

SCRIPTER AWARD HONORARY DINNER CO-CHAIRS HELEN MIRREN and TAYLOR HACKFORD

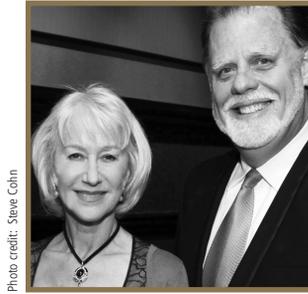


Photo credit: Steve Cohn

USC alumnus **TAYLOR HACKFORD** ('67, International Relations) launched his entertainment career in 1969 at the Los Angeles public television affiliate KCET. Hackford won the Best Live-Action Short Film Academy Award for *Teenage Father* in 1979. He has directed such films as *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *Dolores Claiborne*, and *Ray*, which earned him two Oscar nominations and a Grammy Award.

His producing credits include *La Bamba*, *The Long Walk Home*, and the Oscar-winning documentary *When We Were Kings*. He served two terms as president of the Directors Guild of America beginning in 2009. His most recent feature project, *Parker*, starring Jason Statham and Jennifer Lopez, was released in 2013.

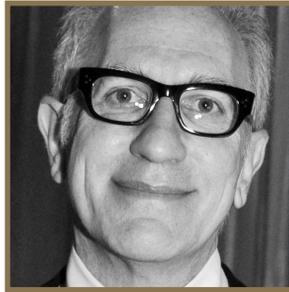
Hackford met his future wife **HELEN MIRREN** on the set of the 1985 film *White Nights*. An Oscar recipient for her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth II in *The Queen*, Mirren is a four-time Academy Award nominee whose credits include *The Madness of King George*; *Gosford Park*; *The Last Station*; *Excalibur*; *Red*; *The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover*; and the recent remake of the 1981 film *Arthur*.

In 2003, Helen Mirren was invested as a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. In 2010, USC presented Taylor Hackford with the Asa V. Call Alumni Achievement Award. The couple split their time between Southern California and England.

SCRIPTER AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE

HOWARD A. RODMAN

CHAIR



HOWARD A. RODMAN is vice president of the Writers Guild of America, West; professor and former chair of the writing division at the USC School of Cinematic Arts; and an artistic director of the Sundance Institute Screenwriting Labs. He serves on the National Film Preservation Board, which advises the Librarian of Congress on matters relating to cinema.

His films *Savage Grace* and *August* had their US premieres at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. *Savage Grace* was nominated for a Spirit Award in the Best Screenplay category. Rodman also wrote *Joe Gould's Secret*, which opened the 2000 Sundance Film Festival. In 2013, in recognition of his cultural achievements, Rodman was named a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters) by the French government.

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALISTS

GONE GIRL (film and book)

GILLIAN FLYNN, author and screenwriter

Crown Publishers, publisher

Twentieth Century Fox, studio

THE IMITATION GAME (film)

ALAN TURING: THE ENIGMA (book)

ANDREW HODGES, author

GRAHAM MOORE, screenwriter

Princeton University Press, publisher

The Weinstein Company, studio

INHERENT VICE (film and book)

THOMAS PYNCHON, author

PAUL THOMAS ANDERSON, screenwriter

Penguin Books, publisher; Warner Bros., studio

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING (film)

TRAVELLING TO INFINITY: MY LIFE

WITH STEPHEN (book)

JANE HAWKING, author

ANTHONY McCARTEN, screenwriter

Alma Books, publisher; Focus Features, studio

WILD (film)

WILD: FROM LOST TO FOUND ON

THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (book)

CHERYL STRAYED, author

NICK HORNBY, screenwriter

Vintage Books, publisher; Fox Searchlight, studio

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALIST

GONE GIRL



GILLIAN FLYNN (AUTHOR and SCREENWRITER) grew up in Kansas City, Missouri, where she earned degrees in English and journalism from the University of Kansas. After receiving a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University, Flynn moved to New York City and wrote for *Entertainment Weekly* for ten years. Her 2006 debut novel, *Sharp Objects*, was an Edgar Award finalist and the winner of two of Britain's Dagger Awards for crime fiction. Flynn's work has been published in twenty-eight countries. Her third novel, *Gone Girl*, has sold more than 8 million copies since its publication in 2012. She lives in Chicago with her husband and two children.

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALIST THE IMITATION GAME



ANDREW HODGES (AUTHOR) is a mathematics professor and author of popular scientific books. Since the early 1970s he has worked on twistor theory, a field of mathematical physics dealing with the geometry of space-time. His 1983 biography *Alan Turing: The Enigma* details the life of the brilliant World War II code-breaker and computer pioneer who was later persecuted for his homosexuality. Since 1986, Hodges has taught mathematics at Oxford University's Wadham College, where he is a senior research fellow in the Mathematical Institute.



GRAHAM MOORE (SCREENWRITER) is an American screenwriter and author. A native of Chicago, he earned a degree from Columbia University in religious history then worked in the music industry as a sound engineer before becoming a full-time writer. His 2010 debut novel, *The Sherlockian*, became a *New York Times* bestseller. His first screenplay, for *The Imitation Game*, has been nominated for multiple writing awards. Moore is currently at work adapting the bestselling nonfiction thriller *The Devil in the White City*, about a real-life serial killer on the loose at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair.

