

THE EVERYMAN PRESENTS

# The Summer I Robbed a



by Mark Doherty  
Directed by Sophie Motley

Based on the  
best selling book by  
David  
O'Doherty

THE  
EVERYMAN



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

the arts  
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## A NOTE FROM THE WRITER

A year or two back, Sophie Motley, then Artistic Director of The Everyman, phoned. Wouldn't it be a great idea, she suggested, to adapt David O'Doherty's book, *The Summer I Robbed a Bank*, for the stage? No, I replied. It would not. In fact, it would be almost impossible.

But here it is!

The story, set in Achill, is a brilliant adventure starring a bank on wheels, sideways rain, two smart kids and plenty of sheep. After much head-scratching and many bad drafts, I finally handed over the script to Sophie. She then enlisted the help of the best theatre people around; set and lighting designers, sound designers, video guys and four great actors. We're all very proud and excited to present, for the first time ever, the WORLD premiere of *The Summer I Robbed a Bank*.

Put on your seat belts! We hope you enjoy the show.

Mark Doherty

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I read David O'Doherty's brilliant book when it came out in 2021. Well, actually, I listened to him read it to me as an audiobook. I'd just started working at The Everyman, we were mid lockdown, and all the children around me really, really needed real life adventures. I could imagine the characters so clearly, see Achill and the adventures of Rex and Kitty so clearly, that I felt it must somehow be able to work as a play.

Enter Aideen Howard at The Ark, who thought it must be a good idea as well. We got in touch with David and his amazing playwright brother Mark Doherty to see if it could work. They were up for it! That was nearly 3 years ago. Mark worked his magic. He took away one shark and set us some big challenges in showing sheep, storms, bank vans on top of currachs live onstage.

Was it possible?

The team at The Everyman have let us try! We have taken a great story and added a dollop of Achill Island magic in the form of Neil O'Driscoll's wonderful illustrations, inserted a harmonica or two and some great pirate adjacent tunes from Arran. We also have loads of SJ's clouds and beaches, Vale's fantastic costumes and a cast of brilliant actors. Here we have what I truly believe is the ultimate summer adventure. We've had so much fun making this play, we've laughed and laughed, had the odd sad moment and met more sheep than I can ever explain. I really hope you enjoy it as much as we have!



Sophie Motley

# CREDITS

## CAST

### Bryan Quinn

Uncle Derm

### Damian Kearney

Ronan / Boom-Boom / Pointy / Róisín / Crummey

### Orla Scally

Kitty

### Stephen O'Leary

Rex

## CREATIVE TEAM

### Writer

Mark Doherty

Adapted from the book by David O'Doherty

### Director

Sophie Motley

### Associate Director

Katrina Foley

### Lx and Set Designer

Sarah Jane Shiels

### Video Designer and Illustrator

Neil O'Driscoll

### Costume Designer

Valentina Gambardella

### Sound Designer

Arran MacGabhann

### Movement Consultant

Emily Terndrup

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Aideen Howard and The Ark, Dublin  
Cork City Council and St. Luke's Crypt  
Chloe O'Reilly  
Fionula Linehan  
Julie Maguire  
Kwaku Fortune  
West Cork Literary Festival  
Niamh O'Donnell  
Rosie O'Regan  
Jack Phelan  
Minna Motley  
Arthur Kearney

## PRODUCTION TEAM

### Senior Producer

Naomi Daly

### Production Manager

Ian Brown

### Line Producer

Aoife Clarke

### Stage Manager

Gill McNamara

### Assistant Stage Manager

Molly Foley

### Chief LX

Patrick Lehane

### Video Technician

Laura Rainsford

### Production Assistant Intern

Sarah Knoche

### Stage Management Intern

Lotta Vainionpaa

### Publicists

Kearney Melia Barker Communications

### Photographer

Darragh Kane

### Videographer

EPIC Productions

### Graphic Designer

Coolgrey

### Artwork Illustrator

Neil O'Driscoll

## ACCESS PERFORMANCES

### Irish Sign Language Interpreter

Ray Greene

### Audio Describer and Touch Tour Facilitator

Bríd Ní Ghruagáin



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS WITH DAVID O'DOHERTY

## Why do you like writing books for children?

I love to try to write stories that kids – maybe kids who aren't into books yet – might pick up and suddenly want to read the next page. And then the page after that. I love the idea of keeping kids awake later than they had intended. I love the thought of a parent seeing the light still on under a kid's door and going in to find they are reading a story of mine.

