

## **Adelaide 2016**

Culture Ireland's *I Am Ireland* programme, a key part of the Global and Diaspora strand of Ireland 2016, the official state programme to commemorate the centenary of the Easter Rising, will see a number of events taking place in Adelaide in February and March 2016.

An international worldwide programme of Irish arts, *I Am Ireland* is designed to celebrate this significant moment in Ireland's history and the pivotal role played by Irish artists in 1916 and over the past century in shaping Irish society.

# Exile: Songs of Irish Australia

21 February

Adelaide Festival Centre



Tickets: <https://www.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/shows/exile/>

'Exile' tells the story of the Australian-Irish in song, imagery, poetry and spoken word, presented in concert.

An outstanding array of artists from Ireland and Australia gather in a moving celebration of the Irish impact on Australian life. Through abundant literature, music, poetry and art, as well as a keen hunger for justice, the Irish spirit has stamped itself on the evolving culture of Australia.

Almost a third of all Australians claim some degree of Irish descent, so it's timely to reflect upon this history in the centenary year of the 1916 Easter Rising, the catalyst for Ireland's nationhood. The enduring influence on Australian history, music and politics is recounted through rich imagery and stirring performances in this special concert event.

Feature artists: Shane Howard (Artistic Director), Paul Kelly, Stephen Pigram, Declan O'Rourke, Leah Flanagan, Sean Tyrrell, Steve Cooney, Lynelle Moran, Ewen Baker, Pauline Scanlon, John Spillane and more.

## Border Crossings

22 February - 18 March

South Australia School of Art



This exhibition, supported by Culture Ireland, will bring together curators and contemporary artists from Ireland and Australia to investigate cross-cultural issues surrounding ethnic conflict, the legacy of colonialism and the challenges of reconciliation that are relevant to both countries.

Partners: Hawke European Union Centre, Trinity Long Room Hub, Dublin, Culture Ireland, Helpmann Academy. Part of the Adelaide Festival of the Arts Vernissage Weekend Program and the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

Artists: Michelle Browne, Julie Gough, Sandra Johnston, Sue Kneebone, Yhonnie Scarce & Dominic Thorpe

Curators: Mary Knights and Michelle Browne

More information: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Business-community/galleries-museums-and-centres/SASA-Gallery/Calendar/>

## Irish Theatre Showcase

23 February - 16 March

The GC - Showroom One, 223 Flinders Street, Adelaide

Supported by Culture Ireland, as part of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme, and Arts Project Australia's Irish Theatre Showcase, three innovative theatre productions make their way from Ireland to take part in the Adelaide Fringe Festival.

### Beowulf: The Blockbuster (6pm - 7.10pm)

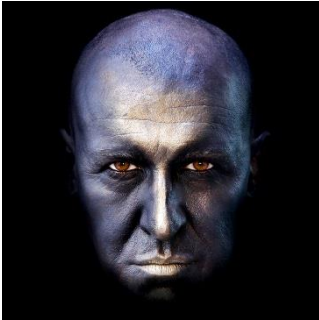


Tickets: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/beowulf-the-blockbuster/af3d1db7-e2bc-4037-8e9d-bc0251707fa1>

In the grand tradition of Irish storytelling, this poignant one-man extravaganza shows that heroism can come not only from cheating death but through facing it.

A clever transformation of the epic Old English poem Beowulf becomes the vehicle through which a dying man tries to explain to his young son that all heroes can't survive all battles. Roaring tales of heroes slaying dragons and monsters are translated across generations into the language of Star Wars and blockbuster Hollywood movies with humor, sorrow, wit and warmth.

## 'Underneath' by Pat Kinevane (7.30pm - 9pm)



Tickets: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/underneath-by-pat-kinevane/d5edbe74-b9e3-4a0a-a70a-32edd958adcd>

In this extraordinary piece of one-man theatre, celebrated Irish writer and actor Pat Kinevane delves deeper into the question of beauty - underneath the skin, underneath society, underneath our perceptions. Kinevane asks the penetrating questions: Is beauty really only skin-deep? Can we trust it? Does ugliness hide somewhere deeper?

This stunning new play is a blackly comic, rich and vivid tale of lives lived in secret, a testament to people living on the fringes of everyday life. Kinevane's intensely physical performance shows him to be both a nimble and magnetic presence. As storyteller, he favours an arrestingly disjointed approach; as performer he combines the exotic and the earthy; and as political dramatist, he gravitates towards the marginalised, while always celebrating great humanity and humour in his tales.

## 'Little Thing, Big Thing' by Donal O'Kelly (9.30pm - 10.50pm)



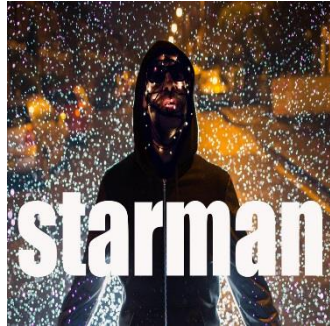
Tickets: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/little-thing-big-thing-by-donal-o-kelly/1e839189-0a32-4b30-ba69-ebbe239fdcbe>

A huge hit on tour in Ireland, UK, Europe and New York, now coming to Australia for the first time, Fishamble's "Little Thing, Big Thing" is a darkly comic suspense thriller that can do no wrong.

An ex-con and a nun are pursued across Ireland holding a little piece of information that could trigger a big business crisis. Sorcha Fox and Donal O'Kelly play Martha and Larry, who take a high-octane jump into the brutal world of international energy skullduggery, and awaken passions they thought were dead. This finely executed piece of political theatre has the brisk tempo of an old-fashioned caper, but the sting and bite of a contemporary production. It's another striking presentation from Fishamble, Ireland's award-winning theatre company dedicated to discovering new work.

## Starman

12 February – 13 March  
Garden of Unearthly Delights –  
Le Cascadeur



Tickets: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/3521b524-b56f-4e40-8d3d-1a039334bb0f>

Starman. A One Man Circus Comedy Theatre show. Written and performed by Ken Fanning. Directed by Colm O'Grady. Lasting 55 min. For years man has looked to the heavens for inspiration and guidance. But now the heavens have come to them. Starman, a heavenly mix of circus comedy and cardboard.

After travelling through Europe for 2 years with his juggling equipment and 20 pounds he returned to Ireland and met Tina Segner on Grafton Street in Dublin. They formed Tumble Circus in 1998. They are commitment to making new circus work and training, and this ideology has helped them surpass their goals of becoming street performers to now touring internationally as a professional circus theatre company.

Tumble Circus has grown into an award winning international circus company.

# To SPACE

23 – 28 February

Holden Street Theatres



Tickets: <https://adelaidefringe.com.au/fringetix/3075e725-6603-4421-b70d-06aac8ae403e>

Scientist and performer Dr. Niamh Shaw has dreamed of space travel from the age of eight. After years of pursuing various career paths, she decided to spend the whole of 2014 trying to get into space. After interviewing astronauts, astrophysicists, space industries and potential future colonists of Mars, she discovered that what was once her childhood dream may soon become a reality.

In a multimedia immersive performance that buzzes with new technologies, she explores the beauty, darkness and humanity of Space. What is our attraction to Space? What are we chasing – or escaping from?

Part comedy memoir and part fascinating space lecture with watercolour-based, ghostly landscapes, this captivating performance buzzes with difficult questions. Why do we hold on to dreams that may destroy us? How many times can we start our life anew - as a species and as individuals?

Created in association with CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory, Science Foundation Ireland, ESERO Ireland.