



91 Central Productions in association with Anemone Productions
presents

The Battles of Richmond Hill

By Penny Jackson

Directed by Kathy Gail MacGowan

CAST

(in order of appearance)

SHEILA O'CONNOR Nora Chester*

FRANK O'CONNOR Kevin Gilmartin*

SEAN MACGUIRE Mac Brydon*

BRIAN O'CONNOR Jordan Ahnquist*

ALEXI NEGRETSKY Alan Safier*

MARY O'CONNOR Lindsay Ryan

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Place and Time: The Dublin Rose, Richmond Hills, Queens; The Present.

The play runs 90 minutes and will be performed without an intermission.

Scenic Design **David Goldstein**
Costume Design **Debbi Hobson**
Stage Manager **Hanako Rodriguez***
Casting Director **Jenn Haltman**
Fight Director **Judi Lewis Ockler**

Lighting Design **Kia Rogers**
Sound Design **Jacob Subotnick**
Props Design/ASM **Erica Schnitzer**
Publicist **Emily Owens PR**
Dialect Coach **Page Clements**

*Equity Member appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association without benefit of an Equity Contract in this Off-Off Broadway production.

SUBLET SERIES @HERE 2018-19 SEASON

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Welcome!

Thank you for coming to *The Battles of Richmond Hill*, a SubletSeries@HERE presentation. This program provides artists with discounted space and equipment, as well as technical support.

HERE also supports the work of artists at all stages in their careers through our HERE Artist Residency Program (HARP), which develops and produces the work of our 10-13 resident artists, and Visiting Artist presentations for adult and family audiences. Please check out our other performances and events at HERE.org.

Like all the work at HERE, this SubletSeries@HERE presentation was curated based on the strength and uniqueness of the artist's vision.

We hope to see you HERE again soon.

Best,

Kristin

KRISTIN MARTING
Founding Artistic Director

ALSO AT HERE

Chimpanzee: NOW-May 5

HERE SUPPORT

HERE is extremely grateful for the support and encouragement of an important group of Foundations, Corporations, Government Agencies, Elected Officials, and dedicated individuals. We would not be HERE without them.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

HERE'S programming is made possible with Public Funds from: National Endowment for the Arts; New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Office of the Mayor of New York, and Speaker Corey Johnson; The Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer; and New York State Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick. We are extremely grateful for the support and advocacy of all of our dedicated elected officials: Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten R. Gillibrand, Representative Jerrold L. Nadler, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Mayor Bill de Blasio, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer and the Cultural Affairs Committee of the City Council, and State Senator Brad M. Hoylman.

PRIVATE AND CORPORATE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

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HERE, in partnership with Resident Playwright Taylor Mac, is a participant in the Mellon Foundation's National Playwright Residency Program administered in partnership with HowlRound. HERE is a proud member of the Hudson Sq Connection & Lower Manhattan Arts League & The National Opera America Center & TCG.

Playwright's Note: THE EVOLUTION OF THE BATTLES OF RICHMOND HILL

In 2010, I was at The Dublin House on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, a typical Irish bar complete with Guinness and waitresses from Ireland. There, I saw an elderly woman at the bar sitting with a man and nursing her glass of vodka. A motley group of her friends joined them, and all appeared to be very happy and very drunk. I wondered what would happen if this elderly woman became a danger to herself and had to move into a nursing home. Would she survive without her friendly bartender and caring barflies?

About the same time, I met an actor who had grown up in Richmond Hill, a remote neighborhood in Queens. During the American Revolution, Richmond Hill had a substantial Irish population and even today, it has a strong Irish-American influence. I loved the stories my friend told of the close-knit community there, and I could imagine the old woman from The Dublin House having lived in a place like Richmond Hill.

The first appearance of this play was a ten-minute piece called *Bitten*, produced by The Playwrights Round Table in 2010 in their Summer Shorts program. *Bitten* became the only American finalist for The Kenneth Branagh Award for Drama at The Windsor Fringe. After I turned *Bitten* into a One Act, it was presented as a workshop play Upstairs at Quinn's, a bar near Times Square. A scene from this version would go on to be published. by Applause Books' *The Best Scenes for Actors Over Fifty*.

When I became a playwright at NYMadness, I was fortunate enough to meet one of their directors, Kathy Gail MacGowan. Both of us are ardent fans of Irish plays, and I knew she was the right woman to develop the play with me. Together, we added two more characters, explored the themes of emotional and physical battles, and the play sprang to life.

I am grateful to all the actors who further sculpted the script and the designers who deepened our vision. Now, after nine years, I am proud and happy to present to you The Battles of Richmond Hill.

