

Check in at the glitzy *Grand Hotel*

- Love, lust and loss collide in a mesmerizing musical set in decadent 1928 Berlin -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (May 1, 2018) — A collection of eccentrics sashay through the revolving doors of the [Grand Hotel](#) as the Golden Twenties in Weimar Berlin comes alluringly to life in the Shaw Festival's main stage musical ***Grand Hotel***. Directed by **Eda Holmes**, with music direction by **Paul Sportelli** and choreography by **Parker Esse**, ***Grand Hotel*** soars with song and dance encapsulating the era's zest for life. ***Grand Hotel*** begins previews May 3 at the Festival Theatre.

It's 1928 Berlin. Optimism and champagne flow. The lives of the Grand Hotel's guests – the aging prima ballerina (**Deborah Hay**), penniless Baron (**James Daly**), dying bookkeeper (**Michael Therriault**), Colonel-Doctor (**Steven Sutcliffe**), businessman (**Jay Turvey**) and ambitious typist (**Vanessa Sears**) – collide over one unforgettable night.

Judith Bowden's set and costume designs harken back to the opulence and extravagance of 1928 Berlin. Costume designs echo the styles of the era's fashionistas creating the glamorous playground of the privileged. **Kevin Fraser's** lighting design and **John Lott's** sound design complete the transformation of the Festival Theatre's stage to a lavish Berlin hotel.

Grand Hotel is on stage at the [Festival Theatre](#) (10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake) from **May 3 to October 14** (Media Premiere May 23). It is proudly sponsored by **TD Bank Group**.

Cast: (in alphabetical order)

David Ball	Assistant Choreographer/Swing
Kyle Blair	Zinnowitz
Andrew Broderick	Scullery Worker
Ryan Cunningham	Victor Witt
James Daly	Baron von Gaigern
Starr Domingue	Bellhop
Kristi Frank	Telephone Operator
Deborah Hay	Elizaveta Grushinskaya
Jeff Irving	Chauffeur
Patty Jamieson	Raffaella
Madelyn Kriese	Maid
Allan Louis	Sandor
Emily Lukasik	Telephone Operator
Marla McLean	Maid
Matt Nethersole	Jimmy
Kimberley Rampersad	The Spectre
David Andrew Reid	Bellhop
Kiera Sangster	Jimmy
Vanessa Sears	Frieda Flamm (Flaemmchen)
Travis Seetoo	Erik Litnauer
Jeremiah Sparks	Rohna
Steven Sutcliffe	Colonel-Doctor
Jacqueline Thair	Telephone Operator
Michael Therriault	Otto Kringelein
Jay Turvey	Hermann Preysing

Jenny L. Wright

Madame Peepee

Creative & Production:

Eda Holmes	Director
Paul Sportelli	Music Director
Parker Esse	Choreographer
Judith Bowden	Designer
Kevin Fraser	Lighting Designer
John Lott	Sound Designer
Ryan deSouza	Associate Music Director
Allan Teichman	Stage Manager
Amy Jewell	Assistant Stage Manager
Leigh McClymont	Assistant Stage Manager

About *Grand Hotel*

Book by **Luther Davis**, music and lyrics by **Robert Wright** and **George Forrest**, based on **Vicki Baum's *Grand Hotel***. By arrangement with Turner Broadcasting Co., owner of the motion picture ***Grand Hotel***. Additional music and lyrics by **Maury Yeston**.

The Shaw Festival's 2018 season is on stage April 4 with a playbill that features [*The Magician's Nephew*](#), [*Grand Hotel*](#), [*Mythos: A Trilogy – Gods. Heroes. Men.*](#), [*The Hound of the Baskervilles*](#), [*Stage Kiss*](#), [*Of Marriage and Men: A Comedy Double-Bill*](#), [*O'Flaherty V.C.*](#), [*Oh What a Lovely War*](#), [*The Orchard \(After Chekhov\)*](#), [*The Baroness and the Pig*](#), [*Henry V*](#), [*Secret Theatre*](#) and [*A Christmas Carol*](#) (on stage November 14 – December 23).

Direct bus service from Toronto to Niagara-on-the-Lake on the [Shaw Express](#) begins April 4. Patrons can choose to come for a day or stay for the weekend with a round trip costing \$25. New this season: the Shaw Express will stay for two performances on some Saturdays – departing Toronto at 10 a.m. and leaving The Shaw at 11 p.m. Schedule is subject to change. Please confirm dates and times with the Shaw Festival Box Office. A ticket to a 2018 Shaw Festival performance is required to access this service.

To purchase tickets for the 2018 Festival season and Shaw Express, please contact the Shaw Festival Box Office at 1-800-511-SHAW and online at www.shawfest.com.

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About the Shaw Festival

Inspired by the spirit of [George Bernard Shaw](#), the Shaw Festival creates unforgettable theatrical encounters in any way we want. The Shaw Festival is a place where people who are curious about the world gather to share the unique experience of live theatre and real human encounters. For more information, please visit www.shawfest.com.

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Media Contacts:

Laura Hughes
Senior Communications Manager
905-468-2153 / 1-800-657-1106 ext. 2222
lhughes@shawfest.com

Jennifer Anand
Public Relations Coordinator
905-468-2153 / 1-800-657-1106 ext. 2224
janand@shawfest.com