

**THEATRE
THREE**

THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle

JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director presents

Martin McDonagh's
prize-winning drama....

**the
BEAUTY
QUEEN of
LEENANE**



SHOW THREE / 2000-2001 SEASON / Oct 5 - Nov 12

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DIRECTOR'S PROGRAM NOTES

The Beauty Queen of Leenane has won every theatre award imaginable. Martin McDonagh, only now in his early 30s, has been hailed as the most exciting new playwright in many years. What has so riveted audiences on both sides of the Atlantic? Irish plays are generally thought to have a narrow appeal. And *Beauty Queen...* is certainly quintessentially Irish. Being himself the son of Irish exiles with his own special connection to the culture, McDonagh has captured "the displaced remnants of a culture that has died. The usual Irish exile nostalgia is replaced by a less tangible but more unsettling sense of loss." (Fintan O'Toole).

McDonagh's genius is that against this backdrop of often searing pain is juxtaposed uproarious humor. We laugh, thrilling to the idiosyncratic characters and then the next moment gasp with horror, only to find ourselves deeply moved.

The play has everything we look for in the theatre -- humor, sex, suspense horror, and a resonance with our own deepest longing, anger, and fear. As the lights dim, feel the harsh, cold rain beating on the rocks and crags of the Connemara coast. Imagine the smell of peat burning in the stove and a world that is neither the '90s nor the '30s, but somehow a blend of both -- television sets and Kimberly biscuits side by side with generations of loneliness and longing, and the passionate, exuberant spirit of Irish survival.

-- NIKI FLACKS, director

B I O G R A P H I E S



NIKI FLACKS (*Director*) Theatre Three audiences will remember Niki Flack's highly acclaimed production of *The Women* last season. She returns again from England where she was associate director of a very successful *Pericles* at Ludlow Castle in Wales, and director/creator of an experimental work called *The Stuff of Drama: Dysfunctional Families*, performed at Tristan Bates Theatre in London's West End. (Terry Dobson, Theatre Three's musical director joined that effort as musical director of the production.) Other directing credits include the world premiere of *Autumn Music* by Bernardo Stella in London, and in Dallas *The Seagull*, *Three Divas*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Tiger and the Typists*. As an actress, Niki co-starred on Broadway in *Private Lives* (with Maggie Smith, directed by Sir John Gielgud), *Candide* (directed by Harold Prince), *Dinner at Eight* (directed by Sir Tyrone Guthrie), and *Spokesong* (directed by Kenneth Frankel). She performed in seasons at the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre, Yale Rep, Washington Arena Stage, Long Wharf, Atlanta Alliance, Dallas Theater Center, Hillberry Classic Theatre, Buffalo Arena, and Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. Musical tours and Off Broadway performing assignments include *West Side Story* (opposite Richard Chamberlain), *Fiddler on the Roof* (opposite Leonard Nimoy), *Company*, *When You Comin' Back Red Ryder?* and *Off the Wall* (with Henry Winkler). On television she starred as the infamous Karen on *One Life to Live*, and made many guest appearances in series television. Film credits include *Semi-Tough*, *The Lathe of Heaven*,

Miriam, *Acorn People*, *Murder in Texas* and *Raggedy Ann and Andy*. Ms. Flacks was an assistant professor in the theatre department at Southern Methodist University and is currently a tutor at the Actors Centre in London. She is also the founder and President of The Bergerac Company, which specializes in training business people in communication skills through the application of theatre techniques. The photograph above was taken earlier this year in Ireland, on the street outside the Druid Theatre Company where the *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* was first produced.

MARTIN McDONAGH (*Playwright*) The following is the entire biography listed in the playbill of the Broadway run of this show. "Other works include *The Lonesome West*, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, and *The Banshees of Inisher*." It is known that the young playwright was reared in London and spent summers with grandparents in County Galway, Ireland. He is named as "Writer in Association" with the Druid Theatre Company which gave him his original professional debut with their premiere production of *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* in 1996. He is also the author of the play, *A Skull in Connemara*.

L'IMAGE

VILLAGE ON THE PARKWAY IN ADDISON (972) 934-8080
HIGHLAND PARK VILLAGE IN DALLAS (214) 526-6410
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L'IMAGE SPA, SALON, COSMETIQUE / ADDISON, DALLAS AND PLANO

THEATRE THREE PRESENTS MARTIN McDONAGH'S PRIZE-WINNING PLAY....



