



**DRAMA
LEAGUE *of* IRELAND** **51st**
Residential

SUMMER SCHOOL 2016

Director:
Anne Mekitarian
Booking Enquiries
to Bernie
Tel. 087 233 3600



UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK
23rd July – 30th July 2016

Drama League of Ireland,
The Mill Theatre, Dundrum, Dublin 16
Tel: 01 2969343
Email: summerschool@dli.ie
www.dli.ie

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MICHAEL D. HIGGINS



I would like to send my best wishes to everyone involved in the Drama League of Ireland 51st Annual Residential Summer School.

The Drama League is an organisation of which I am very proud to be Patron. Amateur Dramatic companies play an important role in communities across the country and are a wonderful example of how citizens with different skills and talents can come together in a spirit of active participation to achieve a common goal. Amateur dramatics also play an important role in the cultural life of our country, introducing many people to the joys of viewing a live performance and to the works of many brilliant playwrights.

Every year, for more than half a century, this Summer School has provided a valuable opportunity for experienced and novice performers, writers and directors to come together in a spirit of friendship as they seek to further develop their talents and gifts. Here at the Summer School, the joy of creativity can be shared between like-minded people as they swap experiences and encourage each other in the development of their craft.

I wish you all an enjoyable time and every success in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael D. Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michael D. Higgins
Uachtarán na hÉireann
President of Ireland

The
Voice of
Amateur
Drama

The logo for Drama League of Ireland features a stylized, abstract shape composed of several overlapping, curved segments in shades of purple, brown, and tan, resembling a wing or a leaf. To the right of this graphic, the text 'DRAMA LEAGUE of IRELAND' is written in a dark red, serif font, with 'of' in a smaller, italicized script. Below this, '51st Residential Summer School' is written in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font.

DRAMA LEAGUE of IRELAND

51st Residential Summer School

This is the 51st DLI Summer School and we return again to the beautiful and peaceful campus of the University of Limerick.

Founded in 1972 and achieving university status in 1989, the University of Limerick is situated five miles from Limerick City in a spectacular park on the banks of the River Shannon. The campus is ideally situated for bus and rail travel connections within Ireland and Shannon Airport is only a short distance away.

Sports facilities are first-class and those attending the summer school will be able to access the magnificent 50m swimming pool and state of the art gym at specially reduced rates.

University of Limerick has a strong connection with the art world and is home to the National Self-Portrait Collection and the Watercolour Society of Ireland Collection.

Living accommodation is provided in attractive village-style 5/6 bedroom apartments, each with ensuite facilities. All apartments have a comfortable living-room/fully fitted kitchen.

There will be a full social programme for the week centred in The Stables where everyone can meet and mingle each evening. The University of Limerick has been named 'University of the Year 2015' in the Sunday Times Good University Guide.



All The World's A Stage...

Céad Míle Fáilte romhaibh go léir! Welcome to DLI Residential Summer School. This is our 51st consecutive venture, and I am delighted to welcome each and every one of you. To our first-timers, I extend an especially warm hand of friendship. I hope you'll savour the relaxed atmosphere and infectious good humour, and find a space in which to grow, recharge your creative batteries, and have some FUN!

As regular participants will confirm, ours is a special summer school where new friendships are forged and existing ones renewed. Total immersion in drama is the order for the week: indulge in the special camaraderie of the shared experience while learning new techniques, mining texts, creating magic, sharing stories, telling tales. You know you will enjoy the hard work, the late nights and early mornings, as you play at your favourite past-time – what's not to love about that?!

Full details of the courses and tutors are in the following pages. I'd like to extend a very special welcome to **Selina Cartmell** and **Oonagh Murphy** who are first-time tutors at DLI Summer School and warmly welcome back **Chrissie Poulter** and **Vincent O'Neill** who were with us last year. **Maree Kearns**, **David Scott** and **Pádraic McIntyre** are all making a very welcome return. Our professional practitioners will ensure an exciting, and challenging week ahead and there will be a full extra-curricular social programme. Prepare to be busy!

Registration: at Dromroe Village Hall on Saturday 23rd July 2016 from 2pm – 4pm. Bring comfortable working clothes, soft shoes etc. Play texts: you will be notified of any required reading.

