

## World-Renowned Poet Anthony Hecht To Talk About His Love for Shakespeare

*One of America's Leading Writers, a Pulitzer Prize Winner, Will Reflect Upon the Bardic Echoes in his Prose and Poetry*

According to a noted critic, our next guest on *SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE* belongs in such eminent company as novelists **HENRY JAMES** and **MARCEL PROUST**. "ANTHONY HECHT's majestic development into a great poet," says Yale University's redoubtable **HAROLD BLOOM**, "has progressed across half-a-century. *Flight Among the Tombs*," his latest work, "is his poignant and ironic masterpiece. With this book, he clearly becomes a fourth in the sequence of **JOHN CROWE RANSOM**, **W. H. AUDEN**, and **JAMES MERRILL** – great verse-artists who are also humanist sages and wise sensibilities."

ANTHONY HECHT's first volume of poems, *A Summoning of Stones*, appeared in 1954. It was followed by *The Hard Hours*, which garnered the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1968. *Millions of Strange Shadows* arrived in 1977, and *The Venetian Vespers* in 1979. The last three titles, together with a selection the author drew from his initial gathering, were compiled as *Collected Earlier Poems* in 1990, the same year that gave birth to *The Transparent Man*. Mr. Hecht is also the author of several books of literary analysis: *Obligati*, a miscellany of essays (1986), *The Hidden Law*, a study of the poetry of W. H. Auden (1993), and *On the Laws of the Poetic Art* (1995), a publication that drew from Hecht's 1992 **ANDREW W. MELLON LECTURES IN THE FINE ARTS** at the **NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART**.

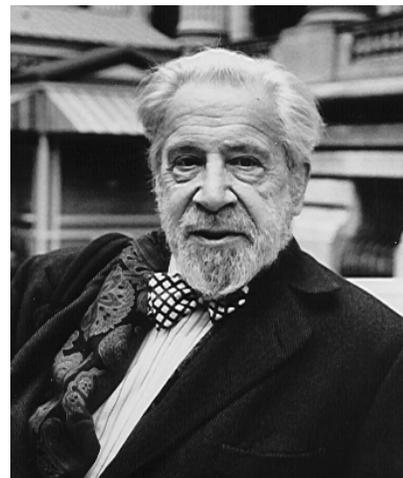
Mr. Hecht served as **CONSULTANT IN POETRY** at the **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS** from 1982 to 1984, bringing his talent and erudition to a post that now carries the designation **POET LAUREATE**. His many other distinctions include honorary doctorates from Bard College, Columbia University, Georgetown University, and the University of Rochester. Also numbered among his accolades are the Prix de Rome, the Bollingen Prize, the Eugenio Montale Award for Poetry, the Harriet Monroe Award, the Ruth B. Lilly Award, the *Seawanee Review's* Aiken Taylor Award, and the Dorothy Tanning Award.

The discussion will commence at 6:30 p.m. with a conversation between Mr. Hecht and Shakespeare Guild president **JOHN F. ANDREWS**. They'll chat for 45 minutes or so, and then you'll have a chance to ask Mr. Hecht to expand upon the various topics he's addressed. Afterwards you're invited to dine at the National Press Club's lovely, and remarkably inexpensive, Fourth Estate restaurant, which will validate your ticket for free parking in the PMI Garage at 1325 G Street NW; to reserve, phone (202) 662-7638.

## Speaking of Shakespeare

Dialogues about the playwright and his place in our lives today

Presented by The Shakespeare Guild in league with The British Council, The English-Speaking Union, and The National Press Club, and with generous support from the Naomi & Nehemiah Cohen Foundation



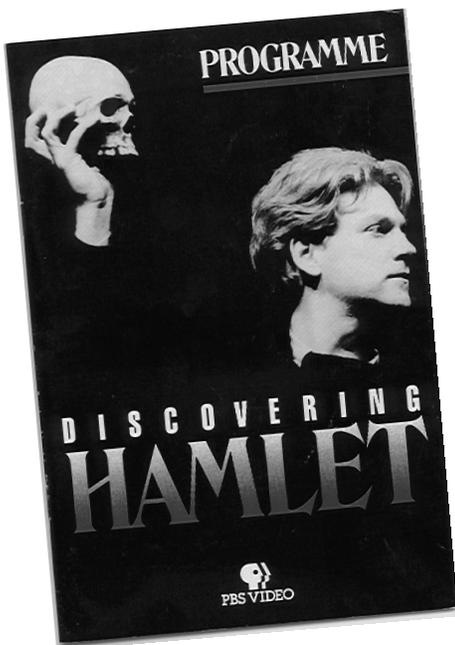
Tuesday, March 28, 2000  
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The National Press Club  
529 14th Street NW, 13th Floor  
Two Blocks from Metro Center

For members of The English-Speaking Union and The Shakespeare Guild, the price for *SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE* attractions is \$25. For non-members who do not belong to The National Press Club, the price is \$35. If you wish to enroll in The Shakespeare Guild or guarantee space(s) for upcoming events, you may do so by completing this form and either faxing it to (202) 483-7824 or mailing it to 2141 Wyoming Avenue NW, Suite 41, Washington, D.C. 20008-3916. To request more information, or to place orders by telephone or e-mail, simply call (202) 483-8646 or address [shakesguild@msn.com](mailto:shakesguild@msn.com).

