2018 London Fall Theater Seminar

Murray Biggs
Special YET Lecturer
English and Theater Studies

Yale Educational Travel

October 10 – 18, 2018
Join us for this highly customized 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 variety and quality in the choice of plays, productions, and venues, providing a stimulating look at the breadth of London theater. While many London theaters cannot confirm spring productions until a couple of months before the program, we’re unusually fortunate in having three of our six plays already selected!

Each day, Professor Biggs will lead a discussion of the play that the group has just seen and introduce the play that they will see later that day. With the exception of two group excursions and possibly a matinee, afternoons are free to explore museums, art galleries, and other London attractions.

Stay with us in the historic and literary Bloomsbury district at the Montague on the Gardens, a luxury townhouse hotel overlooking a private garden and 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.

Happy travels,

David McIntosh ’07
Assistant Director of Educational Travel

What to Expect

**Tickets** to six plays, selected by Professor Murray Biggs

**Stimulating** group discussions led by Prof. Biggs

**Scripts** of plays to read in advance of the productions

**Accommodations** with included English breakfast at the famed Montague on the Gardens for seven nights starting Thursday, October 11

**Festive** Welcome and Farewell dinners

**Included** dinners on theater evenings close to each theater

**Private** tours of theater-related venues!

**Plays** in unusual venues: West End to Off-West End, suburban and small theaters

www.yaleedtravel.org/londonfall18
Murray Biggs, semi-retired 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: in London; at the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario, and at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake; as well as in Ireland and at the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon. He also offers theater weekends in major cities in the U.S., most regularly in New York City, San Diego, and Sarasota. In 2016 he was Artist-in-Residence at the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach. Although retired from regular teaching, Professor Murray Biggs is still widely active at and for Yale.

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.
ITINERARY
OCTOBER 10-18, 2018

LONDON
Wednesday, October 10
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 ~£210 [excluding VAT] per room).

LONDON
Thursday, October 11
Mid-afternoon welcome and discussion. Professor Murray Biggs will introduce our first play, *The Humans* by American Stephen Karam, a celebration of familial imperfection, followed by a welcome dinner and performance. (D)

LONDON
Friday, October 12
Morning discussion with Murray Biggs. Group dinner followed by evening of *four one act plays* by Harold Pinter, one of the most influential modern British dramatists. (B/D)

LONDON
Saturday, October 13
Morning discussion with Murray Biggs. Group dinner and performance of Dawn King’s award-winning psychological drama *Foxfinder*. (B/D)

LONDON
Sunday, October 14
Day at leisure. (B)

LONDON
Monday, October 15
Morning discussion with Murray Biggs. Afternoon backstage tour of the National Theatre. Group dinner before Shakespeare’s complex and less often performed *Antony and Cleopatra*. (B/D)

LONDON
Tuesday, October 16
Morning discussion with Murray Biggs. Group dinner followed by evening performance of Ian Hislop & Nick Newman’s *The Wipers Times*, the true and extraordinary story of a satirical newspaper created in the mud and mayhem of the Great War. (B/D)

Note: Itinerary subject to change.

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.

A NOTE ON PLAY SELECTION
Some London theaters are still not able to confirm their fall productions as our brochure goes to press. When the final play is selected, we will add it to our schedule and post it online before departure.

"Murray was amazing and brilliant as an instructor and as a facilitator of a memorable, worthwhile educational experience. He has my highest possible regard."

-Jenny Katz
2016 Best of Ontario participant

The National Theatre
Why Theater with Yale Educational Travel?

“Murray was such an affirming discussion leader, making everyone feel as though their contributions were invaluable. The varieties of plays and venues were very enriching.

My husband graduated in 1965 and since then he has been a Harvard faculty member. Our experience reminded me of the warm collegiality we used to feel back in the day”

- Ginny Fruhan
2016 London Spring Theater Participant

"Murray Biggs is an excellent leader. I have traveled with him at least six times in Canada, three times in New York, once in London and once in Pennsylvania. Each trip has been well organized and I have learned a great deal and enjoyed his leadership and the friendship of fellow Yale participants!

The educational program requires you to study the plays and consider your own reactions to them in discussions with Murray Biggs and the other participants, some of whom are specialists in the theater genre."

- 2017 Best of Ontario Theater Participant

www.yaleedtravel.org/londonfall18
Program Cost

The base cost this program is: $5,420
(based on double occupancy)

Single Supplement: $1,500 (limited availability)

A deposit of $1,000 per person is due with the registration form. Final payment is due on July 13, 2018.

Group size limited to 32 participants.

Note: Itinerary subject to change.

Photo Credits
Shaftesbury Avenue at Night image courtesy of Matthew Lloyd, www.arthurlloyd.co.uk.

Terms and Conditions

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of Yale Educational Travel (“YET”) is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

CANCELLATION The deposit less a $300 per person administrative fee is refundable until December 15, 2016, upon receipt of a written cancellation at Yale Educational Travel. There are no refunds after Dec. 15, 2016. We strongly urge participants to purchase travel insurance. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to our office.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE A deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to Yale Educational Travel, of which $300 is nonrefundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, must
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To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person to YET. Final payment is due July 13, 2018.

Payment Options
☐ pay by check made out to “Yale University”

Please charge the deposit of $1,000 per person to:
☐ amex ☐ visa ☐ mastercard ☐ discover card

card number
expiration date security code

Accommodations
preference
☐ I wish to have a single (limited availability – please call)

☐ I will share accommodations with:

Travel Options
☐ I/We confirm that I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility section of this brochure and agree to their terms on behalf of myself and the members of my party named above.

To reserve, 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.

be received 120 days prior to departure. Mail to: The Association of Yale Alumni, Yale Educational Travel, Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Or call: 203-432-1952.

HEALTH All participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible, and climbing in and out of various conveyances. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

INSURANCE Yale Educational Travel highly recommends that participants purchase travel insurance as the cancellation policy may apply. However, Yale does not recommend a particular insurance company and Yale travelers are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. There is usually a short window of time (7-21 days from the first payment date) when one can purchase travel insurance and still be covered for certain provisions (such as pre-existing conditions). If travel insurance is important to you, please do not wait to purchase insurance.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) and the tour operator. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares, and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE The participation of AYA is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). AYA acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services, relating to The Program. AYA, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error, or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AYA or any agent be responsible for loss, injury, damages, or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. AYA is not responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AYA. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. AYA reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AYA to be in the best interest of the participant’s health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS On occasion, Yale Educational Travel obtains, from its staff or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize Yale Educational Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in YET’s sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.
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Professor Murray Biggs
Special AYA Lecturer, English and Theater Studies

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“Murray is a gift. We have been on other Yale Educational trips and he is by far the best. It is really an educational experience as well as a marvelously enjoyable one.”