**The Set**

The action is based in a comfortable, tidy, sitting room. Dominating the room, and hung on the centre back wall above the fireplace, is a huge framed poster of the head and shoulders of Patsy Kline, far larger than life and with musical notes decorating its lower edge. The fire surround beneath it is wooden, with three ornaments on the mantel piece, a candle-stick at either end and a modern ceramic vase in the centre. Beneath the mantelpiece a fire flames in the grate. To the left of the portrait, on the back wall is an abstract picture and beyond that a door which leads to the exterior. Still on the left part of a brick gable wall rises, concealing the entrance into the kitchen. The wall becomes lower so that the people in the kitchen are visibly part of the action on stage when they come forward. At the left front are two hard back chairs with red seat pads. They sit behind a small circular table. On one chair is a plastic wash basket with clothes in it. To the side of and behind them is a comfortable armchair in red plush with a cushion on it. At the start of the play a plastic box containing cleaning implements also rests on it. Opposite the red armchair, on the right, facing it, is a matching red plush sofa which sports a variety of cushions and in front of it a rectangular coffee table with a red fruit bowl and a music centre zapper on its upper surface and a laptop on its lower one. Behind the sofa is a star-shaped light, lit at each point of the star, and a small china cabinet on which sits a lamp and a couple of photographs displayed on its top. In front of the coffee table is an ironing board, with an iron and a blouse resting on it. The floor is covered with a large circular rug divided into segments. In the centre of the rug is another circle with the word DECCA written on it. At the front right of the stage is another gable wall through which people can be seen coming and going from the rest of the house.

For Act 2 two high bar stools with red cushion pads are added on the front left hand-side of the stage and a wooden bench seat appears on the front right side. A large illuminated moon hangs high above the set on the right hand side.

**The Characters**

Ciarán Nolan plays **Gary**. He is tall and slim with a long narrow face, mobile mouth and expressive eyes. His tidy dark hair is slicked close to his head and he wears beige chinos, a beige and navy shirt, loudly checked and trainers on his feet. Later he wears a cream shirt and later still in and orange and yellow check shirt. Gary seems to be in his early forties. Ciarán also plays Percy in a white macintosh, a brown hat and a black briefcase. He takes the part of Brian, who wears a motorbike helmet, a duffle coat and dark jeans.

**Eddy** is played by Marty Maguire. He has a square face, with regular features and a cheeky grin, greying hair, a moustache and glasses, frequently worn on the back of his head. His figure is stout, with a beer belly and he is of average height. He wears blue denim jeans and t shirt with a picture of Bart Simpson on it. Later he appears in knee length shorts emblazoned with the Union Jack and then he appears in a maroon jumper with a grey shirt underneath. Later he wears a maroon shirt with a pink zip up jacket and he also sports an orange thigh length loose shirt. Eddy is in his early forties. Marty also plays, Ray, aged in his late sixties, with a working man’s cap on his head and a tweed jacket; Barry the builder with dark jeans, a hoodie and a bowling cap and Bob in a black zip-up windcheater with a white patterned scarf around his neck.

**Ruby** is a buxomly attractive figure. She has an oval face with large blue eyes, full lips and a neat nose. Her long blonde hair nearly reaches her waist and is clipped back from both sides of her face. She wears a maxi dress, striped in orange, brown and cream, with a low neck and thin straps. Her head is covered by a large, floppy, straw hat, trimmed with an orange scarf, and she wears strappy sandals on her feet. Later she changes into dark blue denim jeans with a hip length white shirt with red spots under a pale blue denim waistcoat. With this outfit she wears red pumps and she carries a red coat and brown briefcase. At the beginning of the second act she appears in a printed summer dress, sleeveless, with a low cut V neck at the front in a mix of colours with an orange handbag, high strappy sandals and a grey shawl. On another occasion she is a vision in a knee-length cream dressing gown patterned with coloured spots and tied round the waist with a belt. Then she is a vision in a glamorous knee length floaty black dress, the top of which glitters with sequins. It has a round neck, with a narrow slit to the bust, and is sleeveless. The part of Ruby is taken by Caroline Curran.

The play was written by Brenda Murphy who has always wanted to write a play which includes Patsy Cline, it was directed by Martin Lynch with lighting design by James McFettridge and set and costumes by Niall Rea. The show starts at 7.45 but these programme notes will be read at 7.35 so please take your seats by then if you would like to hear them. Enjoy the show!