Corrib Theatre presents

Kissing the Witch

by Emma Donoghue

Directed by Tracy Cameron Francis

June 9 – 22, 2022
ASL Interpreted perf. June 19
at Milagro Theatre
corribtheatre.org
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ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION TEAM:
House Manager: Bronnie Rice
Program: Karl Hanover
Cover Drawing: Jan Baross
Media Relations: Karl Hanover

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corribtheatre.org
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Corrib Theatre presents

Kissing the Witch

by Emma Donoghue

Directed by Tracy Cameron Francis

CAST

Ensemble ...................................................... Nicole Marie Green*
Ensemble ........................................................ Sara Hennessy*
Ensemble ...................................................... Wynee Hu
Ensemble ....................................................... Cynthia Shur Petts

CREATIVE TEAM

Stage / Production Manager ......................... Sophina Flores
Scenic / Props Designer ................................. Kyra Sanford
Costume Designer .............................. Allison Normin Johnson
Lighting Designer ........................................... Blanca Forzan
Projections Designer ........................................... Alan Cline
Sound Designer ................................................... Liz Young

Running time: 90 minutes, no intermission.


Kissing the Witch was first presented by Magic Theatre, San Francisco, in 2000

Show sponsored by Carol Streeter and Harold Goldstein
Season sponsored by Ronni Lacroute

Additional funding through the generosity of Corrib donors and the following:

Photos, video, or audio recording of this performance is prohibited. Please feel free to take and share photos of the set before and after the show.

* Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract.
FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT: EMMA DONOGHUE

“I couldn’t be happier that Corrib Theatre is bringing my revisionist fairy-tale play Kissing the Witch to life in Portland. Skewing traditional European magic stories, this show unpicks many knotty old lies about gender roles, family relations and love.”

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Born in Dublin in 1969, Emma Donoghue is a writer of drama for stage, screen, and radio, as well as fiction short and long, contemporary and historical. Among her works for the stage are I Know My Own Heart (1993), Ladies and Gentlemen (1996), Trespasses (1997), Kissing the Witch (2000), Don’t Die Wondering (2005), Room (2010), The Talk of the Town (2012), and Signatories (2016). Her novels include The Pull of the Stars, The Wonder (her film adaptation is coming soon from Netflix, starring Florence Pugh) and Room (which she adapted into a play as well as a film nominated for four Academy Awards). Her new novel Haven, coming in August, is set on Skellig Michael around the year 600. emmadonoghue.com

DIRECTOR’S NOTES: TRACY CAMERON FRANCIS

Growing up on fairy tales, whether through story books or Disney movies, “Once upon a time” leading to “happily ever after” is ingrained in us from childhood. These stories, told and retold for hundreds of years, have continued to cement patriarchal ideas and narratives into our culture and psyche. Women who have gone against the narratives mapped out for them have

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constantly been othered with labels like “witch” put onto them by society. As the rights of women once again come under threat in this country, it is more important than ever for women to take control of their own narrative. In *Kissing the Witch*, these women reclaim their power to embrace their identities and tell their stories on their own terms.

**ABOUT CORRIB THEATRE**

Corrib Theatre’s mission is to bring Irish playwrights’ unique perspective on oppression and empowerment, and conflict and resolution, to Portland in order to change our world for the better. We celebrate Ireland’s dramatic transformation in the recent decades of the 21st century and its emergence as a world leader in social and progressive arenas. Corrib Theatre engages, inspires, entertains, and challenges audiences with theatrical productions dealing with universal issues filtered through the Irish experience, with a focus on women, and lesser-known voices.
TRACY CAMERON FRANCIS
Director
Tracy Cameron Francis has directed and developed work in New York at Atlantic Theatre Co, NYTW, HERE Arts Center, The Culture Project, NY Fringe Festival, Red Bull Theatre, Noor Theatre, NY Arab Comedy Festival, Manhattan Shakespeare Project, Pen World Voices Fest, The Center for Performance Research, Hudson Guild Theater, Lamama Culture Hub and others. Internationally at the Falaki Theatre (Egypt), Ubumbuntu Festival (Rwanda) and LaMama Umbria (Italy), and regionally with Milagro Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Corrib Theatre, and Artists Rep. She was a 2017 Theatre Communications Group Rising Leader of Color fellow, is a core member of Theatre Without Borders, a steering committee member for the Middle East and North African Theatre Makers Alliance, a member of the Lincoln Center Director’s Lab, and an associate member of SDC. She currently serves as the Artistic Director of Boom Arts in Portland, Oregon. More info at tracycameronfrancis.com

