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Fishamble returns to 59E59 Theaters with Sebastian Barry's

ON BLUEBERRY HILL

New York, New York November 26, 2018—**59E59 Theaters** (Val Day, Artistic Director; Brian Beirne, Managing Director) is thrilled to present the US premiere of ***ON BLUEBERRY HILL***, written by **Sebastian Barry** and directed by **Jim Culleton**. Produced by Fishamble: The New Play Company as part of Origin's 1st Irish Festival, ***ON BLUEBERRY HILL*** begins performances on **Tuesday, January 8** for a limited engagement through **Sunday, February 3**. **Press Opening is Sunday, January 13 at 2:15 PM**. The performance schedule is **Tuesday – Friday at 7:15 PM; Saturday at 2:15 PM & 7:15 PM; Sunday at 2:15 PM**. Performances are at **59E59 Theaters** (59 East 59th Street, between Park and Madison Avenues). Single tickets are **\$25 - \$35** (\$24.50 for 59E59 Members). To purchase tickets, call the **59E59 Box Office** at **646-892-7999** or visit www.59e59.org.

Following the critically-acclaimed world premiere production as part of Dublin Theatre Festival 2017, Olivier Award-winning Fishamble and Laureate of Irish Fiction **Sebastian Barry**, reunite for the US premiere of ***ON BLUEBERRY HILL***.

Starring **Niall Buggy** and **David Ganly** in “beautifully pitched performances” (*Financial Times*) as two men in an unlikely and inseparable companionship. Called “superb” (*Irish Times*), “phenomenal” (*Sunday Independent*), and “outstanding” (*RTÉ Arena*), this new play bursts with humanity as it explores murder, forgiveness, survival, and, ultimately, love in the prison of the human heart.

The design team includes **Sabine Dargent** (set and costume design); **Mark Galione** (lighting design); and **Denis Clohessy** (sound design). The stage manager is **Steph Ryan**.

Sebastian Barry (playwright) was born in Dublin in 1955, and attended Catholic University School, and Trinity College, where he read Latin and English. In 1988 his play *Boss Grady's Boys* won the first BBC/Stewart Parker Award. He was Writer-in-



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Association at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin in 1990, and was elected to Aosdana. Subsequent plays were *Prayers of Sherkin* (Peacock Theatre 1990), *White Woman Street* (Bush Theatre 1992) and *The Only True History of Lizzie Finn* (Abbey Theatre 1995). In 1995 *The Steward of Christendom*, which starred Donal McCann, played at The Royal Court, the Gate Theatre in Dublin, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music in the US. It won the London Critics Circle Award, a Writer's Guild Award, the Lloyd's Private Banking Playwright of the Year Award, the Christopher Ewart-Biggs Memorial Prize and was nominated for an Olivier Award. In 1996 he was Writer Fellow at Trinity College Dublin. In 1997 he received the Irish-American Fund Literary Award. *Our Lady of Sligo* in 1998 starred Sinead Cusack, and was seen in the Royal National Theatre, the Gate theatre, and the Irish Rep in New York. It was joint winner of the Peggy Ramsay Award. In 1998 he published a novel *The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty* with Picador. His play *Whistling Psyche* was at the Almeida with Clare Bloom and Kathryn Hunter in 2004. His novel *A Long Long Way* (Faber and Faber) appeared in 2005, and won the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award, and was short-listed for the Man Booker Prize and the Impac Prize. He was Heimbold Visiting Professor at Villanova University in 2006. His play *The Pride of Parnell Street* (2007, Fishamble) was seen at the Tricycle Theatre, the Dublin Theatre Festival, the New Haven International Festival of the Arts, and 59E59 Theaters in New York. In 2008 *Dallas Sweetman* was performed at the Canterbury Festival, starring Conleth Hill. *The Secret Scripture*, a novel, was published that year, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the LA Times Book Awards, and won the Costa Book of the Year, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, the Independent Bookshop Week Book Award, and the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2009. His novel *On Canaan's Side* (2011) was longlisted for the Booker Prize and won the Walter Scott Prize. His most recent novel *Days Without End*, was published by Faber in 2016 and won the Costa Book of the Year Award, The Walter Scott Prize, and the IBW Book Award and was longlisted for the Booker Prize. His play, *On Blueberry Hill* (Fishamble), was seen at the Dublin Theatre Festival in 2017, starring Niall Buggy and David Ganly. In recent years he received honorary doctorates from the University of East Anglia, Galway University, and the Open University. His archive is held at The Harry Ransom Center in Texas. Sebastian Barry is the Laureate for Irish Fiction, 2018-2021.

Jim Culleton (director) is the artistic director of Fishamble: The New Play Company. For Fishamble, he has directed productions which have toured throughout Ireland, the UK, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US. His productions for Fishamble have won over a dozen Irish and international awards, including an Olivier Award for *Silent* by Pat Kinevane. Jim has also directed for companies including the Abbey Theatre, Woodpecker/the Gaiety, 7:84 (Scotland), Project Arts Centre, Amharclann de hIde, Tinderbox, The Passion Machine, The Ark, Second Age, RTE Radio 1, The Belgrade, TNL Canada, Dundee Rep Ensemble, TCD School of Drama, CoisCéim/Crash Ensemble/GIAF, RTE lyric fm, Fighting Words, Origin (New York), Vessel (Australia), and Symphony Space Broadway/Irish Arts Center (New York). Jim has taught for NYU, NUIM, GSA, Uversity, the Lir, Villanova, Notre Dame, TCD, and UCD. ###