

# Biography



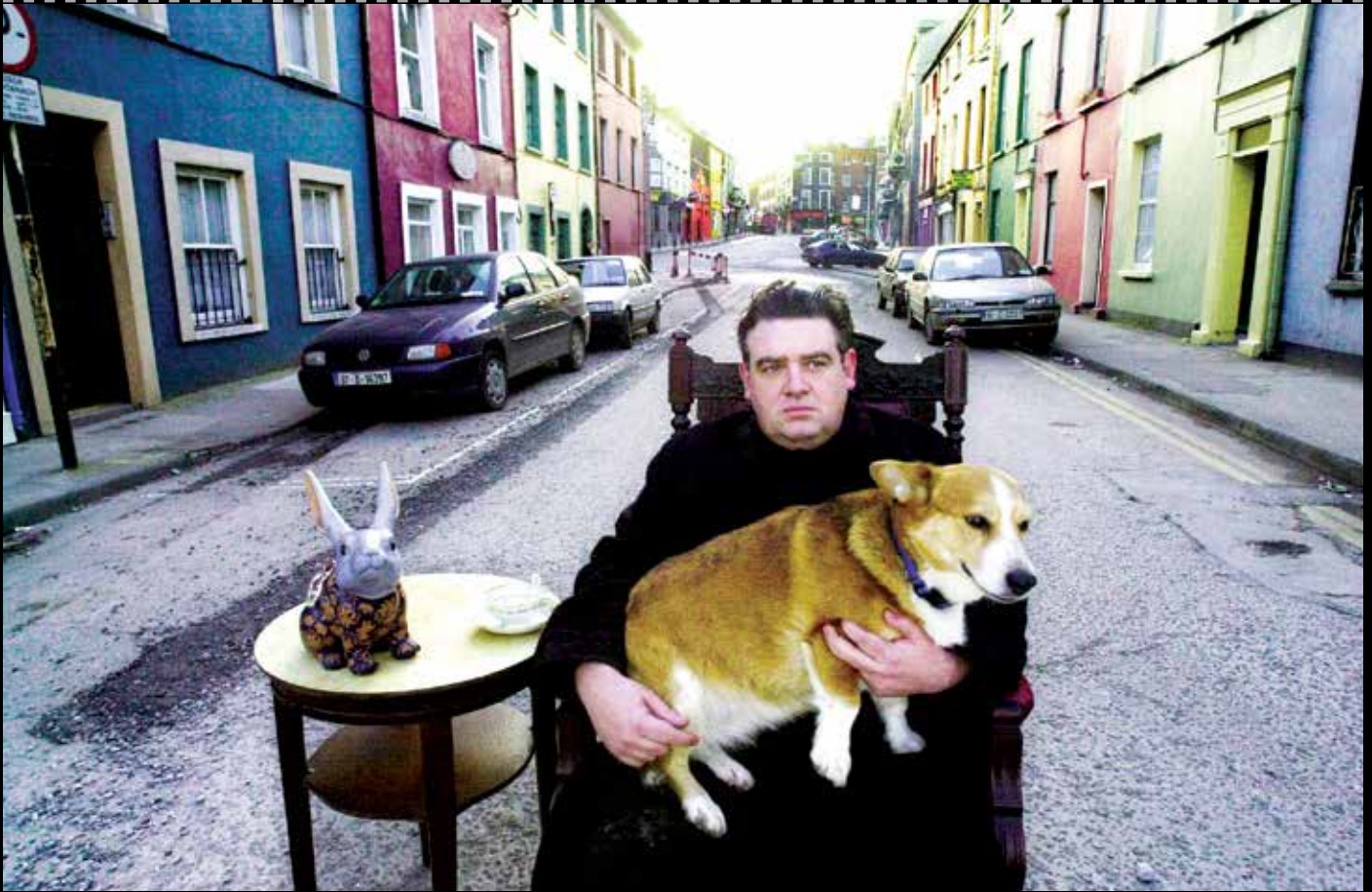
Cónal Creedon is a short story writer, novelist, playwright, and documentary film-maker. His stage plays include: *The Trial Of Jesus* [2000], produced as part of the Irish National Millennium Celebrations [awarded two National Business2Arts Awards and nominated for The Irish Times Theatre Awards], *Glory Be To The Father* [2002], *Second City Trilogy* [2005] [A trilogy of stage plays, commissioned by The European Capital of Culture]. In 2008, Creedon's play, *When I Was God*, was produced by Plays Upstairs New York at the 1st Irish New York Theatre Festival. In 2009 his plays *When I Was God & After Luke* were produced by the Irish Repertory Theatre in New York to high critical acclaim.

The Production received nominations for – Best Director, Best Production, Best Design, Best Actor, and was awarded the Best Director Award at The New York Irish Theatre Awards. In 2010 two of Cónal's plays, *When I Was God & After Luke* represented Ireland at the World Expo in Shanghai, China. The production received high acclaim from the Shanghai theatre critics. In 2011, Irishtown Productions returned to Shanghai with a production of *The Cure*. *The Cure* had its New York premiere in 2013, when it featured at the Origin New York Theatre Festival. The Production received high critical acclaim and went on to be awarded Best Actor and nominated Best Playwright Award.

Cónal has written over sixty hours of radio drama and his work has been commissioned and broadcast by RTÉ, BBC Radio 4 and BBC World Service. His radio drama, *Under The Goldie Fish*, featured in the Irish Times Radio Critics, best of year radio programming list for 1996 & 1998. Creedon's radio drama represented Ireland in the World Play International Drama Festival and was subsequently broadcast by radio stations in Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Canada, and the USA.

Creedon's published books include *Pancho and Lefty Ride Out* [1995 Collins Press - a collection of short stories], *Second City Trilogy* [2007 - Irishtown Press - A trilogy of plays] and *Passion Play* [1999 Poolbeg Press - a novel]. His short stories achieved recognition in the Francis MacManus Awards, Life Extra Awards and George A. Birmingham Awards and PJ O'Connor Awards. His fiction has been translated into Italian, German, and Bulgarian – with extracts published in China.

