

Common Senselessness:

Political Power and the *Alice in Wonderland* of American Politics

An Evening of Post-Election Discourse with Richard Dreyfuss

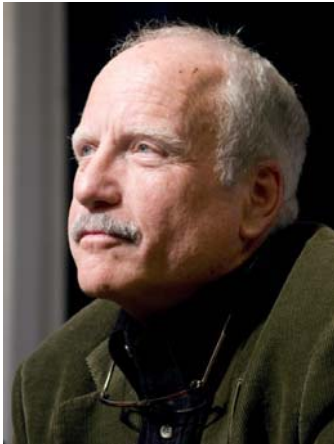
Monday, November 24, 2008

7:00—8:30 pm

Don Powell Theatre

San Diego State University

Join actor and activist Richard Dreyfuss for a discussion about our nation's inability to sustain outrage and curiosity, and the urgent need for true civic engagement in America.



Academy Award Winner Richard Dreyfuss has relied on intelligence, energy and incredible talent to earn his place among the leading actors of the American cinema. Throughout his life, he has maintained an equally deep commitment to political and social activism. As performances such as his role as Dick Cheney in Oliver Stone's *W* continue to garner critical acclaim, Dreyfuss pursues his true passion: encouraging civic engagement in the United States.

His guiding belief is that "we are a nation bound by ideas only. If we are not taught and re-taught these ideas, we are not bound." To that end, his newly established Dreyfuss Initiative is dedicated to returning civics curriculum to American classrooms, grades K-12. He began that work in 2005 as a Senior Advisory Researcher of St. Anthony's College at Oxford University in England. While there, he researched and helped to design a new civics curriculum for American public schools as well as a project based on the notion of Democracy as a Dickensian tale.

Dreyfuss is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. His lectures have been welcomed in venues as diverse as the London School of Economics, Cambridge University, James Madison University, George Mason University, The John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Yale University, The National Press Club and the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Superintendents.

In addition to his work before camera, Dreyfuss was the executive producer, writer, and host of the award-winning ABC special, *Funny, You Don't Look 200: A Constitutional Vaudeville*.

Recently Richard Dreyfuss and his wife, Svetlana, became full time San Diego residents. He will appear in the upcoming film *My Life in Ruins* with Nia Vardalos and is currently preparing for a starring role in the world premiere of *Complicit*, to be directed by fellow Oscar winner Kevin Spacey at London's Old Vic.

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