



For Immediate Release  
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Press Contact: Naomi Longshore  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
202-349-9803  
naomi.longshore@woollymammoth.net

**WOOLLY MAMMOTH WELCOMES IN 2020 WITH US PREMIERE OF ANNE WASHBURN'S  
*SHIPWRECK: A HISTORY PLAY ABOUT 2017***

"It finds a paradoxical exhilarating brightness — and most important, a boundless empathy — within its endless night.

- Ben Brantley, *The New York Times*

(Washington, DC) **Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company** presents **Anne Washburn's** sinister and sensational new play, ***SHIPWRECK: A HISTORY PLAY ABOUT 2017*** in a co-production with The Public Theater (New York, NY). This is Washburn's second play to receive its US premiere at Woolly Mammoth. In 2012, Woolly produced ***Mr. Burns, a post-electric play***, which earned Washburn the 2015 Whiting Award for Drama and the 4<sup>th</sup> spot on the New York Time's list of the *Best 25 Plays in the Last 25 Years*. The play has gone on to be one of the most widely produced plays in the nation. ***SHIPWRECK*** is directed by Saheem Ali and features work by Woolly company members **Jon Hudson Odom\***, **Colin K. Bills\***, and **Jared Mezzocchi\***. ***SHIPWRECK: A HISTORY PLAY ABOUT 2017*** will run from February 10 to March 8, 2020.

***SHIPWRECK*** had its world premiere at London's **Almeida Theater** in early 2019 under the direction of Rupert Goold. In an interview with *The Stage*, Anne explains the impetus for writing: "I felt like the political situation was all I was thinking about. I just wanted to discharge my brain."

A group of well-meaning liberals gather at a farmhouse in upstate NY for a relaxing weekend. A son adopted from Kenya struggles to feel connected to his new family and country. And the 45<sup>th</sup> US President sends a history-altering dinner invitation. There is plenty of blame to spare as snow piles high, mountains crumble, and the wounds of the 2016 election break open. The mythology of America is re-written in real time as we are forced to grapple with the legend of a frightening New York man made from gold.

"***SHIPWRECK*** is a radical play, not just because of Anne's audacity to imagine James Comey's meeting with President Trump, but also because of what she makes visible about this current moment in our nation's history," says Woolly Mammoth Artistic Director **María Manuela Goyanes**. "I'm ecstatic about bringing my two artistic families together by partnering with Oskar Eustis and The Public Theater on this US premiere."

Cast members in Woolly's production of ***SHIPWRECK*** include **Jeff Biehl** (Jim), **Jennifer Dundas** (Allie), **Anna Ishida** (Jools), **Mikéah Ernest Jennings** (Mark), **Alyssa Wilmoth Keegan** (Teresa), **Jon Hudson Odom\*** (Louis), **Tom Story** (Andrew), and **James Whalen** (Lawrence).

The scenic design for ***SHIPWRECK*** is by **Arnulfo Maldonado**. Additional members of the production team include **Colin K. Bills\*** (lighting design), **Dede Ayite** (costume design), **Palmer Hefferan** (sound design), **Jared Mezzocchi\*** (projection designer), **Sarah Lunnie** (dramaturg),

**John Keith Hall** (stage manager), **Cody Whitfield** (resident assistant stage manager), and **Lauren Pikel** (assistant stage manager).

**\*Denotes Woolly Mammoth Company Member**

## **SCHEDULE**

**SHIPWRECK** runs February 10 to March 8, 2020, with performances: Wednesday – Friday at 7:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm (except February 15, which features a 7:30 pm performance only and February 16, which features a 7 pm performance only); with two Pay-What-You-Will performance on Monday, February 10 and Tuesday, February 11 at 7:30 pm.

## **PERFORMANCE CALENDAR**

**February 10, 2020: Pay What You Will performance at 7:30 pm**

**February 11, 2020: Pay What You Will performance at 7:30 pm**

February 12, 2020: Preview performance at 7:30 pm

February 13, 2020: Preview performance at 7:30 pm

February 14, 2020: Preview performance at 7:30 pm

February 15, 2020: Preview performance at 7:30 pm

**February 16, 2020: Opening Night Performance at 7 pm**

February 19, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 20, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 21, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 22, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm

February 23, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm

February 26, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 27, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 28, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

February 29, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm

March 1, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm

March 4, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

March 5, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

March 6, 2020: Performance at 7:30 pm

March 7, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7:30 pm

March 8, 2020: Performance at 1:30 pm and 7 pm

## TICKETS

Tickets to ***SHIPWRECK: A HISTORY PLAY ABOUT 2017*** start at \$34. Visit online at [woollymammoth.net](http://woollymammoth.net), by phone at (202) 393-3939, via email at [tickets@woollymammoth.net](mailto:tickets@woollymammoth.net), or in person at the Box Office, located at 641 D Street NW.

Patrons who are 30-years-old and younger may, at any time, purchase Section C tickets for \$20 to any performance. There are also discounts available for educators, first responder men and women and active US military personnel, spouses, and veterans. More information is available at [woollymammoth.net](http://woollymammoth.net).

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#Shipwreck

## ABOUT WOOLLY

Woolly Mammoth is “the hottest theater company in town” (Washington Post); priding itself on developing, producing, and making theatre that disrupts conventional processes and stimulates transformative experiences. For almost four decades, Woolly has held a unique position at the leading edge of the American theater, earning a reputation for staying “uniquely plugged in to the mad temper of the times” (New York Times). The co-leadership of María Manuela Goyanes (Artistic Director) and Emika Abe (Managing Director) is supported by a core company of artists that holds itself to a high standard of artistic excellence. Woolly is relentless in its desire to take risks, experiment, innovate, interrogate, and create a radically inclusive community.