

English 252: Theatre in England

2005-2006

* [Optional events — seen by some]

Thursday December 29

*7:30 p.m.

Friday December 30

*7:30 p.m.

Saturday December 31 [First Official Day of Play-going]

9:15 a.m. Introduction. Orientation session. Classes will normally be held each morning at this time to discuss plays we saw the day before.

2:00 p.m. Thomas Middleton, William Rowley, and Philip Massinger. *A New Way To Please You; or, The Old Law* (1618). Dir. Sean Holmes.

Design by Kandis Cooke. Music and sound design by Chris Branch and Tom Haines. **Cast:** Peter De Jersey (Prince Evander), Matt Ryan (Cleanthes, a virtuous citizen), Barry Stanton (Leonides, his father), Evelyn Duah (Hippolita, Cleanthes' wife), Geoffrey Freshwater (Creon, elderly father of Simonides), Jonjo O'Neill (Simonides, an avaricious son), Miranda Colchester (the heartlessly sexy Eugenia), James Hayes (her elderly husband Lisander), Fred Ridgeway (Gnotho, a clown), Ishia Bennison (Agatha, his elderly wife), Teresa Banham (Antigona), Nigel Betts (Cook/Lawyer), Michelle Butterly (Siren), Jon Foster (Courtier), David Hinton (Cratilus/Tailor), Keith Osborn (Lawyer/Butler), Vinette Robinson (Parthenia), Mark Springer (Bailiff), Julian Stolzenberg (Courtier). [A black comedy in which a law is passed stating that every man of 80 years and every woman at 60 should be "put down" as they no longer have a use to society.]

Trafalgar Studios

7:30 p.m. William Shakespeare. *Twelfth Night* (1600). Dir. Michael Boyd.

Design by Tom Piper. Music by Sianed Jones and John Woolf. **Cast:** Barnaby Kay (Orsino), Aislin McGuckin (Olivia), Kananu Kirimi (Viola), Clive Wood (Sir Toby Belch), John Mackay (Sir Andrew Aguecheek), Meg Fraser (Maria), Richard Cordery (Malvolio), Forbes Masson (Feste), Peter Bygott (Fabian), Gurpreet Singh (Sebastian), Neil McKinven (Antonio), Eke Chukwu (Attendant), Christopher Obi (Sea Captain), Barrie Palmer (Officer), Christopher Robert (Priest), Sally Tatum (Maid), Kevin Trainor (Valentine).

Novello Theatre

Sunday January 1, 2006 Happy New Year!

*3:00 p.m.

Monday January 2

7:30 p.m. Alan Bennett. *The History Boys* (2004). Dir. Nicholas Hytner. Recreated by Simon Cox. Designer: Bob Crowley. Lighting Design: Mark Henderson. Music: Richard Sisson. Sound Design: Colin Pink. Video Director: Ben Taylor. **Cast: Teachers:** Desmond Barrit (Hector), Diana Fletcher (Mrs. Lintott), Bruce Alexander (Headmaster), Thomas Menzies (Irwin); **Boys:** Marc Elliott (Akthar), Kenny Thompson (Crowther), Jamie King (Dakin), Matt Smith (Lockwood), Steven Webb (Posner), Philip Correia (Rudge), Thomas Morrison (Scripps), James Cartwright (Timms). [This play won the Olivier award for best new play of 2004.]

Lyttelton Theatre

Tuesday January 3

6:00 p.m. Pre-show discussion with Sam Dawson, Director, on the goals of his production of Vanbrugh's *Journey to London*, including a brief history of the play and James Saunders' adaptation.

7:45 p.m. John Vanbrugh and James Saunders. *Journey to London* (1726/1986). Dir. Sam Walters. Design: Sam Dawson. [This 3 act Restoration Comedy was not yet completed when Vanbrugh died in 1726. Colly Cibber supplied a conclusion and it was first performed in 1728 as *The Provoked Husband*. The late James Saunders adapted and revived the play in 1986, to great acclaim. This production is dedicated to Saunders and his many theatrical achievements.]

Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond

Wednesday January 4

2:30 p.m. John Osborne and Anthony Creighton. *Epitaph for George Dillon* (1958). Dir. Peter Gill. Design by John Gunter. Lighting by Hugh Vanstone. **Cast:** Joseph Fiennes (George Dillon), Francesca Annis (Ruth Gray), Anne Reid (Kate Elliot), Geoffrey Hutchings, Joe Tapper, Dorothy Atkinson, Stephen Greif, Hugh Simon, Alex Dunbar.

