



For Immediate Release

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WOOLLY MAMMOTH SEASON 33 KICKS OFF WITH 2010 PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST, *THE ELABORATE ENTRANCE OF CHAD DEITY*

(Washington, DC) *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, by Kristoffer Diaz and directed by Woolly Company Member John Vreeke, opens Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company's Season 33, September 3 - 30, 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.

"I'm thrilled to introduce a meteoric writing talent, Kristoffer Diaz, to Washington," says Woolly Artistic Director, Howard Shalwitz. "Inspired by his love of both hip hop and wrestling, Kris draws us into a world gone mad with jingoistic fever, of daring stunts and absurd stereotypes, woven together by a simple tale of friendship."

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 – 30), 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 an 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 121st 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 will include 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 September 3 - 30, 2012; Wednesdays–Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 3pm and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm and 7pm. Monday, September 3 and Tuesday, September 4 will both be Pay-What-You-Can performances beginning at 8pm.

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 (7th & D). For directions and parking information, please visit www.woollymammoth.net.

CONNECTIVITY

Wrestling 101

Saturday, September 8 at 4pm & Wednesday, September 19 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, 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.*

Makin' it Big as a Bad Guy: Personal Stories of Professional Wrestlers

Thursday, September 13 at 6pm

Rehearsal Hall

Join Sonjay Dutt, Marcus "King Kong" Dowling, and Mark Volzer (aka Mempho Mofo) for a panel discussion moderated by ***The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*** fight choreographer, Joe Isenberg.

Tickets: Free and open to the public.
Reservations: woollymammoth.net, 202-393-3939, or at the door (641 D Street, NW)

Trivia Nights

August 19 – 30, 2012

Around DC

Are you a professional wrestling Super Fan? Join Woolly Mammoth and Trivia Kings at bars around town for an evening of WWE inspired trivia. Brush up on famous WWE superstars, who perfected the "camel clutch," and other offensive stereotypes seen in popular culture. Do you have what it takes to claim the ultimate trivia championship title? Winners receive a free pair of tickets to the show.

Lobby Design: End to End Graffiti Wall

September 3 – 30, 2012

Lower Lobby

Who are you? And who do you pretend to be? Graffiti your answers on several larger-than-life masks in the lower lobby. Tag your comments and see what others are saying in this crowd sourced public art piece.

Post Show Conversations Following EVERY Performance

September 3 – 30, 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

August 27	7pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Madhatter, Dupont Circle
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Union Jack's, Ballston (RSVP Required)
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Crystal City Sports Pub, Crystal City
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Star and Shamrock, H Street Corridor
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Pitchfork Pub, King Farm
August 29	7:30pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Molly Malone's, Barrack's Row
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Clarendon Grill, Clarendon
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Meridian Pint, Columbia Heights
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Fire Station 1, Downtown Silver Spring
	8:30pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: P.J. Skidoos, Fairfax
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Grevey's Sports Bar, Merrifield
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Duffy's Irish Pub, U Street Corridor
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Kitty O'Shea's, Tenleytown
September 2	7pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Sine Irish Pub, Arlington in Pentagon Row
September 3	8pm	PAY WHAT YOU CAN PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i>
September 4	8pm	PAY WHAT YOU CAN PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i>
	7pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Irish Channel, Chinatown
	7:30pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Old Dominion Brewhouse, Mount Vernon Square
	7:30pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Samuel Beckett's, Shirlington
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Union Jack's, Bethesda (RSVP Required)
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Union Jack's, Columbia
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Old Glory, Georgetown
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Growlers, Old Town Gaithersburg
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Public House No. 7, Seven Corners
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Limerick Pub, Downtown Wheaton
	8pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Trusty's, East Hill
September 5	8pm	PREVIEW PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 6	8pm	PREVIEW PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
	7:30pm	TRIVIA NIGHT: Rock & Roll Hotel, H Street Corridor
September 7	8pm	OPENING NIGHT PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i>
September 8	4pm	WRESTLING 101: Clinic for budding wrestlers of all ages
	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 9	7pm	PRESS PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 12	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 13	6pm	PANEL DISCUSSION: Makin' it Big as a Bad Guy
	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 14	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 15	3pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 15	8pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 16	2pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
September 16	7pm	PERFORMANCE of <i>Chad Deity</i> and post-show discussion
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

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

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