

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Theatre presents

J.M. Synge's

The Playboy of the Western World

co-adapted by Bisi Adigun and Roddy Doyle

DIRECTOR

David Janowiak

COSTUME DESIGN

Rachel Engstrom

LIGHTING DESIGN

Sol Delgado*

SCENIC DESIGN

Bruce Auerbach

SOUND DESIGN

Justin Dominguez-Zamarripa*

STAGE MANAGER

RJ Binford

*denotes current Theatre student

Black Box Theater
Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts
Thu Feb 13- Sat Feb 15, 2025 | 7:30 pm
Sat Feb 15 & Sun Feb 16, 2025 | 2 pm
coaa.charlotte.edu

The College of Arts + Architecture is proud to offer closed captioning for this performance in both English and Spanish, available on your smartphone.

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La Facultad de Artes + Arquitectura se enorgullece de ofrecer subtítulos para esta actuación tanto en inglés como en español, disponibles en su teléfono inteligente.

Conéctese a la red WiFi “NinerWiFi-Guest” y escanee el código QR a continuación para acceder a los subtítulos.



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American Sign Language Interpretation on Sunday 2/16 at 2pm is courtesy of LanguageLine Solutions.

Video and/or audio recording is strictly prohibited.

The Playboy of the Western World

co-adapted by Bisi Adigun and Roddy Doyle

Setting

Western Dublin, 2007

Act I:

Near midnight

Act II:

The next morning

10-minute intermission

Act III:

Immediately following Act II

Cast

PEGEEN	Kat Fletcher
SEAN	Zack Mahon
MICHAEL	Christian Casper*
CHRISTOPHER	Sean Chavis
JIMMY	Spencer Addison*
PHILLY	Connor May
WIDOW QUIN	Lauren Barnette
MALOMO	Ron McClelland**
HONOR	Liz Posnanski
SARAH	Avery Bornac
SUSAN	Alex Tolar
RADIO VOICE HOST	David Janowiak
RADIO GUEST #1	Astrid Reed-Kennedy
RADIO GUEST #2	Ryan Epp
STAND IN FOR MALOMO	Amari Archie
STAND IN FOR PEGEEN	Liz Posnanski

*Guest Artist, **Theatre Faculty

Special Thanks

Studio Cultivate

The Workman's Friend Irish Pub, The Degenerate

Jennifer Auerbach

Director's Note

The play that you're about to watch is an adaptation of a firmly established masterpiece of modern Irish drama, originally written in 1907 by Irish playwright J.M. Synge.

On opening night in 1907, the play was met with riots and controversy. The play was seen as offensive to Irish culture and public morals. It was disrupted by angry audience members who hissed, shouted, and stamped their feet. The riots spread out from the Abbey Theatre in Dublin and involved protesters, police, and clashes with Synge's supporters.

100 years later in 2007, Irish born playwright Roddy Doyle and Bisi Adigun, a Nigerian/Irish immigrant and the founder and Artistic Director of the first African theatre company in Ireland, Arambi Productions, collaborated to create a modern adaptation of Synge's world classic. It was presented at the original Abbey theatre in Dublin approximately a century after the original.

The adaptation was reset in West Dublin in 2007, a place and time of extreme drug and crime-related violence and racial upheaval. The titular character was re-imagined as a Nigerian immigrant, fleeing an apparent crime he committed in his homeland.

This modern adaptation of a world classic retains the play's focus on themes of mythmaking, the power of storytelling, and the complexities of (Irish) identity, but goes a step further. It mines contemporary themes of seeming vs. being in a media-centered and social media world, themes of xenophobia, and themes of immigration-related racism.

The play's adaptors took an old story and re-created it for a modern-day audience. They strove to maintain the language, intent, pathos, and humor of the original and give it fresh life that speaks to contemporary audiences and issues.

I hope it speaks to you as it does to me. I hope it entertains, enlightens, and causes you to both laugh and reflect on these topics.

