

The Lost Tapes Of Lydia Howell

Ray Scannell



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Written, composed and performed by **Ray Scannell**

Featuring the voice of **Clare Dunne**

Directed by **Tom Creed**

Sound Design and Additional Composition by **Rob Moloney**

Lighting Design by **Stephen Dodd**

Musicians **Ste Carolan** (Guitar) & **Eleanor Myler** (Drums)

Voice of Radio DJ **Dave Fanning**

Line Producer **Bernie Bourke**

Company Manager **Morgan Steele**

Stage Manager **Clare Howe**

Chief LX **Hanan Sheedy**

Sound Engineer **Eóin Murphy**

Image and Production Photography by **Ros Kavanagh**

Rehearsal Photography & Videography by **Nathan Snow**

Production Management **Showscope**

Producer **Maura O'Keeffe**

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Aoife Cahill, Tony Irwin, Drew McCarthy, Luke McDonald & Barry Quealy.



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A listening party for a forgotten musician.

Emerging post-lockdown, creatively blocked, Stanley moves into a Victorian split-level in a Dublin square. He discovers a discarded shoebox filled with cassette demos, disposable photos and journal recordings belonging to Lydia Howell (of the also-ran shoegaze trio No!-No!).

As Stanley reconstructs Lydia's unfinished life through her artefacts and solo recordings, preservation becomes collaboration. Haunted by the work that never left the room, he finds an antidote to his own stagnation, culminating in a duet between the living and the dead.

But does preserving an artist's lost work inevitably reshape it — or even steal it?

Following festival hits *Mimic* (2007), *Deep* (2013), and *The Bluffer's Guide to Suburbia* (2019), writer/performer Ray Scannell reunites with director Tom Creed to premiere this new work, featuring the voice of Clare Dunne (*Kin*, *Herself*, *Sure Look It*, *F**k It*).

Ray Scannell - Writer, Composer, Performer



Ray Scannell is a writer, actor and composer based in Dublin. His work spans theatre, music and solo performance, with a focus on original writing and work that moves between disciplines.

The Bluffer's Guide to Suburbia (2019) premiered at Cork Midsummer Festival and went on to present at Dublin Theatre Festival that year. *Deep* (2013) won Best Male Performer and was nominated for the Spirit of the Fringe at the Dublin Fringe Festival Awards. His first solo show *Mimic* (2007) toured nationally and internationally, with performances in Galway, Kilkenny, Dublin (Dublin Fringe Festival 2008, Best Male Performer), New York (PS122, COIL Festival; Irish Arts Center), Paris (Centre Culturel Irlandais), and Electric Picnic.

As an actor, he has worked with Hatch Theatre Co. (*The Jesus Trilogy*), The Gate Theatre (*The Great Gatsby*, *The Red Shoes*), Rough Magic (*Digging for Fire*, *Famished Castle*), and Druid Theatre Company, touring internationally in *The Walworth Farce* by Enda Walsh and performing in *The Silver Tassie* at the Lincoln Center Festival, New York.

As a composer, he was commissioned by THISISPOPBABY to write the original score for *Alice in Funderland* (Abbey Theatre, nominated for Best Production, Irish Times Theatre Awards 2013), and composed for the Abbey Theatre production of *Town is Dead* by Phillip McMahon (Best Sound Design, Irish Times Theatre Awards 2017). He has also collaborated regularly with Junk Ensemble including with Olwen Fouéré on *Walking Pale* (Dublin Dance Festival / GPO Witness History 2016).

Tom Creed - Director



Tom is one of Ireland's leading opera and theatre directors, whose productions have been seen at all the major Irish theatres and festivals, and internationally in over 30 cities on three continents.

Previously with Ray Scannell: *Mimic*, *Deep* and *The Bluffer's Guide to Suburbia*.

Recent theatre: *The Plough and the Stars*, *The Quare Fellow* (Abbey Theatre); *The President* (Gate Theatre/Sydney Theatre Company), *Conversations After Sex* (Dublin Theatre Festival/Irish Arts Center, New York/Irish tour).

