

# OIA

## OUT IN AMERICA

### Durang It All!

Absurdist playwright Christopher Durang brings *Sex and Longing* to Broadway.

IF CHRISTOPHER DURANG'S characters aren't certifiably insane, they're certainly very peculiar. In *Sex and Longing*, Durang's new Broadway play (opening October 10 at New York's Cort Theatre), the two main characters are sexually compulsive, sharing an insatiable lust for men. Justin must have sex every three hours, and Lulu—well, she's gotta have it every 15 minutes.

The blue-eyed New Jersey-born playwright looks a bit like an innocent choirboy, even though he is, at 47, graying and bearded. His soft-spoken demeanor is completely at odds with the wild characters who populate his work. Blessed with a delicious sense of the absurd, a talent for skewering figures of authority, and the ability to write intelligently wacky literary spoofs, Durang has created his own eccentric niche in the American theater. Also an actor with expert comic timing, he has appeared in some of his own plays, several movies, and, most recently, opposite Julie Andrews in the Sondheim revue *Putting It Together*, an off-Broadway hit in 1993. He also moonlights as a lounge singer. "Most days I'm a playwright, but some days I get fed up," he says, introducing his comic cabaret act Chris Durang and

"Most days I'm a playwright, but some days I get fed up."







