

Branar

Sruth na Teanga

created and directed by **Marc Mac Lochlainn**

GALWAY AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING
CARNMORE

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL ARTS
FESTIVAL 2021



Branar

Sruth na Teanga

created and directed by **Marc Mac Lochlainn**

CREATIVE TEAM

Marc Mac Lochlainn	Creator & Director
Joanne Beirne	Producer
Maeve Clancy	Designer
Michael Chang	Composer
Sarah Jane Shiels	Lighting Designer
Elaine Mears	Costume Designer
Adrian Ferry	Sound Designer
Adam Fitzsimons	Production Manager
Niamh Ní Fhlatharta	Line Producer
Kate Bowe	Public Relations

Stage-management Team Sorcha Ní Chróinín, Debbie Wright,
Kevin Murphy, Ciara Moloughney

Technical Team Ciaran Kelly, Michael Foley

CAST

Catherine Denning
Hilary Bowen Walsh
Grace Kiely
Neasa Ní Chunaigh
Helen Gregg
Eoin Ó Dubhghaill

Originally Commissioned by Galway 2020

Marc Mac Lochlainn

Creator & Director

Marc Mac Lochlainn is the executive artistic director of Branar Téatar do Pháistí. Marc founded the company in 2001. Along with Branar's ensemble of actors he has created and directed all of Branar's 20 original shows. He founded and runs Branar's "AG ROINNT" theatre resource sharing scheme and the TINY SHOWS weekends. Branar and Marc were the Theatre Artist in Residence in Mary Immaculate College of Education in Limerick. Marc was formally a Board member at TYA Ireland, Meitheal na mBeag, Macnas and An Taibhdhearc. Marc was a member of the 9 person panel that presented Galway 2020's bid to the international judging panel in 2016. Prior to setting up Branar Marc taught at primary and second level for some years. Marc holds an MA in Gaeilge and HdipEd

Maeve Clancy

Designer

Maeve Clancy is an artist who works in installation, animation and comics. She creates work for children and adults using cut paper, stories and drawings. She has worked on music videos, mounted solo exhibitions and writes fictional, documentary and historical comics. Past commissions include a pop-up book for the Samsung Galaxy Note 3 international advertising campaign, a large scale installation at a National Trust property in Somerset, a fully paper set for Branar Téatar do Pháistí's *Bláth* and a solo exhibition at Corte Eremo, Mantova, Italy. Maeve created a graphic novel about Dr Kathleen Lynn in 2016 and was an invited artist at Dublin WorldCon 2019. Her current work involves telling the story of Rouba and Noura Merzah, two refugees from Syria. She is currently the Visual Artist in Residence in Contemporary Drawing at Mary Immaculate College.

Michael Chang

Composer

Michael Chang grew up in Seattle, USA, where he studied classical violin from an early age. While at college, he took an interest in traditional Irish music. In 1999, Michael travelled to Ireland to immerse himself in traditional music. He has become a regular fixture in Galway city's music scene, anchoring several trad sessions per week in various pubs, as well as playing in several different bands. Michael wrote and directed short film *The Listener*, which screened at over 50 international film festivals and received five awards, he has also composed music for many short films and documentaries. Michael previously performed and composed with Branar on their productions of *Clann Lir*, *'Twas The Night Before Christmas*, and *Spraoi*. Michael is the Musical Director of Galway Community Circus' Galway 2020 spectacle *Wires Crossed*.

Sarah Jane Shiels

Lighting Designer

Sarah Jane Shiels began designing in Dublin Youth Theatre. She completed a BA in Drama and Theatre Studies 2006 in Trinity College and participated in the Rough Magic Seeds 3 programme in 2006–2008. Sarah Jane was also co-artistic director of WillFredd Theatre from 2010–2017. Recent work includes; *A Different Wolf* [Junk Ensemble/Dumbworld], *FRNKNSTN* [Theatre Lovett], *This Beautiful Village*, *Jimmy's Hall* [Abbey Theatre], *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, [Rough Magic], *PALS* [Winner Irish Times Theatre Award Best Lighting 2015], *The Boys of Foley Street*, and *Laundry* [ANU Productions]. Set and Lighting Designs include, *BEES!*, *Jockey*, *CARE*, *Farm*, *Follow* [WillFredd Theatre], *How to Keep an Alien* [Sonya Kelly/Rough Magic], and *It Folds* [Junk Ensemble/Brokentalkers, Winner Irish Times Theatre Award Best Lighting 2015]

Elaine Mears

Costume Designer

designer with a love for all things fabric. She has worked with Branar Téatar do Pháistí, Baboró International Arts Festival for Children, Moonfish Theatre, Macnas, and many others. In her design Elaine uses natural fabrics and repurposed materials as much as possible. Elaine was the writer and director of show *Are you there Una?*, a theatre piece based on legendary Galway character Una Taaffe. This show was created as part of Elaine's Druid Theatre Company FUEL residency in 2019.