## Is it hard to write an entire book and what keeps you motivated?

The first thing you need is a really, really good idea, and one of those doesn't come around very often. Then, usually the writing comes pretty easily. The problem is my other job: telling jokes to grown-ups late at night. Sometimes a tour or a month at the Edinburgh Fringe can disrupt the writing. But then, it's something I really look forward to getting back to.

## What books do you like to read?

I went to university with Paul Murray and I always look forward to his new book. I enjoy lots of other Irish writers – Doireann Ní Ghríofa, Megan Nolan, I really like Susannah Dickey. Her latest book of poetry is great. As regards authors for children, I love Nadia Shireen and anything by Andy Stanton.

## Are you inspired by other writers? Who?

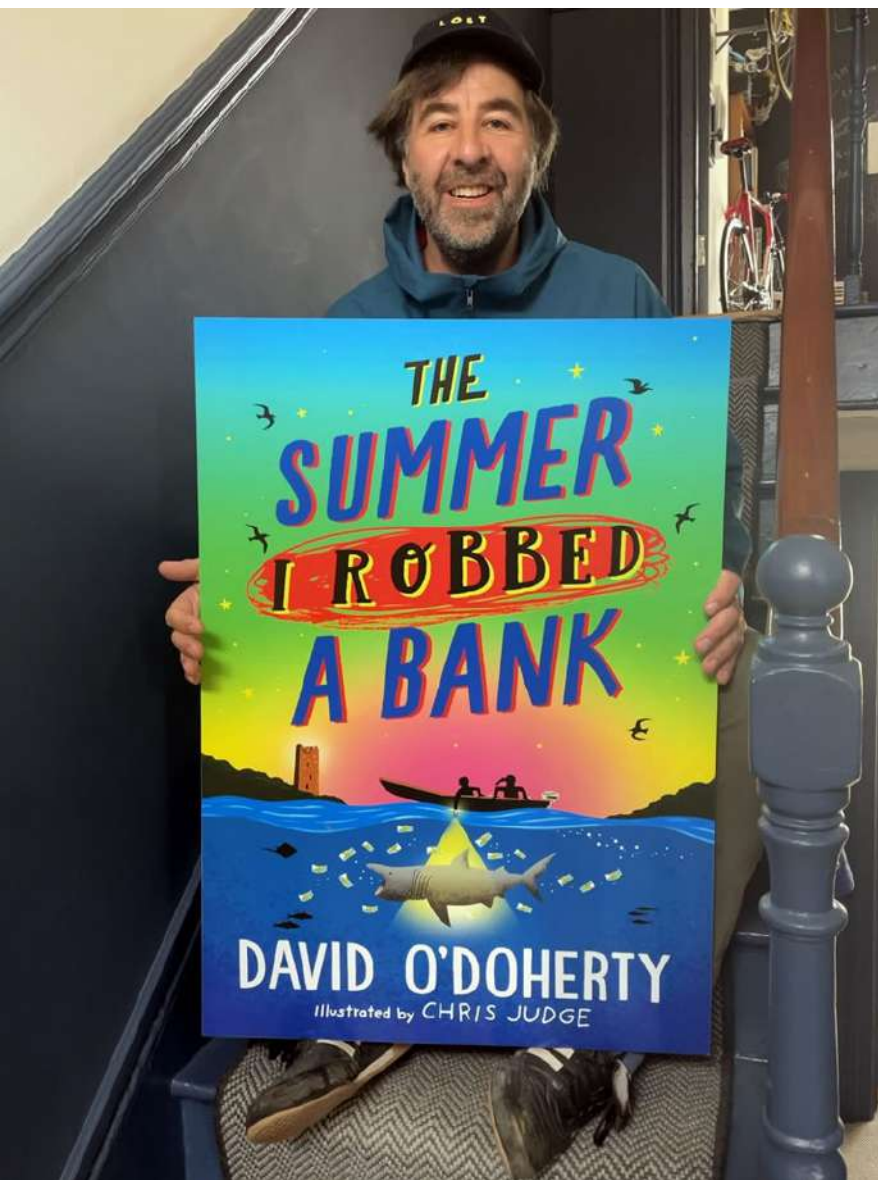
I've got to work with Chris Judge quite a bit and he has made me think more visually about the characters I'm writing. My all-time favourite children's author is Michael Rosen. His book *Quick, Let's Get Out of Here* was my favourite when growing up. I think I may have based my entire comedy career on that book.