On a personal note: As the newly hired Chair of Theatre at UNC Charlotte, this is the first time I have had the chance to work with this talented and eager group of students on what is, by all accounts, an exceptionally challenging piece of theatre. It's been a wonderfully daunting, inspirational, fun, and unexpected dance—a jig and reel—and I am grateful for the chance to create with this amazing group of young artists, as well as to collaborate with the faculty and staff that comprise UNC Charlotte's Theatre Department and Production Arts and Operations Unit. I am humbled, thankful, and grateful.

Sláinte,
David Janowiak

Meet the Adaptor

In conjunction with the Theatre Department's February 2025 production of *The Playboy of the Western World, A Modern Adaptation* (by Bisi Adigun and Roddy Doyle of J.M. Synge's 1907 world classic of the same title). The Department of Theatre will host a live discussion with one of the primary adaptors, Bisi Adigun, who is a Nigerian born playwright and theatre maker. Mr. Adigun will be joining the discussion virtually via Zoom. The discussion will focus on the process of updating and adapting a world classic for modern audiences.

The live discussion, led by Theatre Chair David Janowiak, will take place on the set of the production during the run of the show, on Friday, February 14 from 1-2 pm in the Black Box Theater in Robinson Hall on the campus of UNC Charlotte. The event is free and can seat up to 75 people on a first-come-first-served basis.

For questions about this and other companion events, please contact David Janowiak: djanowi1@charlotte.edu

About the Department of Theatre

Our Mission

The Department of Theatre provides a student-focused liberal arts education that develops theatre artists, scholars and teachers to investigate current best practices and emerging entrepreneurial methods in theatre and other kinds of professional performance. Aligning with the university's open-access education, we integrate the values of ethical and informed community engagement and innovative creative research practices.

For more information about our mission and vision, please visit our website available via the QR code below.



Support the Department of Theatre

The Theatre Department Fund supports student welfare, class supplies, scholarship assistance, recruiting, lecture series, school-wide events, promotion, and related needs. To make a gift and impact our students, please scan the QR code below. Thank you!



Department of Theatre Faculty and Staff

David Janowiak, Chair

Gwennie Vichness, Office Administrator

Bruce Auerbach, Professor of Scenic and Lighting Design

Tom Burch, Associate Professor of Scenic Design

Rob Conkie, Robinson Distinguished Professor of Shakespeare

Lynne Conner, Professor of Theatre

CarlosAlexis Cruz, Professor of Physical Theatre

David Fillmore, Jr., Professor of Lighting Design, Associate Chair

Margarette Joyner, Visiting Assistant Professor of Costume Design

Meredith Magoun, Assistant Professor of Costume Design

Ron McClelland, Visiting Assistant Professor of Acting

Jay Morong, Senior Lecturer in Theatre (LBST and Film Studies)

Beth Murray, Associate Professor of Theatre Education

Mark Pizzato, Professor of Theatre and Film

Robin Witt, Professor of Directing

Jessica Bilgrad, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Jill Bloede, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, LBST Studies)

Marla Brown, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, Dramaturgy)

