1900 the Pianist on the Ocean

The Civic Theatre, Tallaght in association with Common Currency Theatre Company presents the world premiere of

1900 - The Pianist on the Ocean

By Alessandro Baricco Translated by Marella Boschi

Performed by Donal O'Kelly, Directed by Leticia Agudo, Music composed by Justin Carroll, Set & Costume Design by Emma Cullen, Lighting Design by Dermot O'Donnell

1900 – the Pianist on the Ocean is an engaging and beautiful story by the Italian contemporary writer Alessandro Baricco. Leticia Agudo, Common Currency's co-founder directs the world premiere of this English translation of Novecento.

It is the story of a great jazz pianist who is found as a new-born baby on a transatlantic ship on the first day of the 20th century and is "baptised" thus. 1900 is a man without parents, nationality or identity. Never setting foot ashore, his home is the sea and his language is the music he plays upon the ship's piano.

The narrator (Donal O'Kelly) is also a character in the story, a trumpet player in the ship's band and the pianist's only friend. He recreates the atmosphere on the ship, 1900's peculiar childhood; the different adventures that the narrator and 1900 go through; 1900's musical duel with New Orleans jazz legend Jelly Roll Morton; 1900's decision to leave the ship; and the re-encounter of 1900 and the narrator after the Second World War on the ship, which is about to be blown up with 1900 on it.

1900 – the Pianist on the Ocean features a five piece live jazz ensemble performing a specially commissioned score by composer Justin Carroll.

1900 – the Pianist on the Ocean tours Ireland from November – February 2001 to Clonmel, Limerick, Tralee, Galway, Letterkenny, Cork, Portlaoise and Dun Laoghaire.

Tour Dates

Civic Theatre 6th – 11th November & 27th November – 2nd December 2000

Regal Theatre, Clonmel Tuesday 21 – Saturday 25 November 2000

Siamsa Tíre, Tralee Tuesday 5th - Saturday 9th December 2000

Belltable Arts Centre, Limerick Tuesday 12th – Saturday 16th December 2000

Town Hall Theatre, Galway Wednesday 10 – Friday 12th January 2001

An Grianán, Letterkenny January 17 – 20 2001

Everyman Palace, Cork January 22 – 27 2001

Mullingar Arts Centre January 29 – 31 2001

Dunamaise Theatre, Portlaoise February 1 – 3 2001

Pavilion Theatre, Dun Laoghaire February 6 – 10 2001