# Biography



In 2004, Cónal was invited to give an extensive reading tour of Italy. In 2009, he was an invited guest of The Irish American Cultural Institute, Cónal presented an 8-city coast-to-coast reading tour in the USA, later in 2009 Cónal was an invited guest of the Shanghai Writers' Association to participate in a three months writers' residency in China.

Cónal has worked as a radio presenter with RTE, a columnist with The Irish Times and has produced and directed a number of critically acclaimed documentary films including, The Burning of Cork [2005 - Paradox Pictures], Why The Guns Remained Silent In Rebel Cork [2006 – Seaview Films], If It's Spiced Beef [2007 - RTE], The Boys Of Fairhill [2007 - RTE] and Flynnie, The Man Who Walked Like Shakespeare, [2008 - RTE - Nominated for the Focal International Documentary Awards London [2009] and went on to be screened at the Irish Pavilion during World EXPO Shanghai in 2010.

## Radio Presenter

- 1994/98** Cónal was a regular contributor to Looking South – RTÉ 1
- 1994/98** Regular contributor to various programmes on RTÉ Cork – RTÉ Cork
- 1999** Southern Exposure [Presented six-part radio series] – RTÉ 1
- 2000** Fish on Friday [Presenter quirky look at all things fishy] – RTÉ 1
- 2000** Hi-Noon – Writer's room five scripts written & presented – RTÉ 1
- 2001** A Christmas Special [Presenter] – RTÉ 1
- 2001** The Art Of Connie Dodging [Presenter] – RTÉ 1



# Biography



## *Journalism*

Cónal has been commissioned to write for most Irish national newspapers. Between 2000 & 2001 Cónal wrote a weekly column for the Irish Times – Video Paradiso. It was conceived as a short piece of fiction inspired by film.

## *Artist Residencies*

Shanghai Writers', Nine Week Residency. Shanghai China. Annamakerrig Arts Centre, Sirius Project, Roches Point Lighthouse, Everyman Palace Theatre, Triskel Arts Centre, Cork County Council.

## *Public Readings*

Irish Embassy Rome, Perugia University Italy, Feltrenelli's Florence Italy, Venice Italy, Cabot 500 Festival Canada, Dillon Thomas Centre Wales, Madder Market Theatre UK, Filthy Mac Nasty's London, Trinity College Dublin, University College Galway, University College Cork, Cork County Council, Waterford County Council, Seán Dunne Festival, Rathlin Island Writers' Festival, Cape Clear Writers' Festival, Munster Literature Centre, The Shanghai Writers' Festival with Gerry Murphy [poet], Fudan University Shanghai with Gerry Murphy [poet], Shanghai Writers Association in Shanghai, China, with Leanne O'Sullivan [poet]- Irish American Cultural Institute Coast-to-coast 8-city Lecture Tour of USA, The Flatlake Festival. Tour of Shanghai with John Spillane [singer/songwriter] and various other writers' festivals.

## *Awards*

Person Of The Month and Person of the Year Nominee Cork, Writer in Residence Cork County Council, The Tyrone Guthrie Bursary, Arts Council Of Ireland Bursary, Ireland Literature Exchange Translation Support, Cultural Relations Committee of the Dept. of Foreign Affairs, C of I Radio Drama Award, Irish Film Board, European Capital of Culture.

# Books

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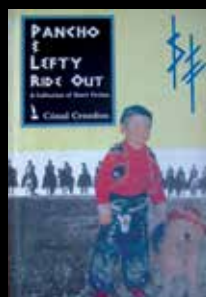
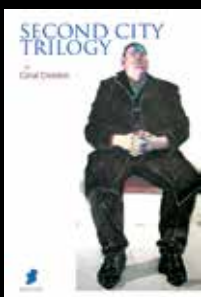


**2007**     **The Second City Trilogy**  
Published by Irishtown Press

**1999**     **Passion Play**  
Published by Poolbeg Press

**1995**     **Pancho and Lefty Ride Out**  
Published by The Collins Press

If you wish to purchase a book by  
**Cónal Creedon** please contact:  
[irishtownpress@eircom.net](mailto:irishtownpress@eircom.net)



*"In my opinion one of the finest novelists to emerge in Ireland.  
Passion Play is terrific, do yourself a favour – go out and buy  
a copy of this book."*

*First Edition*

# Books



## Passion Play

A novel published by Poolbeg [1999]

Passion Play is set on Good Friday. It is thematically styled and structured on the gospels of the New Testament. The novel works on various levels. At its most fundamental, PASSION PLAY tells the story of a 33 year old man whose various paths through life have led him to his current situation – alone, lonely, isolated, living in a kip of a bed-sit, facing eviction. With only two hits of LSD and a bottle of whiskey for comfort, his head becomes filled with the sounds of footsteps on the ceiling, late-night radio, the movement outside his door and a cacophony of voices from another life. Caught in the slipstream of the past, he takes off on a kaleidoscopic odyssey of Marx Brothers' proportions – where the insanity of life is reconciled with the taste of freshly boiled pig's head. Ultimately Pluto realises that death is the gateway to eternal life and sometimes the need to die is stronger than the will to live.

Passion Play is inspired by two events that have become engrained in the Irish Psyche – the Passion of Jesus and the Easter Rising of 1916. Similar to PASSION PLAY both of these events occurred at Easter time and culminate in a blood sacrifice – followed by redemption.

The plight of our anti-hero PLUTO [Ref: God of the Underworld], reflects the Passion of Jesus and his ultimate ascension into heaven. The recurring theme of Easter 1916 and vignettes from the gospels weave seamlessly in and out of the gritty magic realism of the narrative. Ultimately, Pluto's blood sacrifice leads him to a most beautiful redemption.