Raven Monroe, Adjunct Professor of Theatre

Production Team

PRODUCTION MANAGER	Hali Hutchison-Houk
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Matthew B. Fraiser
ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR	Meena Carr
PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN	Rick Moll
COSTUME LAB MANAGER	Christina Beam
COSTUME LAB SUPERVISOR	Rachel Engstrom
LIGHTING MENTOR	David Fillmore
SCENIC MENTOR	Tom Burch
SOUND MENTOR	Benjamin G. Stickels
STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR	Rachel Swenson Watkins
DIALECT COACH	Gretchen McGinty
FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER	Allison Collins
INTIMACY COORDINATOR	Carly McMinn
PAINT/PROPS TECHNICIAN	Noah Tepper
ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER	Adrian Ewens
ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER	Amy Chen
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS	Lydia Elder, Naomi Diaz
SPANISH SCRIPT TRANSLATION	Irene K. Nash, Glorian Hidalgo-Vega
CAPTIONING OPERATORS	Lydia Elder, Naomi Diaz
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR	Eric Grunwald
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR	Brett Buckoski
DECK CREW	Jackie Cooper
WARDROBE CREW	Krystopher-Nassayr Higgins, Izzy Oyler, Astrid Reed-Kennedy
COSTUME LAB TECHNICIANS	Max Martin, Ellie McCutchen, Astrid Reed-Kennedy
COSTUME PRACTICUM	Camille Alfonso, Susie Ayres, Jay Benckert, Joy Boakye, Sean Chavis, Ciel Davis, Angeli Keenan, Kris Le, Jinx Loftis, Eva Politis, Grace Richardson, Jeremy Serrano, Chaundra Spilman
LIGHTING LAB TECHNICIANS	RJ Evans, Krystopher-Nassayr Higgins, Rory Sheriff
LIGHTING LAB CREW	DJ Cook, Naomi Diaz, Kat Fletcher, Madison King

SCENIC CARPENTERS

Ryan Epp, Adrian Ewens,
Sandro Galvan, Gen Hoelscher,
Madison King, Braden Kneeshaw

SCENIC PRACTICUM

Amari Archie, Tevin Jessup

ROBINSON HALL TECHNICIANS

Ethan Barros, Caleb Basham,
Logan Bell, Lucy Burch,
Kayhe Duerson, Alex McLellan

PERFORMING ARTS AUDIO

TECHNICIAN

Sol Delgado

PATRON SERVICES REPS

Sommiya Brown, Alex Lozier,
Avery Pack, Leah Parker

CoA+A Production Arts and Operations

Dean Adams, Senior Associate Dean for Performing Arts

Hali Hutchison-Houk, Production Manager

Liz Paradis, Director of Audience Services

Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator

Liz Wooley, Performing Arts Operations Manager

Christina Beam, Costume Lab Manager

Meena Carr, Assistant Technical Director

Rachel Engstrom, Senior Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer

Matthew B. Fraiser, Senior Lecturer, Technical Director

Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Production Electrician

Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer

Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer, Asst. Production Manager

Rachel Swenson Watkins, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management

Dan Mulder, Technology Engineer

Rebekah Briles, Hazel Doherty, & Noah Tepper, Music Stage Managers

Tammy McNamara, Performing Arts House Management Supervisor

Sarah Oguntomilade, Performing Arts House Manager

Please join us for the next
Department of Theatre production!

Measure for Measure

by William Shakespeare

Thu Mar 20- Sat Mar 22 | 7:30 pm

Sat Mar 22 & Sun Mar 23 | 2:00 pm

Anne R. Belk Theater

**Please scan the QR code below to join our mailing list and
receive information about upcoming events in the CoA+A!**



College of Arts + Architecture

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Jazz Combos & Ensemble	Mon Feb 17 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Wind Ensemble	Wed Feb 19 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Orchestra	Thu Feb 20 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Symphonic Band	Fri Feb 21 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater

MARCH

Alan Yamamoto & Chamber Ensemble Faculty & Friends Concert Series	Tue Mar 11 7:30 pm Rowe Recital Hall
University Chorale	Sat Mar 15 3:00 pm First Presbyterian Church, Concord
<i>Measure for Measure</i> by William Shakespeare	Thu Mar 20- Sat Mar 22 7:30 pm Sat Mar 22 & Sun Mar 23 2:00 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Gospel Choir	Mon Mar 31 7:30 pm Rowe Recital Hall

APRIL

Mira Frisch Faculty & Friends Concert Series	Tue Apr 1 7:30 pm Rowe Recital Hall
Spring Dance Concert	Thu Apr 10- Sat Apr 12 7:30 pm Sun Apr 13 2:00 pm Anne R. Belk Theater

