

## University Events Office presents lecture by "The Right Stuff" author Tom Wolfe

**May 8, 1986**

Tom Wolfe, the man who put La Jolla's Windansea on the map in 1968 when his "Pump House Gang" chronicled the life of the surfers who hung out around the beach's pump house, will speak on "The Novel in an Age of Nonfiction," at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 22, in the University of California, San Diego's Main Gymnasium.

Wolfe's book, "The Right Stuff," published in 1979, is a pithy view of the first astronauts and the early days of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's space program. "The Right Stuff" became a runaway best seller and won the American Book Award for general nonfiction.

After his first book, "The Kandy Koloored Tangerine Flake Streamline Baby," Wolfe wrote "The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test," a tale about LSD and a group of people who drove around the country in a multicolored bus calling themselves the Merry Pranksters; and "The Pump House Gang," all of which became undergraduate student bibles.

In 1970, Wolfe published "Radical Chic and Mau-Mauing the Flak Catchers," a devastatingly funny portrayal of American political stances and social styles. In 1975, he published "The Painted Word," a humorous look at the world of modern art, which received a special citation from the National Sculpture Society. "Mauve Gloves and Madmen, Clutter and Vine," is a collection of essays which was published in 1976.

In 1980, Wolfe published his first collection of drawings, entitled, "In Our Time." In 1981, he took a distinctive look at contemporary architecture in his book, "From Bauhaus to Our House." This work was followed by "The Purple Decades: A Reader."

Wolfe grew up in Richmond, Virginia. He received his bachelor's from Washington and Lee University and his doctorate in American Studies from Yale University. He worked as a reporter for several major newspapers, including the Springfield Union (Massachusetts), The Washington Post and the New York Herald Tribune. His writing has also appeared in New York Magazine, Esquire, Harper's and Rolling Stone.

In 1980, Wolfe received the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters' Harold D. Vursell Memorial Award and the Columbia Journalism Award for distinguished service to the field of journalism.

Admission prices are: general admission, \$8; seniors, \$7 and students, \$5. Tickets are available through TicketMaster outlets and from the UCSD Box Office. For more information, call 452-4559.

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