Happy Go Rookie

Fresh off the back of one hit play and now having two of his older works revived, things could hardly be better for playwright and director Mark O’Rowe.

Interview: Niamh O’Regan
Picture: Murra Hickey

At a glance
Mark O’Rowe on...

...the lack of good new plays
“Unfortunately, one of the reasons why there isn’t a discernible movement has been the lack of good new plays being written. It’s been a while since we’ve seen a major work at Abbey Theatre, an ensemble piece that runs as long as a play, a piece that takes a whole company, that’s a good thing because the Abbey’s reputation and audience and so on.”

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...going to writing
"I think if we’re going to do something, we might as well do it in a way that people will enjoy. I don’t think people want to see plays that they can’t enjoy."

...the future of theatre
"We need to be careful not to be too fulfilled by the past. We need to be open to new ideas and new ways of doing things."

...his own work
"It’s important to be true to oneself and to one’s own vision. It’s important to be authentic and to be who you are."