KANATA THEATRE PRESENTS



ROUGH CROSSING

BY TOM STOPPARD

FROM AN ORIGINAL PLAY BY FERENC MOLNAR

DIRECTED BY ROB JOHNSTONE WITH JIM HOLMES | SEP 9–19, 2026

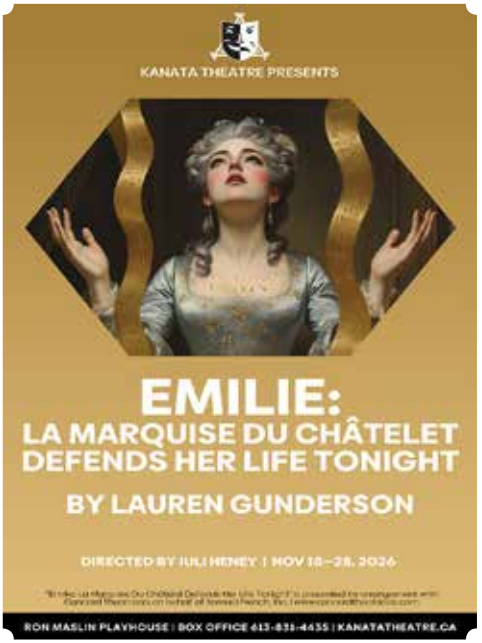
"Rough Crossing" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. | www.concordtheatricals.com

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Tonight, 18th century scientific genius Emilie du Châtelet returns from the afterlife, determined to answer the question she died with: love or philosophy, head or heart?

Based on the true story of one of France's greatest scientific minds, Emilie defied an era that believed women incapable of mathematics or physics. She became the first woman published by the Paris Academy, translated Newton's *Principia Mathematica*, and shared a celebrated partnership with Voltaire.

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PhonicEar On-Wave hearing assistance systems can be picked up at the cloak room. These receivers permit control over listening volume levels through a 3.5 mm plug headset or T-Switch hearing aid loops.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Sandor Turai — **Dave McIntyre**
Dvornichek — **Shawn Anctil**
Adam Adam — **Kane O'Donnell**
Alex Gal — **Favour Shittu**
Natasha Navratilova — **Sarah Hegger**
Ivor Fish — **Chisholm Pothier**

SYNOPSIS

Welcome aboard the luxury liner *SS Italian Castle* as we embark on a transatlantic voyage. We're honoured to be traveling with the renowned playwriting duo Sandor Turai and Alex Gal. They are working feverishly to finish their soon-to-debut (in about 4 and a half days) Broadway musical, *The Cruise of the Dodo*. The pair's plans unravel when their young composer Adam overhears what he thinks is his fiancée Natasha declaring her love for another actor, Ivor. Adam is determined to leave the ship one way or another. To prevent disaster, the playwrights invent an elaborate scheme that convinces Adam that what he witnessed was only a rehearsal. Will *The Cruise of the Dodo* make it to the stage? Will true love conquer all? Will Adam's mother find a way to board the ship? All will be revealed as we weigh anchor and steam westward.

SETTING

On board the *SS Italian Castle* sailing between Southampton and New York via Cherbourg.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This play marks many important milestones for us. It is the seventh Tom Stoppard play Kanata Theatre has produced, the 30th play Jim Holmes has directed for Kanata Theatre, and the first play Megan LeMarquand has directed for Kanata Theatre. It also marks my return to directing after a 30-year hiatus. And it's a doozy of a play. A classic play-within-a-play story filled with Tom Stoppard's trademark intricate farcical plotting, including mistaken identities, sparkling wordplay, and escalating misunderstandings. Featuring original music and songs by André Previn, it all culminates in an affectionate tribute to the musical comedies of the 1930s. We hope you laugh watching this performance as much as we did rehearsing it.

BIOGRAPHIES



Rob Johnstone (Director) - Select directing credits for Kanata Theatre include *Pygmalion* and *Sinners*. Acting credits for Kanata Theatre include Porter in *Deathtrap* and St. Clair in *Glorious!,* Richard in *Opening Night*, Dr. Dorn in *The Seagull*, Lloyd Dallas in *Noises Off*, Martin the Elder in *Ethan Claymore*, Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Silvius in *As You Like It*, Kolenkhov in *You Can't Take It With You*, Leon Tolchinsky in *Fools*, Eric in *And a Nightingale Sang* and Charley in *Charley's Aunt*. For Walterdale Playhouse: Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing*. For Playhard Productions, Professor James Moriarty in *Sherlock Holmes and the Locked Room*.