## REVIEWS

"The novel's interior is much indebted to Joyce. The way Creedon combines the child-centred perspective of Paddy Clarke Ha! Ha! Ha! with the tough teenage world of the Commitments and the domestic cruelty of The Woman who Walked into Doors is ambitious and effective. His exposition of his characters' thought processes owes much to Flann O' Brien's skewed sophistication and Patrick McCabe's scabrous vision as to an earlier prototype of Seán O' Casey's Joxer. Creedon has found a form all of his own." **C.L. Dallat: Times Literary Review [TLS]**

"It's one of those books where it often feels inappropriate to either laugh or cry, at times surreal, frequently hilarious, often poignant but never, ever dull - The reader enters the twilight zone." **U Magazine**

"Creedon can create characters, not just mouthing amusing philosophical meanderings, not just cold abstractions, these are creations of Creedon's great humanity. It is essential that I tell you here that you must finish this book. A wonderful inventive comedy." **Sunday Tribune**

Passion Play was translated into Italian and Bulgarian – with extracts published in Germany, Austria and China. It featured as Book On One [RTÉ 1], Book Of The Week [Irish Examiner], Book Of The Week [RAI – Italian National Radio]. In 2004, Passion Play was the subject of two lectures presented to IASII [International Association for the Study of Irish Literature] by Dr. Conci Muzzullo [Sicilia]: Memories [as] a mixture of stories, truths, untruths and other people's memories: Narrative and cinematographic strategies in Passion Play by Cónal Creedon. – and Dott. Gioia Gamera [Universita degli Studi di Firenze] **Station Ireland: Passion Play According to Cónal Creedon**



# Books

## Pancho And Lefty Ride Out

A collection of short stories published by Collins Press [1996]

Creedon's short stories have been broadcast on RTÉ radio, adapted for stage and published extensively in various periodicals, collections in Ireland, UK, Germany, and China – and have gained recognition in Life Extra Awards, Francis Mac Manus Awards, George A. Birmingham Awards, One-Voice Monologue

### REVIEWS

"Its slice-of-life focus and camcorder psychology displays a rare honesty – riddled with Dosteyevskian self-delusion / self analysis." **The List**

"Creedon is to Cork what Stephen King is to Maine." **In Dublin**

"Cork's answer to Roddy Doyle" **The Irish Times**

"You will find much to enjoy in this collection of short stories – a certain kind of low life as seen by a Roddy Doyle on scrumpy." **The Sunday Tribune**

## Second City Trilogy

Second City Trilogy was commissioned by the European Capital Of Culture 2005

The trilogy is comprised of three short plays [The Cure, When I Was God, After Luke] and is structured such that the casting requirements of all three plays can be met by three actors, with each actor appearing in two plays. It is conceived as a tragicomic exploration of various father-son relationships, set against the social, historical and topographical background of Cork City. The Second City Trilogy was first performed on 27th June 2005 at the Halfmoon Theatre, Cork Opera House. Due to public demand the production was extended a number of times – eventually transferring to the main stage of the Cork Opera House.

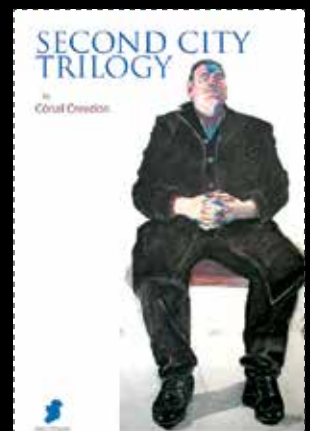
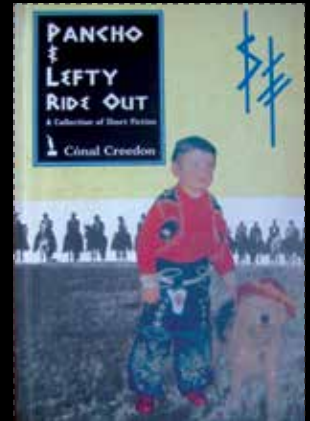
In 2007, the text of Second City Trilogy was published by Irishtown Press to celebrate the acquisition by the Crawford Gallery of a portrait of Cónal Creedon by artist Eileen Healy. The portrait features on the cover of the book.

### REVIEWS

"The trilogy forms a complex, enthralling piece of theatre that boasts the dual achievement of entertaining and educating – a testament to Creedon's shrewd writing skill." **Irish Independent**

"...scavenging the thesaurus for sufficient superlatives for this great piece of writing and fine performance. Yes we liked it; we liked it a lot.." **The Irish Examiner**

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# Theatre

*"Moving, iconic yet utterly contemporary, an image of exhilarating desolation burned into memories"*

*The Irish Times*



The Trial Of Jesus  
(c) provision images

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1999</b>    <b>When I Was God</b><br/>Red Kettle Theatre Company</p>  | <p><b>2009</b>    <b>When I Was God &amp; After Luke</b><br/>Produced Irish Repertory Theatre New York<br/>Awarded Best Director at First Irish Festival Theatre Awards New York</p>   |
| <p><b>2000</b>    <b>The Trial Of Jesus</b><br/>Corcadorca Theatre Company<br/>The production received two awards at the National Business2Arts Awards and was nominated for an Irish Times Theatre Award</p> | <p><b>2010</b>    <b>After Luke &amp; When I Was God</b><br/>Toured to World Expo Shanghai 2010, China<br/>Ke Centre for Contemporary Arts, Shanghai China</p>   |
| <p><b>2001</b>    <b>When I Was God</b><br/>Everyman Palace Production. Three cities festival UK</p>  | <p><b>2013</b>    <b>The Cure</b><br/>Produced by Poor Mouth Theatre Company New York<br/>At Green Room Theatre New York<br/>Awarded, Best Actor at First Theatre Festival New York<br/>Nominated Best Playwright at First Theatre Festival New York</p> |
| <p><b>2002</b>    <b>Glory be to the Father</b><br/>Red Kettle Theatre Company [Irish National tour]</p>  | <p><b>2014</b>    <b>When I Was God</b><br/>Produced by Camross Theatre group<br/>Awarded Best Actor and Best Support Actor at The Wicklow Federation Drama Festival</p>   |
| <p><b>2005</b>    <b>The Cure</b><br/>Cork Opera House/Blood in the Alley Theatre Company</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2005</b>    <b>After Luke</b><br/>Cork Opera House/Blood in the Alley Theatre Company</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2005</b>    <b>The Second City Trilogy</b><br/>[The Cure, After Luke, When I Was God]<br/>Commissioned by European Capital of Culture</p>   |  |
| <p><b>2009</b>    <b>When I Was God</b><br/>Plays Upstairs New York.<br/>Featured at the, 1st Irish Festival. New York</p>  |  |

