

# **FINBOROUGH | THEATRE**

VIBRANT **NEW WRITING** | UNIQUE **REDISCOVERIES**  
Summer Season – July–September 2017

The world premiere

# **CONTINUITY**

by Gerry Moynihan

Directed by Shane Dempsey. Designed by May Jennifer Davies.

Presented by Mark Stuart Flynn in association with Neil McPherson for the Finborough Theatre.

Cast: Paul Kennedy.

"The whole game seems tae have changed... or maybe it isn't so much that they have changed.  
Maybe it's just that I'm startin' tae see things in a different light?"

In a new production commissioned by the Finborough Theatre and originally seen as a staged reading as part of Vibrant 2016 – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights, the world premiere of **Continuity** by new playwright Gerry Moynihan runs at the Finborough Theatre, playing Sunday and Monday evenings and Tuesday matinees from Sunday, 30 July 2017 (**Press Night: Monday, 31 July at 7.30pm**).

A forensic examination of the soul of an Irish 'freedom fighter'.

Pádraig Devlin is a dissident Irish Republican, who begins to have doubts about his commitment to The Cause after he meets and falls in love with a woman from Barcelona. Soon after meeting her, Pádraig botches three assignments in a row. The other members of his terrorist cell decide to test the love-struck Pádraig's commitment. Has falling in love really weakened the resolve of a man determined to re-ignite the struggle for Irish freedom, and whose Republican credentials are beyond reproach? And just exactly what kind of test do they plan to set him? And how will Pádraig react when he discovers that he's being tested...

Continuity is the story of a man who begins to question everything he has ever fought for – and marks a stunning debut from a brand new playwright.

**Paul Kennedy** plays Padraig. Theatre includes *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* (Headlong Theatre and National Theatre of Ireland - Abbey Theatre), *Macbeth* (Lyric Theatre, Belfast), *Scarborough* (Prime Cut), *Planet Belfast* (Tinderbox), *Carnival*, *This is What We Sang* and *Those You Pass on the Street* (Kabosh Theatre), *Rat in the Skull*, *Flight and Re-Energise* (The Playhouse, Derry). Film includes *A Patch of Fog*, '71, *Shooting for Socrates*, *Jump*, *Five Minutes of Heaven*, *Cherrybomb*, *Fifty Dead Men Walking*, *Omagh* and *The Good Word*. He wrote and directed the film *Made in Belfast*. Television includes *The Fall*, *Line of Duty*, *Millie Inbetween*, *Occupation*, *Give My Head Peace*, *Best: His Mother's Son*, *Wodehouse in Exile*, *Ripper Street*, *6degrees*, *The Wipers Times*, *Scoop*, *Game of Thrones*, *Saving The Titanic*, *The Secret*, *The Woman in White* and *The Frankenstein Chronicles*.

Playwright **Gerry Moynihan** was born in Omagh, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland in 1966. His first piece for theatre, a short play entitled *Skiver*, was staged at the Brockley Jack Theatre, and his full-length play *Cailleach Óg* won The Blackshaw Theatre's New Writing Night Award last year and had its premiere at The Pleasance Theatre in March 2017. Gerry is an alumni of the Finborough Theatre's 'Introduce Yourself' initiative as part of Vibrant 2015 – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights.

Director **Shane Dempsey** directed the original staged reading of *Continuity* as part of Vibrant 2016 – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights, returning to the Finborough Theatre where he directed the epic *The Non Stop Connolly Show* by Margaretta D'Arcy and John Arden for the centenary of the Easter Rising in 2016. Direction includes *The Master and Margarita* (The Bussey Building and Te Pooka Edinburgh), *Seven Jewish Children* (Arcola Theatre), *LOL* by Lee Mattinson (Cliffdown Theatre, Southend-on-Sea), *The Bay* (Theatre503, The Space and Te Pooka, Edinburgh) and *The Girl In The*

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439 e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk)  
[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

Box (Cliffdown Theatre, Southend-on-Sea, and RADA Studios), Spring Awakening in a new version by Gary Owen, (Mercury Theatre, Colchester) and 13 (Cliffdown Theatre, Southend-On-Sea). Assistant Direction includes assisting Nicolas Kent Called to Account (Tricycle Theatre), Jamie Lloyd on The Caretaker (Tricycle Theatre), Suzanne Gorman on Moonwalking In Chinatown (Soho Theatre). He has run Stagecraft – one of Ireland's leading youth theatres – since 1998 including programming work from Moira Buffini, Enda Walsh and Jack Thorne. He is also the founding member of Fragments, a dynamic physical ensemble in London. Shane was funded by The Arts Council of Ireland to train as a director at E15 Acting School. He went on to be invited to observe Lev Dodin of the Maly Theatre of St Petersburg in Paris and has also observed actor training in Moscow at the Vakhtangov Theatre. He has also led workshops in New York, Bangkok, Moscow and Beijing. His work also includes a landmark digital film archive, Mothers of Modern Ireland – A People's History [www.mothersofmodernireland.com](http://www.mothersofmodernireland.com)

## **The press on Shane Dempsey's production of The Non Stop Connolly Show at the Finborough Theatre**

"A rousing piece of political theatre, and a fitting reflection on the struggles of a century ago." ★★★★★ Four Stars – Dave Fargnoli, The Stage

"Gripping... A brave and commendable undertaking." ★★★★★ Four Stars – Genni Trickett, LondonTheatre1

"It is a credit to both cast and director Shane Dempsey that they have managed to make a reading into a real ensemble performance." Breman Rajkumar, A Younger Theatre

"Highly theatrical and has a vibrant energy flowing through it...This daring revival, directed by Shane Dempsey, will be the first time that the entire cycle has ever been shown continuously in the UK." Carolin Kopplin, UK Theatre Network

**PRESS NIGHT: MONDAY, 31 JULY 2017 AT 7.30PM**

**PHOTOCALL: MONDAY, 31 JULY 2017 AT 5.00PM–5.30PM**

Finborough Theatre, 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED

Box Office 0844 847 1652 Book online at [www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk)

**Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays, 30, 31 July, 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 August 2017**

Sunday and Monday evenings at 7.30pm. Tuesday matinees at 2.00pm.

Tickets £18, £16 concessions. (Group Bookings – 1 free ticket for every 10 tickets booked.)

Performance Length: Approximately 90 minutes with no interval.

For more information, interviews and images, please contact

**Neil McPherson** on e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk) or **07977 173135**

Download press releases and images at <http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk/press-resources.php>

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439 e-mail [admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk](mailto:admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk)  
[www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk](http://www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk) Artistic Director Neil McPherson

The Finborough Theatre is managed by The Steam Industry. Registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee, no. 3448268. Registered Charity no. 1071304. Registered address: 118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED. A member of the Independent Theatre Council.