***The Summer I Robbed a Bank* has been made into a stage production, congratulations! If you were to star in this show, which character would you play and why?**

I think my acting might be so bad, it'd ruin the show. If I could act, I'd like to be the policeman, Sergeant Crummy. It's a small but vital part, and it would allow me to pretend to be a complete idiot.

**Tell us why we should read your book, *The Summer I Robbed a Bank*?**

I don't want to give too much away for people who haven't read it, but if you like (a) summers (b) robberies or (c) banks, then imagine a book that combines all three. That's my book.



# STORIES ON THE PAGE, STORIES ON THE STAGE

BY CHILDREN'S BOOK IRELAND

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*The Summer I Robbed a Bank* is a gloriously funny book (I mean, the main character is going to an island for the summer and he's afraid of water!) that's full of characters that you feel like you could meet in the real world. Rex has a lot going on in his life on the mainland, because his parents are divorcing and he's not really sure what the future looks like. But that means he deserves an adventure, and his Uncle Derm and new friend Kitty are more than up to that challenge! The best books can give you a window into someone else's life, to help you see that our differences are what make us so interesting. And the best books can also hold up a mirror so you can see yourself in them, so you know that you're never on your own. Books like *The Summer I Robbed a Bank* do something else that's really important, though ... they show us the comedic value of sheep!

There are as many different ways to read a book as there are people in the world. To say it another way, no one will read a book the way you will, even if you're reading the exact same book at the exact same time. That's because how we read is connected to who we are. All of our memories and our experiences, all of our hopes and dreams, what we like and what we don't like – all of that goes into the way you read and makes you a reader.

When you read a book, you bring the story to life with your imagination. If you think about it, the book can't exist without you, the reader. Without you and your imagination, a book would just be words on a page. So, how do you, as a member of the audience, bring a play to life? Does a play need an audience full of people with imagination in the same way that a book needs just one person with an imagination?





If there are (literally!) billions of ways to read a book, is it the same when you watch a play? Is the person sitting next to you in the audience seeing the same play you are? Or are they seeing the same play at the same time but in their own unique way? Think about that. Chat with your friends about the things they see in the play, what they think is important. It can be so much fun to figure out what other people notice on the stage! When you're watching a play that used to be a book, there are lots of interesting things to look out for and to think about. First of all, you have the story of the book to compare the play to – is anything different? Was the story changed at all, and if it was, why do you think this happened? Some scenes from a book might be really easy and simple to put on a stage, but some might be really complicated. So, keep an eye on the backdrops and

the special effects – can you figure out how the theatre team has pulled them off? Are the characters how you imagined them, or do the actors do something unexpected that takes you by surprise?

And you're in a really cool spot – you've read the book and you've seen the play, so you've imagined it on the page and watched it on the stage! Do you see how important your imagination is when it comes to bringing a book or a play to life? You're a part of the magic – art can't happen without you.





## BRYAN QUINN

### Uncle Derm

Bryan Quinn has collaborated with the brothers (O')Doherty on many occasions in making work for younger audiences. With Mark, he has performed in *The Clerk and the Clown* and *Shhhhhhh* at Galway Arts Festival. With David, he worked on comedy inserts of *Scope*, a kids' science show for RTÉ. They also created *Saddled*, a play featuring live bicycle repair; it wasn't really for kids, but no one remembers that now.

Recently, Bryan appeared as Nana the dog and Seafood Thomas in Roddy Doyle's adaptation of J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan* at Dublin's Gate Theatre, and the previous year he may have done another Christmas show about a *Toy Show* or something at The Convention Centre Dublin.

His character Spanish Bernie continues to tour Irish festivals in The Horsebox Theatre, a tiny Victorian theatre with tiered seating for four.

### What's your favourite line from *The Summer I Robbed a Bank* and why?

"What if we're caught? What do I tell your mum? Sorry to hear you're breaking up sis, awwwful news, oh and by the way Rex is in prison."

Uncle Derm is panicking and he says a very funny thing. Sometimes serious things can sound hilarious.

### If – like Kitty and Rex – you came across some treasure, how would you spend it?

I'd buy as much time as I need to have a good time all of the time. And if there's any money left I'd buy half of Norway.

