

The Finborough Theatre is now FULLY AIR CONDITIONED

Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre and Nicola Seed present
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ABBEY THEATRE AMHARCLANN NA MAINISTREACH

The first London production in 60 years

DRAMA AT INISH

by **Lennox Robinson**

Directed by Fidelis Morgan. Designed by Philip Lindley. Costume Design by Gregor Donnelly.
Lighting Design by Gerry Jenkinson. Sound by Edward Lewis.

Cast: Juliet Cadzow. Anthony Delaney. Rupert Frazer. Hermione Gulliford. Seamus Hoolihan. Celia Imrie. Jack Klaff. Lee Knight. Christopher Logan. Frances Low. Oengus MacNamara. Ellie Turner. David Walshe.

Unseen in London for 60 years, the classic 1933 Irish comedy by the former manager of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, opens at the Finborough Theatre for a limited run of six Sunday and Monday performances on Sunday, 9 October 2011 (**Press Night: Monday, 10 October 2011 at 7.30pm**), with a stunning cast. **Due to demand, additional matinee performances have been added on the 17, 24 and 25 October 2011 at 3.00pm.**

Drama at Inish (also known as *Is Life Worth Living?*) is the tale of a touring theatre company who come to the small Irish village of Inish to raise the intellectual tone higher than the usual 'summer comicalities'. Instead they perform 'serious' drama: the works of Chekhov, Strindberg and Ibsen – with devastating consequences for the local inhabitants...

This production is another Finborough Theatre rediscovery, following in the footsteps of such sell-out successes as J.M. Barrie's *What Every Woman Knows* and *Quality Street*, Graham Greene's *The Potting Shed* and Emlyn Williams' *Accolade*. *Drama at Inish* complements our main run of another Irish rediscovery - the first London production in 90 years of St John Ervine's *Mixed Marriage* - the original production of *Mixed Marriage* at the Abbey Theatre in 1911 was directed by Lennox Robinson.

Playwright **Lennox Robinson** (1886-1958) was born into a Protestant family in County Cork, and had a long association with the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, serving as its Manager, Director and Producer for over fifty years. His plays include *The White-Headed Boy*, *The Clancy*, *The Cross Roads*, *Patriots*, *Dreamers*, *Lost Leader*, *The Far-Off Hills*, *Crabbed Youth and Age* and *The Big House*. His direction included the first production of St John Ervine's *Mixed Marriage* in 1911 (performing concurrently to *Drama at Inish*). In 1951, he published *Ireland's Abbey Theatre*, the first full-length history of the company.

Director **Fidelis Morgan** is an actress, director and writer. Her adaptation of *Hangover Square* was successfully revived at the Finborough Theatre in 2008, and she directed Colleen Murphy's *The Piper* in this year's *Vibrant – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights*. She was Assistant Director at the world renowned Glasgow Citizens Theatre, has directed classic plays at the major drama schools, and the King's Head Theatre. On television, Fidelis appeared in *Jeeves and Wooster*, *Mr Majeika* and *As Time Goes By*. On stage, she played leading roles by everyone from Massinger to Coward, Goldoni to Brecht, at theatres like Glasgow Citizens, Nottingham Playhouse, West Yorkshire Playhouse and Liverpool Everyman. Her most recent film role was the Matron in *Never Let Me Go*. Her seventeen published books include the ground-breaking *The Female Wits* and the *Countess Ashby dela Zouche* crime novels. She has seven eBooks online, including the Hitchcockian thriller *The Murder Quadrille* and *Triple Shorts* (featuring her short plays and revue sketches) at amazon.co.uk. www.fidelismorgan.com

The cast includes:

