

IRISH D R A M A

Bucknell

*in celebration of Bucknell's Focus
Semester on Ireland*

DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE & DANCE
PRESENTS

TEA_{IN A}
CHINA
CUP

A CONTEMPORARY IRISH PLAY
BY CHRISTINA REID

OCTOBER 22, 23,
24 & 25, 1999

8:00 p.m.

HARVEY M. POWERS THEATRE,
COLEMAN HALL

BUCKNELL'S DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS

in celebration of Bucknell's Focus Semester on Ireland

TEA IN A CHINA CUP

By Christina Reid

Direction: Robert Gainer
Set Design: Elaine Williams
Lighting & Sound Design: Heath Hansum
Costume Design: Paula Davis-Larson
Assistant Costume Design: Amy Rinker
Irish Dialect Coach: Barry Kur

CAST

in order of appearance

SARAH Jennifer Schmermund
BETH, Sarah's daughter Cassandra Pisleczko
CLERK & FORTUNE TELLER Renee Awad
THERESA, Beth's friend Kathleen McDevitt
GRANDFATHER John Klaitz Jr.
GRANDMOTHER Hillary DePlano
SAMUEL, Sarah's brother & SAMMY, her son... Alexander McCausland
MAISIE Anne Bonner
BRITISH OFFICER & BRITISH SERGEANT John Mitchell Jr.
MRS. JAMISON Misty Trezona
YOUTH & GRANDA JAMISON Jeremy Kipp Walker
VALUER Amy Wilson

NOTES on PLAY'S ACTION & SETTING:

The action of the play is set in Belfast and spans more than three decades (from 1939 to 1972) in the life of a Protestant family in Belfast.

An elegant couch symbolizes Beth's house.

A china cabinet plus three large framed photographs of the grandfather in W.W. I Uniform, his son Samuel in W.W. II uniform; his grandson Sammy in modern army uniform, symbolize the little house that is occupied first by the grandparents and subsequently by Sarah.

Changes of lighting indicate changes of time and place.

Tea in a China Cup is performed with one intermission.

Smoking, the taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited.

PROGRAM NOTES

THE PLAYWRIGHT

Christina Reid was born and educated in Belfast, where she lived until 1987. She was writer-in-residence at the Lyric Theatre, Belfast, 1983-84, and also at the Young Vic, London, 1988-89. She lives in London with her three daughters.

Reid's plays for television, radio, and stage have been produced and acclaimed in Ireland, England, Scotland, Europe and America. *Tea in a China Cup*, her first play, won the Thames TV Playwright Scheme Award in 1983, and was runner-up in The Irish Times/Dublin Theatre Festival/Women's Play Competition, 1982. She has since won numerous playwrighting awards, and has had plays produced at The Royal Court Theatre, The Royal Shakespeare Company, BBC Radio, Channel Four Television, and at other theatres throughout the U.K.

The world of Reid's plays is contemporary Belfast. She writes sympathetically about both extremists and moderates. Narrow perspectives often mark extremists, but humor plays a large part in all her work. Reid graphically presents the horrors of the present violence in northern Ireland, and the bigotry and prejudice woven over generations. Her plays, however, are very funny: the resilience and humor of her characters are notes of optimism in a grim situation.

— from UNVEILING TREASURES by Ann Owens Weekes

A NORTHERN IRISH GLOSSARY - TERMS USED IN THIS PLAY

TAGUES - derogatory term for Catholics used by Protestants

PRODS - derogatory term for Protestants used by Catholics

FENIANS - common term for Catholics; the Fenians or Irish Republican Brotherhood was a revolutionary society founded in 1858 to overthrow British rule, and its spirit lives on in the Irish Republican Army.

BIN LIDS - In the late 60's and early 70's, Catholic women would alert their community that the British forces and Protestant police were about to invade their neighborhood by banging metal trash can covers on the streets.

IRA - Irish Republican Army — the primary Nationalist (Catholic) paramilitary armed force.

LAMBEG DRUM - the largest of Protestant marching drums, symbolic of the power of the victorious Orange Order.

ULSTER - another name for the counties that make up Northern Ireland, where the Protestant population outnumbers the Catholic.

ORANGEMEN - Protestants; The Loyal Orange Order is a world-wide Irish society dedicated to defending Protestant interests.

THE TROUBLES - the violent conflagrations between Catholics and Protestants in the late 1960's and 1970's.

SELECTED HISTORICAL DATES, FACTS & EVENTS

July 12, 1690 - Protestant King of England, William of Orange defeats dispossessed Catholic King of England, James II, at the Battle of the Boyne (on Irish soil)

1922 - Formation of the Irish Republic in the 26 predominantly Catholic southern counties of Ireland. The 6 predominantly Protestant counties of Ulster remain part of the United Kingdom.

1968 - The Catholic civil rights movement begins in Northern Ireland, resulting in violent conflagrations throughout Northern Ireland

1969 - British troops arrive in Ulster

1971 - First British soldier killed in "Troubles." Protestant Prime Minister of Northern Ireland introduces "internment" policy of imprisoning all suspected of subversion against the state. This causes riots, hunger strikes, firebombings and other acts of violent protest.

