

30 November, 2016

Theatre NDG presents **The Cocktail Party**
December 15-17, 2016

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MONTREAL – This December 15-17, newly minted local community theatre company **Theatre NDG** will transform the stage of Concordia’s Loyola Chapel into the drawing room of Edward and Lavinia Chamberlayne, whose efforts to throw party are, in the simplest terms, undermined by a schism in their relationship that points to much larger concerns. With one foot in the present and the other in Ancient Greece, T.S. Eliot’s timeless comedy **The Cocktail Party** examines the meaning of life, the nature of love, and the possibility of true human connection... with the guidance of an unknown, though certainly not unappreciated, Uninvited Guest.



Photo credit **Margot Florestorre**

Ian McRoberts as Edward Chamberlayne, Aly Slominski as Miss Celia Copplestone.

“The idea of choice and freedom vs. acceptance of a bad situation is not a new one, but I have never seen it explored in such a way as T.S Eliot has with *The Cocktail Party*.” - Aly Slominski (Miss Celia Copplestone)

Director Ryan Madden chose **The Cocktail Party** as Theatre NDG’s inaugural production because of its timelessness and relatability - the struggles faced by Eliot’s characters are as real in the present day as they were when the play was first produced. “It is a challenging play,” he admits, “but it has been a treat to work on. The subject matter is on the surface a drawing room comedy, but from there Eliot introduces deeper ruminations about life and love. He also adds a Classical Greek spiritual dimension as a backdrop, embodied by three characters who function as spiritual guides within the play.” Formerly a student of Concordia’s Theatre program

and creator of the late Parallax Theatre Troupe, Madden believes that this production of *The Cocktail Party* will prove a worthwhile viewing experience for theatre lovers and for lovers of literature alike.

The Cocktail Party premieres at Loyola Chapel at Concordia University's Loyola Campus at 7pm on Thursday, December 15th.

Performances at 7pm on Dec. 15, 16 & 17, and a 1pm matinée on Saturday, Dec. 17.

Tickets are available online at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-cocktail-party-by-ts-eliot-tickets-29320967804> and will also be available at the doors (cash only).

10\$ adults, 5\$ students and seniors, 2\$ QDF members with presentation of the QDF membership card (QDF discount at the door only).

Presented at Loyola Chapel, 7141 Sherbrooke St W, Montreal, QC H4A 2K6. Access via front entrance or from Concordia AD building.

Running Time: 2h45min

Theatre NDG was founded in 2016 out of a love for community theatre. Based in NDG and open to everyone, the company aims to engage as many people as possible. "The biggest privilege of art is the creation of it," states Madden. "The goal of Theatre NDG is to increase access to the creation of art."

www.theatrendg.com

"Community theatre is something that has not yet been highlighted [in NDG]. As the Chair of the Arts & Culture table I can attest to the fact that community theatre touches all aspect of a vibrant community. We are all looking forward to this wonderful initiative put forth by theatre NDG." –Sharon Sweeney, NDG Community Council

"Theatre NDG is exactly the kind of event that Notre Dame des Arts hopes to support and encourage in our community." – Paul Scriver, Notre Dame des Arts

Contact

Ryan Madden, Director

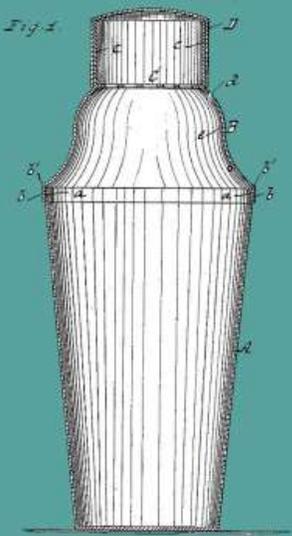
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THEATRE NDG

TS ELIOT'S
**THE
COCKTAIL
PARTY**

DIRECTED BY
RYAN MADDEN

*"We must always take risks.
That is our destiny..."*
-UNIDENTIFIED GUEST, THE COCKTAIL PARTY

YOU'RE INVITED!
December 15 | 7:00 pm
December 16 | 7:00 pm
December 17 | 1:00 pm, 7:00 pm

LOYOLA CHAPEL
7141 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, QC H4B 1R6

TICKETS
\$10 Adults
\$5 Students



Starring:

Ian McRoberts as Edward Chamberlayne
Amanda Doucet as Lavinia Chamberlayne
Aly Slominski as Miss Celia Coplestone
Riley Palanca as The Unexpected Guest/Sir Henry Harcourt-Reilly
Nico Galante as Peter Quilpe
Erin Farmer-Perrine as Mrs. Shuttlethwaite (Julia)
Michael Zahran as Alexander MacColgie Gibbs
Ginette Heppelle as The Caterer
Anais Ranger as Miss Barraway

Directed by Ryan Madden
Stage Manager: Cicely Austin
Costume Designer: Teffer Ruth