### What is your favourite book? Why?

*The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien. I read it when I was 8 or 9 and even though I was already incredibly grown up at that age, it was still the first time I'd heard of halfling heroes with hairy feet.

## DAMIAN KEARNEY

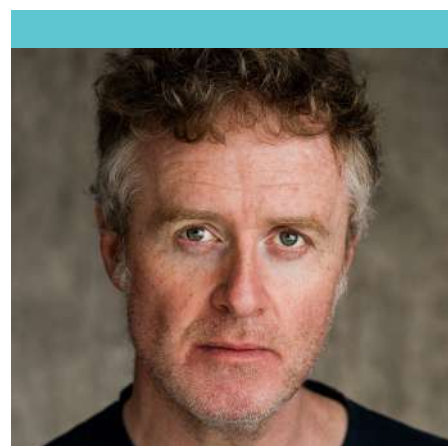
### Ronan / Boom-Boom / Pointy / Róisín / Crummey

Damian Kearney was born and reared in Cork. He has been an actor since 1994, when he was cutting the grass and a telephone call rudely interrupted to tell him he was needed at the One-Act Play Competition at Cork Arts Theatre.

He trained in London at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts and has since worked in theatre throughout Ireland and the UK.

His film credits include *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* and this year's IFTA-nominated short *Sound and Colour*. He's done a bunch of TV too, for example RTÉ's *Love/Hate*.

His career in crime started when a Garda shouted at him for being on top of a high roof and then another one got a bit short with him for being in a building site at nighttime. His criminal career reached its culmination in RTÉ's *Love/Hate*, when he played Martin the corrupt cop. Damian REALLY looks forward to learning how to rob a bank.



### What's your favourite line from *The Summer I Robbed a Bank* and why?

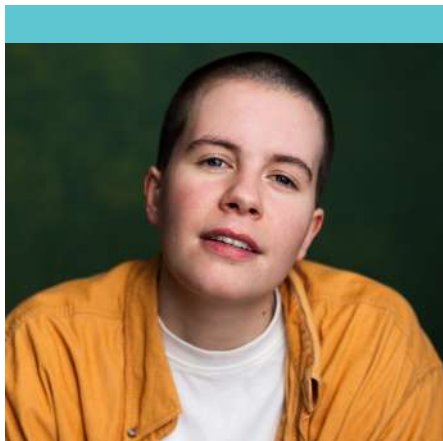
My favourite line in the play is Pointy shouting "Get out of here you wooly fools!" at the sheep. It reads to me like Pointy is urgently giving the sheep important advice in order to help them with their lives.

### If – like Kitty and Rex – you came across some treasure, how would you spend it?

If I came across treasure, I would spend a bit on a lovely old guitar and pay to make a record all about how intolerant people are very, very funny. I would give all the rest to schools to help them teach more art.

### What is your favourite book? Why?

My favourite book is *The English Patient* by Michael Ondaatje. It's very strange (I like this) and it says that, even though people are all different, the barriers that separate us are mostly made up.



## ORLA SCALLY

### Kitty

Originally from Clonakilty, Co. Cork, Orla Scally studied Drama Performance at Technological University Dublin and holds an MFA in Professional Acting from London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Theatre credits include *Peter Pan* (Gate Theatre), *Fun Home* (Gate Theatre) and *Strike!* (Southwark Playhouse).

### What's your favourite line from *The Summer I Robbed a Bank* and why?

"Perfect is boring"

Because it's true! Imperfection is fun, creative and freeing – that's much more interesting to me.

### If – like Kitty and Rex – you came across some treasure, how would you spend it?

I'd probably buy loads of horses and have stables near the sea. I'd let people come and interact with/ride the horses. If you haven't guessed by now I love horses. They make me happy and if my horses make other people happy too, that would be fantastic!

### What is your favourite book? Why?

*The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy. It's a beautiful book with beautiful illustrations and beautiful messages. I love it and it always helps me to ground if I feel overwhelmed.

## STEPHEN O'LEARY

### Rex

Originally from Cork, Stephen O'Leary graduated from the Gaiety School of Acting in 2014.

Stephen's TV and film credits include *Shoshanna*, directed by Michael Winterbottom (Revolution Films); Zak Dillon in *Fair City* (RTE); *Smalltown*, directed by Gerard Barrett (TV3); *Can't Cope, Won't Cope* (RTÉ) and *We Ourselves* (On Pointe Productions).

