

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EDITH WHARTON'S THE SHADOW OF A DOUBT HAS ITS WORLD PREMIERE AT THE SHAW

- Newly discovered mystery drama began previews July 16 -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (July 17, 2023) — <u>The Shadow of a Doubt</u>, Edith Wharton's drama of the world she dissected so brilliantly in novels such as **The Age of Innocence**, began previews July 16 at The Shaw's **Royal George Theatre**. **Peter Hinton-Davis** directs the world premiere of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist's only known full-length play. Teeming with her characteristic wit, this recently unearthed work is one half murder mystery, and one-half devastating critique of the hypocrisy and snobbishness of the Gilded Age.

Kate Derwent (**Katherine Gauthier**), a former nurse, has married John Derwent (**André Morin**), widower of her late patient and friend. Owing to the circumstances of their meeting, she struggles to be accepted in her new position as wife to John and stepmother to Sylvia. Kate's problems intensify when a man from her past raises suspicions regarding the demise of the first Mrs. Derwent.

The Shadow of a Doubt also features Damien Atkins, Neil Barclay, Chloe Bowman, Rais Clarke-Mendes*, Patrick Galligan, Claire Jullien, Richard Lam, Tara Rosling, Taurian Teelucksingh**, Julia Thompson and Lindsay Wu.

The Shaw's production of *The Shadow of a Doubt* features set and costume design by 2021 Siminovitch Prize Laureate **Gillian Gallow**, lighting design by **Bonnie Beecher** and live video design by **HAUI**. The production team includes **Meredith Macdonald**, production stage manager, **Becca Jorgensen**, assistant stage manager, and **Carolyn Mackenzie**, rehearsal assistant stage manager.

On stage at the <u>Royal George Theatre</u> (85 Queen Street) from July 16 to October 15 (available for review beginning August 17), *The Shadow of a Doubt* is recommended for audience members ages 14+/Grade 9+. Running time is approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes, including one intermission.

The Royal George Theatre's regular season is sponsored by 124 on Queen Hotel & Spa.

Cast:

Damien Atkins
Neil Barclay
Chloe Bowman/Julia Thompson
Rais Clarke-Mendes*
Patrick Galligan
Katherine Gauthier
Claire Jullien
Richard Lam
André Morin

Lord Uske Sylvia Mrs. Lingard Lord Osterleigh Kate Derwent Wilkins, a maid Captain Dullaston John Derwent

Dr. Curruthers

Tara Rosling Lady Uske
Taurian Teelucksingh** Robert Mazaret
Lindsay Wu Clodagh Nevil

Creative & Production:

Peter Hinton-Davis Director

Gillian Gallow Set and Costume Designer

Bonnie Beecher

HAUI

Meredith Macdonald

Lighting Designer

Live Video Designer

Production Stage Manager

Becca Jorgensen

Carolyn Mackenzie

Assistant Stage Manager

Rehearsal Assistant Stage Manager

raiolyn Wackenzie Nenealsal Assistant Designer

Beyata Hackborn Assistant Designer

Jeff Pybus Assistant Lighting Designer

Trevor Hughes Sound Co-ordinator
Alexis Milligan Intimacy Support
Margot Devlin Child Supervisor

Jennifer Toohey Voice and Dialect Coach

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

Direct bus service from downtown Toronto and Burlington to Niagara-on-the-Lake is available on the <u>Toronto-Niagara Shaw Express</u>. 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.

For more information or to purchase tickets or a seat on the Toronto-Niagara Shaw Express, please contact the Shaw Festival Box Office at 1-800-511-SHAW or visit shawfest.com.

<u>Mask use at The Shaw</u>: While the wearing of masks remains at the discretion of the individual, their continued use is encouraged and may be required in conjunction with regional health protocols and internal safety considerations. The Shaw continues to maintain its <u>Duty of Care</u> measures. 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.

^{*} RBC Emerging Artists are sponsored by the RBC Foundation and RBC Emerging Artists.

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

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. For more information, please visit shawfest.com.

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