



## Irish Theatre of Chicago Announces Touring Remount of **MOJO MICKYBO**

at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, University of Notre Dame, February 15 & 16,  
and The Davis Theater, Chicago, Feb 27 & 28

**CHICAGO** (January 22, 2018) – Irish Theatre of Chicago (ITC), Chicago’s only professional theater company dedicated to presenting works that reflect the culture and history of Ireland, is pleased to bring its critically acclaimed two-hander **MOJO MICKYBO** to **The DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts at The University of Notre Dame** (100 Performing Arts Center, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556), **February 15 & 16, 2019** (tickets available at <https://dpactickets.nd.edu>), and to **The Davis Theatre** (4614 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60625) **February 27 & 28, 2019** (tickets available at [www.irishtheatre.org](http://www.irishtheatre.org)). **The Davis Theatre** performances will include a complimentary popcorn and a pint, and a post-performance showing of the Oscar-winning 1969 film, **BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID**, which features prominently in **MOJO MICKYBO**.

Set in 1970’s Belfast, Ireland, and written by leading Irish playwright **Owen McCafferty**, **MOJO MICKYBO** follows the whirlwind escapades of mischievous nine year-old best friends Mojo and Mickybo, who happen to be from opposite sides of the rising Catholic/Protestant divide known as “The Troubles.” Oblivious to the violence brewing around them, Mojo and Mickybo spend their days playing together, getting into scrapes, and re-enacting scenes from their favorite film, **BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID**, until the politics of the adult world intrudes on their idyllic friendship.

This remount of Irish Theatre Of Chicago’s physical, often comic, and deeply affecting hit 2009 production reunites original director **Jeff Christian** with **Rob Kauzlaric (Mojo)** and **Dan Waller (Mickybo)** reprising their roles as the young friends, in addition to playing a dozen additional characters including troubled parents, eccentric shopkeepers, and neighborhood bullies. While skillfully evoking rich details of urban Irish life in the 70’s, **MOJO MICKBO** also invites the audience to revisit the universal joys of childhood, when every day was a new adventure, and imagination could take you anywhere.

**ITC Interim Artistic Director JR Sullivan** adds, “In addition to the compelling story at its core, **MOJO MICKYBO** is also a stirring evening of theater at its actor-driven best. This is a mesmerizing journey that shifts from past to present, from childhood to adulthood, careening into chaos, a creation of that so-called adult world.”

“**MOJO MICKYBO** has never been more relevant to an American audience than it is today,” states director **Christian**. “As a nation we are currently completely divided, with neighbor pitted against neighbor, and a lot of hatred being expressed through the divisive labels we’re putting on each other. Mojo and Mickybo don’t worry about labels, or whose family is Catholic or Protestant. Together they inhabit a wonderful world of brotherhood that they’ve built for themselves in their imaginations. It’s a place I think we’d all live in if we could.”

Through their 2018/2019 Season partnership with Indiana’s **University of Notre Dame**, Irish Theatre Of Chicago will present a limited run of **MOJO MICKYBO** at the **DeBartolo Performing Arts Center** on **February 15<sup>TH</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**, and then will partner with Lincoln Square’s historic **The Davis Theater** to bring the production to Chicago audiences on **February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**. **The Davis Theater** performances feature a post-show screening of the Oscar-winning 1969 film **BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID**, which figures prominently in **MOJO MICKYBO**.

The production team for **MOJO MICKYBO** includes **Mikhail Fiksel (original music and sound design)**, **Miles Polaski** and **Robert Hornbostel (sound design)**, **Elise Kauzlaric (dialect design)**, **Mike Durst (lighting design)**, and **Jen Bukovsky (production stage manager)**.

## **PRODUCTION DETAILS:**

Title: **MOJO MICKYBO**  
Playwright: **Owen McCafferty**  
Director: **Jeff Christian**  
Starring: **Rob Kauzlaric** (Mojo)  
**Dan Waller** (Mickybo)  
Design Team: **Mike Durst** (Lighting)  
**Mikhail Fiksel** (Original Music and Sound)  
**Robert Hornbostel** (Sound)  
**Miles Polaski** (Sound)  
**Elise Kauzlaric** (Dialects)

**Indiana Location:** **The DeBartolo Center**, 100 Performing Arts Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556  
Dates: **Friday, February 15, and Saturday, February 16th, 2019**  
Curtain Times: **7:30 pm**  
Tickets: **\$27. Students \$15.** Tickets are available at <https://dpactickets.nd.edu>

**Chicago Location:** **The Davis Theater**, 4614 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60625  
Dates: **Wednesday, February 27, and Thursday, February 28, 2019**  
Curtain Times: **7:30 pm** (with **BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID** at 9:00 pm)  
Tickets: **\$25 (\$40 for a pair).** Tickets are available at <https://www.irishtheatre.org/tickets.html>  
*The Davis Theater ticket price includes MOJO MICKYBO, BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID, plus a free pint and popcorn.*

## **ABOUT THE TEAM**

**Owen McCafferty** (Playwright) is a native of Belfast, Northern Ireland, whose work includes SCENES FROM THE BIG PICTURE (winner John Whiting Award, Meyer Whitworth Award, and the Evening Standard Charles Wintour Award for New Playwriting), QUIETLY (nominated for Best New Play, Irish Times Theatre Awards), CLOSING TIME, DEATH OF A COMEDIAN, TITANIC, SHOOT THE COW, DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES, UNFAITHFUL, COLD COMFORT, THE CHAIRS, FIRE BELOW, and NO PLACE LIKE HOME. His first feature film, NORMAL PEOPLE is currently shooting starring Liam Neeson and Lesley Manville.