# Theatre

## The Trial Of Jesus

**On Good Friday 2000, The Trial Of Jesus was staged on the streets of Cork City, Ireland – a spectacular re-enactment of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus Christ.**

The play centres around the last days of Jesus Christ. Patrick's Hill in the city centre was transformed to represent Jerusalem of two thousand years ago. The play unfolded through a series of vignettes, performed on a number of custom-built, site-specific stages, culminating in a re-enactment of the crucifixion of Jesus in Bell's field – overlooking the city.

The Good Friday spectacular drew an audience of thousands – making it one of the theatrical experiences of the Millennium year. The production was awarded two Business2Arts awards and was nominated for an Irish Times Theatre Award.

### REVIEWS

“Ground breakers in a theatrical sense. Ranks as the single most impressive cultural contribution to the millennium year bar none.” **The Irish Examiner**

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## The Cure

**In times of personal crisis, either a cure or a miracle may be required to turn a life around...**

Our anti-hero is unable to confront various issues in his personal life. It is a recurring theme in his life that has been handed down from generation to generation, like a baton in a relay race. We meet him trawling the streets looking for an early morning pub in search of a cure. But fate takes a hand to his feet and the streets of Cork become his road to Damascus.





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## REVIEWS

"I got to see the Cure at the Halfmoon Theatre last night. It is terrific. It's great fun. It's just fantastic. Just so well done by Mikel Murfi. It's a credit to Cónal Creedon. Don't miss this play, you need to go and see it – the cultural highlight of Cork 2005." **Opinion Line 96fm**

## When I Was God

**It's FAI Cup Final day. Referee Dino Keegan is retiring from the game...**

At half-time the spotlight shines directly down on Dino Keegan's decision-making capability, as the ghosts of his past visit him in his dressing room. On the field of dreams the referee is God, but what happens when God is made Man?

## REVIEWS

"Creedon's great gift seems to be observation, 45 tense, funny and pointed minutes, convincing and memorably skilful. When I Was God is both a treat and a treasure" **The Irish Times**

"Vigorously sustained by stylish performances and an ingenious script which marries comedy and pathos with a sure hand. They'll love it. It's impossible not to." **The Sunday Times**

## After Luke

**Inspired by the parable of the Prodigal Son, in St. Luke's Gospel.**

It explores the greed-driven frenzy surrounding the property market. The action unfolds in that contentious place where concrete and asphalt meet pasture and stone and urban necessity collides with the rural ideal – with devastatingly tragic consequences.

## REVIEWS

"This play operated on two levels, it was hilarious but poignant. Creedon's gift is his ability to distil the very essence of his environment. It is this sense of place and people and his gently anarchic view of life which makes his works so deliciously attractive." **The Irish Examiner**

"Creedon's play shifts easily between the past and the present, revealing a sharp ear for dialogue, keen eye for observation and a deep affection for his characters as Creedon brings a deft pathos and humour to the tragicomedy of a peculiar father-son relationship, a delight that demands to be savoured."

**The Sunday Tribune**

## After Luke & When I was God - New York 2009

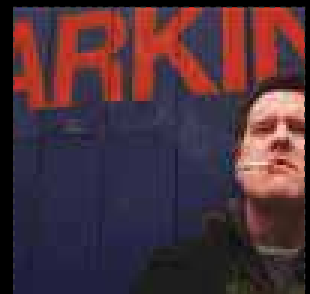
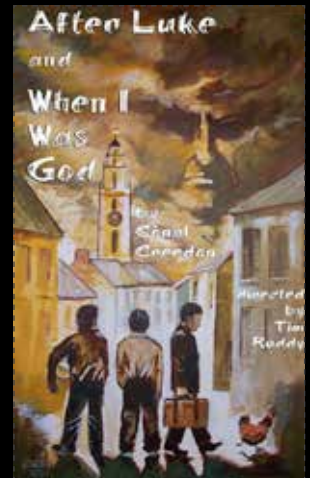
**Two award winning plays [When I Was God & After Luke] produced by The Irish Repertory Theatre Company New York 2009.**

The Trilogy was produced by Cork Opera House / Blood in The Alley 2005 – Director: Geoff Gould – it ran for 12 weeks at the Halfmoon Theatre before transferring to the main Opera House Stage. In 2009 – The plays were produced by The Irish Repertory Theatre Company in New York – the production run was extended - and was nominated for Best Actor, Best Production, Best Direction and Best Design at the New York Theatre Awards. The production was Awarded - Best Director In 2009 the plays were produced by the Irish Repertory Theatre Company in New York. The production run was extended and the plays were nominated in every category at the New York Theatre Festival Awards 2009. The production was awarded Best Director and received critical acclaim.

## NY REVIEWS

*The Villager New York – Jerry Tallmer*

When I was a kid, if a girl gave you the air, there was always some wise guy cheering you up with the mantra: "You know what they say about women and streetcars — there's always another one coming along." You could more seriously, and more maturely, apply those words to Irish playwrights. The damn thing is, unlike certain non-Desired streetcars, those Irish playwrights (from Yeats and Wilde



# Theatre

and Synge and Shaw on down to now) are always good going on great, and the latest in that endless chain is the all but unknown (in America) Cónal Creedon. Unknown no longer, Creedon's short, idiosyncratic "After Luke," and even shoRTÉr, punchier "When I Was God," comprise a disturbing two-hour double-bill. Idiosyncratic? Bite off any hunk of either work; it's all as chewy as leather yet weirdly digestible. None of this would be unfamiliar to, let's say, D.H. Lawrence, or, for that matter, George Orwell. What hasn't been heard before is the thorny voice of 48-year-old Cónal Creedon of County Cork, Ireland, who, from all reports, is a lot gentler in the flesh than on paper.

