

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Florida Atlantic University Department of Theatre and Dance Presents:

Dancing at Lughnasa *by Brian Friel*

November 14, 15, 21 and 22 at 8pm
November 16, 22 and 23 at 2pm

Studio One Theatre
FAU Boca Raton, 777 Glades Road

FAU

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University

WELCOME

The Department of Theatre and Dance welcomes you to our 2008/2009 production season. These productions play an integral role in the process of theatre education at Florida Atlantic University by providing essential capstone projects for our students and by creating living examples of this living art form for the greater university community. We are pleased that you have chosen to join us and to collaborate as an audience in our celebration of the theatre art and we hope that you enjoy the results of our classroom education and training programs. We also invite you back for all of our School of the Arts productions and exhibitions during this academic year and to our 2009 Summer Festival Repertory Theatre.

Richard Gamble, Chair
Department of Theatre and Dance

Dancing at Lughnasa is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Dancing at Lughnasa was produced on the New York stage by Noel Pearson in association with Bill Kenwright and Joseph Harris

**Department of Theatre and Dance - School of the Arts
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters**

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

By

Brian Friel

Director

Jean Louis Baldet

**Scenic Design
Gvozden Kopani**

**Costume Design
Kennedy Cranford**

**Lighting Design
Tom Shorrock**

**Sound Design
Richard Gamble**

**Technical Direction
Chris Anderson - Lauar**

**Choreography
Kathryn Austin**

**Stage Manager
Megan Baron**

**Assistant Stage Managers
Kaleb Marazon
Austen Moore
Samantha Sehter**

CHARACTERS

MICHAEL Jay Reese

CHRIS Alexa Cappiello

MAGGIE Cassie Greer

AGNES Danielle Bailey

ROSE Candace Marie Hackett

KATE Jenny Newbry Waters

GERRY Vance Vlasek

JACK Bradford Sadler

ACT ONE

A warm day in early August 1936

ACT TWO

Three weeks later

**The home of the Mundy family, two miles outside the
mythical village of Ballybeg off the Donegal Bay**

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Technical Director Noel Barry
Scene Shop Foreman.....J.R. Coley
Scenic Construction Production Hour Students
Graduate Assistants

Properties Master..... Karla Furari
Properties Supervisor Terry Lawrence

Costume Design Supervisor Tim Dial
Costume Shop Supervisor Linda Shorrock
Costume Assistant.....Alex Antonopoulos
Tim Marriot
Costume Construction Production Hour Students
Graduate Assistants

Master Elec./Board OperatorMarianne Scaduto
Sound Engineer/Board Operator Kacie Kelly
Running Crew Eric Eichelberger
Kris Johnson
Stephanie Whitman

Poster Design Cassie Greer
House Manager Lysette Perez
Ushers..... Lawrence Aoun
Stanley Mondesir

PERFORMANCE SUPPORT

Movement Coach..... Meade Andrews
Dance CoachClarence Brooks
Vocal/Dialect Coach Kathryn L. Johnston

DRAMATURGICAL NOTES

Dancing at Lughnasa takes place in 1936, a time of great world turmoil and a time of great challenge to the individual. It is set in the provincial country side outside the mythical town of Ballybeg, which in Gaelic means small town, near the shores of Donegal Bay. The bay faces the fierce winds and weather of the North Atlantic. This area in the north of Ireland has cultivated a tough and pragmatic people, who have learned over the centuries to make do, trust in God and the church, endure suffering and find joy in the simplicity of life. These are the people that Brian Friel writes about when he says "If you scratch an Irishman below the surface you will find a pagan." These are people that have not strayed far from the superstitious belief of their ancestors and have uncomfortably blended those beliefs with the dogma of the Catholic or Protestant Church. At the core of this play each character struggles with this duality and as the events unfold each either embraces their Dionysic nature (represented by the Celtic god Lugh) or the repression which their religious beliefs offer.

Unlike other Irish writers and playwrights, Brian Friel does not directly engage the usual Irish themes in this play, like the suppression of Irish culture by the English, or the great schism between the Protestants and the Catholics, or even the depletion of Ireland's greatest resource, its young people, to emigration to other lands. Brian Friel instead takes a close look at the fabric of the Irish family from a very personal view through the storyteller Michael, who provides the narrative of his immediate family, which flows relentlessly like a river across our imagination as the action of this play unfolds. Each of the members of Michael's "remembered" family, like figures made of sand, are slowly undermined and eroded by the inevitability of change, which comes to even as small a place as Ballybeg. The fate of each character is driven by world forces: war, revolution, industrialization and the advance of technology. All of these forces serve to erase the people and the culture of the Ireland of the past.

Currently In Production:

Dances We Dance - Fall 2008 Dance Concert

University Theatre

Friday, December 5 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 6 at 8:00 p.m.

The Eight Reindeer Monologues - Jeff Goode

Studio 2 Theatre

Friday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 p.m.

FAU Dance Theatre Ensemble

University Theatre

Friday, January 30 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 31 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 1 at 2:00 p.m.

The Jacques Brel Project

Studio One Theatre

Friday, February 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, February 20 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 21 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 22 at 2:00 p.m.

The Clearing - Helen Edmundson

Studio One Theatre

Friday, April 3 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4 at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 4 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, April 10 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 11 at 8:00 p.m.



The Kennedy Center

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The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival~

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2009.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

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