

# *Parcel From America*

After a sell-out run in Dublin in 2022,  
our musical will now open at the  
Everyman Theatre in Cork, Ireland.  
October 2026

**Help Us Produce**  
this inspiring  
Irish-American production,  
and bring it to  
New York City for its  
Off-Broadway premiere  
in late 2026!



By  
Jahnna Beecham  
Malcolm Hillgartner

Kevin Corcoran  
Michael J. Hume



## Parcel From America

Set in 1950s rural West Limerick, and with Irish emigration at its core, *Parcel from America* weaves a musical tale of a lonely widow and a well-meaning neighbor boy whose attempt to help her leads him to make a promise he can't keep. This forces his family and community into a desperate act of kindness that carries them all into the true heart of Christmas.



*“It’s exactly what our audiences want to see.”*

*—Mary Lou Pagano, Executive Director,  
Sheen Center for Culture and Thought, NYC*



# *The Creative Team*



Jahnna Beecham  
Book/Lyrics

With Malcolm Hillgartner, has written 11 musicals and plays commissioned by Concord Theatricals, Repertory Theatre St. Louis, Milwaukee Rep, Hope Rep, Children's Theatre Charlotte, Orlando Family Stage. Co-wrote and directed *The Ruby Princess Runs Away* ("Best Drama" Burbank International Film Festival, 2001). Artistic Director, The Gathering new play festival (Terrence McNally's Tony Award winner Master Class).



Michael J. Hume  
Book/Lyrics

Partnered with Jahnna and Malcolm on *They Came From Way Out There* and *Dogpark: the Musical* (Samuel French.) Michael adapted and directed productions of *The White Plague*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and *Dick Whittington and His Amazing Cat*. He is a director and actor who sits on the Advisory Council for Rogue Theatre Company and was Director of the Ashland New Plays Festival. 2025 is Michael's 30th season as an actor with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.



Malcolm  
Hillgartner  
Music/Lyrics

Music and lyrics for 11 musicals, including *Chaps!* and *Dogpark: the Musical* (both Samuel French); *Holmes and Watson Save the Empire*, 2012 Ovation Award, "Best Small Ensemble Musical," Vancouver, Canada. Since its premiere in 2016, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever Musical* (Broadway Licensing) has been produced by more than 250 theatres. Award-winning narrator of over 300 audiobooks.



Kevin Corcoran  
Music/  
Arrangements

Pianist, composer, arranger, and one of Ireland's most sought-after session musicians. Currently on tour with the award-winning *Villagers*, Kevin has collaborated with many artists and bands, including Gavin Friday, Tom Morello, Lisa Hannigan, and Sorchá Richardson. Kevin has composed film soundtracks, released two solo albums of original music and created arrangements for the Villagers' album, *Fever Dreams*.

