

Saturday
15 November 2014
4 p.m.

Waiting for Godot

Play featuring **Naseeruddin Shah**
Akademi Awards 1990, New Delhi
Duration: 60 minutes

Waiting for Godot is an absurdist play by Samuel Beckett, in which two characters, Vladimir and Estragon, wait endlessly and in vain for the arrival of someone named Godot. Godot's absence, as well as numerous other aspects of the play, have led to many different interpretations since the play's 1953 premiere. It was voted "the most significant English language play of the 20th century". *Waiting for Godot* is Beckett's translation of his own original French version, *En attendant Godot*, "a tragicomedy in two acts".

Naseeruddin Shah

Born in 1950 in Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh, Shri Naseerudin Shah studied acting at the National School of Drama, Delhi, and later at the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune. As a student in the National School of Drama (N.S.D.) his talent as an actor drew the attention of E. Alkazi, the then Director of the School, and he was featured in a number of N.S.D. Productions.

Moving to Bombay, Naseeruddin Shah worked for Satyadev Dubey's Theatre Unit and Om Puri's Majma before forming his own group, Motley, in 1979. Over the last ten years he has acted in and directed a large number of plays on the Bombay stage. Notable among these are *Waiting for Godot*, *The Odd Couple*, and *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial*.



A film actor of considerable repute, Naseeruddin Shah has received National awards as Best Actor in 1980 and 1985 for his roles in *Sparsh* and *Paar*. He was also adjudged Best Actor for *Paar* in the Venice Film Festival in 1985. Apart from the Hindi cinema, he has acted in films in English, Gujarati, Bengali, and Kannada. He has also received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for his contribution to theatre as an actor.