



SHAWFEST 2012

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

MTC AND PARTNER COMPANIES KICK OFF SHAWFEST 2012
Festival runs January 19 - February 5 | Pre-festival lecture January 18

“THE POWER OF ACCURATE OBSERVATION IS COMMONLY CALLED CYNICISM BY THOSE WHO HAVE NOT GOT IT” –George Bernard Shaw

WINNIPEG, January 11, 2012 – This afternoon, the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre and 14 partner companies launched **SHAWFEST 2012** with a “Shavian Shindig” George Bernard Shaw himself would no doubt appreciate. The 12th annual Master Playwright Festival starts on January 19 and runs until February 5. On January 18, Leonard Conolly, President of the International Shaw Society, is the special guest speaker at a pre-festival introductory lecture – ***Why Shaw Still Matters: Introducing George Bernard Shaw.***

Other festival highlights include:

- Full productions of **Arms and the Man; Augustus Does His Bit; Caesar and Cleopatra; Candida; Great Catherine & Annajanska, The Bolshevik Empress; How He Lied to her Husband; Major Barbara; Village Wooing** and MTC's **Mrs. Warren's Profession**
- Free film presentation of **My Fair Lady**
- **Radio broadcast** of two Shaw plays
- **Fundraisers** for PAL and The Actors' Fund of Canada
- **pSHAW! A Literary Roast of George Bernard Shaw**
- **Readings, original works, free lecture series** and more!

SHAWPASSES are on sale, giving Manitobans the opportunity to immerse themselves in the work of Shaw. For only \$75, festivalgoers can experience all 16 **SHAWFEST** productions, saving more than 50% on the regular ticket price. To buy a **SHAWPASS**, call the MTC Box Office at 204-942-6537 or toll-free at 1-877-446-4500. Individual tickets are available from participating companies. For details, visit www.masterplaywrightfest.com.

The performing companies wish to thank: Canadian Heritage, Winnipeg Free Press, Doowah Design, The Fairmont Winnipeg, Winnipeg's Creative Studio and the King's Head Pub for their support of **SHAWFEST 2012**.

About Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's Master Playwright Festival

In 2001, MTC chose to honour Samuel Beckett at the first Master Playwright Festival. The winter festival provides opportunities for both professional and emerging artists from a variety of organizations to produce work under the umbrella of a larger festival, while giving audiences an opportunity to thoroughly immerse themselves in the work of a playwright who may not have a regular home on Winnipeg stages.

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For more information, please contact:

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SHAWFEST 2012 is proudly presented by:

