Michael Datcher

Michael Datcher did his undergraduate work at UC Berkeley and his graduate work at UCLA. He is the author of the critically-acclaimed *New York Times* Bestseller *RAISING FENCES*—a TODAY SHOW BOOK CLUB Book of the Month pick. The film rights were originally optioned by actor Will Smith's Overbrook Productions, who hired Datcher to write the screenplay. He is co-editor of *TOUGH LOVE*: *The Life and Death of Tupac Shakur*.

Datcher's play *SILENCE* was commissioned by and premiered at the Getty Museum. He is co-host of the weekly public affairs news magazine *BEAUTIFUL STRUGGLE* on 90.7 FM KPFK in Los Angeles. His writing is widely anthologized, including appearances in the volumes *What Makes A Man* (Penguin), *Brown Sugar* (Simon Schuster), *Soulfires* (Penguin), *Testimony* (Beacon Press), *Another City* (City Lights), and *Body and Soul* (Crown), among others.

He has curated and/or presented his work at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, The Hammer Museum and other art institutions. Datcher is the former Executive Director of The World Stage, a literary and jazz education and performance nonprofit in Los Angeles' Crenshaw District. He is Editor of *THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FACT: International Journal of Literary Nonfiction*. Datcher is a professor of English at Loyola Marymount University.