## *NY Theatre – Peter Schuyler*

A program of two potent plays, a searing drama of a father's heartbreaking expectations. I imagine there are few things harder to be than a contemporary Irish playwright. Given the theatrical history of the Emerald Isle, its lyric tradition, it must be either a very daring or very foolish individual indeed who steps up to be measured against the likes of the Irish literary pantheon. On the daring end falls Cónal Creedon. I found myself laughing uproariously as the words stayed the same but the meaning was in constant shift, each repetition raising the stakes to a beautifully bittersweet conclusion.

## *New York Times – Rachel Saltz*

Fathers and sons and the damage done: this is the theme, with variations, of the Cork writer Cónal Creedon's fine plays "After Luke" and "When I Was God," which can be seen in a nearly pitch-perfect production Mr. Creedon's words are enough to create a world that is at once comic and dramatic, poetic and musical.

## *New Yorker*

Both plays are intimately conceived and performed, tracing in chiaroscuro, the intersection between kinship and machismo.

## *Total Theater – USA*

It's a Cain and Abel style powerful dynamic conflict totally an exciting and engaging double bill.

## *Irish Voice*

Cónal Creedon comes as close as any contemporary Irish Playwright to charting the heart of darkness at the centre of Irish family life – two new Irish plays about fathers and sons are already huge critical hits"

## *Time Out New York*

Creedon mingles folksy, profane humour and heartache making for a pungent play. Creedon's semicomical yarn-spinning, [has] plenty robust humour and plenty of rough poetic flourish – he can turn a juicy phrase"

## *NY Thr-Reviews – David Sheward*

Creedon puts a gaelic spin on Miller, O'Neill and August Wilson. An entertaining two-hander, the entire evening is a heart breaking, touching look at fathers and sons. Full of humour and intense conflict, a pair of earthy, rough-hewn, poetic scripts. Creedon has written some hilarious dialog.

## *CBS News*

Satisfyingly action packed, at times even turbulent. Creedon's writing impressively conveys that the impact of fathers resonates throughout their sons' lives.

## *NY City Arts – Gawn Orel*

At times it feels Beckett-like, you might think the people are too unusual to exist but they actually do.

## *NY Stage And Page – Keith Garebian*

Creedon's special gift is for monologues as his story allows the two actors play multiple roles. It has comic and dramatic power that can be both brutal and tender – violent comedy as well as disturbing drama.



# Theatre

*Metro Magazine – Michael bracken*

If you're looking for a healthy dose of familial testosterone without any Blarney, these muscular [plays] will serve you well. And a satisfying ride it is.

## IRISH THEATRE REVIEWS

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## SHANGHAI REVIEWS

*Editor's Pick – Talk Shanghai*

"This is contemporary Theater that plays like the work of a past master. The work of Irish playwright Cónal Creedon, are quite simply a delight, [but] not in an all sunshine and light way. On a sparse stage on which the characters can only live or die, it lives. Underlying all is a love of language and a keen observance of detail – Creedon is lyrical, and uses rhyme and rhythm, without being showy, and enriches with the Cork colloquial without alienating – come back soon, you are always welcome on the Shanghai stage." **Talk Shanghai – Ned Kelly [Editor]**

"Both plays have a great rhythm to them, Creedon's talent is that he can show raw emotions, bitterness, regret, memories and the blackest of black humour wrapped up in a deep knowledge of his native Cork in Ireland." **Shanghai – Uacht**

*Knockout Irish One-Two*

"What Cónal Creedon offers the audience is an escape from everyday Shanghai and a portal into the Western world. The plays themselves are a joy to behold, the sudden changes from side-splitting humour to chilling negatives leave the audience constantly at internal emotional odds. Get down this weekend and treat yourself to a real piece of Western theatre." **Urbanatomy – Shanghai**



# Theatre



Audience at Chinese Premier of *After Luke & When I Was God* - Shanghai 2010

**Included in photo:** Conor O'Riordan [Consulate General to Shanghai], John Lynam [Vice-Consulate Shanghai], Declan Kelleher [Irish Ambassador to China], Michael Martin TD [Minister of Foreign Affairs], Dara Murphy [Lord and Lady Maroress of Cork Ireland]

## The Cure - Shanghai Tour 2011

In 2011, Irishtown Productions returned to Shanghai with the Chinese Premier Production of *The Cure* by Cónal Creedon performed by Aidan O'Hare. The production was performed at The Ke Centre of Contemporary Arts in Shanghai, and the Premier Production was launched by Conor O'Riordan the Consul General to Shanghai.

2013 – The play received nice reviews from the NY Theatre Critics, and went on to be an award winner at The New York 1st Irish Festival 2013.

Award For Best Actor to Michael Mellamphy [*The Cure*].

Nomination For Best Playwright to Cónal Creedon [*The Cure*].

### REVIEWS

“...the highlight of last years theatre in Shanghai came all the way from Cork in Irish playwrights Cónal Creedon’s double-header of short plays – powerful, yet punctuated with humour, lyrical and richly colloquial. They were terrific!”

**Arts Editor – That’s Shanghai Magazine – March 2011**

“Everyone loves the Irish. It’s just a fact. Creedon’s script is a rich fusion of melancholy poetry and affable banter. Aidan O’Hare and ‘The Cure’ are a match made in monologue heaven. Its potency lies in the profound ability of the playwright and the actor to connect directly with people. ‘The Cure’ is a truly fine piece of theatre, one that is Irish to its core but anything but provincial in its scope. You couldn’t ask for anything more than this. **Smart Shanghai Magazine – March 2011**

“A one-man show at the Ke Center proves that you don’t need a huge cast to produce a hit – their recent collaboration with Irishtown Productions proves that they are on top of their game. Cork playwright Cónal Creedon’s gritty soliloquy *The Cure* saw Irish actor Aidan O’Hare command the stage as a man left behind by a racing economy and changing city. Creedon’s use of language is dizzyingly attractive. He manipulates repetition to great effect, bringing the opening lines back several times in chilling sonata form. As for the staging, the Ke Center’s stark space was the perfect backdrop for a bleak but redemptive piece of drama.

