

# Background Information for Teachers

## **DON DELILLO**

Don DeLillo is known for writing historical novels that encourage readers to consider the influence of global events on the way people act and react. Mr. DeLillo is a first-generation American who was raised in an Italian-American section of the Bronx, N.Y. His novels include *End Zone* (1972); *White Noise* (1985), winner of the National Book Award; *Libra* (1988), a fictionalized account of Lee Harvey Oswald's life; and *Underworld* (1997).

## **MARCUS LOEW**

Marcus Loew was an American visionary who built an entertainment empire based on the desire to provide fun, clean

entertainment for all ages and budgets. Mr. Loew's movie palaces and radio networks showcased vaudeville acts across the country. His creation of the Metro-Goldwyn partnership launched the movie studio that eventually became MGM.

## **SUSAN SONTAG**

Susan Sontag was born in New York City in 1933. While studying at the College of the University of Chicago, the University of Paris, and Harvard University, Sontag pursued her interests in literature, writing, and theology. She has since become a well-known American essayist, novelist, human rights activist, and commentator on modern culture. Her books have been translated into

32 languages. The quote on the classroom poster is taken from "Theatre and Film," an essay in her book *Styles of Radical Will* (1969).

## **JILL ROBINSON**

Jill Robinson is a fiction writer who was born in Langley, British Columbia, in Canada. She has published four short story collections: *Saltwater Trees* (1991), *Lovely in Her Bones* (1993), *Eggplant Wife* (1995), and *Residual Desire* (2003). Jill's passion for writing also extends to her love for teaching and editing. She has been teaching creative writing, literature, and composition since 1985 and lives in Saskatoon, Canada.