He has also acted in many plays in theatres all over the country.

### What's your favourite line from *The Summer I Robbed a Bank* and why?

"Yes I am. I wonder would you have a bone? Woof Woof!"

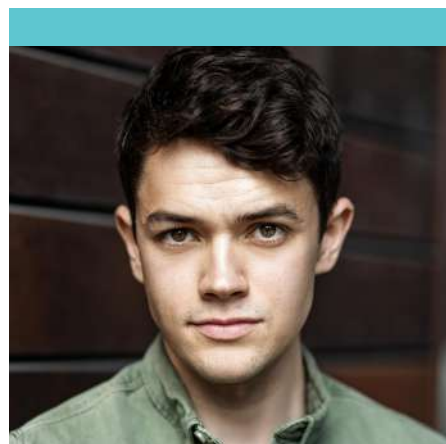
After seeing how Kitty deals with people making fun of her name, Rex finally finds a new and fun way to react to people constantly teasing him.

### If – like Kitty and Rex – you came across some treasure, how would you spend it?

Like Rex and his new-found love for adventure, I would spend it travelling the world and helping as many people as I could. And I'm sure Rex and Kitty would do the same!

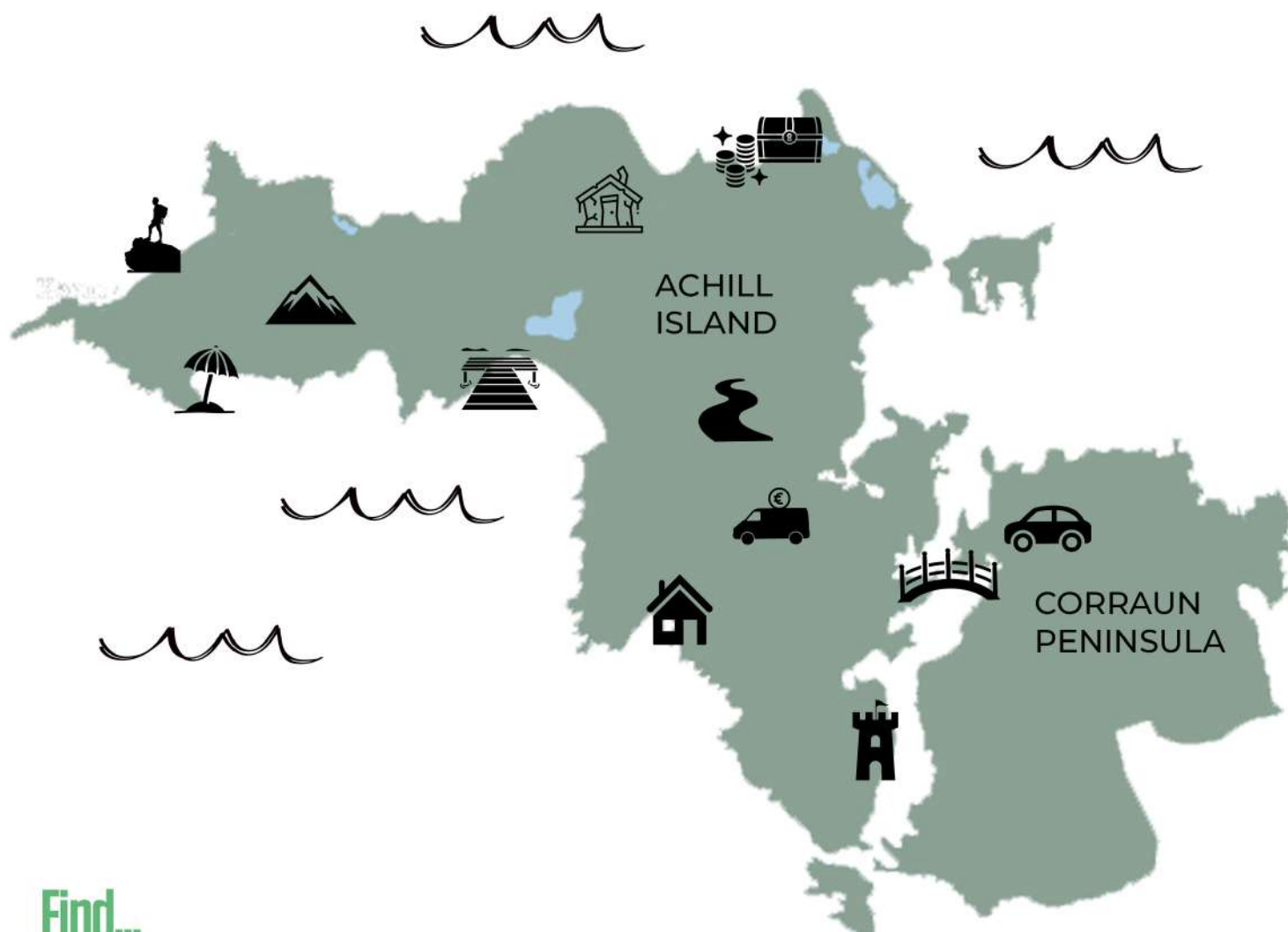
### What is your favourite book? Why?