Comedy Theatre

7:30 p.m. Anthony Munday, Henry Chettle, Thomas Dekker, Thomas Heywood, and William Shakespeare. *Thomas More* (1592-1595). Dir. Robert Delamere. Design by Simon Higlett. Lighting Wayne Dowdeswell. Music by Ilona Sekacz. **Cast:** Nigel Cooke (Thomas More), Barry Aird (Williamson), Teresa Banhan (Lady More), Michelle Butterly (Doll Williamson), Nigel Betts (George Betts), Peter Bramhill (Lifter), Miranda Colchester (More's daughter), Ewen Cummins (Lord Mayor), Ian Drysdale (Lincoln), Evelyn Duah (Lady Mayoress), Jon Foster (Sheriff), Geoffrey Freshwater (Sir Roger Chomley/Erasmus), Kevin Harvey (Francis de Barde), James Hayes (Sir Thomas Palmer), David Hinton (Sherwin/Faulkner), Michael Jenn (Earl of Surrey), Keith Osborn (Suresby), Fred

Ridgeway (Clown Betts), Vinette Robinson (Lady Roper), Mark Springer (Caveler), Julian Stolzenberg (Master Roper), Tim Treloar (Earl of Shrewsbury). [Billed as "Shakespeare's banned play," the script was, in fact, twice banned by the Master of the Revels for its anti-government protests and was never performed in Shakespeare's lifetime. The story tells of race riots and dissent in London and More's attempts to quell the uprising. His pleading for racial harmony begins his rise to political prominence but ultimately leads to his downfall. The manuscript survives, in several hands: first the hands of Munday and Chettle, then abridged by the other three playwrights. But it was then banned a second time.]

Trafalgar Studios

Thursday January 5

2:00 p.m. Helen Edmundson. *Coram Boy* (2005). World Premiere. Dir. Melly Still. Designers: Ti Green and Melly Still. Lighting Design: Paule Constable. Music by Adrian Sutton. Fight Director, Alison de Burgh. Sound Design, Christopher Shutt. Adapted from a novel by Jamila Gavin. **Cast:** Sophie Bould (Alice), Bertie Carvel (Adult Alex), Abby Ford (Young Thomas), Ruth Gemmell (Mrs. Lynch), Akiya Henry (Toby), Rebecca Johnson (Lady Ashbrook), Inika Leigh Wright (Miss Price), Stuart McLoughlin (Edward), Eve Matheson (Mrs. Milcote), Justine Mitchell (Melissa), Paul Ritter (Otis Gardiner/Mr. Philip Gaddarn), Jack Tarlton (Meshak Gardiner), Kelly Williams (Isobel). [A tale of two cities: Gloucester and London. A story of two orphans at Coram Hospital for Deserted Children: Toby, saved from an African slave ship; and Aaron, the abandoned son of the heir to a great estate. Set in the dark side of 18th-century England, the play explores the traumas of fathers and sons.]

Olivier Theatre

5:30 p.m. Backstage Tour of the National Theatre

7:30 p.m. Henrik Ibsen. *Pillars of the Community* (*Samfundets Støtter*) (1877). New version by Samuel Anderson. Dir. Marianne Elliott. Design: Rae Smith. Sighting: Chris Davey. Sound Design: Ian Dickinson. **Cast:** Damian Lewis (Karsten Bernick), Geraldine Alexander (Betty), Brid Brennan (Marta Bernick), Michelle Dockery (Dina Dorf), Michael Gould (Knap), Annabel Leventon (Mrs. Rummel), Lesley Manville (Lona Hessel), Pamela Merrick (Mrs. Lynge), Paul Moriarty (Aune), Justin Salinger (Hilmar Tonnesen), Una Stubbs (Mrs Holt), Michael Thomas (Rorlund). [Calamity strikes when Bernick's business prowess and pristine reputation are threatened by the revelation of a long-buried secret. Desperate to dodge exposure in the kowtowing local community, Bernick devises a pitiless plan which, by a shocking twist of fate, risks the one life he holds dear.]

