

# Paul

By

*Anthony E. Gallo ('94)*

**Monday, October 17, 7 p.m.**



A two-act drama about Paul, the Apostle by **Anthony E. Gallo ('94)** will be presented in an October 17 staged reading sponsored by the Cosmos Theatre Group. The leading role will be played by Shakespearean actor Michel Tolaydo.

The play examines the complex and contradictory life of Christianity's second leading theological architect through his Epistles, from Romans to Titus, and the writings of Josephus. Paul's impact not only on the now two billion Christians around the world but tangentially on non-Christians as well is not disputed. The play follows him from being a deeply religious Jewish leader, successful businessman, civic leader, and persecutor of fringe cults to becoming an apostle of the Nazarean following his epiphany on the road to Damascus. The narrative traces his conflicts with members of the new cult, then with his fellow disciples, the Romans, Greeks, Jewish leaders, his own family and friends, and the people he tries to convince. It asks if Paul's spiritual conversion also resulted in personal character conversion.

Mr. Tolaydo is a professor of theater, film, and media studies at St. Mary's College of Maryland. He has frequently performed on local stages, such as the Folger Theatre, Roundhouse Theatre, Theatre J, Arena Stage, and Metro Stage.

**Please reserve with Member Services. The Powell Room doors will open at 7 p.m. for a finger food buffet with champagne. The reading will follow at 7:30. Price: \$20**