

# Repertory Theatre of St Louis London Theatre Tour

25 May – 2 June, 2024

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	FURTHER DETAILS
Saturday, 25 May	AM	ARRIVE AT LONDON AIRPORT	
		Transfer to Montague Hotel	TRANSFER SELF-ARRANGED
		<b>THE MONTAGUE HOTEL</b> 15 Montague Street, London WC1B 5BJ T: 020 7637 1001 E: montague@rchmail.com	Around the corner from the British Museum, The Montague on The Gardens is a 4-star hotel in tranquil, park-filled Bloomsbury. With its historic Georgian architecture and a view of handsomely landscaped gardens, The Montague offers maximum comfort and superior service within easy access of London's main attractions.
	4:00 PM	<b>TOUR BRIEFING</b> (Woburn Suite)	LAD Tour Directors, Rosie Armstrong and Nigel Howells, welcome the group.  The briefing covers all aspects of the tour from extra performances and major exhibitions to recommended restaurants.
	6:00 PM	Transfer to Bush Theatre	
Sunday, 26 May	7:30 PM	<b>PERFORMANCE 1: THE CORD</b> by Bijan Sheibani	The arrival of this baby has changed everything. Amir hovers as his mother holds her grandchild for the first time, mesmerised. The bag of handmade baby clothes she's brought lies at her feet. After she leaves, Amir watches his wife feeding their new-born son, so close, almost intertwined. They look so complete, while Amir feels aware of a growing chasm separating him from them, and him from his own mother. As sleepless nights, relentless crying and hushed arguments take their toll, Amir grapples with the puzzle of how to be a father, a son, a husband – mashing together pieces that don't seem to fit. This production reunites Olivier award-winning writer and director Bijan Sheibani ( <i>Barber Shop Chronicles</i> ) with the team behind his 2019 hit, <i>The Arrival</i> . <b>R/T 1h30</b> (no interval)
	9:00 PM	Transfer to Montague Hotel	
		Morning free	
		OR	
	10:15 AM	<i>Taxis to St Bartholomew the Great</i>	
	11:00 AM	<i>Choral Eucharist (optional)</i>	<i>London's oldest parish church, St Bartholomew the Great, established 1123, has a beautiful liturgy and professional choir. It was built when Henry I, son of William the Conqueror, was King of England, surviving the Great Fire in 1666 and both World Wars. R/T 1h</i>

	<b>12:10 PM</b>	<i>Those attending Eucharist, walk to Origin Restaurant</i>	
	<b>12:25 PM</b>	<b>Remaining group meet in lobby of Montague Hotel</b>	
	<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Origin by taxis</b>	
	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>WELCOME LUNCH</b>	From fine dining to traditional dishes, Origin champions the best of British cuisine, showcasing organic, heritage-breed meats from the restaurant's farm in Argyll.
	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Coach transfer to ABBA Arena</b>	
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 2: ABBA VOYAGE</b>	Blending cutting-edge technology, spectacular lighting, and some of the most beloved songs ever written, ABBA take to the stage in a whole new way. In a stunning, purpose-built arena, one of the most popular groups in history appear as digital avatars in a 'ground-breaking' ( <i>Metro</i> ) concert that really 'needs to be seen to be believed' ( <i>BBC</i> ). <b>R/T 1h30</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Montague Hotel</b>	
<b>Monday, 27 May</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>THE STATE WE'RE IN</b> (Woburn Suite)	With General and Presidential Elections looming, we invite Harry Davies, investigative journalist for The Guardian to discuss topical events in the UK and US. Harry is also a playwright.
		<b>Afternoon free</b>	
	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Noel Coward Theatre</b>	
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 3: PLAYER KINGS</b> by William Shakespeare	Adapted by award-winning writer and director Robert Icke, Player Kings brings together two of Shakespeare's great history plays, Henry IV Parts 1 and 2, in a visionary new version, starring Sir Ian McKellen as Falstaff. A divided country, leadership crumbling, corruption in the air. Welcome to England. Hal wasn't born to be king. Only now, it seems, he will be. His father longs for him to leave behind his friends in the taverns of Eastcheap, most notably the infamous John Falstaff. War is on the horizon. But will Hal ever come good? <b>R/T 3h45</b>
	<b>10:15 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Montague Hotel</b>	
	<b>10:45 PM</b>	<b>POST-SHOW DISCUSSION</b> (Large Conservatory tbc)	We meet Robert Icke, the Director of <i>Player Kings</i> .

