

**Foundation for Contemporary Arts**

**820 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10014  
Telephone 212 807-7077  
Facsimile 212 807-7177**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Stacy Tenenbaum  
Executive Director  
212.807.7077  
[st@contemporary-arts.org](mailto:st@contemporary-arts.org)**

**EDWARD ALBEE AND MARIAN SELDES TO GIVE READING OF  
"OCCUPANT"  
A PLAY ABOUT LOUISE NEVELSON  
TO BENEFIT THE FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2005**

**New York, NY**, May 12, 2005 – Edward Albee will give a one-performance only reading of "Occupant," a play about sculptor Louise Nevelson, with famed stage actress and long-time colleague Marian Seldes. Lawrence Sacharow, who has worked with both Mr. Albee and Ms. Seldes in the past, will direct. The performance will benefit the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, a non-profit arts organization based in New York City whose mission is to support emerging performance and visual artists. "We are thrilled to present such a special evening," says the Foundation's Executive Director Stacy Tenenbaum. "This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime performance featuring two of the greatest names in theater."

The reading will take place at 7:00 P.M. on May 25 at the Diane von Furstenberg Studio, 389 West 12<sup>th</sup> Street, following a cocktail reception starting at 6:00 P.M. Tickets for this very special evening are \$1,000 (performance only) and \$2,000 (performance followed by a seated dinner with Mr. Albee and Ms. Seldes). All attendees will receive a limited-edition, hard-bound printing of Edward Albee's "Occupant," published by the Foundation in celebration of the evening, signed by Mr. Albee and Ms. Seldes.

The benefit host is Diane von Furstenberg. The Benefit Committee is: Anne Bass, Paula Cooper, Douglas S. Cramer, Stephen and Kathy Graham, Agnes Gund, Bill Katz, Dorothy Lichtenstein, Matthew Marks, Allison Sarofim and Alexandra Shiva.

Mr. Albee has long been considered one of the leading American playwrights. He has been awarded three Pulitzer Prizes, three Tony Awards, the Gold Medal in Drama from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, the Kennedy Center Honors and the National Medal of Arts. His award winning early play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" recently reopened on Broadway to rave reviews and sell-out performances. It was announced this week that Mr. Albee will receive the Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement at this year's awards ceremony.

Ms. Seldes, one of Mr. Albee's favorite actresses, has appeared in numerous Broadway and off-Broadway productions. She has won the Tony Award for her performance in "A Delicate Balance" and has been nominated four additional times. She is the winner of several other awards including: the Drama Desk Award, the Obie Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, the Sustained Achievement Lucille Lortel Award and the Edwin Booth Lifetime Achievement Award. Ms. Seldes has had roles in many of Mr. Albee's plays, including "The Play About the

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