



**For Immediate Release**

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## **WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES EXTENSION OF *THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY***

**2010 PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST WILL NOW CLOSE OCTOBER 7**

(Washington, DC) Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company is thrilled to announce the one week extension of its “culturally explosive knockout” (DC Metro Theatre Arts), *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, now playing through October 7, 2012.

A “delicious crackle and pop of a galloping, honest-to-God, all-American satire” (*The New York Times*), *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* explores the larger-than-life world of professional wrestling. Macedonio “Mace” Guerra has been the fall-guy for mega-successful THE Wrestling, losing again and again to the impossibly charismatic champ, Chad Deity. When Mace discovers a young Indian-American Brooklyn kid whose charisma rivals that of the champ, Mace decides to get him a job in the company. Only problem is, the boss has a very specific plan for the duo: put them onscreen as terrorists.

“We are all so proud of *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*. It is an extremely powerful and thought-provoking piece of theatre that views America through a rather unique lens,” says Managing Director Jeffrey Herrmann. “We’re excited that Washington seems to love it as much as we do and it’s a pleasure to announce the extension of the first show in what promises to be a fantastic season.”

### **PRAISE FOR *CHAD DEITY***

“*Chad Deity* is not a wrestling play per se; it is a morality play” – *Washington Post*

“An adrenaline rush!” – *Washington Post*

“Surprisingly philosophical” – *Washington City Paper*

“Technically astonishing!” – *Washington City Paper*

“A culturally explosive knockout!” – *DC Metro Theatre Arts*

“Even if the world of professional wrestling is not your cup of tea — or should I say can of beer...you’ll find yourself engaged by this 4th wall busting production.” – *MD Theatre Guide*

“A tale of identity, race, and consumerism wrapped in sparkly Lycra muscle grip!”  
– *Brightest Young Things*

“Woolly is doing some of the most innovative, interesting, and audience-grabbing feats with their technology. More people need to see this.” – *Brightest Young Things*

Woolly Mammoth’s Season 33, ***My Roots, My Revolution***, is a passionate exploration of the decisions we make when our emotions are bombarded by complex forces of religion, heritage, values, and ethnicity. What do we inherit from our family, our culture, and our homeland? And how does this impact the choices we make for our future? With a unique global perspective, these ambitious new works carry us to far flung destinations including Africa, Korea, Disneyworld, Burning Man, and the world of professional wrestling. Fueled by Woolly’s brilliant company and guest artists, the results will be unexpectedly humorous, heartbreaking, and intensely provocative.

In the six works that make up Woolly’s Season 33, a group of unforgettable characters choose whether to embrace their legacies, run from them, or invent a whole new future. They include Kristoffer Diaz’s ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*** (Sept 3 – October 7), Mia Chung’s *You For Me For You* (Nov 5 – Dec 2), Danai Gurira’s *The Convert* (Feb 11 – Mar 10), Mike Daisey’s *American Utopias* (Mar 19 – Apr 14), and Aaron Posner’s *Stupid Fucking Bird* (May 27 – June 23). Coming to Woolly this holiday season is Shenoah Allen and Mark Chavez’s *The Pajama Men: In The Middle of No One* (Dec 11 – Jan 6).

#### **ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM**

**Kristoffer Diaz** (Playwright) is a playwright and educator living and working in Brooklyn. Full-length titles include ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity***, *Welcome to Arroyo’s*, *Guernica*, and *#therevolution*. Awards include the 2011 New York Times Outstanding Playwright Award; finalist for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama; winner, 2011 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Play; winner, 2011 OBIE Award, Best New American Play; and the inaugural Gail Merrifield Papp Fellowship from The Public Theater (2011). His work has been produced, commissioned, and developed at The Public Theater, Dallas Theater Center, Geffen Playhouse, Center Theatre Group, Goodman Theatre, Second Stage Theatre, Victory Gardens Theater, The Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, and many others. He is currently developing *The Unfortunates*, his first full-length musical collaboration, at Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