THE CAST:

Mag Folan.....C. J. CRITT*
 Maureen Folan.....SUSAN SARGEANT*
 Ray Dooley.....THOM PENN*
 Pato Dooley.....JAMES CRAWFORD*

ARTISTIC STAFF:

Director.....NIKI FLACKS
 Stage Manager.....CECILIA FLORES*
 Assistant to the Director.....LINDA HARRISON
 Set Design.....HARLAND WRIGHT
 Costume Design.....REGAN ADAIR
 Lighting Design.....MIKE GARNER
 Sound Design.....LOWELL SERGEANT
 Technical Director.....ADRIAN ANKERSHEIL
 Props Management.....LINDA HARRISON

CREW:

Carpenters and Painters: ADRIAN ANKERSHEIL, MIKE LOVITT, PAT PARISE, LINDA HARRISON;
 Master Electrician: LINDA HARRISON
 Set Artisans: JOE PRIORE, HUGH FEAGIN, PAT PARISE, FRANK REY, JASON SPRADLING

THE SETTING:

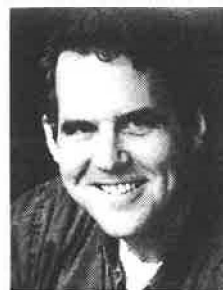
The play takes place in 1990.
 A cottage in the village of Leenane, on the Connemara coast, County Galway, Ireland.
There will be a 15 minute intermission between the two acts.

*indicates member of Actors' Equity Association working in an Equity assignment in this production.

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James Crawford



C. J. Critt



Susan Sargeant



Thom Penn

Theatre Three thanks to...

- DR. BRIAN A. ELLMAN, EAST RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATION, for production underwriting.
- Jacob's Biscuits, Dublin, maker of Kimberly Biscuits (cookies to us Americans). and at that firm, Milles. Liz Rowen, Ruth Gallagher and Sandra Gahan
- The Quadrangle Management Company for rehearsal space.
- John and Kathy Richard who took time on their trip to Ireland to purchase some authentic props to use in the production.
- We regret the program "closed" before all "thank yous" could be collected. We appreciate the support of our friends who participated in preparing the production.

NOW PLAYING IN THEATRE TOO!
 (Theatre Three's downstairs intimate performing space.)



Returned by popular demand! Performances Th at 7:30, Fri & Sat at 8:00, Sun at 2:30 & 7:30

STAFF OF THEATRE THREE

Jac Alder.....Executive Producer-Director

Administration

Terry Dobson, Company Manager; Joan Sleight, Bookkeeper; Rosie Hughes, Publicist;
 Nick Rushing, Computer Service Manager; Trey Albright, Administrative Aide, Kimberly
 Richard, Staff and Patron Communications

Production

Harland Wright, Director of Design; Bruce R. Coleman, Costumer & Associate Director;
 Terry Dobson, Musical Director; Adrian Ankesheil, Technical Director; Linda Harrison,
 Production Intern.

Customer Services

Mark Shum, Subscription Manager; Carol Crosby, Director of Telemarketing; Patty
 Korbolic Williams, House Manager and Performance Box Office Manager; Darius Warren
 and Fred Faust, Box Office Shift Leaders; Sally Cole Ainsworth, Casey Ashlock, Bo
 Barron, Aron Cho, Elaine Foster, Mark Shum, Erin Wilcox, Reservationists; David
 Curtis, Trinity Johannsen, and Roger Wilson, Telemarketing Staff.

BIOGRAPHIES

JAMES CRAWFORD (Pato) is happy to be returning to Theatre Three where he appeared last year in *As Bees in Honey Drown*. He has been seen in *Inexpressible Island*, and *A Christmas Carol* at the Dallas Theater Center; in *Angels in America: Perestroika* and *Man of the Moment* at Stage West; and in *Holiday Memories at the WaterTower Theatre*. Mr. Crawford has worked at the La Jolla Playhouse, Ensemble Studio Theatre, and Engarde Arts. On television, he has appeared on *All My Children*, *As the World Turns*, and *One Life to Live*. A graduate of Brown University, Mr. Crawford received his M.F.A. from the University of California at San Diego. He is currently teaching at Southern Methodist University.

