the vibrant LGBT community. Enjoy the programme!

Brian Merriman

Executive Chairman/Artistic Director IDGTF

 Dublin Gay Theatre Festival

 @gaytheatre

This Theatre Festival is brought to you with the generous support of Fáilte Ireland, Dublin City Council, The Arts Council, RTÉ – supporting the arts, and the Arlington Hotels.



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WILDE STAGES IN DUBLIN
A DECADE of GAY THEATRE



An up-to-date social history of growing up in the last country in Western Europe to decriminalise homosexuality. A memoir and commentary on law, religion, policy, media internationally by the Founder of the world's biggest gay theatre event.

A unique compendium of new writing for gay theatre with over 200 festival productions included.

Copies available online at www.gaytheatre.ie or on www.amazon.com costing 15 euros & 5e p&p.

Also available at 'Books Upstairs', Opposite Trinity College Dublin, and in 'The Little Museum of Dublin', Stephen's Green.

Front Lounge

11th May | 15:00 (60mins)

T-Girls

Drama

Pitchblende

When ageing drag queen, Layla La Louche, is engaged to perform on the night of Fiona's 70th birthday, her loose lips are more intent on stockpiling enemies.



The Harbour Playhouse

Show and Tell | 4th May, 15:00

An afternoon of quick-fire performances from artists explaining how their work interacts with an LGBTQ identity. The perfect way to kick-off the 11th Festival!

Spoken Word | 18th May, 15:00

An afternoon of spoken word from performers exploring issues of identity, sexuality, and love, and just what they mean in the modern world.

THE FRONT LOUNGE

The Front Lounge is proud to support the 11th International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival.

Join us for lunch, pre or post theatre drinks and entertainment. Late Bars, DJs and 'Davinias's Karaoke' every Tuesday at 10:30pm.

33-34, Parliament St, D2. Tel: +353 (0)1 670 4112

www.thefrontlounge.ie

Teacher's Club **10th, 12th & 17th May** | 14:00 (50mins)

Aunty Ben (Matinee) (Premiere) Child friendly

Super Paua

Nine-year-old Tracey loves her Aunty Ben. It doesn't matter at all to her that Aunty Ben is actually her uncle, or that he is a Drag Queen, because in Tracey's family dressing up is for everyone! But when Ben meets her school friends, Tracey is shocked to discover that other people's families can be very different to her own. Aunty Ben is a colourful and playful exploration of gender, family, love and happiness, for all audiences aged 7+. Winner of the IdeasTap Brighton Fringe Award 2014.

Director/Writer: Sian Ní Mhuirí



Cobalt Café

12th - 17th May | 19:00

International Theatre Shorts (Premiere) Drama/Comedy

International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival

The return of the ever popular International Theatre Shorts programme is full of good theatre and comedy.

Mark Ward's **'Blue Boy'** (IRL), Penny Jackson's **'Bitten'** (USA), Mark Power's **'Dear Madonna'**, Thérèse Prendiville's **'Grace and Maggie'** and Colette Cullen's **'Night by Harold Pinter'** is a contrasting programme of handsome young doctors, lesbian lovers, fundamentalists, drag artists, and dark characters from the pens of innovative writers telling stories in the most diverse programme that sells out each year. No matinees, so book early for a night packed with comedy and drama and enjoy a glass of wine at the Cobalt Bar.



The New Theatre **5th - 10th May** | 14:30*/19:30 (70mins)

Eirebrushed (Premiere)

Drama

International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival

Can a "flawed person" be a hero? Nurse Elizabeth O'Farrell was airbrushed out of the 1916 surrender photograph. A century later, the hidden lesbian and gay heroes of 1916 return today to discuss their place in modern Ireland...

A revolutionary story of love and courage, challenging history to complete the identity of the heroism of 1916 and challenging us to hear it today.

Director/Writer: Brian Merriman



The New Theatre **5th - 10th May** | 16:00*/21:00 (60mins)

A Boy and a Bean (European Premiere)

Drama

Nick 'n' Tom

Jack likes David. David likes Jack. The story seems simple enough. Add to this a public debate about how they like, why they like and what they like; Jack and David become confused quickly. Emerging Sydney based artist Nick Atkins enters a world where giants dwell in the suburban houses of Australia, beanstalks take root in corrupted soil and a boy called Jack strays between love, marriage equality, legislation and folklore. "Atkins' script is superb. It's original, it's funny throughout and when it needs to, it certainly gets you thinking." The Brag, Sydney.



