

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION OF THE UNITED STATES

Creating Global Understanding Through English

NATION'S CAPITAL AREA BRANCH

MID-FEBRUARY 2005

News & Announcements

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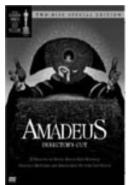
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SPEAKING OF SHAKESPEARE WITH F. MURRAY ABRAHAM Placing the Spotlight on One of Today's Most Distniguished Performers

F. MURRAY ABRAHAM is best known for his portrayal of the envious Salieri in the 1984 film *Amadeus*. For this role he earned both an Academy Award and a Golden Globe trophy. He's also widely admired for the



characters he has brought to life in *The Name* of the Rose (1986), Mighty Aphrodite (1995), and Finding Forrester (2000), not to mention his memorable parts in The Sunshine Boys (1975), All the President's Men (1976), Madman (1979), Scarface (1983), Bonfire of the Vanities (1990), Mobsters (1991), By the Sword (1993), Last Action Hero (1993), Nostradamus (1994), Surviving the Game (1994), Dillinger and Capone (1995), Star Trek: Insurrection (1998), and 13 Ghosts (2001). What his admirers may be less familiar with are the stage protagonists he has depicted,

among them Bottom, Creon, Cyrano, Iago, Lear, Macbeth, Malvolio, and Uncle Vanya. He'll talk about these and other figures during a dialogue that will focus largely on his new book about performing Shakespeare.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Program 7:00 p.m.

CORCORAN GALLERY
500 17th Street NW

ADMISSION \$20

BRITISH LEADER WILLIAM HAGUE TO DISCUSS PITT THE YOUNGER A New Biography by the Former Head of Parliament's Conservative Party



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Cash Bar 6:00 p.m.

Binnor 6:45 p.m.

Program 7:30 p.m.

WNDC CLUBHOUSE

1526 Now Hampshire Avenue

ADMISSION \$25

We're delighted to join **POLITICS & PROSE** as co-hosts of a gathering at which a man who ran for Prime Minister in 1997 brings an insider's perspective to one of the most iconic figures in the annals of Westminster.

WILLIAM HAGUE has been a prominent member of the Tory establishment since 1989. He'll introduce William Pitt the Younger, his illuminating biography of a statesman who became Britain's political leader in 1784, shortly after his nation had suffered the devastating loss of its American colonies. Mr. Hague will show how a youth who was only 24 years old when he took office earned a major nation's gratitude by restoring Britain's prestige and self-confidence. He'll remind us that Pitt the Younger (so-called because he derived many of his skills from an equally eminent father) rose to power



at a time when King George III was subject to increasingly frequent seizures of madness. Over a period of nearly two decades, Pitt reformed Britain's financial system, pressed for the abolition of its slave trade, and prepared the way for its triumphs in the century to come.



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Since 1920, when it originated in response to a parallel organization that had been established two years earlier in Great Britain, the English-Speaking Union of the United States has sought to foster social and cultural cohesion through the resources and traditions of a language that has become increasingly indispensable as a means of international communication. Through a diverse array of offerings, some of which are shared with audiences around the world through radio and TV, the national capital's ESU endeavors to advance a noble mission.

Placing the Spotlight on Lynn Redgrave

On Monday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Corcoran Gallery of Art (500 17th Street NW), we'll talk with one of the most talented actresses of our era. A founding member of Britain's Royal National Theatre, Lynn Redgrave is best known for her award-winning Georgy Girl, but she has also earned acclaim for such recent films as Gods and Monsters, Kinsey, and Shine. Shakespeare For My Father took her to London's Theatre Royal Haymarket, and in 2003 she delighted New York audiences in Talking Heads. A recipient of numerous honors, Ms. Redgrave will discuss not only her eminent career but a struggle with breast cancer that has been captured in a new book that she co-authored with her daughter, Annabel Clark. See the Response Form.

We Welcome Your Support

As we enter a new year, we encourage you to be mindful of **THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION** as you allocate your tax-deductible contributions for 2005. The **ESU** now girdles the planet, with a stately London address at **DARTMOUTH HOUSE** near Berkeley Square, and those who take part in any of its local, regional, and national associations are nourished by a vibrant global network.

Through an enticing assortment of edifying events, and through such activities as an annual **SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION** for secondary-school students, a variety of **FELLOWSHIP AWARDS** to facilitate work in academic and artistic settings, and a volunteer-based tutoring service, **ENGLISH IN ACTION**, for those who aspire to better command of a discourse that is not native to them, the ESU's Washington branch is dedicated to extending a precious legacy. To help sustain this legacy, and to augment it through some ambitious new initiatives to be announced in the near future, all you need to do is supply the information requested in the form at right and submit it by post, phone, fax, or e-mail. If you'd like to provide a gift enrollment in the **ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION** for a friend or loved one, that too would be a welcome gesture. Below are the ESU's membership categories.

ASSOCIATE (Individual \$35, Dual \$45)

Event notices, local and national ESU reports, and other publications

SUBSCRIBER (Individual \$75, Dual \$100)

All ASSOCIATE-level benefits plus 1 coupon for a regular ESU event (that is, an event priced at \$40 or less)

CONTRIBUTOR (Individual \$125, Dual \$150)

All SUBSCRIBER-level benefits plus 1 additional coupon to be used at a regular ESU event

DONOR (\$250)

All CONTRIBUTOR-level benefits plus 2 additional coupons to be used at regular events and 1 coupon for a special occasion (that is, one priced at more than \$40)

BENEFACTOR (\$500)

All DONOR-level benefits plus 4 additional coupons to be used at regular events, 1 additional coupon for a special occasion, and recognition in selected print materials

PATRON (\$1,000)

Free admission for 2 persons to all regular events, 4 coupons for use at special occasions, and recognition in selected printings

SPONSOR (\$2,500)

All PATRON-level benefits plus free admission for up to 4 additional guests at all ESU gatherings

UNDERWRITER (\$5,000)

All SPONSOR-level benefits plus free admission for up to 8 additional guests at all ESU gatherings

Response Form

I wish to make a tax-deductible donation to the ESU of \$ to support its educational and cultural endeavors. I wish torenew orenroll in the English-Speaking Union at the \$ level. I wish to present a tax-deductible gift membership at the \$ level to:
Name
Address
City, State, Zip
For February 14 , please reservespaces at the \$20 member rate, spaces at the \$25 non-member rate.
For February 16 , please reserve spaces for dinner and the program at the \$30 member rate, at the \$35 non-member rate; please reserve spaces at the \$10 rate for attendees at the program only.
My check for \$ to The English-Speaking Union is enclosed.
Please chargeMCVisa(/_).
Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone, Fax
E-Mail
Member rates for ESU events are available to those who belong BABA,the RSA, RSC America, The Shakespeare Guild,

and the Woman's National Democratic Club.