



Festival 2022: “A Moon for the Misbegotten”  
by Eugene O’Neill

Directed by Eric Fraisher Hayes

Eugene O’Neill channeled his final creative energies into facing his family and the hurt he felt at their hands. Of the six plays written at Tao House, no figure emerges more frequently than his older brother Jamie (Jim). He is a pivotal character in the heavily autobiographical *Long Day’s Journey Into Night* and a model for leading characters in both *The Iceman Cometh* and *Hughie*. In *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, the last play the playwright ever wrote, O’Neill imagined the last days of his estranged brother’s life. With great empathy and humor, he fantasized that Jim encountered the unique and powerful Josie Hogan whose love, acceptance, and sacrifice alleviated his brother’s suffering and allowed him to find a measure of peace at the end of his life. The play helped O’Neill find forgiveness for his brother and a greater understanding of himself. And now, almost 80 years later, the experience of *Moon* at Tao House is a gift to us all.



Live Performances:  
Sat 9/10, Sun 9/11\*    Fri 9/16, Sat 9/17, Sun 9/18\*  
Fri 9/23, Sat 9/24, Sun 9/25\*    (\*matinées)

Tickets \$60 (limited seating) at [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org)



Irish Music Concert

at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville  
Fri, Sep 16, 7:00pm

A concert of traditional and contemporary Irish music at the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville will be the kickoff event of the 23rd Annual Eugene O’Neill Festival. The concert celebrates the Friendship City relationship between Danville and New Ross, Ireland, from which O’Neill’s father James emigrated. Acclaimed Bay Area musicians **Cormac Gannon**, **Erin Thompson**, and **Steve Gardner** will vocalize and play a variety of instruments, including the fiddle and uilleann pipes. Tickets are only \$20 at [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org).

Visit [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org) for tickets and more info!



Other Festival Events

- Wed Sep 7 6:30pm *Moon Run* at Forward Motion FREE
- Fri Sep 9 6:30-9pm *Jazz for O’Neill* at Auburn Lounge, featuring The Jazz Room \$20
- Thu Sep 15 5-7pm *Moon Poetry* Open-Door at Cottage Jewel FREE
- Fri Sep 16 7pm *Irish Music Concert* celebrating Friendship City at Danville Veterans Hall \$20
- Thu Sep 22 6:30pm *Whiskey and Words* at Auburn Lounge \$20
- Sat Sep 24 10am *O’Neill’s Danville*, a Historic Downtown Walk FREE





# The Foundation Recognized by the Eugene O'Neill Society

Members of the Eugene O'Neill Foundation traveled to Boston for the 11th Eugene O'Neill Society International Conference. Board Member Teresa Morley represented the Foundation as a member of the panel, *Teaching/Talking/Staging O'Neill*, where she did a superb job of sharing the many creative ways in which she engaged the community during our 2021 Festival. Eric Fraisher Hayes was "on" the first evening with his humorous and insightful *51 Plays in 50 Minutes*, which the attendees greeted with laughter and praise.

EONF Advisory Board Member Eileen Herrmann-Miller, with co-worker Jane Rosario of the Bancroft Archival Library, presented the Foundation's unique collection of letters between scholar Sophus Winther and O'Neill. New insight into O'Neill is discovered in these rare letters. They will be part of our online archival collection accessible in the late fall. This aspect of the Foundation's mission will be announced soon.



The festive event of the 6-day conference was the presentation of the Medallion Award, which is given "to recognize distinguished O'Neillians (or organizations) who have dedicated significant portions of their career (and/or work) to furthering knowledge and appreciation of O'Neill." The Foundation was recognized as an organization dedicated to honoring the legacy of O'Neill through: education, a research library, an Artist in Residence program, theatrical presentations, and the work of Dan McGovern; establishing a relationship with New Ross Ireland and their O'Neill Festival in October, and the work of Artistic Director Eric Fraisher Hayes for his interpretations of O'Neill in live theatre and on film. President Florence McAuley and Eric Fraisher Hayes accepted the award on behalf of the Foundation.

## Tao House Goes to Boston



On July 7, *Into Night* by William Davies King was performed at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre as part of the International Conference on Eugene O'Neill. The play was developed through a series of workshops at Tao House over the past seven months. Actors, director, and playwright traveled to Boston for the performance. "Life at Tao House intersected with O'Neill's imagination making the creation of the play *Long Day's Journey Into Night* possible," says play director Eric Fraisher Hayes. "We are really proud that we were able to travel with our actors and share this important story."



The Tao House Film *Beyond the Horizon* is always available on our website. In addition, we have an engagement guide as well as short videos featuring leading scholars sharing their insights into various aspects of what is considered America's first great tragic drama. The film, the guide, and the scholar videos can all be found at: <http://www.eugeneoneill.org/beyond-the-horizon-the-film/>

## National Park Service News: Superintendent's Message



Our new "B.A.R.K. Ranger program" has really taken off at Eugene O'Neill NHS this summer. Our ever-creative interpretative staff recently launched this program (B.A.R.K. stands for: Bag your waste; Always wear a leash; Respect wildlife; Know where you can go) to engage pet owners in positive and fun messaging of pet rules in national parks. Olympic National Park developed the B.A.R.K. Ranger program in 2015 as a grassroots effort among park staff to encourage visitors with dogs to visit the park while being protective of the resources. The idea has since been adopted across other parks. Dogs and their humans have the chance to complete a short activity booklet while visiting, all successful dogs will be sworn in as official B.A.R.K. Rangers, and will receive a certificate of completion. Come join us at the site so we can swear in your dog, too!



We're sure Blomie would have been the first B.A.R.K. Ranger at Tao House!

Meanwhile, our museum staff have been focusing on textiles in the Eugene O'Neill NHS museum collection this spring and early summer. We worked with ACdR Conservation LLC., a fine art conservation center, under the direction of Principal Conservator Elise Yvonne Rousseau on the completion of a Textile Condition Survey of textiles in our collection. These items were owned and used by the O'Neills and include clothing, linens, bedding, and a carpet. Rousseau and her team assessed each object resulting in a narrative report detailing general needed improvements, object condition reports with photographs, and proposals and priorities for future conservation treatment and stabilization.

We look forward to welcoming visitors back to Tao House for the performances of *A Moon for the Misbegotten* in September and are tackling a myriad of maintenance projects such as repairing pool tiles, working with PG&E on power pole replacements, eradicating termites, and weed trimming to get the site ready. As a reminder, tours are available Wednesday through Sunday at 10:00 am or 2:00 pm. Please remember to check our website for the most current information about our operating status.

We hope that in the near future you will join us for a tour of Tao House and/or one of our special programs, such as the stargazing event rangers held in May, which called attention to the lunar eclipse that month and gave us a novel way to link to *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.

K. Lynn Berry, Superintendent

Please check [www.nps.gov/euon](http://www.nps.gov/euon) for updates about access to the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site and follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/EugeneONeillNPS](https://www.facebook.com/EugeneONeillNPS)

## Thanks to Our Members, Theatre Patrons, and Volunteers

*Give a Little, Get a Lot!*

Invest in the future of our theatre, education, and artist in residence programs.



Your donation helps cover production costs and enables us to continue bringing performances and programs that promote the legacy and vision of America's greatest playwright. Thank you for supporting the Foundation! To make a donation to the Foundation, go to [www.eugeneoneill.org/join-us/](http://www.eugeneoneill.org/join-us/) or send your check to Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House, P.O. Box 402, Danville, CA 94526-0402

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