

INTERVIEW WITH ARTHUR MILLER

The following interview took place in August of 1975 at the playwright's home in Connecticut.

GOLLUB: In 1955, when you were asked about your favorite playwright, you answered, "Can't answer this for at least twenty years because we are all becoming. Besides I know a number of them personally. All playwrights are good." Twenty years later—in 1975—I'm going to ask you the same question: Who is your favorite playwright?

MILLER: I find that I'm not related to any in my own work. I think everybody is running parallel.

GOLLUB: You don't have a favorite? If you had a choice, which other playwright would you like to go see—other than Arthur Miller?

MILLER: I think the most interesting one to me has always been O'Neill in the last many years. Not originally, but as far as Americans are concerned. Pinter is very interesting.

GOLLUB: Why O'Neill?

MILLER: I would say his intensity, the size of his work—it's marvelous.

GOLLUB: Which plays?

MILLER: The best play he ever wrote was *A Long Day's Journey* and that's a masterpiece.

GOLLUB: Have you patterned any of your work after O'Neill?

MILLER: No. That started and then went on and he didn't mean much back then. I don't take much from other playwrights, I think. At least I can't find it. I think you form very early and the influences will more likely be much older work. I'm moved a lot by the Greeks and by Shakespeare.