

Theatre/Performance / IE

Rating: ***

Mainstage, Bakehouse Theatre and HAT's Courthouse Cultural Centre, Auburn and The Breakout, The Mill

Until March 14

This one-hander opens with a young woman standing in her nightdress in a bare room, reciting a song about an Irish rebellion long past.

While she speaks of the sons of Roisin, it quickly becomes clear this play is about the oft-forgotten half of Ireland's history, her daughters.

So actor and writer Aoibh Johnson takes us on a difficult, sometimes confusing journey to discover who this woman is and why she is locked away from society.

We suspect an unwanted pregnancy has caused this enforced isolation but we are never told. Instead stories, songs and odd little interactions with the audience hint at why she is left alone with her "sickness", as she calls it, and her resulting battle for sanity.

Johnson gives a strong performance, although the lack of a clearer storyline left us struggling to empathise at times.

A thought-provoking night out.

Jennifer Hullick – The Advertiser