

# PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD

By J. M. SYNGE

## AUDITION INFORMATION

### **ABOUT THE PLAY**

PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD is set in a public house (tavern) on the West Coast of Ireland in the early 1900s. It tells the story of Christy Mahon, a young man running away from his farm, claiming he killed his father. The locals are more interested in vicariously enjoying his story than in condemning the immorality of his murderous deed, and Christy soon enjoys celebrity status. Christy captures the romantic attention of the bar-maid, Pegeen Mike, much to the disappointment of her doting fiancé, Shawn Keogh. Competition for Christy's affections arises when the Widow Quinn also lusts after the young stranger. But complications arise when an older bruised man arrives on the scene, claiming to be Christy's father.

### **AUDITION DATES & TIMES**

Preliminary Auditions:

Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Woods Theatre, Speech Arts Building

Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 4:00-6:30 p.m., Woods Theatre, Speech Arts Building

Callbacks:

Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Woods Theatre, Speech Arts Building

### **WHO MAY AUDITION?**

Auditions are open to all Fresno State students, and to community members.

### **WHAT SHOULD I PREPARE FOR AUDITIONS?**

Preliminary Auditions: Actors will be asked to prepare a 1-2 minute monologue for preliminary auditions. Actors without a monologue will be given a monologue. Actors may then be asked to read a monologue or scene from the script.

Callbacks: At the preliminary auditions, actors will be given a packet of callback scenes/monologues. Specific roles to prepare will be posted on the callback list.

### **HOW WILL I KNOW IF I AM CALLED BACK?**

A callback list will be posted on the callboard by the Green Room in the Speech Arts Building. Actors may also be notified via email.

### **WHAT IS THE REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE?**

Rehearsals will be Sunday through Thursday evenings starting March 8<sup>th</sup>.

There will be no rehearsals over Spring Break (March 29-April 3).

First tech rehearsal will be Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. call for actors; anticipated end is 11:00 p.m.

Performances are May 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 @ 8:00 p.m.; May 3 @ 2:00 p.m. (Actor call 1 hour before curtain).

### **HOW CAN I GET A PERUSAL SCRIPT?**

Digital perusal scripts can be obtained by emailing Cathie Salanitro, Theatre Arts Administrative Assistant, [cathies@csufresno.edu](mailto:cathies@csufresno.edu).

## **WHAT ARE THE ROLES?**

CHARACTERS 6 men; 5-6 women + 4 peasants

**All roles can be played by actors of any ethnicity or race**

Christopher Mahon – A charismatic young man who claims to have killed his father (20 years old)

Margaret Flaherty (called Pegeen Mike) – a feisty barmaid (20 years old)

Old Mahon – Christy’s father, a crusty rugged man. (40-50 years old)

Widow Quinn – a sturdy farm owner, with designs on Christy (30 years old)

Michael James Flaherty – father of Pegeen Mike and owner of the public house (40-50 years old)

Philly Cullen – a farmer (25-30 years old)

Jimmy Farrell – a farmer (25-30 years old)

Sara Tansey – one of several girls enamored with Christy (14-17 years old)

Susan Brady – a second girl (14-17 years old)

Honor Blake – a third girl (14-17 years old)

Nelly – optional fourth girl (not included in all versions) (14-17 years old)

Peasants – Local farmers

Dialect requirements: Most characters require an Irish dialect. However, the peasants only speak in mass, and dialect proficiency will be less of a requirement for these roles. The first week of rehearsal will focus on dialect training.

## **HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ?**

Brad Myers (Director)

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Email: [bradleym@csufresno.edu](mailto:bradleym@csufresno.edu)