



Press Release

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**“Mr. Walsh [is] a writer who deserves
to be better known in this country.”**
–Ben Brantley, *New York Times*

Two Plays by Irish Playwright Enda Walsh New from TCG Books

NEW YORK — Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is pleased to announce the publication of ***The Walworth Farce* and *The New Electric Ballroom*, masterworks of the London-based Irish theatre artist Enda Walsh.** These two plays are companion pieces: unmistakably Irish, galloping gothic comedies about the use of theatre and oral traditions to warp family history. Both made sensational premieres at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival; *The New Electric Ballroom* is currently on stage at St Ann’s Warehouse in Brooklyn, and the Druid production of *The Walworth Farce* is touring to venues across the country. In this volume, the two plays are specially printed back-to-back, so each has its own cover, depending on how you flip the book.

The Walworth Farce*: “Complex, dark and emotionally rich.” –Karen Fricker, *Variety

In *The Walworth Farce*, one-play-playwright Dinny forces his adult sons Sean and Blake to enact his own version of why they are living in a rotting London flat, in exile from their native Cork. *The New Electric Ballroom* is set in a small fishing village in Ireland, where spinster sisters Breda and Clara, and their much-younger sibling Ada, replay a scandalous incident at a dance hall when they were in the bloom of their youth.

“*The New Electric Ballroom* affirms [Walsh’s] growing reputation as a contender to take his place in the long, distinguished line of great Irish playwrights.”
–Charles Isherwood, *New York Times*

“The central conceit, that this is a farce within a tragedy, is a master stroke of meta-theatricality,” writes Ireland-based critic Karen Fricker of *The Walworth Farce* in *Variety*. “It is exciting to see a production that so demands intelligence and attention from its viewers and rewards them with a theatrical experience that claws at the imagination for days afterwards.”

Enda Walsh has been recognized by numerous awards for his plays, which include *Disco Pigs*, *Bedbound*, *Small Things* and *Chatroom*. He also wrote the screenplay for *Hunger*, winner of the Caméra d’Or award at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival. His work has been translated into more than 20 languages.

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Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, exists to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. Its programs serve nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. As the US Center of the International Theatre Institute, TCG connects its constituents to the global theatre community.

TCG is the nation's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 10 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on our booklist; it also publishes the award-winning AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. TCG is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Please visit our website and online bookstore at www.tcg.org.

The Walworth Farce and The New Electric Ballroom
by Enda Walsh
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