

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **AGATHA CHRISTIE'S *WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION* TAKES THE STAND AT THE SHAW**

- Celebrated mystery writer's acclaimed courtroom thriller begins previews April 6 -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (April 4, 2024) – Making its [Shaw Festival](#) debut, **Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*** starts previews Saturday, April 6 at the Royal George Theatre. Directed by **Alistair Newton**, this gripping murder mystery by the world's most popular novelist delivers twists and turns all the way to the final curtain.

When a wealthy older woman is found murdered, the chief suspect is Leonard Vole (**Andrew Lawrie**), her young friend and the recently named heir to her estate. During the trial, defence counsel Sir Wilfrid Robarts, QC (**Patrick Galligan**) is put to the test when Leonard's wife, Romaine Vole (**Marla McLean**), is shockingly revealed as the prosecution's star witness. As the trial unfolds, nothing is as it seems, leaving both sides questioning everything – and everyone – they know.

[Agatha Christie's \*Witness for the Prosecution\*](#) also features **Kristopher Bowman, Fiona Byrne, Martin Happer, Lawrence Libor\***, **Cheryl Mullings, Ryann Myers\*\***, **Monica Parks, Graeme Somerville** and **Shawn Wright**.

The Shaw's production of **Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*** features set and projections design by **Karyn McCallum**, costume design by **Judith Bowden**, lighting design by **Siobhán Sleath**, original music and sound design by **Lyon Smith**, fight direction by **John Stead** and movement direction by **Alexis Milligan**. The production team includes stage manager **Dora Tomassi** and assistant stage manager **Kevin Etherington**.

On stage at the [Royal George Theatre](#) (85 Queen Street) from April 6 to October 13 (available for review beginning April 25), **Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*** is recommended for audience members 14+/Grade 9+. Running time is approximately 3 hours, including two intermissions.

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

The Shaw's production of **Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution*** is sponsored by **Burgundy Asset Management Limited** and **Wendy & Bruce Gitelman**.

#### **Cast:**

Kristopher Bowman  
Fiona Byrne  
Patrick Galligan  
Martin Happer  
Andrew Lawrie  
Lawrence Libor\*  
Marla McLean  
Cheryl Mullings  
Ryann Myers\*\*

Mr. Mayhew  
Greta/Court Stenographer  
Sir Wilfrid Robarts, QC  
Inspector Hearne/Policeman  
Leonard Vole  
Clegg/Plain Clothes Detective/Policeman  
Romaine Vole  
Dr. Wyatt/Mrs. Barton for the Prosecution  
Clerk of the Court/The Other Woman

Monica Parks  
Graeme Somerville  
Shawn Wright

Mrs. Janet MacKenzie/Mrs. Brogan-Moore for the Defense  
Mr. Myers, QC  
Carter/ Mr. Justice Wainwright

### **Creative & Production**

Alistair Newton	Director
Karyn McCallum	Set and Projections Designer
Judith Bowden	Costume Designer
Siobhán Sleath	Lighting Designer
Lyon Smith	Original Music and Sound Designer
John Stead	Fight Director
Alexis Milligan	Movement Director
Peter Fernandes	Assistant Director
Dora Tomassi	Stage Manager
Kevin Etherington	Assistant Stage Manager

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

\*\* The Baillie Cohort is generously supported by the **Baillie Family Fund for Education**.

***Witness for the Prosecution*** is presented by arrangement with [Concord Theatricals](#) on behalf of Samuel French Inc.

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The Shaw Festival's 2024 season runs through to December 22, with a playbill featuring [Lerner and Loewe's My Fair Lady](#), [One Man, Two Guvnors](#), [Sherlock Holmes and the Mystery of the Human Heart](#), [Agatha Christie's Witness for the Prosecution](#), [The Secret Garden](#), [The Orphan of Chao](#), [Candida](#), [The House That Will Not Stand](#), [Snow in Midsummer](#) and [A Christmas Carol](#). The Spiegeltent's season features [The Shaw Variety Show](#), [The Roll of Shaw](#), [Kabarett](#), [Cotton Club](#), [Coffee Concerts](#), [Footlights](#), [Speakeasies](#), [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. \$34 return per person. Ticket to a 2024 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](http://shawfest.com).

**Mask use at The Shaw:** Masks are not currently required in our theatres. Though wearing a mask is optional, it is recommended; however, the choice remains at the discretion and comfort of the individual. The Shaw continues to maintain its [Duty of Care](#) measures. Patrons are also requested to refrain from attending any performance or event if presenting COVID-19 symptoms.

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. For more information, please visit [shawfest.com](http://shawfest.com).

### **Connect with the Shaw Festival**

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