

# **irebelly Productions**

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Contact: Barbara Walthall  
703.409.2372  
[Firebelly\\_press@yahoo.com](mailto:Firebelly_press@yahoo.com)

## **Firebelly Presents Pulitzer Prize Winning O'Neill**

Firebelly Productions, known never to shy away from taking on sensitive, social commentary "classics," takes on the Pulitzer Prize winning play, *Long Day's Journey into Night*, by Eugene O'Neill at Theatre on the Run, Feb. 9-Mar. 2.

Widely considered to be America's greatest playwright, Eugene O'Neill won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama four times, the last in 1957 for *Long Day's Journey into Night*. O'Neill's masterwork follows the Tyrone family on one fateful, heart-rending day in the summer of 1912. Despite the family's troubles, we see the family's strengths, too.

"Those hidden strengths in all family relationships provide hope for the future" says director Kathi Gollwitzer. "While the Tyrones wrangle with deep troubles, their love for one another and the family relationships exposed show us all that our families, while different, often face similar difficulties." Families are not as perfect as we would like them to be, as we are not perfect people. We are, in fact, all subject to the many disappointments, shortcomings, and troubles the Tyrones face. But, holding fast, is a love and devotion that can glue families together.

*Long Day's Journey into Night*, a touchingly biographical snapshot of O'Neill's life, focuses on the story of one day, 8 a.m to midnight, in the life of family of four—father, mother, and two sons—in 1912, a day in which things occur that evoke the whole past of the family and reveal every aspect of its relationships. At the final curtain, there they are, understanding yet not understanding, forgiving but unable to forget. Yet the play is an expression of regret for so much suffering, rather than a catalog of blame.

"No dramatist to this day, among us, has matched O'Neill in depicting the nightmare realities that can afflict American family life, indeed family life in the 20<sup>th</sup> century Western world," said Harold Bloom of Yale University in the Foreword to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Yet this is play is truly about familial love.

Join Firebelly as it brings the Tyrone family, with its frailties and force and shortcomings and hopes, to the intimate setting of Theatre on the Run it what will be a memorable evening of great theatre. (more)

CONTACT: (703) 409 2372 • WEB SITE: WWW.FIREBELLYPRODUCTIONS.NET  
4908 NORTH 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET • ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22207

Seventeen performances are offered: Wednesdays to Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets are \$15 (adults) or \$12 students/seniors 65+; Special Senior Rate on Sundays \$5.00 for seniors 65+; Group rates available for any performance; call 703.409.2372 box office for details. Tickets online at [www. firebellyproductions.net](http://www.firebellyproductions.net) via Instantseats or call 703.409.2372

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