



EMBARGO UNTIL 8:00AM WED, FEB. 14

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MADELEINE ALBRIGHT TO JOIN SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES' 2017/18 SEASON

Seattle, WA— Feb 14, 2018: Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) announces the addition of Madeleine Albright to its 2017/18 Season line-up. Albright will discuss her new book, *Fascism: A Warning*, in conversation with Mark Suzman of the Gates Foundation on Tuesday, April 24 at 7:30pm at The Paramount Theatre. All ticket packages include a copy of her new books. **Tickets will go on sale on Friday, February, 16 at 10:00am at stgpresents.org.**

A Fascist, observes Madeleine Albright, “is someone who claims to speak for a whole nation or group, is utterly unconcerned with the rights of others, and is willing to use violence and whatever other means are necessary to achieve the goals he or she might have.”

The twentieth century was defined by the clash between democracy and Fascism, a struggle that created uncertainty about the survival of human freedom and left millions dead. Given the horrors of that experience, one might expect the world to reject the spiritual successors to Hitler and Mussolini should they arise in our era. In *Fascism: A Warning*, Albright draws on her experiences as a child in war-torn Europe and her distinguished career as a diplomat to question that assumption.

Fascism, as she argues, not only endured through the twentieth century but now presents a more virulent threat to peace and justice than at any time since the end of World War II. The momentum toward democracy that swept the world when the Berlin Wall fell has gone into reverse. The United States, which historically championed the free world, is led by a president who exacerbates division and heaps scorn on democratic institutions. In many countries, economic, technological, and cultural factors are weakening the political center and empowering the extremes of the right and left. Contemporary leaders such as Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong-un are employing many of the tactics used by Fascists in the 1920s and '30s.

Fascism: A Warning is a book for our times that is relevant to all times. Written by someone who has not only studied history but helped to shape it, this call to

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arms teaches us the lessons we must understand and the questions we must answer if we are to save ourselves from repeating the tragic errors of the past.

Madeleine Albright is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Madam Secretary*, *The Mighty and the Almighty*, *Memo to the President*, and *Read My Pins*. She was U.S. Secretary of State from 1997 to 2001. Her distinguished career of public service includes positions in the National Security Council, as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and on Capitol Hill. She is a resident of Washington, D.C., and Virginia. She will discuss her new book with Mark Suzman who is Chief Strategy Officer and President in Global Policy and Advocacy at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Ticket Information

- 1 Reserved Patron-level ticket and 1 copy of the book: \$100
- 1 Reserved General-level ticket and 1 copy of the book: \$75
- 1 Festival-Style Balcony-level ticket and 1 copy of the book: \$60
- 1 Student ticket in the Balcony (Student ID required, books not included): \$10
- Patron-level tickets include seating in the front section of the auditorium. Please note: there is no reception.
- Tickets will be available at stgpresents.org on Friday, February 16 at 10:00am.

Seattle Arts & Lectures' 2017/18 Season is presented by the *Seattle Times*.

About Seattle Arts & Lectures: Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the Puget Sound region. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Poetry Series, Women You Need to Know (WYNK), Sherman Alexie Loves, SAL Presents, Hinge, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS), an award-winning reading and writing program that places professional writers in public elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as at Seattle Children's. For more information about SAL, visit lectures.org.

Speaker photo and book cover available upon request.

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