

THE Eugene O'Neill

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL of THEATRE



10th – 14th October 2018
NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, IRELAND

www.eugeneoneillfestival.com



Waterford Institute of Technology
INSTITIÚD TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA PHORT LAIRGE



Welcome

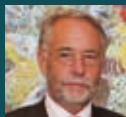
Celebrating the life and works of the most famous Irish American playwright

We are delighted to host the inaugural Eugene O'Neill International Festival of Theatre, which will take place in New Ross, Co Wexford from the 10th to the 14th of October, 2018.

Eugene O'Neill's father James was born in Tinneranny, Co. Kilkenny in 1845, and emigrated as a small boy with his family from New Ross in 1851. James became one of America's most promising Shakespearean actors. However, haunted by the terrible poverty of his youth, James compromised his talent for financial security, playing the title role in the potboiler *The Count of Monte Cristo* thousands of times.

James' son Eugene O'Neill, recoiling from the melodramatic style his father personified, created modern American drama. The only American playwright to win the Nobel Prize and also four Pulitzer Prizes, Eugene was apparently a spent force when he retired to Tao House in Danville, California in 1937. His privacy fiercely protected by his wife Carlotta, Eugene then wrote four of America's greatest plays. In one of them, *Long Days Journey Into Night*, "written in tears and blood" and posthumously produced, Eugene finally made his peace with James.

At Tao House in Danville in September and at St Michael's Theatre in New Ross in October, in a partnership we call "*One Festival, Two Countries*", we invite you to join us in celebrating both James and Eugene O'Neill, united at last in their adopted and ancestral countries.



*Sean Reidy, Chairman,
The O'Neill Ancestral Trust,
New Ross,
County Wexford.*



*Dan McGovern, President,
Eugene O'Neill Foundation,
Tao House, Danville,
California.*



WELCOME RECEPTION

8pm _Wednesday, October 10th

Brandon House Hotel, invited guests & festival ticket holders

A civic welcome will be afforded to the visiting dignitaries from the Danville Municipal Council and the Eugene O'Neill Foundation and Society, and to the participating actors, directors and producers.

This will be followed by a concert featuring classical guitarist David Creevy and Celtic Jazz Singer Melanie O'Reilly, collaborating in a special tribute to Ireland's national composer Turlough O'Carolan.

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

8pm _Thursday, October 11th

St. Michael's Theatre



Waterford Institute of Technology presents a screening of Edwin Porter's 1913 film of *The Count of Monte Cristo*, starring James O'Neill, and an illustrated talk on the relationship between James O'Neill, his son Eugene, and their Irish roots. This film will be accompanied by an especially created musical score by WIT lecturer and performer Phil Collins.

HUGHIE

8pm_Friday, October 12th

St. Michael's Theatre



Hughie is the tale of two lonely strangers grappling to make sense of their lives, their relationship and their responsibilities to each other, directed by and especially reimagined by Eric Hayes, artistic director of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Danville, California. Along with the staging of one-act *Hughie*, there will be a playful presentation of some of O'Neill's greatest stage directions.

MOURNING BECOMES ELECTRA

3.30pm_Saturday 13th October

St. Michael's Theatre

Riven by a dark past the tragic present of the Mannon family is played out against the backdrop of the ending of the American Civil War. In a story of betrayal, lust, murder, madness and retribution O'Neill's great trilogy of plays has the epic sweep and majesty of the Greek tragedy upon which it is based. Ben Barnes directs a strong cast in a two-part staged reading of this rarely performed masterpiece with music composed and performed by Eleanor McEvoy and the Irish soprano, Clodagh Kinsella.



3.30pm Part 1

6.00pm Dinner at the Dunbrody Visitor Centre

8.00pm Part 2

MY REAL LIFE

8pm_Sunday, October 14th

St. Michael's Theatre



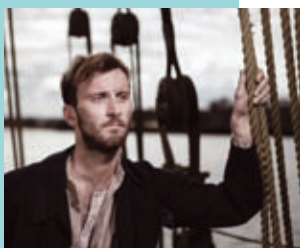
Don Wycherley stars in the touching and entertaining *My Real Life* by Wexford writer Eoin Colfer. A story of the highs and lows of a life over forty years, *My Real Life* is a play that will make you laugh and make you cry.

THE “GLENCAIRN” PLAYS

Daily at noon & 3pm, October 11th to 14th

Aboard The Dunbrody

On board the Dunbrody Famine Ship there will be a production of Eugene O’Neill’s cycle of one-act plays directed by Paul Walsh set aboard the fictional ship the ‘*SS Glencairn*’, *Bound East for Cardiff*, *The Long Voyage Home* and *In the Zone*. These three one-act plays will be presented in one sitting lasting an hour.



LUNCHTIME TALKS

1pm_October 11th & October 12th

New Ross Library

Waterford Institute of Technology presents a series of expert-led talks and discussions in the New Ross Library. The talks will be on Eugene O’Neill’s influence on modern Irish theatre and on the Graves Shipping Company and the New Ross diaspora.

THE Eugene O'Neill

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10th – 14th October 2018

NEW ROSS COUNTY WEXFORD

Full weekend festival tickets are available at €100, this includes access to the exclusive opening reception, all Eugene O'Neill Festival events and reserved seating.

Tickets for individual events will issue on September 1st (subject to availability)

To book your tickets see www.eugeneoneillfestival.com

Telephone: 00353 (0)51 421255.

For festival enquiries and group bookings
email: info@eugeneoneillfestival.com



New Ross, County Wexford



NEW ROSS

New Ross is a vibrant market town on the banks of the river Barrow and the gateway for that majestic river's exit into the sea off Ireland's Southeast coast.

At the epicentre of the town sits the Dunbrody Famine Ship and Visitor Centre, a replica of the type of ships, which once brought thousands of people who wanted to escape poverty to different parts of the world; including the family of James O'Neill.

The ruins of St Mary's Church are well worth seeing where lie the remains of Isabel de Clare, wife of the great Knight William Marshal. The quayside in New Ross is also home to the Emigrant Flame, a monument to all those who left Ireland – including JFK's ancestor Patrick Kennedy – in search of a better life overseas escaping the Great Irish Famine of 1845-1852.

For festival news and updates see www.eugeneoneillfestival.com

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