

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

The
Irish (Rep)
...and how we
got that way

FEATURING FRANK MCCOURT'S
THE IRISH...AND HOW THEY GOT THAT WAY

A CELEBRATION OF ENDURANCE AND
PERSEVERANCE THROUGH HARD TIMES



#IRISHREPOONLINE

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE

CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | CIARÁN O'REILLY, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

A PERFORMANCE ON SCREEN

The Irish (Rep) ...and how we got that way

A CELEBRATION OF ENDURANCE AND
PERSEVERANCE THROUGH HARD TIMES

BY **FRANK McCOURT**

DIRECTED BY **CHARLOTTE MOORE**

MUSICAL DIRECTION AND ARRANGEMENTS BY
RUSTY MAGEE

STARRING

**TERRY DONNELLY, BOB GREEN (ON FIDDLE),
MARIAN TOMAS GRIFFIN, CIARÁN O'REILLY,
RUSTY MAGEE, AND CIARÁN SHEEHAN**

THE 1998 PRODUCTION FEATURED SCENIC DESIGN BY SHAWN LEWIS, LIGHTING DESIGN BY DAN WALKER,
COSTUME DESIGN BY DAVID TOSER, AND CHOREOGRAPHY BY ALEXIA HESS SHEEHAN.

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO THE PERFORMERS' UNIONS ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS,
AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS, AND SAG-AFTRA THROUGH THEATRE AUTHORITY, LNC. FOR THEIR COOPERATION IN PERMITTING THE ARTISTS
TO APPEAR ON THIS PROGRAM.

THIS PRODUCTION IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH PUBLIC FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, AXE-HOUGHTON FOUNDATION, AND OTHER PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS, AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MANY
GENEROUS MEMBERS OF IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE'S PATRON'S CIRCLE.

SET LIST

ACT 1

OPENING MONTAGE.....	THE COMPANY
“MRS. McGRATH”.....	CIARÁN O’R, COMPANY
<i>TRADITIONAL</i>	
“MOTHER MACHREE”.....	RUSTY
<i>MUSIC BY ERNEST R. BALL AND CHAUNCEY OLCOTT, LYRICS BY RIDA JOHNSON YOUNG</i>	
“THE RARE OULD TIMES”.....	CIARÁN S, COMPANY
<i>BY PETE ST. JOHN</i>	
“THE FIELDS OF ATHENRY”.....	MARIAN, COMPANY
<i>BY PETE ST. JOHN</i>	
“SKIBBEREEN”.....	CIARÁN S
<i>TRADITIONAL</i>	
“SHORES OF AMERIKAY”.....	COMPANY
<i>TRADITIONAL</i>	
“NO IRISH NEED APPLY”.....	RUSTY, CIARÁN S, COMPANY
<i>TRADITIONAL</i>	
“AN IRISH WASHERWOMAN”.....	MARIAN, TERRY
<i>TRADITIONAL</i>	
“NO IRISH NEED APPLY” (REPRISE).....	TERRY, MARIAN, COMPANY
“ERIE CANAL”.....	COMPANY
<i>BY THOMAS ALLEN</i>	

ACT 2

“GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY”.....	COMPANY
<i>BY GEORGE M. COHAN</i>	
“YANKEE DOODLE DANDY”.....	COMPANY
<i>BY GEORGE M. COHAN</i>	
“I’VE GOT RINGS ON MY FINGERS”.....	TERRY
<i>MUSIC BY MAURICE SCOTT, LYRICS BY R. P. WESTON AND F. J. BARNES</i>	
“HAS ANYBODY HERE SEEN KELLY?”.....	MARIAN
<i>MUSIC AND LYRICS BY C. W. MURPHY, WILL LETTERS, AND WILLIAM J. MCKENNA</i>	

SET LIST

"GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (REPRISE)"	COMPANY
"PADDY ON THE RAILWAY"	COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"MOONSHINER"	COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"DANNY BOY"	CIARÁN S
.....	TRADITIONAL MUSIC, LYRICS BY FREDERICK WEATHERBY
"WHO THREW THE OVERALLS IN MRS. MURPHY'S CHOWDER?"	CIARÁN O'R, CIARÁN S
.....	BY GEORGE L. GIEFER
"FINNEGAN'S WAKE"	TERRY, COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"IRELAND BOYS HURRAY"	CIARÁN S, MARIAN, COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"THE GHOST OF MOLLY MCGUIRE"	CIARÁN O'R, CIARÁN S, COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"YOU'RE A GRAND OLD FLAG / OVER THERE"	COMPANY
.....	BY GEORGE M. COHAN
"JOHNNY, I HARDLY KNEW YE"	COMPANY
.....	TRADITIONAL
"I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR"	COMPANY
.....	MUSIC AND LYRICS BY PAUL HEWSON, DAVE EVANS, ADAM CLAYTON, AND LARRY MULLEN USED THROUGH COURTESY OF POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL MUSIC PUBLISHING, B.V.

