

Galway International Arts Festival

The Baby's Room

written and directed by **Enda Walsh**

design by **Paul Fahy**

featuring the voice of **Kate Gilmore**

BAILEY ALLEN HALL,
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL
ARTS FESTIVAL 2025



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Even in the reverse the days resemble how they were when I lived them goin' forward. It's like I never bothered to wake up – or never started to speak out until now – until whatever the fuck this is!

From a wedding outlet in Dublin's northside – a young woman is pulled back through the minor tragedies of her insignificant life.

This is the world premiere of a new work, the twelfth in an ongoing series of immersive theatre installations. With absorbing and vivid texts by Enda Walsh revealing the highly intimate lives of each Room's character which takes on a quiet poetic force through remarkable storytelling with design by Paul Fahy

Enda Walsh's recent work includes *SAFE HOUSE*; the musical *Sing Street*; and the screen adaptation of Claire Keegan's *Small Things Like These* starring Cillian Murphy. He won a Tony Award for writing the book for the musical *Once*.

CREATIVE TEAM

Design **Paul Fahy**

Sound Design **Helen Atkinson**

Master Carpenters & Draughtsman **Dave O'Dowd**

Carpenters **Simon Kennedy, Arthur Bell**

Scenic Artists **Mark Molloy, Rosa Makela**

Props **Ciara O'Reilly**

Technicians **Peter Bond**

Production Manager **Adam Fitzsimons**

CEO Galway International Arts Festival **John Crumlish**

Producer & Artistic Director Galway International Arts Festival **Paul Fahy**



Enda Walsh

Writer/Director

Enda Walsh is a Tony and multi award-winning Irish playwright. His work has been translated into over 20 languages and has been performed internationally since 1998. His recent work include *Safe House* [2024] Abbey Theatre; *Medicine* [2021], produced by Landmark Productions and Galway International Arts Festival; *The Same* [2017], produced by Corcadorca; *Lazarus* [2016] with David Bowie; *Arlington* [2016], *Ballyturk* [2014] and *Misterman* [2012], produced by Landmark Productions and Galway International Arts Festival; and the operas *The First Child* [2021], *The Second Violinist* [2017] and *The Last Hotel* [2015] produced by Landmark Productions and Irish National Opera.

His other plays include *Once* [2011]; *The New Electric Ballroom* [2009], *Penelope* [2010] and *The Walworth Farce* [2006] with Druid Theatre Company; *Chatroom* [2005] with the National Theatre; *The Small Things* [2005] with Paines Plough; *Bedbound* [2000] with Dublin Theatre

Festival; and *Disco Pigs* [1996] with Corcadorca. Most recently, he wrote the book for the musical adaptation of the 2016 film *Sing Street* by John Carney which opens at the Huntington Theatre, Boston in August.

For the past fifteen years he has been supported by, and shown work at, St. Ann's Warehouse in New York. He has made an ongoing series of immersive theatre installations, *Rooms* with Paul Fahy, for Galway International Arts festival including this year's *The Baby's Room*.

His film work includes *Small Things Like These* for Big Things Films; *Disco Pigs* for Temple Films and Renaissance; *Hunger* for Blast and FILM4; and *The Last Hotel* which was made into a film for Sky Arts, produced by Brink Films, Landmark Productions and Wide Open Opera. In 2014, he received an honorary doctorate from University of Galway.



Kate Gilmore

Actor

Kate trained at the Gaiety School of Acting and Bow Street Academy for Screen Acting. Abbey Theatre credits include *SAFE HOUSE* [Dublin, New York, Berlin], *Town is Dead* and *The Train* [Rough Magic Theatre Company]. Other theatre credits include *The President* [Sydney Theatre Company and Gate Theatre], *Piaf*, *The Snapper*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Assassins* [Gate Theatre], *Theatre for One*, *Straight to Video* [Landmark Productions], *Gold In The Water* [One Thousand Pieces], *Light a Penny Candle* [Gaiety Theatre], *Little Gem*, *The Dead* [Breda Cashe/national tours], and *Petals* [Theatre Upstairs].

Kate won the Irish Times Irish Theatre Award for Best Supporting Actress in 2015 and was nominated for the same award in 2017. Her one-woman show *The Wickedness of Oz* [Show in a Bag/Dublin Fringe Festival 2016] won a Zebbie Award and is now in development with Screen Ireland as a feature film. Kate made her award-winning debut short film *Someday*

Sadie on the inaugural Actor as Creator initiative; the film will screened on RTÉ on November 11th 2024 and will be available on the RTÉ Player thereafter.

Kate recently established Two Sparks, a Film/TV development and production company with Fionnuala Gyga. Screen credits include *Northern Lights* [Deadpan/Lionsgate/TG4], *Magpie Murders* [PBS/Britbox], *Striking Out*, *Fair City* [RTÉ], the short films *Ogham*, *Panto*, *Mustard* and *The Nation Holds Its Breath*.



Paul Fahy

Producer and Designer

Paul Fahy is the Artistic Director of Galway International Arts Festival [GIAF] a position he has held since 2005. Prior to this he worked as a freelance arts publicist and producer from 2000–2005.

He studied art at the RTC Galway [now Atlantic Technological University]. He programmed and produced the Cúirt International Festival of Literature, in 1998 and 1999 and was one of the key visual arts curators for Galway Arts Centre from 1990–1999.

He was the Consultant Programme Director with Kilkenny Arts Festival from 1999–2003 for whom he also directed and designed a major street theatre spectacle *The Art of the Game*.

Since being appointed Artistic Director of GIAF the Festival has become a producing-led festival forging close creative partnerships with Irish artists and producers most notably Enda Walsh, Hughie O'Donoghue, Olwen Fouéré, John Gerrard and Landmark Productions.

GIAF's productions have toured extensively to some of the world's leading theatres, festival and biennales in New York, London, Edinburgh, Adelaide and Sydney amongst others.

Under Fahy's tenure GIAF has worked with leading Irish and international visual artists with the Festival repurposing, reimaging and building major temporary art galleries in Galway.

Fahy has created twelve immersive theatre installations with playwright and director Enda Walsh collectively known as *ROOMS*, all of which have premiered in Galway and toured to Washington, New York and the Barbican, London.

He received an Honorary Doctorate of Arts from University of Galway in 2017. He was also awarded a Chevalier, L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres from the French Government.