

# JANET FILLINGHAM ASSOCIATES

52 Lowther Road, London SW13 9NU

T: +44 (0)20-8748-5594 / F: +44 (0)20-8748-7374 / E: [info@jfillassoc.co.uk](mailto:info@jfillassoc.co.uk)

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

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## PAUL WALKER – July 2008

Paul is an Irish writer and actor. He studied voice and drama at the Dublin College of Music and began his apprenticeship as a professional actor in 1991 at various fringe venues. He subsequently played everything from a Celtic super hero (in *THE TAIN*) to a nun (in *NUNS*) to a petty criminal (in *FRUGAL COMFORTS*). His first stage play *THE TABLOID MAN*, a dark comedy about two men in an underground station, in which he also performed, had successful runs both in Dublin and London. In 1996 he began writing for television on RTE's national soap *FAIR CITY*, where he subsequently worked as Senior Storyline writer and episode writer. He is now one of Ireland's most highly regarded tv writers while at the same time continuing to expand his range in theatre and film.

**STARDUST** a controversial two-part tv film based around the real-life events of the 1981 Stardust disco fire in Dublin (Merlin Films/RTE) aired to coincide with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February 2006. It had huge repercussions in Ireland and won four awards at the Irish Film & Television Awards 2007 including Best Drama. Projects in development include: four-parter **A.R.B.** for Parallel Films/RTE and three-parter **DO NO HARM** for ITV Productions. Original drama projects also developed by RTE include: two-parter **RICOCHE** about a group of people affected by tragedy (Espresso Films/Newgrange Pictures, director Hugh Farley); two-part drama **SPIDER'S WEB** (Fair Play Films) about a father/daughter caught up at either end of the spectrum of the controversial rendition flights; **KITCHEN** a half-hour drama series (Tyrone Productions/RTE2); **SHELF LIFE** a drama series set in a shopping mall (Tyrone Productions) and **BRAVE NEW WORLD** a black, gritty and compassionate original drama series about a nun leaving an enclosed order after 20 years.

Paul has a close association with Irish theatre production company Semper Fi. They achieved a degree of notoriety with **LADIES AND GENTS** a short play about a 1950's sex scandal set in a public toilet. This was voted '*Sexiest Show on the Fringe*' (Dublin Fringe Theatre Festival, 2002) and was also nominated for an Irish Times Best Theatre Production. At the Edinburgh Fringe in 2003 it won a Fringe First for innovation and outstanding stage writing. Back in March Paul directed this site specific play in New York City which was very well received. Paul's follow-up site-specific piece for Semper Fi **ADRENALIN** which is about a heist that goes wrong premiered at the 2005 Dublin Fringe Theatre Festival and again packed audiences in.

Paul's latest theatre play **GOD'S GRACE** was co-written with Eugene O'Brien and completed a short premiere run at The Sick and Indigent Roomkeepers House in Dublin in December 2006.

Credits to date include:

### Television

2006

**STARDUST** – two-part drama based around the 1981 disco fire (Merlin Films/RTE) *Winner Best Drama, Irish Film & Television Awards, 2007, also Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Editing*

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2003-2005 **THE CLINIC** – writer for Parallel Films/RTE medical drama (Series 1, 2 and 3)

1996-2004 **FAIR CITY** - writer (including specials) and senior storyline writer for RTE soap

**Radio**

1996 **CHANCE ENCOUNTER** - 30-minute play/RTE

1995 **OLD WOUNDS** - *PJ O'Connor production winner*

1993 **TENSION** - 30-minute play/RTE

**Stage**

2006 **GOD'S GRACE** - short play co-written with Eugene O'Brien/Semper Fi, The Sick and Indigent Innkeeper's House, Dublin

2005 **ADRENALIN** - short play/Semper Fi, Dublin Fringe Theatre Festival

2002-4 **LADIES AND GENTS** – short play/Semper Fi, Dublin Fringe Theatre Festival (2002), Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2003), Brighton Festival (2004), Nottingham Festival (2004)

*Voted 'Sexiest Show on the Fringe', Dublin, November 2002*

*Nominated for Irish Times Best Theatre Production, January 2003*

*Edinburgh Festival Fringe First for Innovation and Outstanding Stage Writing, 2003*

2000/1 **DIDI'S BIG DAY** - full length comedy - a subversive look at “the biggest day of a girl's life”, Andrews Lane Theatre, Dublin

1998/9 **COSTA LADS** - full length comedy featuring a group of young men on their first sun, sex and sangria holiday, Andrews Lane Theatre, Dublin, transferred to Tivoli Theatre, Dublin

1995 **CLOUDY CHRISTMAS** - rhyming play for children performed in schools around Ireland

1990 **THE TABLOID MAN** - short comedy, Andrews Lane Theatre, Dublin, transferred to Grove Theatre, London

**Film**

1999 **ME AND ROBIN HOOD** - 30-minute short developed with Black Box Films

1998 **GAME OF CHANCE** - 30-minute comedy developed with Edwina Forkin Productions

