

pete sanders group.



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THE THEATRE

HOWIE THE ROOKIE

Enter with your ears pricked to hear Mark O'Rowe's exhilarating, scrappy Irish idiolects, delivered by two of his countrymen. O'Rowe, who wrote the film "Intermission," likes to wrestle his characters to the ground and pummel them until they reveal their inner conflicts. This play, which feels a bit like an exercise, takes the form of two interlocking dramatic monologues, presented back to back. Mark Byrne plays Howie Lee, a wastrel whose conscience kicks in too late. The plucky and appealing John O'Callaghan plays the Rookie, a ladies' man whose charm is outpaced by his bad luck. (Irish Arts Center, 553 W. 51st St. 212-868-4444.)