Writer: Nick Atkins

*Mondays and Saturdays only

The New Theatre **12th - 17th May** | 14:30**/19:30 (70mins)

Civil Parting (European Premiere)

Comedy

Alexander Upstairs

Glenn and JP were among the first gay South Africans to get legally married. The 'seven year itch' has turned things sour. As respectable, upstanding members of the community, they've resolved that the best course of action is to divorce amicably. But that's before the lawyer is 'delayed' and they are left unsupervised in his waiting room. Savagely funny, relevant and moving for anyone who has loved and lost. Civil Parting is the unravelling of a relationship, never straightforward, often hilarious, sometimes not, no matter who you are. Direct from the award-winning team from Cape Town.



Director: Zanne Solomon | Writer: Nicholas Spagnoletti

The New Theatre **12th - 17th May** | 16:00**/21:00 (65mins)

Margaret Thatcher Queen of Soho (Irish Premiere) Comedy

**Aine Flanagan Productions
and Theatre503**

She's back! Britain's first female Prime Minister stars in a drag comedy musical extravaganza like no other! On the eve of the vote for Section 28 (UK's 1980s anti-gay law) Maggie gets lost in Soho and 'accidentally' becomes a cabaret superstar! Will she change her mind about the homophobic Bill before it's too late...? A camp odyssey about gay rights, politics, sex, the 80s and disco!



Director: Jon Brittain

Writer: Jon Brittain & Matt Tedford

Players Theatre **5th - 10th May** | 14:30*/19:30 (75mins)

For the Trumpets shall sound (Irish Premiere) Drama

Another Story

Ruth is clearing out her Mother's attic when her son Jamie makes an interesting discovery. A World War 1 box of photographs, letters and a diary that belonged to Ruth's Grandfather, James Wilmington. The dusty pages of recorded love and loss immediately immerse Ruth in the landscape of France during the Great War at the start of 1916. She unravels her Grandfather's tangled love story, as he meets her Grandmother and falls in love. The untold love story from the trenches is about to reveal the identity of a secret love triangle, hidden from view – until now...



Director/Writer: Gaelle Stark-Ordish

Players Theatre **5th - 10th May** 16:00*/21:00 (70mins)

Away from Home (Irish Premiere) Drama

Hartshorn – Hook Productions and Working Progress Theatre Company

Kyle is comfortable with his life as a male escort. He is young, sexy and solvent. One day he is hired by a premiership footballer, and finds himself falling in love. Will Kyle maintain a relationship with a closeted footballer in a country where not one pro player is out? Can he go on pretending that the homophobia endemic in the beautiful game is nothing to do with him? Does he really know what a relationship means, when, for him, sex has only ever been a transaction? Will he now tell his friends – and his family – the truth?



Director: Martin Jameson | Writer: Rob Ward & Martin Jameson

*Mondays and Saturdays only

Players Theatre **12th - 17th May** | 14:30**/19:30 (75mins)

FAGGOT (Jesus Loves Me) (European Premiere) Drama

DaPoPo Theatre

Andy and Paul are high school friends, reunited twenty years later. They have lived and loved, one embracing the love of Jesus despite his homosexuality, the other rejecting the love of Jesus because of his homosexuality. Andy and Paul confront their faith, their sexuality, and their capacity for the healing miracle of love and not just in the biblical sense. Two Canadian actors playfully re-enact the defining moments of this 'blessed' friendship with humour, intelligence, wit, and... a few bottles of wine!

Director: Bill Wood | Writer: Garry Williams



Players Theatre **12th - 17th May** | 16:00**/21:00 (60mins)

Lesbian Style Drama/Comedy

Sole Purpose Productions

Lesbian Style is an episodic storytelling play from Northern Ireland exploring the lives and loves of women who love women. We hear powerful warm tales from romance to role models, coming out to breaking up, bereavement to bejazzing in an hour long revelation of honest heartfelt insight. The writer's own life experiences are infused with stories from interviews with lesbian and bi women in both Ireland and England. "Lesbian Style runs the full gamut of real Irish lesbian experience, with a refreshing warmth and openness that skillfully handles both the tough realities of 'lesbophobia' and the giddy highs of dyke love and queer power. Wonderful stuff, way overdue." – Ruth McCarthy, Festival Director, Outburst Queer Arts Festival



Director: Patricia Byrne | Writer: Hilary McCollum

**Saturdays only

Cobalt Café

5th - 10th May | 19:30 (70mins)

