**Press Release – February 2014

Gúna Nua Theatre in association with**

**Civic Theatre**presents

***FAITH world premiere***

***“Who do you trust, when you can’t trust yourself”?***

**By Paul Meade**

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***Funded & supported by The Arts Council of Ireland***

DIRECTED by **David Horan**

DESIGNby **Maree Kearns**

LIGHTING by **Mark Galione**

SOUND by **Carl Kennedy**

CAST **Don Wycherley, Michael Glenn Murphy & Jennifer O’Dea**

FURTHER INFORMATION **::** [**www.civictheatre.ie**](http://www.civictheatre.ie) **/** [**www.gunanua.com**](http://www.gunanua.com)

***Award-winning Gúna Nua Theatre Company takes the ‘cold feet’ out of theatre by staging a hot new drama with a thrilling twist***

*OPENS –* ***Civic Theatre Tallaght, March 4- 9***

*TOURS –* ***An Grianan, Letterkenny / Mullingar Arts Centre/ Pavilion Arts Centre, Dun Laoghaire / Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge / Axis, Ballymun / Roscommon Arts Centre / Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda / Mermaid Arts Centre, Bray*** *– until March 29*

***Gúna Nua* Theatre** **Company** in association with **Civic Theatre, Tallaght** premieres and tours Paul Meade’s new drama which explores one man’s struggle to find himself in post-boom Ireland. The play tours to 9 venues opening at **Civic Theatre Tallaght March 4 – 9, touring nationwide until March 29.**

Next month marks 15 years of the Civic Theatre and together with award-winning *Gúna Nua Theatre*Company, they are celebrating this landmark by producing a new work, *Faith,* written by Paul Meade. The play tells the story of Michael, a Dublin salesman who has recently been made redundant, played by actor **Don Wycherley**, well known for his portrayal of Father Cyril McDuff in the TV hit series Father Ted – Wycherley acts out a thrilling role with an interesting twist of fate.

In the play, Michael battles to cope with the stresses of redundancy and a new role as a stay-at-home husband. *Faith* follows his story after he meets charismatic friend, Chris [Michael Glenn Murphy] who offers him some new hope in friendship and a new job. However, as this male bonding develops into impromptu games of football and discussions on the meaning of life, back at home there’s still a mortgage to be paid and a family to be looked after. Michael’s new-found optimism and low-paid employment don't wash well at home with wife Maeve [Jennifer O’Dea]. He soon finds himself with a serious dilemma. The scene is set for confrontation between Michael's domestic responsibilities and the survival of his sense of self, particularly his sanity.

With a stellar Irish cast supporting Wycherley, who’s other roles include Raymond in *Bachelors Walk* and Fr. Aidan O'Connell in *Ballykissangel, Joel Schumacher’s Veronica Geurin and Neil Jordan’s Michael Collins*; Wycherley is accompanied on stage by **Michael Glenn Murphy** one of Ireland’s well known stage actors who has recently appeared as Capulet in the award-winning director Conor Hanratty’s version of *Romeo and Juliet* for Second Age Theatre Company. TV roles include STV’s *Taggart* and BBC’s Silent Witness. Playing Michael’s wife Maeve is actress **Jennifer O’Dea** known for her RTE film role in The Officer from France starring Adrian Dunbar, BBC NI’s Jumpers and hit TV series Ballykissangel.

Darkly comic and at other times deeply unsettling *Faith* sets out to explore one man's psychological trauma and confusion in post-recession Ireland and is not to be missed.

**NOTES FOR THE EDITOR**

* *Faith* was commissioned by the Civic Theatre, under the artist in residency scheme of the Arts Council of Ireland.
* To date Civic Theatre has produced or co-produced 26 plays, mostly involving new Irish writing.

Civic Theatre & Gúna Nua production of ***Little Gem*** by Elaine Murphy

Winner: Carol Tambor Best of Edinburgh Award
*Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2009*

Winner: Fishamble Award Best New Irish Writing
*Dublin Fringe Festival 2008*

Winner: Best Female Performance
*Dublin Fringe Festival 2008*

Winner: BBC Northern Ireland Drama Award
in association with the Stewart Parker Trust 2009

Nominated: Best New Play
*Irish Times Theatre Awards 2009*

Nominated: Best Actress (Anita Reeves)
*Irish Times Theatre Awards 2009*

Nominated: Best Actress (Anita Reeves)
*The Stage Awards 2009*

Civic Theatre & Gúna Nua production of ***The Importance of Being Earnest***
Nominated: Best supporting actress (Eithne Woodcock)
*Irish Times Theatre Awards 2002*

Civic Theatre & Gúna Nua production of  ***The Goddess of Liberty***
Winner: BBC Northern Ireland Radio Drama Award
in association with the Stewart Parker Trust 2012

**BOOKING & LISTINGS INFORMATION:**

**CIVIC THEATRE, TALLAGHT**

Previews Monday 3 March | 8.00pm | €10

Opens Tuesday 4 March| 8.00pm |  €18 / €16

Runs until Saturday 8 March | 8.00pm  | €18 / €16

**Box Office 01 462 7077 |** [**www.civictheatre.ie**](http://www.civictheatre.ie)

**AN GRIANAN, Letterkenny, Donegal**

Runs Thursday 13 March | 8.00pm | €15 / €12

**Box Office – 07491 20777 |** [***www.angrianan.com***](http://www.angrianan.com)

**MULLINGAR ARTS CENTRE, Westmeath**

Runs Saturday 15 March | 8.00pm | €18 / €16

**Box Office – 044 93 47777 |** [**www.mullingarartscentre.ie**](http://www.mullingarartscentre.ie)

**PAVILION THEATRE, Dun Laoghaire**

Runs Wednesday 19 December | 8.00pm | €18 / €16

**Box Office – 01 231 2929  |** [**www.paviliontheatre.ie**](http://www.paviliontheatre.ie/)

**RIVERBANK ARTS CENTRE, Newbridge, Co. Kildare**

Runs Thursday 20 March | 8.00pm| €16 / €14

**Box Office – (045) 448 327 |** [***www.riverbank.ie***](http://www.riverbank.ie/)

**AXIS, Ballymun**

Runs Friday 21 & Saturday 22 March | 8.00pm | €18 / €16

**Box Office – 01 883 2100 | www.axis-ballymun.ie**

**ROSCOMMON ARTS CENTRE**

Runs Tuesday 25 March | 8.00pm | €18 / €16

**Box Office – 090 66 25824 | www.roscommonartscentre.ie**

**DROICHEAD ARTS CENTRE, Drogheda**

Runs Thursday 27 March | 8.00pm | €18 / €15

**Box Office – 041 983 3946 | www.droichead.com**

**MERMAID ARTS CENTRE, Bray**

Runs Friday 28 & Saturday 29 March | 8.00pm | €16 / €14

**Box Office – 01 272 4030 |** [**www.mermaidartscentre.ie**](http://www.mermaidartscentre.ie)

**www.civictheatre.ie /** [**www.gunanua.com**](http://www.gunanua.com)

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**FOR FURTHER MEDIA INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
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