

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Bernard Shaw's legendary wit superbly showcased in war-time recruitment play *O'Flaherty V.C.***

*- Lunctime One-Act part of this season's programming to commemorate 100 years since end of the WWI -*

**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (May 29, 2018)** — Bernard Shaw's celebrated humour is featured in his farcical and funny anti-war *O'Flaherty V.C.* Directed by **Kimberley Rampersad**, *O'Flaherty V.C.* comically reveals why the men of Ireland *really* went to war. This season's Lunctime one-act begins previews on May 31 at the Royal George Theatre.

Accompanied by General Sir Pearce Madigan (**Patrick McManus**), Victoria Cross recipient Dennis O'Flaherty (**Ben Sanders**) has been sent from the Western Front back to his village to take part in a British Army recruitment campaign. O'Flaherty, however, has neglected to tell his Irish Nationalist mother (**Tara Rosling**) he's fighting for the English instead of against them. Also awaiting O'Flaherty's return is his girlfriend Teresa (**Gabriella Sundar Singh**) who hopes her sweetheart's homecoming includes a large pension payout.

Influenced by the architecture of Royal George Theatre, **Sue LePage's** set and costume design, complemented by **Mikael Kangas's** lighting design and **Patrick Bowman's** music direction, evokes the era of WWI music halls. The theatre's interior conjures a 1915 wartime music hall – complete with a hand painted drop and footlights along the front of the stage.

*O'Flaherty V.C.* is on stage at the [Royal George Theatre](#) (85 Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake) from **May 31 to October 6** (Media Premiere June 20). This Shaw Festival production is proudly sponsored by **Vintage Hotels**.

#### **Cast:** (in alphabetical order)

Patrick McManus	General Sir Pearce Madigan
Tara Rosling	Mrs. O'Flaherty
Ben Sanders	O'Flaherty
Gabriella Sundar Singh	Teresa

#### **Creative & Production:**

Kimberley Rampersad	Director
Sue LePage	Designer
Mikael Kangas	Lighting Designer
Patrick Bowman	Music Director
Allan Teichman	Stage Manager
Ashley Ireland	Assistant Stage Manager

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](#) began 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](http://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](http://www.shawfest.com).

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