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EVERYMAN PALACE THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2008 SUMMER PROGRAMME

CLASSICS FROM FLANN O'BRIEN, ENDA WALSH AND NOEL COWARD

PREMIERE OF NEW PLAY BY PATRICK TALBOT

SPONSOR-A-SEAT SCHEME LAUNCHED AS THEATRE CLOSES FOR REFURBISHMENT

Thursday 1st May 2008 – The Everyman Palace Theatre heralds the beginning of summer with three great classics, news of a new play by its director, Patrick Talbot, and the launch of a sponsor-a-seat scheme.

The season commences with one of The Irish Times' top five productions of 2007, ***The Third Policeman***. **Blue Raincoat Theatre Company's** vibrant stage version of **Flann O'Brien's** seminal novel opens at Everyman Palace Theatre for four nights from May 19th. Adapted by **Jocelyn Clarke**, the production has won critical praise for its success in bringing ***The Third Policeman*** to the stage for the first time.

Enda Walsh's groundbreaking play ***Disco Pigs*** opens at the Everyman Palace Theatre from June 3rd for two weeks. First produced in Cork in 1996 the play was immediately hailed as a masterpiece, winning praise from around the globe on its international tour. ***Disco Pigs*** is a realistic look at the unrealistic world of two rampaging Cork teenagers. Featuring **Shane Casey** as Pig and **Samantha Heaney** as Runt, the production is directed by **Tony McCleane-Fay**.

Private Lives opens from 25th June for a three week run at the Everyman Palace Theatre. **Noel Coward's** enduringly funny play is set amidst the glamorous world of 1930's upper social classes. Written in just four days, ***Private Lives*** has long been noted as Coward's artistic triumph. The Everyman Palace Theatre is delighted to host a staging of this elegant comedy, directed by **Mary Curtin**.

The final presentation of the summer season will be the premiere of a new play, ***Rita Dunne*** by Patrick Talbot, Director of the Everyman Palace Theatre. ***Rita Dunne*** tells the story of a high profile Dublin family. Though separated from Taoisach William Dunne for many years, Rita has always felt that her identity has been defined by her association with him. When scandal threatens the Taoisach, Rita is torn between loyalty to the father of her daughter and the prospect of real independence for herself. ***Rita Dunne*** previews in Ballymun's **Axis Centre** on the 3rd, 4th, 5th July before opening in **The Civic Theatre** in Tallaght from 9th July with a run in the Everyman Palace Theatre from 21st July.

The Everyman Palace Theatre launches its ***Every Seat Tells a Story*** scheme this summer. As the Victorian playhouse closes for refurbishment, patrons are invited to sponsor a seat in the auditorium whilst sharing their memories of the Everyman to be recorded in an archive. The theatre will undergo refurbishment from 17th August until 14th September, where brand new seating will be installed.

The summer season brochure is now available. More details about the programme can be found on www.everymanpalace.com. For more details about the ***Every Seat Tells a Story*** scheme, contact Eimear O'Herlihy eimear@everymanpalace.com 021 4557821

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