Jim Holmes (Advisor to the Directors) is grateful for the opportunity to assist in directing a play by one of his favourite playwrights. He previously directed 29 plays for Kanata Theatre, including most recently *Twelfth Night*, his fifth production of a play by Shakespeare. Other recent shows for KT include Christopher Durang's *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*; James Goldman's *The Lion in Winter*; David Ives's translation of *A Flea in Her Ear* by Georges Feydeau; and Steve Martin's adaptation of Carl Sturnheim's comedy, *The Underpants*. Looking farther into the past, Jim is especially proud of *The Seagull*, KT's only production of a play by Anton Chekhov, and of *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, which brought in the new millennium with KT's first main stage musical production. His acting roles for KT include Jaques in *As You Like It*, Brady in *Inherit the Wind*, and Higgins in *Pygmalion*.

WARNING

May cause serious laughter. No life jacket required.





Megan LeMarquand (Apprentice Director) is thrilled to assist the direction team on this wonderfully madcap show! Megan was a Toronto-based actor and vocalist for over a decade when she decided to relocate to Ottawa. She is a graduate of the George Brown Theatre program and her favourite acting credits include Inez in *No Exit* (FOH Productions), Mrs. Patrick in *A Man of No Importance* (Musical Stage Co.), and Natalie in *Next to Normal* (Aurora Theatre). Since coming to Ottawa, Megan has appeared as Stella in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (OLT), Merteuil in *Dangerous Liaisons* (Kanata Theatre) and, most recently, Margaret in *The Drowning Girls* (Kanata Theatre). Many thanks to her husband for endlessly supporting her crazy dreams.



Larraine Gorman (Music Director, Recordings Pianist) has been with Kanata Theatre for over 30 years. As well as acting, she has been busy backstage in various areas, including direction, music direction, production, stage management, and many other support departments. She has also been known to compose and/or perform in various productions. Larraine has also worked with Tara Players and Ottawa Little Theatre, and was previously a chamber musician, accompanist, and teacher in Canada and Scotland.



Allison Houston (Vocal Coach) has been a member of KT since 2011. She's been on stage in *Frog & Toad*, *Willy Wonka*, *Mary Poppins*, and *Nunsense*. She is often involved with the musical preparation of shows, including *Shrek*, *Mary Poppins*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and *The Marvellous Wonderettes*. Allison likes to dip her fingers into many pies: running lights here and running sound cues there. She had a go at producing *Baskerville* and a stint as the board secretary, and she is currently on the Play Reading Committee. Thanks to the *Rough Crossing* actors for all their hard work on their vocals, and kudos to Larraine for providing the piano tracks!



Les Bunbury (Movement Coach) acted in *I Hate Hamlet* two seasons ago and this season returns to KT behind the scenes to choreograph some ensemble movement for *Rough Crossing*. Later this season she will be involved in *Cabaret*, as well as participating in the hosting committee for the EODL One-Act Play Festival in November. Les has an MA in Dance from York University, with an undergraduate degree in Politics and Drama from Queen's. Her day job centres around helping young people become the best versions of themselves. As always, SBR - unconditional.



Shawn Anctil (Dvornichek) is delighted to be taking on the role of Dvornichek in his first play with Kanata Theatre. He rediscovered his love of performance several years ago, having since performed with Théâtre du Village (*Fausses Rumeurs*); Ottawa Little Theatre (*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Love From a Stranger*, and *Holmes and Watson*); and Performer's Theatre Company in Sackville, NB (*The Book of Darkness and Light*). He hopes you have as much fun watching the show as he's had rehearsing it! All his love to Sarah, Maya, and Petunia.



Dave McIntyre (Sandor Turai) is super excited to return to the Kanata stage with this great team. Past Kanata Theatre credits include *Silent Sky*, *The Death of Me*, and *Outside Mullingar*. Ottawa Little Theatre credits include *Guilty Conscience* and *The Siegle*. He's also had some great roles at ITR and Phoenix Players. Dave enjoys outdoor activities, music, and home projects. He thanks friends, family, and all the patrons.



Sarah Hegger (Natasha Navratilova) first appeared at KT in the *Ten-Minute Play Festival*. A member since 2021, she played Rosemary Muldoon in KT's *Outside Mullingar*. In 2023 she took the role of Florence Foster Jenkins in *Glorious: The True Story of Florence Foster Jenkins*. She co-produced and performed in a production of *It Had To Be You* that ran in Almonte and then the Gladstone Theatre in 2024. That same year, she diversified into directing *Dangerous Liaisons* for KT. A graduate of the University of the Witwatersrand Drama School, Sarah worked professionally in South Africa in both theatre and television. She now lives a double life as the author of over 30 published novels.