**Asiacity Network – March 2011**

“*The Cure* is the bittersweet tale of a man who has emotionally lost his way. As with the previous two plays, Creedon explores the frustrations of average lives, to the backdrop of historical happenings in the playwright’s home town. And as with the previous two, the script is lyrical and rich with colloquialism, the melancholy lifted with moments of delightful amusement. (“When the chemistry goes in a relationship,” he reflects on marriage and drink, “There’s nothing for it but to take more chemicals” – A fine piece of theater...

**Urbanatomy Shanghai – March 2011**

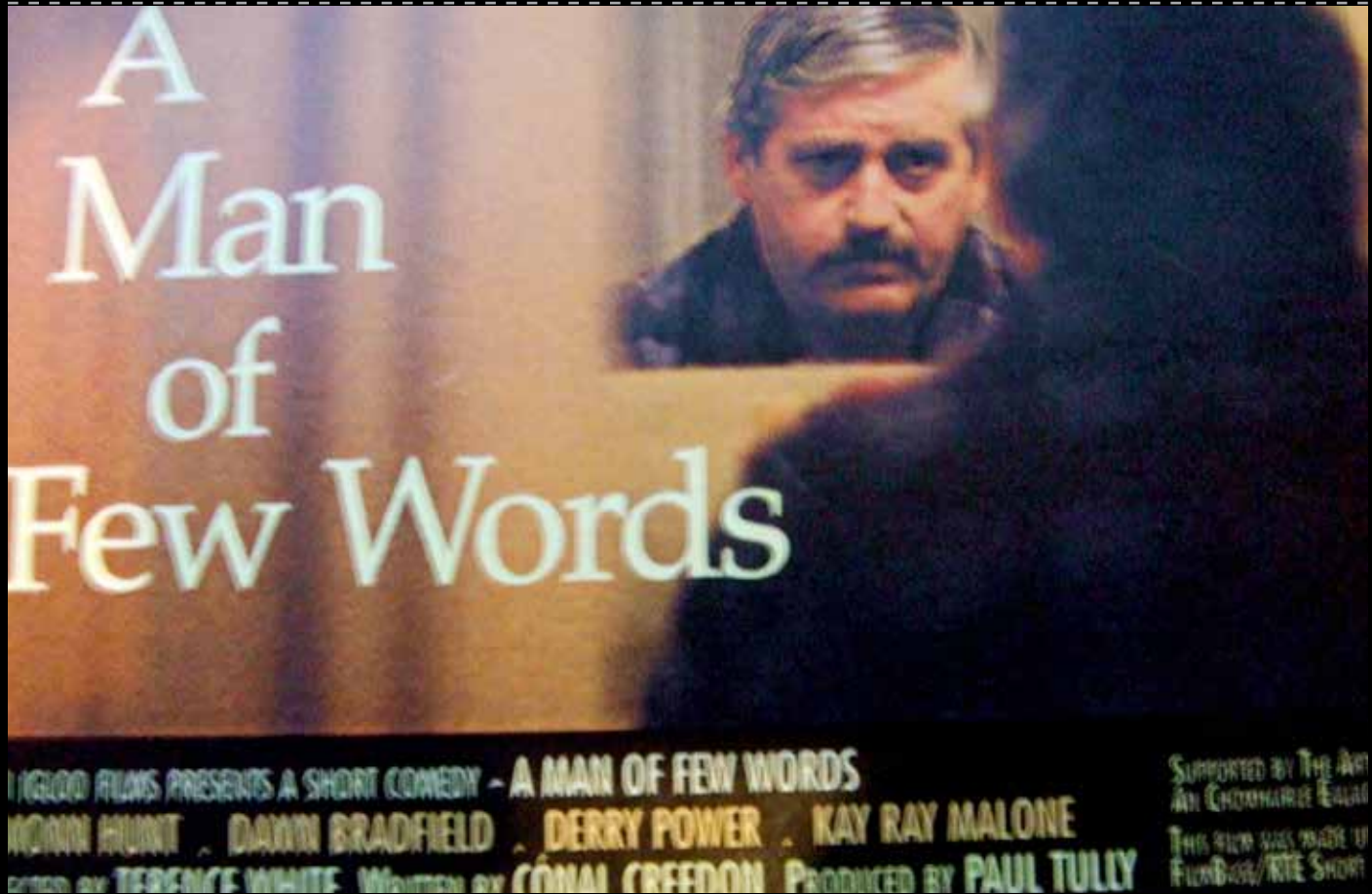
“As written by Cónal Creedon, such moments resound with wince-inducing authenticity before they are eclipsed by an inspirational twist. – words, inflected with the faintly Scandinavian accent of Munster, soar like a bracing breeze off the River Lee.”

**Andy Webster - New York Times.**



# TV Documentary/Film

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**2008** **Flynnie, The Man Who Walked Like Shakespeare**  
Producer/Writer/Director

**2007** **The Boys Of Fairhill**  
Producer/Writer/Director

**2006** **If It's Spiced Beef**  
Producer/Writer/Director

**2006** **Why The Guns Remained Silent In Rebel Cork**  
Writer/Director

**2005** **The Burning of Cork**  
Writer/Director

**2003** **Nativity**  
Irish Film Board Bursary  
Shortlisted for the Moonstone Writers' Lab

**2001** **A Man Of Few Words**  
Short Film. Director: Terence White, Produced: Indie Films

**1995** **The Changing Faces Of Ireland**  
Co-scripted six-part series



# TV Documentary/Film

## A Man Of Few Words

A Man Of Few Words has featured at various Film Festivals and was subsequently broadcast on RTÉ 1.

