2014 London Theater Seminar

with Professor Murray Biggs

March 12 - 20, 2014
Join us for this highly customized, Yale-exclusive seminar sampling the very best of London theater. Professor Biggs will curate a selection of six representative plays, including both traditional and modern works. The program aims at both a and quality in the choice of plays, productions, and venues, providing an excellent look at the breadth of London theater. As many London theaters cannot confirm their spring productions until a couple of months before the program, we will be adding plays to the preliminary schedule below as they are selected. A final schedule will be published and available before departure.

Each day, Professor Biggs will lead a discussion on the play that the group has just seen and introduce the play that they will see later that day. Participants will be invited to contribute their views of each performance and their thoughts on the works as dramatic literature. With the exception of a few group excursions and a matinee, afternoons will be free to explore museums, art galleries, and other London attractions.

The group will stay at the Montague on the Gardens Hotel at 15 Montague Street. Located in the historic and literary Bloomsbury district, the Montague is a luxury townhouse hotel overlooking a private garden and is close to the British Museum and Covent Garden. Fully air-conditioned guest rooms and hotel suites provide the ambience of a fine country hotel on a London side street. Convenient to museums and theaters as well as some of London’s best shopping and restaurants, the Montague is an excellent base from which to take advantage of London’s splendid cultural offerings.

### The Program

#### Program Highlights
- Tickets to six plays, selected by Professor Murray Biggs
- Series of lectures and discussions
- Scripts of plays to read in advance of the productions
- Accommodations with included English breakfast at the famed Montague on the Gardens Hotel for seven nights beginning Thursday, March 13
- Festive Welcome and Farewell dinners
- Included dinners on theater evenings
- Private tours of the Garrick Club and a prominent London theater

#### Sellout
Theater programs with Murray Biggs usually sell out quickly. To ensure your participation, return the registration form with payment promptly. Online registration is the fastest way to secure your place:
www.YaleEdTravel.org/london14

#### Program costs
We are pleased to offer the London Theater Seminar at the excellent rate of $5,100 per person based on double occupancy. The single supplement is $1,400. A deposit of $1,000 per person is due with the registration form. Final payment is due on December 12, 2013.

#### Not included
Airfare; passport and visa expenses; accident, travel and baggage insurance; meals except as specified above; personal expenses such as laundry and telephone calls; airport transportation.

#### Cancellation Policy
The deposit less a $300 per person administrative fee is refundable until December 12, 2013 upon receipt of a written cancellation at Yale Educational Travel. There are no refunds after January 12, 2014. We strongly urge participants to purchase travel insurance.

#### Feel free to contact us: edtravel@yale.edu or 203-432-1952

### Preliminary Schedule

#### Wednesday, March 12
Depart for London. You may wish to arrive a day or two early to better recover from jet-lag before the program begins on Thursday. (Additional nights will be approximately US$405 [including VAT] per room).

#### Thursday, March 13
Mid-afternoon welcome and discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, the home of the Yale-in-London Program. Professor Murray Biggs will introduce the first play, followed by a welcome dinner before the evening performance.

#### Friday, March 14
Morning discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre. Included group dinner followed by evening performance.

#### Saturday, March 15
Morning discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre. Included group dinner followed by performance.

#### Sunday, March 16
Day at leisure.

#### Monday, March 17
Morning discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre. Included group dinner followed by evening performance.

#### Tuesday, March 18
Morning discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre. Included group dinner followed by performance.

#### Wednesday, March 19
Morning discussion at The Paul Mellon Centre. Matinee or evening performance. Farewell dinner.

#### Thursday, March 20
Departure after breakfast

At least two days will feature an afternoon group excursion. An updated itinerary will be available closer to departure.

#### A Note on Play Selection
Most London theaters were not able to confirm their spring productions as our brochure went to press. As plays are selected for the seminar, we will add them to our schedule. We will send participants a final itinerary and post it online before departure.

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**London Theater**

March 12 - 20, 2014
Enclosed is my check for $___________ ($1,000 deposit per person) to hold ___ place(s) on the YET London Theater Seminar, March 12-20, 2014. I (we) understand that final payment is due on December 12, 2013. Please make your check payable to “Yale University.”

