

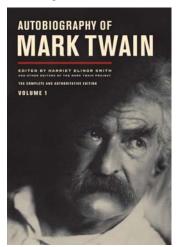
MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: January 11, 2011

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Hammer Museum Presents: *Autobiography of Mark Twain* Celebration Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 7pm – Free admission

Los Angeles — At the time of his death in 1910, Mark Twain left his last major literary



work—an autobiography—unpublished and stipulated that the entire unexpurgated work should not be issued for at least a hundred years after his death. In November 2010, the year that marked the centenary of Twain's death, UC Press issued the first volume of a complete three-volume critical edition of the autobiography, edited by the staff of the Mark Twain Project.

On **Tuesday**, **February 8**, at **7pm**, the Hammer Museum celebrates the publication of Mark Twain's autobiography with Twain scholar and editor of the Mark Twain Project, **Robert Hirst** who will discuss Twain's life and work, followed by a panel discussion with **Hal Holbrook**, moderated by

David Kipen. The discussion will be followed by a Q&A session with the audience. In addition there will be a reception with live music and a no-host bar in the courtyard, as well as a book signing.

About the participants:

Robert Hirst, Ph.D. is the General Editor and Official Curator of the Mark Twain Project and Papers, housed at the University of California, Berkeley. He is also the editor of Who Is Mark Twain?, a collection of 24 wickedly funny, thought provoking essays and stories by Twain, none of which have ever been published before—and all of which are steeped in contemporary relevance and humor.

Hal Holbrook is an Emmy- and Tony-Award winning actor who is best known for his performance as Mark Twain, for which he won a Tony and the first of his ten Emmy Award nominations. Aside from the stage, Holbrook made his reputation primarily on television, and was memorable as Abraham Lincoln, as Senator Hays Stowe on "The Bold Ones: The Senator" (1970) and as Capt. Lloyd Bucher on *Pueblo* (1973).

David Kipen served for five years as Director of Literature at the National Endowment for the Arts, where he led the Big Read initiative, and for seven years as book editor and book critic of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He is the author of *The Schreiber Theory:* A Radical Rewrite of American Film History and translator of Cervantes' The Dialogue.

Co-presented with the UC Press and PEN Center USA.

ALL HAMMER PUBLIC PROGRAMS ARE FREE. Tickets are required, and are available at the Billy Wilder Theater Box Office one hour prior to start time. Limit one ticket per person on a first come, first served basis. Hammer members receive priority seating, subject to availability. Reservations not accepted, RSVPs not required.

Parking is available under the museum for \$3 after 6:00pm.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum, a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles, is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of Old Master, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works on paper, particularly drawings and photographs from Southern California. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present; and oversees the management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse range of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. The Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater houses these widely acclaimed public programs and is the new home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinematheque.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

For current program and exhibition information call **310-443-7000** or visit **www.hammer.ucla.edu**.

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 11am – 7pm; Thursday, 11am – 9 pm; Sunday, 11am – 5 pm; closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Admission: \$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65+) and UCLA Alumni Association members; free for Museum members, students with identification, UCLA faculty/staff, military personnel, veterans, and visitors 17 and under. The Museum is free on Thursdays for all visitors. Public programs are always free.

Location/Parking: The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with Museum validation. Bikes park free.

Hammer Museum Tours: For group tour reservations and information, call 310-443-7041.