A Most Notorious Woman

What CRITICS Are Saying

"This is a one-woman show at its best...a bold and intimate look at the real life story of a truly remarkable woman...(Lyons') acting is honest and gutsy, her affinity with O'Malley palpable." - Karyn Lewis -Reviewer, THE COLORADOAN

"With passion, energy and a commitment to historical accuracy, Molly Lyons, brings the true story of one of the world's truly remarkable women of history, Grace O'Malley (Granuaile), alive. You will be moved and astounded by her performance. I am delighted that my book has helped to inspire such a realistic and creative interpretation."

-- Anne Chambers - Author, Granuaile: Ireland's Pirate Queen

"There is pathos and politics in the telling of this story, as well as sheer visceral delight in the presence of an actress who fires on every theatrical cylinder imaginable." – Eric Prince -International Award-winning Playwright

"Lyons was always so in command and empathetic to the character of O'Malley, reveling in the role. She took us through the various stages of O'Malley's turbulent life, through many passionate moments, now poignant and now humourous and always fiercely independent and wild for the freedom she found in the western seas." -Tom Ryan-Reviewer, TIPPERARY STAR

"When I heard that the play was coming to Vancouver, I wondered if anyone

could take on the role of Granuaile with an understanding of why she was who she was and to authentically portray the energy, courage and indomitable spirit that was Granuaile. Well, these concerns were soon put to rest when Molly Lyons took the stage. (She) has the very essence and spirit of Granuaile nailed." - Catholine Butler -Reviewer, Celtic Connection



What PRODUCERS Are Saying

"Molly Lyons has created a heartfelt, poetic, enormously engaging play about a fascinating woman - deftly revealing the compelling humanity behind this iconic and vibrant historical character. The show is performed with such virtuosic passion that it's hard to believe there's not a cast of thousands." - Steve Scott - Assoc. Producer, Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL

"Some of the finest actor work I've ever seen. And what a remarkable story you've found to tell. And what a glorious way you have with words." - Ron Reed -Artistic Director, Pacific Theatre, Vancouver, BC

"The show is magnificent and your talent is astonishing." - Wendy Ishii -Artistic Director, Bas Bleu Theatre, Ft, Collins, CO

"Your acting skills are outstanding and the story is riveting. You demonstrate an incredible range of emotions and Seattle is so fortunate to have an actress of your caliber in our city." - Noreen McCormack - Irish Week Festival Producer, Seattle, WA

"Molly Lyons' writing and performance have brought an intriguing and emotional woman to life before our envious eyes. Brava." - Kristine Niven – Artistic New Directions Producer, NYC

What AUDIENCES Are Saying

"For all who witnessed this unique and unforgettable occasion, Molly Lyons, acclaimed international actress, WAS Granuaile." – Philip & Anna O'Malley-Dunlop, O'Malley clan chieftain - Irish Theatre Patrons

"Martin Stillion is a weaver, an absolute weaver of musical magic." -- Mairaed Kelly - Music Teacher, Westport, Ireland

"Lyons filled the theatre with her character's passion, giving this woman a texture of strength that deeply touched her audience." - Theatre Professor Morris Burns - Colorado State University

"Lyons' Grania is poignant and plausible-strong, clear-thinking, passionate.... Her talent and skill are compelling." – Irish Literature Professor Audrey Eyler – Pacific Lutheran University

'Perfect play, great script, historically very, very informative and alive." -- Kitty O'Malley, Westport, Ireland

'Excellent in every aspect." -- Martin Curry, President - Westport Drama Society

"A wonderful, spell-binding actress. She made the past come alive." -- Irish Festival Patron, Seattle

"What a tribute this is, what a 'seeing' this is, what a gift of intimacy." -Tim Dawes, Seattle Theatre Patron

"Molly is both an incredible actor who portrays O'Malley from girlhood to crone and a gifted playwright who can weave what is known about O'Malley's life into an effective drama without simplifying the content. Her play is one of the finest artistic creations I have ever experienced." -Deb Robson, Ft. Collins theatre patron