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**CHARLOTTESVILLE PLAYWRIGHTS COLLECTIVE ANNOUNCES
PERFORMANCE DATES FOR "THE O'MALLEY GAMBIT"**

Charlottesville, VA -- The Charlottesville Playwrights Collective will present "The O'Malley Gambit" by local playwright Kate Monaghan starting October 8 for a two-weekend run. Presented in the black box theater at the Belmont Arts Collaborative, 221 Carlton Avenue, "The O'Malley Gambit" is Monaghan's 21st century look back at the tempestuous relationship and meeting between Ireland's clan leader Grace O'Malley and England's Queen Elizabeth in the late 1500s.

Evening performances will be Friday, October 8th, Saturday, October 9th, Friday, October 15th, and Saturday, October 16th at 8:00 PM. Matinee performances are on Sunday, October 10th and Sunday, October 17th at 2:00 PM. Admission is pay-what-you-can donation, with a suggested donation of \$15 per person. Audience members must be vaccinated and masked, and socially distanced seating will be in place. To order tickets, visit CvillePlays.org

"I'm truly excited to see this script in a fully produced staging," said Monaghan. "Director Fran Smith is doing phenomenal work with a cast of amazing actors and the designers and technicians are using the intimacy of the black box theater to create a true sense of 'being in the room' with the play's characters as the story unfolds."

Synopsis: It is 1593, and, in a daring move, Grace O'Malley, an Irish chieftain and pirate who has often rebelled against English rule, sails to England to petition Queen Elizabeth I for the release of O'Malley's son, imprisoned and under sentence of death by Elizabeth's governor. Surrounded by the men who advise and follow them, the two women meet and quickly dismiss their advisors. In a private meeting, their discussion explores the ways in which they are alike and unique in a society geared to keep women from positions of power.

The Charlottesville Playwrights Collective (CPC), founded in 2017, has a mission of producing work by local playwrights. Since its inception, CPC has presented four highly successful shows.

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