



Press information for immediate release

Radius Playwriting Competition 2020: Finding Forgiveness

Radius Playwriting Competition 2020 in association with the Finborough Theatre has been won by **Darren Donohue** for his play *Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks*. He wins £500, dramaturgy with the Finborough Theatre and a streamed online reading of the winning play (replacing the staged reading, due to the Coronavirus pandemic). Details of the online performance will be announced shortly.

Winner **Darren Donohue** is from Co. Kilkenny in Ireland. His plays and readings for the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, include *Home Game*, *The Death of Actaeon*, *Home-from-Home*. Other plays include *Dayshift* (Tramedautore Theatre Festival, Milan, and Festival on the Crisis PIIIGS, Barcelona), *Voices in the Rubble* (Rapid Lemon Productions, Baltimore, USA), *Tuesday Evening (following the news)* (Fishamble), *A Bucket Full of Fire* (Sheer Tantrum and Pandora), *The Bird Trap* (Three Streets Theatre Company), *Keep the Home Fires Burning* (Comedians Theatre Company, Edinburgh Festival) *Revelations*, *Propelled Upright* (Dublin Fringe Festival), *Bedlam* (Dublin Theatre Festival), and *Dual Cats with One Crayfish* (Irish Rep, New York City). Darren is married to Margaret and they have one daughter, Emily.

Radius Playwriting Competition 2020 was judged by **Neil McPherson** and **Sue Healy**, Artistic Director and Literary Manager of London's Finborough Theatre.

Judge Neil McPherson, Artistic Director of the Finborough Theatre, said: "The competition this year was very close, but we are happy to announce *Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks* as a clear and worthy winner. The competition is judged entirely blind, and we very much look forward to working with Darren on the staged reading which, due to Coronavirus, will now be presented online."

The final shortlist for the competition was *A Prayer for the Dying* by Robert Pegg, *Arthur and Charlotte* by Jane Sunderland, *East and Twenty-Third* by Les Ellison, *Entropy* by Kate Reid, *Misfits* by Jonathan Skinner, *Naked is the Realm* by Rebekah King and *You in Your Small Corner* by Steve Dimmer.

The first RADIUS Playwriting Competition in 2018 was won by first time playwright **Hannah Morley** for her first play *Petrichor*. Hannah subsequently went on to win a Channel 4 Playwrights Bursary with the Finborough Theatre. Her new play *Rough Music* received a staged reading as part of the Finborough Theatre's *Vibrant 2019 – A Festival of Finborough Playwrights*. She is currently part of the BBC London Voices group and is developing work for both stage and screen.

The next biennial Radius Playwriting Competition will take place in 2022 and will be announced in Autumn 2021.

Radius provides high-quality drama scripts to churches and community groups. In addition to a collection of original takes on the Christmas and Easter stories, they specialize in plays that ask searching questions about how life should be lived, avoiding offering easy answers. More information about Radius's playwriting competition, YouTube Channel, their unique script collection and other initiatives can be found at www.radiusdrama.org.uk.

Visit the Finborough Theatre at www.finboroughtheatre.co.uk

For more information, interviews or an image of Darren Donohue, please contact **Finborough Theatre - Livvy Perrett** on e-mail press@finboroughtheatre.co.uk or **07889 794858** or

RADIUS - Margaret Hunt on email mjwh57@gmail.com or 07715 120191

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