From its first edition in 2015, the Lughnasa FrielFest has made a point of crossing the borders between the Republic and Northern Ireland, the first large-scale arts festival to do so... it’s a poignant experience to slip seamlessly from one part of Ireland to another. THE OBSERVER
Faith Healer by Brian Friel
Promenade readings in West Donegal
August 9-11
Patrick Bergin (Frank), Dearbhla Molloy (Grace)
Robert Glenister (Teddy)
August 16-18
Paul McGann (Frank), Amelia Bullmore (Grace)
Pearse Quigley (Teddy)
August 9 & 16, 5pm; August 10 & 17, 4pm;
August 11 & 18, 3pm
Duration: 4.5-5hrs with bus journey to village halls & interval picnic
Bus Departs The Market Hall, Genties
Tickets: €30 [incl interval barbecue picnic]

Brian Friel’s monologue masterpiece in four acts is an exploration of truth, lies and the mystery of inspiration. One story, three storytellers, four monologues, each actor offers his or her interpretation of their role. The first three acts take place in different village halls - Edininfagh (Frank), Portnoo (Grace), Ardara (Teddy). The 4th act is held in the ballroom of the Highlands Hotel in Genties, the town where Brian Friel once summer-holidayed as a child and is now buried.

The Yalta Game by Brian Friel
A Rehearsed Reading
Marie Mullen and Sean McGinley
August 16 & 17 - 7.30pm
August 17 & 18 - 3pm

The Yalta Game is based on the Anton Chekhov short story The Lady with the Little Dog. Like that story, Friel’s play is set in Yalta, a Black Sea resort for summering Muscovites. In the festival’s rehearsed reading, Moville stands in for Yalta - both are seaside resorts with waterside promenades for strolling, both former ports and fishing settlements. Where Chekhov looked out from his house in Yalta across the Black Sea to Turkey, Friel wrote The Yalta Game just a few kilometres from Moville looking across to Northern Ireland.

Homer by the Sea
The Odyssey - beach readings between the tides, with live music
August 15, 5pm
Cathy Tyson - Kilahoe Beach, Dunfanagh North Donegal
August 16, 5.30pm
Cathy Tyson - Culdaff Beach, Inishowen
August 17, 5pm
Greta Scacchi - Downhill Beach, The Causeway Coast, Northern Ireland
[Supported by Tourism NI]
August 18, 5.30pm
Greta Scacchi - Rathmullan Beach,
Fanad Peninsula
Duration 1hr, seated
Tickets: €15

Celebrating Brian Friel’s passion for all things Homeric and transposing the story from Greece to Europe’s Western edge the festival presents readings from Homer’s great epic of voyage, shipwreck and homecoming across beaches on the Donegal Wild Atlantic Way and Derry Causeway Coast.

Further details on website for Odyssey Readings