



**Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company**  
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## **ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT FOR**

### ***SPOILER ALERT: EVERYBODY DIES***

To Members of the Media:

As part of Woolly's ongoing green initiatives, moving forward every one of our performances will have an electronic press kit available on our website. Here you can view all the contents of the show's press kit, including press releases, links to feature articles and/or past reviews, as well as password protected press photos.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

Sincerely,

Brooke Miller  
Press and Digital Content Manager



For Immediate Release  
November 8, 2011  
Contact: Brooke Miller  
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## **SPOILER ALERT: EVERYBODY DIES BEGINS PERFORMANCES AT WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**

### **NEW COLLABORATION WITH CHICAGO'S THE SECOND CITY INCLUDES DC ACTORS AND DESIGNERS**

(Washington, DC) – Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company is proud to welcome back Chicago's legendary comedy troupe The Second City in a hilarious and provocative new work entitled ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies***. Following their previous record-breaking shows at Woolly Mammoth—*Barack Stars* and *A Girl's Guide to Washington Politics*—this new Second City work deepens the collaboration between Chicago and DC artists, with a cast that includes Woolly Company Member **Jessica Frances Dukes** (*Bootycandy*, *In the Next Room or the vibrator play*, *Full Circle*) and DC actor **Aaron Bliden**, with set and lighting design by Woolly Company Member **Colin K. Bills** (*A Bright New Boise*, *Bootycandy*, *Oedipus el Rey*). ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies*** runs December 6, 2011–January 8, 2012, with performances Tuesday–Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 3pm & 8pm, Sunday at 2pm & 7pm.

“Both Woolly and Second City have been energized by this new step in our collaboration,” says Woolly Artistic Director **Howard Shalwitz**. “I asked Second City producers Kelly Leonard and Jenna Deja how they might respond to Woolly's season theme—‘Does our civilization have an expiration date?’—which led to a fevered exploration of both classic and new Second City material, and eventually to auditions in both Chicago and Washington. The result will be The Second City's edgiest work in Washington to date.”

Description: Laugh while you can 'cause things ain't gettin' better. This season, Woolly artists fly to Chicago to work with The Second City's classic comedy wizards in an unprecedented collaboration. Their mission? Bring back to Washington the most gleeful anti-holiday celebration of doom ever: a mind-bending and hilarious new show exploring the twists of fate that propel our universe.

Many of the sketches in ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies*** have been adapted from The Second City's recent *South Side of Heaven*, a show *The Chicago Tribune* called "Groundbreaking, richly textured and deliciously dark...far more theatrical than any of its predecessors."

#### **ABOUT THE SECOND CITY:**

Beginning as a small cabaret theatre on Chicago's north side in 1959, The Second City has grown to become a comedy empire—building a robust business based on its core improvisational methodologies. Resident theatres in Chicago and Toronto create topical sketch comedy revues that satirize politics, culture, and news of the day. Beyond its stages, The Second City created the foremost school of improvisation-based arts in the world—with training facilities in Chicago, Toronto, and Los Angeles that enroll over 3,000 students; a corporate division works with hundreds of Fortune 500 companies in areas of training, marketing, entertainment, and brand services; and The Second City's forays into television and new media include the classic, Emmy-award winning comedy series “SCTV,” as well as a number of new productions originating from The Second City Entertainment's offices in Los Angeles.

## ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies***

Written and performed by Chicago's The Second City

### **CAST**

James T. Alfred  
Aaron Bliden  
Jessica Frances Dukes\*  
Maribeth Monroe  
Scott Montgomery  
Travis Turner

\*denotes Woolly Mammoth Company Member

### **CREATIVE TEAM**

Director.....Billy Bungeroth  
Musical Director.....Matthew Loren Cohen  
Set/Lighting Designer.....Colin K. Bills\*  
Properties.....Jennifer Sheetz  
Dramaturg.....John M. Baker

\*denotes Woolly Mammoth Company Member

This production of ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies*** is supported in part by a generous gift from Don and Nancy Bliss and Corporate Apartment Specialists, Inc.

***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies*** catering sponsor: Ridgewells Catering.

### **ONLINE ENGAGEMENT:**

#### **Blogs and Podcasts**

Beginning Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Woolly will produce a series of blogs and podcasts exploring the themes inherent in ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies***, such as Second City and Woolly history, stories of fate, and sports team rivalries. Blogs will be posted every Tuesday and Friday and can be found at [woollymammothblog.com](http://woollymammothblog.com). Radio Woolly podcasts will be posted every Wednesday and can be downloaded for free on iTunes.

