Mark Twain
The Complete Interviews
EDITED BY GARY SCHARNHORST

The great writer's irascible wit shines in this comprehensive collection.

This volume is an annotated and indexed scholarly edition of every known interview with Mark Twain spanning his entire career. In these interviews, Twain discusses such topical issues as his lecture style, his writings, and his bankruptcy, while holding forth on such timeless issues as human nature, politics, war and peace, government corruption, humor, race relations, imperialism, international copyright, the elite, and his impressions of other writers (Howells, Gorky, George Bernard Shaw, Tennyson, Longfellow, Kipling, Hawthorne, Dickens, Bret Harte, among others).

These interviews are both oral performances in their own right and a new basis for evaluating contemporary responses to Twain’s writings. Because the interviews are records of verbal conversations rather than texts written in Twain’s hand, Scharnhorst has corrected errors in spelling and regularized punctuation. Four interviews here are new to scholarship; less than a fifth has ever been reprinted.

Gary Scharnhorst is Distinguished Professor of English at the University of New Mexico. He is the author or editor of over thirty books and editor of the journal American Literary Realism.

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