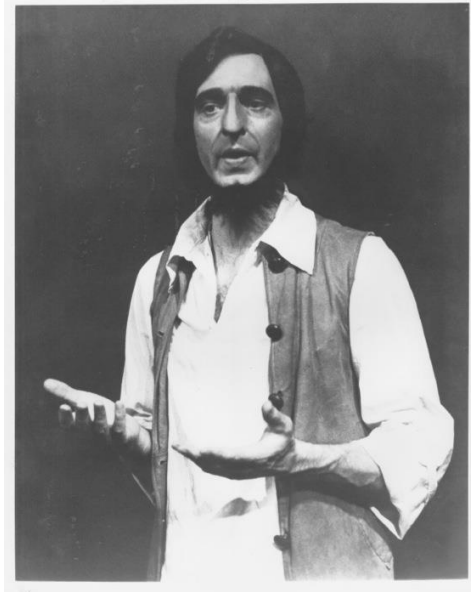


Christopher Childs is an author, activist, and — on now-rare occasions — historical actor, born in New England but now living in Saint Paul, Minnesota with his spouse Elizabeth Dickinson, first cousin four-times-removed of poetess Emily. He is the author of *The Spirit's Terrain: Creativity, Activism, and Transformation* (Beacon Press, Boston; Foreword by the Dalai Lama), which the late activist Rev. William Sloane Coffin praised for its “wonderful spirit” and its stress on “what works rather than what needs fixing,” and which *Publishers Weekly* called a “spiritual manifesto for modern-day social-political activists.” He also edited and composed commentary for Penmaen Press’ 1978 book version of the source material of *Clear Sky, Pure Light*, a book the *Thoreau Journal Quarterly* said “might well be the perfect introduction to the master.”



Christopher is a 35-year member of Actors’ Equity Association; although he largely set acting aside in the mid-1980s in favor of activism, his “previous life” as a performer saw him appear in character cameos in Henry Fonda’s final film, the ABC-TV movie *Summer Solstice*; as an FBI agent in PBS’s recreation of the Alger Hiss trial, the Emmy-Award-winning miniseries *Concealed Enemies*; and as the appalling minister of Salem Towne, Nicholas Noyes, in the PBS Vanessa Redgrave depiction of the Salem witch trials, *Three Sovereigns for Sarah* (an amateur genealogist, he was recently bemused to discover that he is in fact descended from one of the witch trial victims, Susannah North Martin). He was also in some 100 regional theatre productions, his appearances including major roles as Hamlet, Malvolio, Mercutio, and Jaques in Shakespeare plays, and a variety of leading roles in contemporary works.

Christopher is the National Speaker *emeritus* of the U.S. branch of the environmental group Greenpeace, with whom he worked from 1987-96, and for whom he served on campaigns ranging from the 1988 Inland Waters Expedition of the converted fireboat *MV Beluga* to the 1994 tour of the *Cyrus* — a 16-wheel tractor-trailer that toured the nation with a 150-square-foot solar array, powering everything from the EcoVillage at the 25th anniversary of Woodstock to a rock concert in Chicago to a Public Radio station in Kansas City to a “Power to the

People” rally and concert in San Diego. In the 2000s he also served as a volunteer for the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, receiving awards for leadership as both Conservation Chair and creator of the chapter’s 2004 and 2006 Walk for Wind, and he is a past board member of the Minnesota Renewable Energy Society. His home features a 3-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system, installed in 2007, which annually produces from 90-100% of the household’s electrical consumption.

While he accumulated a record of five arrests — all for protests of various forms of pollution, and in each of which the local constabulary expressed appreciation for Greenpeace’s work even while taking him and others into custody, and one judge said from the bench, “I like what you do” — he has not, in fact, spent a night in jail.