His production of Beckett's *Watt* with the Gate Theatre and legendary Beckett interpreter Barry McGovern was seen around the world. A new production of *Watt* opened at the Melbourne International Arts Festival in October 2018.

Opera includes: *MARS*, *Trade/Mary Motorhead* (also Prototype Festival, New York/LA Opera), *Maria Stuarda*, *Griselda*, *The Tales of Hoffmann* (Irish National Opera); *Don Giovanni*, *Giulio Cesare* (Blackwater Valley Opera Festival); *Elsewhere* (Abbey Theatre/Irish tour); *Owen Wingrave* (Opéra National de Paris/Opera Collective Ireland),

He was previously Festival Director of Cork Midsummer Festival, Theatre and Dance Curator of Kilkenny Arts Festival and Associate Director of Rough Magic. He is a member of the Expert Advisory Committee of Culture Ireland and a board member of GAZE LGBTQIA Film Festival and Performing Arts Forum, and was a member of the steering committee of the National Campaign for the Arts from 2016 to 2022.

Clare Dunne - The Voice of Lydia Howell



Clare is well known for writing and starring in *Herself*, (Element/Amazon), directed by Phyllida Lloyd, which won numerous awards both for her writing and performance. She's also well known to Irish and international TV audiences as series lead Amanda in both seasons of the award-winning TV drama *KIN* (AMC+/Netflix/BBC), for which she won the IFTA for Best Lead Actress. Clare recently appeared on screen as Sr. Carmel in *Small Things Like These* opposite Cillian Murphy, and as Dee in Eva Birthistle's directorial debut, *Kathleen Is Here*.

Clare recently appeared in *The Cut* opposite Orlando Bloom and has is currently appearing in *500 Miles* opposite Bill Nighy in cinemas across the UK and Ireland. She is also currently appearing in *The Education Of Jane Cumming* on MUBI and other streaming platforms, directed by Sophie Heldman for Heimatfilm.

Rob Moloney - Sound Design & Additional Composition



Rob Moloney is a composer and sound designer for theatre and dance. He has worked with many performance artists and theatre companies in Ireland, including Luke Murphy - Attic Projects, the Abbey Theatre, ANU Productions, Macnas, the Gate Theatre, Fishamble: The New Play Company, Corcadorca, THEATREclub, Ballet Ireland, Emma O'Grady, and Painted Bird.

Upcoming productions include the thirtieth anniversary production of Disco Pigs, directed by Enda Walsh, at the Everyman Theatre, Cork.

Recent projects include the world premieres of The Good Luck Club and Starjazzer (ANU); An Treun and Turas Alf (Macnas); Static and Youth's The Season -? (Abbey Theatre); Scorched Earth (Luke Murphy - Attic Projects, Dublin Dance Festival and Galway International Arts Festival 2025).

Other recent work includes The Pull of the Stars (Gate Theatre); HAMMAM (ANU and Abbey Theatre) and Volcano (Attic Projects).

Rob studied music at University College Cork and pursued further studies in Orchestration, Synthesis, and Advanced Mixing Techniques at Berklee.

Stephen Dodd - Lighting Designer



Stephen Dodd is an award winning Lighting Designer for theatre, dance, and opera based in Dublin, Ireland. He trained at The Samuel Beckett Centre, Trinity College.

Recent lighting designs include: For The Abbey: **The Plough and the Stars, The Cave, Youth's The Season - ?, The Quare Fellow, An Octoroon, The Long Christmas Dinner.** For United Fall: **Soft God, King / Shrine, Night Dances, Birdboy.** For Luail: **Dancehall.** For Lovano: **Her Father's Voice.** For Company SJ: **Beckett as Chreig: Guth na mBan; Company.** For Deutsche Oper, Berlin: **Il Teorema di Pasolini.** For Dead Centre: **Illness as Metaphor, Good Sex, Hamnet, LIPPY.** For Attic Projects: **Scorched Earth, Volcano, The Prometheus Project.** For Irish National Opera: **A Thing I Cannot Name, Orfeo ed Euridice.** For Junk Ensemble: **Storm 1.0, Dances Like a Bomb, The Misunderstanding of Myrrha.**

Hanan Sheedy - Chief LX

Hanan is a theatre maker and designer. In various roles across design and production Hanan has worked with The Everyman, Luke Murphy, Cork Opera House, Graffiti Theatre, Brokencrow Theatre Company and, on Irish Times Award winning productions, with Gare St Lazare Ireland.

