



Wonderland Productions Ltd

proudly presents

THE HOSTAGE

Brendan Behan's most enduring play

Tuesday 21st July – Sunday 16th August

July 1960: The New IRA kidnapped a nineteen-year-old soldier as he was leaving an Armagh Dance Hall tonight. The IRA declares that it will shoot hostage Leslie Williams, if their 'boy' is executed at Belfast Gaol tomorrow morning.

Wonderland's site-specific staging of Brendan Behan's great tragicomedy transforms the birthplace of Padraic and Willie Pearse, a modest Victorian terrace at 27 Pearse Street, into the 1960s Dublin brothel-cum-safe house where the IRA hold Leslie Williams hostage for the night.

This old house is peopled with fallen rebel heroes, homosexual navvies, catholic evangelists, pimps, whores, convent girls and decaying civil servants who are loyal to the nationalist cause. They entertain Private Williams with jigs and reels, rock and roll dancing, romance, rebel songs and tales of Ireland's glorious past, whilst they wait for a reprieve from Belfast - or the executions of the coming dawn.

Wonderland has been praised as 'the most promising company since the debut years of Rough Magic' by The Irish Times. It is renowned for *La Locandiera*, a classic Italian comedy as dinner theatre, which enjoyed a critical and popular success in Dublin this spring and which will tour Ireland this autumn, its self-help spoof *Life Shop till you Drop!* which is enjoying its fourth National Tour, Molière's *The Miser* in an historic Georgian home and its sell-out lunchtime opera version of *Pagliacci*.



'Quite simply superb! Witty wonderful Wonderland' The Irish Times on *The Miser*



A sheer joy to behold...The Wonderland company is one of the most interesting young groups working in Ireland ' Irish Mail On Sunday on *Pagliacci*.

Cast: Michael Bates, Morgan Cooke, Neill Fleming, Robert Harrington, Roseanne Lynch, Eithne McGuinness, Colm O'Brien, Diana O'Connor, Noel O'Shea, Kerrie O'Sullivan, Martin Philips, Lesa Thurman & Francis Xavier Usanga.

Director: Alice Coghlan. **Producer:** Nina Antonioli. **Composer & Music Director:** Morgan Cooke. **Costume Designers:** Yvonne Carry & Tara Mulvihill. **Set Designer:** Nimah Dunphy. **Props Designer:** Eve Parnell. **Fight Director:** Keith Ward. **Assistant Musical Director:** Stella Konik. **Assistant Director:** Sarah Finlay. **Stage Manager:** Siobhan Killen. **Assistant Stage Managers:** Jean Igoe & Lauara Weafer. **Photography:** Clare Conway. **Design, Programme & Web:** mongoliandesign.com

The Pearse Centre

27, Pearse St, Dublin 2. (adjacent to Trinity Capital Hotel)

Tuesday 21st July – Sunday 16th August @ 8 pm

Matinees: Saturdays 1st, 8th & 15th & Sundays 9th & 16th August @ 2.30 pm

Low Price Previews: Thursday 16th – Sunday 19th July @ 8PM. All tickets €11.95

Special Offer All tickets €15.95 for 21st - 28th July

Evening tickets: €19.95 **Matinee tickets:** €15.95

No shows Saturday and Sunday 25th, 26th July and Mondays 20th July, 3rd & 10th August

Bookings: In Person @ Dublin Tourism Centre Suffolk St Dublin 2 (& all other DT centres)
By Phone & Web @ Central Ticket Bureau 0818 205205 www.ctb.ie

Press Contact: Nina Antonioli 087 6770467 producer@wonderlandtheatre.com

www.wonderlandtheatre.com