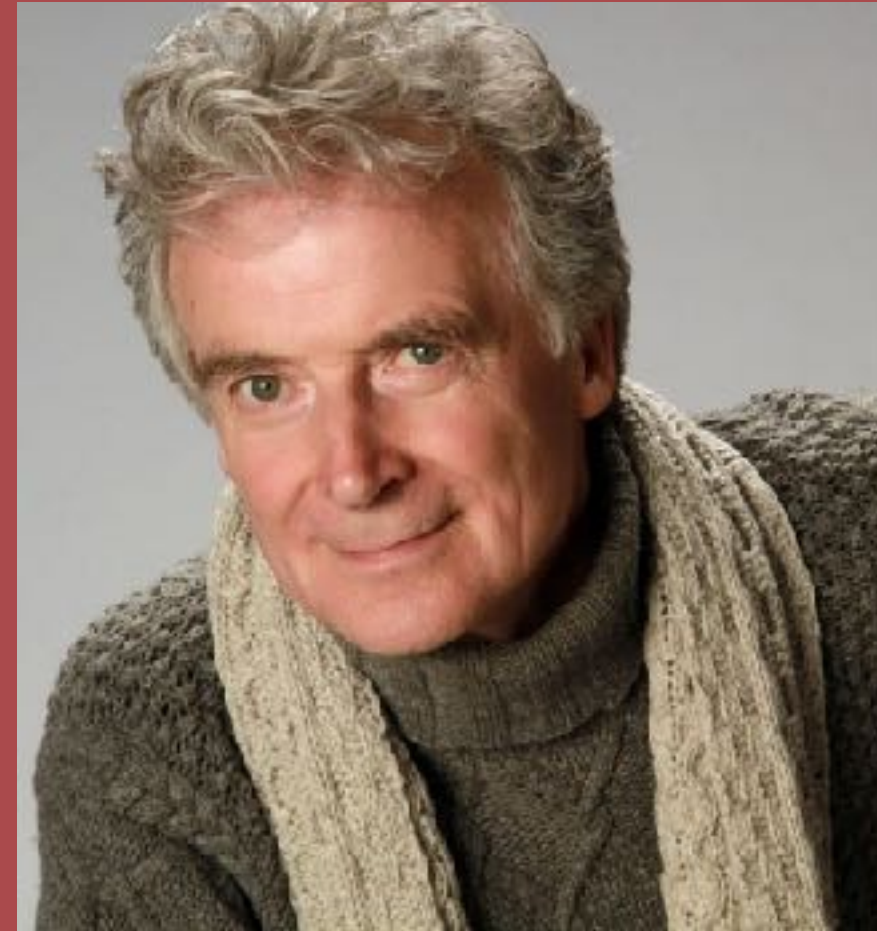


# *The Production Team*



J.R. Sullivan  
Director

Artistic Director, NYC's Pearl Theatre (2009-2013). His New York off-Broadway revival of Lillian Hellman's *Days to Come* was named a top production of the 2018 season by the Wall Street Journal. Most recently he served as interim artistic director of the Irish Theatre of Chicago. Founder, New American Theater, Rockford, Illinois. Associate Artistic Director, Utah Shakespeare Festival (2002-2009); His adaptations (with Joseph Hanreddy) of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility* have become international repertory theatre favorites.

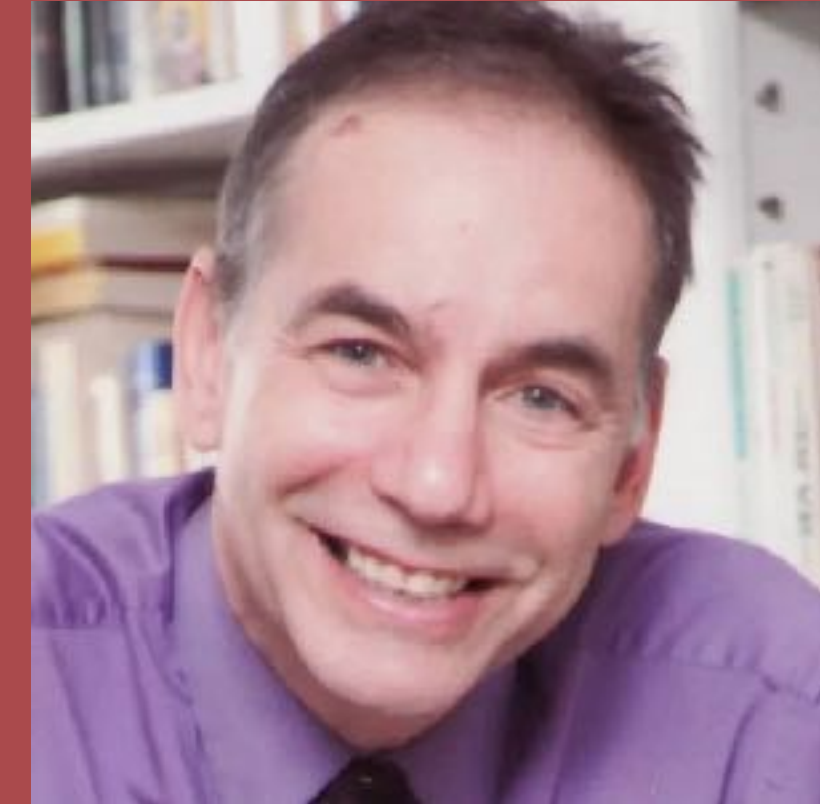


Tomáseen Foley  
Storyteller

“He is a master of the Irish narrative and a keeper of the flame for a priceless piece of Irish culture.”

