



Michael Power

THE GOOD THIEF

By **Conor McPherson**
Directed by **Liam Butler**

12th (Preview), 13th & 14th July 2018
at 8^{pm} sharp

Tickets: €15 / €12 (Preview)

WWW.THEATREROYAL.IE
The Mall, Waterford | 051 874402

MICHAEL POWER

THE GOOD THIEF

BY

CONOR McPHERSON

DIRECTED BY

LIAM BUTLER

12th 13th & 14th JULY



THEATRE ROYAL
WATERFORD



Michael's Thoughts... Jamie Beamish is a very persuasive man, as an actor, musician, writer and above all as a friend. When he speaks, I listen, and over a pint in Nunhead, London a year ago he hit me with "Hey Mickey, you should do a one man play". By pint three I had emphatically agreed, knowing full well this was pub talk and it would pass. But Jamie already had the play picked out for me so when I agreed I actually had, well, agreed. From London to Waterford emails travelled and genuinely, before I knew it, Theatre Royal was on board and I was booked. I had just started an English degree at WIT so that was my 'get out of jail card', surely I would be too busy to do this but I had already 'passed go' and no excuses were accepted. I was in it.

In my panic I rang another great pal, Liam Butler and asked him to direct me. "No bother" he said and asked me to send him the script, which I eventually did. We both read Jamie's suggested play and were initially underwhelmed by it. Never judge a book/play by its cover or first read. Once Liam and I had the director/actor chats we began to see what a complex, emotional and perpetual piece this play is. We came love it. I trust Liam completely as a person and as a director and he has steered me through days of self-doubt and confusion to give me a genuine love of this play and the character [though we have little in common, thankfully]. I hope you find the performance and direction do justice to Conor McPherson's 'The Good Thief' and sends you home with a story in your head that you will think about. Michael Power, July 2018

MICHAEL POWER

Michael Power is a Waterford born actor. His Film & TV credits include Vikings, Game of Thrones, Zephra (Best actor Portsmouth International Film Festival & Welsh International Film Festival), Maze and Tomato Can. Theatre credits include Dreamland, Richard II, The Country Girls, The Memory of Water, Eden, Beauty Queen of Leenane, Translations, Boy Soldier, Romeo & Juliet, Dancing at Lughnasa, Assassins & The Pilferers.



Liam's Thoughts... Having previously read six Conor McPherson plays, I was more than a little excited to be asked by Michael Power to direct him in The Good Thief.

A play that won the Stewart Parker Award for Best Irish Debut Play when it was first performed in 1994, recounts the misfortunes of an unnamed petty criminal whose conscience punishes him when he becomes involved in a bungled 'incident'. It has been an absolute gem of a process over the

last few weeks to analysing the story, the main character and the other characters. Many hours were spent, **not working on script**, but teasing out the background story of each character; their relationships and the layout of all the locations within the play - the pub, Michell's house, the garden, Harry's Bar, Jeff's office and the house in Leitrim - to create pictures.

Unfortunately in the last number of years production budgets determine the amount of time the director gets with his/her actors, but with this being a monologue play we were lucky to have that extra time. Audience members take what they want from any performance, so we have left some of the aspects of the story ambiguous for that reason. We hope you enjoy our take on Conor McPherson's story. Liam Butler, July 2018

LIAM BUTLER

Carrick-on-Suir born director and veteran of the musical theatre stage, Liam Butler has played lead roles in numerous shows, many of which garnered him prestigious Association of Irish Musicals awards and nominations. Directorial credits include The Lonsome West, one Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest, John Roberts Square, The Odd Couple, Assassins, Sweeney Todd, Little Shop of Horrors, The New Pirates of Penzance, Fiddler on The Roof, Evita, West Side Story, Hello Dolly, Mack & Mabel, A Tale of Two Cities & Into The Wood. Upcoming projects in 2018 - Hairspray, Urinetown and Chicago

Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks to those mentioned below for their help and support: Jamie Beamish, Clodagh Power, Aimée Browne, Kay Sinnott Browne, LBM Lorraine Brennan Management, Carrick-On-Suir Musical Society, TheatreBox & Liam Heffernan.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW...

MICHAEL QUINLAN

MISTERMAN

**BY
ENDA WALSH**

**DIRECTED BY
AIDAN KELLY**

25TH 26TH & 27TH JULY

www.theatreroyal.ie

051 853626