**Jeff Christian** (Director) teaches directing in Columbia College's Department of Cinema Art + Science, and was the 2014 recipient of The Excellence In Teaching Award. He is an ensemble member of Irish Theatre Of Chicago, where his directing work includes the original production of MOJO MICKYBO as well as SHINING CITY, OUR FATHER, and A WHISTLE IN THE DARK. He has appeared onstage for ITC in both productions of THE WEIR, as well as THE MY WAY RESIDENTIAL, LAY ME DOWN SOFTLY, THE SHADOW OF A GUNMAN, OUR FATHER, SCENES FROM THE BIG PICTURE, WAR, and David Cromer's production of JOURNEY'S END. Other area directing work includes The Journeymen's multiple Jeff Award-winning ANGELS IN AMERICA, as well as productions for The Artistic Home, New American Theater, Lakeside Shakespeare; Roosevelt University, WildClaw Theatre; and James Krag's one man show, ACCORDING TO MARK. He has been seen onstage at Writers' Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, The Women's Project of New York, The Tennessee Williams Festival, Syracuse Stage, Indiana Rep., Chicago Dramatists, Milwaukee Rep, Madison Rep, The Artistic Home, Lakeside Shakespeare, Artists' Ensemble, Illinois Theatre Center and New American Theatre. Jeff's film and television credits include BATMAN BEGINS, SHAMELESS, CHICAGO PD, WITCHES' NIGHT, THE EXPRESS, THE POKER HOUSE, HAPPY HOUR, HELIX, PICKMAN'S MUSE, CYRUS, and GOOD PEOPLE.

## **ABOUT THE TEAM (con't)**

**Rob Kauzlaric** (Mojo) directed Irish Theatre Of Chicago's world premiere of THE WHITE ROAD (Jeff Nomination: Best Production), and has appeared onstage with ITC in A WHISTLE IN THE DARK, WAR, OUR FATHER, MOJO MICKYBO, and IN A LITTLE WORLD OF OUR OWN. Regional acting credits include Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Lakeside Shakespeare, Goodman Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, Strawdog Theatre, The Hypocrites, City Lit, Circle Theatre, Greasy Joan & Co., and New American Theater. As a playwright Robert has written more than a dozen theatrical adaptations which have been performed across the U.S. and in Europe including THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU (winner of five Non-Equity Jeff Awards), NORTHANGER ABBEY (with George Howe, Non-Equity Jeff Award: New Work, Musical), NEVERWHERE (Non-Equity Jeff Award: New Adaptation), and THE TRUE STORY OF THE 3 LITTLE PIGS! (with Paul Gilvary and William Rush, "One of the best children's shows of the year" – New York Times). Directing credits include CYMBELINE for Strawdog Theatre (Non-Equity Jeff Nomination: Director-Play); and TARTUFFE (Wilde Award: Best Comedy), LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST (Wilde Award: Best of the Bard), CYMBELINE (Wilde Award: Best of the Bard), AS YOU LIKE IT (Wilde Award: Best of the Bard), and THE TEMPEST for the Michigan Shakespeare Festival.

**Dan Waller** (Mickybo) has appeared onstage with Irish Theatre Of Chicago in THE WEIR, SPINNING (Jeff Nomination: Best Actor), THE SEAFARER (Jeff Award: Best Ensemble) MOJO MICKYBO, OUR FATHER, A WHISTLE IN THE DARK, LAY ME DOWN SOFTLY (Best Supporting Actor: Sheridan Road Magazine), and the David Cromer - helmed JOURNEY'S END. In addition to frequent work at Steppenwolf Theatre, the Goodman, and Court Theatre in Chicago, his local credits include THE CIDER HOUSE RULES at Famous Door (Jeff Award: Best Ensemble); PITMEN PAINTERS at Timeline (Jeff Nomination: Best Supporting Actor/Chicago Tribune's Top 10 Performances Of The Year), and TO THE GREEN FIELDS BEYOND at Writer's Theatre Of Glencoe (Jeff Nomination: Best Ensemble). Regional work includes Actors Theatre of Louisville, Cardinal Stage, Walkabout/Lookingglass, Mary-Arrchie, Lakeside Shakespeare, Lifeline, and Blindfaith Theatre. Dan's film credits include TRANSFORMERS 3, REPETITION, WITLESS PROTECTION, OLYMPIA, CANAL STREET, PRECIOUS METTLE, AT ANY PRICE, OF BOYS AND MEN, DEVIL'S DOMINOES, and BAREFOOT TO JERUSALEM, and his TV credits include CHICAGO MED, CHICAGO PD, CRISIS, CHICAGO CODE, SHAMELESS, EMPIRE, OUR LITTLE SCIENCE STORY, LEVERAGE, and THE BEAST..

## **ABOUT IRISH THEATRE OF CHICAGO**

Since 1993, the Irish Theatre Of Chicago (formerly Seanachai Theatre Company) has been Chicago's only Equity company dedicated to presenting works that reflect the rich history and culture of Ireland. With an emphasis on honoring Ireland's strong tradition of storytelling, ITC focuses on empowering the ensemble and production teams to create works that reflect the artistic voices of the entire community. ITC holds seven Jeff Awards, seven After Dark Awards, the Osborn Award for Best Emerging Playwright (Coby Goss – *MARKED TREE*) and the Stanley Drama Award for Best New Play, (Ann Noble – *THE PAGANS*).

***More information at [www.irishtheatre.org](http://www.irishtheatre.org)***

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