Kane O'Donnell (Adam Adam) has previously appeared on the Kanata Theatre stage exclusively in KYOS productions with roles as Willy Wonka in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, Hans in *Frozen*, and, most recently, the Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland Jr*. Outside of that, his portfolio is brief, with smaller roles and a few writing and directing feats. Most productions he has been featured in have been musicals, as he enjoys singing with a deep-rooted love for music. Growing up, he was often described as "a lot and a fiend for attention," which led him to the stage. That being said, he is ecstatic to make his adult theatre debut as Adam Adam in *Rough Crossing*.

Author bios can be found on www.concordtheatricals.com



Chisholm Pothier (Ivor Fish) auditioned for *Rough Crossing* and he had no intention of reading for Ivor Fish. Then he heard the director refer to Ivor as an aging lothario, and something clicked. He felt seen. He is grateful that Rob, Jim, and Megan saw in him an essence of feckless and pathetic, characteristics of his he feels have gone too long unnoticed and unappreciated. This is Chisholm's second mainstage show with Kanata Theatre after *The Girl on the Train* in 2025. He also performed in the *10-Minute Play Festival* in July 2025. He acknowledges his love of Kanata Theatre and his love of the people in the wings that allow the magic to unfold on stage.



Favour Shittu (Alex Gal) is pleased to be making his first appearance on the Kanata Theatre stage. He recently appeared as Lt. David Battersby in *Pressure* at the Ottawa Little Theatre. *Rough Crossing* is going to be Favour's last play (for those who read the bios for *Pressure*). He will be heading out of the country for drama school later this year. When not on stage, Favour can be found on a film set, as his primary experience is on camera or at a cineplex. He hopes to be in future productions on film and stage. PS: He is still not on Netflix; don't bring it up—he is shy.



NAME THAT TUNE!

Step back into the music of the 1930s. Can you match each song to the show it came from and the composer?

Cole Porter | George Gershwin | Irving Berlin
Jerome Kern | Noël Coward

12 songs. 12 shows. How many can you match?

Play / Musical	Signature Song	Play / Musical	Signature Song
Anything Goes	Begin the Beguine	Paris	Let's Face the Music and Dance
Bitter Sweet	Cheek to Cheek	Porgy & Bess	Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love)
Follow the Fleet	I Get a Kick Out of You	Red, Hot & Blue	Mad About the Boy
Gay Divorce	I Got Rhythm	Roberta	Night and Day
Girl Crazy	I'll See You Again	Top Hat	Smoke Gets in Your Eyes
Jubilee	It's De-Lovely	Words and Music	Summertime

Tom Stoppard (1937-2025) – Stoppard's most recent play, *Leopoldstadt*, opened at Wyndham's Theatre in 2020 and transferred to Broadway in 2022. It won multiple Awards, including an Olivier Award and Tony Award for Best Play. He wrote his first play, *Enter a Free Man*, whilst working as a journalist in Bristol. His plays include *Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead*, *The Real Inspector* ...

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Managers	Clare Flockton, Kathleen Walsh
Stage Managers	Chrissy Feldman, Amelia Abell (apprentice)
Assistant Stage Managers	Amelia Abell, Sheryl Bell, Nicole MacLaren
Music Director/Recordings Pianist	Larraine Gorman
Vocal Coach	Allison Houston
Movement Coach	Les Bunbury
Percussion Advisor	Jon Wade
Set Design & Construction	Dean Flockton
Assisted by	Bob & Ev Abell, Yolande Akl, Andrew Batchelor, Paul Behnke Don & Sheryl Bell, Jason Blow, Francois Bolduc, Aaron & Lily Ella Callard, Jim Clarke Murray Doggett, Mike Giovinazzo, Mark Guzewski, Margo Humphreys, Clyde LeGuerrier Sarah Macaulay, Dave McIntyre, Sally McIntyre, Heidi Roberts, Paul Robichaud Jeff Schulz, John van Schouwen, Arseniy Skvortsov, Laurenne Tynski Gord Walls, Tony Walker, Grant Wilson, Sandy Wynne
Set Painting	Yolande Akl, Francine Robichaud
Assisted by	Evelyn Abell, Rebecca Aiken, Fallon Carrier, Liz Court, Julie Dustin Dawn-Heather Ellis, Joy Forbes, Elisa Frost, Anne Gadbois, Margo Humphreys Barbara Kobolak, Alana Lavoie, Nicole MacLaren, Sally McIntyre, Carrie Rickwood Paul Robichaud, Sarah Macaulay, John van Schouwen, Miranda Shelly, Maureen Speer Alyssa Tofinetti, Sheila Trivisonno, Charley Varjas, Sandy Wynne
Lighting	Anthony Rumsey
Assisted by	Max & Tina Mestrovic, Hannah Rumsey
Sound	Joel Agnew
Assisted by	Tom Duxbury, Tim Mabey, Blixa McCracken, Alan Quirt
Sound Recording	Mike Hogan
Costumes	Martha Johnstone
Assisted by	Catherine Gilbert, Leila Trubiani
Dresser	Caitlin Hegger
Properties	Miranda Shelly
Props Crew	Yolande Akl, Liz Court, Barb Friesen, Barb McNally Francine Robichaud, John van Schouwen
Set Decor	Sandra Douville
Assisted by	Jessica Grass
Continuity	Diane Burke, Nancy & Paul Hough, Margo Humphreys, Ann Williams
Hair Styling	Carol Walkey
Make Up	Shauna Gadient, Liz Nash
Assisted by	Kaye Callard, Judit Martin, Anissa Stambouli
Dog Wrangler	Tom Kobolak
Lobby Boards	Nicole MacLaren
Green Room	Anne-Marie Smith



