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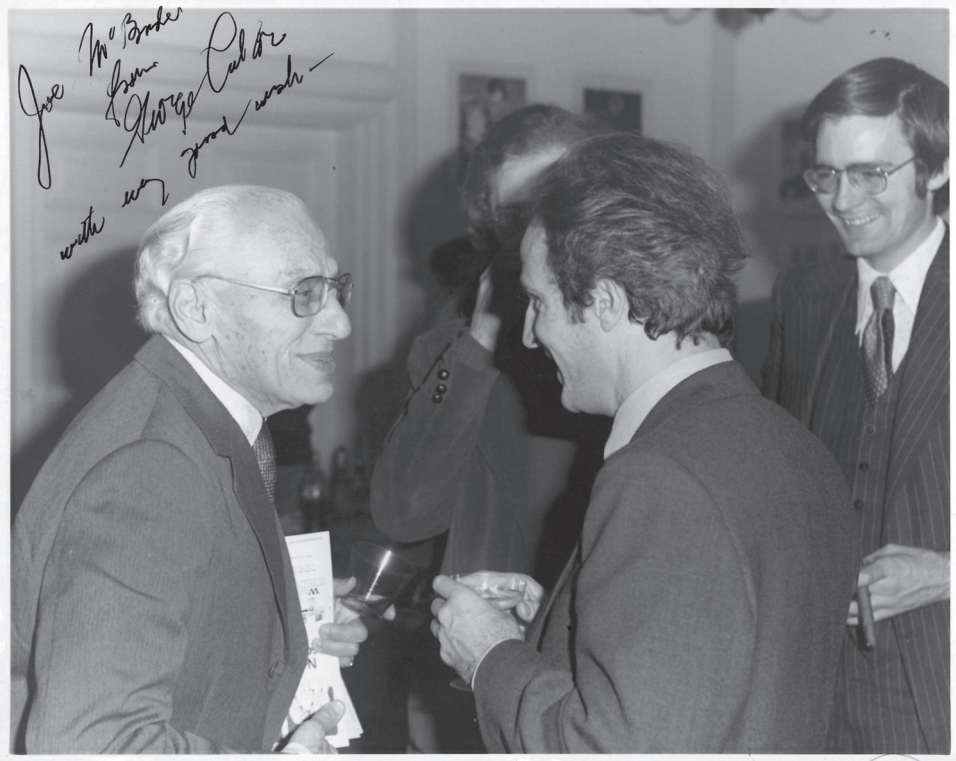
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George Cukor with François Truffaut, the French director who as a young critic admired his work but felt “the trouble is that Cukor isn’t the kind of director you write about; he’s someone to talk about with friends on the street or sitting in a café.” They’re chatting at the American Film Institute preview party for Truffaut’s *The Story of Adele H.* in Hollywood, 1975. Author Joseph McBride looks on at right.

Source: New World Pictures.

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ACTING FOR A
MASTER DIRECTOR

JOSEPH McBRIDE



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Cover image: Katharine Hepburn, George Cukor, and Cary Grant on location for *Sylvia Scarlett* (1935). George Cukor papers, Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

To my son and teacher, John McBride

*You never had to put a label on the bottle, because it was unmistakable.
All the people in your pictures are as goddamned good as they can possibly be,
and that's your stamp.*

—Katharine Hepburn to George Cukor

