**IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 



## THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA, JUST TO GET MARRIED AND AUGUST WILSON'S GEM OF THE OCEAN

FINAL THREE MAIN SEASON SHOWS START PREVIEWS

THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA: JULY 16 – OCTOBER 8, 2022, FESTIVAL THEATRE JUST TO GET MARRIED: JULY 27 – OCTOBER 16, 2022, ROYAL GEORGE THEATRE AUGUST WILSON'S GEM OF THE OCEAN: AUGUST 5 – OCTOBER 9, 2022, JACKIE MAXWELL STUDIO THEATRE

**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (July 14, 2022)** — **Bernard Shaw**'s brilliant dark comedy *The Doctor's Dilemma*, the first of the final trio of main season shows, begins previews July 16 at the Festival Theatre. On July 27, **Cicely Hamilton**'s funny and prophetic *Just to Get Married* begins previews at the Royal George Theatre, while **August Wilson**'s haunting *Gem of the Ocean* begins previews on August 5 at the Jackie Maxwell Studio Theatre.

**Diana Donnelly** follows up her acclaimed 2019 Festival directorial debut *The Russian Play* with **Bernard Shaw**'s timely and ever-popular masterwork, *The Doctor's Dilemma*. Wrestling with questions of life, death and medical ethics in this 2022 production are **Alexis Gordon** as Jennifer Dubedat, **Sanjay Talwar** as Dr. Colenso Ridgeon, **Johnathan Sousa** as Louis Dubedat and **Sharry Flett** as Dr. Patricia Cullen. Rounding out the cast are **David Adams** as Dr. Ralph Bloomfield Bonington, **Jason Cadieux** as Dr. Blenkinsop, **Katherine Gauthier** as Minnie Tinwell, **Nathanael Judah**\* as Newspaperman, **Claire Jullien** as Emmy, **Allan Louis** as Cutler Walpole and **Michael Man** as Redpenny.

The Shaw's production of *The Doctor's Dilemma* has set designed by Gillian Gallow, costumes designed by Rachel Forbes, lighting designed by Michelle Ramsay and sound designed by Ryan deSouza. The show is stage managed by Andrea Schurman and Ashley Ireland, assistant stage manager. *The Doctor's Dilemma* begins previews July 16 and is eligible for review beginning August 18 at the Festival Theatre. *The Doctor's Dilemma* is recommended for audiences 12+ and is proudly sponsored by Dorothy Strelsin Foundation.

Last seen on-stage at the Festival in 2010, **Severn Thompson** returns to make her Festival directorial debut directing The Shaw's production of **Cicely Hamilton**'s long overlooked comedy jewel, *Just to Get Married*. **Kristi Frank** is Georgiana Vicary – a clever but poor woman everyone assumes must be desperate to find a husband and settle down – but everyone might be wrong. **Kristopher Bowman** is the shy Adam Lankester, apparently the perfect catch for Georgiana. Also featured are the acting talents of **David Adams** as Dobbins, **David Alan Anderson** as Sir Theodore Grayle, **Katherine Gauthier** as Bertha Grayle, **Claire Jullien** as Lady Catherine Grayle, **Andrew Lawrie** as Tod Grayle, **Monica Parks** as Mrs. Macartney, **Johnathan Sousa** as a Footman and **Sophia Walker** as Frances Melliship.

*Just to Get Married*'s creative and production team includes set designer **Michael Gianfrancesco**, costume designer **Ming Wong**, lighting designer **Bonnie Beecher**, composer and sound designer **Thomas Ryder Payne**; movement director **Jaz 'Fairy J' Simone**, stage manager Allan Teichman and assistant stage manager Théa Pel.

*Just to Get Married* begins previews July 27 at the Royal George Theatre and is available for review beginning August 18. This show is recommended for audiences 12+. The Royal George Theatre's regular season is sponsored by **124 on Queen Hotel & Spa**.

At the Jackie Maxwell Studio Theatre, **Philip Akin** directs **August Wilson**'s poetic, mystical masterpiece *Gem of the Ocean* – the initial play in the *American Century Cycle*, Wilson's legendary ten-play cycle documenting the African-American 20th century experience. **Monica Parks** as Aunt Ester, the 285-year-old "washer of souls"; **David Alan Anderson** as Solly Two Kings, **Nathanael Judah**\* as Citizen Barlow and **Allan Louis** as Caesar Wilks lead a cast that includes **Jason Cadieux** as Rutherford Selig, **Jeremiah Sparks** as Eli and **Sophia Walker** as Black Mary.

The Shaw's production of August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean* features set designed by **Camellia Koo**, costumes designed by **Laura Delchiaro**, lighting designed by **Kevin Lamotte**, projection designed by **Cameron Davis** and original music and sound designed by **Miquelon Rodriguez**. The production team includes stage manager **Andrea Schurman** and assistant stage manager **Théa Pel**.

August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean* begins previews August 5 and is available for review beginning August 19 at the Jackie Maxwell Studio Theatre. Sponsored by **TD Bank Group**, it is recommended for audience members 14+. The Jackie Maxwell Studio Theatre is sponsored by **Paradigm Capital Inc. August Wilson's** *Gem of the Ocean* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. <u>www.concordtheatricals.com.</u> \*RBC **Emerging Artists** are sponsored by the **RBC Foundation** and **RBC Emerging Artists**.

The Shaw Festival's 2022 season runs through to December 23, with a playbill featuring <u>Damn</u> <u>Yankees</u>, <u>The Importance of Being Earnest</u>, <u>The Doctor's Dilemma</u>, <u>Cyrano de Bergerac</u>, <u>Gaslight</u>, <u>Chitra</u>, <u>Just to Get Married</u>, <u>This is How We Got Here</u>, <u>Too True To Be Good</u>, <u>Everybody</u>, August Wilson's <u>Gem of the Ocean</u>, <u>A Christmas Carol</u> and Irving Berlin's <u>White</u> <u>Christmas</u>. This season's Outdoors @ The Shaw includes <u>Coffee Concerts</u>, <u>Fairground</u>, <u>Shawground</u>, <u>A Short History of Niagara</u>, <u>A Year with Frog and Toad – in Concert</u>, <u>Gospel</u> <u>Choir</u>, <u>1922 – in Concert</u>, <u>Speakeasy</u> and <u>What's in your Songbook</u>. Tickets are available through the Box Office at 1-800-511-SHAW and online at <u>shawfest.com</u>.

While wearing masks is now optional at the Festival, their use continues to be highly recommended indoors in all theatres and spaces and remains at the discretion and comfort of the individual. The Shaw's <u>Duty of Care</u> remains in place. While these measures include a commitment to ensuring the health and safety of audiences, company members and communities, there remains an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 in any public place where people congregate. The Festival continues to work closely with public health experts to ensure all necessary and reasonable precautions are being met to reduce the chances of exposure; however, patrons are encouraged to take what precautions they deem necessary to protect themselves and others. Patrons are also requested to refrain from attending any performance or event if they are presenting COVID-19 symptoms.

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The Shaw Festival wishes to acknowledge and honour the land upon which its patrons and company members gather as the historic and traditional territory of First Nations peoples.

Recognition and thanks are extended to the Neutral Nation, the Mississauga and the Haudenosaunee for their stewardship of these lands over millennia.

## About the Shaw Festival

Inspired by the spirit of <u>Bernard Shaw</u>, the Shaw Festival creates unforgettable theatrical encounters. The Shaw 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, visit <u>shawfest.com</u>.

## **Connect with the Shaw Festival**

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