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Juliet Cadzow is one of Scotland's leading actresses. Her theatre career started with Billy Connelly in *The Great Northern Welly Boot Show* in Edinburgh and the Young Vic. Some leading roles she has played include Jean Brodie, Madam Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* and Dorine in *Tartuffe* at the Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, *The Indian Queen* by Dryden/Purcell at the Citizens Theatre, Glasgow and St. Paul's, Covent Garden, Lady MacBeth on Inchcolm Island and Sicily, *Female Parts* by Dario Fo at the Tron and on a UK tour, *The Thrie Estaites* at the Edinburgh International Festival and in Warsaw. Other EIF productions include *Too Late for Logic* by Tom Murphy, *The Servant of Two Masters* by Goldoni and *The Four Estates* by John McGrath. Juliet worked with Bill Bryden's company for *The Ship* and *The Big Picnic in Govan* and for Channel 4, and with John McGrath for *Border Warfare* at the Tramway, also Channel 4. Juliet played Morna in Italian in *The Gigli Concert* by Tom Murphy at Teatro Trianon, Rome and did seasons with the La Zattera di Babele in Erice, Sicily and Rome. She has performed at the Traverse Theatre, Dundee Rep, Lyceum, Salisbury and Watford. Her TV work includes, *Scotch and Wry*, *Dr. Findlay's Casebook*, *Rab C. Nesbitt*, *Coronation Street*, *Casualty*, *The Bill*, *The Stonehouse Affair*, *Playing for Real*, *Glasgow Kiss*, *Wedding Belles* and *Balamory* – which led to arena tours all over the UK, with the highlight performances at Wembley. Juliet has appeared in many pantomimes, most memorably at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh with Stanley Baxter. Films she has appeared in include *Heavenly Pursuits*, *The Wicker Man*, the award winning *Wonderland*, *Thicker Than Water* for which she was nominated for a BAFTA, *The Big Man* and most recently *Stone of Destiny*, *Fast Romance* and *Perfect Sense* with Ewan McGregor.

Anthony Delaney's credits include *Northern Star* at the Finborough Theatre and *Hired* (Watford Palace Theatre). Television includes *The Tudors*.

Rupert Frazer's credits include *Blithe Spirit*, *Hamlet* (Bristol Old Vic), *Lady Windermere's Fan* (National Tour), *Private Lives* (Haymarket Theatre, Basingstoke), *The Thickness of Skin* (Royal Court Theatre), *Arcadia* (Gate Theatre, Dublin), *Naked Justice*, *David Copperfield* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), *The Picture of Dorian Grey* (Theatre Royal Windsor), *The Constant Wife* (Lyric Theatre), *Hamlet* (Birmingham Rep and Lyceum Theatre) and *Festen* (Birmingham Rep and National Tour). Film includes *Gandhi*, *The Far Pavilions*, *The Shooting Party*, *Empire of the Sun*, *The Girl In A Swing*, *Zorn*, *The Reef*, *Past Present Future Imperfect*, *Wasp 05*, *Van Wilder 2* and *D-Notice*. Television credits includes *The House of Eliott*, *A Dinner of Herbs*, *The Slavery Business*, *Berkeley Square*, *The Sleeper*, *Love in a Cold Climate*, *The Bill*, *Shackleton*, *The Crooked Man*, *Heartbeat*, *Prime Suspect VI*, *Foyle's War*, *Vincent*, *Slave Trader*, *After You've Gone* and *Doctors*.

Hermione Gulliford's credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Birmingham Rep and The Old Vic), *Time and the Conways*, *The Rehearsal*, *The Double Inconstancy*, *Hay Fever* (Salisbury Playhouse), *Twelfth Night*, *The Country Wife* (Crucible Theatre, Sheffield), *Happy Savages* (Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith), *Anthony and Cleopatra*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Arcadia* (Bristol Old Vic), *Three Sisters*, *The Real Inspector Hound* and *The Critic* (Chichester Festival Theatre). Film includes *The Affair of the Necklace* and *Stage Beauty*. Television includes *Jane Eyre*, *Oktober*, *Monarch of the Glen*, *Carrie's War*, *Heartbeat*, *The Brief*, *All About George*, *Midsomer Murders*, *Kingdom*, *Doctors*, *MI High*, *Holby City*, *The IT Crowd* and *Handle with Prayer*.