Kathleen is getting married, her wedding day will be the most wonderful day of her life. But what about the father of the bride? This is the story of one man's triumph over a life-long personal torment.

### REVIEWS

"The Father of the bride was very very drunk but came through it magically in this short film adapted from Cónal Creedon's novel, Passion Play – one of the best novels of recent times"  
**Sunday Independent TV Review**

Listed in TV Reviewers pick of the day – **The Sunday Times**

## If It's Spiced Beef ... It Must Be Christmas

A half hour documentary, produced & directed by Cónal Creedon for RTÉ. If it's Spiced Beef, It Must Be Christmas, is a heartwarming, evocative and seasonal documentary that explores various traditions that are specific to Cork city. The origins of some of the featured traditions are lost in the mists of time.

Personal Note: Many of the people who took part in this documentary are friends of mine – it made the process all the more enjoyable. Incidentally, I am one of the founding members of the choir featured in the final segment of the documentary. Every Tuesday night from October to December we meet up in the back room of the Bellvue Bar to learn Christmas carols. During Christmas week we hit the streets of Cork with a view to raising money for St. Patrick's Hospice. Over the past number of years the people of Cork have proven to be very generous. In truth it's more social than choral and definitely meeting up with the lads each year is a highlight of the Christmas season in 2009 we were very honoured to be invited to perform at the Lord Mayor's Gala Christmas concert in Cork City Hall.

### REVIEWS

Television pick of the week – **Daily Star**

Television pick of the day – **Irish Independent**

## Why The Guns Remained Silent In Rebel Cork

The Easter 1916 Rising in Ireland was to change the course of Irish history. The events as they unfolded in Dublin are well documented, but little has been said about the various other uprisings that took place throughout the country that Easter tide; Enniscorthy, Navan, Galway, and Cork.

It's a little known fact that over 2,500 Irish Rebels turned out for duty in Cork at Easter 1916. And following various complications and a series of confused and contradictory orders from GHQ in Dublin, a small garrison held their position in the city centre for a week. This documentary tells the story of why the guns remained silent in rebel Cork.

"All is changed, changed utterly"

**W.B. Yeats [Easter 1916]**



# TV Documentary/Film

## The Burning Of Cork

On the night of December 11th 1920, Cork city was to experience an unimaginable night of terror and destruction at the hands of the British forces of law and order.

Large tracts of the city were destroyed by fire including the residential area of Dillon's Cross and the commercial heart of the city centre. South of the river, incendiaries also leveled the administrative centre at the City Hall and the Carnegie Library. Business premises were looted, citizens were intimidated and firemen were shot and wounded as they fought the flames. And as a bookend to the night's carnage, a death squad made its way to the Delany family home, where Con and Jerh Delany were shot dead and their uncle William Dunlea was wounded.

The Burning Of Cork tells the story of that fateful night and the events leading up to it.

### REVIEWS

"If there has been a sense that some documentaries on the Hidden Histories series have struggled to fully fill out the one hour slot available, this was not the case with Hidden History: The Burning of Cork (RTÉ 1, Tuesday, 10.15pm). Instead, there was a sense that Neil Jordan (or indeed its own superb director, Cónal Creedon) could fruitfully be let loose on the story with a twenty million dollar budget. Creedon's documentary told far more than just the story of the night of December 11, 1920."

### Village Magazine

Pick Of the Day – **The Irish Times**

Pick Of the Day – **The Irish Examiner**

## The Boys Of Fairhill

The Boys Of Fairhill, is an atmospheric documentary which explores the living traditions of the Northside of Cork city through the songs of Seán O'Callaghan.

In 1928 a group of men from the Northside of Cork city gathered on the steps of the North Monastery to have their photograph taken. These men were to become known as, 'The Boys Of Fairhill' – their exploits are remembered in song and story.

Seán O' Callaghan was the bard of Fairhill and his songs tell the real-life stories of people from the Northside of Cork city. Many will have heard of the song – The Boys Of Fairhill. The popular version as recorded by The Wolftones, is not the original version, and doesn't reflect the heroic nature of the song as originally written by Seán O'Callaghan.

### REVIEWS

"The Boys of Fairhill, Cónal Creedon's documentary which detailed the many accomplishments of 'the boys' in hurling, bowling and dog-racing and pigeon-fancying, indeed all the recreations which make a man's life worth living. The previous week Creedon had another erudite and evocative documentary about Cork, If It's Spiced Beef...and RTÉ is lucky to have him too."

### The Sunday Independent

Pick Of the Day – **The Irish Examiner**



# TV Documentary/Film

*"What emerges is an extraordinary  
charismatic man"*

*The Irish Examiner*



## **Flynnie, The Man Who Walked Like Shakespeare**

Flynnie – The Man Who Walked Like Shakespeare, is the fascinating story of the life-long artistic passions and political endeavours of Fr. Christy O' Flynn [1881-1961]– affectionately known as Flynnie, by the people of the Shandon area on the northside of Cork City, Ireland.

The documentary explores his radical views and his struggle to effect social and political change in the poverty stricken lanes around Shandon area of Cork City. The documentary has been nominated for the Focal International Documentary Awards.

In 2010 the documentary was screened – at the Irish Pavilion, in the Expo Village Shanghai, during world Expo Shanghai 2010.

