

MEDIA RELEASE

**SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE KICKS OFF
THE 2017/18 SEASON AT THE CITADEL****September 14, 2017**

(EDMONTON) Forbidden romance, feuding playhouses, struggling artists, and ... a dog? Why, of course! *Shakespeare in Love* is a hilarious, romantic tale that has everything you could want, and more. This elaborate production imagines the events that might have led to the world's most prolific playwright creating his most heartbreaking play.

Many audience members will remember the first incarnation of *Shakespeare in Love*, the Oscar-winning film written by **Tom Stoppard** and **Marc Norman**. Released in 1998, the movie went on to win seven Oscars, including Best Picture, and a Best Actress award for **Gwyneth Paltrow** for her role as Viola de Lesseps.

The stage adaptation of the popular film was written by English playwright and screenwriter **Lee Hall**. Hall is best known for his screenplay for *Billy Elliot*, for which he was nominated for an Academy Award.

Shakespeare in Love was first staged in 2014 in London's West End at Noel Coward Theatre. A Canadian production proved to be a popular hit at Stratford during the 2016 festival season.

The Citadel's production of *Shakespeare in Love* is the first show directed at the theatre by Artistic Director **Daryl Cloran**, who joined the Citadel one year ago. A coproduction with the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, *Shakespeare in Love* will continue in Winnipeg after its run in Edmonton is complete.

The talented cast of 20 showcases Citadel favourites such as **Andrew MacDonald-Smith** (*Crazy For You, Mary Poppins*), **Farren Timoteo** (*Peter and the Starcatcher, Made In Italy*), **John Ulyatt** (*Crazy For You, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*), and **Bahareh Yaraghi** (*The Kite Runner*), as well as Citadel newcomer **Andrew Chown** in the role of Will Shakespeare.

Whether you're a romantic or a cynic, *Shakespeare in Love* is sure to make you laugh, cry, and experience every other emotion worthy of a Shakespearean sonnet!

***Shakespeare in Love* runs September 16 to October 8, 2017, at the Citadel Theatre.**

CAST

ROBERT BENZ	Ralph
TRISTAN CARLUCCI	Sam
PATRICIA CERRA	Mistress Quickly
ANDREW CHOWN	Will Shakespeare
SARAH CONSTIBLE	Queen Elizabeth
PATRICIA DARBASIE	Nurse
PAUL ESSIEMBRE	Burbage
MATTHEW FLETCHER	Peter
GABE GREY	Kit Marlowe
TOM KEENAN	Webster
KAYVON KHOSHKAM	Ned
KEVIN KLASSEN	Wessex
ANDREW MACDONALD-SMITH	Adam/Boatman
GARETT ROSS	Henslowe
RAY STRACHAN	Nol
LUC TELLIER	Robin
FARREN TIMOTEO	Wabash
JOHN ULLYATT	Tilney/Sir Robert de Lesseps
ASHLEY WRIGHT	Fennyman
BAHAREH YARAGHI	Viola de Lesseps

CREATIVE TEAM

Director	DARYL CLORAN
Set & Costume Designer	CORY SINCENNES
Lighting Designer	SCOTT HENDERSON
Sound Designer	MATT SKOPYK
Choreographer	LAURA KREWSKI
Fight Director	JONATHAN HAWLEY PURVIS
Assistant Director	SUZANNE MARTIN
Dialect Coach	DOUG MERTZ
Vocal Coach	DON HORSBURGH
Production Dramaturg	JOSHUA WICKARD
Stage Manager	MICHELLE CHAN
Assistant Stage Manager	KATHRYN BALL
Apprentice Stage Manager	NYSSA BEAIRSTO
Dance Captain	ANDREW MACDONALD-SMITH
Fight Captain	GARETT ROSS

NOTICE OF MEDIA CALL:

A media call is currently scheduled for **1 p.m.** on **Tuesday, September 19, 2017**, in the **Shoctor Theatre**. A short selected scene will be performed three times so that videographers can obtain footage of the show.

Members of the cast and creative team will be available for interviews.

To RSVP your attendance at the Media Call or for more information, contact:

Sydnee Bryant
Manager, Media Relations, Citadel Theatre
780.428.2128
sbryant@citadeltheatre.com

Alternate contact:

Ken Davis
Director, Marketing & Communications, Citadel Theatre
780.428.2108
kdavis@citadeltheatre.com

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Government Funders: Government of Alberta; Alberta Foundation for the Arts; City of Edmonton; The Edmonton Arts Council; Canada Council for the Arts; Canadian Heritage.

Tickets are available at www.citadeltheatre.com or through the box office at **780.425.1820**. Tickets start at just \$30, plus fees and GST.

The Citadel Theatre is a not-for-profit organization that relies on the generous support of donors, sponsors, and foundation and government funders.