

## MEDIA RELEASE

### A Comedy of Mistaken Identities: *The Importance of Being Earnest* Begins This September

August 23, 2023

**Edmonton, Alberta** – Rehearsals begin this week for the fun, quick-witted, farce set to play on the Maclab stage next month.

In this classic comedy by **Oscar Wilde**, two society bachelors, Jack and Algernon, both secretly pretend to be a man called Ernest. After meeting two women who know them only as their alter egos, a weekend in the country sparks mayhem and hilarity in this farce about mistaken identities as they attempt to conceal the truth and keep up the charade.

Award-winning Director, **Jackie Maxwell**, leads this production, wanting to stay true to Wilde's original writing, character and essence of the play but give it a slight refresh by bringing the time period from Edwardian, design and dress, to the early 1950s. She is working closely with Set and Costume Designer, Michael Gianfrancesco to bring that idea to life. Maxwell explains that "There is still enough social structure in this era in England to support the world of this play...we can get the attention to, and love of, high end fashion that this class had in both time periods."

*The Importance of Being Earnest* plays in the Maclab Theatre from September 23 – October 15, 2023. Tickets are on sale at [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com) or by calling the Box Office at 780.425.1820.

The [Pay What You Choose](#) in-person lineup takes place on Sunday, September 24, 2023 beginning at 5:00pm for the 7:30pm performance. More information can be found on our website.

Photos will be available by September 25, 2023.

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#### CAST

Alexander Ariate	Algernon Moncrieff
Julien Arnold	Rev. Canon Chasuble
Helen Belay	Cecily Cardew
Nadien Chu	Lady Bracknell

Jeff Lillico	John (Jack) Worthing
Doug Mertz	Merriman, Lane
Amelia Sargisson	Gwendolen Fairfax
Davina Stewart	Miss Prism

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

Jackie Maxwell	Director
Michael Gianfrancesco	Set & Costume Designer
Patrick Beagan	Lighting Designer
Deanna Choi	Sound Designer
Brett Dahl	Assistant Director
Doug Mertz	Dialect Coach
Madison Henry	Stage Manager
Lore Green	Assistant Stage Manager
Tim Yachimec	Assistant Stage Manager
Stacy Vanden Dool	Apprentice Stage Manager

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For more information and to arrange an interview, contact:

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