IMMEDIATE RELEASE



SCAMS, CONS AND CHAOS ABOUND IN THE SHAW'S MADCAP TONS OF MONEY

- The frenzied comedy schemes its way into the Royal George Theatre April 11 -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (April 10, 2024) – <u>*Tons of Money*</u>, the classic English farce by writers **Will Evans** and **Valentine**, brings a nonstop parade of ridiculous antics, mistaken identities and sheer silliness to the **Shaw Festival**. Directed by **Eda Holmes**, this side-splitting revival begins previews on Friday, April 11 at the **Royal George Theatre**.

As angry creditors call in their loans, struggling inventor Aubrey Allington (**Mike Nadajewski**) discovers he can reap the benefits of a sudden inheritance by assuming the identity of his long-lost cousin. On the advice of his cunning wife, Louise (**Julia Course**), Aubrey fakes his own death and turns up three weeks later, posing as his cousin. Of course, the plan goes awry immediately, and hilarious mayhem ensues, as everyone from the cousin's estranged wife, Jean (**Lindsay Wu**) to Aubrey's duplicitous butler, Sprules (**Graeme Somerville**), races to steal the sudden windfall out from under the Allingtons.

Tons of Money also features **Nehassaiu deGannes**, **Ron Kennell**, **Qasim Khan**, **Marla McLean**, **André Morin**, and **Sepehr Reybod**.

The Shaw's production of **Tons of Money** features period-inspired set and costume design by **Judith Bowden**, lively lighting design by **Kevin Lamotte** and original music by **Andy Ballantyne**. The production team includes stage manager **Amy Jewell** and assistant stage manager **Kevin Etherington**.

On stage at the **Royal George Theatre** (85 Queen Street) from April 11 to October 5 (available for review beginning May 1), **Tons of Money** is recommended for audience members 12+. Running time is approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes, including one intermission.

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

<u>Cast:</u> Julia Course Nehassaiu deGannes Ron Kennell Qasim Khan Marla McLean André Morin Mike Nadajewski Sepehr Reybod* Graeme Somerville Lindsay Wu**

Creative & Production

Eda Holmes Judith Bowden Kevin Lamotte Louise Allington Miss Benita Mullett Giles James Chesterman Simpson Henery Aubrey Henry Maitland Allington George Maitland Sprules Jean Everard

Director Set and Costume Designer Lighting Designer Andy Ballantyne Aurora Judge Hina Nishioka Ryan deSouza Julian Mainprize Matt Alfano Jeffrey Simlett Amy Jewell Kevin Etherington Original Music Assistant Set Designer Assistant Lighting Designer Music Supervisor Sound Designer Movement Collaborator Voice and Dialect Coach Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager

* RBC Emerging Artists are generously supported by the RBC Foundation.

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

New for the 2025 season, all performances now begin one hour earlier. Matinee performances start at 1 p.m. and evening shows start at 7 p.m.

The Shaw Festival's 2025 season runs through to December 21, with a playbill featuring <u>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Anything Goes, Wait Until Dark, Tons of Money,</u> <u>Major Barbara, Murder-on-the-Lake, Gnit, Blues for an Alabama Sky, Irving Berlin's White</u> <u>Christmas</u> and <u>A Christmas Carol</u>. This season's Spiegeltent lineup includes <u>Dear Liar, La</u> <u>Vie En Rose, Ella and Louis, May I Have the Pleasure?</u>, <u>The Roll of Shaw – Through the</u> <u>Wardrobe, The Frogs, Coffee Concerts, Speakeasies, What's In Your Songbook, Gospel</u> <u>Choir</u> and <u>Pop-Up Patios</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. \$39 return per person. Ticket to a 2025 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, 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 <u>shawfest.com</u>.

The Festival's current Duty of Care health-related protocols and policies can be found on <u>shawfest.com/duty-of-care</u>.

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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>.

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