No check is enclosed. Please charge the deposit to my credit card.

☐ Mastercard  ☐ Visa  ☐ Amex

Name on Card
Card Number  Expiration Date
Card Holder Signature

Please send all program materials to me at:

Name  Yale Affiliation(s)  Birth date (mm/dd/yy)
Name  Yale Affiliation(s)  Birth date (mm/dd/yy)
Address
City  State  Zip Code
Telephone (Day)  Telephone (evening)
Email

Accommodations

☐ I would like single accommodations; a $1,400 supplement will be included in my final payment.

☐ I/We would like additional nights at the Montague Hotel on the following dates at an approximate cost of US$405 per night (price includes VAT), depending on the current exchange rate. Note that the first night included in the program fee is Thursday, March 13. The cost of extra nights will be included in my final payment submitted by December 12, 2013. I understand there are no refunds after January 12, 2014.

I/We will arrive on __________
I/We will depart on __________
Total extra nights: __________

Play Texts

We will send you the play script readings in PDF format in early 2014, so you can have the convenience of reading them on your tablet or other computer. If you would prefer to have a printed version of the readings, please indicate here:

☐ Please also send me a printed version of the seminar reading.

Why Theater with Yale Educational Travel?

“With the strong encouragement of Professor Biggs to read all the play texts before beginning the tour and to participate actively in the morning discussion sessions, I related to the tour as similar to taking a theater course at Yale with Professor Biggs, but without the burden of tests or papers. This is an educational experience I very much enjoyed.”

- Donna McCampbell
2013 London Theater Participant

Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/london14

to book online. Or return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Yale University” to Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

Additional Yet Programs Featuring Professor Biggs
Places and Playwrights of Ireland – June 21-29, 2014
The Best of Ontario Theater – August 15 – 22, 2014
New York Theater Weekend - October 24 - 26, 2014

New This Year
Meals included before all evenig performances!

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Murray Biggs, Adjunct Associate Professor of English and Theater Studies at Yale, is known throughout the campus and with alumni everywhere for his dynamic teaching style that inspires great enthusiasm and active participation. He has led week-long theater seminars in various locations: most often in London, also at the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario, and the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake; as well as in Ireland and the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon. He has also offered theater weekends in major cities in the U.S., most regularly in New York City.

Professor Biggs was born in England, brought up in South Africa, and returned to England as a Rhodes Scholar to take his second degree (in English) at Oxford, where he afterwards taught for two years. He later studied acting and for a time performed professionally in Boston. He worked at MIT for ten years, mainly as founder and first Director of the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble. He also taught at Wellesley, Berkeley, and the University of Connecticut before joining the Yale faculty in 1986. He has published many articles and reviews, especially about Shakespeare and his contemporaries in performance. In 1991 he edited a collection of essays, The Arts of Performance in Elizabethan and Early Stuart Drama. He has directed over 40 plays, a third of them from the English Renaissance.
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The Best of London Theater with Prof. Murray Biggs

“Great selection of plays in unusual settings — great to learn that there was a world of theater beyond ‘commercial’ venues.”

-Linda and John Fosseen ’68

2013 London Theater Participants

What to expect from the London Theater Seminar

• Stimulating group discussions led by Professor Murray Biggs
• Classic and modern plays that will reward through consideration
• Plays in unusual venues: from West End to Off-West End, suburban and small theaters
• Lively commentary on the plays from members of your group
• Included meals close to the theater
• Transportation to and from theaters
• Gracious accommodations including full breakfast at the Montague Hotel
• A discussion with an actor or director of a play

Since these annual London theater seminars began in 1993, alumni have sampled world-class productions of theater from around the globe: from Shakespeare and other classics to Ibsen, Chekhov and their fellow moderns, to contemporary playwrights like Pinter, Bennett, Stoppard, Frayn, Friel, and McDonagh. And they have seen performances by such luminaries as Judi Dench, Derek Jacobi, Corin Redgrave, Fiona Shaw, and Rachel Weisz.