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Festival Connect – Eighteen days of Dublin tales

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DUBLIN THEATRE FESTIVAL

Dublin Theatre Festival 2012

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Simple is often best. In his first year as Artistic Director of the [Dublin Theatre Festival](#), Willie White has worked off a simple premise. Simply titled, *Your City, Your Stories*, the 55th Dublin Theatre Festival aims to place Dublin, old and new, at the heart of this year's programme. Like the city itself, the programme is rich and varied, with a wealth of wonderful stories and story tellers to be found around every corner.

With 12 world premieres from the best national and international companies, the Festival will feature 32 theatre productions staged in 19 venues over 18 days. Beginning on September 27th and running till October 14th, highlights include a new adaptation of James Joyce's *Dubliners*, adapted by Michael West and Annie Ryan and produced by the excellent Corn Exchange, which has a limited run at the Gaiety Theatre. DruidMurhpy sees Garry Hynes and Druid Theatre tackle three plays from the Tom Murphy canon including *Whistle in the Dark*, *Conversations on a Homecoming* and *Famine*. Some exciting new works are also showcased including *The Last Summer* by Declan Hughes and *The Talk of the Town* by Emma Donoghue. Wagner's epic opera,

Tristan Und Isolde, is a once in a life time event that will span five magnificent hours.

Details on these and all other shows can be found by logging onto www.dublintheatrefestival.com which includes an online programme and booking details. For those travelling to Dublin for the Festival, the Visitor Info section in the drop down menu provides a ton of useful information as well as access to a range of helpful websites. Unfortunately, there doesn't appear to be a mobile app available. Be advised, some shows have limited runs and some, like *Beyond the Brooklyn Sky* which takes place in four different venues, require you to book your tickets early and insure you've checked all relevant information.

This year's Dublin Theatre Festival looks to have all the necessary ingredients for an outstanding celebration of theatre, storytelling and Dublin. It's fair to say it will certainly bring with it a smiley face. On your way to and from shows, check the Dublin skyline at night for *Public Face III*, a giant neon smiley created by Julius von Bismarck, Richard Wilhelmer and Benjamin Maus. Using sophisticated software developed by the Fraunhofer Institute to read facial expressions of passersby, this interactive installation will capture the humour of Dublin and Dubliners in real time and project it onto the Dublin night sky.

As always, should you have any questions, feel free to contact me at chrisorourke13@gmail.com and I will do all I can to answer any queries you might have.



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