WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY presents



created + performed by JULIA MASLI directed by KIM NOBLE

NOV 13-DEC 21

HTOMMAM Moderation

CONTENTS

PAGE 2 CONTENTS AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PAGE 3 A NOTE FROM SONIA (INTERIM ARTISTIC COLLECTIVE) PAGE 5 PRODUCTION INFO + CREDITS PAGE 8 **WOOLLY MAMMOTH 25-26 SEASON** PAGE 9 **CREATIVE TEAM BIOS PAGE 12** ABOUT WOOLLY MAMMOTH PAGF 14 **LEADERSHIP PAGE 15** STAFF PAGE 17 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS PAGF 17** COMPANY OF ARTISTS PAGE 18 CONTRIBUTORS + FUNDERS **PAGE 22 AMBASSADORS** PAGE 23 WHY GIVE? PAGE 24 MAMMOTH FOREVER + DONORS



Please silence your cell phones and any other noisemaking devices.



CONTENT TRANSPARENCY
This show is improvised and heavily
based on audience interaction therefore
the content of the show will vary.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Woolly Mammoth acknowledges that our theatre stands upon occupied, unceded territory: the ancestral homeland of the Nacotchtank whose descendants belong to the Piscataway peoples. Furthermore, the foundation of this city, and most of the original buildings in Washington, DC, were funded by the sale of enslaved people of African descent and built by their hands.

Language developed in consultation with Dr. Gabrielle Tayac

A NOTE FROM SONIA (INTERIM ARTISTIC COLLECTIVE)

You can't help laughing when you say ho ho ho ha ha ha!

When Maria [Manuela Goyanes], Woolly's former artistic director, first suggested the idea of turning ha ha ha into ho ho to our staff, we burst out laughing. It was fun to see this reaction over and over, every time the idea was mentioned. It still happens when I talk about the show. So, we were thrilled that Julia Masli and director Kim Noble shared our excitement about adding some holiday flair to the much-loved show.

I first saw ha ha ha ha ha ha ha on a bootleg video of a 2am-ish Edinburgh Fringe Festival performance. On the basis of that video, we made the decision to reach out to Julia about bringing the show to DC. I'm so glad we did because, when the show was at Woolly in the summer of 2024, I saw it nearly a dozen times. I am obsessed with Julia's virtuosic improvisation skills, the variation night to night based on the audience's problems and the special way the show creates camaraderie in the audience.

Some fun facts about me—I dabbled in comedic improvisation myself in my 20s. Improv is what brought me to theatre. I am also a proud PhD drop out. I am ABD (all but dissertation) from UC San Diego's Department of Theater and Dance, and my unfinished dissertation was about audiences' experience of provocative comedy. I remain fascinated by the way individuals navigate the social collective that is a live audience in a comedy performance. What gives us permission to laugh? How is the tone set by each of us such that it becomes a feeling of the audience? I remain captivated by the dynamics of a live audience. I delight in people's differing reactions. I love to note how a Friday audience has a different energy than one on Saturday night, and don't even get me started on a matinee audience!

Comedy creates a sense of belonging and community—laughter is communal, it brings people together, it is a social strategy we use to connect with each other. People check in with each other to determine what is funny—even babies do this. If people around you are laughing,

you are more likely to laugh. And for this show, the interaction among and experience of the human beings in the seats on any given performance of Julia's show is as important as what happens on stage.

The ingenuity with which Julia engages her audience is extraordinary. It takes skill and sensitivity to be present and open with each audience member who shares a problem, from one performance to the next—to genuinely attempt to solve their problems. Julia creates an environment that allows for vulnerability and connection as well as laughter. Though we spend the hour-plus hearing about problems, I leave the show smiling and optimistic. It's fitting that *The New Yorker* called *ha ha ha ha ha ha*, "a mix of elevated clown work and group-therapy session." This holiday season might call for a bit of both of those things. I hope you enjoy. I may be in the audience laughing right along with you!

See you at the theater!

