

FINBOROUGH | THEATRE

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

The world premiere

CONTINUITY

by Gerry Moynihan

Directed by Shane Dempsey.

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

“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.

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 (Clifftown Theatre, Southend-on-Sea), *The Bay* (Theatre503, The Space and Te Pooka, Edinburgh) and *The Girl In The Box* (Clifftown Theatre, Southend-on-Sea, and RADA Studios), *Spring Awakening* in a new version by Gary Owen, (Mercury Theatre, Colchester) and *13* (Clifftown 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

118 Finborough Road, London SW10 9ED Telephone 020 7244 7439 e-mail admin@finboroughtheatre.co.uk
www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk Artistic Director Neil McPherson

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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 Fagnoli, 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

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 or **07977 173135**

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

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