~Penny Jackson

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Cast Bios (in alphabetical order):

Jordan Ahnquist (Brian) is excited to be a part of *The Battles of Richmond Hill*. Off Broadway: *Shear Madness*, *When Pigs Fly*. Regionally Jordan has worked with Milwaukee Rep, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Lyric Stage, Speakeasy Stage, The Gamm, The Barnstormers and others. Some favorite credits include *Hamlet*, *Big River*, *Heartbreak House*, *Mr G*, [title of show], *Urinetown*, and *Tartuffe*. Jordan holds a BA in theatre from Muhlenberg College.
www.jordanahnquist.com

Mac Brydon (Sean) A California native/expat now hailing from Greenwich Village, and Co-Founder of The Lafayette Salon Series (est. 2009) that performs monthly readings at The Players Club: www.lafayettesalonsseries.com
THEATRE: *Pimm's Mission* (59E59), Terrence O'Brien, dir.; *Order* (Theatre Row), Austin Pendleton, dir.; *The Seafarer* (13th St Rep), James Rees, dir. TV: *Paterno* (HBO), *Law & Order: SVU*, *The Daily Show*, *Lipstick Jungle*. FILM: *The Family Fang*, *The Sonnet Project #103*, *Reunion* (acted, produced). Directed, acted, and produced *First Seating: A New York Fable*, a short film that is hitting the festivals now. TRAINING: The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Glasgow. Member AEA, SAG-AFTRA. www.macbrydon.com

Nora Chester (Sheila) Resident Theatre: The Long Wharf, The McCarter, The Alliance, Syracuse Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Alley, The Asolo, GeVa, Delaware Theatre Company. Off-Broadway: TACT company member 1997-2018, Associate Artistic Director 2015-2018, over 50 Salon Performances and Off-Broadway runs, including *The Triangle Shirt Waist Factory Fire Project*, *Eccentricities of a Nightingale*, *Lovers*, and *Happy Birthday*. Summer Stock: 26 seasons at The Monomoy Theatre on Cape Cod, where favorite roles include, Betty the Loon in *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*, Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Lola in *Come Back, Little Sheba*, Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*, Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Mag in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, and Penny in *You Can't Take it With You*. Proud member of Actors Equity since 1976.

Kevin Gilmartin (Frank) AEA, SAG-AFTRA Off-Broadway: Professor Bernhardt, *Night Games*, *Flirtation*, *Antigone* (all for Drama Desk Award nominated Marvell Repertory Theatre). Off-Off-Broadway: *Adele's Way* (Broadway Bound Festival), *Sympathy in C* (13th Street Playhouse), *The Poll Tax Matter* and *Your Colonel* (Metropolitan Playhouse), *Camino Real* (Connelly Theatre), *A Homecoming* (NYC Int'l Fringe Festival), among others. Regional: *Other Desert Cities* and *Freud's Last Session* (Shaker Bridge Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (New Brunswick Theatre Festival), among others. Film: *Into The Dark*, *American Thief*, *Couch Surfer*, *Groomed*, *Entropy*, *Farewell*, among others.
www.kevingilmartin.net

Lindsay Ryan (Mary) Lindsay is a recent MFA graduate from SMU in Dallas. Recent/notable credits include Lady Anne in *Richard III* and Alice in *You Can't Take It With You* at Colorado Shakespeare Festival, *The Great Society* and Jenny in *The Christians* at Dallas Theater Center. Lindsay received the Bob Hope Scholarship for Excellence in Grad Acting at SMU. She is elated to be home in New York. Many thanks to HCKR for helping me get here!
www.lindsayiryan.com

Alan Safier (Alexi) is an actor, singer, writer, teacher and producer. He recently completed his 10th season touring the U.S. as comedy legend George Burns in Rupert Holmes's Tony-nominated solo-performance play *Say Goodnight, Gracie*. He's played a lot of famous (and infamous) people on stage, including Truman Capote, Spiro Agnew, John Adams, Albert Einstein and Charles J. Guiteau (in the L.A. premiere of Stephen Sondheim's *Assassins*). Alan has done hundreds of commercial voice-overs (perhaps most notably as *the Kibbles 'n' Bits* dog!) and his CD *Alan Safier Sings the Songs of George & Gracie's Heyday* features standards from the '30s, '40s and '50s. His new script, *Love, Loss, & What I Drove*, is currently being prepared for off-Broadway. www.alansafier.com @alansafe

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Creative Team Bios (in alphabetical order):

Anemone Productions (Producer) Founded by Nancy Nagrant in 2014, Anemone's mission is to generate work for film, television, and theatre with an emphasis on the female protagonist. By choosing stories in which women are at the center of the action, we diversify the storytelling spectrum. Through diversity we create opportunities for greater empathy and understanding, and ultimately a more equitable society. Anemone produced three short films directed by Michelle Bossy in 2018, which will all be hitting the 2019 festival circuit: *Miracle Baby* by Steven Fechter, *Incurable* by Josephine Cashman, and *Stag Party* by Sami Bass. Past Anemone productions include: the short film *Find Some Love* by Michele Aldin Kushner, directed by Melissa Attebery; the full-length play *Rosemary and Time* by Jennifer Fell Hayes, directed by Kathy Gail MacGowan; and various developmental readings of new works. www.anemoneproductions.org