Chicken Fried Ciccone (European Premiere) Drama/Music**Hard Sparks**

Armed with an acoustic guitar, actor-playwright J. Stephen Brantley reveals his journey from 'junkie' to 'functional' with a little help from the queen of reinvention. A one man's trip to heroin and back, set to countrified covers of new and classic 'Madge'. 'Chicken-Fried Ciccone' is an unapologetic comeback story about turning adversity into personal triumph. IDGTF 2013 'Micheál MacLiammóir Award' winner Brantley goes from New York's East Village to South Texas, and from detox to Dublin, in this funny, poignant, provocative celebration of personal freedom and art's healing power. Obie-winning master of the one-man-show, David Drake directs.



Director: David Drake | Writer: J. Stephen Brantley

Cobalt Café

5th - 10th May | 21:00 (45mins)

Other Women's Vaginas (Premiere) Comedy**The Bearded Ladies**

'The Word of Breda', by intrepid culchie comedian Breda Larkin rocked last year's festival with packed houses and she is back! Join Breda in another hilarious outrageous stand-up as she journeys into adulthood. Breda has questions: Is it possible to talk dirty with a country accent? Does every lesbian call her ex a psycho? Is it possible to wear a strap-on without getting a wedgie? And what the hula is a dental dam? Breda has answers: Apparently there's a dam in every lesbians' handbag...hold on a minute, lesbians have handbags? You won't want to miss this world premiere comedy, even just to hear her Ballinasloe moan. Book now!



Director: Evelyn Quinlan | Writer: Breda Larkin & Nicola Depuis

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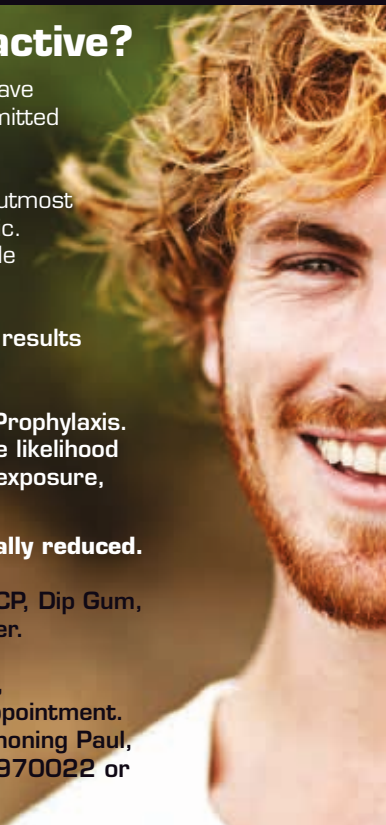
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For more information please visit:

www.stdclinic.ie



Cobalt Café

9th & 10th May | 10:15 (70mins)

A Little (Jazz) Night Music

Music

Stella Bass

Following her performance in last year's IDGTF smash-hit, 'Shout! The Mod Musical', Stella is delighted to return to the festival to present an evening of the music of legendary composer Stephen Sondheim. One of Ireland's leading jazz singers (her 4-year Sunday jazz residency in Café en Seine featured on a recent Irish Times' What's Hot list), Stella's show features brand new jazz-inspired arrangements by acclaimed musician/arranger, Cian Boylan (Van Morrison/Imelda May/Camille O'Sullivan). So even if 'Everybody Says Don't', make sure you're 'Being Alive' but please don't 'Send in the Clowns'. Instead, do yourself a favour and catch this must-see show!



Outhouse

9th & 10th May | 21:00 (60mins)

Acceptable in the 80s (Premiere)

Cabaret

Tiny Top Hat Productions

It's Lady K and Ruby Noir, stars of 'Bunny's Hutch' and 'Undercurrent', who sing, play, perform and discuss the music of their favourite queer icons and artists of the camp 1980s. It's the decade of gloriously cheesy pop, far too much eyeliner, and really big hair! Featuring live performances of the hit songs of Madonna, Soft Cell, Elton John, The Smiths, and many more.

Warning: No synthesizers will be harmed (or used) during this two night only production.

Director: Emma Weafer

Writer: Kiara Gannon & Siobhán Killen



Cobalt Café

12th - 17th May | 21:00 (65mins)

Two from Provincetown (European Premiere)

Drama

CTEK Arts

Provincetown the home of all things arty, alternative and gay in the USA sends us two of the best!