Celia Imrie's theatre credits include *Acorn Antiques – The Musical* (Theatre Royal Haymarket) for which she won an Olivier Award, *The Hothouse* (Minerva Theatre, Chichester, and Comedy Theatre), *Habeas Corpus* and *Polar Bears* (Donmar Warehouse), *Dona Rosita* (Almeida Theatre), *The School for Scandal* (Royal Shakespeare Company at the Barbican Theatre), *Unsuspecting Susan* (King's Head Theatre and 59th Street Theatre, New York), *The Way of the World and Mixed Up North* (Wilton's Music Hall), *Plague Over England* (Duchess Theatre) and *Hay Fever* (Rose Theatre, Kingston). Film includes *The Harmfulness of Tobacco*, *Blue Black Permanent*, *Frankenstein*, *In The Bleak Midwinter*, *The Borrowers*, *Star Wars*, *Hilary and Jackie*, *Bridget Jones's Diary*, *Lucky Break*, *Revelation*, *Thunderpants*, *Heartlands*, *Calendar Girls*, *Wimbledon*, *Bridget Jones – The Edge of Reason*, *Nanny McPhee*, *Imagine Me and You*, *Wah Wah*, *St Trinian's*, *St Trinian's – The Legend of Fritton's Gold*, *You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger* and *Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. Television includes *Dinner Ladies*, *Acorn Antiques*, *Kingdom*, *A Dark Adapted Eye*, *Wokenwell*, *Gormenghast*, *Love in a Cold Climate*, *Baddiel's Syndrome*, *Station Jim*, *Midsomer Murders*, *Randall and Hopkirk Deceased*, *Absolutely Fabulous*, *The Gathering Storm*, *A is for Acid*, *Zhivago*, *Sparkhouse*, *Daniel Deronda*, *The Planman*, *Still Game*, *Jonathan Creek*, *Doc Martin*, *Miss Marple – 4.50 From Paddington*, *Mr Harvey Lights a Candle*, *Poirot – Taken at the Flood*, *The Lavender List*, *The Last Detective*, *The Commander – The Devil You Know*, *After You've Gone*, *Florizel Street* and *Titanic*. She recently published her autobiography, *The Happy Hooper*.

Seamus Hoolihan makes his Finborough Theatre debut in *Drama at Inish*. He has extensive stage experience, and his many television credits include *Doctor Who*, *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries*, *In The Name Of The Father*, *The New Statesman*, *Chimera*, *Information Received*, *No Strings*, *Personal Imports* and *The Bill*.

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Jack Klaff's credits include *Trilby*, *Nagging Doubt*, and *The Representative* at the Finborough Theatre. Other theatre credits include *Henry VI*, *Son of Light*, *As You Like It*, *Tamburlaine* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Othello*, *Troilus and Cressida*, *Donkey's Years*, *I'm Not Rappaport* (Bristol Old Vic), *Map of the Heart* (Shakespeare's Globe), *Insignificance* (Donmar Warehouse) and as Michael Mansfield, QC in *Stockwell* (Tricycle Theatre). Film includes *Star Wars*, *For Your Eyes Only*, *King David*, *Pasternak*, *Olga*, *1871* and *Ten Pence*. He has over 150 television credits, including *Vanity Fair*, Ruth Rendell's *Road Rage* and his own works. His latest radio performance was the Book of the Week – *Last Resort* and he has received two Sony Silver certificates.

Lee Knight's credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Wyndham's Theatre) and *Colors* (Tristan Bates Theatre). Film includes *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*.

Christopher Logan's credits include *The Belle's Stratagem* (Southwark Playhouse), *The School for Scandal* (Barbican Theatre and Amsterdam), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Headlong), *The Picture* (Salisbury Playhouse), *The Comedy Of Errors* (Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park), *Philadelphia, Here I Come!* (Gaiety Theatre, Dublin), *The Rivals* (Southwark Playhouse), *Nicholas Nickleby* (Chichester Festival Theatre, UK Tour, West End and Toronto), *Pravda* (Chichester Festival Theatre and Birmingham Rep), *Twelfth Night* (Thelma Holt Productions and Plymouth Theatre Royal – UK Tour), *The Quare Fellow* (Oxford Stage Company – UK Tour including Tricycle Theatre), *Shakespeare's Lovers* (QM2 - Cunard) and *The British Federation of Festivals' 75th Anniversary Gala* (Queen Elizabeth Hall). Television includes *Kerching!* (BBC). Film includes *The Magic Flute*, *Mrs Henderson Presents* and *Esther Kahn*. Radio includes *The Arab/Israeli Cookbook* (BBC).