Page Clements (Dialect Coach) is thrilled to be a part of this production! She is a private vocal/dialects/Shakespeare instructor and faculty member of the T. Schreiber Studio. NYC production credits as dialect coach include, *The Tea Party*, *Harper Regan*, *The Savannah Disputation*, *Comes a Faery*, *Louise in Charlestown*, *After Tartuffe She Stoops to Conquer*, *Awake and Sing*, *Icebound*, *Summer and Smoke*, *Philadelphia Here I Come*, *The Fallen*, *Bedroom Farce*, *Doubt*, *A Taste of Honey*, and *The Changing Room*. Member AEA. www.bestvocalwarmups.com and www.pageclements.com

David Goldstein (Scenic Design) is excited to be collaborating on his second Penny Jackson play, after designing the scenery for *I Know What Boys Want* at Theatre Row. Other Off-Broadway credits: *That Golden Girls Show*, *Stalking the Bogeyman*, *Church and State*, *Soul Doctor*, *Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *The Portal*. Regional Credits: WV Public Theatre, NC Stage Co, Des Moines Playhouse, and many others! Follow him on Instagram, or check out his website! @davidgoldsteindesigns(.com). #RLYCore4

Jenn Haltman (Casting Director) is a freelance theatre, film, and new media casting director. Recent theatre projects have been with Portland Stage, Hartford Stage, NYTW Next Door, and Sharon Playhouse. Films include "Then There Was" (dir. Louis Mandylor), "Boy Meets Girl" (dir. Eric Schaeffer), the award-winning short "Behind the Wall" (dir. Bat-Sheva Guez), and the 2018 Sundance selection "Madeline's Madeline" (Josephine Decker). She is also the Co-Producing Artistic Director of Between Two Boroughs Productions. Previously, Jenn was the Casting Associate at New York Theatre Workshop and has worked with Page 73 Productions, Pig Iron Theatre Company, and Soho Rep. She is a proud graduate of Muhlenberg College. jennhaltman.com

Debbi Hobson (Costume Design) Credits: *A Letter to Harvey Milk*, dir. Evan Pappas; *The Cult Play*, dir. Irene Lazaridis; *Tartuffe*, dir. Craig Smith; *Anne Frank in the Gaza Strip*, dir. Shaun Peknic; *Entertaining Mr Sloane*, dir. Craig Smith; *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* dir. by Kevin Confoy; *Both My Grandfathers* dir. Ben Lundberg; *Liberty! A Monumental New Musical* dir. Evan Pappas; *Luft Gangster* dir. Austin Pendleton; *Snowfall in Berlin* dir. Shaun Peknic; *The Big Funk* dir. Lori Kee. *Unmentionables* directed by Monserrat Mendez for which she won the NYIT Outstanding Costume Design award in 2015. Film Credits include *Root of Happiness*, *Show and Tell Tango*, *B & E*, the series season 2.

Penny Jackson (Playwright) is a playwright, novelist, and screenplay writer. She is the recipient of many writing awards including a *MacDowell Colony Fellowship*, *The Pushcart Prize*, a *Mirrellies Fellowship* from Stanford University and *The Elizabeth Janeway Prize* from Barnard College. Penny's play about gun violence, *Before*, was chosen as one of the best plays in 2016 by *Applause Books*. Her novel, *Becoming the Butlers*, was recognized as one of the best young adult books of the year by The New York Public Library, and was optioned for film by Warner Brothers Studios. Penny's new short film, *My Dinner with Schwartzey*, based on her award-winning short story, will have its world premiere at The Bermuda International Film Festival. Penny is currently a member of The Playwrights/Directors' Unit at The Actors Studio, and is a resident playwright of the A.R.T./New York theater company NY Madness. Her plays

have been produced in New York City at 59E59, Dixon Place, The Lion Theater at Theater Row, The Theater at the 14th Street Y, The Paradise Factory, TADA Theater and The Kraine Theater. Her play *Before*, was produced at The Playwrights for a Cause benefit against gun violence at The Atlantic Theater. Penny's short plays have also been produced in Los Angeles, Seattle, Chicago and abroad at The Edinburgh Fringe and twice at The International Dublin Gay Theater festival. www.pennybrandtjackson.com