<b>Tuesday, 28 May</b>	<b>AM/PM</b>	<b>Morning and afternoon free</b>	
	<b>6:15 PM</b>	<b>Walk (or take taxis) the short distance to Gillian Lynne Theatre</b>	
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 4: STANDING AT THE SKY'S EDGE by Richard Hawley &amp; Chris Bush</b>	Poppy wants to escape her old life in London. Joy and Jimmy want to spend the rest of their lives together. Rose and Harry want the new life they've been promised. A love letter to Sheffield and a history of modern Britain told through the stories of one iconic estate, <i>Standing at the Sky's Edge</i> charts the hopes and dreams of three generations over the course of six tumultuous decades. Winner of best New Musical 2023 Olivier Awards. <b>R/T 2h50</b>
	<b>10:20 PM</b>	<b>Walk back to the Hotel</b>	
<b>Wednesday, 29 May</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Transfer to The National Theatre (NT)</b>	
	<b>10:45 AM</b>	<b>PRIVATE TOUR OF NT</b>	<b>Managing a Production</b> We visit the National Theatre to gain an insight into how the work of the unsung backstage heroes of theatre ensures that the artistic vision of the writers, directors, designers and actors reaches the stage in a coherent and timely fashion.
	<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>Free time to find lunch on the South Bank</b>	
	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 5: LONDON TIDE</b> adapted from Charles Dickens by Ben Power	A storm rages and, in the darkest part of the night, a body is pulled from the swirling Thames. Across the city, two young women confront an uncertain future. In Limehouse, Lizzie Hexam struggles to break free of the river and its dark secrets. On the other side of town, Bella Wilfer mourns a lost marriage. The appearance of the mysterious John Rokesmith has the potential to change their lives for ever. Will they sink or swim? This romantic and propulsive thriller is a hymn to the city and the river that runs through it. Directed by Ian Rickson ( <i>Translations</i> ) and adapted by Ben Power ( <i>The Lehman Trilogy</i> ) with original songs by acclaimed singer-songwriter, PJ Harvey. <b>R/T 3h15</b>
	<b>3:15 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Kirby House, Berkshire</b>	
	<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>KIRBY HOUSE: PRIVATE VISIT AND DINNER</b>	The home of the Astor Family, Kirby was acquired by William Waldorf Astor in the 1890s as a home for his second son. With his first born ensconced in Hever Castle and the great man himself holding court at Cliveden, the Astor's made quite their mark on British Society in the early 20th Century, William Waldorf serving as US Ambassador to the Court of St James. Today Kirby is the family home of Charles Astor – who is undertaking substantial renovation of this exquisite Queen Anne style house.
	<b>9:00 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Montague Hotel</b>	

<b>Thursday, 30 May</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Member of the cast or creative from <i>London Tide</i> tbc
	<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Theatre Royal Haymarket</b>	
	<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 6: A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE</b> by Arthur Miller	Eddie Carbone, a Brooklyn longshoreman, has brought up his niece, Catherine, as his own daughter. When she succumbs to the attractions of the charismatic Rodolpho, Eddie's explosive sexual jealousy has terrifying and tragic consequences for New York's close-knit Italian-American neighbourhood. BAFTA award winner Dominic West, star of <i>The Affair</i> , <i>The Wire</i> and <i>The Crown</i> leads an all-star cast in this hotly anticipated production. <b>R/T 2h20</b>
	<b>4:50 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Montague Hotel</b>	
<b>Friday, 31 May</b>	<b>PM</b>	<b>Evening free</b>	
	<b>AM</b>	<b>Morning and early afternoon free</b>	
	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS</b> (Woburn Suite)	We invite David Benedict to cast opinion on the plays we have seen this week.
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Walk (or take taxis) the short distance to Donmar Warehouse</b>	
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE 7: THE CHERRY ORCHARD</b> by Anton Chekov	Can anyone persuade Ranevskaya and her aristocratic household that the world is changing, and they must too? Following internationally acclaimed productions of <i>The Seagull</i> (Belvoir St Theater, Sydney) and <i>Three Sisters</i> (Young Vic, London), director Benedict Andrews has a reputation as one of the world's leading interpreters of Chekhov. For the Donmar Warehouse he stages the great writer's final play. It's a work that predicted and captured the end of an era, but is timeless in its humanity, prescience, humour and pathos. Nina Hoss, one of Germany's most celebrated stage and screen actors, best known for her roles in <i>Homeland</i> and <i>Tár</i> , makes her London debut as Ranevskaya. <b>R/T tbc</b>
	<b>c. 10:00 PM</b>	<b>Walk back (or take taxis) to Montague Hotel</b>	
<b>Saturday, 01 June</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>GILES RAMSAY LECTURE</b> (Woburn Suite)	<b>Noël Coward In Context</b> Today's focus is on the great playwright, personality and performer, Noël Coward. The Master of theatre, cinema, cabaret and song, Coward outshone his generation across all the genres. At his peak, between the two world wars, he defined the roaring twenties of the bright young things whilst shrewdly questioning quite how bright their world really was.
	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>Transfer to Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond</b>	
	<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>SUITE IN THREE KEYS</b> by Noël Coward	Marking the 50th anniversary of Noël Coward's death and the 125th of his birth in nearby Teddington, this is the first complete revival of Suite in Three Keys for a generation. In a luxury Swiss hotel suite in the 1960s, three separate stories unfold.
		<b>PERFORMANCE 8: SHADOWS OF THE EVENING and COME INTO THE GARDEN, MAUD</b>	<i>Shadows of the Evening</i> and <i>Come into the Garden, Maud</i> is a double-bill of two short plays. <i>Shadows of the Evening</i> explores the intricacies of a late-life love triangle, and <i>Come into the Garden, Maud</i> is a fizzing comedy about the misunderstandings between Americans and Europeans abroad.

**5:00 PM Walk to Bacco Restaurant**

A family-run restaurant, Bacco serves authentic Italian food using seasonal ingredients.

**FAREWELL DINNER**

**7:30 PM PERFORMANCE 9: A SONG AT TWILIGHT**

A Song at Twilight is a standalone, full-length play about a famous elderly writer, reputedly based on Somerset Maugham, who faces blackmail at the hands of an ex-lover threatening to expose his secret past.

**9:45 PM Transfer to Montague Hotel**

**DEPART FOR AIRPORT AND HOMEBOUND FLIGHTS**

TRANSFER SELF-ARRANGED

**Sunday, 02 June**

### Photos from 2024 London Trip



