

FISHAMBLE: THE NEW PLAY COMPANY  
PRESENTS

# INSIDE THE GPO

BY COLIN MURPHY

PHOTO BY PAT REDMOND

FISHAMBLE

Fishamble's *Inside the GPO* by Colin Murphy was a must-see cultural event at the heart of the 1916 commemorations. This unprecedented documentary drama, directed by Jim Culleton, was a once-in-a-century opportunity to experience the Easter Rising, in the main hall of the GPO itself.

Audiences witnessed the rebel leadership navigate the perils of the Rising across the five days during which they occupied the GPO.

*On Monday, they seized and secured the building, repelling the first attacks.*

*On Tuesday, they attempted to deal with looting on O'Connell St.*

*On Wednesday, the shelling started.*

*On Thursday, the building caught fire.*

*On Friday, they were forced to evacuate.*

The filming took place in April 2016 in the GPO, Dublin. This year, Fishamble is delighted to present a specially remastered version to share with audiences around the world from 1 – 5 April 2021 to celebrate the 105th anniversary of the Rising.

## Created By

WRITER Colin Murphy  
DIRECTOR Jim Culleton  
DRAMATURG Gavin Kostick  
SCENIC & COSTUME DESIGN Niamh Lunny  
LIGHTING DESIGN Mark Galione  
SOUND DESIGN Carl Kennedy  
STAGE MANAGER Tara Doolan  
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Caoimhe Whelan  
MOVEMENT DIRECTOR Bryan Burroughs  
HAIR AND MAKEUP Val Sherlock  
PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT Mark Galione and Eoin Kilkenny

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGEMENT Ronan Carey  
LINE PRODUCER Aisling O'Brien  
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS Pauric Dempsey and Colin Murphy  
PRODUCER Eva Scanlan  
GRAPHIC DESIGN Publicis Dublin  
VIDEO DIRECTION Brian Gray  
CAMERAS Eamon Nolan and Brian Gray  
SOUND Jon Kelly  
EDIT Eamon Nolan  
POST PRODUCTION Design For Life

## Cast

MARY LOUISA HAMILTON NORWAY Karen Ardiffe	MURPHY/GOOD Louis Deslis
WINNIE CARNEY Orla Fitzgerald	WALSH Carolyn Donnelly
MIN RYAN Liz FitzGibbon	FINN Tom Duffy
JUNIOR OFFICER/KEOGH Gavin Fullam	BYRNE/SINGER Martha Dunlea
SEAN MACDERMOTT Manus Halligan	O'SULLIVAN Desmond Eastwood
JAMES CONNOLLY Aidan Kelly	DUFFY Ali Hardiman
PADRAIG PEARSE Ronan Leahy	GAHAN/FR FLANAGAN Daniel McDermott
TOM CLARKE/NORWAY Michael Glenn Murphy	MCLAUGHLIN Meg O'Brien
THE O'RAHILLY Don Wycherley	BRITISH OFFICER/SWEDE Gavan O'Connor

Running Time: 70 minutes, no interval  
Age Restrictions: 12+

## Biographies

Colin Murphy has written for stage, television, film and radio, and has been nominated for an Irish Theatre Award, an Irish Film and Television Academy award and a Celtic Media Award; his radio documentaries have received a Prix Marulic silver award and a New York Festivals bronze award. Two of his plays are published by Bloomsbury. With Fishamble Theatre Company, he has written a series of political documentary dramas, two of which, *Guaranteed!* and *Haughey/Gregory*, are published by Bloomsbury. *Guaranteed!* was acclaimed as "a national event" by the Irish Times; it and its sequel, *Bailed Out!*, "injected a new and vital ingredient into the Irish theatre landscape", wrote the Irish Independent. His Easter Rising play, *Inside the GPO*, was described as "deeply moving and utterly memorable... deserves to be remembered as pivotal" by the Sunday Independent. He writes a weekly column for the Sunday Business Post.

Jim Culleton is the artistic director of Fishamble: The New Play Company, for which he has directed productions on tour throughout Ireland, UK, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US. His productions for Fishamble have won many Irish and international awards, including Olivier, The Stage, Scotsman Fringe First, and Irish Times Best Director awards.

Jim has also directed for Audible, the Abbey, the Gaiety, the Belgrade, 7:84 Scotland, Project, Amharclann de hÍde, Tinderbox, The Passion Machine, the Ark, Second Age, Dundee Rep, Draíocht, CoisCéim/Crash Ensemble/GIAF, RTÉ Radio 1, Frontline Defenders, Amnesty International, Little Museum of Dublin, Fighting Words, RTÉ lyric fm, Soho Theatre, Scripts Festival, Vessel and APA (Australia), TNL (Canada), Solas Nua and Kennedy Center (Washington DC), Odyssey (LA), Origin, Irish Arts Center and 59E59 (Off-Broadway), as well as for Trafalgar Theatre Productions on the West End, and IAC/Symphony Space on Broadway. Jim has taught for NYU, NUI, GSA, Uversity, the Lir, Villanova, Notre Dame, UM, UMD, and TCD.

## Reviews

'Wonderful production'  
President Michael D Higgins

'Vigorous... affecting... persuasive drama'  
The Stage

'Superb play... direction is breathtaking... utterly memorable... not to be missed'  
Sunday Independent

'Vigorous production'  
★★★★ The Irish Times

***Inside the GPO* was originally produced in partnership with Fáilte Ireland, Dublin City Council, Ireland 2016, An Post, DublinTown, & Arnotts. This online presentation is supported by Culture Ireland and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media.**

This remastered version is presented in partnership with Solas Nua Washington DC, the New York Irish Center, Corrib Theatre Oregon, Irish American Heritage Museum Aalbany, Kansas City Irish Center, Irish Festival Milwaukee, Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati, Celtic Junction Arts Center, the International Association for the Study of Irish Literature, the Irish Diplomatic Missions, and Irish Studies courses worldwide.



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## About Fishamble: The New Play Company

Fishamble is an Irish theatre company that discovers, develops and produces new plays of national importance with a global reach. It has toured its productions to audiences throughout Ireland, and to 19 other countries. It champions the role of the playwright, typically supporting over 50% of the writers of all new plays produced on the island of Ireland each year. Fishamble has received many awards in Ireland and internationally, including an Olivier Award.

'the much-loved Fishamble [is] a global brand with international theatrical presence... an unswerving force for new writing'  
Irish Times

'Ireland's leading new writing company'  
The Stage

'forward-thinking Fishamble'  
New York Times

'excellent Fishamble...Ireland's terrific Fishamble'  
Guardian

'Fishamble puts electricity into the National grid of dreams'  
Sebastian Barry

## Fishamble Needs Your Support

Become a **Friend of Fishamble** today and support new theatre making at its best, while enjoying the benefits of complimentary tickets, discounts on playwriting courses and other special treats.

For more information, contact Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan on +353 (0)1 6704018 or see [fishamble.com/support-us](http://fishamble.com/support-us).

Fishamble is a registered charity no. CHY 20103958.

## Fishamble Team

Jim Culleton: Artistic Director  
Eva Scanlan: General Manager and Producer  
Gavin Kostick: Literary Manager  
Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan: Marketing & Development Manager  
Ronan Carey: Production Coordinator  
Niamh Ní Flathartha: Audience Development Officer  
Cahilan Shine: Marketing and Development Intern

## Fishamble Board

Padraig Burns  
Peter Finnegan  
John McGrane  
Louise Molloy  
Doireann Ní Bhriain (Chair)  
Vincent O'Doherty  
John O'Donnell  
Siobhan O'Leary (Vice-Chair)  
Colleen Savage