FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Alliance Française USA presents Executive Director and journalist for *Le Nouvel Observateur*, Jacques Julliard on tour in eight cities in the United States and Iceland, From September 20th to October 13th, 2004.

Washington DC, September 30, 2004.— Alliance Française USA is pleased to present French author and journalist Jacques Julliard on tour from September 20th to October 13th in North America and Iceland. A veritable institution in France and the French-speaking world, Julliard has written numerous books and publications, as well as having served on the faculty at Princeton University. His columns present a candid view of contemporary international relations.

Mr. Julliard’s perspective comes as a result of his wealth of experience. Born in 1933 and graduate of the École Normale Supérieure, Jacques Julliard is an expert in contemporary history, whose works concern the workers’ movement and the history of political cultures in France since the Revolution. He spent the majority of his career as directeur d’études at the École des Hautes études en Sciences Sociales (Paris), close to the École des Annales (Fernand Braudel, Georges Duby, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie...) He was a Foreign Member of the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton in 1980-81. Parallel to his academic endeavors, for the last thirty years Jacques Julliard has been pursuing a career as journalist for the left-of-center liberal weekly *Le Nouvel Observateur*, of which he is currently Executive Director and a weekly columnist. Active on the French political scene, he was nominated a member of the trade union Confédération Française et Démocratique du Travail (CFDT) as well as administrator of the NGO « Action contre la Faim. » (Action against hunger).


During his tour, M. Julliard will be speaking on the current state of Franco-American relations. Among the great nations of the Western world, the United States and France are the only ones to have never fought each other in war. In all the crucial moments of their histories, they can be found side by side. And yet, relations between the two are difficult, as evidenced by the support long provided by the United States for the Vichy government and the mutual antipathy of Roosevelt and De Gaulle (1940-45); France’s withdrawal from the military organization of NATO (1966); and the threat of a French veto against American intervention in Iraq (2003). Against the backdrop of an alliance that is more than two hundred years old, there is recurrent Anti-Americanism on the part of the French and Francophobia on the American side. Why? Beyond this observation and analysis lies the issue of French policy within a united Europe and of the relations between that Europe and the United States. There are two opposing
conceptions: that of the United Kingdom, which is transatlantic, and that of France, which is Euro-independent. Europe and the United States were formed from a common history and share the same political, religious, and cultural values. But they do not imagine the future in the same fashion. Are we moving towards a historical divorce, or will the dangers that are menacing them ultimately bring the two states back together?

Julliard’s forthcoming tour fits right into his expertise in current affairs and international relations. In celebration of the friendship between the United States and France, Alliance Française USA is proud to bring M. Julliard to an audience in eight cities:

**SEPTEMBER 2004 – 20** Atlanta, Georgia (Klaus Halle Institute, Emory University) **21** (Georgia Institute of Technology, Goethe Institute/ Alliance Francaise) **23** St. Joseph, Missouri (Missouri Western Campus) **25** Denver, Colorado (Alliance Francaise) **28** San Francisco, California (Alliance Française) **30** Washington, DC (La Maison Francaise, French Embassy) **OCTOBER 2004 – 4** Boston, Massachusetts (Harvard University Center for European Studies, French Library- Alliance Francaise) **5** (Boston College) **8** New York, New York (City University of New York) **12** Reykjavik, Iceland (University of Iceland)

Upon request, texts of the lectures are available in English.

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