SPECIAL THANKS

PRESIDENT OF IRELAND MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
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CONSUL GENERAL OF IRELAND CIARÁN MADDEN

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



TERRY DONNELLY has been a member of both the Abbey Theatre Dublin and the British National Theatre London. Among many plays at the Irish Rep – *Lady G: Plays and*

Whisperings of Lady Gregory, The O'Casey Cycle, The Dead, 1904, Three Small Irish Masterpieces, Juno and the Paycock, Transport the musical, Honor Molloy's *Crackskull Row, Grandchild of Kings* directed and adapted by Harold Prince, Frank McCourt's *The Irish...and How They Got That Way* in both Boston and New York companies, *The Shaughraun, Sive, Bailegangaire, The Yeats Project, The Colleen Bawn* and many more. Regionally she has played several leading roles in *Dancing at Lughnasa, and The Streets of New York* at the *Westport Playhouse*. Film and television: "A Hungry Feeling," "Law and Order," "The Silver Tassie," "The Crezz." In 2019, Terry was awarded the 2019 Sustained Excellence Award from Irish Repertory Theatre.



BOB GREEN Theatre credits include: Frank McCourt's *The Irish... and How They Got That Way* at Irish Rep, *Prophets and Heroes* with Vanessa Redgrave and Tommy Makem, musical direction of *Buffalo Gals* at the Oldcastle Theatre Company. He received a 1995 Meet The Composer

Award for the modern dance composition *Face to Face*. Music has taken him to 12 countries and 23 states, including Japan with composer/banjoist Akira Satake, who he assisted with an album on Alula Records, and Jordan, Israel (Trip Diary) and Australia as accompanist to folksinger/harpman Saul Broudy. He has performed at: Carnegie Hall with the Clef Club Orchestra, Lincoln Center with Hazel Dickens, Lone Star RoadHouse with Shawn Colvin, Birchmere with Laurie Lewis, Kerrville and Falcon Ridge Folk Festivals with John Herald, and at Symphony Space, Town Hall, and the Bottom Line. Before New York, he made his home in Ohio/Kentucky, working with Harley Allen (Folkways Records) and Muddy River. Prior to that, he did stints in a variety of New England bluegrass and folk acts, including 'Raintree' (Green Mountain Records), and The Valley Partners (Old Homestead Records). He started out playing godless Rock + Roll in his native state of New Jersey.



MARIAN TOMAS GRIFFIN

Marian is a singer, songwriter, and actress born in New York City and raised in County Mayo, Ireland. Marian has been a part of the

New York music, theatre and film scene and now resides in LA. As lead singer and guitarist with bands including Aisling Eire and as a solo performer, has

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

entertained audiences at Tír Na Nóg, Fitzer's, Tommy Makem's, Fibber McGee's, Paddy Reilly's, and the Guinness Fleadh. Her first CD, *Tales Of Erin*, released in 1998, featured the single *Angela's Smile* inspired by Frank McCourt's Pulitzer prize winning memoir *Angela's Ashes*, as seen in Conor McCourt's documentary, *The McCourt's of Limerick*. At Irish Rep, Marian made her debut in Frank McCourt's *The Irish... and How They Got That Way*, and also appeared in *The Shaughraun*. Marian has appeared as part of the Irish Rep Gala with stars as Gabriel Byrne, Sinéad Cusack, Angela Lansbury, and Frances Sternhagan. On screen, Marian has worked with Brad Pitt and Harrison Ford in Columbia Picture's *The Devil's Own*, in Nye Heron's "Sax & Violins", and "Days of Darkness." Marian starred in CBS's "As The World Turns" as Mary Mennihan (Psycho Nanny), and appeared in the lead of Nova's docudrama "Typhoid Mary" in 2004.



