



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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**Mike Reiss – Springfield Confidential:
Jokes, secrets, and outright lies from a lifetime of writing for *The Simpsons***

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Coming to SUU on Thursday, August 30, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. in the Gilbert Great Hall in SUU's Hunter Conference Center, A.P.E.X. along with the Utah Shakespeare Festival present the four-time Emmy Award winning comedy writer and playwright, Mike Reiss. Reiss has spent three decades as a writer and producer for the hit comedy series, *The Simpsons*. Reiss will be a part of USF's new play reading series *Words³: New Plays* with his newest play, *Shakespeare's Worst! A Play on a Play*. Reiss will be giving a lecture on his memoir *Springfield Confidential*. The laugh-filled program features rare animated clips and a Q&A. **This event is free and open to the public.**

Reiss' work with *The Simpsons* has won him the Peabody Award, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Animation Writers Caucus along with others. During his career, he also has written jokes for Joan Rivers, Garry Shandling, Johnny Carson, and even Pope Francis! Reiss is an award-winning playwright, mystery writer, and children's book author.

Dr. Lynn Vartan, director of A.P.E.X. events and director of Percussion Studies at SUU, said, "A.P.E.X. is proud to partner with the Utah Shakespeare Festival to bring such an amazing comedic talent to the community of SUU! Mike Reiss is "A Missionary of Joy" and is sure to bring audience members together by sharing a laugh!"

Springfield Confidential, Reiss' memoir of three decades at *The Simpsons*, was a best-seller in June 2018. The memoir answers diehard fan questions, illustrates the creation process of each episode, why the characters are yellow, and reveals where Springfield actually is located! After the presentation, Reiss will be signing copies of the memoir.

"*Shakespeare's Worst!* is an original and hilarious retelling of a Shakespeare classic, this new play is set in a small-town theatre where a group of actors are performing *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. But one of the cast members is unhappy: his career is going nowhere, he's tired of the show, and he wants out. This show promises to shine a new, and hilarious, light on Shakespeare." Performances for this reading will be held on August 29 and 31 at 9:30 a.m. in the Eileen and Alan Anes Studio Theatre. Tickets to reading can be purchased through www.bard.org and the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

Laugh along with this hilarious four-time Emmy Award winning comedy writer and playwright as he tells all. For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/apex or www.bard.org/words-cubed/.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The College of Performing and Visual Arts (CPVA) at Southern Utah University comprises 26 academic programs including liberal arts (BA/BS) and professional (BFA, BM) degrees in art, design, dance, music and theatre. It offers graduate programs in the fields of arts administration, music education, and music technology. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. CPVA presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year and is affiliated with the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the Center for Shakespeare Studies. Southern Utah University is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Art & Design (NASAD), National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD), and the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

**For Calendar Editors: Mike Reiss – Springfield Confidential:
Jokes, secrets, and outright lies from a lifetime of writing for the *Simpsons***

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Who: Mike Reiss, four-time Emmy Award winning comedy writer and playwright

When: Thursday, August 30, 2018

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Where: Gilbert Great Hall, Hunter Conference Center, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah

Tickets: Free admission to the lecture

Info: For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/apex or www.bard.org/words-cubed/.

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