

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	page vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction: Stoppardianism	1
Professional chronology	5
1 Stoppard: briefly, a life in the theatre	14
2 Keys to Stoppard's theatre	25
Stoppard's language	27
Stoppard's staged thought experiments	30
Change is the only constant	32
But is it art?	34
On human nature and human consciousness	38
The political animal	41
To sum up	44
3 The breakthrough years	45
Two early works	45
<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead:</i> living and dying in theatre time	48
<i>Lord Malquist and Mr. Moon:</i> a novel idea	53

4 Playing with the stage	60
<i>Jumpers</i> : not your father's (or mother's) philosophy lesson	63
<i>Travesties</i> : art in an apocalyptic nutshell	69
<i>Night and Day</i> : journalism in the shadows	74
5 Science takes the stage	79
<i>Hapgood</i> : now you see me, now you don't	80
<i>Arcadia</i> : with a world like this, heaven can wait	84
6 Love is in the air	92
<i>The Real Thing</i> : what is really real?	93
<i>Indian Ink</i> : never the twain ...	98
<i>Shakespeare in Love</i> : a signature collaboration	102
<i>The Invention of Love</i> : Victoriana made curious	107
7 Politics humanized	114
<i>The Coast of Utopia</i> : the offshoring of politics	115
<i>Part One: Voyage</i>	117
<i>Part Two: Shipwreck</i>	121
<i>Part Three: Salvage</i>	126
<i>Rock'n'Roll</i> : the real revolution of the spirit	130
Conclusion: The play's the thing	136
Appendix: Stoppard's theatre: a summary	138
<i>Notes</i>	148
<i>Guide to further reading</i>	156
<i>Index</i>	160