Michael Cunningham
Saturday, April 3, 2004, 8 pm
Zellerbach Hall

**Wrestling with a Genius:**
*My Life and Virginia Woolf’s*

Tonight’s talk by Michael Cunningham will be one hour in length, followed by a 20-minute question-and-answer session.

There will be no intermission.

Following tonight’s talk, Mr. Cunningham will be signing copies of his books on the Mezzanine lobby level.

This event has been made possible, in part, by the Friends of Cal Performances.

Cal Performances thanks the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The Wallace Foundation, and the Zellerbach Family Foundation for their generous support.
Michael Cunningham gets all the little things right in his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Hours*. Rarely missing a telling detail or a larger emotional truth, he masterfully explores the quiet, private moments of a life. Crediting Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway* with allowing him to entertain “the wild hope” of being a writer, Cunningham deftly evokes fleeting thoughts and states of consciousness in his books.

Cunningham’s other novels—*A Home at the End of the World* and *Flesh and Blood*—received wide critical acclaim. He also published *Land’s End: A Walk Through Province-town*, a work of nonfiction. His work has appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, and *DoubleTake*. The film version of *The Hours*, featuring actresses Nicole Kidman, Julianne Moore, and Meryl Streep, was nominated for eight Academy Awards. A film version of *A Home at the End of the World*, with actors Sissy Spacek and Colin Farrell, is scheduled for release later this year.

In addition to having won the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, Cunningham received the PEN/Faulkner Award (also for *The Hours*), a Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, and a Michener Fellowship from the University of Iowa.

Visit Cal Performances on the Internet for a sneak preview of the program notes! Complete program descriptions, biographies, and notes are available on-line one week prior to each event.

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