

Arts Beat

The Culture at Large

December 3, 2013, 2:55 pm 2 Comments

Thomas Keneally to Write Book and Lyrics for New Musical

By FELICA R. LEE

Thomas Keneally, best known for writing "Schindler's List" but also the author of historical works about the founding of his native Australia, will turn to that subject in "Transport," a new musical for which he's written the book and lyrics.

The show, with music by Larry Kirwan, a playwright and the leader of the rock band Black 47, based in New York, will have its world premiere at the Irish Repertory Theater next year, theater officials announced on Tuesday.

"Transport" is based on the history of Irish women exiled to the South Coast of Australia in the mid-19th century. It centers on the voyage of a prison ship called The Whisper, which brought women and girls to penal colonies. The characters include four prisoners, the ship's crew and an exiled Irish priest.

In "The Great Shame," his epic 1999 book about the Irish famine and its aftermath, Mr. Keneally described how citizens there were deported to Australia for crimes as desperate as stealing food or farm animals.

No casting for the musical has been announced. Tony Walton, a Tony winning scenic designer, will direct and oversee the sets for "Transport," which is scheduled to begin performances on Feb. 16 and run through April 6.

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Carolyn Dominish - Australis I agree with David. I too have had the pleasure of meeting Thomas Keneally. The best way for me to describe him is "one of Nature's gentlemen", a favourite description used by my parents.

However, behind that sweetness there is a keen intellect that commentators tend to forget during interviews.

btw - The name of the book is "Schindler's Ark".. The name of the film is "Schindler's List".

Dec. 4, 2013 at 9:50 p.m.

David Chowes - New York City THOMAS KENEALLY

I went o a lecture by Thomas Keneally at Baruch College/CUNY over a decade ago. He spoke about the aspects of the human condition which give rise to what he portrayed in Schindler's List.

Afterwards, I spoke with him and he was so kind, gentle and unpretentious. I have gone to many talks -- but, will never forget his comments and how (realo a gentleman he was.

I wish him much success with his new project.

Dec. 4, 2013 at 6:10 p.m.

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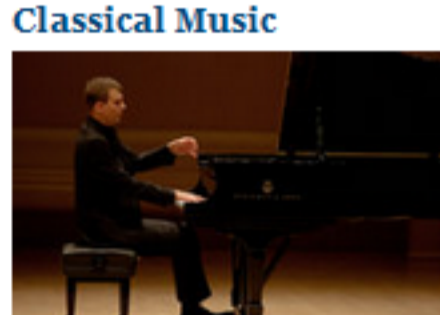
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Dance Review: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, at City Center BY GIA KOURLAS The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater paired its landmark "Revelations" with the British choreographer Wayne McGregor's stark, explosive "Chroma" at City Center on Wednesday night.

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