

Four Rivers in association with
Theatre Royal Waterford presents



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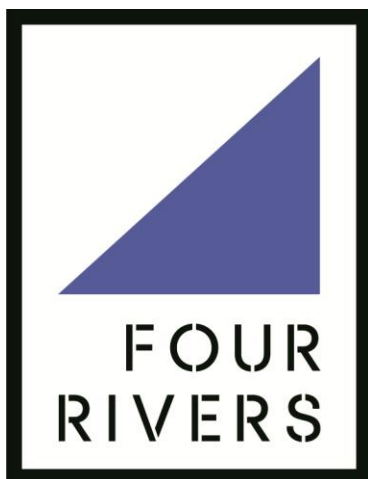
BIRD

a lacerating and
controversial
story of betrayal,
abandonment
and lust

By David Harrower
Directed by Ben Barnes
Starring Ronan Leahy and Maria Guiver



Four Rivers Theatre Company, in association with Waterford Theatre Royal, serving venues in the South East.



Four Rivers is a new theatre company serving venues in the South East. It will work with the creative community in the region and elsewhere to bring new and existing work to the stage. Its inaugural season is presented in association with Theatre Royal Waterford and includes productions of **The Beauty Queen of Leenane** by Martin McDonagh and **Blackbird** by David Harrower. Four Rivers also worked with the Eugene O'Neill International Festival, presenting a staged reading of **More Stately Mansions**.

BLACKBIRD

By David Harrower

Cast

Ray: Ronan Leahy
Una: Maria Guiver
Girl: Maisy Rose Courtney Keane

Creative Team

Director: Ben Barnes
Original Set Design: Aoife Ridgeway
Lighting Design: Mark Redmond - Stage It
Costumes: Mae Leahy
Sound Consultant: Jamie Beamish
Stage Manager: Mae Leahy
Tour Management: Mark Redmond - Stage It
Mentoree: Martina Collender

For Four Rivers

Line Producer: Heather Hadrill
Tour Management: Mark Redmond & Cian Redmond- Stage It
Marketing: Bee Right Marketing - Jennifer Pitt
Graphic Design: Elishka Lane Barnes
Photography: Colin Shanahan

Ronan Leahy



Ronan is a freelance actor/director from Meath. As a performer, he has toured extensively both nationally and internationally, gaining a vast and varied experience of performance styles and disciplines. In 2019 he graduated with a distinction from the M.F.A. degree course in Theatre Directing at The Lir Academy in Dublin.

THEATRE: Work at the Abbey includes **Oedipus, King Lear, Drum Belly, Curse of the Starving Class, Macbeth, The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui, Romeo and Juliet, Henry IV, Da, Living Quarters, Observatory, Observe the Sons of Ulster, At Swim-Two-Birds, The Passion of Jerome, By the Bog of Cats, The Well of the Saints, Philadelphia Here I Come, The Doctor's Dilemma** and **The Corsican Brothers**.

Other theatre includes **Least Like the Other** (INO). **Signatories, Borstal Boy** (Verdant). **Wuthering Heights, An Enemy of the People, Festen, All My Sons** (Gate Theatre). **Hecuba, The Effect, The Critic, Travesties, Life is a Dream, Solemn Mass for a Full Moon in Summer** (Rough Magic). **The Colleen Bawn, Gentrification** (Druid). **The Winter's Tale, The Hairy Ape** (Corcadorca). **Medea, Titus Andronicus and La Musica** (Siren). **Moment** (Tall Tales). **Gagarin Way** (Island). **Pyrenees** (Hatch). **Creditors** (C Company). **Invitation to a Journey** (Coisceim). **Tiny plays for Ireland and America, Inside the GPO, End of the Road, Whereabouts, The Flesh Addict** (Fishamble). **Roberto Zucco, Pale Angel, Wideboy Gospel and Melon Farmer** (Bedrock). **Romeo and Juliet** (Second Age). **TV/FILM:** **The Flag, Pursuit, Out of Innocence, Gridlock, The Break, Jack Taylor, Amber, Angel, Single-Handed, Proof, Blood Coloured Moon, Roy, The Catalpa Rescue, Batman Begins, and Amongst Women**.

Maria Guiver



Maria is a British American actor, based in London. She has recently finished filming a recurring role in a new Netflix series, which will premiere in 2022. Other screen credits include **Miss Scarlet** and **The Duke** for UKTV and PBS and **Vikings** for MGM Television.

