

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***The Ladykillers* makes its North American premiere at the Shaw Festival**

- Macabre comedy caper begins previews June 11 -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (June 10, 2019) — After taking London's West End by storm, comedy thriller [The Ladykillers](#) makes its North American premiere under the direction of Artistic Director **Tim Carroll**. The Shaw Festival's production of **Graham Linehan**'s stage adaptation – based on one of the best-loved British films of all time – begins previews tomorrow at the Festival Theatre.

Set in 1950s London, a motley crew of criminals led by Professor Marcus (**Damien Atkins**) occupy the upstairs room of Mrs. Wilberforce's (**Chick Reid**) rickety Victorian house. Posing as a classical string quartet, the gang plan the greatest act of thievery ever, but things soon start to get complicated. Full of gags, grim humour and hijinks, **The Ladykillers** also features the talents of **Kristopher Bowman**, **Fiona Byrne**, **Martin Happer**, **Claire Jullien**, **Andrew Lawrie**, **Ric Reid** and **Steven Sutcliffe**.

Designer **Judith Bowden** creates a cramped jungle-gym of a Victorian house in the north London district of King's Cross and costumes infused with influences from the 1950s, film noir and Teddy Boy style. Enhancing and heightening the action and tension is lighting by **Kevin Lamotte** and original music by **Paul Sportelli**. This production also features fight direction by **John Stead**.

This North American premiere of **The Ladykillers** by **Graham Linehan**, from the motion picture screenplay by **William Rose**, is presented by special arrangement with **Studiocanal**, in association with **Fiery Angel**, London.

The Ladykillers is on stage at the [Festival Theatre](#) (10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake) from **June 11 to October 12** (eligible for review beginning July 4). It is proudly supported by **BMO Financial Group** and the **William and Nona Macdonald Heaslip Foundation**.

Recommended for ages 12+. Approximate running time: 2 hours and 20 minutes, including one intermission.

Cast: (in alphabetical order)

Damien Atkins	Professor Marcus
Kristopher Bowman	Constable Macdonald
Fiona Byrne	Mrs. Tromleyton
Martin Happer	One-Round
Claire Jullien	Mrs. Goodenough
Andrew Lawrie	Harry
Chick Reid	Mrs. Wilberforce
Ric Reid	Major Courtney
Steven Sutcliffe	Louis

Creative & Production:

Tim Carroll	Director
Judith Bowden	Designer
Kevin Lamotte	Lighting Designer
Paul Sportelli	Composer
John Stead	Fight Director
Meredith Macdonald	Stage Manager
Amy Jewell	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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