



For Immediate Release
April 25, 2012
Contact: Brooke Miller
Press and Digital Content Manager
202-312-5263 brooke@woollymammoth.net

**WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS THE WORLD
PREMIERE OF *MR. BURNS, A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY*
MAY 28TH THROUGH JULY 1ST**

**FINAL PLAY IN WOOLLY'S SEASON IS A WITTY TAKE ON POST-APOCALYPTIC SOCIETY AND
POP CULTURE, SET TO MUSIC BY OBIE AWARD-WINNER MICHAEL FRIEDMAN**

(Washington, DC) – Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company presents the World Premiere of ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** by **Anne Washburn** and directed by **Steven Cosson**. Armageddon has struck and the grid is down: no TV, no radio, no internet—*how will life go on?* For one group of tenacious survivors, sitting around a fire and reminiscing about *The Simpsons* proves to be the greatest escape from despair. Miraculously, from their collective memories, a new industry struggles to be born: a crude theatrical re-creation of the digital culture we can't possibly live without. From *The Simpsons* to Lady Gaga, from Eminem to the Baha Men, ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** leaves you questioning how you'd make sense of the world if all your gizmos were gone. ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** runs May 28–July 1; Wednesdays–Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm and 7pm.

“Woolly’s season about the demise of civilization reaches a celebratory conclusion with the premiere of ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play***, **Anne Washburn** and **Michael Friedman**’s futuristic fantasy-with-music about a technology-starved world where TV memories help forge a new world order,” says Artistic Director **Howard Shalwitz**. “A fascinating comic drama that traces the re-emergence of civilization after a catastrophic collapse, the play is a brainy work of imaginative cultural anthropology that broadens our ideas about ‘culture’ and how it functions in our lives. I’m delighted to welcome director **Steve Cosson** to Woolly for the first time, and to acknowledge the great partnership between The Civilians artists and Woolly artists in bringing this ambitious new play to life.”

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play was commissioned by The Civilians, an investigate theatre troupe based in New York, and developed in partnership with The Civilians, Seattle Repertory Theatre, and Playwrights Horizons. **Anne Washburn** was recognized as a Finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award in 2010-11 for this play.

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play will feature Company Member **Kimberly Gilbert** (*A Bright New Boise*, *Clybourne Park*, *In the Next Room or the vibrator play*) with **Chris Genebach**, **Amy McWilliams** (*Maria/Stuart*), **Erika Rose** (*Lenny & Lou*, *The Mineola Twins*), **Steve Rosen**, **Jenna Sokolowski** (*Civilization (all you can eat)*, *Antebellum*, *She Stoops to Comedy*), and **James Sugg** (*Hell Meets Henry Halfway*).

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play will feature set design by Company Member **Misha Kachman**, costume design by **Frank Labovitz**, lighting design by Company Member **Colin K. Bills**, sound design by **Elisheba Ittoop**, and choreography by **Diane Coburn Bruning**.

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play

Written by Anne Washburn

Directed by Steven Cosson

CAST

Listed in order of appearance

Matt.....	Steve Rosen+
Jenny.....	Kimberly Gilbert**+
Maria.....	Jenna Sokolowski+
Sam.....	James Sugg+
Colleen.....	Amy McWilliams+
Gibson.....	Chris Genebach+
Quincy.....	Erika Rose+

CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright.....	Anne Washburn
Director.....	Steven Cosson
Set Design.....	Misha Kachman**
Costume Design.....	Frank Labovitz
Lighting Design.....	Colin K. Bills**
Composer.....	Michael Friedman
Musical Director/Musician.....	Jonathan Tuzman
Sound Designer.....	Elisheba Ittoop
Choreographer.....	Diane Coburn Bruning
Fight Choreographer.....	Lorraine Ressegger
Properties.....	Jennifer Sheetz
Dramaturg.....	Miriam Weisfeld

** Denotes a Woolly Company Member

+ Denotes Member, Actors' Equity Association

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play Catering Sponsor: Geppetto Catering

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play Restaurant Sponsor: Oyamel

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anne Washburn (playwright) has previously been produced in DC at Studio Theatre: *The Internationalist* and *The Folger: Orestes*. Other plays include *Apparition*, *The Communist Dracula Pageant*, *I Have Loved Strangers*, *The Small*, *The Ladies*, and *Devil at Noon*. Her work has also been produced by 13P, Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Repertory Theater, Cherry Lane Theatre, Clubbed Thumb, The Civilians, Dixon Place, The Ensemble Studio Theatre, London's Gate Theatre, NYC's Soho Rep, Two River Theater Company, and NYC's Vineyard Theatre. Awards include a Guggenheim, a NYFA Fellowship, a Time Warner Fellowship, residencies at MacDowell and Yaddo, and an ArtsLink travel grant to Hungary to work with the playwright Peter Karpati. She is a member of 13P, an associated artist with The Civilians and New Georges, and an alumna of New Dramatists. Anne is currently commissioned by MTC, Playwrights Horizons, Soho Rep, and Yale Rep.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Steven Cosson (director) is a writer, director and the founding Artistic Director of The Civilians. Recent work for The Civilians as writer/director in collaboration with composer Michael Friedman includes *The Great Immensity* at Kansas City Rep; *The Next Forever* created for the 2012 TED Conference; *In The Footprint* (Top 10 of 2010 in *NY Times*, *Time Out*, *New Yorker*); *This Beautiful City* at Humana Festival, Vineyard Theatre, Center Theatre Group, and Studio Theatre; *Paris Commune* at The Public Theater, La Jolla Playhouse, upcoming BAM Next Wave; and *Gone Missing* (*NY Times* Top 10 of 2007). Additionally, he's directed these Civilians works and others at Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Repertory Theater, HBO's Comedy Festival, MoMA, London's Gate Theatre and Soho Theatre, Arts Emerson, and more. Outside of the company, recent directing highlights include Anne Washburn's *A Devil at Noon* (Humana Festival, O'Neill); and *Bus Stop* (Kansas City Rep).

SOCIAL MEDIA

To follow the conversations about ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** on social media:

Facebook.com/woollymammothtc

Twitter.com/woollymammothtc (**#WoollyBurns**)

Blog: woollymammothblog.com

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

CONNECTIVITY

Complete description and schedule of Connectivity initiatives including lobby design, special events, and post-show discussion guests will be announced at a later date.

POST-SHOW DISCUSSIONS

- Wednesday, June 6th following the 8pm performance
- Sunday, June 10th following the 2pm performance
- Thursday, June 14th following the 8pm performance

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play runs May 28–July 1; Wednesdays–Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm and 7pm. *Sunday, June 3rd no 2pm performance. **There will be Pay-What-You-Can performances on Monday, May 28th and Tuesday, May 29th at 8pm.**

TICKETS

Tickets for ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** 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 the Box Office located at 641 D Street, NW (7th & D). For directions and parking information, please visit www.woollymammoth.net.

ABOUT WOOLLY

Now in its 32nd Season, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company continues to hold its place at the leading edge of American theatre. Acknowledged as “the hottest theatre company in town” (*The Washington Post*), “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.

Woolly's 32nd Season features five works that relate to the question, "Does our civilization have an expiration date?" They include Samuel D. Hunter's *A Bright New Boise* (Oct 10-Nov 13), The Second City's *Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies* (Dec 6-Jan 8), Jason Grote's *Civilization (all you can eat)* (Feb 13-Mar 11), Joey Arias and Basil Twist's *Arias with a Twist** (Apr 4-May 6), and Anne Washburn's ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play*** (May 28-July 1).

www.woollymammoth.net

#