

# COMMUNITY

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# Rising story retold for

PICTURES BY CHRIS EGAN

AN IMPRESSIVE new play brought the story of Ireland's Easter Rising to life on a Birmingham stage.

The Caisc 16 production, written, produced and directed by Belfast-born Anna McKiernan, with the support of assistant director and producer Melissa Roach, was performed at the South and City College Birmingham's Digbeth campus.

It introduced the Pearce family as they gathered for the funeral wake of James Pearce, a grandson of the political activist Padraig Pearce who was executed as one of the leaders of the Irish Easter rebellion of 1916.

As the play goes on, it fits between modern day 2016 and 1916, bringing together the key moments of the Easter Rising through the familial connections of its protagonists.

Special guests who attended the special performance held on Friday, October 21, included Rory Dowling of the Irish Embassy in London.



**TENDER MOMENT:** Joseph Plunkett holds Grace for a moment  
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**THEATRE FANS:** Lizzie Rhodes and Verity Sharpe along to support writer and producer Anna McKiernan buy this photo EGN8039



**MAYO PEOPLE:** Fiona, Anne, Mick and Joe Reel from Mayo out to support Siobhan Reel in the show buy this photo EGN8037



**THANK YOU:** The cast of Caisc 16 thank the Birmingham audience  
buy this photo EGN2613



**NIGHT OUT:** Paul Tomlinson from Sutton Coldfield with friends and singers from Holy Trinity Church buy this photo EGN8019



**MEDICAL MATTERS:** Nurse Farrell and General Lowe buy this photo EGN2451



**INTIMATE:** Grace Gifford reads the letter from Joseph Plunkett  
buy this photo EGN2481



**GUESTS:** Birmingham Irish Association CEO Maurice Malone and The Irish Embassy's 1st Secretary for Communities and Cultural Affairs Rory Dowling buy this photo EGN8034



# the stage



**THEATRE GOERS:** The audience clearly enjoyed the performance buy this photo EGN8025



**TOP NIGHT:** The Heals and Hands from Birmingham buy this photo EGN8028



**CATCHING UP:** Pat Hetherington from Co Derry, Pat Rielly whose roots are in Cork and Dublin and Helen White with roots in Tipperary buy this photo EGN8030



**ENJOYING THE NIGHT:** Geoff and Rose and Mike Cuddly with Hannah O'Rourke from Kings Norton and Sutton Coldfield buy this photo EGN8041

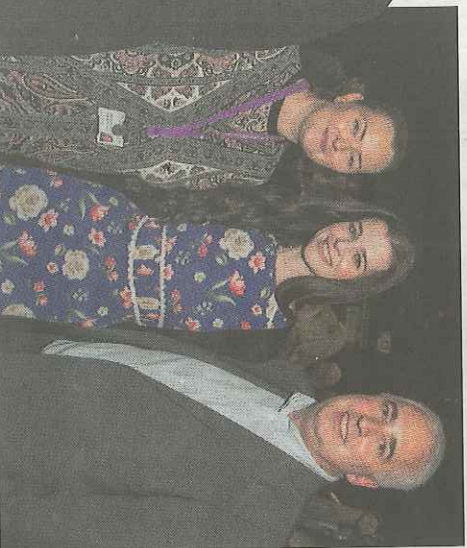


**FRENCH FRIENDS:** Sarah and Maureen Tolan with Roisian Keating with Antoine Cornet from France buy this photo EGN8023



**UP TO DATE:** 2016, the Pearce family in Birmingham buy this photo EGN2581

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**ORGANISERS:** Birmingham Irish Association's Melissa Roach, writer and director Anna McKernan and Birmingham Irish Association CEO Maurice Malone buy this photo EGN8054



**FINAL MOMENTS:** The execution in Kilmahnam buy this photo EGN2558



**SUPPORTERS:** Carmel Holleran and Mary Hours, volunteers with Birmingham Irish Association buy this photo EGN8032