

## Reading Series Sees Stars

**W**hile most of you are probably fast asleep on Sunday mornings, there's a reading series that should motivate you out of bed on occasion. Author Russell Banks (*The Sweet Hereafter*, *Trailerpark*) will read stories Nov. 9 alongside well-known actors as part of Word Theatre's Fall Brunch and Reading Series at Canal Club in Venice. The event kicks off with a brunch served at 11 a.m.; readings follow at noon. Currently scheduled to read are Todd Field and Lolita Davidovich.

Word Theatre (formerly Literary Stages), which schedules nine such events per year, has attracted the attention of several prominent actors, including Tony Shalhoub, Jeff Goldblum, Nancy Travis, and Mimi Rogers. The series is directed and produced by Cederling Fox, who stated that the events have been rewarding for the audience and the authors. "It's just such a treat for the



photo by Kathleen Masser

Tony Shalhoub.

writers to hear their work read," she said. "And every single one of the shows this fall has been so incredibly powerful."

The sessions are also recorded, and selections are broadcast on KCRW, 89.9 FM. But those who choose to attend in person get the thrill of a live performance and a great brunch for only \$25 (\$30 at the door). "People come back over and over again. It's a real community feeling of being



photo by Kathleen Masser

Jeff Goldblum.

together and listening to stories," noted Fox. "It really makes you feel connected to the rest of humanity somehow. It's my deepest joy. It makes L.A. feel more like a small town"

For more information on upcoming events, visit [www.wordtheatre.com](http://www.wordtheatre.com). The Canal Club is located at 2025 Pacific Ave., Venice.

—Jenelle Riley