Lyttelton Theatre

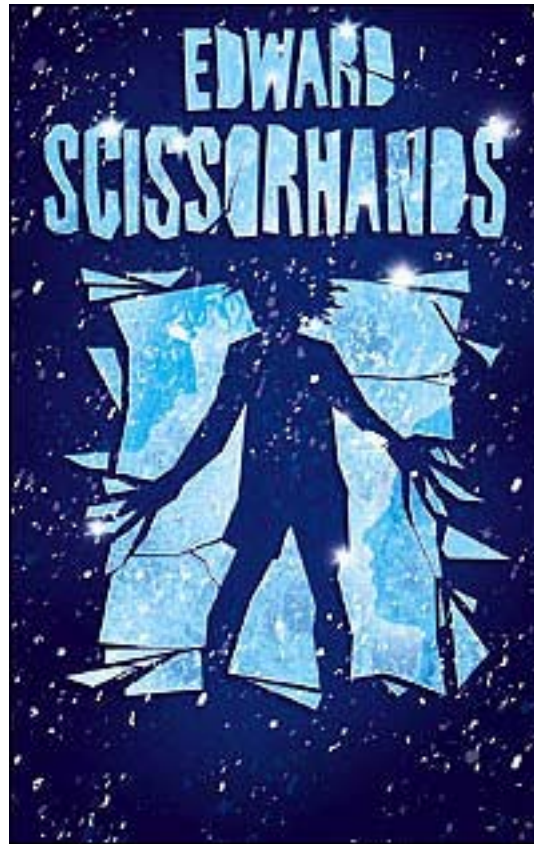
Friday January 6

7:30 p.m. Howard Brenton. *Paul* (2005). World Premiere. Dir. Howard Davies. Designer: Vicki Mortimer. Lighting Design: Paule Constable. Music: Dominic Muldowney. Sound Design: John Leonard. **Cast:** Paul Rhys (Paul), Lloyd Owen (Peter), Paul Higgins (James).

Cottesloe Theatre

Saturday January 7

2:30 p.m. Matthew Bourne, *Edward Scissorhands* (2005). Choreography by Matthew Bourne. Set and costumes by Lez Brotherston. Lighting by Howard Harrison. Sound by Paul Groothuis. An Adventures in Motion Pictures Production. Based on Tim Burton and Caroline Thompson's film (1990). **Cast:** Richard Winsor, Sam Archer, Scott Ambler, Etta Murfitt, Terry Davies.



Sadlers Wells

7:30 p.m. Molière (Jean-Baptiste Poquelin). *The Hypochondriac* (*Le Malade imaginaire*) (1671). Dir. Lindsay Posner. A new version by Richard Bean. Design by Giles Cadle. Lighting by Jean Kalman. Music by Matthew Scott. Sound by John Leonard. Movement by Scarlett Mackmin. With Henry Goodman (Argan). [Molière's last play, in which he was acting on the night of his death, 17 Feb. 1673.]

Almeida Theatre

Sunday January 8

*11:15 a.m. **Westminster Abbey**. Eucharist, sung by the Collegiate Singers. Herbert Howells (1892-1983) *Collegium Regale*. Pierre Villette (1926-98), *Hymne à la Vierge*. Theoderici Petri Nylandensis, *Divinum mysterium* (1582). *Noël*, adapted by Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900). Postlude: J. S. Bach (1685-1750). Fantasia in C minor BWV 562.

*12:00-2:00 Lord Mayor's New Year's Day Parade. Over a hundred entries with a cast of thousands, US All-Star Bands, cheerleaders from highschoools in Georgia, Alabama, Ohio, Tokyo, the Universal Cheerleaders Association, cyclists on antique bicycles, steam engines, traction engines, floats, gigantic cartoon balloons, etc.

3:00 p.m. Luigi Pirendello. *As You Desire Me (Come tu mi vuoi, 1930)*. Dir. Jonathan Kent. Design by Paul Brown. **Cast:** Kristin Scott Thomas, Margaret Tyzack, Bob Hoskins. [This play was made into a movie in 1932, dir. George Fitzmaurice, with Greta Garbo (Zara/Maria), Melvyn Douglas (Count Bruno Verral, her husband), Eric Von Stroheim (Count Salter, her tyrannical ex-lover and novelist), Owen Moore (Tony, a painter and Bruno's best friend), Hedda Hopper Madame Inez Montari, her sister), Rafaella Ottiano (Lena, her nanny), William Ricciardi (Pietro, the butler), Warburton Gamble (Baron), Roland Varno (Albert).]

