

# Moreto

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**Materials needed:** Overheads of modern movie directors (Peter Jackson, George Lucas, Steven Spielberg), and of Moreto. A List of information on Moreto.

**Objective:** The students will know general information about the life of Moreto and have an idea of what influenced him to become a playwright. They will also, after writing their own small scene, appreciate the ability to create a story through a play.

**Hook:** Ask the students if they know any well-known movie directors. Ask them what movies they directed. While they are doing so, put up overheads of Peter Jackson (Lord of the Rings, King Kong), George Lucas (Star Wars), Steven Spielberg (Indiana Jones)—this will be provided. Then introduce them to Moreto by changing the overheads to his picture.

**Activity 1:** Put the students into groups and hand each group a list of facts about Moreto's life—this will be provided. Have them, as a group, choose 4 to 5 facts that they think could have helped influence Moreto to become a writer. When they are done, have them share what they discussed.

**Assessment 1:** (Informal) The class discussion will tell you how well they read and internalized the material.

**Activity 2:** Have each group write a “pass-a-long scene” where one member of the group starts the scene and writes 5 to 6 lines then passes it on to the next member until all have participated in the writing. The scene must have as many characters as members of the group so that all can participate. Encourage the students to write about something that they themselves would enjoy watching or reading. That way, the other students will like their scene better. After they are done writing, have each group stand in front of the class and act out their scene.

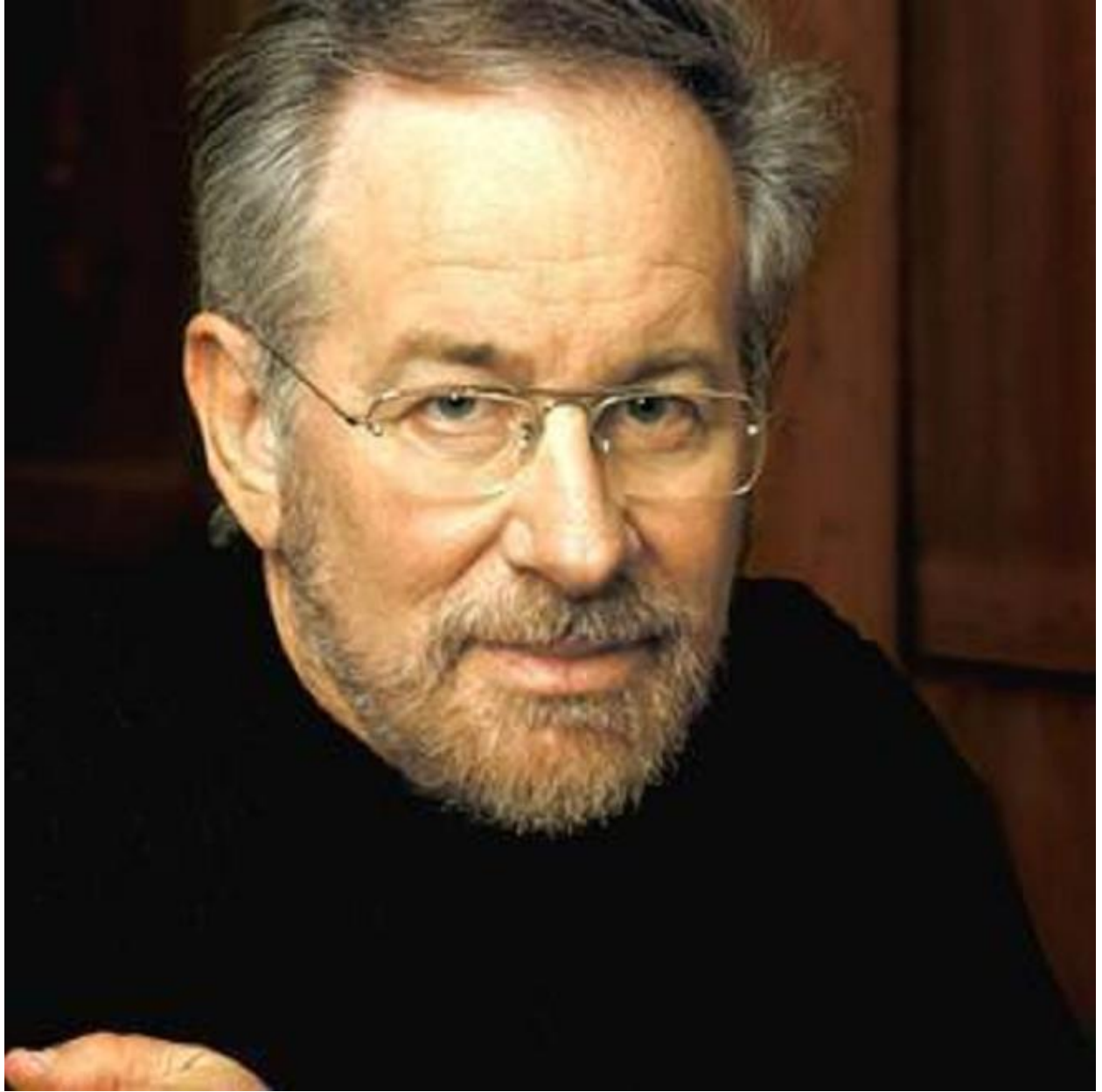
**Assessment 2:** By writing themselves, they will be able to appreciate what the playwrights had to do in the Golden Age Theatre. After the groups perform, have a class discussion on their experience writing. What would it have been like to write a play that was longer? The discussion should help them to appreciate the playwright's experience while encouraging them to know that they can do it too! Have them turn in their scene at the end of class.

## Agustin Moreto y Cabaña

1. Agustin Moreto y Cabaña was born of Italian parents in the year 1618 and was baptized that same year on April 9th in Madrid, Spain.
2. He decided to go to the University of Alcalá to study law.
3. While he was there, he began to write poems and entremeses with a little help and support from his friends.
4. After he graduated, he decided to return to Madrid, Spain.
5. He spent more time writing. Eventually he wrote over 100 plays.
6. Generally his plays can be divided into different categories: religious plays, historical plays, comedies of intrigue, comedies of character, and entremeses.
7. He earned a lot of money from his plays and became a wealthy young man.
8. At the age of 24, Moreto began to take minor orders which led him to enter the monastery.
9. He grew old living as a monk. He spent most of the concluding years of his life helping the poor.
10. After he died (in Toledo, Spain), they discovered that in his will, he had left all of his possessions to the poor people that he had been helping and working with.



<http://faculty-staff.ou.edu/L/A-Robert.R.Lauer-1/SPAN4183BMoreto.html>



<http://www.poptower.com/people/steven-spielberg.htm>



<http://www.famousmii.com/mii/wp-content/uploads/2007/08/jackson-peter-photo-peter-jackson-6207017.jpg>