CIARÁN O'REILLY Irish Rep acting roles include: *Da, Juno and the Paycock, Dancing at Lughnasa, Molly Sweeney, Candida, Aristocrats, A Whistle in the Dark, The Shaughraun, and The Irish and How They Got That Way*. He appeared in the Roundabout Theatre Company's production of *A Touch of the Poet* with Gabriel Byrne. He has appeared

at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin and made his Broadway debut in *The Corn is Green*. Films include *The Devil's Own* (starring Harrison Ford), "Law & Order," "The Irish and How They Got That Way," "Third Watch," "Bored to Death" and "The Knick." Favorite directing credits include: *Lady G: Plays and Whisperings of Lady Gregory, Dublin Carol, The Shadow of a Gunman, The Seafarer, The Dead, 1904, Shining City, Off the Meter, on the Record, The Weir* (Callaway Nom.), *Banished Children of Eve, The Emperor Jones*, (Callaway Award, O'Neill Credo Award, Drama Desk, Drama League, and Lucille Lortel Nom.), *The Hairy Ape* (Drama Desk Drama League and Callaway Nom.), *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (Drama Desk Nom) Ciarán has been inducted in to the Irish America Hall of Fame and was awarded the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad, 2019 by President Michael D. Higgins.



RUSTY MAGEE (1955 - 2003), was an accomplished comedian, singer, actor and composer/lyricist for theatre, television, film and commercials. His musical, *The Green Heart*, written with Charles Busch, was staged by Manhattan Theatre Club and he composed the children's Christmas opera *Flurry Tale* performed at Lincoln Center in 1999. Other works include the scores to ART's *Ubu Rock*,

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Lincoln Center's *The House of Blue Leaves*, Irish Rep's *The Irish...and How They Got That Way*, and musical contributions to television shows like "Out of The Box" and "The Wubbulous World of Dr. Seuss." Mr. Magee won the New York Outer Critics' Circle James Fleetwood Award for his music and lyrics for *Moliere's Scapin* in 1993.



CIARÁN SHEEHAN B'way: *Les Miserables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Brigadoon*, *Camelot*. NY stage performances include: *The Hostage*, *The Irish...and How They Got*

That Way, *Camelot* (with Jeremy Irons), and *Finian's Rainbow* (Irish Rep.) *Carousel* (The Reagle Music Theatre.) Television appearances include "Law and Order", "One Life To Live", "Another World", "Late Night with David Letterman", and numerous appearances on PBS Stations nationally. As a producer, Ciarán created the sold out productions of *The Molly Maguires* directed by Tony nominated director Sheryl Kaller in which he also starred. He has three PBS specials to his credit – "The Irish...and How They Got That Way," "From Galway to Broadway," and "Ciarán: An Evening with Friends." Recordings include "The Irish...and How They Got That Way," "Ha'penny Bridge," and "Ciarán: An Evening with Friends" Vol. I & 2. As a solo artist some of Ciarán's most memorable engagements have been four

sold out performances at Carnegie Hall, The National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland, performing the American National Anthem at New York State Governor George Pataki's inauguration, as well as at various professional sporting arenas including Giants Stadium, opening the dedication of the Irish Hunger Memorial in NYC, soloist at the internationally televised memorial mass for John and Carolyn Kennedy Jr., serenading Ed and Allison Lucas during their wedding ceremony on the infield of old Yankee Stadium, soloist at the funeral service for Beau Biden, son of Joe Biden. He is currently a member of the international touring group *The Four Phantoms In Concert*.

FRANK McCOURT (*Playwright*) (1930 – 2009) was an Irish-American teacher and writer, best known for *Angela's Ashes*, his 1996 Pulitzer Prize-winning memoir about his childhood in Brooklyn and Limerick, Ireland. In addition to the Pulitzer Prize, *Angela's Ashes* won the National Book Critics Circle Award and Boeke Prize, and subsequently was made into a major motion picture, directed by Alan Parker. His other memoirs include *'Tis* (1999), which chronicled his life in America as a new immigrant; and *Teacher Man*, (2005) about his experiences as a public-school teacher. A graduate of New York University and beloved teacher for nearly 30 years, he taught in several New York schools, including McKee High School, McKee

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Technical and Vocational High School, and Stuyvesant High School. Mr. McCourt also taught in the English department of New York City Technical College of the City University of New York. He and his brothers were featured in two television documentaries, "The McCourts of Limerick" and "The McCourts of New York."

