



MEDIA RELEASE

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Caesar and Cleopatra nabs two Gemini nominations

August 25, 2009... The Stratford Shakespeare Festival's film of Bernard Shaw's *Caesar and Cleopatra*, featuring **Christopher Plummer**, has received two Gemini nominations.

The film – along with producer **Barry Avrich** – is nominated for Best Performing Arts Program.

Christopher Plummer is nominated for Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program or Series.

“We are thrilled to learn that our production of *Caesar and Cleopatra* has received this recognition,” says Artistic Director Des McAnuff, who directed the Festival's 2008 production of the play, which received universal acclaim.

“We hope to do more motion picture work in this fashion in the future as we continue to strive to reach a wider audience. Our congratulations go out to Chris Plummer – one of the world's premier actors and a great Canadian – and to our producer Barry Avrich.”

The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television's Gemini Awards recognize the year's best in Canadian English-language television. The 24th annual Gemini Awards ceremony will take place on November 14 in Calgary and will be broadcast live on Global and Showcase.

Executive Producers Christopher Plummer, Barry Avrich and **Michael Levine** worked in partnership with Bravo! to capture the stage performance over three days in front of live audiences, in HD and digital surround sound.

“I am so proud of the team that so beautifully immortalized this extraordinary performance,” say General Director Antoni Cimolino. “We hope it will be the first of many and a legacy to future generations.”

Presented by Bravo! and produced by Melbar Entertainment Group, *Caesar and Cleopatra* was screened twice at Cineplex Entertainment theatres across the country and aired on Bravo! television in Canada earlier this year. The project was generously supported by American Express, Cineplex, Bluma Appel Community Trust, Universal and Jim Doak.

A DVD of the film is available in the Festival's Theatre Stores.

The Festival is working on an international distribution deal that will see *Caesar and Cleopatra* become available on cinema screens and broadcast channels around the world.

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PHOTOS

Caesar and Cleopatra, film:

<http://www.stratfordfestival.ca/imagegallery/index.cfm?Jump=CandCFilm&CandCFilmType=ProductionPhotos#ProductionPhotos>

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