

JOHN IRVING

John Winslow Irving was born in Exeter, New Hampshire, in 1942. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy, the University of New Hampshire, and the Writers' Workshop at the University of Iowa. He competed as a wrestler for twenty years and coached the sport until he was forty-seven. In 1992, he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Mr. Irving's first novel, *Setting Free the Bears*, was published in 1968; it was followed by *The Water-Method Man* ('72), *The 158-Pound Marriage* ('74), *The World According to Garp* ('78), *The Hotel New Hampshire* ('81), *The Cider House Rules* ('85), *A Prayer for Owen Meany* ('89), *A Son of the Circus* ('94), *Trying to Save Piggy Sneed* ('96), *A Widow for One Year* ('98), *My Movie Business* ('99), and *The Fourth Hand* ('01).

The Lasse Hallström film of *The Cider House Rules* was released by Miramax in December 1999, with Michael Caine in the role of Dr. Larch. The film was nominated for seven Academy Awards, winning an Oscar for Mr. Irving (Best Adapted Screenplay) and one for Mr. Caine (Best Supporting Actor). The screenplay is published by talk miramax books.

Mr. Irving is a three-time nominee for the National Book Award, winning once. He has also received a Rockefeller Foundation Award, a National Endowment for the Arts Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and an O. Henry Award (Prize Stories, 1981). In 2001, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

John Irving is married and has three sons; he lives in Toronto and southern Vermont.