CHARLOTTE MOORE (*Director*) Recent directing assignments include: *Molly Sweeney: A Performance on Screen*, *London Assurance*, *Love Noël*, *The Plough and the Stars*, *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever*, *Three Small Irish Masterpieces* by William Butler Yeats, *Lady Gregory* and *J.M. Synge*. NY premiere of Brian Friel's *The Home Place*, World premiere of Larry Kirwan's *Rebel in the Soul*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *The Phyllis Newman Women's Health Initiative gala*, *Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory*, and *Juno and the Paycock* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. New York stage appearances include *A Perfect Ganesh*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *The Perfect Party*, *Morning's at Seven*, *Private Lives* (with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton), and many performances with the New York Shakespeare Festival. Ms. Moore has received two Tony Award nominations, the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Drama Desk Award, the Drama League Award, the Irish America Top 100 Irish Award, The Eugene O'Neill Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2008 Irish Women Of The Year Award. She is the recipient of the

St. Patrick's Committee in Holyoke's John F. Kennedy National Award, and has thrice been listed as one of the "Top 50 PowerWomen" in *Irish America Magazine*. Charlotte was named "Director of the Year" by *The Wall Street Journal* in 2011. Charlotte has been inducted in to the Irish America Hall of Fame and was awarded the Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad, 2019 by President Michael D. Higgins.

IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE Founded by Ciarán O'Reilly and Charlotte Moore, Irish Repertory Theatre opened its doors in 1988 with Sean O'Casey's *The Plough and the Stars* and is now in its 31st Season. Irish Rep is currently the only year-round theatre company in North America devoted to bringing Irish and Irish-American works to the stage. Recognized with the Jujamcyn Theatres Award, a special Drama Desk Award for "Excellence in Presenting Distinguished Irish Drama," the Lucille Lortel Award for "Outstanding Body of Work," and a 2013 Outer Critics Circle Special Achievement Award in recognition of 25 years of producing outstanding theatre. Irish Rep presents the very best in Irish theatre, from the masters to the new generation of Irish and Irish-American writers who are transforming the stage. Located in the heart of New York's Off-Broadway community, Irish Rep offers an engaging perspective on the Irish and their unique contributions to the world of drama.

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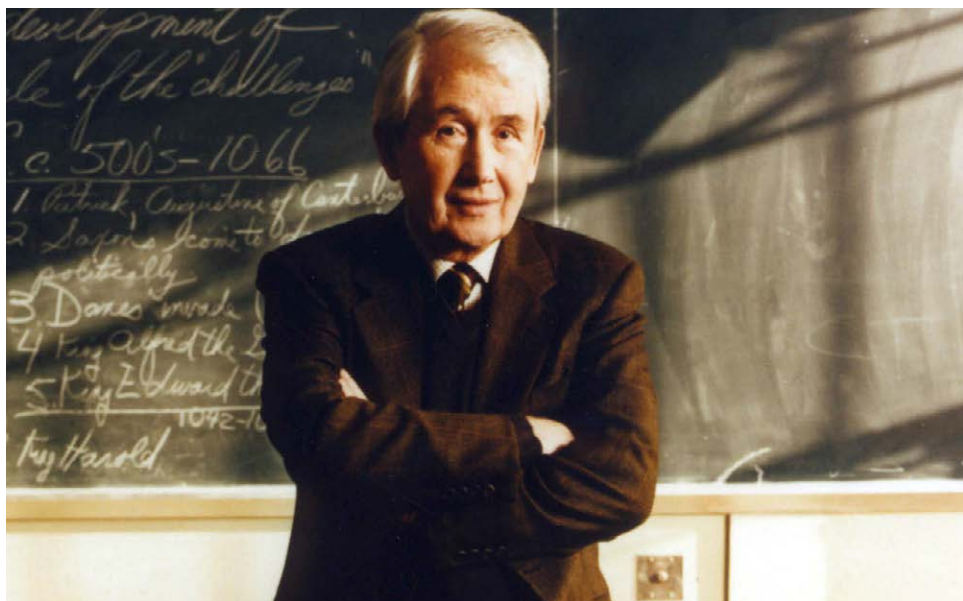


[@IRISHREP](https://www.youtube.com/IRISHREP)

THE WEIR
BY
CONOR McPHERSON
DIRECTED BY
CIARÁN O'REILLY
JULY 21 - 25
A PERFORMANCE ON SCREEN

 **#IRISHREPONLINE**

FRANK McCOURT



Frank McCourt

August 19, 1930 – July 19, 2009

FRANK McCOURT, Pulitzer Prize-winner and acclaimed memoirist, was born in New York City and raised in Limerick, Ireland in the 1930s. At the age of 19, McCourt returned to the United States to seek his fortune. After graduating from New York University's School of Education and supporting himself with several odd jobs, he found a brilliant career as a New York City public high school teacher, the last 17 years of which were spent at the prestigious Stuyvesant High School.