DLI Summer School is run entirely by volunteers. Bernie Harten and I have primed the tutors, planned the parties, and set the stage for a course of personal challenges, innovative ideas and inspired tuition. We will do our utmost to ensure that you experience a week to remember and one that will live up to all your expectations!

Anne Mektarian
DLI Summer School Director 2016

MESSAGE FROM BERNIE HARTEN

CHAIRMAN OF DRAMA LEAGUE OF IRELAND 2016



Welcome back to all our regulars and welcome on-board all of you dipping your toe in the water for the first time. We guarantee you will enjoy your week, make great friends and no doubt return in the future. This week is all about you and ensuring you get to indulge your love of theatre with like-minded souls in the beautiful surrounds of the UL campus.

A special thanks to Anne our Summer School Director who has captained the Summer School over many years, sometimes through very choppy waters but always with panache and aplomb. This year she is without her trusty assistant, Jane who has been her rock over the years so be kind to her as she navigates uncharted waters with a rookie assistant ... me! Anne will not be alone in missing Jane: we all will and I would like to thank her for the many years she devoted to the DLI Board & in particular to Summer School. She is a very hard act to follow!

Last year was an amazing one for DLI when we celebrated 50 years of Summer School and were invited by our Patron and President Michael D. Higgins to a garden party at Áras an Uachtaráin to celebrate the contribution amateur drama makes to the fabric of our society. As we head into another 50 years of Summer School we promise to keep our standards high, our courses relevant and our prices keen. Because we are a fully amateur organisation, none of your course fees go on administrative costs. Because we are all involved in our local organisations, we appreciate the issues facing you and can tailor our courses to suit your needs. In this respect I wish to thank the other DLI Board Members for their selfless dedication to the Drama League of Ireland.

DLI is greatly appreciative of the support we receive from member Groups, Individual members, Drama Festivals and County Councils in providing scholarships to attend Summer School, recognising that DLI Summer School has in no small way contributed to the very high standard of amateur theatre in Ireland.

Our commitment to you our participants is that you will be entertained, enriched, exerted, enhanced, exercised and enlivened by your week with us so that you go back to your communities energised and enthusiastic about future projects. Enjoy ... enjoy ... enjoy ...

Bernie Harten
DLI Chairman

Course A

Kindling, Ignition, EXPLOSION

Tutor: David Scott



This active and enthralling course interrogates the process of creating drama, beginning the “*act of acting*” and evolving dramatic ideas into dramatic realities. Beginners and newcomers to drama will benefit from a fun and active analysis of how drama works and how acting feels when insecurities are overtaken by the explosive joy and confidence that can be found in dramatic creativity.

The course will appeal to new and improving actors, drama teachers, directors and writers for the stage. Through games, exercises and structured improvisation, participants in this course will learn how to set a dramatic idea in place, light it with a creative spark and allow it to flare into a satisfying dramatic moment. Further, participants will come away from the course with a thorough general knowledge of the evolution of drama, acting technique and exciting new developments in drama and actor training.

David Scott is an Australian born actor, writer, director and acting teacher. He has worked extensively as a professional actor, in both Australia and Ireland, on television, stage and film.

David is Director of the Actor’s Wednesday Workshop and the Actor’s Friday Studio, highly regarded part-time programmes for developing and advanced actors. He is Director of The Applied Art of Acting, an intensive, single-technique 3 month fulltime programme for actors of exceptional ability.

David has taught extensively for The Gaiety School of Acting, The Irish Film Academy and for many theatre companies, drama groups and organisations in Ireland and Australia. He is also Artistic Director of Company D Theatre, a Dublin-based theatre company, established in 2006, focused on promoting new work, new actors and theatre artists.

Textbooks by David Scott on acting technique include: The Beautiful Stage, The Art of Acting and The Possible Someone, all available at lulu.com

Course B

The Principles of Directing

Tutor: Oonagh Murphy



Director Oonagh Murphy will lead a week-long workshop exploring the principles of directing for the stage. Drawing on both contemporary and classical approaches, this will be an intensive practical introduction to the work of a director. Participants will be encouraged to develop their own practice across the production process - from finding and interpreting a text, casting, running rehearsals, and working collaboratively with actors and other creatives. This workshop will be equally beneficial to the novice director and to the veteran who would like to firm up his/her practice. *'The Principles of Directing'* is a brilliant opportunity to reflect on previous experiences, and to hone a robust working methodology to carry forward in your own directing.