I love the *Beartown* series by Fredrick Backman. It's about a small community that loves hockey and how they all pull together when disaster strikes.



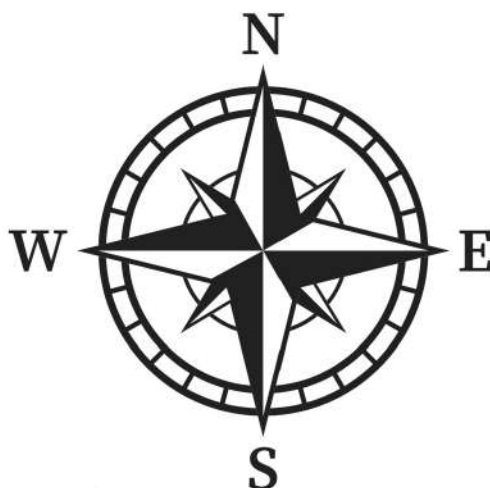


# TREASURE HUNT ON ACHILL ISLAND



## Find...

1. Derm's car
2. Michael Davitt Bridge
3. Grace O'Malley's Castle
4. Derm's House, Dooega
5. Mobile Bank
6. Bog Road
7. Pier at Purteen Harbour
8. Keem Beach
9. Croaghan Mountain
10. Highest Sea Cliffs in Europe
11. Deserted Village, Slievemore
12. Silver & Golden Beaches - Find your treasure!



# PIRATE CHARACTER

Design an outfit for your pirate character on the figure below and answer the questions!