Playhouse Theatre

Monday January 9

2:00 p.m. Rufus Norris and David Grieg. *Tintin* (2005). Dir, Rufus Norris. Adapted from Georges Remi (Hergé)'s 1920s comic strip. A Young Vic Production.

Barbican Theatre

8:00 p.m. August Wilson. *Gem of the Ocean* (2004). Dir. Paulette Randall. Design: Libby Watson. [This is the 9th play in Wilson's 10 play cycle. Set in 1904, on the eve of the 287th birthday of Aunt Ester (a recurring character in Wilson's play cycle), citizen Barlow, a man in spiritual turmoil, arrives at Aunt Ester's house in Pittsburgh's Hill District and is soon sent off on a spiritual journey to find the mythic City of Bones, leading him to startling discoveries and setting him on a course of duty and redemption. See the August Wilson/Gem of the Ocean online site for a brief summary of the plot.]

Tricycle Theatre

Tuesday January 10

2:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Frederick Schiller. *Mary Stuart* (1800). A new version by Peter Oswald. Dir. Phyllida Lloyd. Design by Anthony Ward. Lighting by Hugh Vanstone. Sound by Paul Arditti. **Cast:** Janet McTeer (Mary Queen of

Scots), Harriet Walter (Elizabeth I), Rory Kinnear, Tam Dean Burn, Stephen Fletcher, Guy Henry, David Horovitch, Rufus Wright. [Transfer from its sold-out run at the Donmar Warehouse.]

Apollo Theatre

Wednesday January 11

2:00 p.m. George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart. *Once in a Lifetime* (1930). Dir. Edward Hall. Design: Mark Thompson. Lighting: Hugh Vanstone. Sound Design: Paul Groothuis. **Cast:** David Suchet (Herman Glogaues), Victoria Hamilton (May Daniel), Adrian Scarborough (George Lewis), Caroline Sheen (Susan Walker), Marcia Warren (Mrs. Walker), Issy Van Randwyck (Helen Hobart), Jonathan McGuinness (Lawrence Hall).

Olivier Theatre

7:30 p.m. *Billy Elliott the Musical*. Dir. Stephen Daldry. Book and lyrics by Lee Hall. Music by Sir Elton John. Choreography by Peter Darling. **Cast:** Leon Cooke (Billy), Tim Healy (Billy's father), Joe Caffrey (Tony, Billy's brother), Trevor Fox (blunt George, the boxing instructor), Haydn Gwynne (Mrs. Wilkinson the dance teacher), Lucy Stephenson (Debbie, her daughter), Stephanie Putson (ghost of Billy's mother), JOey Phillips (Michael, a young friend).

Victoria Palace Theatre

Thursday January 12

2:00 p.m. William Shakespeare. *Comedy of Errors* (1590-91). Dir. Nancy Meckler. Design by Katrina Lindsay. Lighting by Tim Mitchell. Music by Ilona Sekacz. Movement by Liz Ranken. **Cast:** Joe Dixon (Antipholus of Syracuse), Christopher Colquhoun (Antipholus of Ephesus), Jonathan Slinger (Dromio of Syracuse), Forbes Masson (Dromio of Ephesus), Suzanne Burden (Adriana, wife to Antipholus of Ephesus), Oscar Pearce (Angelo, a goldsmith), Tom Hodgkins (Doctor Pinch, a schoolmaster and quack), Christopher Obi (merchant friend to Antipholus of Syracuse), Alice Barclay (Lady), Richard Cordery (Egeon), Frances Jeater (Emilia), Bettrys Jones (Lady), Sinead Keenan (Courtesan), Neil McKinven (Solinus), Kananu Kirimi (Luciana), and Keven Trainor (Messenger). [Katrina Lindsay's costumes suggest Alice in Wonderland washed onto a Shockheaded Peter shore.]

Novello Theatre

7:30 p.m. TBA

Friday January 13

5:45 Dinner at Mon Plaisir

7:30 p.m. Henrik Ibsen. *Wild Duck* (1894). Dir. Michael Grandage. A new version by David Eldridge.

Donmar Warehouse

Saturday January 14

2:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. TBA

Plays currently under consideration (there will be still others not yet announced that will fall into the mix as well):

Agatha Christie. *And Then There Were None* (1943). Based on her novel of 1939. Adapted by Kevin Elyot (2005). Dir. Steven Pimlott. Produced by Act Productions. **Cast includes:** Graham Crowden (General MacArthur), Tara Fitzgerald (Vera Claythorne), Richard Johnson (Justice Wargrave), Gemma Jones (Emily Blunt).

