

## **John Guare**

Dramatist John Guare is a major force in modern American theater. Born in New York City, he wrote his first play at the age of 11. After earning a B.A. degree from Georgetown University in 1960 and an M.F.A. from the Yale School of Drama in 1963, Guare set out to develop his own unique style of theatrical comedy.

In 1968 Guare won an Obie Award for a one-act play, *Muzeeka*. The young playwright gained national prominence in 1970 with *House of Blue Leaves*, which won an Obie Award and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for the Best American Play, followed by four Tony Awards for its 1986 revival. In 1971 he wrote the libretto for a pop-rock musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, which won the Tony Award for Best Musical. Guare scored another major hit in 1990 with *Six Degrees of Separation*, which won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Award, and an Olivier Best Play Award. Guare's *Four Baboons Adoring the Sun*, produced at the Lincoln Center Theater in 1992, was nominated for four Tony Awards. Guare was elected to the Theater Hall of Fame in 1993.