C. J. CRITT (Mag) Writer-actress C. J. Critt makes her Theatre Three debut in this role. This past spring, she played The General in Dallas Theater Center's *Guys and Dolls* and performed her solo show *Suicide at 8* in DTC's Big D Festival. Her comic diatribe on living large (*Cursed with BIGNESS!*) debuted at the literary series *Arts and Letters Live*, and was expanded by Soul Rep Theater Company for a cast of large women of diverse races. Some of her scripts produced in New York include *Rockbound*, *Romped Out!*, and a ten-minute musical commissioned by Joseph Papp of the New York Shakespeare Festival, *Caroline Chernowsky*. Her provocative one act, *The Bee Keepers* was selected for the anthology, *Best Stage Scenes of 1997*. In 1998, Ms. Critt won a Cable Ace Award for *WORDS ALOUD!*. She is currently writing a musical comedy, *Algonquin*, with composer Michael Hirsh. She is a featured narrator for Recorded Books, Inc. as the "Voice of the Author" for sixty titles, and is also a staff writer and voice-over actress for Radio Disney.

THOM PENN (Ray) This is Mr. Penn's Theatre Three debut. He just received his MFA from Southern Methodist University where he appeared in *The Suicide*, *Holiday*, and *Balm in Gilead*. Mr. Penn has also performed in *South Pacific* at The Dallas Theater Center, *Othello* and *Road* at Kitchen Dog Theatre, and *Antony and Cleopatra*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Romeo and Juliet* at The Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. His talented actress wife, Mindy Penn, played leading roles for Theatre Three in *Racing Demon* and *June Moon*.

SUSAN SARGEANT (Maureen) is pleased to be making her Theatre Three debut with this production. Ms. Sargeant has been active in the Dallas/Ft. Worth theatrical community for the past eighteen years, and has appeared on many local stages. She is the Artistic Director of WingSpan Theatre Company in Dallas. She recently appeared in WingSpan's *Mrs. Klein*. Other WingSpan productions include *Grace and Glorie*, *Alice in Bed* and *The Last Flapper*, for which she received a Dallas Critic Forum Award and a Leon Rabin nomination. Ms. Sargeant has also served as the Artistic Associate for New Horizons Theatre Company in Dallas from 1992 to 1996. Her most recent directing credits include *Proposals* at Plano Repertory Theatre, and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* and *Seascape* at Circle Theatre in Ft. Worth.

Next on Theatre Three's stage: Nov 22 - Jan 7



It's way past time for a revival of this wonderful play by Samuel Taylor. We don't see plays like this much anymore -- tales of fun functional families. Granted, this family's a bit unorthodox. But the family loves the young boy who is coming of age in their midst, and this warm family comedy reminds us how a full, rich family life is glorious.

CONTRIBUTORS to the Threshold Campaign whose bricks have not yet been installed include Elissa and Stan Hirschman, David Wren, Mr. and Mrs. David C. McCue, Dr. Richard L. Mabry (in honor of his late wife) and Mr. and Mrs. John Hebley. TheatreThree looks forward to adding their names to the threshold bricks at the entry to the theatre, and extends sincere thanks to these generous individuals.

Regarding Theatre Three...

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution founded in 1961 by Norma Young. It serves to celebrate and honor the three essentials of theatre for which she named it: gifted playwrights, talented theatre artists, and adventurous audiences.

Regarding this performance...

- There will be one fifteen minute intermission. Concessions are available in the lobby.
- Cameras or recording devices of any kind are prohibited.
- Please turn off (or silence) all cell phones and pagers.
- Please finish refreshments in the lobby.

For theatregoers with disabilities...

- Please feel free to call upon our staff for assistance.
- Wheelchair locations are available at stage level.
- Half of the seats may be reached by handrails.
- A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- Handicapped parking is next to the Dream Cafe and the former North-South Restaurant.

Regarding parking...

All parking is free. Surface parking surrounds The Quadrangle. Garage (tower) parking is accessible just off Routh on La Clede Street.

IN MEMORIAM

Contributions have been made in memory of or from the estates of ...

