

LONDON ASSURANCE

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By **Dion Boucicault**
Directed by **Antoni Cimolino**

GRADE RECOMMENDATION

Grade 7+

CONTENT ADVISORY

[Please see the show page for a detailed audience advisory.](#)

SYNOPSIS

Sir Harcourt Courtly, an over-the-hill London fop, arrives at Oak Hall to claim his wealthy and scandalously young bride. But Courtly's plan for a get-rich-quick weekend in the country is scuttled by the arrival of his dissolute son, Charles, disguised as "Augustus Hamilton" and the witty Lady Gay Spanker. Celebrated as one of the great British stage comedies, *London Assurance* is a brilliant precursor to the works of Oscar Wilde and George Bernard Shaw.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES

- Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Creativity, Metacognition, Self-Awareness

GRADE 7-8

- The Arts
- Language
- Science and Technology
- Social Studies, History and Geography

GRADE 9-12

- The Arts
- English
- Technological Education

GRADE 11-12

- Social Sciences and Humanities

POST-SECONDARY

- Suitable for courses in disciplines such as Arts, Cultural Studies, Creative Writing, Drama, English, Fine Arts, Gender Studies, History, Music, Social Development Studies, Teacher Education and Theatre

THEMES

- Deception and Disguise
- Comedy and Farce
- Freedom and Duty
- Gender, Independence and Autonomy
- Generational Differences
- Love and Romance
- Morality and Ethics
- Regrets and Missed Opportunities
- Relationships
- Satire and Social Commentary
- Social Class, Status and Expectations
- Theatricality and Performance

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What do you know about the genre of "farce"? What is the role of the audience in a farcical comedy?
- Comedy often relies on exaggeration and caricature. Based on the setting and genre of this play, what are some common comedic elements or characters you might expect to find?
- How do you know if someone is trustworthy?
- Should money be a part of decision-making when it comes to marriage? Why or why not?

STUDY GUIDES

Study Guides for selected 2024 productions are available free of charge online:

stratfordfestival.ca/StudyGuides

Email educate@stratfordfestival.ca for access to past study guides.

**BOOKING INFORMATION: STUDENT MATINÉES,
WORKSHOPS & CHATS**

STUDENT MATINÉES

You may book any available date, but selected student matinée performances for this show are at 2 p.m. on the following dates:

- Wednesday, September 4
- Wednesday, September 11
- Thursday, September 19
- Wednesday, October 2
- Tuesday, October 22

WORKSHOPS & CHATS

Workshops and Chats (virtual, onsite or at your school/centre) can be booked by calling the Box Office at 1.800.567.1600 or by emailing educate@stratfordfestival.ca.

Pre-Show Workshops customized to your students' needs and interests are available from 10–11 a.m. or 11 a.m –noon before selected matinées.

\$10 per student

stratfordfestival.ca/Workshops

Half-Hour Post-Show Chats with cast and creative team members are available after selected matinées.

\$3 per student

stratfordfestival.ca/Chats

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