Sonia Fernandez

DIRECTOR OF NEW WORK

MEMBER OF THE INTERIM ARTISTIC COLLECTIVE



Woolly's Interim Artistic Collective L-R: Kristen Jackson, Sonia Fernandez, Mina Morita, Ben Levine. Photo by Gisela Estrada

WOOLLY MAMMOTH THEATRE COMPANY presents

KIMBERLY E. DOUGLAS

MANAGING DIRECTOR

SONIA **FERNANDEZ**

KRISTEN **JACKSON**

BEN LEVINE INTERIM ARTISTIC COLLECTIVE

MINA **MORITA**



CREATOR AND PERFORMER

JULIA MASLI

DIRECTOR

KIM NOBLE

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, PRODUCTION MANAGER, & STAGE MANAGER

SARAH CHAPIN

SOUND DESIGNER & COMPOSER

ALESSIO FESTUCCIA

LIVE SOUND DESIGN BY

SEBASTIÁN HERNÁNDEZ

CO-LIGHTING DESIGNER

E-HUI

ORIGINAL LIGHTING DESIGN BY

LILY WOODFORD

LIVE LIGHTING DESIGN BY SARAH CHAPIN

COSTUME DESIGN BY

ALICE WEDGE. ANNIKA THIEMS. **DAVID CURTIS-RING**

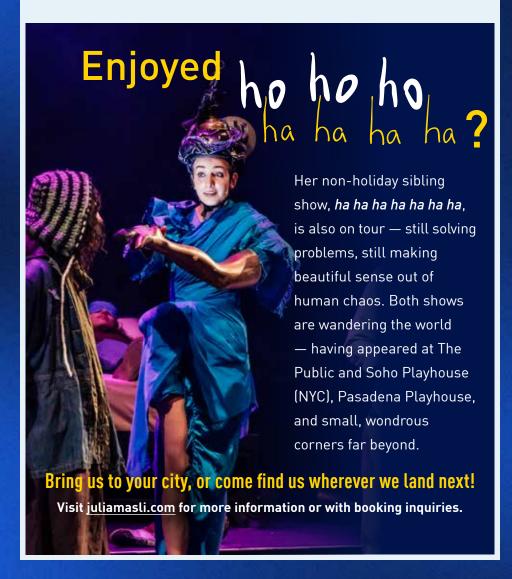
CONSULTING PRODUCERS

MARIA MANUELA GOYANES. **DAVID C. FREDERICK &** SOPHIA I YNN

Generous support for ho ho ho ha ha ha provided by David C. Frederick & Sophia Lynn.

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PRODUCTION ASSISTANT	BRIANA PADGETT
LIGHTING PROGRAMMER	SUSANNAH CAI
CREW SWING	KELBI HEVIA CARRIG
ASSISTANT LINE PRODUCER	AYSHA ZACKRIA





JOIN OUR LOVE DATABASE

Send us an image of your sock.

Meet your soulmate!

Solve your love problem now!

HAVE A HOLIDAY PROBLEM? WOOLLY'S CONNECTIVITY TEAM IS HERE TO HELP!

Wanting to be in community? Join us for our **Affinity Nights series** to meet new people and find joy this holiday season. Having trouble finding childcare? Woolly will be hosting a **childcare matinee** with the **National Children's Theatre** — bring your kids to participate in an arts workshop while you enjoy the performance! Looking for local artists to support? Check out a new exhibition by visual artist **Chinedu Felix Osuchukwu** in the lobby.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CONNECTIVITY PROGRAMMING ON WOOLLY'S WEBSITE!



[25-26]











GOLDEN

The Golden Ticket is Woolly's Wonka-inspired all-access pass!

Golden Ticket holders see whatever they want whenever they want for a full year.

It makes an excellent holiday gift!

TWO PRICE OPTIONS:

\$250 o

\$375

ACCESSIBLE PRICE

GOLDEN PRICE

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS



JULIA MASLI she/her (Creator and Performer) is an award-winning clown from Estonia, based in London. All she wants to do is solve people's problems and eventually win the Nobel Prize, presented to those who have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind. But this plan keeps going wrong as she continually wins prizes for comedy. It was bad enough when she was the winner of the Malcolm Hardee Award for Comic Originality in 2019, and her debut show 'CHOOSH' — about a

migrant's struggles in the USA — was one of the most acclaimed comedy shows of the Edinburgh Fringe in 2022. But then in 2023, things spiraled when she set out to help audience members in *ha ha ha ha ha ha ha*, which you can read about in *The New York Times* here. Despite the seriousness of Julia's intentions, this show was shortlisted for Most Outstanding Show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, nominated for Edinburgh's top prize of Best Comedy Show, nominated for the SKY Arts Best Comedy Award, nominated for two Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Performer and Outstanding Production, and declared number one comedy show of the year by *The Guardian*. This serious, important event has played sold-out runs around the world, including at The Public in NYC, Soho Theatre in London, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, and many more. Julia and her leg are currently on tour.