Oonagh Murphy's work includes *The Poor Little Boy With No Arms*, Project Arts Centre and national tour, 2016; *Foxy*, Project Arts Centre, 2015; *Be Infants In Evil*, for Druid Theatre Company as part of Galway International Arts Festival 2014; *Ribbons and Love in a Glass Jar*, for the Peacock Stage at the Abbey Theatre 2012; *Maeve's House*, as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival In-Development, 2012; *I am a Home Bird (It's Very Hard)* at Project Arts Centre 2011.

Most recently, Oonagh was Associate Director on the RSC's Broadway transfer of Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall: Parts One & Two* and Resident Director on Peter Morgan's *The Audience* at the Apollo Theatre, London. She was Resident Assistant Director at the Donmar Warehouse in 2013, and Resident Assistant Director at the Abbey Theatre Dublin, 2011-2012. She is co-founder of Change of Address Collective. Oonagh teaches at Trinity College Dublin where she is also a Foundation Scholar.

Course C

Playing With The Play

Tutor: Chrissie Poulter



Theatre (is so often) of the Oppressed . . . and Brazilian theatre director/maker/mentor August Boal developed playful ways to take actors into their own stories and those of the characters they were playing/creating in ways which reveal the actors' own understanding of oppressing and being oppressed ... without feeling so in the process!

Within this joyful, creative playtime, the play we play with can be powerful, moving, challenging. But the work that goes into bringing it to an audience doesn't need to be painful, traumatic or miserable! From games to great rehearsal techniques he demonstrated his approach using Irish plays here on this island - some years ago now! Fortunately Chrissie Poulter was there: and she loves sharing The Boal Experience!

- Bring your favourite play.
- Bring a character you know well (from that or any other play).
- Bring a newspaper article about something that matters to you.
- Bring a poem or the lyrics for a song you like
- and bring the tune if you want!!
- Bring a few sheets of blank paper and some coloured pens or crayons.

Let's have some serious fun Playing with the Play!

Chrissie Poulter, director, deviser, writer, lecturer, trainer – From Leeds Youth Theatre to a degree in drama from Birmingham University and on to a life of creating theatre with anyone who wants to do that – amateur, professional and non-actors - in Ireland, Poland, Greece, France, Spain, the UK and Norway. Chrissie has led training workshops for visual artists, writers, directors, teachers, community drama facilitators and more, focussing on ways of working with people to bring out the best of their creativity and expressivity in collaboration with others. She is Head of Drama in Trinity College Dublin and is no stranger to the intense and fun world of the DLI Summer Schools and was reared as a tutor on the ADL (now DLI) Summer School programme many years ago!

Course D

Once More Unto The Breach Dear Friends. . . (The 50 Secret Elements of Power Acting)



Tutor: Vincent O'Neill

Vincent O'Neill reprises his hugely popular course from last summer, exploring the secrets of the craft of acting. This hands-on course will help you to develop a foolproof structure which will guarantee your ability to deliver a visceral, lively and dynamic portrayal in every role in which you are cast, regardless of the style of play. This is also a truly practical course for directors who want to fully understand the acting process. It promises to be an exciting and rewarding journey through the 50 key elements of truthful, expressive and compelling acting. Proven and extremely practical acting techniques from Stanislavski to Michael Chekhov and from Michael Shurtleff to Larry Moss will be investigated, absorbed and mastered. Every phase of the acting process will be examined, from detailed preparation before the first reading, to getting the most out of the rehearsal process, to finding the key to consistently achieving excellence in performance. We will work on scenes from a wide range of genres. Required reading will be Brian Friel's *"Lovers"* and Synge's *"Playboy of the Western World"*. Please bring copies of both plays. Once more unto the breach, dear friends, and *let us imitate the action of the tiger!*

Vincent O'Neill is a co-founder and Artistic Director of the celebrated Irish Classical Theatre Company in Buffalo. He trained as an actor at the Abbey Theatre School of Acting, and subsequently trained as a mime artist with the legendary Marcel Marceau. He returned to Ireland, and won the Harvey's National Theatre Award for Best Newcomer in Irish Theatre; founded the Oscar Mime Company; and founded Dublin Theatre School, a conservatory for professional actors. His internationally acclaimed one-man-show, *"Joyicity"* toured extensively throughout Europe and the USA, with two runs off-Broadway, and also to Toronto, Sydney and Tokyo. Since relocating to Western New York in 1989, he has worked both as actor and director in the major theatres there, and has won numerous awards for acting and directing at the University at Buffalo, where he was a faculty member.

