



Get Ready for Shear Entertainment!

Hilarious whodunit at the King's Wharf Theatre

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Put your detective skills to the test as the hair-raising murder mystery comedy *Shear Madness* comes to Penetanguishene! Listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as America's longest running play, this hilarious whodunit is on stage from **August 14 to August 31** at the **King's Wharf Theatre**.

Hairdresser Tony Whitcomb and manicurist Barbara DeMarco comb through the tasks of a normal day until concert pianist Isabel Czerny is murdered. Tony, Barbara, and the Shear Madness customers – Eleanor Shubert, Eddie Lawrence, Nick Rosetti and Mikey Thomas – are all suspects. But whodunit? Witness the fun and take a stab at solving the crime!

"*Shear Madness* is a theatre experience like no other," says **Alex Mustakas**, Artistic Director of Drayton Entertainment. "It's an interactive comedy-mystery that brings audiences back again and again to help solve the crime," he explains.

The production is in great hands with Director **Bob Lohrmann**, who is the Associate Artistic Director for the John F. Kennedy Centre in Washington D.C., where *Shear Madness* has broken numerous box office records during its continuing (and unprecedented) three-decade run. Lohrmann is joined by Set Designer **David Antscherl**, Costume Designer **Nicole Del Cul**, Lighting Designer **Jeff JohnstonCollins**, Stage Manager **Alan Card** and Assistant Stage Manager **Jory McLean**.

Shear Madness features a razor sharp six-person ensemble cast that keeps audiences guessing and laughing out loud. **Robbie Towns** is the quirky and colourful hairstylist Tony Whitcomb. Towns recently appeared in Disney's *Newsies* and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* for Drayton Entertainment, and has been in many productions on the west coast including *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* at Edmonton's Mayfield Theatre and *Rock of Ages* at Vancouver's Arts Club.

Jacquelyn French takes on the role of gaudy, gum-chewing manicurist Barbara DeMarco, who is smarter (and more secretive) than she looks. French recently appeared in *Rocky: The Musical* and *Annie* for Drayton Entertainment. She has also appeared in several TV series including *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Reign* and *Schitt's Creek*.

Gordon Gammie is Eddie Lawrence, a shady antiques dealer and customer in the salon. In addition to his stage experience, Gammie has appeared in a variety of movies and television shows including *New Waterford Girl*, *Trudeau II: Maverick in the Making* and *Nova*.

Kevin Sepaul and **Alex Kelly** are mysterious customers Nick Rosetti and Mikey Thomas. Sepaul, who has played this role several times before, has also appeared in Norm Foster's *Looking* and *The Long Weekend* at Globus Theatre, among other theatre credits. Kelly recently received rave reviews for his performance in the title role in Drayton Entertainment's Canadian premiere production of *Rocky: The Musical*.

Veteran actress **Andrea Risk** will play snooty socialite and salon client, Eleanor Shubert. Risk has appeared in *One for the Pot* and *Boeing Boeing* for Drayton Entertainment, among other shows.

During its ongoing 39-year run in Boston, *Shear Madness* has been voted "Best Comedy of the Year" seven times by The Boston Globe, and named "Best Play of the Year" by both The Chicago Sun Times and The Philadelphia Enquirer. In addition to its North American success, *Shear Madness* has become an international sensation – it has been translated into 10 foreign languages, and played in Barcelona, Buenos Aires, Madrid, Paris, Reykjavik, Rome, Tel Aviv, Melbourne, Johannesburg, Seoul and many other places around the globe.

Shear Madness is proudly sponsored by **H.S. St. Amant & Sons**. The Media Sponsors are **89.1 The Max** and **Orillia Today**. The Design Sponsor is **ORIAN Beauty**. The 2019 Season Media Sponsor is **CTV**.

Tickets for **Shear Madness** are \$48 for Adults and \$29 for Youth under 20 years of age. Tickets for groups of 20 or more and selected Discount Dates are \$39. HST is applicable to all ticket prices. Tickets may be purchased online at www.kingswharftheatre.com, in person at the Box Office, or by calling **705-549-5555** or toll free at **1-855-DRAYTON (372-9866)**.

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