



Young Critics Resource Suite

Sample Research Pack

Class by David Horan and Iseult Golden



Here you will find an example of the research from **Workshop 4 "Detective Work": Researching the Production**. The production featured in this sample research is *Class* by David Horan and Iseult Golden. The production was first performed at the 2017 Dublin Theatre Festival and produced in association with the Civic Theatre. Youth Theatre Ireland's young critics attended a performance during its original run. It was subsequently staged at the Peacock theatre in January 2018.

As *Class* is a new play, material was not available on some elements of the production. You may encounter similar challenges when creating packs for your chosen production so work with the information you can find. Be creative! As you will see below, digital content such as podcast and video, can be used as part of the group's research.

All *Class* Production Images by Ros Kavanagh

Thanks to Morgan Quinn from No More Workhorse for the kind permission to include *Class* – *Dublin Theatre Festival – Preview*.

Thanks to Sinéad McHugh from Dublin Theatre Festival for the kind permission to include *DTF Programme for Class*.

Thanks to Sarah Ling of The Abbey Theatre for her assistance with the creation of this pack.

David Horan

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director

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David is Artistic Director of Bewley's Café Theatre, a freelance theatre director and a core Acting Tutor at the Lir National Academy. He graduated from the Samuel Beckett Centre, Trinity College and trained at Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris. He has been Staff Director at the Abbey, won Edinburgh Fringe Firsts for New Writing, directed classic work by the likes of Friel and Shakespeare, and staged commercial large scale shows at the Olympia and Gaiety Theatres. He has also directed successful runs in London and New York.

Directing highlights include: Beowulf: the Blockbuster (Edinburgh Fringe Stage Award, IAC New York, NY Times Critic's Pick), These Halcyon Days by Deirdre Kinahan (Edinburgh Fringe First Winner/DTF 2012), Moment by Deirdre Kinahan (Bush Theatre, London), Moll by John B Keane (Gaiety, MCD/Verdant Productions), Pineapple by Phillip McMahon (Calipo/DTF), Hue and Cry by Deirdre Kinahan (IAC New York Times Critics Pick, Bewleys), Macbeth and Dancing at Lughnasa by Brian Friel (Second Age), Anglo the Musical (re-envisioned for the Olympia), In The Pipeline by Gary Owen (Paines Plough/Oran Mor Theatre, Glasgow), The Death of Harry Leon by Conall Quinn (Winner of the Stewart Parker Award for Best New Play 2009), Peter Pan (Pavilion Theatre @ Christmas), and the award-winning Tick my Box! (Inis Theatre) among others.

David is also an award-winning screenwriter, having co-written Belonging to Laura, a contemporary film adaptation of Lady Windermere's Fan (Accomplice/TV3) and The Importance of Being Whatever, an adaption of Earnest (IFTA Winner 2012).

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PEOPLE

ISEULT GOLDEN

-

Iseult Golden is an actor and writer. She is co-artistic director of Inis Theatre and has performed in and co-created all of their shows, The World's Wife, Lady Susan, To Kill a Dead Man and Tick My Box!. She trained at the Gaiety School of Acting. She has toured nationally and internationally and has worked with companies including Barabbas, Macnas, Blue Raincoat Theatre Company and Storytellers Theatre Company.

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VENUEJOBS

Job Title	Venue
Administrator	Bewley's Café Theatre

COMPANY JOBS

Job Title	Company
Administrator	Bewley's Cafe Theatre
Artistic Director	Inis Theatre

PLAYWRITING CREDITS

Play Title	Playwright
CLASS	Iseult Golden David Horan
Fireworks	Iseult Golden

ACTOR

Play Title	Playwright
Diamonds in the Soil	
Holy Mary	Eoin Colfer
The Mayor of Casterbridge	Mary Elizabeth Burke-Kennedy Thomas Hardy
The Poe Show	Michael James Ford Edgar Allan Poe
Tick My Box	
When The Wall Came Down	Renate Ahrens-Kramer

DIRECTOR

Play Title	Playwright
CLASS	Iseult Golden David Horan
Connected	Will Irvine Karl Quinn
Mangan's Last Gasp	Gerard Lee
Payback!	Maria McDermottroe Marion O'Dwyer

SOUND OPERATOR

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maree kearns design **about**

Maree is an Irish theatre designer based in Dublin who has worked as a set and costume designer with many of Ireland's leading companies and directors. Her work spans across theatre, dance, opera and musical theatre. Current projects include *The Wizard of Oz*, directed by Wayne Jordan and *Opera Briefs*, directed by Caitriona McLaughlin.

Some of her most recent designs include *Class* at the Dublin Theatre Festival & Peacock Theatre, *Annie the Musical* at Cork Opera House, *A Winter's Tale* at the Lir and *Maz & Bricks* with Fishamble the New Play Company.

Other work includes *Prodijig The Revolution*, *Monsters*, *Dinosaurs & Ghosts* at the Peacock, *Invitation to a Journey*, a CoisCéim, Fishamble & Crash Ensemble co-production. *Agnes*, *Pageant & Faun/ As You Are* for CoisCéim Dance Theatre, *Moll* for the Gaiety Theatre, *Desire* under The Elms for The Corn Exchange, *These Halcyon Days* (*Edinburgh Fringe First winner 2013*) & *Moment* for Landmark/Tall Tales, *Far Away From Me* & *Zoe's Play* at The Ark, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth* & *Dancing* at Lughnasa for Second Age Theatre Company, *Anglo* the Musical for Verdant Productions, *Faith & The Goddess of Liberty* for Gúna Nua Theatre Company, *Plasticine* for CorcaDorca, *In the Next Room* or the *Vibrator Play*, *Scenes from the Big Picture*, *Opera Briefs* & *Troilus and Cressida* for the Lir, *The Dead School*, *Conversations on a Homecoming* & *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme* for Nomad Theatre Network (*Irish Times Best Set Designer 2009*)

Maree is the MFA Stage Design Course Director in the Lir Academy of Dramatic Art in Dublin.



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Biography



Kevin is a freelance lighting designer based in Dublin. He has worked for the last fifteen years in Ireland and internationally designing for theatre, dance and opera. With well over 100 productions to his credit, his work has been seen in Ireland, UK, USA, Australia, France, Hungary, Kosovo and Macadonia.

Kevin holds a BA in Drama & Theatre Studies from Trinity College Dublin.

He has had the pleasure of working with most leading Irish theatre companies including Abbey Theatre, Rough Magic, Fishamble, Landmark, Blue Raincoat, Gaiety, Calipo, Cahoots, Big Telly and The Lir Academy; as well as choreographers such as Marguerite Donlon, John Scott, Luke Murphy, Dylan Quinn, John Jasperse, Liz Roche and Michael Keegan Dolan.

Upcoming Productions:

Vampirella: A Co-production with RIAM and The Lir
The Faerie Thorn: with Big Telly

Recent Credits:

Three Winters (/three-winters.html) with The Lir Academy
Puckoon (/puckoon.html) with Big Telly
Wild Sky (/wild-sky.html) with Ten42 Productions.

Accolades:

These Halcyon Days (/halcyon-days.html), Landmark & Tall Tales.
(Nominated for Best New Play Irish Times Theatre Awards 2012 & Winner Fringe First Edinburgh 2013)
An Outside of Understanding (/an-outside-of-understanding.html), Croi Glan
(Nominated for Best Design Absolute Fringe 2012)
Flatpack (/flatpack.html), Ulysses Opera Theatre Co.
(Nominated for Best Opera Production Irish Times Theatre Awards 2012 & Nominated for Best Design Absolute Fringe 2012)

For a full listing please download a CV below.



kevin_smith_cv_2017.pdf

Download File (/uploads/4/9/7/4/4974586/kevin_smith_cv_2017.pdf)

(/uploads/4/9/7/4/4974586/kevin_smith_cv_2017.pdf)

Ivan Birthistle

Composition / Sound design

Ivan Birthistle primarily works collaboratively with [Vincent Doherty](#). The pair have been collaborating for over a decade and have long-standing relationships with most of the major theatre companies in Ireland. Both also have long histories in the music world. Ivan spent several years writing and recording with Nina Hynes and is also Head of Sound at the Lir National Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Together they have designed for productions by Fishamble Theatre Company, Abbey Theatre, CoisCeim Dance Theatre, Lyric Theatre, B*spoke, Rough Magic Theatre Company, The Corn Exchange, Bedrock Theatre, Landmark Productions, Semper-Fi, Inis Theatre Company, Derry Playhouse, Lane Productions and ANU Productions.



No More Workhorse

APPEAR HIGHBROW WITHOUT TRYING BY READING...

FESTIVALS

Class – Dublin Theatre Festival – Preview

BY NO MORE WORKHORSE ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 • (2 COMMENTS)



(<https://nomoreworkhorse.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/ins0517cl004-001.jpg>)

Class – Dublin Theatre Festival – Preview

(<https://www.dublintheatrefestival.com/Online/CLASS>)

No More Workhorse were invited to a preview of Class, which opens tonight as part of the Dublin Theatre Festival. We were allowed a ‘first look’ at the play and will review it later in the run.

Photo by Ros Kavanagh

As you may have guessed, the setting for this play is a classroom. It is after school and Ray is correcting homework at his desk when he hears someone at the door. It is Brian, the father of one of his pupils. Ray has requested Brian and his wife Donna to come to the school to talk about their son. The two men have an awkward conversation while they wait for Brian’s wife to arrive. Ray seems

to be a good teacher and takes a keen interest in his pupils. When Donna arrives the three sit and Ray delivers some difficult news to the parents.