Course E

BRICK by BRICK

Tutor: Pádraic McIntyre



Actors and directors who are willing and able to engage in some hard work: this is the one for you! The course BRICK by BRICK will encourage and assist you to take plays and scenes from initial readings to a vibrant and cohesive performance level. We will give full attention to problem solving; investigate character development; learn to work as a team; and painstakingly dissect a script with emphasis on building layers - brick by single brick! The result will be scenes and plays that are well on the way to reach their full dramatic potential.

Some reading-in-advance will be necessary for this course – participants will be informed of details later. The course will be practical, intense, challenging, stimulating, - but coupled with the magic ingredient: GREAT FUN!

Pádraic McIntyre is Artistic Director of Livin' Dred Theatre Company and has directed their first seventeen productions including *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *Belfry*, (both nominated for Irish Times Theatre Awards) *The Tale of the Blue Eyed Cat*, *The Snow Child* and *The Little Dance Girl*, which he also wrote. Other production credits include: *The Tinkers Curse* (nominated Irish Times Theatre Award: Best New Play); *Conversations on a Homecoming* (Livin' Dred/NOMAD); *The Children of Lir*; *Shoot the Crow*; *A Christmas Carol*; *The Good Father*; *There Came a Gypsy Riding*; *Observe The Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*; *Ride On*; *The Bridge Below the Town*. Pádraic has developed a close working relationship with Pat McCabe whose play *The Dead School* (Livin Dred / NOMAD) was regarded a theatrical highlight (2008). It completed a three-week sell-out run at The Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival in September 2009 and the Tricycle Theatre, London in 2010.

Pádraic has worked as an actor throughout the UK and Ireland. Film and TV work includes *Love/Hate*; the feature film: *The Ballad of Honky McSwaine* and most recently in RTE's *Charlie*.

Course F

How To Make A Scene!

Tutor: Maree Kearns



If you are the one always figuring out what the world of the play is going to look like, then this is for you!

This very hands-on, practical course will look at the designer's creative process and the many challenges that are faced when designing a production. We will go through the design process step by step and break down how set and costume designs go from page to stage; from the first reading of the script to opening night. We will work in teams from a preselected script and examine the visual aspects of the play. We will uncover how, when and why design decisions are made and how to be an effective member of the creative team. Topics to cover include

- Applying the creative process to any production, no matter how big or small.
- Brainstorming designs into life, using the whole creative team.
- Methods to help think creatively and visually, thinking outside the box.
- How to break down , research and get to know the world of your play.
- How to use colour and texture in set, costume & lighting design.
- How to build a scenic model and why it is an important tool for the entire cast and crew.
- How the right costume choices help build a character.
- Design for a touring production.

Maree Kearns has worked as a set and costume designer for many of Ireland's leading companies. Recent set and costume designs include *Hamlet and King Lear* (Second Age) and *Monsters, Dinosaurs & Ghosts* (Peacock). Other work includes *Agnes; Pageant; Faun/ As You Are* (CoisCéim Dance Theatre), *Moll* (Gaiety Theatre); *I Keano* (2015); *Desire under The Elms* (Corn Exchange); *These Halcyon Days* (Edinburgh Fringe First 2013); *Moment* (Landmark/Tall Tales); *Far Away From Me; Zoe's Play* (The Ark); *Romeo and Juliet; Macbeth; Dancing at Lughnasa* (Second Age); *Anglo the Musical* (Verdant Productions); *The Factory Girls* (Millennium Forum); *Faith; The Goddess of Liberty* (Gúna Nua); *Plasticine* (CorcaDorca); *The Dead School; Conversations on a Homecoming; Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* (Nomad Theatre).

Maree is the Design Course Director at The Lír Academy and also lectures in Theatre Design at the Drama Department in TCD.

Course G

What Is A Director?

Tutor: Selina Cartmell



What is a director? And more importantly, why do they exist?