NICOLE MARIE GREEN
Ensemble
Nicole Marie Green (She/Her) is a New York native new to the Portland theatre scene moving recently from Kansas City, MO, where she received her masters degree in acting and directing from University of Missouri, Kansas City. Most recently Nicole was seen in The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time as the dance captain and Voice 1 at Portland Center Stage at the Armory. Other theatre credits include: Voice 1 in Curious Incident, Belle in A Christmas Carol, Lydia and Lady Catherine in Kate Hamill’s Pride and Prejudice, Margot in The Diary of Anne Frank (Kansas City Repertory Theatre), Ruth in Tribes (Unicorn Theatre), Emilia and Time in The Winter’s Tale (Heart of America Shakespeare Festival), Dorothy and The Wicked Witch in The Wizard of Oz (Meisner Puppet Theatre), Governess in Turn of the Screw (Spinning Tree Theatre), Edward Tulane, originating the role of Abigail Williams in Afflicted: Daughters of Salem (The Coterie Theatre)
SARA HENNESSY
Ensemble
Sara Hennessy (she/hers) is a two-time Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award winner and an L.A. Weekly Theatre Award nominee. This is her third show at Corrib after having been in How to Keep an Alien and Little Gem previously. She’s been in several shows at Artists Rep (ART) including 1984, Everybody, Magellanica, Caught, Feathers and Teeth, The Skin of Our Teeth, Cuba Libre, Blithe Spirit, Intimate Apparel and Foxfinder. During the pandemic, she worked on several ART Mercury projects including the Magellanica audio drama, and two workshop productions: The Night We Won by Yussef El Guindi and Rudy, a 5-part comic series about a small Oregon town. Before moving to Portland, she lived in Los Angeles, where she was a co-founder and Co-Artistic Director of the acclaimed Furious Theatre Company. In addition to doing many shows at Furious Theatre, Sara worked at the Pasadena Playhouse, A Noise Within, and Theatre@Boston Court. In Chicago, she performed improv at the iO Theatre. She also made appearances on NBC’s Grimm and the Netflix series Trinkets. She is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild. sarahennessy.com

WYNEE HU
Ensemble
Wynee Hu (she, her, hers) is excited to be returning to Corrib Theatre! Past credits: Hurl and Eclipsed. She was recently an understudy for The Great Leap co-produced by Portland Center Stage and Artists Repertory Theatre. She has also worked with Northwest Children’s Theater, Bag&Baggage Productions, Boom Arts, Advance Gender Equity in the Arts (AGE), LineStorm Playwrights, PDX Playwrights, Speculative Drama, Oregon Adventure Theatre, and Exoplanetary Media. Wynee is an associate producer for Lunchbox, an independent film (lunchboxthefilm.com). She was an Emerging Artist in the 2021 Spring Cohort of Advance Gender Equity in the Arts’ IGNITE program.
SOPHINA FLORES  
Stage Manager / Production Manager

Sophina Flores holds a BA in Theatre and Dance from Amherst College. She is the founder of local dance theatre company Roots and All Theatre Ensemble, centering marginalized identities and breaking the boundaries of realism, who you may know from productions such as Liminal and The Between Spaces. She has Stage Managed for shows such as Sweeney Todd, Urinetown, Big Love, Peer Gynt, and The Importance of Being Earnest. Most recently she stage managed Milagro’s Duende de Lorca. As a theatre maker, playwright, director, devisor, and choreographer, her work centers the intersectionality of identities as a bisexual Puerto Rican woman, and prominently features themes of mental illness and trauma, with surrealist or magical realist motifs.

KYRA SANFORD  
Set and Props Designer

Kyra Sanford is a freelance scenic designer, props master, carpenter, and painter in the Portland area, working for theatres such as Milagro, PassinArt, 

CYNTHIA SHUR PETTS  
Ensemble

Cynthia Shur Petts (she/her) is an actor, writer, comedian, and teaching artist. She is happy to return to Corrib Theatre, where she previously played Rusty in Hurl. Other Portland credits include A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Anonymous Theatre) and a reading of Lisa Kron’s solo piece 101 Humiliating Stories (Profile Theatre). She worked for many years in Chicago storefront theatres, and has performed as a comedian and storyteller at clubs and bars all over Chicago, and at festivals around the country. Cynthia has taught workshops in writing and performing at local companies including Portland Center Stage, From the Ground UP, and PlayWrite, Inc. She is a staff member and company member with Third Rail Repertory Theatre.
BLANCA FORZAN
Lighting Designer

Blanca Forzán is a lighting designer, set designer, and writer. Blanca has a degree in Architectures from Del Valle de Mexico University, was a Banff Center Intern (Canada), and worked with the National Institute of Fine Arts for over two decades (Mexico City). She is also a set designer, producer, manager, playwright, tour manager, and International technical director. Notable shows include *Faust* (Brooklyn Academy of Music, N.Y) and *Hamlet* (Cadiz Spain). Other credits, *Broken Promises, Contigo pan y Cebolla, El Muerto Vagabundo* and *Astucias* (Milagro), *Bicycle Country* (Aurora Theatre, Lawrenceville, G.A.) and *Octoroon, A Doll’s House Part 2, and La Ruta* (Artist Repertory Theatre), *The Taming* (Coho Theatre), *In the Next Room* (Portland State University), *Men on Boats* (Willamette University, Salem), *Jump* (Confrontation Theatre), *Mother Courage* and *Ruined* (Imago Theatre) with Profile Theatre, *The Measure of Innocence* (Bag & Baggage, 2020), two participations in digital soliloquies as a writer with Bag & Baggage, one participation as an interpreter with the Mercury (digital) company (Artist Repertory Theatre), *A Bright New Boise* (Willamette University, 2021), *A Christmas Carol* (Portland Playhouse, 2021), *In the Name of Forgotten Women* (Coho Theatre, 2022), *Neat* with Passinart at IFCC, 2022, *Bella An American Tall Tale* (Portland Playhouse, 2022). Happy to be with you for the first time.

