

New Original Web Series CHATEAU LAURIER gains 3 million views and 65,000 followers in 2 months

Stellar cast features Fiona Reid, Kate Ross, Luke Humphrey and the late Bruce Gray

May 9, 2018 (Toronto) – The first season of the newly launched web series CHATEAU LAURIER has gained nearly 3 million views and 65,000 followers in less than 2 months, it was announced today by producer/director, James Stewart. Three episodes have rolled out on Facebook thus far, generating an average of nearly 1 million views per episode. In addition, it has been nominated for Outstanding Canadian Web Series at T.O. WEBFEST 2018, Canada's largest international Webfest.

The charming web series consisting of 3 episodes of 3 minutes each features a stellar Canadian cast, including Fiona Reid (*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*), Kate Ross (*Alias Grace*), Luke Humphrey (Stratford's *Shakespeare in Love*), and the late Bruce Gray (*Traders*) in his last role. Fans across the world—from Canada, the US, and UK—to the Philippines and Indonesia have fallen for CHATEAU LAURIER since the first season launched on March 13, 2018.



Set in turn-of-the-century Ottawa's historic grand hotel on the eve of a young couple's arranged wedding, CHATEAU LAURIER offers a wry slice-of-life glimpse into romance in the early 1900s. Filmed in one day, on a low budget, the talent of the actors and the very high production value, stunning sets and lush costumes (with the Royal York standing in for the Chateau), make this series a standout in a burgeoning genre.

CHATEAU LAURIER was created by producer/director James Stewart (*Foxed*), co-writer/co-producer Kent Staines (*Prom Queen, M.V.P.*) and co-writer/co-producer Emily Weedon (*15 Kinds of Casual Sex*), and was produced with the assistance of BravoFACT. The producers are developing additional webisodes and are also planning to pitch the show as a primetime drama series.

"Growing up in Ottawa, I have fond memories of the Chateau and always felt that the walls had so many stories to tell. Still to this day, it is the crossroads of politics, drama and intrigue," said James Stewart. "We have been overwhelmed by the response globally and pleased to see the subject of an arranged marriage resonating in many cultures," he continued.

Episodes 1-3 are now available exclusively on Facebook.

- Episode 1: Click [here](#)
- Episode 2: Click [here](#)
- Episode 3: Click [here](#)

Or watch all three episodes here: <https://vimeo.com/261505819>
Password: Ottawa1912



Following is a link to the main Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/ChateauLaurierTheSeries/>

About the Cast and Creative Team

CAST



Fiona Reid (Mrs. Bracebridge)

A member of the Order of Canada, Fiona is a legend of the stage, having won the Dora Mavor Moore Award in 1993 for *Fallen Angels* and in 1995 for *Six Degrees of Separation*. Other stage credits include *The Audience* (Mirvish Productions) in which she starred as Queen Elizabeth II, and *August: Osage County*. Her film appearances include *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* and *The Time Traveler's Wife*.



Bruce Gray (Mr. Mutchmur)

The late Bruce Gray is a Canadian acting icon having appeared in 100's of film and TV series including the Gemini award-winning role of Adam Cunningham in *Traders*. Other TV credits include *Murder She Wrote* and *Medium*, among many others. Film credits include *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*.



Kate Ross (Hattie Bracebridge)

Kate is best known for her recurring roles as Sandra on *Heartland*. Her other roles include Kimmy on *American Gothic* and Agnes in *Alias Grace*. Coming up Kate will appear in the new CTV series *The Detail*.



Luke Humphrey (Vivian Mutchmur)

Best known for the title role in Stratford's *Shakespeare in Love*, Luke has appeared in *Star Trek: Discovery*, *Frankie Drake*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Taken*, *Slasher*, *Motive* and the feature film *Trench 11*.



Kent Staines (Mr. Waverly)

Kent's acting credits extend over 30 years on stage and on screen, from the Stratford Festival and regional theatres across Canada to international TV and film productions. Recent credits include the TV series *Anne with an E*, *Orphan Black*, *Schitt's Creek* and Roger Avary's soon to be released feature film *Lucky Day*.



Fraser Elsdon (Bellboy Campbell)

Best known for his work in theatres across Canada, Fraser's television and film credits include *Reign*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Tuesday 10:08 am* and *A Very Country Christmas*.

CREATIVE TEAM

James Stewart – Producer/Director

James Stewart is an award-winning writer and director best known for his multi award-winning hit short film *Foxed* (15 million views online and #1 on iTunes). Born and raised in Ottawa and now living in Toronto, James has directed animation (*Beatrice Coron's Daily Battles*), live action (*Chateau Laurier*) and over 100 commercials and VR projects. His feature screenplay for *Foxed* has won two awards and was top 10 in two categories (Drama and Sc-fi) at the 2017 Austin Film Festival. His 3D work on Werner Herzog's *Cave of Forgotten Dreams* won the 2014 AIS Lumière Award and was described by The Guardian as “the reinvention of the cinema medium”.

Kent Staines – Co-writer/Co-producer

Kent Staines is an award-winning screenwriter and playwright. Recent credits include the feature film *Anxietyville* and *Prom Queen: The Musical*. He is co-creator and writer/showrunner of the series *MVP: The Secret Lives of Hockey Wives* (CBC), *Prom Queen: The Marc Hall Story* (Tapestry Pictures / CTV), *Moose TV* (Rezolution Pictures / Showcase) and *Spirit Bear: The Simon Jackson Story* (Screen Door / CTV), which won the Audience Choice award at the Sprockets International Children's Festival. He has written the libretto for the musical adaptation of his CTV film *Prom Queen* (Segal Centre, Montreal) and was the recipient of the Playwrights Guild of Canada (PGC) Pechet Musical Award.

Emily Weedon – Co-writer/Co-producer

Emily Weedon is a Toronto based Screenwriter, Writing Coach and Art Director with over 25 years in the film industry. In addition to *Chateau Laurier*, Emily has written over 10 feature length scripts and is slated to shoot a feature length romantic comedy in Toronto in 2018. She participated in the NBC/Universal WIFT feature film incubator with long-time collaborator Teresa Ho on her film *15 Kinds of Casual Sex*. Emily is also the author of *Autokrator*, a speculative fiction novel.