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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Galway Fringe 2017 presents the International Debut of the Award-Winning, Critically-Acclaimed NYC Solo Show:



HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr

Written and Performed by Heather Massie

Fri 21 July

Sat 22 July

Tue 25 July

Wed 26 July

Thur 27 July

Fri 28 July

Sat 29 July

All Shows @ 7:00 PM

Galway Mechanics Institute

6-8 Middle Street #Apartment 4

Galway, County Galway H91 ND98 Republic of Ireland

www.GalwayFringe.ie

www.HeatherMassie.com/hedy

In Lily Tomlin-esque fashion ... Massie channels the iconic star ... vividly yet matter-of-factly, and often very humorously ... In a balance of high energy and poise, Heather Massie is no less than captivating.” – Jed Ryan, The Huffington Post

“Richly realized ... Both convincingly real and larger than life ... she has us thoroughly swept up.” – Jon Sobel, Blogcritics Magazine

“Magnetic performance and inventive writing ... Fresh and bold.” – Darryl Reilly, TheaterScene.net

“Highly entertaining ... compelling and humorous.” -- C.E. Gerber, Splash Magazine

“Lively and enlightening ... engaging performance.” – Jay Handelman, Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Galway ... Galway Fringe 2017 is pleased to present the **award-winning, critically-acclaimed NYC solo play, HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr - A True Story of Hollywood Glamour and Scientific Genius**, written and performed by **Heather Massie**. Presented **Friday, 21 July; Saturday, 22 July; Tuesday, 25 July; Wednesday, 26 July; Thursday, 27 July; Friday, 28 July; and Saturday, 29 July**. All Shows @ **7:00 PM**. Presented at **Galway Mechanics Institute**, 6-8 Middle Street #Apartment 4, Galway, County Galway H91 ND98 Republic of Ireland. **TICKETS** are **€10.00 - €12.00** at <http://www.galwayfringe.ie> by phone 086 0665756, and at the Galway Mechanics Institute.

Hedy Lamarr, glamorous siren of the silver screen, was more than the most beautiful woman in the world. She invented frequency hopping and spread spectrum technology that make the world of wireless communication tick. From Austria to Hollywood, WWII, torpedoes, ecstasy, and intrigue to the very cell phone in your pocket, she was there!

HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr explores the life, inventions and person of Hedy Lamarr, Viennese-born Hollywood film star of the 1930s-1950s. Known as **The Most Beautiful Woman in the World**, Hedy Lamarr stored away knowledge of munitions while married to Austrian arms dealer, Fritz Mandl. She employed this knowledge to support the US Navy's war effort during WWII by inventing **The Secret Communication System** with composer George Antheil, to make torpedoes more accurate. Also referred to as **Frequency Hopping** or **Spread Spectrum Technology**, her invention is used today in cell phones, WiFi, CDMA, GPS, Bluetooth, military satellites, and a myriad of other wireless systems.

Ms. Massie is the great granddaughter of Theresa Neenan O'Mara of **Ballybunion**, who immigrated to the United States in 1911. Her cousins Con and Eilish O'Hanlon reside in **Ballylongford**. Her cousin by marriage, Tom Mulligan owns and operates **The Cobblestone Pub** in **Dublin**.

Having studied **Astrophysics** with dreams of becoming an astronaut, **Heather Massie** marries her loves of **art and science** in the person of Hedy Lamarr. She brings Hedy to life while interacting with the audience, and unearths the truth behind how such a glamorous actress could create an invention which is ubiquitous today.