In September of 1996, after he had retired from teaching, McCourt's memoir about his childhood, *Angela's Ashes*,

was published by Scribner. It quickly rose to the top of the bestseller lists, remaining on *The New York Times* list for 117 weeks. It was also selected as the #1 non-fiction book of the year by *Time* and *Newsweek* Magazines.

Angela's Ashes won many awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics' Circle Award, the ABBY Award, *The Los Angeles Times* Book Award, and was chosen by many newspapers to be on their lists of Best Books of 1996. With the release of the Paramount Film version of *Angela's Ashes*, directed by Alan Parker, the paperback edition also achieved bestseller status.

FRANK McCOURT

In September 1999, McCourt published the follow-up to *Angela's Ashes*, titled *'Tis: A Memoir*, which hit *The New York Times* bestseller list at #1 as did the paperback edition. For a time *'Tis* and *Angela's Ashes* were simultaneously at #1 in hardcover and paperback respectively.

McCourt's third memoir *Teacher Man* arrived in 2005 and recounts his experiences as a teacher in the New York City school system. His fourth and final book *Angela and the Baby Jesus*, was published in 2007. In it he retells a Christmas incident told to him by his mother. Both

Teacher Man and *Angela and the Baby Jesus* are in the hands of Film and Television producers respectively. *Angela and the Baby Jesus*, aired over Christmas 2018 as an animated, musical Christmas special under the title *Angela's Christmas*. It will be followed by a sequel called *Angela's Christmas Wish* in December, 2020.

McCourt's acclaimed musical revue, *The Irish... and How they Got That Way*, ran

for more than a year at the Irish Repertory Theatre in New York and was revived twice. It is now produced throughout the United States along with *A Couple of Blaguards* – a two-man play with music – written with his brother Malachy. *Angela's Ashes: A Musical* was developed for the stage and had two successful runs in England and Ireland in 2018 and 2019.



Since McCourt's death in July 2009, countless Awards and Honors have been given in his name. The University of Limerick has endowed a Frank McCourt Chair in Creative Writing and New York City has named a high school in his

honor. The McCourt Prize for Excellence in Teaching is awarded to an exemplary teacher in Connecticut and the Irish Artists and Writers Association offers scholarships in McCourt's name.

As a frequent lecturer, he was the recipient of numerous honorary doctorates. He was most proud of receiving those from his Alma Mater, New York University, and the University of Limerick.

Thank you to my favorite
Irish folks - Ciarán, Charlotte,
Frank, and Ellen.

You have always made our Irish
and French eyes smile.

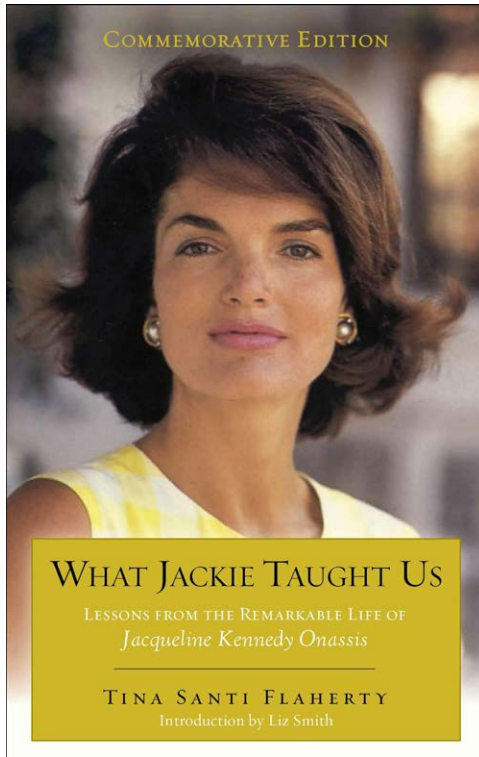
Love,
Kathleen and Yves

We are happy to support
the Irish Repertory Theatre
on the stage or screen!

