




Oct. 29 > Nov. 15, 2025



The WEIR
by Conor McPherson
directed by Reid Vanier

The Guild Hall
27-14th Ave. Porter Creek

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The WEIR

by Conor McPherson

FEATURING

Katie Payne, Jason Westover, Roy Neilson,
Jody Woodland, James Cleary

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: Reid Vanier
Assistant Director: Gabe Hopkins
Stage Manager: Sara German
Assistant Stage Manager: Mary Sloan
Set Designers: Rebecca Manias and Courtney Holmes
Lighting Designer: Martin Nishikawa
Costume Designer: Kate Clarke
Props Designer: Felix O'Laney
Sound Designer and Technical Director: Kelvin Smoler
Head Carpenter: Al Loewen

Production Manager: Kate Fitzgerald
Artistic Director: Brian Fidler
Administrator: Sylvie Walton



Thomas Viertel, Richard Frankel, Steven Baruch, Marc Routh,
Jujamcyn Theaters, Manhattan Theatre Club,
Turnstyle/Ambassador Theatre Group presented THE WEIR on
Broadway on April, 1, 1999.

MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The remarkable writing of Conor McPherson demands a brilliant team to bring this spooky Irish tale to life, and our amazing group of artists and technicians have brought their own brand of magic and mastery to *The Weir*.

Under Reid Vanier's deft directorial hand this talented group of actors dive deep into this layered script and bring out the subtle and nuanced storytelling of McPherson's modern classic. We are excited to welcome Gabe Hopkins in the role of assistant director and a special thank you to James Cleary, Roy Neilson, Katie Payne, Jason Westover and Jody Woodland who have poured their heart and soul into their performances.

The creative and technical team for *The Weir* are all top notch local designers. Katelyn Clarke's simple, effective costumes work perfectly with the set and lighting. The Irish pub setting is expertly realized by our co-designers Courtney Holmes and Rebecca Manias who have put in countless hours painting and decorating the set so that it rings true with the atmosphere of a rural Irish pub. Thank you to the Guild's own Al Loewen for taking Courtney and Rebecca's plan and bringing it to life with his veteran builder hands. Martin Nishikawa is a master of creating mood and tone with his stunning lighting designs and we are so happy he has brought his talents to this production. Newcomer Felix O'Laney worked tirelessly to bring the world to life with their effective props design. Kelvin Smoler delivers an evocative sound design and runs a tight ship with his technical expertise on this production. We are lucky to have Sara German, our steadfast and talented Stage Manager and Mary Sloan who stepped in as Assistant Stage Manager during the rehearsal process.

I am grateful to my colleague Kate Fitzgerald for leading the charge in her inaugural role as Production Manager. Thank you to Sylvie Walton our Administrator and to the Guild Board for their steadfast support and guidance.

And finally thank you to you, our loyal audience, for continuing to support community theatre!

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

How do you tell a story about stories?

No, really...it's not as easy as it sounds. In the case of *The Weir*, the genius of Conor McPherson's tight and haunting script is its simplicity. No scene changes. No costume changes. No time jumps. No intermission (sorry). Just five people spending a little more than an hour together, sharing stories and revealing something about themselves to each other. It's one of the purest distillations of theatrical storytelling of the 20th century.

But how do you do it?

For me, this has been one of the most challenging experiences I've had as a director, because it's largely required me to get out of the way. This play is full of incredible character and charm - a slice of Ireland that embraces the good and bad stereotypes of a culture which is both steeped in oral tradition but also deeply emotionally repressive. The result is a script that's as much about the challenge of telling stories or reflecting on memories as it is about the stories and memories themselves.

This cast has done beautiful work in finding all the humour and sadness and personality and spookiness that this play has to offer, and in being open to all the nerves and discomfort that can come with being that honest and vulnerable. Our creative team has gone above and beyond in bringing this little rural Irish pub to life and to transporting us to this particular stormy evening. I could not be more proud of all the talent and care that has gone into this production, and how everyone's work has brought out the best in this amazing script.

Sláinte.



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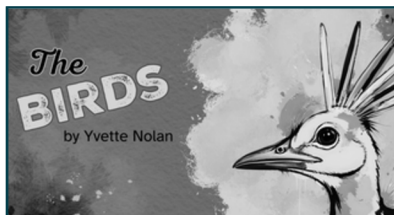


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comic fantasy 'The Birds'. Two men, frustrated by the modern world, arrive in the fabled land of the birds seeking freedom and a better way of life.

Despite their best intentions, the men are unable to resist remaking this utopian paradise in their own image,

without regard for the inhabitants who already occupy the land.

Audition info coming soon!