We also thank all other Kanata Theatre volunteers that helped make this production possible but who are not listed here, including publicity, marketing, box office, signage, front of house and KT Lounge, operations, and more.

Welcome to kanata theatre's 58th season!



What a season it will be. Not only do we have five fantastic main stage plays, we have a delightful holiday play for you and your family and we're hosting the *EODL One-Act Play Festival* in November. A busy year of live theatre ahead.

Thanks for being the most important part of the theatre experience, the audience.

Rob Johnstone, President, Kanata Theatre

QUEEN OF THE ATLANTIC

The ***Queen Mary*** made her maiden voyage from Southampton on **May 27, 1936**, taking **5 days, 5 hours, and 13 minutes** to reach New York. With swimming pools, a grand ballroom, cocktail bars, and a squash court, she became one of the great symbols of glamorous transatlantic travel.

That same year, she captured the *Blue Riband* for the fastest North Atlantic crossing. She lost it to her great rival, the ***Normandie***, in 1937, reclaimed it in 1938 with a record crossing of just **3 days, 20 hours, and 42 minutes**, and held the record until 1952.

But perhaps her strangest distinction was predicted before she ever carried a passenger. At her launch in 1934, English psychic Lady Mable Fortiscue-Harrison reportedly predicted that the ***Queen Mary*** would enjoy her greatest fame after she stopped sailing.



She may have been right. During her 31 years in service, the ***Queen Mary*** carried some **2.1 million passengers**. Since retiring to Long Beach, California, an estimated **50 million people** have visited her.

And some believe a few of her former passengers may still be aboard. The ***Queen Mary*** is famous for her ghost stories, with the Art Deco first-class swimming pool considered one of the ship's most haunted locations.

Speed records, psychic predictions, and ghosts. Not bad for one ship.

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DID(O) YOU KNOW?

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Dodo, the famously flightless and unfortunately extinct bird, perhaps less so.

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Quiz answers: Cole Porter - Anything Goes/I Get a Kick Out of You, Jubilee/Begin the Beguine, Gay Divorce/Night and Day, Paris/Let's Do It (Let's Fall in Love), Red, Hot and Blue/It's De-Lovely. Noël Coward - Bitter Sweet/I'll See You Again, Words and Music/Mad About the Boy. Irving Berlin - Top Hat/Cheek to Cheek, Follow the Fleet/Let's Face the Music and Dance. George Gershwin - Girl Crazy/I Got Rhythm, Porgy & Bess/Summertime. Jerome Kern - Roberta/Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.

Experience the very best in live theatre with Kanata Theatre's 2026–2027 season — comedy, brilliance, music, suspense, romance — five unforgettable theatrical journeys. Exceptional performances, affordable prices, and a welcoming atmosphere await you.
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Experience the magic of live theatre at Kanata Theatre — where great entertainment meets unbeatable value!

Grab a 5-play subscription for the rest of our 2026–2027 season for $110 and save $40 over regular tickets.

MEMBERSHIP

Love the magic of live theatre? You can help make it happen!

Since 1968, Kanata Theatre has been a vibrant part of the community. What began as a small group of theatre-loving friends producing plays in neighbourhood schools has grown into a 700+ member organization proudly bringing quality live theatre to audiences. We couldn't do what we do without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. Take a look in your program at the many roles it takes to run a production, then add all those working front of house, running the KT Lounge, and caring for our treasured building.

Our productions come to life thanks to the passion of volunteers like you. Whether you enjoy greeting guests, helping backstage, building sets, or assisting with costumes and props, there's a place for your talent here. No experience? No problem. We'll provide the guidance — just bring your enthusiasm. Please contact **membership@kanatatheatre.ca** (or scan the QR code) for more information. I'd be happy to answer any questions. Enjoy the show!

Juli Heney, Director Membership and Training

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