KIM NOBLE he/him (Director) was a critically acclaimed artist and performer from London. He used to be quite good at stuff like theatre. He got an award. And he does some directing. *The New York Times* described him as "Annoying." He is re-writing a book and recently had to move back into his mum's flat due to financial difficulties. www.mrkimnoble.com

SARAH CHAPIN she/her (Associate Producer, Production Manager, Live Lighting Design & Stage Manager) fuses her technical expertise, performance training, and passion for systems and organization with an expansive can-do attitude to support artists making a more just and joyful world. She works as a stage manager, producer, production manager, educator, electrician, carpenter, and all-around technician for performance artists and arts organizations, including extensive work in contemporary dance and movement-based performance art.

SEBASTIÁN HERNÁNDEZ they/them (Live Sound Design) is a Latine-American technical clown and sound designer born and bred in the DMV. They have worked as a multidisciplinary technician at UCB, BCC, The Second City New York, The Elysian, The Bell House, Littlefield, The Public Theater, The Rockwell, and Pasadena Playhouse. They have worked on shows such as *Stamptown, That Show with Chris Gethard, Mr. Cardboard*, and countless

more. They are hardworking and their biggest weakness is that they're too much of a perfectionist. They're so excited to be working on the holiday version of *Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha*. You can follow them @sebastianforgov.

ALICE WEDGE she/her (Costume Designer) is a Womenswear Fashion Designer specializing in creative drape. She takes a lot of her inspiration from art history, tribal robes and knots, diving into research to create a rich storytelling within her designs. Alice graduated from Nottingham Trent University with first-class honors and was featured in **Vogue Magazine** as a graduate to watch. With nine years of industry experience, she has designed for brands like Vivienne Westwood and Tommy Hilfiger. Coming from a creative family, Alice's parents both successful artists and her sister an art director, the artistic environment always influenced her. It was also a musical household which led to her love for Opera which continues to inspire her. Based in London, she is now focused on starting her own fashion venture under her name 'Alice Wedge', transforming existing fabrics into elegantly draped, limited edition pieces.

DAVID CURTIS-RING he/him (Costume Designer) is a queer British artist based in London and working internationally. He specializes in spatial design and costume for performance, photography and installation. His practice is centered around the storytelling possibilities of contemporary sculpture; whether that be in a gallery, worn on the body or installed into a store. No matter the medium, his otherworldly interpretations of nature are characterized by a playful approach and mythic strangeness, with handmade craftsmanship being key. He is best known for his production design for Pink Floyd's *The Endless River*, for his collaborations with fashion designer Craig Green and for his theatrical designs for writer/performer Bryony Kimmings. He has art directed music videos for Arctic Monkeys, Sinead O' Connor and created numerous multi sensory installations for Italian brand C.P. Company. Follow him @davidcurtisring.

ANNIKA THIEMS she/her (Costume Designer) is a multidisciplinary artist based in London. By fusing functional clothing with psychoanalysis, she creates wearable sculptures that reveal the fragility of the human mind and body. She applies couture tailoring to perishable and discarded materials like dried herbs, reclaimed fabric and single-use packaging in a process that mirrors free association. Thiems regularly creates custom garments and installations across the visual and performing arts, including Damsel Elysium's EP launch (2024), Madelon Vriesendorp's exhibition at the Cosmic House (2023-24), Shirin Fathi's performance at the Victoria & Albert Museum (2024), and Paulina Lenoir's cabaret and solo show at Soho Theatre (2022-24). Thiems holds degrees in Psychology and Curating and was the recipient of the 2019 NEON Curatorial Award hosted by the Whitechapel Gallery. She previously worked at the design office Zak Group and arts organization Forma.

ALESSIO FESTUCCIA he/him (Sound Designer & Composer) is an Italian Sound Designer based in London, his special skillset combines technical aptitude with creative intuition. In the course of his professional experience, he has worked as sound designer, music producer (Mr Everett, Alèfe, Tersø), and re-recording mixer for adverts, short films, documentaries, and immersive audiovisual projects. He has recently featured as Sound Mixer for Netflix's **Bad Dinosaurs** (2024), and his credits include editorial work for Armani and **Vogue**. His work was showcased at Dolby headquarters in London as a result of a workshop in composition for Dolby Atmos at Peter Gabriel's Real World Studios in 2023, IG: @alefesounds

E-HUI she/her (Co-Lighting Design) is a lighting designer based in the DC area for the last decade or so, but whose theatrical endeavors have taken her internationally to London, Edinburgh and Singapore. A proud company member of Arts on the Horizon and Nu Sass Productions, E-hui is most passionate about collaborations that enact positive change in society, including creating theatre for young audiences, providing accessible performances to the public, amplifying minority and marginalized stories, and being a part of this team that helps solve people's problems and hopefully brings joy and inspiration to others.

