

## Pulitzer? No thank you



"William Saroyan: The Man, The Writer" -- written, directed and produced by Paul Kalinian and winner of six international film festival awards, including a gold award for best documentary -- will be screened on 19 May in the Oriental Hall, American University in Cairo, at 7pm. The son of an Armenian immigrant to the US, Saroyan (1908-1981) left school at 14 and educated himself, eventually to become a world renowned writer and playwright. Most of his stories, which have been described as "brash, original and irreverent...", celebrating the joy of life in spite of poverty, hunger and insecurity", are based on his childhood experiences in a first generation Armenian American family. Although in 1940 he turned down the Pulitzer Prize for his play *The Time of Your Life* on the grounds that it was "no more great or good" than anything else he had written, by the time Saroyan died in 1981 he had received countless awards for the over 60 published works to his name including an Academy Award for Best Original Screen Story.

Director Paul Kalinian will be present to answer questions following the screening of his film.

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