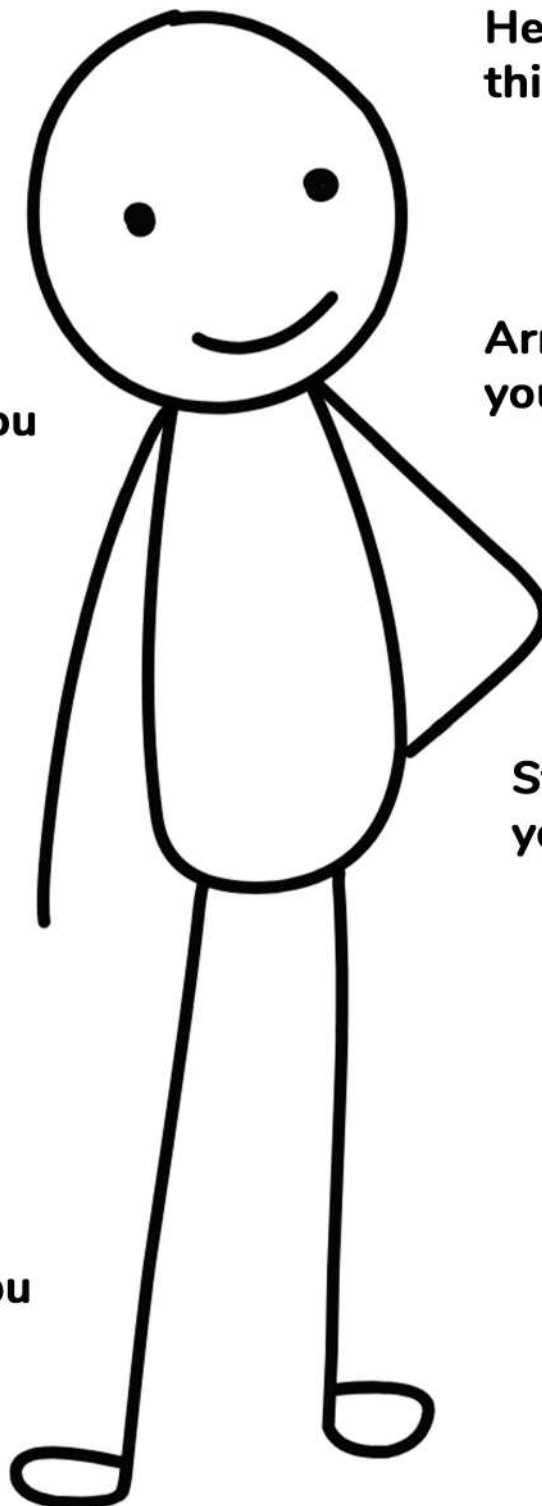
**Pirate name:**

**Age:**

**Special skill:**

**Heart: What do you love?**

**Feet: Where do you love to go?**



**Head: What are they thinking about?**

**Arms: What are your strengths?**

**Stomach: What are you afraid of?**

# THEATRE WORDS WORDSEARCH



D	E	C	K	A	I	S	E	M	U	T	S	O	C
S	L	A	S	R	A	E	H	E	R	R	A	T	O
A	T	C	L	T	G	G	N	I	K	I	R	T	S
P	F	L	Y	I	N	G	I	O	S	S	S	N	S
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M	N	E	E	R	A	T	S	M	P	E	C	O	R
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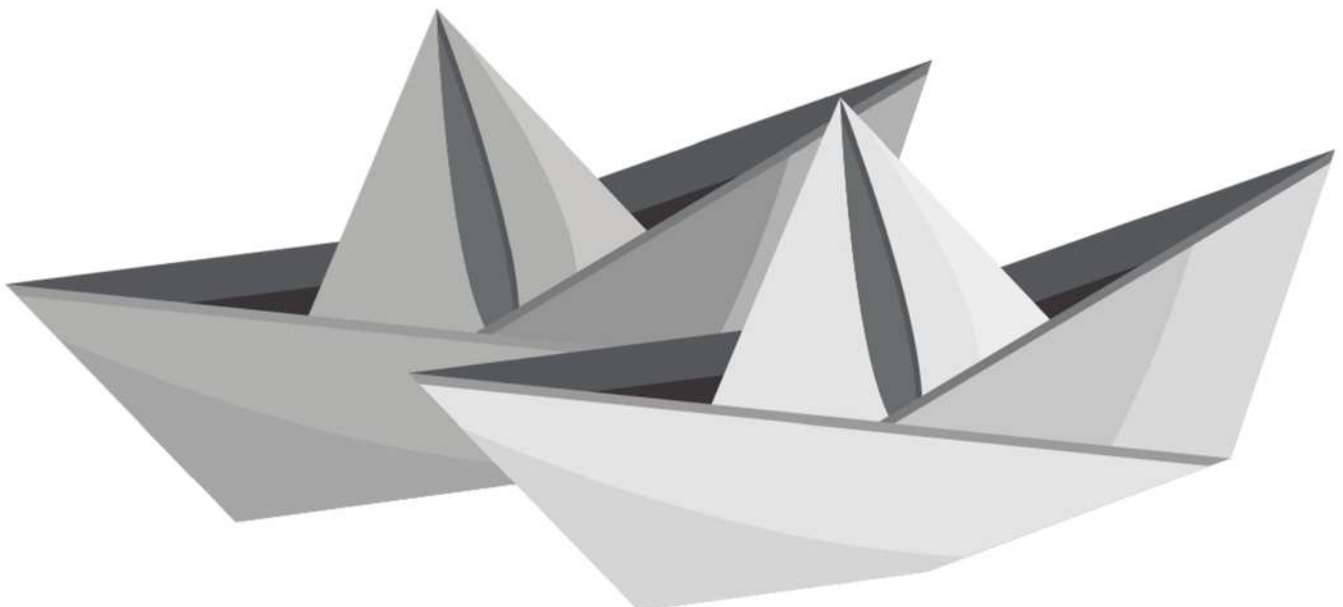
PLAY  
STALLS  
CREW  
CHARACTER  
BALCONY  
PERFORMANCE  
CAST  
REHEARSALS  
STAGE  
RIGGING  
DECK  
FLYING  
SET  
PROPS  
COSTUMES  
STRIKING  
ACTOR  
DIRECTOR