LILY WOODFORD they/them (Co-Lighting Designer) is a technical designer who specializes in lighting design and multimedia work. They live in London, U.K. on a boat that they refurbished themself and studied at Goldsmiths, University of London where their love of all things beautifully strange was solidified. They thrive on creating work that pushes the boundaries of conventional design and building powerful, thought provoking spaces. They have worked as a multidisciplinary designer for productions such as Julia Masli (ha ha ha ha ha ha ha), Frankie Thompson (CAttS, Body Show), Liv Ello (SWARM, Jack the Mack, Body Show), Adrian Bliss (Inside Everyone), Eloina (HIGH STEAKS), Stamptown Comedy (STAMPTOWN).



ABOUT WOOLLY MAMMOTH

The Tony Award®-winning Woolly Mammoth creates badass theatre that highlights the stunning, challenging, and tremendous complexity of our world. Woolly is proud to be considered "a national champion of the new—and frequently provocative—American play" (Washington Post).

For over 40 years, Woolly has maintained a high standard of artistic rigor while simultaneously daring to take risks, innovate, and push beyond perceived boundaries. Woolly Mammoth was co-founded in 1980 by Roger M. Brady, Linda Reinish, and Howard Shalwitz, and is currently led by Board President Kaiti Saunders and Manager Director Kimberly E. Douglas. The company is conducting an executive search led by EMC Forward to find its next Artistic Director who will join the executive leadership team, working with Managing Director Kimberly E. Douglas. In the meantime, Woolly's Interim Artistic Collective is composed of Sonia Fernandez, Kristen Jackson, Ben Levine, and Mina Morita who lead the organization's artistic mission while in transition.

Located in Washington, DC, equidistant from the Capitol Building and the White House, this unique location influences Woolly's investment in actively working our mission: To produce courageous and invigorating new work to radically redefine theatre as a catalyst for an equitable, creative, and engaged society. One of the few remaining theatres in the country to maintain a company of artists, Woolly serves as an essential research and development role within the American theatre.

PLAYS PREMIERED HERE HAVE GONE ON TO PRODUCTIONS AT HUNDREDS OF THEATRES ALL OVER THE WORLD AND HAVE HAD LASTING IMPACTS ON THE FIELD.

A Strange Loop was produced at Woolly in 2021, ran on Broadway from April 2022 through January 2023, and won the Tony Award® for Best Musical in 2022. Other notable highlights include the world premiere productions of Danai Gurira's Eclipsed in 2009 that later went on to be the first Broadway play with a cast & creative team of all Black women; Bruce Norris' Pulitzer Prize-winner Clybourne Park in 2010; and Anne

Washburn's Mr. Burns: a post-electric play in 2012. Woolly produces theatre beyond our building by sending productions like Aaron Posner's Stupid F*cking Bird across the nation, bringing Aleshea Harris' What to Send Up When It Goes Down to neighborhoods throughout DC, and launching a national tour of Madeline Sayet's Where We Belong.

Woolly has built a reputation for innovation off the stage as well. Woolly values building relationships with its local community and resident artists in the DMV area. Our nationally-acclaimed Connectivity Department is one of the ways we accomplish this by linking Woolly to like-minded community organizations in order to generate mutually beneficial, impact and power-aware partnerships.

WE'VE EARNED OUR REPUTATION BY HOLDING FAST TO OUR CORE VALUES.

We are an anti-racist and radically inclusive community—across race, ethnicity, nationality, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical ability, socioeconomic background, and political viewpoint—in which all are encouraged to exchange ideas freely and reach for new understanding. We are a supportive home for creative risk-taking by our company and guest artists, staff, board, volunteers, audiences, donors, and colleagues. Through relentless inquiry and experimentation, we strive for world-class excellence and innovation in every aspect of our work.

OUR AUDIENCE COMPLETES OUR MISSION.

Woolly attracts one of the youngest and most diverse theatre audiences in DC, and we're committed to making our work widely accessible. Woolly was the first to pioneer Pay-What-You-Will tickets in the DMV, which are now available at every single performance.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS, SUBSCRIBERS, AND AUDIENCE MEMBERS. WITH YOUR SUPPORT, WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIND AND PRODUCE THE MOST INNOVATIVE NEW PLAYS IN AMERICA.

WOOLLY MAMMOTH LEADERSHIP



KIMBERLY E. DOUGLAS [she/her] is the **Managing Director** of Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. She has 20+ years of experience in event production management, program development, strategic partnerships, arts education, and the performing arts.

