

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bernard Shaw's comedy *Getting Married* debates the pros and cons of tying the knot

- Multi-voiced battle of the sexes begins previews at the Royal George Theatre -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (May 9, 2019) — [Getting Married](#), Shaw's satire scrutinizing the institution of marriage and various other "social norms", begins previews May 10 at the Shaw Festival's Royal George Theatre. Director **Tanja Jacobs** transfers Shaw's timeless and witty comedy to the 1950s – a decade of simmering societal change and where the age-old question "is getting married really worth the trouble?" resonates with new relevance.

On the day of their marriage, Edith (**Katherine Gauthier**) and Cecil (**Cameron Grant**) read a pamphlet warning them of the "true nature" of marriage. Convinced that nothing good can come out of wedlock, they call the whole thing off. This unexpected turn of events sparks a heated debate about marriage amongst guests and family members, including General "Boxer" Bridgenorth (**Martin Happer**), Reginald Bridgenorth (**Steven Sutcliffe**), St. John Hotchkiss (**Ben Sanders**) and Lesbia Grantham (**Claire Jullien**). The bride's father Alfred Bridgenorth, Bishop of Chelsea (**Graeme Somerville**), suggests a marriage contract be drawn up, but no one can agree on what constitutes the perfect marriage. It falls to Mayoress Mrs. George Collins (**Marla McLean**) to put things right.

Shannon Lea Doyle's set infuses Norman castle architecture with a saturation of colour inspired by a traditional wedding cake and kitchen décor trends of the 1950s. Doyle also extends the same colour palette to her era-inspired costumes reflecting the decade's change and innovation; financial prosperity and shifts in traditional gender roles. **André du Toit's** lighting design, along with **James Bunton's** original soundscape and music, completes and enhances the Eisenhower era setting.

Getting Married is on stage at the [Royal George Theatre](#) (85 Queen Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake) from May 10 to October 13 (eligible for review beginning May 23) and is proudly supported by the **Gabriel Pascal Memorial Fund**. The Royal George Theatre is sponsored by **CIBC**. Age recommendation 14+.

Cast: (in alphabetical order)

Damien Atkins	William Collins
Katherine Gauthier	Edith Bridgenorth
Cameron Grant	Cecil Sykes
Martin Happer	General "Boxer" Bridgenorth
Claire Jullien	Lesbia Grantham
Andrew Lawrie	Reverend Oliver Cromwell Soames
Marla McLean	Mrs. George Collins
Monice Peter	Leo (Mrs. Reginald) Bridgenorth
Chick Reid	Alice (Mrs. Alfred) Bridgenorth
Ben Sanders	St. John Hotchkiss
Graeme Somerville	Alfred Bridgenorth, Bishop of Chelsea
Steven Sutcliffe	Reginald Bridgenorth

Creative & Production:

Tanja Jacobs	Director
Shannon Lea Doyle	Designer
André du Toit	Lighting Designer
James Bunton	Composer & Sound Designer
Amy Jewell	Stage Manager
Théa Pel	Assistant Stage Manager

The Shaw Festival's 2019 season is on stage April 6 through December 22 featuring a playbill that includes [*The Horse and His Boy*](#), [*Brigadoon*](#), [*The Ladykillers*](#), [*Man and Superman with Don Juan in Hell*](#), [*Rope*](#), [*Getting Married*](#), [*The Russian Play*](#), [*Cyrano de Bergerac*](#), [*The Glass Menagerie*](#), [*Sex*](#), [*Victory*](#), [*Secret Theatre*](#), [*A Christmas Carol*](#) and [*Holiday Inn*](#). Tickets for the 2019 Festival season are available through the 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 Bernard Shaw, the Shaw Festival creates unforgettable theatrical encounters. The Shaw Festival is a place where people who are curious about the world gather to share the unique experience of live theatre and to create a deeper human connection with the artists, the beauty and abundance of Niagara and with each other. For more information, please visit www.shawfest.com.

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