### **CONNECTIVITY:**

#### **Lobby Design- "Know the Facts"**

Fact: In this world, humans will live and then die. Fact: *How* to live in it is up to you. During the run of ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies*** Woolly audiences will be treated (or tortured?) to an illumination of facts about the world we live in. What causes stair-falling accidents? How dangerous is a bottle of water? What's the relationship between Woolly's glass doors and our age-recommendation for shows? We'll present you the facts...you decide what to do with them.

#### **Post-Show Discussions**

Woolly and The Second City team invite you to explore the content and style of ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies***. At **Inside The Second City** discussions, we'll be sitting down, getting up-close and personal with members of the artistic team to talk more about one of the world's premier comedy

theatres. Our **Race & Comedy** series will feature members of the cast as well as members of the DC community talking about how volatile topics are safe in the hands of comedians.

**Wednesday, December 7** following the 8pm performance:  
Inside The Second City featuring members of the cast.

**Sunday, December 11** following the 2pm performance:  
Race & Comedy dialogue with guests to be announced.

**Thursday, December 15** following the 8pm performance:  
Inside The Second City featuring members of the cast.

**Saturday, December 17** following the 3pm performance:  
Inside The Second City featuring members of the cast.

**Thursday, January 5** following the 8pm performance:  
Race & Comedy dialogue with guests to be announced.

### PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

**Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies** runs December 6, 2011–January 8, 2012, Tuesday–Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 3pm & 8pm, Sunday at 2pm & 7pm. There are no performances on December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be a New Years Eve performance and special event on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 10pm. Details to come at a later date. Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> will be a Pay-What-You-Can performance and will begin at 8pm.

### TICKETS

Tickets for **Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies** start at \$30 and can be purchased through the Woolly Mammoth Box Office at 202-393-3939, online at [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net), or in person at the Box Office located at 641 D Street, NW (7<sup>th</sup> & D). For directions and parking information, please visit [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net).

### ABOUT WOOLLY

Now in its 32<sup>nd</sup> 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 32<sup>nd</sup> 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).

\*This tour of Basil Twist is made possible by a grant from Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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

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## ***SPOILER ALERT: EVERYBODY DIES***

### **Feature Article Links:**

“Non-Spoiler Alerts for Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies” – *The Washington Post* 12/4/2011

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/non-spoiler-alerts-for-spoiler-alert-everybody-dies/2011/11/28/gIQAFF9KO\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/non-spoiler-alerts-for-spoiler-alert-everybody-dies/2011/11/28/gIQAFF9KO_story.html)

“Best Events for the Rest of the Year in DC” – *The Washington Post Going Out Guide*  
11/21/2011

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/gog/best-bets/october-december,98805.html>

“Arts & Entertainment Picks, Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>” — *Washington City Paper*

<http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/articles/41798/spoiler-alert-everybody-dies-at-woolly-mammoth-theatre-company-tuesday/>



For Immediate Release  
November 30, 2011  
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## WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES FROM WOOLLY WITH LOVE: A NEW YEAR'S EVE BENEFIT

(Washington, DC) – Laugh your way into 2012 at this year's New Year's Eve Benefit: **From Woolly with Love**. **The evening will include a performance of The Second City's Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies on Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> at 10pm** followed by a reception featuring a fabulous photo booth, delicious desserts from José Andrés Catering, an open bar featuring our vodka sponsor Blackwater Distillery- Sloop Betty Vodka, three raffle prizes, and a champagne toast at midnight led by the cast of the show! Tickets start at \$110 and can be purchased through the Woolly Box Office at 202-393-3939 or online at [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net).

### ENTER TO WIN WOOLLY'S ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S RAFFLE

With your ticket purchase, you're automatically entered into a raffle for a chance to win one of three prizes: a package of Second City merchandise; a package of Woolly merchandise; or the grand prize of a fabulous night on the town—overnight accommodations for two at Hotel Monaco and dinner for two at Poste Brasserie. Additional raffle tickets are also available for purchase for \$20 each at [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net) or 202-393-3939.

**Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies** runs December 6, 2011–January 8, 2012, Tuesday–Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 3pm & 8pm, Sunday at 2pm & 7pm. There are no performances on December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> will be a Pay-What-You-Can performance and will begin at 8pm.

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\*This tour of Basil Twist is made possible by a grant from Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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

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For Immediate Release  
April 4, 2011  
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## WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY ANNOUNCES 32<sup>ND</sup> SEASON

### WORLD AND REGIONAL PREMIERES, BASIL TWIST FESTIVAL, AND NEW SECOND CITY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT APOCALYPTIC THEMES

(Washington, DC) – Following on the heels of a record-breaking 31<sup>st</sup> season, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company announces its lineup of provocative new works for Season 32. “With recessions, revolutions, and natural disasters dominating the news, how could our playwrights not respond?” asks **Artistic Director Howard Shalwitz**. “We’ve had great fun pulling together a season that celebrates the question on all our minds: Does our civilization have an expiration date? And what comes next? Some of America’s most creative theatre makers will mine our collective visions of the apocalypse—with all the drama, jokes, and dreams they inspire.”