Judi Lewis Ockler (Fight Director) is an intimacy/fight director, variety performer, stunt performer, and teaching artist. Credits include: *Hatef**k* (Adrienne Campbell-Holt, director; WP theater) *Under the Overture* (Gerard Alessandrini, director), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Tony Speciale, director; Classic Stage). She is an Intimacy Director with Intimacy Directors International; she leads workshops in Intimacy for the Stage/Stage Combat for actors and designers at Eugene O'Neil Theater Center, NYU Tisch, and The American Musical & Dramatic Academy, NYC. www.judilewisockler.com

Kathy Gail MacGowan (Director) is committed to developing and directing new work for the New York stage. She has successfully ushered more than a dozen new plays to production and enjoys being closely involved with the playwrights in this process. Her work has been highlighted by *The Daily News*, *Village Voice*, and *BackStage* (Critic's Pick) among others. She has directed plays at 59E59, The Sheen Center, HERE, Workshop Theater, UP Theater, IATI, Dorothy Strelsin, Paradise Factory, The 14th Street Y, and numerous New York festivals. She serves as a curator, director, and dramaturg at The Sheen Center and is currently working on a new play about the life of Henri Nouwen. She has also worked with The Stella Adler Studio and the NYU Company at Tisch. She holds an MFA in Directing from The New School and was a Drama League Directing Finalist. www.kathygailmacgowan.com

Emily Owens (Public Relations) is a media relations expert specializing in new plays. Her clients include The Tank, Gideon Productions, She NYC Arts, The Hearth, the League of Professional Theatre Women, and The Kilroys. www.emilyowenspr.com

Hanako Rodriguez (Stage Manager) Hanako Rodriguez is a freelance Stage Manager with a passion for helping to bring to life new works written by underrepresented voices. Her recent New York credits include NYT Critics' Picks *ATHENA* (with The Heath), and *The Workshop* (at HB Studios). She has worked on numerous Off and Off-Off Broadway projects including those with Two Headed Rep, Jewish Plays Project, The Fire This Time Festival, National Black Theatre, The Bushwick Starr, Superhero Clubhouse, Ardea Arts Family Opera Initiative, The Tank, The Medicine Show, softFocus, Horse Trade, La Mama ETC, The Sheen Center, Theater for the New City, and the Assembly.

Kia Rogers (Lighting Design) is a New York City based lighting designer for Theatre and Dance. Recent designs: 3LD Art & Technology Center, BAM Fisher, Cherry Lane Studio, Gural theatre at ART/NY, Gym at Judson, and Theatre 511 at ARS NOVA. International credits: Associate Lighting Designer for Slutforart/98.6 in Gothenburg, Sweden with Muna Tseng. West coast designs: El Portal's Monroe Forum Theatre, Los Angeles and Z Space, San Francisco. Dance designs: Flamenco Vivo National tours, Forward Motion, Kinesis Project Dance Theatre, Lighting Designer and mentor for Ethical Culture Fieldston High School Dance Company. Kia is a member of Rising Phoenix Repertory and a Creative Partner with Flux Theatre Ensemble. www.krogersld.com

Erica Schnitzer (ASM/Props Master) is a Brooklyn-based Theater Artist, specializing in creating socially conscious and impactful work that reflects the needs of her peers, specifically women, in the modern era. Her interests include new work development, devised theater, and classic adaptation, spanning across all genres. Select credits include *Mile Long Opera*, *What The Constitution Means to Me*, and *Love and Information*. For full directing and design credits, go to www.ericaschnitzer.com

Jacob Subotnick (Sound Design) Jacob is an NYC based composer and sound designer who has designed over 100 Off and Off-Off Broadway productions. Selected NYC Theater: *The Elephant Man* (Nominated: Outstanding Original Music NYITA 218); *The Ballad of Rodrigo* (Nominated: Outstanding Original Music NYITA 2015); *Virus Attacks Heart* (Nominated: Outstanding Sound Design PCTF 2014); *Tulpa or Anne and Me* (Winner: Outstanding Sound Design PCTF 2011) www.jacobsubotnick.com

Technical Director Matthew Herman
Master Electrician Katie Whittemore
Assistant Lighting Designer Sienna Gonzalez
Scenic Artist Jaclyn Meloni
Production Photographer Emily Hewitt
Poster Graphic Designer/Image by Jacqueline Manoharan
Poster Illustrator Franz Palomares
Costume Assistant Sherry Martinez
Sound Load-in Crew Chris Darbassie
Scenic Load-in Crew Spencer Wolfe, Ryan Fallon, Katherine Teed-Arthur

Roundabout's TWDP Crew

Mike Casiano, Juan Coronado, Megan Frazier, Sutien Jones, Manny Marroquin, Danny Pabon, Jael Pierre, Shanaya Perkins, Kyle Ratnayake, Clara Riso, Jesus Santiago, Lailia Tariq, Dajane Wilson

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Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFLCIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org