Her theatre credits include **Light Falling** directed by Caroline Byrne (The Abbey), **The Crucible** directed by Ben Barnes (The REP Delaware), **After the End** directed by Emily Foran (The Lyric Belfast), **Talk to Me Like The Rain** directed by Bairbre Ní Chaoimh (Bewley's Café Theatre) and **The Rover** directed by Naomi Jones (Southwark Playhouse). Maria

is a graduate of The Lir Academy and RADA.

Maisy Rose Courtney Keane



Maisy began acting with her local drama group “Elaine Jordan School of Speech and Drama” aged 9 and later moved on to attend Discovering Drama, Wexford for over 5 years. During her time there, she took part in numerous performances every year, often ran in the National Opera House. She also attended the Gaiety School of Acting youth summer camp furthering her love of acting. Over the years, Maisy has completed multiple LAMDA exams finishing with a Distinction in Grade 8 Acting.

Ben Barnes

Ben Barnes is the founding Artistic Director of Four Rivers which is dedicated to developing new and established work in and for the South East. He is a former Artistic Director of Opera Theatre Company and the Abbey Theatre. His award-winning productions have been seen in major cities all over the world and his most recent credits include an American production of **The Crucible** and **Madama Butterfly** for Irish National Opera at the BGE theatre. He recently directed a rehearsed reading of **More Stately Mansions** for the Eugene O'Neill Festival and **The Beauty Queen of Leenane** by Martin McDonagh for Four Rivers on tour. Earlier this year he directed readings of eight new Wexford plays and previously directed for **WexFour**, **My Real Life** and **The Scourge** all for the Wexford Arts Centre.

Mae Leahy

Mae is a costume designer and director based between Waterford and Dublin. She recently graduated from Trinity College with a degree in Drama and Theatre Studies. Mae is a founding member of Gift Horse Theatre, and recently designed their production of **Twelfth Night**, which toured the country. Other design credits include **Grianstad** (DU Players), **Divine**, **Supermoon**, **Boom!**, **The Strangest Kind of Romance**, **Looking Deadly**, **The Epiphany of Eileen O Keefe** (TCD Debut Festival), **When I Was Young I Never Talked to Clouds**, **Salvatore DeWonderful: LIVE!** **From the Copacabana** (Scene and Heard) and **Tess** (Gift Horse Theatre). Mae was an active member of DU Players, designing over 30 shows and events from 2017-2020 including the **Freshers Co-Op**. She was elected Wardrobe and Basement Manager 2019/2020. Mae also works with Waterford Spraoi as a makeup designer and costume assist.

Mark Redmond

Mark has been involved with theatre since 1982 when he started with Wexford Pantomime Society. He is a founder member of Oyster Lane Theatre Group. Over the years he has moved from an initial interest in lighting to include set design and construction in his portfolio.

Over the years Mark has worked with Billy Roche on several productions, including **Amphibians, Lay me Down Softly** and **Of Mornington** - Scalders Theatre company. More recently Mark was back on the road again with a new work Roche work, **The Diary of Maynard Perdu** - an adaptation of the novella to a one man show with actor Pete McCamley. Besides runs at the Wexford Arts Centre the piece has been performed in Dublin's Smock Alley, and The Mill Theatre in Dundrum. Also as part of the Eugene O'Neill festival in New Ross.

One of his proudest achievements has been working on Billy Roche's **Tales From Rainwater Pond** including the original production at Wexford Arts Centre, on tour in Ireland and in New York as part of the 2009 1st Irish Festival.

Also in more recent credits, include the set design for Wexford Arts Centre's production of Michelle Dooley Mahon's play **Scourged**, which has toured in Ireland and which will be staged in New York sometime in the next year.

Over the years Mark has gained AIMS nominations in the best technical category with Enniscorthy Musical Societies' productions of **Jesus Christ Superstar** and **Fiddler on the Roof**, with OLTG for **Beauty and the Beast** and with Gorey Musical Society for **All Shook Up**. In the past year Mark has won a best technical award at AIMS for the EMS production of **Sister Act** and was proud to be a part of the production team for OLTG's All Ireland winning **Michael Collins a Musical Drama**.

On his time working on the drama circuit with Wexford Drama Group Mark has received numerous best set awards for productions including **The Mai, Someone to Watch over me , Holy Day, Doubt** and the national finalist challenger **The Bog of Cats** (which was nominated for Best Set at the All Ireland).

Blackbird (Revival) by David Harrower

Garter Lane	5 th & 6 th Nov	www.garterlane.ie
Wexford Arts Centre:	11 th Nov	www.wexfordartscentre.ie
Watergate Kilkenny:	12 th Nov	www.watergatetheatre.ie
Pavilion Theatre, Dun Laoghaire	13 th Nov	www.paviliontheatre.ie



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