Edward Albee

~BIOGRAPHY~

Edward Albee has defined modern American theater with four decades of provocative, controversial and brilliant plays. Lauded as "one of the eternal innovators" in American drama, he challenges audiences with stories that express the bone-simple, shattering truth of the human experience.

Albee — whose most recent hit play, The Goat, won the 2002 Tony Award for Best Play — is perhaps most well-known for his debut three-act drama Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? First produced in 1962, ‘Virginia Woolf’ was immediately recognized for its unabashedly honest dialogue and jarring interpretation of modern relationships. It won both the Tony and New York Drama Critics Circle Award and is widely considered a classic of contemporary theater.

In his lectures, Albee describes the power of the arts as a catalyst for change. He believes that art should be dangerous, that it should reveal all of our shortcomings and complacency, hopefully inspiring us to live our lives more fully. "The job of the arts," says Albee, "is to hold a mirror up to us and say: 'Look, this is how you really are. If you don't like it, change.'"

With daring, groundbreaking plays, Albee explores the most intimate aspects of our lives and society — from race relations and American family life to our mortality and the blurred line between reality and illusion. His other plays include The Zoo Story, The Sandbox, All Over, The American Dream, The Play About the Baby and Three Tall Women, The Death of Bessie Smith, A Delicate Balance, The Lady from Dubuque, and Seascape.

One of the most heralded dramatists of the 20th century, Albee is the recipient of three Pulitzer Prizes (1966, 1975 & 1994) and two Tony Awards (1962, 2002). He is a Kennedy Center Honoree and in 1996 President Clinton awarded him the National Medal of Arts.

Intimate gatherings of academic and community leaders to share ideas and encourage progress

7:30
Breakfast

8:00
Introductions

Robert Wills
Dean, Herberger College of Fine Arts

A Reading & Discussion on Craft
Edward Albee

Questions and Answers

9:00
Conclusion