

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE SHAW'S HOLIDAY SHOWS SET TO LIGHT UP THE SEASON

- Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* kicks off the Festival's festive playbill on November 5 -

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: NOVEMBER 5 – DECEMBER 23, 2023, ROYAL GEORGE THEATRE
LERNER AND LOEWE'S BRIGADOON: NOVEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 23, 2023, FESTIVAL THEATRE

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (November 2, 2023) — Two timeless tales – each certain to bring comfort and joy to all – are slated to begin previews shortly at The Shaw. Christmas spirits of the Dickensian kind will once again inhabit the Royal George Theatre when the classic [*A Christmas Carol*](#) by **Charles Dickens** takes the stage beginning November 5. **Alan Jay Lerner** and **Frederick Loewe's** [*Brigadoon*](#), one of the most enchanting and beloved musicals, also returns to the Festival Theatre starting November 15. Both shows close on December 23.

In keeping with the spirit of the season, non-perishable food items will be collected for **Newark Neighbours** at all performances.

Brendan McMurtry-Howlett directs [The Shaw's](#) 2023 staging of *A Christmas Carol*, with **Sanjay Talwar** taking on the role of everyone's favourite miser Ebenezer Scrooge. He is joined by **Shawn Wright** as Christmas Present and **Élodie Gillett** as Christmas Past, with **Jason Cadieux** as Mr. Hubble, **Patty Jamieson** as Mrs. Dilber, **Andrew Lawrie** as Bob Cratchit, **Kiana Woo*** as Emily, **Marlene Ginader** as Belle, **Jacqueline Thair** as Mrs. Cratchit, **Jonathan Tan** as Fred, and swings **Gryphyn Karimloo** and **Allison McCaughey**.

A Christmas Carol has set and costumes designed by **Christine Lohre**, lighting designed by **Kevin Lamotte** and music direction by **Ryan deSouza**. The creative team also includes assistant director **Élodie Gillett**, associate lighting designer **Chris Malkowski**, puppetry coach **Alexandra Montagnese** and voice/dialect coach **Jeffrey Simlett**. For this production, **Allan Teichman** is stage manager, **Kathryn Urbanek** is assistant stage manager and **Meredith Macdonald** is production stage manager. *A Christmas Carol* was originally adapted and directed by **Tim Carroll**, with original music by **Paul Sportelli**, and original movement and puppetry direction by **Alexis Milligan**.

Recommended for audience members 6+/Grade 1+, *A Christmas Carol* begins previews November 5 and will be available for review beginning November 11.

SELFIE ALERT: following the performance, audience members will have the opportunity to take a photo with the cast of *A Christmas Carol*.

At the Festival Theatre, **Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon*** adds musical magic to the most wonderful time of the year. Directed by **Glynis Leyshon**, this romantic celebration of song and dance features classic tunes like "Almost Like Being in Love" and "I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean".

While hunting in the Highlands of Scotland, New Yorkers Tommy Albright (**Stewart Adam McKensy**) and Jeff Douglas (**Kevin McLachlan**), stumble upon Brigadoon – a village that appears out of the mist for one day every century. After falling for villager Fiona MacLaren (**Alexis Gordon**), Tommy realizes the bewitched hamlet will once again vanish at sunset. As the day draws to a close, he must decide whether to return to the world he knows or stay forever in Brigadoon with the woman he loves.

The 2023 Shaw Festival production also features **David Adams** as Archie Beaton, Head of Clan; **Darcey Baker** as Isla MacIntosh, **Deborah Castrilli*** as Catriona MacIntosh, **Kristi Frank** as Meg Brockie, **JJ Gerber** as Ian MacFarlane, **Alexandra Gratton**** as Ainsley MacGregor, **Jane Johanson** as Morag MacGregor, **Julia Juhas** as Kate MacFarlane, **Claire Jullien** as Mistress Lundie, **Graeme Kitagawa** as Angus MacGuffie, Head of Clan; **Madelyn Kriese** as Jean MacLaren, **Jawon Mapp*** as Robbie MacGregor, **Peter Millard** as Andrew MacLaren, Head of Clan; **Drew Plummer** as Callum MacGuffie, **David Andrew Reid** as Charlie Dalrymple, **Jade Repeta** as Anna MacGuffie, **Travis Seetoo** as Harry Beaton, **Genny Sermonia** as Maggie Anderson, **Jay Turvey** as Stuart Dalrymple, Head of Clan; **Kelly Wong** as Sandy Dean MacIntosh, Head of Clan; and **Jenny L. Wright** as Aileen MacFarlane, Head of Clan, with swings **Jordan Mah** and **Madelyn Miyashita**.

Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon* has book and lyrics by **Alan Jay Lerner**, music by **Frederick Loewe**, original dances created by **Agnes DeMille** and revised book by **Brian Hill**. This Shaw Festival production has music direction by **Paul Sportelli**, choreography by **Linda Garneau** and **Matt Alfano** (associate choreographer), set design by **Pam Johnson**, costume design by **Sue LePage**, lighting design by **Kevin Lamotte**, projections design by **Corwin Ferguson**, sound design by **John Lott** and fight direction by **John Stead**. Creative support is provided by **Ximena Pinilla** (design assistant), **Mikael Kangas** (associate lighting designer), **Bex Tralli** (assistant sound designer), **Ryan deSouza** (associate music director), **David Atkinson**, (keyboard programming), **Ryan Cowl** (associate conductor), **Kelly Lin*****(assistant conductor), **Stephen Ingram** (Metcalf Foundation music intern) and **Jeffrey Simlett** (voice/dialect coach). The stage manager is **Dora Tomassi**, with assistant stage managers **Leigh McClymont** and **Annie McWhinnie**. Production stage manager is **Meredith Macdonald**.

Recommended for audience members 8+/Grade 3+, **Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon*** begins previews November 15 and will be available for review beginning November 18.

Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI (www.mtishows.com).

The 2023 Season is sponsored by **The Slight Family Foundation**.

A *Christmas Carol* is sponsored by the **Shaw Guild**, with additional support from **Hodgson Russ LLP**.

Lerner and Loewe's *Brigadoon* is sponsored by **BMO Financial Group**.

Vintage Hotels is The Shaw's 2023 Holiday Season Hotel Partner.

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

The Christopher Newton Intern is generously supported by **Marilyn and **Charles Baillie**.

***Kelly Lin appears courtesy of **Tapestry Opera's Women in Musical Leadership Program**.

Tickets are available through the Box Office at 1-800-511-SHAW (7429) and online at shawfest.com.

The Shaw's [Duty of Care](#) 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. Patrons are encouraged to take what precautions they deem necessary to protect themselves and are also requested to refrain from attending any performance or event if they are presenting any COVID-19 symptoms.

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 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 shawfest.com.

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Media Contacts:

Jenniffer Anand
Senior Manager, Communications
Mobile: 905-941-0018
janand@shawfest.com

Ashley Belmer
Publicist, B-Rebel Communications
Mobile: 416-617-8934
ashley@b-rebelcommunications.com