As a director/writer he has most notably presented work at Dublin Fringe Festival ('SLSD' 2017), Cork Midsummer Festival ('SLSD' 2017 & 'SKIN' 2024 (Work-in-Progress), & Cork Arts Theatre in association with Cork Opera House ('The Father Myth' 2025).

Hanan was awarded 'MAKE 2017' & 'Tessellate Cork' 2018 and was Artist-in-Residence at Activate Youth Theatre 2019. He underwent a research residency at the National Sculpture Factory Cork 2023-2024 and a 'Begin Residency' at the Cork Theatre Collective 2024, of which he is a member.

Eóin Murphy - Sound Engineer

Eóin is a music producer/sound designer & musician of over 20 years experience. He is most interested multidisciplinary work that makes use of the relationships between music/noise, dramaturgy, movement & lighting.

Recent theatre works include; 'Chora – Luail', 'Hothouse' – malaprop. 'Giggler Treatment' - Roddy Doyle/the Ark, 'Palimpsest' - Cóis Céim, 'Woman Undone' – Brokentalkers (won Irish Theatre award for Best Sound),

In his studio in Bray Eóin has produced recordings by the likes of Roger Doyle, Rónan Ó Snodaigh, Seamus Heaney, Niwel Tsumbu, Sinead O'Connor, Blood-or-Whiskey, and has also collaborated on productions with Peter Gabriels Real World Studios.

Clare Howe - Stage Manager

Born in Dublin, Clare studied at DLIADT where she received a Diploma in Fine Art and a Degree in Production Design.

Clare has worked in theatre since 1999 starting her career in The Gate Theatre, working on numerous productions including Krapp's Last Tape, Anna Karenina, Sweeney Todd and The Red Shoes; at The Abbey Theatre on many productions; with Druid Theatre on their Druid Shakespeare tour, Bailegangaire and Brigit.

Clare has also worked on numerous productions with The Corn Exchange, including: Freefall, Man of Valour, A Girl is a Half-Formed Thing and Dublin by Lamplight; with Landmark Theatre on Woyzeck in Winter and Asking for it and with Fishamble Theatre Company, Siren Productions, Thisispopbaby, and Field Day, amongst others. Most recently Clare has worked on numerous Pan Pan Theatre shows.

She is delighted to be working with Once Off Productions on this new Ray Scannell show.

About Once Off Productions

Founded in 2006 by Maura O’Keeffe, Once Off Productions provides a structured, supportive and creative producing platform for independent performance artists making ambitious, innovative and collaborative work. Working nationally and internationally at all scales, the company is committed to bringing live performance to audiences in traditional and non-traditional locations. Once Off Productions facilitates artists to make work outside of traditional company structures while simultaneously offering all of the advantages of producing and administrative support. The Company enables some of the most brilliant and exciting artists based in Ireland to create, develop and present new work for a wide range of audiences.

Once Off Productions is a key part of the performing arts landscape in Ireland, nurturing artists and fostering the development of innovative, collaborative, courageous and ambitious projects while marrying this work with the needs of presenters to serve audiences across the island of Ireland and internationally.

Director **Maura O’Keeffe**

Company Manager **Morgan Steele**

Producer **Kathleen Aleton**

Producer Programme Coordinator **Sadhbh Barrett-Coakley**

Finance Officer **Catherine Finn**

Marketing Associate **Ciara Gogarty**

Line Producers **Bernie Bourke & Emilia Smart-Denson**

Associate Producers **Emily Aherne, Miles Harrigan, Joe Murphy, Michael Anthony-Greene & Muireann Lyons**

www.onceoffproductions.com