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALIST

INHERENT VICE

THOMAS PYNCHON (AUTHOR) is an American novelist, born in 1937 in Long Island, New York. A recipient of a MacArthur “Genius Grant,” he is known for his complex, layered novels that range through multiple fields of human inquiry. His publications include *The Crying of Lot 49*, *Vineland*, *Mason & Dixon*, and *Gravity’s Rainbow*, which won the 1974 U.S. National Book Award for Fiction. *Inherent Vice*, published in 2009, is a noirish tale set in 1970s Los Angeles and is the first of his works to be adapted for the screen. No current photographs exist of the notoriously publicity-shy writer. Pynchon’s most recent novel, *Bleeding Edge*, was published in September 2013.



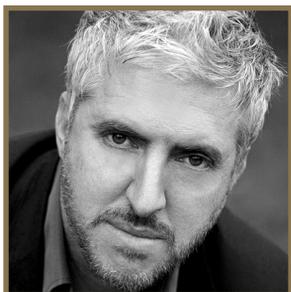
PAUL THOMAS ANDERSON (SCREENWRITER) was encouraged by his father at an early age to try his hand at filmmaking, and shot his first movie while still in high school. His films deal with familiar themes of flawed characters, family relationships, memory, and loneliness—and he usually works with the same set of actors and crewmembers. He writes, directs, and produces his movies, which have included *Boogie Nights*, *Magnolia*, *There Will Be Blood*, and *The Master*. Anderson lives with his longtime partner Maya Rudolph and their four children in the San Fernando Valley, where many of his movies are set.

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALIST

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING



JANE HAWKING (AUTHOR) was Stephen Hawking's wife for thirty years and is the mother of his three children. Her first memoir about her marriage to the famous Cambridge physicist appeared in 1999 under the title *Music to Move the Stars*. A revised version, *Travelling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen*, appeared in 2007, and is the basis for *The Theory of Everything* film adaptation. Jane earned a PhD in medieval Spanish poetry and taught linguistics for many years.



ANTHONY McCARTEN (SCREENWRITER) is an award-winning playwright, novelist, screenwriter, and filmmaker. His first international recognition came with the play *Ladies Night*, which remains the most successful play of all time in his native New Zealand. His novels have been translated into fourteen languages. The first, *Spinners*, was voted one of the top ten novels of 2000 by *Esquire* magazine. In 2005, he adapted for TV his second book, the international bestseller *The English Harem*. McCarten's latest work, *Funny Girl*, has just been published to critical acclaim.

SCRIPTER AWARD FINALIST

WILD



CHERYL STRAYED (AUTHOR) wrote the memoir *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*, about her arduous physical—and spiritual—journey in 1995 from the Southern California deserts to the forests of Washington. Published in 2012, the work became an immediate bestseller, and was the first selection for Oprah’s Book Club 2.0. Strayed’s writing has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, *Vogue*, and *Salon*. Her books have been translated into more than thirty languages. She lives with her husband and two children in Portland, Oregon.



NICK HORNBY (SCREENWRITER) received a degree in English literature from the University of Cambridge in 1979. He began his writing career as a freelance journalist for such publications as *GQ*, *Time Out*, *Esquire*, and *The New Yorker*. His 1992 book *Fever Pitch* was adapted for the screen in the UK in 1997 with an Americanized remake appearing in 2005. His 1995 novel *High Fidelity* became a bestseller and was adapted in a 2000 film starring John Cusack. His novel *About a Boy* was made into a movie in 2002 and a television series on NBC in 2014. Hornby received an Oscar nomination in 2009 for his adapted screenplay for the film *An Education*.

SCRIPTER LITERARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

WALTER MOSLEY



WALTER MOSLEY is one of America’s most celebrated writers, having written dozens of books, which have been translated into more than twenty languages. Mosley grew up in Los Angeles as the only child of an African-American father and a Jewish mother. He earned a degree in political science from Johnson State College in 1977 and worked in a variety of positions, including as a computer programmer, before moving to New York City in the early 1980s.

Mosley studied writing at the City College of New York under Edna O’Brien, who pointedly observed that his unusual pedigree offered fertile creative territory to mine. He began writing in earnest at age 34, and has written every day since. He has worked in multiple genres, from mystery to science fiction, erotica to nonfiction. Perhaps the most enduring character in Mosley’s canon is Ezekiel “Easy” Rawlins, an African-American private detective working in Los Angeles during the 1940s–1970s. He debuted in Mosley’s first book, *Devil in a Blue Dress*, which was adapted in 1995 into a film starring Denzel Washington. Mosley is currently at work on a Broadway version of the novel.

A few of his numerous awards include an O. Henry Award, Grammy Award for liner notes to a Richard Pryor album, NAACP Image Award, Sundance Institute “Risktaker Award,” and the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, which honors works that increase racial understanding and appreciation.