

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAST OF GYPSY READY TO ENTERTAIN YOU

- Shaw's production of musical fable in previews at Festival Theatre May 10 -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (May 9, 2023) — It's not a tease. **Gypsy**, the greatest American musical, is finally embarking on its highly anticipated run at The Shaw's Festival Theatre beginning May 10. **Stephen Sondheim's** timeless tale of sex, ambition and a longing for recognition is directed by **Jay Turvey**, with musical direction by **Paul Sportelli** and choreography by **Genny Sermonia**.

Kate Hennig is Momma Rose, the ultimate stage mother with an unrelenting hunger for success and stardom. Vicariously chasing fame through her daughters June (**Madelyn Kriese**) and Louise (**Julie Lumsden**), she is determined to make it in show business no matter what the cost. Loosely based on the 1957 memoir of the world's most famous strip-tease artist Gypsy Rose Lee, **Gypsy** features legendary songs of musical theatre, including "Let Me Entertain You", "Rose's Turn", "Together, Wherever We Go" and the show-stopping "Everything's Coming up Roses".

This production of **Gypsy** also features the talents of **Ariana Abudaqa, Matt Alfano, Andi Biancaniello, Jenni Burke, Jason Cadieux, Deborah Castrilli*, Krystle Chance, Wren Evans, Kristi Frank, Élodie Gillett, Kyle Golemba, Damian Gradson, Joey Humphries, Nathanael Judah, Graeme Kitagawa, Allan Louis, Amanda Lundgren, Caitlyn MacInnis, Tama Martin*, Allison McCaughey, Kevin McLachlan, Mike Nadajewski, Hannah Otta, Sofia Otta, Drew Plummer, Shakeil Rollock, Sebastian Samuel and Jacqueline Thair.**

Set and costume designs by **Cory Sincennes**, lighting design by **Kevin Fraser** and sound design by **John Lott** create a lush love letter to the theatre during vaudeville's final curtain call. **Gypsy's** production team includes Stage Manager **Dora Tomassi** and Assistant Stage Managers **Leigh McClymont** and **Théa Pel**.

On stage at the [Festival Theatre](#) (10 Queens Parade) from May 10 to October 7 (available for review beginning May 25), **Gypsy** is recommended for audience members ages 12+/Grade 7+ and is sponsored by **Mary E. Hill**. Running time is approximately 2 hours and 55 minutes, including one intermission.

Cast: (in alphabetical order)

Ariana Abudaqa
Matt Alfano
Andi Biancaniello
Jenni Burke
Jason Cadieux
Deborah Castrilli*

Baby June/Ensemble
Swing
Balloon Girl/Urchin/Ensemble
Mazeppa/Ensemble
Herbie
Swing

Krystle Chance
Wren Evans
Kristi Frank
Élodie Gillett
Kyle Golemba
Damian Gradson
Kate Hennig
Joey Humphries
Nathanael Judah
Graeme Kitagawa
Madelyn Kriese
Allan Louis
Julie Lumsden
Amanda Lundgren
Caitlyn MacInnis
Tama Martin*
Allison McCaughey
Kevin McLachlan
Mike Nadajewski
Hannah Otta
Sofia Otta
Drew Plummer
Shakeil Rollock
Sebastian Samuel
Jacqueline Thair

Cratchitt/Electra/Ensemble
Samuel/Rich Son/Newsboy/Ensemble
Agnes/Showgirl/Ensemble
Tessie Tura/Ensemble
L.A./Ensemble
Scout/Ensemble/Swing
Momma Rose
Urchin/Newsboy/Ensemble
Swing
Angie/Ensemble
June/Ensemble
Jocko/Cigar/Bourgeron-Cochon/Ensemble
Louise
Thelma/Showgirl/Ensemble
Marjorie-May/Showgirl/Ensemble
Swing
Swing
Georgie/Weber/Mr. Goldstone/Pastey/Ensemble
Pop/Kringelein/Phil/Ensemble
Baby Louise/Ensemble
Scout/Ensemble/Swing
Tulsa/Ensemble
Yonkers/Ensemble
Scout/Newsboy/Ensemble
Delores/Renée/Showgirl/Ensemble

Creative & Production:

Jay Turvey
Paul Sportelli
Genny Sermonia
Cory Sincennes
Kevin Fraser
John Lott
Dora Tomassi
Leigh McClymont
Théa Pel
Kathryn Urbanek
Meredith Macdonald
Élodie Gillett
Matt Alfano
Alex Sobschak
Nick Andison
Bex Tralli
Paul Sportelli
Stephen Ingram
Allison McCaughey
Child Supervisors
Bianca Boom Boom
John Stead
Jeffrey Simlett

Director
Musical Director
Choreographer
Set and Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Rehearsal Apprentice Stage Manager
Production Stage Manager
Assistant Director
Assistant Choreographer/Fight Captain
Assistant Designer
Assistant Lighting Designer
Assistant Sound Designer
Orchestral Adaptation
Metcalf Foundation Music Intern
Dance Captain
Susan McLay and Jessica Sweeney
Burlesque Consultant
Fight Director
Voice and Dialect Coach

* RBC Emerging Artists are sponsored by the RBC Foundation and RBC Emerging Artists.

About: *Gypsy – A Musical Fable*

Book by Arthur Laurents

Music by Jule Styne, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Suggested by the memoirs of Gypsy Rose Lee

Original production by David Merrick and Leland Hayward

Entire production originally directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins

Gypsy is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Generously sponsored by **The Slight Family Foundation**, the Shaw Festival's 2023 season runs through to December 23, with a playbill featuring [Mahabharata](#), [Gypsy](#), Noël Coward's [Blithe Spirit](#), [The Amen Corner](#), [Prince Caspian](#), [On the Razzle](#), [Village Wooing](#), [The Shadow of a Doubt](#), [The Playboy of the Western World](#), [The Apple Cart](#), [The Clearing](#), [A Christmas Carol](#) and Lerner and Loewe's [Brigadoon](#). This season's Outdoors @ The Shaw includes [Mother, Daughter](#), [The Game of Love and Chance](#), Rodgers and Hammerstein's [A Grand Night for Singing – One Act – in Concert](#), [Coffee Concerts](#), [Speakeasies](#), [A Short History of Niagara](#), [What's in Your Songbook?](#) and [Gospel Choir](#).

Direct bus service from downtown Toronto and Burlington to Niagara-on-the-Lake is available on the [Toronto-Niagara Shaw Express](#). Luxury buses are standard size wheelchair accessible, offer free Wi-Fi and have an on-board host. \$29 return per person. Ticket to a 2023 performance is required. Please pre-arrange with the Box Office. Schedule is subject to change. Please confirm dates and times with the Shaw Festival Box Office.

Masks at The Shaw: While the wearing of masks is now optional, their continued use is recommended indoors and remains at the discretion of the individual. While The Shaw maintains its [Duty of Care](#) measures, 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 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 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. shawfest.com

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