This workshop with director Selina Cartmell will take Shakespeare's *Hamlet* as a springboard to explore the role of the director, how projects are conceived, how ideas are generated, how we approach the design and rehearsal process of a Shakespeare text. This week long workshop, which will also welcome experienced actors interested in the process, can provide insight into the world of the director who wants to take the time to consider their craft.

On our first full day it would be great for all involved to create a 5 - 10 minute presentation on your work to date (images, process etc.) and introduce yourselves as artists so I can get to know you a little bit. I would also ask you all read *Hamlet* and bring a copy with you in preparation for the workshop.

Selina Cartmell, one of the most visionary directors working in Ireland today, is Artistic Director of the multi-award winning Siren Productions and recipient of 3 Irish Times awards for Best Director. Work with Siren includes *Fando and Lis*; *La Musica*; *Titus Andronicus*; *Macbeth*; *Medea*; *The Lulu House*; *The Making of 'Tis Pity She's A Whore*; *A Tender Thing*; *Grounded*.

For the Gate Theatre: *Catastrophe*; *Festen*; *Sweeney Todd*.

For the Abbey Theatre: *By The Bog Of Cats*; *King Lear*; *Woman and Scarecrow*; *Only an Apple*; *Big Love*.

Selina has also directed for Lyric Theatre, Barbican, Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal Court and in New York and in Germany. She also regularly workshops ideas, with the graduating students at The Lir Academy.

The Drama League of Ireland is the national body which promotes and fosters all aspects of amateur drama in Ireland.

Run by volunteers, the Drama League of Ireland offers a wide range of services and a network of support including:

Workshops and seminars throughout Ireland.

A public liability insurance scheme designed specifically for amateur groups.

A quality magazine focusing on Irish amateur theatre and articles of interest to amateur groups.

Training with renowned theatre practitioners at the annual residential summer school in theatre arts.

Library – access to over 200,000 play scripts.

Resource service providing information to member groups on facilities, tutors, training and equipment available in Ireland.

Advisory service for new amateur theatre groups.

Advice on hosting and programming one act theatre festivals.

The Drama League of Ireland is the sole rights agent in Ireland for Josef Weinberger Plays Ltd. and for many independent Irish playwrights including John B. Keane.

Yearly membership fee:

Groups: €120.00 Individuals: €35.00

FEES

Fees cover the following: tuition, single room en-suite accommodation at Dromroe Village, social programme, lunch and dinner (breakfast self-service).

OPTION A - Residential

Tuition, Single room en-suite	Members	€450
lunch, evening meal and full social programme.	Non-members	€495

OPTION B – Non-residential

Non-residential	Members	€250
Includes tuition, lunch, 2 evening meals and attendance at social programme.	Non-members	€295

Payment should be made in Euro by cheque/money order/ bank transfer made payable to *"The Drama League of Ireland"*.

If you wish to pay by bank transfer, please contact summerschool@dli.ie and request details of the DLI bank account number.

Members include DLI group and individual members, and associates of National Association of Youth Drama.

A non-refundable deposit of €100 must be included with your booking form.

Deposits are non-transferable.

THE BALANCE OF THE FEE MUST BE PAID TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL

Intending participants

- must be over 18 years,
- must have a reasonable level of fitness
- must be responsible for their own needs.

The DLI reserves the right to replace a tutor if required.

The DLI reserves the right to refuse an application.

The DLI Summer School is run entirely by volunteers.

Please note that communication for the most part will be by email so please remember to include your email address when completing booking form.

51st RESIDENTIAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Saturday 23rd July – Saturday 30th July 2016

Booking enquiries to Bernie: 087 233 3600

E-mail: summerschool@dli.ie

BOOKING FORM

Name:.....

Address:

.....

.....

Contact Telephone No.:.....

Email:.....

Membership No.:.....

Course Choice:

1

2

Accommodation Option choice:

Residential Non-residential

I enclose €100 as payment for a place on the above course.
Payment should be in Euro by cheque/money order/bank transfer made payable to The Drama League of Ireland.

Please note that deposits are NON-REFUNDABLE

Signature:.....

Send to:

Anne Mekitarian,
DLI Summer School Director,
'Mandel',
Kill Village,
Co. Kildare,
W91 P8P7



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Residential

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