



Press Release

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“Shawn’s plays are everything you dream of theatre being: really smart, stimulating, unsettling, hilarious and truthful.” –Don Shewey, *American Theatre*

**The First New Play in a Decade by
Writer/Actor Wallace Shawn
Published by TCG Books**

NEW YORK — Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is pleased to announce the publication of ***Grasses of a Thousand Colors*, Wallace Shawn’s first full-length play in more than ten years.** The piece—frankly erotic, weirdly disturbing, undeniably funny—premiered this spring at the Royal Court Theatre in London, with a production that was directed by longtime collaborator and *My Dinner with André* co-star André Gregory, and featured Shawn himself in the cast.

“Shawn’s writing possesses a remarkable mixture of unabashed intellectualism and visceral appeal, and *Grasses of a Thousand Colors* is richly textured, original and wickedly amusing.” —*Evening Standard* (London)

This poetic epic tells the story of a scientist, his wife, and his two mistresses, as they fend for their lives in a world much like ours, yet one savagely close to extinction. Due to the scientific manipulation of the world’s crops, there is very little nourishment left to be had, except for those most privileged and connected. Despite the dying off of the world, these characters manage to survive, at times tasting the good life, admiring the beauties of nature, feasting on animalistic sex and finding love.

“The stealthy power [and] quiet self-confidence of Shawn’s singular dramatic voice...keeps the beguiled audience hanging on his words.” —*Variety*

“Love takes many forms, and combat takes many forms,” says Shawn. “*Grasses of a Thousand Colors* is a mythological tale, which speculates on the relationship between man and animals. But human beings are animals, are part of nature and nothing but nature, so the story of man and nature doesn’t have a simple or obvious shape.”

Wallace Shawn is the author of *Our Late Night* (winner of the OBIE Award for Best Play), *Marie and Bruce*, *Aunt Dan and Lemon*, *The Designated Mourner*, *The Fever* and the screenplay for *My Dinner with Andre*, in which he starred. Shawn is a well-known film and television actor. He resides in New York City.

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Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is the national organization for the American theatre. TCG is dedicated to nurturing professional, not-for-profit American theatre institutions, artists, and audiences, and to fulfilling its mission to strengthen, nurture and promote professional, not-for-profit field.

TCG initiatives include a variety of artistic, management, international and advocacy programs. TCG's many publications offer a national resource for reference, opinion, and debate on theatre and the performing arts today. TCG publishes *American Theatre* magazine, ARTSEARCH, and books on theatre and performing arts. Please visit our website and online bookstore at www.tcg.org.

Grasses of a Thousand Colors
by Wallace Shawn
Paperback 96pp
\$13.95 978-1-55936-345-7
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Also available from TCG Books:

Our Late Night/A Thought in Three Parts
by Wallace Shawn
\$14.95 978-1-55936-322-8

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