Heather Massie was honored as the **Outstanding Actress in a Staged Reading** at the **2016 Planet Connections Theatre Festivity** in **New York City** for **HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr**. The **World Premiere** was presented on Hedy Lamarr's 102nd birthday in the **United Solo Festival** in **New York City**, and was named a **2016 Festival Bestseller**. Ms. Massie was awarded as **Best Actress** in the **2017 SaraSolo Festival** in Sarasota, FL, and with the **Audience Choice Award** for the **2017 Shenandoah Fringe** in Staunton, VA. It was developed in the Artist-in-Residence program in 2016 at the **Grange Hall Cultural Center** in **Waterbury Center, VT**, and performed there in March 2017. It was presented in **DivaFest 2017** in Indianapolis in March 2017, in the **2017 Planet Connections Theatre Festivity** June 18-30; and in a sold-out run at **Gamut Classic Theatre** in Harrisburg, PA July 7-9, 2017. She is slated to perform in a special invited performance at The Stag's Head in **Dublin, Ireland** on July 17, 2017; in **IndyFringe 2017** in Indianapolis, IN, Aug 23-27; in the **2017 Intwasa Arts Festival** in **Bulawayo, Zimbabwe** in September; and in the **2017 Charm City Fringe** in Baltimore, MD November 8-12. Plans are underway for further production in international festivals, regional theatres, universities, museums, libraries, schools, and scientific and cultural organizations. This project is recommended, and supported in part, by the **Austrian Cultural Forum New York**.

HEDY! The Life & Inventions of Hedy Lamarr has appeal for all audiences, with special interest for Immigrant, Austrian, Jewish, Film, History, Scientific, Wireless Communication, Military, Theatre, and LGBTQ Communities, as well as teenagers, adults, and retirees. It is suitable for ages 12+.

Heather Massie will star as Hedy Lamarr. Artistic Consultation & Direction - **Blake Walton**, Artistic Consultation - **Leslie Kincaid Burby**, Projections - **Jim Marlowe & Charley Marlowe**, Sound Design - **Jacob Subotnick**, Dialects - **Page Clements**, Technical Assistance - **Dan Leary**, Photography - **Al Foote III, Charley Marlowe & Monica Callan**.

Heather Massie (Writer / Solo Performer) is a NYC Actor and Writer. Originally from Blacksburg, Virginia, Ms. Massie has always been fascinated by the sciences, especially Astronomy. She studied Astrophysics at the University of Virginia, and Theatre Arts at The Virginia Tech School of the Arts, graduating Summa Cum Laude. Ms. Massie has performed extensively regionally and nationally in the US

with: Mill Mountain Theatre, Allenberry Playhouse, Flat Rock Playhouse, Phoenix Theatre, Arizona Jewish Theatre Company, Nearly Naked Theatre, Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival, Southwest Shakespeare, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival, and Gamut Classic Theater. In NYC she has performed with Signature Theatre in readings of the plays *Legends* and *Apples & Oranges* by playwright Leslie Lee. She is a member of WorkShop Theater, Manhattan Theatre Works, NyLon Fusion Theatre, Firebone Theatre, Abingdon Theatre, and the Negro Ensemble Company. She has also performed on Theatre Row, at LaMaMa, Metropolitan Playhouse, The Lamb's Theatre, 45th St. Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, The Dramatists Guild, New Dramatists, The Actors Studio, and more. She received the Jean Dalrymple Award for Best Supporting Actor and received three AriZoni Award Nominations. She served as a Cultural Envoy to Zimbabwe for the 2008 Intwasa Arts Festival, and worked in Ecuador and St. Petersburg, Russia. Ms. Massie collaborated for many years with late Tony-Nominated playwright Mr. Leslie Lee, another scientist turned artist. She performed at LaMaMa in his plays *The Book of Lambert*; and *Mina*, about the life of painter-poet, Mina Loy; and in Mr. Lee's musical *Martin: A New American Musical* with music and lyrics by Charles Strouse, with the Negro Ensemble Company. Upon Mr. Lee's passing in 2014, Ms. Massie founded the Leslie Lee Legacy Foundation to foster the continued production of Mr. Lee's writings.

*****Press Packet for Photos, etc.:** www.heathermassie.com/hedy/presskit

Show Website: www.heathermassie.com/hedy

For further photos, information, press interviews, or for press tickets, please contact:

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or

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Heather Massie as Hedy Lamarr – Photo L by Al Foote III; Photo R by Charley Marlowe



Heather Massie as Hedy Lamarr – Photos by Monica Callan
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