



**Irish Theatre of Chicago Brings Their Hit Production of
MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE
To Notre Dame University's DeBartolo Arts Center
November 1, 2, and 3, 2018
Written by Geraldine Aron
Directed by Siiri Scott**

CHICAGO (October 11, 2018) – **Irish Theatre of Chicago**, 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 one-woman show **MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE** to the **DeBartolo Center** (100 Performing Arts Center, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556), **November 1, 2, and 3, 2018**. Tickets are available at <https://dpactickets.nd.edu>

Written by leading Irish playwright **Geraldine Aron**, and directed by **Siiri Scott**, Notre Dame's Head of Acting and Directing in the Department of Film, Television and Theatre, **MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE** stars ITC's **Barbara Figgins**, reprising her performance in the hilarious and moving story of newly single Angela who must navigate a world full of sexist divorce lawyers, disappointing "Lonely Hearts" dates, and unhelpful help-line counselors to carve out a new life for herself and her trusty dog, Axl. Hailed by critics as "a tour de force" and "so dynamic that the stage feels populated by many rather than one," actress Barbara Figgins received a prestigious Jeff-Award Nomination for Best Solo performance for her work creating the 22 characters that inhabit the play.

"I'm so thrilled to be able to share this funny, heartwarming story with the DeBartolo audience," states Figgins. "Even though it's centered around a divorce, the play is about so much more - how life throws challenges at all of us, what it means to learn to love yourself as you grow older and wiser, and why you should never EVER get a tattoo on your stomach."

The production team for **MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE** includes **Merje Veski** (scenic and props design), **Cat Wilson** (lighting design), **Adam Smith** (sound design), and **Jen Bukovsky** (stage manager). The production includes original music by **Keira Byrne**, **Eric Hollander**, and **Noel Rice**, recorded and performed by **Keira Byrne** and **Eric Hollander**.

PRODUCTION DETAILS:

Title: **MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE**

Playwright: **Geraldine Aron**

Director: **Siiri Scott**

Starring: **Barbara Figgins** as Angela

Location: **The DeBartolo Center**, 100 Performing Arts Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Dates: **Thursday, November 1, Friday, November 2, and Saturday, November 2, 2018**

Curtain Times: **7:30 pm**

Tickets: **\$27. Students \$15**. Tickets are available at <https://dpactickets.nd.edu>

BIOGRAPHIES

Geraldine Aron (Playwright) was born in Galway but spent most of her adult life in Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. She now divides her time between Cape Town and London. Aron is the author of twelve plays produced for television and radio, and *Toscanini*, a screenplay directed by Franco Zeffirelli. Plays not listed in the Irish Playography include *Mr McConkey's Suitcase*, *Zombie*, *Mickey Kannis Caught My Eye*, *Same Old Moon*, *Spider*, *The Donahue Sisters*, *The Stanley Parkers* and *Joggers*. Her hugely acclaimed one-woman show, *My Brilliant Divorce*, has been performed all over the world and was nominated for an Olivier Award in 2004. She is also the past winner of two Edinburgh Fringe Firsts, for *Bar and Ger* and *A Galway Girl*, respectively.

Siiri Scott (Director) is a graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul, a company member of the international Japanese Noh theatre, Theatre Nohgaku, and is the Head of Acting and Directing at the University of Notre Dame in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre. Chicago work includes Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, and Irish Theatre of Chicago where she directed *THE WEIR* and their Jeff-nominated production of *MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE*. Regional work includes The Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, First Stage Theater in Milwaukee, and Babylon Theatre, Book-it Repertory Theatre, and Seattle Children's Theatre in Washington. Siiri's voiceover work appears in museum installations, commercials, and audiobooks. TV work includes *CITY OF ANGELS* for CBS and two years as host of the KidsWB TV Network for WCIU.

Barbara Figgins (Angela) is an ensemble member with Irish Theater Of Chicago, where appearances include *IN PIGEON HOUSE*, *THE SHADOW OF A GUNMAN*, *DANCING AT LUGHNASA*, *OUR FATHER*, *SCENES FROM THE BIG PICTURE*, *WAR*, *BOLD GIRLS*, and *MY BRILLIANT DIVORCE*, for which she received a Best Solo Performance Jeff Award nomination. Recent credits include *BARBECUE* at Steppenwolf's 1700 space with Strawdog Theatre Company, the world premiere of Conor McNamara's *SCAPEGOAT; OR WHY THE DEVIL ALWAYS LOVED US* with New Colony, the world premiere of Ike Holter's *EXIT STRATEGY* with Jackalope Theatre and *HEDDA GABLER* at Writers Theatre of Glencoe. Other Chicago work includes *THE HISTORY BOYS* at Timeline which received the Jeff Award for Best Ensemble, as well as work with Victory Gardens, Remy Bumppo, Folio Theatre, Oak Park Festival Theatre, and Next Theatre, among others. Television credits include Showtime's *THE CHI* and NBC's *CHICAGO JUSTICE*.

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 irishtheatreofchicago.org

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