This is a new play written and directed by Iseult Golden and David Horan. The play has a strong cast with Stephen Jones, who is well known from his time in Love/Hate. Will O'Connell plays the conscientious and intense teacher Ray and seems well suited for the part. Sarah Morris was a new name to me, but captured the complexity of Donna well.

The play uses Stephen Jones and Sarah Morris in two roles each, with the parents changing into children at regular intervals. This allows the audience to see how Ray performs as a teacher. This is an interesting device and adds another layer of complexity to proceedings, breaking up the intensity of the earlier scenes with some humour.

The play is about more than one type of class, as it deals with social or economic class. The two parents see themselves as from a lower stratum than the teacher and their conversation becomes tainted with anger from a perceived patronising tone. It is a complex and interesting piece of writing and should be well worth seeing during the festival. Class opens tonight (Sept 28th) at the Civic Theatre, Tallaght.

Cast and Creative Team

Written and Directed by Iseult Golden and David Horan

Cast: Stephen Jones, Sarah Morris and Will O'Connell

Set and Costume Design: Maree Kearns

Lighting Design: Kevin Smith

Information and Tickets

Venue: Civic Theatre, Loose End Studio

Previews: Sept 26 & 27, 8.15pm

Dates: Sept 28-30, 8.15pm

Tickets: €12-€16

Venue: The New Theatre

Dates: Oct 3-6 & 10-13, 7.30pm, Oct 7 & 14, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, Oct 8, 2.30pm

Tickets: €14-€20

Duration: Approx. 75 mins. No interval.

about the writers

Iseult Golden and David Horan are independent theatre artists who have worked together on new adaptations and original work for over a decade. This is their seventh collaboration.

Supported by Dublin City Council.
Funded through an Arts Council Theatre Project Award.

We are indebted to numerous partners who contributed to the making of this work. These include early contributors such as the actors who workshopped with us, early script readers and champions and supporters of the work. We would sincerely like to thank the following:

Willie White and all at DTF; Michael Barker-Caven and all at the Civic; The Arts Council and Dublin City Council; Karl Quinn; Niamh McCann; Alan Howley; Gillian McCarthy; Peter Daly; John Fairleigh; Karen Ardiffe; Malcolm Adams; Aaron Heffernan; Kathy Rose O'Brien; Will Irvine; Damian Kearney; Dee Roycroft; Elaine Fox; Bríd Dukes; Ross Ó Corráin; Deirdre Kilmurray; Ross Hinds of Wesley House; Jeda de Brí; Noelle Brown; Lisa Harding; Krystal Sweedman; Cara Christie; Clare Barrett; Joanna Crawley; Bryan Burroughs; Karen Egan; Andy Murray; Laura Dowdall; Eugene O'Brien; Deirdre Kinahan; Michelle Read; Graham Wybrow; Sarah Ling; Colm Maher.



dublin
theatre
festival | 28 Sept –
15 Oct
2017

dtf60

Iseult Golden and David Horan

CLASS

credits

Written and Directed by	Iseult Golden David Horan
Cast	Stephen Jones Sarah Morris Will O'Connell
Set and Costume Design	Maree Kearns
Lighting Design	Kevin Smith
Sound Design	Ivan Birthistle Vincent Doherty
Stage Manager	Sarah Robb
Production Manager	Adrian Mullan

Venue: Civic Theatre, Loose End Studio

Previews: Sept 26 & 27, 8.15pm

Dates: Sept 28-30, 8.15pm

Duration: Approx. 75 mins.
No interval.

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Contains strong language.



a note on the performance

CLASS started out as an exploration of the idea of 'entitlement' and how it affects our choices and our progress through life.

We didn't expect to produce a play that takes place in a classroom. In fact, we didn't set out to create a narrative piece at all.

We explored a variety of situations where people are forced to confront an authority figure. We did this with an eye to how a natural or inherited trust/mistrust of authority guides our interactions, mostly in ways we're completely unaware of. We became fascinated by how, as individuals, we relate to authority and how this can shape our lives, from career prospects to successful relationships to mental health.

We also recognised how these interactions are passed on through institutions as well as generations.

Somewhere in the process a story emerged.

Characters were created and grew complicated. They had histories and day-to-day lives and strong feelings. Sometimes they did what we expected and embodied big themes and ideas about authority and how it operates. Sometimes they didn't. We tried to let them be as real and contradictory and surprising as they wanted to be.

Eventually, we finished (or time ran out!) and went into the rehearsal room with a wonderful cast and creative team. We thank them for their collaboration and commitment. This is what happened.

Iseult Golden and David Horan















