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| El Guindi, Yussef (1960- ) |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| Yussef El Guinidi is an Egyptian/Arab American playwright. He was born in Egypt, educated in London and is currently a resident of Seattle, USA. He received his B.A. degree from the American University in Cairo and MFA in Playwriting from Carnegie-Mellon University. He writes about cultural and political collisions of ethnic minorities, especially Arab-Americans. Most of his plays are about Arab-American trying to fit in the American way of life and some of the clashes that arise as a result. |
| File: ElGuindiYussef .png  Figure Yussef El Guindi  Source: http://www.wilmatheater.org/production/language-rooms/artists/665  Yussef El Guinidi is an Egyptian/Arab American playwright. He was born in Egypt, educated in London and is currently a resident of Seattle, USA. He received his B.A. degree from the American University in Cairo and MFA in Playwriting from Carnegie-Mellon University. He writes about cultural and political collisions of ethnic minorities, especially Arab-Americans. Most of his plays are about Arab-American trying to fit in the American way of life and some of the clashes that arise as a result.  One of his notable playsis*Back of the Throat* (2005), a play about a young Arab American who is subjected to government scrutiny and visited by two government agents after a terrorist attack. El Guinidi brings to the foreground racial profiling and the terror that gripped America in the wake of 9/11 terrorist attack.He mixes humour with surrealism when he employs flashback technique. *Jihad Jones and the Kalashnikov Babes* (2009) is about an Arab-American actor who has to choose between his ethics and the lure of fame and money as he plays a terrorist in a movie and struggles with Hollywood stereotypes. In *Language Rooms* (2010), an Arab American who works as translator at a high-security detention center begins to suspect that he himself is under surveillance. Expressionistic technique also colours this play, particularly the dream sequences.  El Guindi’s plays are often thought-provoking yet full of witty sarcasm to lighten the tone as he frequently blends humour with his subject matter. His play *Pilgrim Musa and Sheri in the New World* (2011) won the Steinberg/American Theatre Critics Award and was the recipient of the 2010 Middle East America Distinguished Playwright Award. Inspired by the Arab Spring, The *Mummy and the Revolution* (2012) El Guindi’s latest, is a farce with the recent Egyptian Revolution as a backdrop.  Key works:  *Back of the Throat* (2005)  *Such a Beautiful Voice is Sayeda’s* and *Karima’s City* adapted from Salwa Bakr’s short stories.  *Jihad Jones and the Kalashnikov Babes* (2009)  *Language Rooms* (2010)  *Pilgrim Musa and Sheri in the New World* (2011)  The *Mummy and the Revolution* (2012) |
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