Adrian Ferry

Sound Designer & Technician

Adrian Ferry is a freelance sound designer, engineer & mixer who work both the Middle East and Europe. His work has featured on many award-winning internationally film productions and contributed to many event installations. He has a widespread background in audio production and post-production. Adrian is also an experienced technician and systems engineer who has designed, managed the building of, commissioned and maintained the entire systems infrastructure. Adrian's work is widespread across many media platforms such as content creation for live events, corporate videos, theatre, art exhibition installations, television and film. On this project, Adrian is the technical systems designer for the audio hardware and synchronised playback devices. He is also responsible for helping to create the sound design and mix of the content which help establish the unique magical environment.

Joanne Beirne

Producer

Joanne is the executive producer with Branar Téatar do Pháistí. Having joined the company in October 2011, Joanne has worked closely with Branar's artistic director Marc Mac Lochlainn to develop the strategic direction of the company,

building a national and international profile for the organisation. Prior to joining Branar, Joanne was the artistic director of the Belltable Arts Centre in Limerick, producing the Limerick Theatre Hub and was one of the founder members of the Strollers Touring Network during her tenure. Joanne has worked in various roles with Lane Productions, Corcadorca, Fishamble, Barnstorm and Galway Youth Theatre throughout her career. Joanne has an M.Phil in Irish Theatre Studies from Trinity College and a BA Hons in Drama & Theatre Studies from the University of Surrey.

Catherine Denning

Performer

Catherine Denning is regular contributor with Branar. Theatre Credits include work with companies such as Branar, Brú Theatre, Fíabín, Telegael, Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe, Decadent, Galway 2020, Chekhov Performance Ireland, Mephisto and the Merlin Woods Collective. Catherine also facilitates drama and puppetry workshops and writes for community productions.

Hilary Bowen Walsh

Performer

Sruth na Teanga is Hilary's first production with Branar, Theatre Credits include *Me*, *Mollser* [streaming with the Abbey Theatre], *The Travels of Jonathan Swift* by Conall Morrison [Best Ensemble Irish Theatre Awards 2019] *Play* and *Alice in Wonderland* [Blue Raincoat Theatre] *Dorchadas Draíochta* [Graffiti Theatre] Hilary's screen credits include *Bonsoir Luna* [Cannes Film Festival] and *The Betrayal* with [Driftwood Doll Films].

Grace Kiely

Performer

Grace Kiely is a regular contributor with Branar. Theatre Credits include *Clann Lir*, *How to Catch a Star*, *Maloney's Dream*, *Rockin' Rhymes*, *'Twas the Night before Christmas*, [Branar Téatar do Pháistí]

Star of the Sea, *Pinocchio – A Nightmare*, *Redemption Falls* [Moonfish Theatre], *Dancing at Lughnasa* [Blue Teapot Theatre Company], *Rumpus* [Macnas] and *The Mai* [Mephisto Theatre Company].

Neasa Ní Chuanaigh

Performer

Neasa Ní Chuanaigh is a regular contributor with Branar. Theatre credits include *How to Catch a Star*, *The Way Back Home*, *Clann Lir* [Branar Téatar do Pháistí], *Séanadh* [Na Géanna Fiaín], *The Boy Explorer* [Macnas], *Saol faoi Sráid*, *Mac an Bheatha* [Fíabín] and *An Scorach* [An Taibhdhearc]. Neasa's television credits include *Ros na Rún* [TG4] and *Seacht* [TG4/BBC].

Helen Gregg

Performer

Helen Gregg is a regular contributor with Branar. Theatre credits include *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *Wooley's Quest*, *Rockin' Rhymes* [Branar Teatar do Pháistí]. She has worked extensively with street theatre company Macnas, was co-founder of Galway-based theatre companies Electric Bridget and Turas Theatre and is a member of Clowns Without Borders Ireland.

Eoin Ó Dubhghaill

Performer

Sruth na Teanga is Eoin's first production with Branar. Theatre credits include *Áille agus Allta*, *Tóraíocht an Yummy Mummy* and *Jingle Bang Jangle* [An Taibhdhearc], *Baoite* [An Taibhdhearc/Abbey Theatre]. Eoin's screen credits include *Ros na Rún* [TG4], *Grace Harte* [TG4], *Out of Innocence* [starring Fiona Shaw and Alun Armstrong] and *Arracht* [Directed by Tom Sullivan].