# MAKE AN ORIGAMI BOAT

1. Take a regular A4 page. To make it waterproof – use aluminium foil or colour one side of your page with crayon!
2. Fold the A4 page in half lengthways ‘hotdog style’. Make a neat crease along the paper.
3. Open the page, rotate it 90 degrees and fold it in half ‘hamburger style’.
4. Flip the paper so that the fold opens towards you. Then, fold down the top corners towards the middle of the paper while leaving some space at the bottom. Make sure the folds line up with the centre crease ; )
5. Bring the bottom of the paper up to fold it against both sides. This will make a paper hat!
6. Take the bottom corners and tuck them in. Now you have a triangle.
7. Pick up the triangle and turn it. Put your thumbs in the middle of the paper triangle. Pull the paper apart gently until it pops into a square/diamond shape.
8. Place your paper so that the bottom points of the diamond can fold upward. Fold up 1 corner, aligning it with the top corner. Then, flip the paper over and do the same thing to the other side.
9. Just like last time, pick up the triangle, rotate it 45 degrees. Then open up the bottom of your new triangle with your thumbs. Crease the paper along its edges so that it stays in shape.
10. Start at the top of the diamond, and gently pull the two sides apart. Crease the bottom of the folded out sides to make the boat a bit stronger. You may need to pull up the triangle inside the diamond while pulling apart the two sides. Try to keep the triangle inside the diamond sticking straight up as this will be your boat's "mast."
11. Float your origami boat!

Video instructions: [www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Ship](http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Ship)



# THE EVERYMAN TEAM

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## Interim Programme Director

Naomi Daly

## Interim Executive Manager

Christine O'Callaghan

## Box Office and Building Manager

Robbie Cotter

## Deputy Box Office Manager

Hilda Goold

## Senior Administrator

Maeve Scannell

## Development and Partnerships Manager

Anna Marie Coughlan

## Line Producer

Aoife Clarke

## Education and Community Manager

Maev O'Shea

## Education and Community Assistant

Vicky Daunt

## Marketing and Communications Manager

Ciara O'Riordan

## Deputy Marketing Manager

Eimear Kelly

## Marketing Executive

Émilie Péneau

## Marketing Assistant

Úna Hennessy

## Publicists

Kearney Melia Barker Communications

## Production Manager

Ian Brown

## Technical Manager

Mark Donovan

## Assistant Technical Manager

Freddy Regan

## Technical Staff

Seán Spillane, Patrick Lehane, Louis Ferris

## Bar Manager

Nathan Cassidy

## Assistant Bar Manager

Rachel Flynn

## Bar Staff

Ashling Bruton, Ciarán Conway, Cadhla Conway, Helen Cantwell, Ashiling Walsh

## Box Office Staff

Mona Walshe, Sinéad Lane, Yvonne O'Sullivan, Orla Crowley, Nicola Higgins, Benjamin Rupprecht

## FOH Managers

Pat Fleming, Ruby Moore, Karina Corbett

## FOH Assistants

Catherine Noonan, Aisling Dempsey, Bláithín Gallagher, Valerie Dahl

## Cleaning and Maintenance Staff

Louise Murray, Caroline O'Donovan, Angela Guermi, Paula Lynch, Damien Mullally, Gerard Leahy, Ivan Murray, Leah Kelleher Murray, Pamela Kelleher

## Thank you to all our FOH Voluntary Staff

# THE EVERYMAN BOARD

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Jim Corbett (Chairman), Breda Cashe, Cian Cotter, Cllr Deirdre Forde, David Gaffney, Conor Hanratty, David Hayes, Julia Lynes, Carla Manning, Aaron Mansworth, Sinéad McKenna, Mollie Molumby, Elaine O'Driscoll, Cllr Kenneth O'Flynn, Andrew Power and Anna Short.



# UPCOMING SHOWS FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART



**THE FAMILY SHARK SHOW**  
Sun 30 Jun, 11am & 2.30pm



**TRASH TEST DUMMIES CIRCUS**  
Sat 13–Sun 14 Jul, 4pm



**KABIN CREW: THE SOUND OF THE NORTHSIDE**  
Mon 22 Jul, 7pm



**CORK HERITAGE DAY:  
BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR AT THE EVERYMAN**  
Sat 17 Aug, 9am



**IT'S MAGIC! – WITH JOE THE MAGICIAN**  
Sun 8 Sep, 12pm & 3pm



**THE EVERYMAN PANTO  
RED RIDING HOOD**  
On sale soon!