



Lily Tomlin, one of America's foremost comediennes, continues to venture across an ever-widening range of media, starring in television, theater, motion pictures, animation, and video. Throughout her extraordinary entertainment career, Tomlin has received numerous awards, including: six Emmys; a Tony for her one woman Broadway show, "Appearing Nitely;" a second Tony as Best Actress, Drama Desk Award and Outer Critics' Circle Award for her one woman performance in Jane Wagner's "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe;" a CableAce Award for Executive Producing the film adaptation of The Search; a Grammy for her comedy album, This is a Recording, as well as nominations for her subsequent albums Modern Scream, And That's the Truth, and On Stage; and two Peabody Awards—the first for the ABC television special, Edith Ann's Christmas: Just Say Noel and the second for narrating and executive producing the HBO film, The Celluloid Closet. Tomlin was born in Detroit, Michigan and grew up in a working-class neighborhood on the outskirts of one of the city's most affluent areas. Although she claims she wasn't funny as a child, Tomlin admits she "knew who was and lifted all their material right off the TV screen." Her favorites included Lucille Ball, Bea Lillie, Imogene Coca, and Jean Carroll, one of the first female stand-ups on The Ed Sullivan Show. After high school, Tomlin enrolled at Wayne State University to study medicine, but her elective courses in theater arts compelled her to leave college to become a performer in local coffee houses. She moved to New York in 1965, where she soon built a strong following with her appearances at landmark clubs such as The Improvisation, Cafe Au Go Go, and the Upstairs at the Downstairs, ...

Lily Tomlin

Speech Topics

- ☐ Humor
- ☐ Comedian
- ☐ Celebrity