Gielgud Theatre

Hamish McColl and Sean Foley. *Ducktastic* (2005). Dir. Kenneth Branagh. Design by Alice Power. Lighting by Patrick Woodroffe. Music by Simon Drake. Produced by David Pugh, Dafydd Rogers, and Scott Rudin. **Cast:** Hamish McColl (Christopher Ursula Sasoon), Sean Foley (Roy de La Rue), Liz Crowther, Clive Hayward, Alex Kelly, Ruby Snape, Daphne.

Albery Theatre

Tom Stoppard. *Heroes* (2005). Adapted from Gérald Sibleyras's new play *Le Vent de Peupliers* (Paris, 2003). **Cast:** Richard Griffiths, John Hurt, Ken Stott. [The year is 1959 as Gustave, Phillippe, and Henri plan an escape from a French Military Hospital.]

Wyndham's Theatre

Simon Gray. *Otherwise Engaged*. Dir. Simon Curtis. With Richard Grant.

Criterion Theatre

R.C.Sherriff. *Journey's End* (1929). Dir. David Grindley. **Cast:** Ben Righton (Stanhope), Michael Siberry (Osborne), Stephen Bent (Trotter), Jake Harders (Hibbert), Tom Payne (Raleigh), Robert East (Colonel), Alex Gianni (Hardy/Sergeant Major), Rod Smith (Mason), Robert Orme (Corporal Broughton), Richard Pepper (German Soldier/Bert).

New Ambassadors Theatre

Peter Quilter. *Glorious* (2005). Dir. Alan Strachan. Design by Simon Higlett. **Cast:** Maureen Lipman (Florence Foster Jennings), Janie Booth, Barrie Ingham, Josie Kidd, William Oxborrow, Lolly Susi.

Duchess Theatre

Phantom of the Opera (1986). Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Lyrics by Charlie Hart and Richard Stilgoe. Book by Richard Stilgoe and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. Harold Prince. Based on the novel *Le Fantome de l'Opera*, by Gaston Leroux. **Cast:** Earl Carpenter (Phantom), Rachel Barrell/Celia Graham (Christine), David Shannon (Raoul), Wendy Ferguson (Carlotta), Annette Yeo (Madam Giry), James Barron (Monsieur Firmin), Sam Miller (Monsier Andre), Rohan Tickell (Piangi), Heidi Ann O'Brien (Meg). [*Phantom* premiered on 6 October, 1986, at *Her Majesty's Theatre* London, and is now in its 21st

year.] This production has a matinee on Tuesdays, at 2:30.

Her Majesty's Theatre

High Society (2003). Music and lyrics by Cole Porter. Dir. Ian Talbot. Book by Arthur Kopit. Based on the film musical (1956), which was based, in turn, on the play, *Philadelphia Story*. Design and costumes by Paul Farnsworth. Choreography by Gillian Gregory. **Cast:** Jerry Hall (Mother Lord), Katharine Kingsley (Tracy Lord), Graham Bickley (Dexter Haven), Paul Robinson (Mike Connor), Ria Jones (Liz Imbrie), James Jordan (Seth Lord), Royston Kean (Uncle Willie), Claire Redcliffe (Dian Lord), Bryan Torfeh (George Kittredge). [Songs include "True Love," "Swell Party," "Just One of Those Things," and "I Love Paris."]

Shaftesbury Theatre

Rumor has it that Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895), with Diana Rigg (Lady Brachnell), will be produced in January, though no specific theater has been mentioned. We'll keep our fingers crossed that it opens before the 14th at a time that we still have available.

Participants:

Carl Adair
Alexander Aronovitz
Emily Augustine
Hugh Bridgers
Robert C. Cavanaugh II
Tom Cole
Katarina Czarniak
Caitlan Ganley
Nancy Gort
Leah Haught
Susan Johnson
Erin Keesecker
Steven Klein
Harold (Ted) Limpert
Haley Massa
John C. Poiarkoff
Laura Porterfield
Lisa Saladino
Shannon Sapolich
Greg Skipton
Allison Stickles
Laura Teicher
Priscilla Thambiah
Ruth Peck

Russell Peck