

MEDIA RELEASE

September 23, 2019

THE ROSE BRAMPTON ANNOUNCES AHAD RAZA MIR IN UPCOMING SEASON:

***HAMLET* OPENS OCTOBER 2020**

Brampton, ON (September 23, 2019) – The Rose Brampton announced today that Pakistani-Canadian star Ahad Raza Mir will star in *Hamlet*, produced by The Shakespeare Company and Hit & Myth Productions. *Hamlet* will be part of the theatre’s upcoming 2020 – 2021 season.

“The City’s Culture Master Plan notes the importance of building programming partnerships that embrace cultural fusion and experimentation. The Shakespeare Company and Hit & Myth’s production of *Hamlet* is a great example of The Rose delivering on that goal and reflecting our City’s Mosaic through the arts and on stage,” said Mayor Patrick Brown.

“We’re deeply grateful to Haysam Kadri for bringing Ahad Raza Mir to grace our stage at The Rose. Thanks to local business leader Badar Shamim for securing essential financial support for this wonderful production, and of course to the Mayor and City Council for their leadership in support of arts and culture in Brampton,” said Steven Schipper, Executive Artistic Director at The Rose Brampton.

The Rose’s presentation of *Hamlet*, starring Ahad Raza Mir, will be the first of its kind in Ontario, following a successful run of *Hamlet: A Ghost Story* at Calgary’s Vertigo Theatre. The Shakespeare Company and Hit & Myth Productions combine forces, along with The Rose, for a ghostly reimagining of one of the Bard’s greatest works, adapted for Brampton’s stage, and with the support of Brampton’s generous community.

“The Shakespeare Company and Hit and Myth are so excited to be bringing our lean and mean brand of Shakespeare to The Rose in Brampton. We couldn't be more thrilled to have international superstar Ahad Raza Mir play the titular role in arguably Shakespeare's finest tragedy. We look forward to the energy and excitement that the GTA and the city of Brampton will bring to this show,” said Haysam Kadri, Artistic Producer of The Shakespeare Company and Director of *Hamlet*.

“Hamlet is a role an actor doesn’t quite get enough of. So I’m very excited to be bringing the show to Brampton and the GTA area,” said Raza Mir.

Brampton audiences are invited to discover the spirit of Shakespeare’s most famous play, Hamlet, as the prince of Denmark seeks vengeance for his father’s murder. The tale is a ghost story, a detective story, and a revenge story all packed into one unforgettable night of theatre.

The Rose is thrilled to welcome The Shakespeare Company, Hit & Myth Productions, award-winning Director Haysam Kadri, and Ahad Raza Mir to Brampton. Pakistan-born, Calgary-raised, Raza Mir’s breakthrough performance in *Yaqeen Ka Safar* (2017) won him the Lux Style Award for Best Actor, as well as the Hum Award for Best Actor. Raza Mir is the recipient of the prestigious Betty Mitchell Award for Outstanding Performance (*Hamlet: A Ghost Story*).

“Raza Mir’s performance [in Hamlet: A Ghost Story] wins hearts across borders.” – Business Recorder (Pakistan)

“Delivers chills and thrills.” – Broadway World, on *Hamlet: A Ghost Story*

Hamlet, starring Ahad Raza Mir, opens in October 2020 at The Rose Brampton, including three school performances and nine public performances. The production’s run time is two hours, including intermission. Full casting announcement, details, and schedule to follow.

Tickets can be purchased at therosebrampton.ca or by phone at 905.874.2800.

Current 2019 – 2020 subscriber and donor members get exclusive access to tickets in advance from **October 9, 2019**. This production is not eligible for subscription packages or discounts.

Single tickets go on sale **October 24, 2019**, ranged \$25 - \$45.

To learn more about The Rose’s 2019 – 2020 season, visit therosebrampton.ca.

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The Rose Brampton is a magnificent performing arts venue and iconic feature of downtown Brampton. A vital part of our city, it is a destination for local and world-renowned performers, providing opportunities for culture-lovers from Brampton and beyond to experience a wide range of talent in an extraordinary setting. Architecturally and acoustically remarkable, the venue boasts two performance venues for large shows and intimate experiences.

The Rose Brampton gratefully acknowledges the support of 2019 – 2020 donors and sponsors.

The Rose Brampton recognizes the Treaty Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and before them, the Haudenosaunee, Huron, and Wendat, and acknowledges the many Nations, Metis, Inuit, and global Indigenous peoples that now call Brampton home.

The Shakespeare Company is Calgary's lean and mean classical theatre company, highlighting the best of the Bard in all his comedy, tragedy, and bawdiness. Founded in 1995, by Richard Kenyon and LuAnne Morrow, TSC has brought the Bard alive for Calgarians through both Shakespeare and Shakespeare inspired plays. They are committed to making Shakespeare accessible through innovative performances and inspired directing. Alongside mainstage productions, TSC's community initiatives are: Page to Stage Outreach Program and DiVerseCity.

Hit & Myth Productions is a professional independent theatre company based in Calgary, Alberta. Hit & Myth was established in 2006, and since that time has produced over 30 professional shows, engaging numerous local actors, directors and designers.

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For more information, please contact Cristina Rizzuto, Marketing Coordinator, The Rose Brampton, cristina.rizzuto@brampton.ca.