



the secrets of  
PRIMROSE SQUARE

BY CLAUDIA CARROLL

PROGRAMME

PAT MOYLAN PRODUCTIONS

# the secrets of PRIMROSE SQUARE

BY CLAUDIA CARROLL

PRESENTED AT

## draíocht

DIRECTED BY MARK LAMBERT

SET AND COSTUME DESIGN BY KATE MOYLAN

LIGHTING DESIGN BY SUSIE CUMMINS

SOUND DESIGN BY FIONA SHEIL



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,  
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture,  
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

*This project has been part-funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht Sport and Media from the Live Performance Support Scheme*

*Tá an tionscadal seo páirt-mhaoinithe ag An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Oidhreachta, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán ón Scéim Cúnta maidir le Taibhléiriú Beo*



## Claudia Carroll

Writer

As a bestselling author, Claudia Carroll has published sixteen novels, selling over 750,000 thousand copies in paperback alone. Four of her books have been optioned, two for movies and two for TV. Her books regularly reach number one in Ireland and in the UK, she's a Sunday Times bestseller.

In 2018, Claudia published *The Secrets of Primrose Square*, which was an instant number one hit, remaining in the charts for fourteen weeks. The book is now widely translated and the stage adaptation marks Claudia's debut as a playwright. During Covid lockdown, the book was the number one downloaded book, both in Ireland and the UK. In August 2020, the audio book reached No.1 in the public library download charts in Ireland, and for the week ended 11/9/2020, it was the No.1 Dropbox download in Wales.

Claudia is also an actor, best known for her recurring role as Nicola Prendergast in RTE's long running soap, *Fair City*. She will return to our screens in October to reprise the role.

Her latest book, *The Mistress Catcher* was published by Bonnier Zaffre in Spring 2021. Her forthcoming novel, *The Fixer* will be published in hardback in August 2021.



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Mark Lambert**

Director

Directing includes Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, Tricycle Theatre, London, *The Grapes of Wrath* for Storytellers, *The Hunt for Red Willie* at the Peacock Theatre, and *Lovers* at Versailles for the Abbey Theatre.

**Film/Television credits include:**

*Agatha and the Curse of Ishtar* (Channel 5), *The Bailout* (TV3), *Women on the Verge* (Deadpan), *Nowhere Fast*, *Fair City* (RTÉ), *The Journey* (IFC Films), *Rebellion*, *Roy* (RTÉ), *An Crisis* (TG4), *Raw* (RTÉ), *13 Steps Down* (ITV), *Hidden* (BBC One), *The Last Templar* (NBC), *Heartbeat* (ITV), *Single-Handed* (RTÉ), *The Tudors* (Showtime), *Inspector George Gently* (BBC), *The Tiger's Tail* (Merlin Films), *Breakfast on Pluto* (Sony), *Veronica Guerin* (Touchstone Pictures), *Benedict Arnold: A Question of Honour* (A+E Networks), *Evelyn* (United Artists) & *Borstal Boy* (Dakota Films). Mark was last seen on screen in *The South Westerlies* for RTÉ One.

**Theatre credits include:**

*The Ferryman* (Jacobs Theatre, Gielgud Theatre, Royal Court Theatre), *The Phlebotomist* (Hampstead Theatre), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Gate Theatre), *Heartbreak House*, *The Dead* (Abbey Theatre), *Dubliners* (Dublin Theatre Festival), *Plaza Suite* (Rough Magic), *Those Sick and Indignant* (Gaiety Theatre), *16 Possible Glimpses* (Abbey Theatre), *Brighton* (Theatre Royal, Waterford), *Big Ole Piece of Cake* (Fishamble), *The Gigli Concert* (Druid Theatre), *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Project Theatre), *The Weir*, *Festen* (Gate Theatre), *Enlightenment*, *Hamlet* (Abbey Theatre), *All's Well That Ends Well* (RSC), *Ariel*, *Barbaric Comedies* (Irish Times Award Nomination) (Abbey Theatre), *Memory of Water* (Vaudeville Theatre), *The Spirit of Annie Ross* (Gate Theatre), *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (Young Vic), *Molly Sweeney* (Almeida/Gate Theatre) & *Juno & the Paycock* (Albery Theatre, Olivier Award Nomination). Mark was last seen on stage as Judge Turpin in Theater Orchester Biel Solothurn's touring production of *Sweeney Todd*.