Sam Catter, Bill Dallas, Scott Everheart, Paula Goodlet, Oliver Hailey, Anne Weeks Jackson, Jim Jackson, Masha Porte, Carolyn Ryburn, Mary Blanche Scales, Evelyn Wilke, and Norma Young.

Contributions to the Norma Young Fund are still being received and are welcomed.

Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated, are placed in the theatre's new permanent building endowment fund.

Theatre Three is supported by its Board of Directors, by subscribers, by funds from the City of Dallas, Office of Cultural Affairs, The Texas Commission on the Arts. Supporters also include The 500, Inc., TACA. Major corporate season sponsors include American Airlines, The Dallas Morning News, and WFAA, Channel 8.

SEASON SPONSORS



The Dallas Morning News



THE PHOENIX FUND

Theatre Three's annual campaign

Dear Playgoer:

Even a harrowing dramatic story can lose its punch if it is repeated over and over and over and over. Our annual fund drive, The Phoenix Fund, began when we were in crisis in 1991 and what a desperate message we told then!

The hairbreadth-escape-from-extinction stories about Theatre Three over almost 40 years are an example (at least to me) of an oft told tale that loses its appeal. I do not thrill to the memory of the multiple threats that nearly caused us to shut down.

Everybody appreciates it's not easy to keep a place like this going in the face of shifting political and underwriter winds -- or even in the face of our well-intentioned but sometimes uneven artistic output. I'm grateful for audience approval and good critical notices. But, I know we can improve not only in the art but in customer service and in the management of our operations. I'm somewhat dumbfounded that we're about to celebrate our 40th birthday when I think of the growth of excellence that's still ours to pursue.

I don't think I could draw much of a crowd with a "State of the Theatre" annual address. I wish I could, because the old story of imminent disaster could be laid to rest. *In many ways, the theatre is in better shape now than it has been in decades.* That good state of health has to do with finances, with philosophy, and with mission success. I can't remember a time when I've been prouder of a staff than I am now. And I'm most grateful to our small but mighty board for their successful gala last spring, their generous personal contributions, and their expertise in areas beyond staff competence.

We have a wonderful relationship with the Quadrangle's new ownership (in the person of Paul Taylor of Colonnade Properties), I'm personally hopeful that two fund-raising organizations for the Arts, TACA and The 500, can recover their fund-raising prowess in this "new economy". Dallasites can be proud of their Office of Cultural Affairs which certainly has been supportive of our

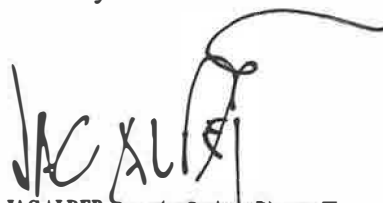


(continued)

maverick organization.

My optimism and my pride is tempered, however, by the necessity for our annual campaign, The Phoenix Fund, to meet its goal of raising \$100,000. That'll take a lot of folks who will make Theatre Three an instrument of their investment in the community. Starting with the next playbill, we will be listing those who honor us with their support for this annual drive. Because the goal is higher than before, we hope many new contributors will join our faithful friends by giving generously this year.

Ours is a community that has many interests. We know Theatre Three has tough competition for the contributed dollar. So we'll be especially grateful if you'll choose to help us improve, and help us celebrate our 40th birthday in sound fiscal health! The need is real, as will be our gratitude for your help. Please use the contribution blank at the right to tell us how to use your gift. Thank you!


JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director, Theatre Three

YES, list my name in support of Dallas' unique theatre-in-the-round's 40th ANNIVERSARY SEASON. I wish to help as follows:

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$1000)
PRODUCER COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
(to support production costs for sets, lights, costumes and designers)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$500)
DIRECTOR'S COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
(to support outreach, audience development and artistic administration)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$250)
ACTORS BENEFACTORS
(to support salaries and benefits for the resident acting company)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$125)
AUTHOR BENEFACTORS
(to support royalties to composers, lyricists and playwrights)

☐ (for gifts in increments of \$35)
BACKSTAGE BENEFACTORS
(to support stipends for Theatre Three's intern staff)

Write your total contribution in the circle...