A Shining Attribute by Candyce Rusk, directed by Dana McCoy. From a haunted theatre, a burlesque queen recounts her rough life. A blend of innocence and sleaze, Bijou struggles to find her peace, featuring Sarah MacDonnell, followed by **What To Throw Out**, by Kathleen Warnock, directed by Margaret Van Sant, where Dana McCoy joins Sarah in the European premiere story about stripping things to their essence, and finding what lies beneath.



Artistic Director: Margaret Van Sant

Cobalt Café

16th & 17th May | 22:15 (70mins)

The Late David Turpin (Premiere)

Music

The Late David Turpin

For his only Irish concerts of 2014, 'The Late David Turpin' presents a pair of performances specially conceived for the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival. Accompanied by special guest performers each night, 'The Late David Turpin' will unveil intimate new arrangements of songs from his three acclaimed albums, including his most recent, 2013's critically lauded *We Belong Dead* (**** – The Irish Times; Top Irish Albums of 2013). Equal parts Laurie Anderson and Hans Christian Anderson, 'The Late David Turpin's' meticulously curated electro-acoustic songs invite listeners into a beautifully unsettling other world. Join him, if only for a night. Not to be missed!



Outhouse

5th - 10th May | 14:30*/19:30 (75mins)

At the Flash (European Premiere)

Comedy

Pride Films and Plays

'At The Flash' is a fast-paced journey of five complex characters from different decades, whose histories intertwine to illuminate the past and lead us to the future. This breathtaking one-man performance seamlessly blends stories as they collide. 'At The Flash' becomes a dynamic, funny, unique and touching performance you will long remember. This is an award winning production team, from the renowned Chicago based annual competition for the best new LGBT writing for theatre and screen.



Director: David Zak | Writer: Sean Chandler & David Leeper

Outhouse

5th - 8th May | 16:00**/21:00 (70mins)

Tits Up (Premiere)

Community Drama/Comedy

Acting Out

In this spiky comedy set in contemporary Dublin, we meet Susanne and Clive, a couple who seems to have it all; the big house, money and social standing. But Susanne's sharp (and very politically incorrect) tongue is of little use, when her Polish cleaner Magda, who has plans of her own, reveals that Clive is not all he seems. Forced to reflect on the lies they have told each other as well as the lies they've told themselves, can any of them emerge from the carnage unscathed? Acting Out is Ireland's innovative LGBT community theatre performance group.



Director/Writer: Sean Denyer

*Mondays and Saturdays only

**Mondays only

Outhouse **12th - 17th May** | 14:30***/19:30 (70mins)

Two Sides of a Coin (Premiere)

Drama

No Tears Productions

"We know it's wrong. We know it's despicable. But we also know it's the only way for us to feel alive now... We're all sick fucks. We're not going to stop until someone dies."

Welcome to the world of professionals, privilege and pummeling. Where money isn't in short supply, sex isn't as exciting as it once was, and drugs don't give the highs they used to. Three businessmen take to the streets nightly to partake in a sick and sinister past time of beating up unassuming gay men in this disturbing tale of explicit homophobia, sexual repression and malice.



Writer: Derek Masterson

Outhouse **12th - 17th May** | 16:00***/21:00 (60mins)

Jean Genet, Son of a Bitch (European Premiere)

Drama

"You think I'm evil? So be it. I am! But now you will have to accept me as evil." The play narrates the story of Jean Genet, the controversial twentieth century playwright, poet, essayist, petty criminal, prostitute and outsider, and his decision to eschew middle-class morality to pursue evil. 'Jean Genet, Son of a Bitch' is a physical and movement-based theatrical performance that, on the one hand, avoids special effects and, on the other, emphasizes acting and theatrical skills.

"First and foremost it's a virtuoso performance that never rests. Ashkenazi ('Rosenblum' award winner) quickly switches physical and conscious states. It's fascinating to see him working and commanding the stage on his own".



Director/Writer: Zion Ashkenazi

Teacher's Club **5th - 10th May** | 14:30*/19:30 (65mins)**Man Enough** (Irish Premiere)

Drama/Music

Exist Theatre

'Man Enough' follows 18-year-old Chris, embracing his out and proud lifestyle. Along with best friend and flat mate, Kate, he plans to conquer the world – one man at a time. Life is good. Sex, drink and work. But when he stumbles across Joey, a coke addicted rent boy, love and sex will take on a whole new meaning. With original live contemporary music, underscoring the emotional highs and lows of this tale of young life and love.