— Rego Irish Records

For the past 20 years, Tom has brought Irish musicians, singers, and dancers across the Atlantic to star in his show, *Tomáseen Foley's A Celtic Christmas*, which has played to critical acclaim and packed concert halls all over the USA.



Andrew G. Levine  
Executive Producer

As a Producer: *Speed The Plow* (Broadway), *Carousel* (London's West End), *The Blue Flower* (Prospect Theater), *Virtuosa* (New York Music Festival), *Blood Type Ragu* (Off-Broadway ). Andrew was Executive Director of the York Theatre Company and Managing Director of the Sheen Center for Thought and Culture. A composer, his works have been performed at the Long Wharf Theatre and Prospect Theatre.



The  
Dublin  
Production  
2022



“Simply sublime. If there is one show you must see, it is this one.”  
— Karl Dawson, presenter, The Weekend Breakfast Show, Dublin 98FM





“Such a heart-warming, timeless story.”  
— Liam Halligan,  
Director,  
Gaiety Theatre, Dublin



“A delight to have *Parcel From America* at Smock Alley.  
The audience loved it  
and sales were exceptional.”  
— Lucy Ryan, Director  
Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin



“I wish I had a bigger theatre. It’s going to make someone very rich.”  
— Eric Krebbs,  
Owner/Producer,  
Theatre 555 NYC



# Cork's Historic Theatre October 2026



15 MacCurtain Street, Cork, Ireland  
Des Kennedy, Artistic Director



# THE IRISH TIMES

Friday, December 28, 2018

Denis O'Shaughnessy

‘The arrival of the parcel from America was a source of intense excitement’

Even before we reached home from school, we heard the news:

“Ye got a parcel from America.”

Christmas coming up and the arrival of a parcel from America. Joy unconfined. To misquote Wordsworth: “Bliss it was to be alive that Christmas but to get a parcel from America as well was sheer heaven.”

The arrival of the parcel, adorned with the stern profile of George Washington on the stamps, was a source of intense excitement. Mother, flushed to the gills, fumbling with the twine and brown paper covering (to be used again), we silently urging her on to reveal what would surely contain an Aladdin’s cave full of bounty.

There would surely be frocks for the womenfolk. Frocks with gay patterns that would laugh at the sombre colours of a depressed war era, when dressmakers were prosecuted if they overstepped the allotted amount of pleats allowed on a skirt. Scented soap to replace the grim Lifebuoy and Carbolice, if one were lucky to get it.

Then there might be a sports coat for Dad, with the shoulder pads so wide you’d think the hanger was still in it. Neckties certainly, so wide they’d do as a scarf, imprinted with grass-skirted Hawaiian lassies dancing gaily under the palm trees. Inevitably Wrigley chewing gum, to be chewed to the death. For us, Dell comics,



Superman, Batman, The Lone Ranger, a swap when finished for three well-worn publications.

My brother Joe and I were recipients of pencils with erasers at the end. The first in Limerick as far as we knew, envy of our schoolmates.

Then there was the nurses’ walking out uniforms (our benefactor, Aunt Ciss, worked in a hospital in New York) consisting of smart suits, pill-box hats and shoulder bags, altered and worn somewhat reluctantly by my sisters Maura and Eileen, but causing heads to turn as they walked down the aisle at Mass in St Mary’s.

A godsend in times of extreme shortages. Legends now, these parcels . . . there’s even a musical about them, for goodness sake. Written by Tomáseen Foley, it tells of dependence on these parcels at Christmas time in remote rural areas denuded by emigration. The joy of recipients and the disappointment for those left without.

*This informative article highlights how the impact of those cherished parcels sent long ago still resonates in the Irish consciousness today.*

For more about *Parcel from America*, visit our website:

[www.parcelfromamericamusical.com](http://www.parcelfromamericamusical.com)

*Available for licensing January 2027*

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