

HILTON ALS

“I read Als not only because he is utterly extraordinary, which he is, but for the reason one is often drawn to the best writers—because one has a sense that one’s life might depend on them.” —Junot Díaz

Hilton Als became a staff writer at *The New Yorker* in 1994 and a theatre critic in 2002. He began contributing to the magazine in 1989, writing pieces for *The Talk of the Town*. He won the Pulitzer Prize for criticism in 2017 for his *New Yorker* work.

Before coming to *The New Yorker*, Als was a staff writer for *The Village Voice* and an editor-at-large at *Vibe*. Als edited the catalogue for the 1994-95 Whitney Museum of American Art exhibition “Black Male: Representations of Masculinity in Contemporary American Art.” His first book, *The Women*, was published in 1996. His book *White Girls*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the winner of the Lambda Literary Award in 2014, discusses various narratives of race and gender.

In 1997, the New York Association of Black Journalists awarded Als first prize in both Magazine Critique/Review and Magazine Arts and Entertainment. He was awarded a Guggenheim for creative writing in 2000 and the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism for 2002-03. In 2016, he received Lambda Literary’s Trustee Award for Excellence in Literature. In 2018, Als received the City College of New York’s Langston Hughes Medal.

Als published “My Pinup” in 2022 and edited the 2024 collection “God Made My Face: A Collective Portrait of James Baldwin.” He is a teaching professor at the University of California, Berkeley, an associate professor of writing at Columbia University’s School of the Arts, and has taught at Yale University, Columbia University, Wesleyan University, and Smith College. He lives in New York City.