SNEEM DRAMSOC PRESENTS



THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD

By John Millington Synge

PROGRAMME PRICE: €1.00

THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD

Synge's masterful tale of a pretend parricide, and the passions he engenders among the female population of a maliciously observed Mayo parish, was mocking, eloquent and heroic.

The audience rioted at its first performance in The Abbey Theatre, Dublin in 1907, outraged by a plot which showed Irish peasants sheltering and hero-worshipping a self-confessed murderer. However, there is seen to be a "great gap between a gallous story and a dirty deed" as the play moves towards its appropriately tragicomic conclusion. Synge wrote that "the wildness, and if you will, vices of the Irish peasantry are due, like their extraordinary good points of all kinds, to the richness of their nature … a thing that is priceless beyond words".

DramSoc last staged *The Playboy of the Western World* in 1987, and several of this evening's cast featured in that production. Such a brilliant and extravagant comedy merits revisiting each generation.

The play is in three acts, with a coffee/tea interval after Act 2.

The action is set in a shebeen in wild and poverty stricken Mayo in September, 1905. The first act passes on an evening, the other two acts on the following day.





The Cast

(in order of appearance)

Margaret Flaherty (Pegeen Mike)	Yvonne Burns
Sean Keogh (her cousin)	Don Keogh
Michael James Flaherty (her father, a publican)	George Drummond
Philly Cullen (small farmer)	Vinnie O'Leary
Jimmy Farrell (small farmer)	Jim Dwyer
Christopher Mahon	Miceál O'Connor
Widow Quinn	Ann Burns
Sara Tansey	Cara Spillane
Susan Brady	Brigid Delahunty
Old Mahon	Patrick Malone

PRODUCER and DIRECTOR: Patrick Malone

STAGE TEAM	John F O'Sullivan
	Edward O'Sullivan
	Maggie Tindale
	Mary P O'Sullivan
MAKE-UP	Olive O'Connor
FRONT OF HOUSE	Betty Breen