



Join us for a stimulating conversation with preeminent playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner, of whom the *New York Times* has written, “Some playwrights want to change the world. Some want to revolutionize theatre. Tony Kushner is that rarity of rarities: a writer who has the promise to do both.” Tackling many of the most challenging issues of our time—including AIDS in *Angels in America*, Afghanistan’s long-tortured relationship with the West in *Homebody/Kabul*, German fascism and Reaganism in *A Bright Room Called Day* and racism and the civil rights movement in *Caroline, or Change*—he is invariably political but never polemical. Instead Kushner rejects ideology in favor of what he calls “a dialectically shaped truth,” which must be “outrageously funny” and “absolutely agonizing,” and must “move us forward.” He gives voice to characters who have been rendered powerless by the forces of circumstances—a drag queen dying of AIDS, an uneducated Southern maid, contemporary Afghans—and his attempt to see all sides of their predicament has a sly subversiveness. He forces the audience to identify with those who are marginalized—a humanizing act of the imagination. A provocative discussion moderated by Dinah Lenney, professor of writing at USC, will explore Kushner’s life, career, challenges and inspirations.

The USC Libraries have selected the following resources to help you learn more about Tony Kushner and the art of theatre.

## Films

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***Munich*** (2006)

Directed by Steven Spielberg

**Leavey Library: LVYDVD 1443**

***Lincoln*** (2013)

Directed by Steven Spielberg

**Leavey Library: LVYDVD 7408**

## Selected Books

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***Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes*** (2003)

By Tony Kushner

**Doheny Memorial Library: PS3561.U778A85 2003**

**Leavey Library: PS3561.U778A85 2003**

***Lincoln: The Screenplay*** (2012)

By Tony Kushner

**Doheny Memorial Library: PN1997.2.L553 2012**

***Death & Taxes: Hydrioptaphia & Other Plays* (2000)**

By Tony Kushner

**Doheny Memorial Library: PS3561.U778D4 2000**

***The Theatre of Tony Kushner: Living Past Hope* (2001)**

By James Fisher

**Doheny Memorial Library: PS3561.U778Z64 2001**

***Tony Kushner* (2005)**

By Harold Bloom

**Leavey Library: PS3561.U778Z89 2005**

***American Theatre: History, Context, Form* (2011)**

By Theresa Saxon

**Doheny Memorial Library: PN2221.S29 2011**

## Recommended Databases

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The following databases are a good place to begin your focused search for scholarly articles, newspaper and magazine articles, conference proceedings and book chapters related to theater. Access them through the homepage at [www.usc.edu/libraries](http://www.usc.edu/libraries).

### **American Drama**

This collection includes plays by American dramatists that chronicle the history and culture of America through its dramatic writing.

### **Play Index**

Providing access to over 30,000 plays, this index is a comprehensive resource for finding plays in a variety of genres, styles and subject matter.

### **International Index to the Performing Arts (Full Text)**

This database provides access to over 260 international periodicals covering a broad spectrum of the arts and entertainment industry, including drama, theatre, stagecraft, musical theatre, film, television, performance art and more.