\$ 

Name _____

☐ My check is enclosed for the full donation, **OR**

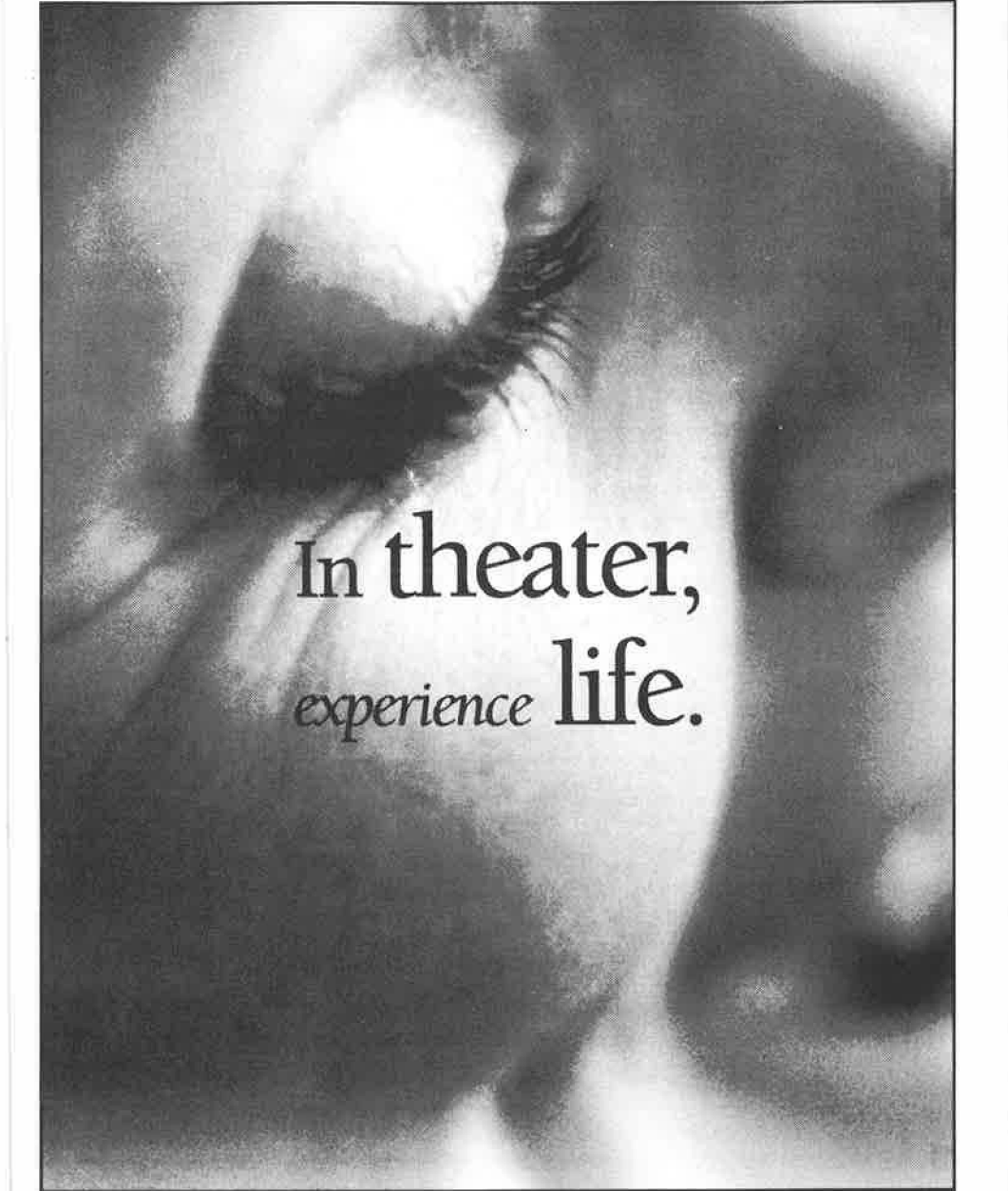
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If you wish, your charged donation can be paid in three equal monthly installments. We'll charge one third of the gift upon receipt, another third at the end of the following month, and the last third at the end of the next month. If you wish that option, please check here: ☐

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For centuries, the theater and the arts have enriched millions of lives.

Just like a newspaper, theater introduces us to new ideas, experiences and new perspectives — which makes life better for all of us. Through our support of the arts, we are committed to providing the opportunity for everyone to "experience life."

The Dallas Morning News