## CAST & PRODUCTION

Melissa  
Susan  
Jayne

Megan McDonnell  
Clelia Murphy  
Marion O'Dwyer

Director  
Set and Costume Design  
Lighting Design  
Sound Design  
Dramaturge  
Producer  
Assistant Producer  
Production Management  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Manager  
Video Production  
Video Director  
Audio Production  
Audio Director  
Publicity  
Graphic Image

Mark Lambert  
Kate Moylan  
Suzie Cummins  
Fiona Sheil  
Bryan Burroughs  
Pat Moylan  
Vincent Brightling  
Showscope  
Lisa Krugel  
Caitriona Finnegan  
Red Paw Media  
Dominik Kosicki  
One Louder Sound  
Jody Trehy  
Sinead O'Doherty  
Conor Gallagher, Eyecon Design

### Very special thanks:

Emer McGowan, Dylan Connolly, Nicola Murphy, Philippa Cahill and all the staff at Draíocht. Thanks also to Darina Gallagher and the Staff of the James Joyce Cultural Centre, Eleanor White, Jenny Moylan, Home by Notions, Verve the Live Agency.

### Funding

This project has been part-funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht Sport and Media from the Live Performance Support Scheme.

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Clelia Murphy**

Susan

Clelia is best known for playing the role of Niamh Brennan in RTÉ's flagship drama series *Fair City*. She has just completed filming the Channel 5 series *Madame Blanc* written by Sally Lindsay and Sue Vincent.

She won the hearts of the nation performing in the 2019 series of *Dancing with the Stars* and starred as the host for the live tour at the INEC Killarney.

Most recently she played the role of Baroness Elsa von Schraeder in the UK & Ireland Tour of *The Sound of Music* for Bill Kenwright Productions and the role of Ella Young in Danny Brennan's radio drama *The Morrigan* directed by Marris Aroy.

She also played the role of Breda in short film *Barry* directed by John Robert Brown, which debuted at the 2020 Cork International Film Festival.

Other stage credits include *Toffee* by Ultan Pringle for the New Theatre, *Valley of the Squirting Windows* directed by Michael Scott at The Mullingar Arts Centre, the voice of The Announcer in Olivier Award-winning playwright Pat Kinevane's *Before* written for Fishamble, *Gym Swim Party* by Danielle Galligan & Gavin Kostick for Dublin Fringe Festival, Maeve Binchy's *Light a Penny Candle* at The Gaiety Theatre, *Boom* by Isobel Mahon, the role of Lulubelle LaVelle in John Murphy's touring musical *Elvis is my Daddy* and the role of Frau Gabor in *Spring Awakening* directed by the internationally acclaimed György Vidovszky.

Film and television credits include the role of Kathleen Buckley in the award-winning feature film *Danny Boy* directed by Ferdia Mac Eanna, the role of Lorraine in *Nowhere Fast* for RTE 2, Vivienne de Courcy's feature *Dare to be Wild*, Jack Conroy's *The Gaelic Curse*, and *The Badgeman Conspiracy* directed by John Sheridan and Paul Valentine. Clelia also worked on *Grabbers* for Samson Films, Parallel Pictures' *The Gift of the Magi* and Stephen Kane's award-winning *The Crooked Mile*.



## Marion O'Dwyer

Jayne

**Film includes:** *God's Creatures, The Silence Of Mercy, Fanacht, Finding You, End Of Sentence, Robot Ben, Love, Rosie, Covet, Suzie Cohen's Holy Communion, An Old Fashioned Christmas, Ondine, Agnes Brown, Green.*

**Television includes:** *Miss Scarlet And The Duke, A Dangerous Fortune, Romantic Road, Love Hate, The Savage Eye, This Is Nightlive, The Clinic VI, Perfect Day II – The Funeral, Poirot – Sad Cypress, Casualty, Rebel Heart, Ballykissangel, The Ambassador, Finbar's Class, The Governor, The Life Of Reilly, Secret Of Ireland's Eye.*

**Theatre includes:** For The Abbey and Peacock: *Drama At Inish, The Unmanageable Sisters, By The Bog Of Cats, The Government Inspector, Bookworms, The Rivals, Big Love, The Crucible, School For Scandal, The Plough And The Stars, That Was When, The Memory Of Water, Portia Coughlan* (also Royal Court), *Kevin's Bed, The Only True History Of Lizzy Flynn, Dancing At Lughnasa* (also Sydney Opera House), *Moving, The Silver Tassie, You Can't Take It With You, Wonderful Tennessee* (also Plymouth Theatre, Broadway).