- John and LouAnn
McGlinchey

Fond memories of
John & Kay McEnroe
– Marge Duffy

Jackie Kennedy was very proud of her 50% Irish ancestry and I'm sure she would happily join us today as we celebrate our Irish culture, music, and traditions. Sláinte!



Tina Pendergrast Santi Flaherty
(50% Irish too!)

*“Say anything at all—
I love the sound of your speech.”
– Brian Friel, *Translations**

*Produce any play at all—
We love the way you make theatre.
No matter how you make it.*

Thank you, Charlotte, Ciarán, and everyone at the Irish Rep for bringing us consistently the best storytelling in New York, on Zoom, and anywhere online. We look forward to many more gorgeous, inspiring productions.

With love, friendship, and admiration,
*Elizabeth, Vaughan,
and Conor Bagley*

Tom Cashin & Jay Johnson



Congratulations to
Irish Repertory Theatre
from
the Letaconnoux Family

Mar. 4, 5, 1956

Potsdam Civic Center



CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

To my very first Ronald Fenaughty
boyfriend, Roger Lamb
M Emmet Walsh, Michael Walsh
a proud Vermont Mary Carr
Irishman Martin S

Pile
Sheriff Thomas
Bill Starbuck

Irishman
who has made
theatre history.



SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The play takes place in a western state on
a time of drought.



ACT ONE

Day

ACT TWO

Ciarán, Charlotte & all the gang at Irish Rep
– your persistent burst of creativity – rolling without
interruption for 30 years – has given your audience a
home away from home – never more so than now.

Thank you for carrying on and may we – your audience
– give back to you what you have given us—a space to
dream and be inspired.

BRAVO!

David and Deirdre Brennan

**Irish Rep is truly in
a league of its own.**

Warmest wishes,
Nina and Michael Zilkha

Honoring
ETHEL KUNKEL
who inspired our love for
Ireland and its Arts

Love,
Michael & Henry

Thank you Irish
Repertory Theatre for
persevering to give us joy
in these difficult days.

John Duane

Best wishes to
Irish Rep.
The show must go on.
The show will go on.
And we're here to
applaud you.
Sincerely,
Beth Liou and family

Thank you to the
Irish Rep for your
dedication to the adage:

"the show must go on!"

Lorna Fenenbock

Thanks to the Irish Rep for
making the pause endurable.

As many of the Rep's
productions demonstrate,
resilience is baked deep in
the Irish soul. We'll get
through this as well.

Slainte!
- Joan O'Meara Winant

To the Irish Rep
or a great virtual
season!

Lenore Steiner &
Perry Lerner

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Dore Normille
Katie Rustum O'Neill
Brendan O'Reilly
Ciarán O'Reilly
Nancy Woodruff





A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us tonight! We hope it offers some fun and a little respite from a world turned upside down.

Back in 1997, when the Irish Rep was just 9 years old, Frank McCourt gave us the gift of a project he had been jostling with for many a year. He wanted to remind a new generation how the Irish made their way from their homeland and took up roots in this country. They were not welcomed –their ragged, half-starved bodies fought for the very bottom rung of the ladder as they were pitted up against those who were treated even worse.

The story we are telling tonight is the Irish story in America but we know that Frank would want us to acknowledge and pay homage to those who were also grasping the rungs of the proverbial ladder but were forbidden to climb because of the color of their skin.

This blighted legacy is still being addressed but to paraphrase U2: we still haven't found what we're looking for.

But we shall continue to search...

CHARLOTTE MOORE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CIARÁN O'REILLY, PRODUCING DIRECTOR

**WE THANK OUR SUPPORTERS FOR
THE IRISH REP...AND HOW WE GOT THAT WAY**

Current as of July 7, 2020

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Current as of July 7, 2020

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Maryanne Laffin
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Ned and Valerie Monaghan
Molly Murray
Colleen O'Brien
Frances Pandolfi
Nancy & James Quinn
Sheilagh Sargent
Donna Sethi
John Shay
Thomas and Linda Smith
Jason Smoller and Rachel Starr, in honor of Benjamin
Mary Tierney
Mary Harrigan and Andrew Tothy
Gene Bernstein and Kathleen Walsh

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(as of July 7, 2020)

Irish Rep gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for support received this year. Although space limitations allow us only to list donors of \$250 and above, we thank our supporters at all levels.

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Katie Rustum O'Neill &
Peter O'Neill*
Nancy Woodruff*

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(\$10,000 - \$19,999)

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(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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(as of February 10, 2020)

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