The 2011/12 season includes the Woolly debut for rising young playwright **Samuel D. Hunter**, world premieres by innovative playwrights **Jason Grote** and **Anne Washburn**, a new collaboration between Woolly artists and Chicago’s **The Second City** following this season’s *A Girl’s Guide to Washington Politics* which broke multiple sales records, and participation in a Basil Twist Festival along with Shakespeare Theatre Company and another theatre to be announced at a later date.

Shalwitz continues: “We start this fall with **A Bright New Boise**, **Samuel D. Hunter**’s moving tale of longing for the Rapture which opened to rave reviews at the Partial Comfort Theatre in New York (‘This clear-eyed comedy will lift your heart’ – *TimeOut New York*). In February we’ll produce the world premiere of **Civilization (all you can eat)**, a wicked satire by **Jason Grote** that vividly imagines the animals of agribusiness encroaching on us poor humans. We’ll close the season in the spring with another world premiere: **Anne Washburn**’s highly-anticipated **Mr. Burns, a post-electric play** (originally commissioned by the New York-based company The Civilians), a doomsday spectacular with music by Obie Award-winner **Michael Friedman** (*Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*) depicting a post-apocalyptic America sustained by memories of an animated TV series.”

“We’re also thrilled to announce two new collaborations: Woolly’s company of DC actors and designers will partner with members of Chicago’s legendary **The Second City** to create the ultimate anti-holiday provocation, **Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies**; and we’ll welcome drag sensation **Joey Arias** and risqué puppeteer **Basil Twist** as they explore a sultry Garden of Eden in **Arias With A Twist** (‘Eat your heart out, Madonna’ – *The New York Times*). Surrounding each production is a rich menu of Connectivity events—discussions, happy hours, and festivals—that purge our existential anxieties and celebrate survival.”

## Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company--Season 32 (2011/12)

Subscription Season:

### ***A Bright New Boise***

By Samuel D. Hunter

Directed by John Vreeke

October 10 – November 6, 2011

Prepare yourself: in the parking lot of a mega craft store in Idaho, someone is summoning the Rapture. Samuel D. Hunter's heartbreakingly funny reckoning between a father and son will shatter your preconceptions about the sacred, the profane, and the secret lives of big box retailers.

### ***Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies***

World Premiere

By Chicago's The Second City

December 6, 2011 – January 8, 2012

Laugh while you can, 'cause things ain't gettin' better. Next season, Woolly artists fly to Chicago to work with The Second City's classic comedy wizards in an unprecedented collaboration. Their mission? Bring back to Washington the most gleeful anti-holiday celebration of doom ever.

### ***Civilization (all you can eat)***

World Premiere

By Jason Grote

Directed by Howard Shalwitz

February 13 – March 11, 2012

Does humanity have an expiration date? Six hungry city-dwellers scramble for sustenance in this scathing satire of American enterprise and ingenuity. But while they're busy cooking up schemes for love and success, the beasts of agribusiness are closing in...

### ***Arias With a Twist***

Created by Joey Arias and Basil Twist

Directed by Basil Twist

April 4 – May 6, 2012

When aliens abduct a large drag queen and drop her in a teeny Garden of Eden, will she have room to fall from grace? International cabaret sensation Joey Arias and Obie Award-winning puppeteer Basil Twist team up for an eye-popping musical tour, from Genesis to risqué universes beyond imagination.

### ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play***

World Premiere

By Anne Washburn

Directed by Steven Cosson

Music by Michael Friedman

May 28 – July 1, 2012

- cont. -

Armageddon has hit, and all that remains is our nostalgia for a lost pop culture. In Anne Washburn's riveting vision of post-apocalyptic America, survivors invent a new entertainment industry from the ashes of the old. With music by Obie Award-winner Michael Friedman, their enterprise gives redemptive new meaning to the pop hits and cartoon icons we can't live without.

**Subscriptions are now on sale and may be purchased online at [www.woollymammoth.net](http://www.woollymammoth.net), through the Box Office at 202-393-3939, or in person at 641 D Street, NW (7<sup>th</sup> & D). Single tickets will go on sale on Monday, August 1, 2011.**

\*Play, artists, and dates are subject to change

### **ABOUT WOOLLY**

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Woolly Mammoth is a selected participant in EmcArts' Innovation Lab for the Performing Arts, a program generously funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

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