Frances Low's credits include *Moonlight Across Heather* (Soho Poly Theatre), *Animal* (Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh), *Wait Until Dark* and *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* (Brunton Theatre, Musselburgh), *Let Wives Tak' Tent* (National Theatre of Scotland), *Polly Honeycombe and Lear* (Cochrane Theatre, London), *Real Time* (National Tour), *The Plough and the Stars* (Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester), *My Mother* (Bloomsbury Theatre, London), *Venus and Adonis* (National Theatre Workshop), *The Way of the World* (National Tour) and *Words Beyond Words* (Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh). Film includes *Couple and Robbers*, *Loose Connections*, *December Bride*, *Shallow Grave* and *Gosford Park*. Television includes *Billy Liar*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Miss Marple*, *Radio Pictures*, *Ties of Blood*, *Father Matthew's Daughter*, *Perfect Spy*, *Love After Lunch*, *Poirot – Triangle at Rhodes*, *The Brittias Empire*, *Peak Practice*, *Taggart*, *Pie in the Sky*, *Casualty*, *Jonathan Creek*, *Doctors* and *Holby City*.

Oengus MacNamara's credits include *The Hostage* (Southwark Playhouse), *Beckett's Outbursts* (Irish Tour), *Waiting For Godot* (Tricycle Theatre and Irish Tour), *Molly Sweeney* (National Theatre of Scotland), *The Quare Fellow* (Tricycle Theatre), *The Playboy of the Western World* (Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester), *Barabbas* (Hong Kong Tour), *The Country Wife* (National Theatre) and *Bohemian Lights* (Gate Theatre, London). Television includes *The Bill*, *Casualty*, *Eye of the Storm*, *Dangerous Ground*, *Roughnecks*, *The Bill*, *99-1*, *Henry VI Parts I, II and III* and *Richard III*. Film includes *Round Ireland with a Fridge*, *Eamonn* and *On Wings of Fire*.

Ellie Turner's credits include Ophelia in Nicholas Hytner's *Hamlet* (National Theatre), *An Ideal Husband* (English Theatre, Frankfurt), *Bloody Poetry* (White Bear Theatre), *The School For Wives* (Upstairs at the Gatehouse), *Oliver Twist*, *Henry V*, *The Playboy of the Western World* (Riverside Studios and National Tour), *Avocado*, *Osip* (King's Head Theatre), *The Lodger* (Arcola Theatre) and *Alphabetical Order* (The Mill at Sonning).

David Walshe's credits include [The Weir \(Scottish tour\)](#), [The Breathing House \(Tron Theatre, Glasgow\)](#), [Westenders](#), [An Apple A Day](#), [What the Animals Say](#), [Clara \(A Play, A Pie, A Pint at Óran Mór, Glasgow\)](#), [The Wisher](#), [Lost Property \(Edinburgh Festival\)](#), [Shining City \(National Tour\)](#), [By the Seat of Your Pants \(Scottish Tour\)](#), [Betrayal \(Byre Theatre\)](#), [Dirty Dusting \(National Tour\)](#), [The Psychic Detective \(National Tour\)](#), [Mother Courage \(Scottish Tour\)](#), [Big Baby \(Scottish Tour\)](#), and [A Mobile Thriller](#), an [award winning one-man-show, performed in a moving sports car \(Traverse Theatre at the Edinburgh Festival\)](#). Film includes [A Soldier's Song](#), [The Morbegs](#), [The Chop](#), [A Man with Gaps](#), [Irish Tourism Global Advertising Campaign](#), [Korea](#), [Love and Rage](#) and [various radio drama at RTE](#).

PRESS NIGHT: MONDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2011 AT 7.30PM

PHOTOCALL: MONDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2011 AT 4.00PM

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Press Information

FINBOROUGH | THEATRE

Sundays and Mondays, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24 October 2011 at 7.30pm

Additional Matinees at 3.00pm on 17, 24 and 25 October 2011

Tickets £18, £15 concessions.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

Neil McPherson on e-mail **admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk** or **07977 173135**

Download press releases and images at **<http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>**

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