Director: British Exist Theatre

Writer: Dan Peter Reeves

Teacher's Club **5th - 10th May** | 16:00*/21:00 (50mins)**Dupont and Davenport** (Premiere)

Drama

Refractive Lens Theatre

"The difference between falling in love and just falling is that with the latter you only hit the ground once." When David met the tall boy with the cowlick and the two-speed bike, everything ended and everything began. The tall boy would fix everything. The tall boy would know what to say. The tall boy would heal him. And, eventually, the tall boy would be dragged under an eighteen-wheeler at some anonymous crossroads. After the five-star, award-winning 'I Run, I Sing, I Swim, I Dive' at last year's festival, Refractive Lens Theatre return with a new play about grief, depression, the unquiet heart – and a sunny intersection where broken bones never heal.



Director: Tinuke Craig | Writer: Alan Flanagan

*Mondays and Saturdays only

Teacher's Club **12th - 17th May** | 14:30**/19:45 (50mins)

The Dressers (Irish Premiere)

Music/Comedy

2020 Productions

The West End stars of hit show 'Naked Boys Singing', Cotton & Malcolm, bring you a fabulous new musical comedy. Set in the heart of London's 'Theatreland' we meet the colourful characters of the unseen backstage. Will Colin and Larry risk it all for their one big chance? Two actors, eight characters and a whole host of fabulous costumes in the hands of 'The Dressers'. This musical comedy is a bright new fun show, full of wonderful tunes, lots of laughs and of course real heart. This backstage to footlights entertainment is directed by award winning Irish Director Mark Pollard ('The Little Dog Laughed', 'A Dog Called Redemption')



Director: Mark Pollard | Writer: David Malcolm & Michael Cotton

Teacher's Club **12th - 17th May** | 16:00**/21:00 (55mins)

My Dorian (Premiere)

Drama

Starving Artists

An original adaptation of 'The Picture of Dorian Gray', 'My Dorian' explores the obsession and corruption of beauty that affected each and every character of Oscar Wilde's master work. Explore the feelings, thoughts, and expressions of Wilde's characters as each are charmed, twisted, and ultimately brought to their demise by the beauty they sought to place so high on a pedestal. The higher the pedestal, the harder the fall. Become the next generation to allow Dorian and the people around him seduce you with his ideal beauty. 'My Dorian' reveals the beauty "...the world has been searching for, and what it is afraid it has found."



Director: Ricardo Melendez

Copper Alley

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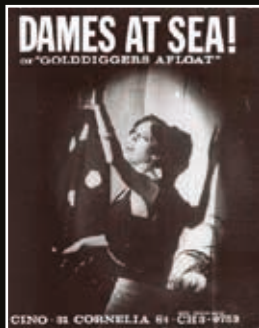
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18th May | 20:00

GALA night

'A Night At the Café Cino'
International celebration of gay
theatre (150 minutes)

It was five years before Stonewall when playwright Lanford Wilson dared to produce the first gay play in New York City. The date was May 18th 1964 and 50 years later, to the day, international playwrights, performers and audience will descend on Dublin's Sugar Club to celebrate the final night of the world's biggest gay theatre festival. Join us for snippets of the plays that have entertained you during the past fortnight, for our awards in the names of Oscar Wilde, Micheál MacLiammóir, Eva Gore-Booth, Hilton Edwards, Doric Wilson and Patrick Murray. With special guests – this not to be missed programme is the highlight of celebrating the best in gay theatre and all are welcome!



- 1 THE NEW THEATRE** | 43 EAST ESSEX ST, TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN 2
- 2 PLAYERS THEATRE** | TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN 2
- 3 COBALT CAFÉ** | 16 NORTH GREAT GEORGES STREET, DUBLIN 1
- 4 outhouse** | 105 CAPEL ST, DUBLIN 1
- 5 TEACHER'S CLUB** | 36 PARNELL SQUARE, DUBLIN 1
- 6 THE SUGAR CLUB** | 8 LOWER LEESON ST, DUBLIN 2
- 7 BOOKS UPSTAIRS** | 36 COLLEGE GREEN, DUBLIN 2
- 8 THE LITTLE MUSEUM OF DUBLIN** | 15 ST STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN 2

FESTIVAL CLUB

Every night of our 2 week festival you are invited to join the volunteers, and the cast & crew of each show, for our festival club in one of these 4 venues:

ARLINGTON HOTEL

A

THE GEORGE

G

FRONT LOUNGE

F

PANTIBAR

P