For The Gate Theatre: *The Red Shoes, The Heiress, The Importance Of Being Earnest, Pride And Prejudice, A Streetcar Named Desire, A Woman Of No Importance, The Speckled People, Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, The Deep Blue Sea, Stella By Starlight, A Tale Of Two Cities, Pride And Prejudice, The Threepenny Opera, Our Country's Good, An Ideal Husband, Twelfth Night, Fathers And Sons.*

For Druid Theatre Company: *Be Infants In Evil, The Silver Tassie, The Loves Of Cass Maguire, Poor Beast In The Rain, Lovers Meeting, The Donahue Sisters.*

**Further Theatre work:** *The Mai* - Decadent Theatre Co, *Philadelphia Here I Come!* - Lyric Theatre Belfast, Gaiety Theatre, *The Cavaliers* - Decadent Theatre Co, Payback! - Bewleys and Tour, *Mrs Whippy* - City Theatre, *Sky Road* - Theatre Royal Waterford, Roberto Zucco - *Bedrock, Casanova's Limp* - Bewley's Café Theatre, *Shadow Of A Gunman* and *Sive* - Tricycle Theatre, *The Vagina Monologues* - Gaiety Theatre, *Molly Sweeney* - Bristol Old Vic, *From Both Hips* - Tivoli & Glasgow Tron, *Juno And The Paycock* - Gaiety Theatre and Chicago Theatre Festival.



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Megan McDonnell**

Melissa

Megan's most recent credits include the role of Sara Tansey in *The Playboy of the Western World* directed by Oonagh Murphy for the Lyric Belfast and the Gaiety Theatre Dublin (Dublin Theatre Festival); the role of Annie in *Miss Scarlet and the Duke* directed by Declan O'Dwyer for A+E Studios, and the role of Elaine in *Normal People*, directed by Lenny Abrahamson and Hettie Macdonald for the BBC, Element Pictures & Hulu.

She also recently wrote and recorded the radio drama *Allie down the boghole* for Near FM, and filmed the role of Laura in Conor McMahon's *Isolated Incidents*.

**Vincent Brightling**

Assistant Producer

Vincent has been Assistant Producer to Pat Moylan since 2013. In that time he has worked with *Pat on A Day In May* (Colin Murphy) the original production of *Angela's Ashes – The Musical* (Adam Howell and Paul Hurt), *Beowulf: The Blockbuster* (Bryan Burroughs and David Horan), *The Field* (John B. Keane), *A Galway Girl* (Geraldine Aron), *Driving Miss Daisy* (Alfred Uhry), *Wrong Turn At Lungfish* (Garry Marshall and Lowell Ganz), *Stones In His Pockets* (Marie Jones) and *Tom Crean – Antarctic Explorer* (Aidan Dooley).

Vincent was Associate Producer for Rosebuds Theatre on their highly acclaimed productions of *SYRIUS* and *Click 2 Subscribe*. He has also worked alongside Peter Sheridan on *Meet The Quarefella* (Jim Sheridan and Peter Sheridan), for Tall Tales on *Catastrophe* (Samuel Beckett) and The Read Co. on *Romantic Friction* (Michelle Read).

With Naoise Nunn he co-developed the late night cabaret Club Absinthe.



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Kate Moylan**

Set and Costume Design

Originally from Kilkenny, Kate graduated from Limerick School of Art & Design with a BA in Sculpture and Combined Media. After working in the theatre industry for several years, Kate received a scholarship for a master's degree in Production and Costume Design at The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Kate is based in Dublin and has been for the last eight years. Within that time, she has built up an impressive body of work in the theatre, film, tv, event and music industries. She is extremely passionate about the work she does, she has experience designing for many theatre productions. She is delighted to be a part of this production of *The Secrets of Primrose Square*. You can see her work @ [www.katemoylan.com](http://www.katemoylan.com)

**Suzie Cummins**

Lighting

Suzie Cummins is a Dublin based Lighting Designer for theatre, dance and events. She has designed lighting for *Trad – Livin' Dread*, *Mustard – Fishamble*, *Before You Say Anything – Malaprop*, *The Windy Lady – Axis Theatre*, *Minefield – Clare Monnelly*, *Best Young Entrepreneur – Google*, *Charlie's A Clepto – Clare Monnelly*, *For Saoirse – Axis Theatre* and *Harder, Faster More – Red Bear Co*. She has also worked as an Associate Lighting Designer on *Solar Bones* for Rough Magic.