January 20, 1972 - Bloody Sunday in Derry, Northern Ireland: British troops kill 13 civilians during peaceful Catholic civil rights march, causing days of IRA bombings and acts of revenge and counter-attacks throughout Northern Ireland. Northern Irish government suspended and direct rule from London is imposed. Twenty thousand additional British troops enter Northern Ireland to restore order.

If people say they understand the Northern Ireland situation,
you know they have been badly misinformed.

— BELFAST SAYING

Barry Kur, guest Irish dialect coach is an associate professor and master teacher of voice in the School of Theatre Arts at Penn State University. His participation is made possible by the generous support of the Bucknell Association for the Arts.

Special Thanks: Prof. John Rickard, whose invaluable dramaturgical support and encouragement has made Ms. Reid's play truly vivid for all involved; Jim Rice and the Irish Focus Semester Committee; Professor Sam McCready, Libby Susman-Meadow, Jane Haily, Jackie Miller, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, the University Lectureship Committee, Pam Miller, Gary Parks and the Slifer House Museum.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director	Heath Hansum
Stage Manager	Sharon Savage
Assistant Stage Managers	Donald Jones, Melissa Loftus, Sonia Mullen
Fly Crew	Charles Crosby
Soundboard Operator	Matt Jacolik
Lightboard Operator	Matthew Parker
Sound and Electrics TA	Rod Young
Sound TA	Charles Jackson
Props TAs	Cassandra Pisieczko, Carolyn Jamison, Rachel Ziegler
Costumer	Pam Miller
Costume Intern	Amy Rinker
Scene Shop TAs	Eric Charles, Charles Crosby, George Gibbons, David Williams, Eric Loveland, Fred Stillman
Costume TAs	Mary Kokie, Reiko Kamiyama, Kelly Lybolt, Stephane Metz
Publicity & Box Office TAs	Krista McCabe, Eileen Kennedy, Megan Murphy
House Manager	Allison Bagby
Ushers	Provided by Cap & Dagger

At the time that this program was printed, a complete list of the production staff was unavailable. We would like to thank all those without whose help this show would not be possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COCKTAIL THEATRE
Tustin Studio Theatre, one-act plays in
November/December,
5:00 p.m.

STUDIO DANCE CONCERT
Tustin Dance Studio, November 4,
5:00 p.m.

FALL DANCE CONCERT
Harvey M. Powers Theatre, December 3 & 4,
8:00 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE PATRONS 1999-2000

Laurie and Maurice Aburdene	Laurie McCants
Owen and Judith Anderson	Richard and Miranda McGinnis
William and Ruth Basom	Pam and Chuck Miller
Karen L. Beatty	Dick & Cindy Nickelsen
Lou and Joyce Betz	Fredric B. Paulsen
Mary and Douglas Candland	David and Jan Pearson
Paula Davis-Larson and Mark Larson	Gayle and Charlie Pollock
Ann de Klerk and Barnard Taylor	Sharon Poff
John and Barbara Dromazos	Betsy Powers
Ann M. Forville	Rosalyn Richards and Cynthia Peltier
Karen Forgione	Charles and Martha Root
Danna and Bob Frangione	Jen Ruby
Chris and Gary Fry	Charles Sackrey and Toni Byrd
Bob and Iris Gainer	Ted & Jackie Sallade
Harry R. Garvin	Gary and Sandy Sojka
Genie and John Gerdes	Dolores Splane
Brian J. Goldsmith	Beatrice Spielman
Joel Gori	Linda L. Stein
Anthony Gosse	Louise & David Stone
Gary and Nancy Grant	Doug and Margie Jean A. Sturm
Annelies Gray	Lois Tilton
David and Sharon Grimm	Erin Van Wagner
Heath and Jana Hansum	The Rev. Ted & Katie Weller
Mitch Hart and	F. Elaine Williams
Meenakshi Ponnuswami	Chris & Neal Woodruff
Er-Dong Hu and Lu-Ping Sun	Stephanie Yezek
Jess Kerper	Martha & John Zeller
Joseph and Carol LoGrippe	

Corporate Patrons

The Greater Susquehanna Piano Company

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Paula Davis-Larson, assistant professor	costume design and history
Danna Frangione, director of dance	technique and theory
Robert Gainer, director of theatre	acting and directing
Gary Grant, chair	theatre history, theory, directing
Allyson Green, adjunct instructor	dance technique and theory
Heath Hansum, technical director	technical direction, lighting, sound
Er-Dong Hu, assistant professor	dance technique and theory
Elaine Williams, director of design	scene design
Christine Fry	secretary
Pam Miller	costumer
Melissa Dunbar	technical direction intern
Amy Rinker	costume intern

Welcome to another
**IRISH FOCUS SEMESTER
EVENT**
on:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25th
4:30 PM

in VAUGHAN LIT. LIBRARY
Prof. Sam McCready
will present
a lecture:

**"BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!
THEATRE IN NORTHERN
IRELAND FROM 1968"**

Prof. McCready is a Prof. of Theatre at the
University of Maryland, Baltimore County.
Prof. McCready was formerly Artistic
Director of the Lyric Theatre in Belfast,
Northern Ireland, and is an expert on
Irish drama.