



## **EAST WEST THEATRE PRESENTS**

### **The Lady of Larkspur Lotion by Tennessee Williams and The Real Inspector Hound by Tom Stoppard**

Two one-act plays exploring the personal identities we choose for ourselves and the blurred boundaries of reality.

#### **THE LADY OF LARKSPUR LOTION**

In a rundown French Quarter boarding house, Mrs Hardwick-Moore, a faded beauty in an alcoholic tailspin, chooses to remain blanketed in her delusional dream world, despite its conflict with the reality presented to her by a brusque landlady. This brief, yet intensely evocative, character study is widely considered to be a preparatory sketch for Blanche DuBois in “A Streetcar Named Desire”.

Tennessee Williams was probably the most influential American playwright of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His prolific career ranged from the 1930s to 1983, created many works which are considered classics of the American stage, and inspired future generations of great American playwrights.

The start of Williams’ love-affair with New Orleans coincided with the end of the once-graceful French Quarter’s decline into a vice-ridden slum.

Poverty, prostitution, gambling, alcohol and drug-addiction filled the formerly elegant but now crumbling residences as insidiously and persistently as cockroaches. In this disreputable atmosphere, Williams found inspiration which would leave a permanent impression on 20<sup>th</sup> century literature.

## THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

In Tom Stoppard's miniature comic masterpiece, two theatre critics - Moon and Birdboot - are watching a ludicrous setup of a country house murder mystery. They are inexorably drawn into the action, the fourth wall crumbles, realities become intertwined, and nothing is safe from parody, satire, or absurdism.

Sir Tom Stoppard has written prolifically for TV, radio, film and stage. He has won one Academy Award and four Tony Awards, been a key playwright of the National Theatre, and is one of the most internationally performed dramatists of his generation.

At the age of 21, Stoppard was offered the role of secondary drama critic at the Bristol Evening World newspaper. This position allowed him entry into the theatrical world as well as supplying him with copious material on the foibles of critics and the spectator's secret desire to enter the spotlight.

### LISTINGS INFORMATION

**Performances** at 8pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

**Venue:** Rooftop Restaurant, 5F, Mansion Hotel, 82 Xinle Lu (near Xiangyang Lu).

**Metro:** Shaanxi Nan Lu (lines 1 & 10)

**For further details please check our website:**

**<http://eastwesttheatre.com> or contact East West Theatre on:  
east.west.info@gmail.com or 13564102955.**