**Fiona Sheil**

Sound Design

Fiona is a sound designer and composer. Collaborations with Catherine Young include *State Of Exception*, *Ultima Thule*, *The Choreography Project* and *The River Will Still Run To The Sea*. For Mind Your Step, *Welcoming The Stranger* as part of Ireland 2016 – The Casement Project. She is currently collaborating on an upcoming work *Floating On A Dead Sea* with Catherine Young Dance. Other design includes *No One See The Video* directed by Samantha Cade, *Holy Mary* by Eoin Colfer, *Madhouse* by Una McKeivitt & PJ Gallagher, DFF/Abbey Theatre, *Anatomy Of A Suicide* Dir Tom Creed and *CITY* by John McCarthy at the Everyman Theatre. She was chosen for The Centre Stage Project 2020/21, run by Theatre Forum, with La Escuela Pública de Formación Cultural (Spain) & Kultur i Väst (Sweden).



## Pat Moylan

Producer

Pat Moylan's West End producing credits include the Olivier Award-winning *Stones in His Pockets* by Marie Jones (that also played on Broadway), *Alone it Stands* by John Breen, *The Shawshank Redemption* by Owen O'Neill and *Dave Johns, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Triple Espresso* and *Women on the Verge of HRT*. Her partners in these ventures were producers Paul Elliott, Duncan Weldon, Adam Kenwright, Breda Cashe, Donal Shiels and Jenny King.

In 2017 she produced *Angela's Ashes: The Musical* at the Bord Gais Theatre Dublin, Lime Tree Theatre Limerick and the Grand Opera House in Belfast. She was Artistic Director of Andrews Lane Theatre for 18 years. In 2008 she was thrilled to have been nominated for a Special Award by The Irish Times for her work during that period. Pat formed Lane Productions in Dublin in 2001 with Breda Cashe and the successful duo produced a number of highly acclaimed shows including *Twelve Angry Men, Deadline, 84 Charing Cross Road, I, Keano* and later they were joined by Donal Sheils and together they produced *The Field* with Brian Dennehy, *Haunted* by Edna O'Brien and *The Shawshank Redemption*.

Other credits include *Brighton Beach Memoirs* with Carole King, the highly acclaimed and award winning *Beowulf: The Blockbuster*, written by and starring Bryan Burroughs, the show that completed an enormously successful engagement at the Irish Arts Center, New York and was the number one show at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe before playing at both the Adelaide and Perth Festivals and *Tom Crean – Antarctic Explorer* winner of a Fringe First in Edinburgh and then at playing the Olympia Theatre Dublin. The production continues to tour. And also *A Galway Girl* that played in Bewley's Theatre, Dublin and at the Galway Arts Festival. In 2016 she again joined forces with Breda Cashe to produce the Irish premiere of *Driving Miss Daisy*.

With John McColgan and Moya Doherty she produced *A Tribute to Edna O'Brien* at the Gaiety Theatre in 2016. In addition to her theatre producing, film credits include the multi award winning short *The Breakfast* and the feature film *Borstal Boy* directed by Peter Sheridan starring Shawn Hatossy and Danny Dyer.

In 2014 Pat completed a five-year term as Chairman of the Arts Council of Ireland.



L-R standing: Marion O'Dwyer,  
Mark Lambert, Lisa Krugel,  
Caitríona Finnegan, Pat Moylan  
L-R seated: Megan McDonnell,  
Clelia Murphy

the SECRETS OF  
PRIMROSE SQUARE

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"A WOMAN IS LIKE A TEA BAG.  
YOU CAN'T TELL HOW STRONG SHE IS  
UNTIL YOU PUT HER IN HOT WATER."

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

SPECIAL THANKS TO

**draíocht**

FOR PRESENTING THIS PLAY  
AND OUR PARTNER VENUES



 TOWN HALL THEATRE



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