**John Vreeke** (Director) is a Company Member of Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. He is a five-time Helen Hayes Nominee for Best Director. His productions for Woolly Mammoth include *A Bright New Boise* by Sam Hunter, *Gruesome Playground Injuries* by Rajiv Joseph, *Boom* by Peter Sinn-Nachtrieb, *Homebody/Kabul* by Tony Kushner, *Our Lady of 121<sup>st</sup> Street* by Stephen Adly Guirgis, *Martha, Josie & the Chinese Elvis* by Charlotte Jones, and *The K of D* by Laura Schellhardt. John has also directed at Theater J, Washington Shakespeare Company, MetroStage, Everyman Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Forum Theatre, Source Festival, Charter Theatre, Theater Alliance, Kennedy Center TYA, Imagination Stage, and Helen Hayes Awards. Regionally at Alley Theatre, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Attic Theatre, Salt Lake Acting Company, and First Stage in Milwaukee. He was the Associate Producer and Casting Associate CBS TV Series: *Northern Exposure*. His upcoming project is Theater J: *Race* by David Mamet.

Cast includes Company Member **Michael Russotto** (*A Bright New Boise*, *House of Gold*, *Full Circle*), **Jose Joaquin Perez** (*Oedipus el Rey*), **Shawn T. Andrew**, **Adi Hanash**, and **James Long**.

The Helen Hayes Award-nominated design team from *A Bright New Boise* will return with set design by Company Member **Misha Kachman**, lighting design by Company Member **Colin K. Bills**, costume design by **Misha Kachman** and **Ivania Stack**, sound design by **Christopher Baine**, projection design by **Jared Mezzocchi**, and fight choreography by **Joe Isenberg**.

***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*** runs through October 7, 2012; Wednesdays–Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm and 7pm.

#### **TICKETS**

Tickets for ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*** start at \$35, and can be purchased through the Woolly Mammoth Box Office at **202-393-3939**, online at **www.woollymammoth.net**, or in person at 641 D Street, NW (7<sup>th</sup> & D). For directions and parking information, please visit [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net).

#### **HOUSE LIGHTS UP**

##### **Wrestling 101**

**September 19, 2012 at 6:30pm**

##### **Woolly Classroom**

Want a fun workout that develops your balance, strength, flexibility, stamina, and self confidence? Join us for an hour-long folk style wrestling clinic with USA Wrestling-certified Coach Clarence Long. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to polish your wrestling skills using the actual rehearsal mats from the production! Children, parents, and people of all ages are welcome. No previous wrestling experience necessary.

Tickets: \$10

Attire: Athletic shorts and a T-shirt. Please avoid watches and jewelry. Wrestling shoes recommended, but not required.

Reservations: [woollymammoth.net](http://woollymammoth.net), 202-393-3939, or at the door (641 D Street, NW)

*\*All proceeds go to The Hustle & Muscle (H&M) Mat Club, a non-profit youth wrestling club in Washington, DC.*

#### **Lobby Design: End to End Graffiti Wall**

**Through October 7, 2012**

##### **Lower Lobby**

Make your mark on our **End to End Graffiti Wall**, a larger-than-life art installation. Name your “inner champion” and tag it on our hip hop-flavored urban art canvas and see how others define themselves in this crowd sourced public art piece.

#### **Post Show Conversations Following EVERY Performance**

**Through October 7, 2012**

##### **In the theatre**

If you have ever left the theatre with lingering questions or a desire to digest with someone close to the material, look no further. Woolly is re-vamping their post-show discussion schedule to now include a conversation after every performance of ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity***. These audience exchanges will be held in the theatre and moderated by a member of Woolly’s community. What did you see? What spoke to you? What are you still thinking about? Come discuss these and other questions with your fellow audience members.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 19	6:30pm	WRESTLING 101: Clinic for budding wrestlers of all ages
	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 20	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 21	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 22	3pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 22	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 23	2pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 23	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 26	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 27	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 28	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 29	3pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 29	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 30	2pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 30	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 3	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 4	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 5	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 6	3pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 6	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 7	2pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
October 7	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Facebook.com/woollymammothtc

Twitter.com/woollymammothtc (#WoollyChad)

Blog: woollymammothblog.com

Radio Woolly podcasts: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/radio-woolly/id359206232>

## ABOUT WOOLLY

Now in its 33 Season, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company continues to hold its place at the leading edge of American theatre. Acknowledged as “one of the most influential outposts for the best new American plays” (*The Washington Post*), and “known for its productions of innovative new plays” (*The New York Times*), Woolly Mammoth is a national leader in the development of new plays, and one of the best known and most influential mid-sized theatres in America.

[www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net)

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