I wish to join the Guild, or renew my membership for the next twelve months, as a \_\_Subscriber (\$50), \_\_Contributor (\$125), \_\_Donor (\$250), \_\_Benefactor (\$500), or \_\_Patron (\$1,000). I wish to reserve \_\_space(s), at \_\_the \$25 member price, \_\_the \$35 non-member price, for \_\_March 28th, for \_\_May 9th. My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. Please provide details about \_\_the January 2000 Gielgud Award festivities in London, \_\_the Chicago *SPEAKING* engagement with Sir Derek Jacobi (May 1st).

Please charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my\_Visa\_MC\_\_\_\_\_ (exp.\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_).  
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## Key Incentives to Join the Guild

If you enroll or renew your membership in the Guild at the **CONTRIBUTOR** level or above, you'll be rewarded with a copy of Mark Olshaker's **PBS VIDEO** of *DISCOVERING HAMLET*.

This widely acclaimed documentary, which showcases the 1997 and 2000 recipients of The Shakespeare Guild's **GOLDEN QUILL** trophy, will give you a delightful look into **KENNETH BRANAGH's** earliest attempt at the role to which he returned several years later in a cinema that has been called the most ambitious Shakespearean film in the annals of the silver screen. You'll smile as one of the great Danes of the twentieth century, Sir **DEREK JACOBI**, undertaking his inaugural voyage as director, steers his charge through what may be the most treacherous of the playwright's title parts.

A membership at any level will entitle you to discounts for **SPEAKING** engagements. Enrollment at the **CONTRIBUTOR** level or above will position you for even better rates on tickets to events such as the Guild's annual **GIELGUD AWARD** festivities.

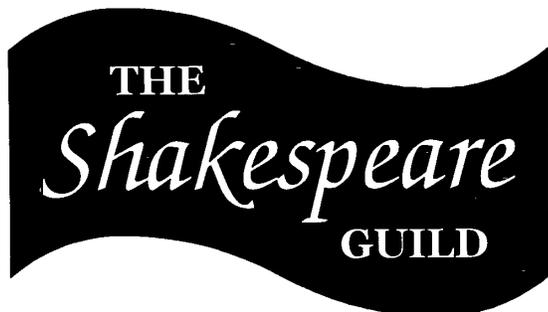
**CONTRIBUTORS** will enjoy 20% reductions, **DONORS** 25%, **BENEFACTORS** 30%, **PATRONS** 35%, and **GOLDEN QUILL CIRCLE** members 50% or more.

## Speaking of Shakespeare WELCOMES GEORGE GARRETT AND SIR DEREK JACOBI

*A Popular Author and a Beloved Actor to Spice Up the Guild's Spring Offerings*

On Monday, February 28th, The Shakespeare Guild extended its *SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE* series to the Midwest when the **CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER** hosted a lively dialogue between Guild president **JOHN ANDREWS** and writer **GARRY WILLS**, a winner of the Pulitzer Prize and of numerous other laurels for his two dozen books, and an influential voice in the editorial and literary pages of such periodicals as *The New York Review of Books* and *The New York Times*. On **MONDAY, MAY 1ST**, we'll return to the Windy City's Navy Pier for a 7:30 p.m. chat with actor Sir **DEREK JACOBI**, who will soon be opening in a Broadway *Uncle Vanya*. The price is \$15, plus an additional \$75 for those who opt for a concluding reception. As of now, a few select tickets are still available through the Chicago box office at 312 595 5600.

On **TUESDAY, MAY 9TH**, at 6:30 p.m., we'll be home in Washington's **NATIONAL PRESS CLUB** for a conversation with **GEORGE GARRETT**, one of the most imaginative and amusing raconteurs of our time. Mr. Garrett has more than thirty books to his credit, among them a trilogy of novels – *Death of the Fox* (about Sir Walter Raleigh), *The Succession* (about the transition from Queen Elizabeth to King James), and *Entered from the Sun* (about the life and death of Christopher Marlowe) – that transport the reader back to Renaissance England. He's full of colorful detail about the society that gave us Shakespeare. And he's the co-editor, with NPR's inimitable **SUSAN STAMBERG**, of a charming short-story collection entitled *The Wedding Cake in the Middle of the Road*.



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John F. Andrews, President

Founded in 1987, The Shakespeare Guild is a global not-for-profit corporation that celebrates, and endeavors to cultivate larger and more appreciative audiences for, the dramatist who has been applauded in every society as history's most reliable guide to the mileposts of life.