### **REVIEWS**

*"I can confirm it offers an almost unique view of good people doing good things"*

**Sunday Independent**

*"Critics' Choice"* **Weekend Examiner**

*"Cónal Creedon's sweet and economical documentary about the man and his work...was one of those factual and understated Documentaries that RTÉ tends to do particularly well"*

**Sunday Tribune**

*"Flynnie a documentary about an inspirational priest who worked with the youth of Cork City made for a fascinating and enjoyable half-hour."*

**Sunday Business Post**



# Radio Drama

*"Under the Goldie Fish would make Gabriel García Márquez turn puce in a pique of jealousy... Gold card radio with plums on."*  
*The Sunday Tribune*



**1993**    **Come Out Now Hacker Hanley!**  
 RTÉ Radio 1

**1994**    **After the Ball**  
 Francis MacManus Awards

**1994**    **Every Picture tells a story**  
 RTÉ Radio 1

**1994**    **Caught in a trap**  
 C.L.R Drama Competition – RTÉ

**1994**    **Under the Goldie Fish**  
 - 98    85 half hour episodes – RTÉ Radio

**2000**    **This Old Man, He Played One**  
 World Play 3 International Festival

**2001**    **1601**  
 Docu/drama Battle of Kinsale – RTÉ

**2002**    **The Cure**  
 Monologue – RTÉ

**2003**    **The Prodigal Mancen**  
 RTÉ 1 – Awarded the C of I Bursary

**2003**    **Adaptation – Guests of the Nation**  
 RTÉ 1 – For Frank O' Connor Cent.

**2003**    **1601 – The March of O' Sullivan Beara**  
 RTÉ Docu / Drama

**2004**    **Adaptation – Tailor and Ansty**  
 RTÉ Drama

**2004**    **Passion Play – Book on One**  
 RTÉ Radio 1

**2005**    **Adventure of the downtown dirty faces**  
 5 short stories – RTÉ Radio 1

**2005**    **No. 1, Devonshire Street**  
 BBC Radio 4

# Radio Drama



## Under The Goldie Fish

Cónal's work as a writer first came to prominence with his surreal, madcap, pseudo-soap, that clocked up over eighty-five half hour episodes [1994 –1998]. It was set under the golden fish weather vane, which is perched on Shandon Steeple, Cork [Under the Goldie Fish].

The action unfolded through the lives of the NUTTER family [Nutter, Maggie, their gormless son Mossie and their dog Finbar the Wonder Dog]. The storylines reached out through their extended family, Nutter's sister, Sis – her chronic alcoholic husband Nero and their friends Boris the runaway Russian, Pamela the transsexual stunner, Tossler the van driver and of course the Cork Super Hero [Captain Crubeen]. Under The Goldie Fish received high critical acclaim and was listed in Best of The Year Programmes by the Irish Times critics for 1995 and 1997. Since the term Under the Goldie Fish was first coined by Creedon, it has entered common parlance – the Shandon area is often affectionately referred to as Under the Goldie Fish.

### REVIEWS

“Under the Goldie Fish would make Gabriel García Márquez turn puce in a pique of jealousy...

Gold card radio with plums on.”

**The Sunday Tribune**

“The impossibly surreal, hilarious and often poignant series, Under the Goldie Fish”

**Evening Herald**

“For distinctive flavour, free rein to the imagination and even the odd passionate belief, there may never be a match for Under the Goldie Fish...Cónal Creedon's mad, bad, wonderful-to-know daily sitcom-soap...If you like your metafiction, inteRTÉxtuality and just plain messin' in daily doses – Creedon's yer only man!”

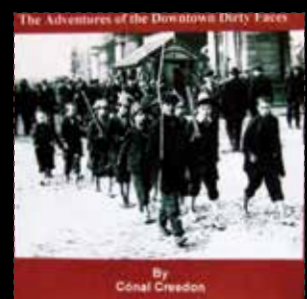
**The Irish Times**

“They were discussing what should go into the Irish Millennium Time-Capsule. If they are looking for something to represent Ireland how about, Under the Goldie Fish? It's so off the wall, that it shouldn't ring true, but the most frightening fact is that it does...”

**Sunday Independent”**

## The Adventures Of The Downtown Dirty Faces

A series of five stories based around the exploits a gang of pre-teen inner-city street urchins – collectively known as The Downtown Dirty Faces. The stories are powerfully performed by Martina Carroll.



# Radio Drama

## Guests Of The Nation

Guests Of The Nation, was adapted for radio by Cónal Creedon to commemorate the centenary of Frank O'Connor's birth. O'Connor's original story is arguably one of the greatest pieces of anti-war literature ever written. On the BBC History website, John L. O'Sullivan relates a very similar real-life story from his time with an IRA Flying Column during the Irish war of Independence.

## The Tailor And Ansty

The Tailor And Ansty, was adapted for radio by Cónal Creedon to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Eric Cross.

### Personal note

For many reasons, the story of The Tailor and Ansty is very dear to my heart. I grew up with the stories of the Tailor. My father knew Tim Buckley [The Tailor] and his wife Anastasia – In later years, their son Jackie often called to our house and, of course, one of the Tailor's stories concerns my Great Grand Uncle, Maidhc Mhichíl Ó Críodáin. [This particular story was translated by Aindrias Ó Muimhnracháin in the Irish language collection, Stories From The Tailor – it does not feature in the Eric Cross collection]

There is also an indirect connection with the text as my father was known to give Seamus Murphy [Sculptor] a lift to the Tailor's home in Gougane Barra. [Seamus Murphy features large in the book as he endeavours to create a bust of the Tailor – Seamus also carved the headstone that marks the Tailor's grave. The beauty of the headstone is in its delicate detail – a bit like the Tailor's stories].

There are echoes of the more ancient bardic storytelling tradition in the opening lines of The Tailor And Ansty

“In the town-land of Garrynapeaka, in the district of Inchigeela, in the parish of Iveleary, in the barony of West Muskerry, in the county of Cork, in the province of Munster – lives the Tailor.”

This is a story of the universe as observed from one man's fireside. The Tailor's observations are philosophical and magical – his episodic insights are as interesting today as they were when first uttered at his fireside in Gougane Barra.

The life and times of the Tailor And Ansty live on in Eric Cross' book. Born in Newry, County Down, Cross was quick to appreciate the great importance of what he witnessed during his nightly visits to the Tailor's cottage. It is a book that courtÉd much controversy and generated a highly charged public debate when it was banned by the Irish Censorship board and was the subject of a protracted debate in the Irish Senate. It's probably true to say that the other literary works by Eric Cross have been overshadowed by the larger-than-life characters of Tim Buckley and his wife Anastasia.