Theatre Vertigo, Defunkt Theatre, Profile Theatre, Portland State University, Clark College, Lincoln High School, Third Rail Rep, and various others. She received her BFA in scenic design from The Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University.

sanfordscenic.com

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Kissing the Witch
ELIZABETH YOUNG
Sound Designer

Elizabeth Young (Sound Design) is happy to be working on another Corrib production, particularly with such a female-focused production and design team. She has been involved in theatre behind the scenes, with sound designs for Corrib Theatre, CoHo Theatre, Theatre Vertigo, and Post5, and choreography and direction for Anonymous Theatre, and is a proud company member of Anonymous Theatre. She has also appeared onstage with many theatre companies around town and beyond, including most recently in Don’t Hug Me at Broadway Rose Theatre Company. Much gratitude to Tracy and Gemma for the opportunity, and to Darius, Julian and Mark for ignoring the strange noises emanating from the study.

ALLISON NORMIN JOHNSON
Costume Designer

Allison Normin Johnson (she/her) is a designer and costumer who is delighted to be working in live theatre again. This is her first production with Corrib. She has worked in costume shops in Virginia, Arkansas, and locally at Portland Center Stage and Artists Repertory Theatre. Some of her favorite projects have been devised and emerging works with the CoHo Clown CoHort and Theatre 33, among others. Allison grew up in Beaverton and has returned to the area after earning her BA in Theatre Design from Willamette University. While earning her degree she spent considerable time studying art history in London, where her partner still lives. You can see more of her work on her website at allisonjcreates.com

ALAN CLINE
Projections Designer

Alan is a designer, programmer, and technician working in the Portland theatre community for the last ten years. His work has been seen at Artist’s Repertory Theatre, Profile Theatre, Third Rail Repertory, Oregon Children’s Theatre, BodyVox, Northwest Classical,
KARL HANOVER
Managing Director
Originally from Ireland, Karl moved to the U.S. in 1994 to pursue acting, and received his MFA degree from the National Theatre Conservatory in Denver. Theatres at which he has appeared include Calshakes, the Philadelphia Shakespeare Festival, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Magic Theatre, Profile Theatre, and Portland Center Stage. In addition, he has voiced characters for the gaming industry, including those of Atlas and Fontaine in Bioshock, Biochock 2 and Bioshock Infinite: Burial as Sea. As a theatre administrator he has worked in various capacities at Portland Playhouse, Profile Theatre, and Artists’ Repertory Theatre.

GEMMA WHELAN
Artistic Director
Gemma Whelan is the founding artistic director of Corrib Theatre. For Corrib, she has directed numerous regional and U.S. premieres, including James X, How to Keep an Alien, Four Last Things, Quietly, The Testament of Mary, and A Night in November (Drammy nomination for Direction, Drammy award for Solo Performance). In Portland, she has also directed at Artists Repertory Theatre, Profile Theatre, CoHo Theatre, Boom Arts, and Portland Center Stage’s JAW Festival. She was the founding artistic director of Wilde Irish Productions in the San Francisco Bay Area and directed at various theatres in the area for over 20 years. Gemma has taught at numerous colleges and conservatories in the Bay Area (including Mills College, American Conservatory Theatre, and Berkeley Repertory Theatre), and in Portland, Ireland, and Singapore. Her second novel will be published in spring 2022. She holds a BA in English, French, and Fine Arts from Trinity College Dublin, an MA in Theatre from UC Berkeley, and an MFA in Cinema from San Francisco State University.
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Season Announcement 2022-23

We are very excited about our upcoming season. Join our mailing list and be the first to know!

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Irish Theatre Tour 2023

Our 2022 tour is full but sign up on the Corrib Theatre Tour list so you’ll be the first to get info on our 2023 tour!

Join our fifth annual Irish Theatre Tour, led by Corrib Theatre’s Artistic Director Gemma Whelan and former Managing Director Adam Liberman.

Attend eight performances at world-renowned theatres in Dublin and Galway (during the Galway International Arts Festival). Meet with leading Irish playwrights and theatre artists. Day trips and other activities.

Participant comments:
“Just a lovely and lively experience. I am so grateful for the opportunity.”
“If you think you could plan a tour yourself and have anything close to the Corrib tour experience, you’re wrong.”
“What a great experience to learn about Irish theater, Irish culture and Irish history! Worth every moment.”
“My favorite group trip ever...”

corribtheatre.org/irish-theatre-tour