Graduating from Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Kimberly then continued her studies at Howard

University College of Fine Arts graduating with a B.A. in Music Business and a minor in Jazz Voice.

Kimberly served as the Managing Artistic Director for THEARC Theater, a program of Building Bridges Across the River. For 15 years she led the theater operations for a 365-seat theater and a Black Box, led the development and fundraising for theater initiatives such as facilities and buildings enhancements and upgrades, curated seasonal programming on THEARC Theater stage and Black Box, and expanded relationships and funding for the iCAN Technical Theater internship. Through her leadership, THEARC Theater is widely recognized as a cultural staple for artists, arts organizations, and community East of the River. Kimberly served as a board member for Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company from April 2021–March 2023 after establishing a long-standing partnership as Woolly Mammoth's Core Connectivity partner.

Kimberly launched her company KD ARTS Consulting in March 2022, providing program curation and production services, talent and operations management, and arts administration. Through KD ARTS Consulting, she worked with organizations like Demaskus Theatre Collective in residency at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center and The Musicianship's 2023 Wammie Awards. Currently, Kimberly is co-chair of the D.C. Co-lab Equity and Justice Committee advocating for arts education.

She was born and raised in D.C. and presently resides in Upper Marlboro, MD.

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HR services provided by NonProfitHR powered by ONEDIGITAL; IT services provided by RenTec Solutions; Financial consultation provided by SC&H Group



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CONTRIBUTORS + FUNDERS

Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company remains more dedicated than ever to the evolution of the American theatre, and we could not produce ground-breaking new plays and world class artistry without our fearless family of donors. We would like to thank the following contributors who made gifts of \$300 or more between March 2024 and March 2025. Thank you!

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AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Ambassadors are a network of volunteers who help advocate for Woolly Mammoth, deepen our ties to a range of DC communities, and support resourcing the work of the theatre. They work closely with the Connectivity, Marketing, and Development Departments to offer insights on the plays from an audience perspective, mobilize their circles, organize events, coordinate groups, support special events, and more.

Rachael Albert Bridget Grier

Justyn Hintze

Daniel Pattenden Rachel Sauer

Alana Beasley

Eva Barrie

Ngozia Hunter

Brad Teague

Robbie Champion

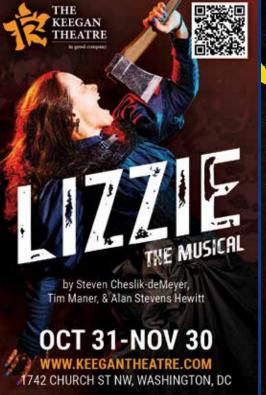
Jazzmin Crawley

Kim Leonard Toby Makowski Frankie V Kathleen White

Maunica Devi

Bryanda Minix

If you're interested in learning more about the program, please email Emily Lathrop at emily.lathrop@woollymammoth.net







Please contact Jamie Alexander jamie.alexander@woollymammoth.net



WHY GIVE?

Unlike the woolly mammoth, which went extinct more than 10,000 years ago, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company isn't going anywhere anytime soon. The reason? People like you! Over our 45+ year history, contributions from patrons continue to provide the bedrock of support that makes everything we do possible.

YOUR GIFT TO WOOLLY MAMMOTH ALLOWS US TO:

Produce innovative theatrical productions you cannot see anywhere else.

Offer ticket accessibility

programs such as Pay-What-You-Will seats for every performance, ensuring our work remains accessible to all.

Pilot radical care programs

like our Company Pool Fund, which offers grants to our Company members to invest in their personal and professional growth. Provide transformational career development opportunities through the Miranda Family Fellowship program to train and compensate the next generation of theatre makers.

Establish innovative collaborative partnerships with local organizations like SPIT DAT, DC's longest running open mic and Howard University.

And so, so much more!

SUPPORT WOOLLY TODAY!

To learn more about making a gift to Woolly Mammoth or to take advantage of our NEW benefits, please contact our Development Department by calling **202-312-5276** or email us at **development@woollymammoth.net**.

Thank you for making our work possible!

BECOME A MAMMOTH FOREVER:

Arranging a planned gift to Woolly Mammoth today is a special way to ensure your legacy and have a long-term impact on the theatre even after your lifetime. We are here to provide resources and ensure that making a planned gift to Woolly Mammoth is as seamless as possible.

WOOLLY MAMMOTH CAN ACCEPT PLANNED GIFTS IN THE FORM OF:

Bequests:

A bequest is made by adding a codicil to an existing will or preparing a new will.

Retirement Plan:

Make Woolly a beneficiary of a retirement plan such as a 401(k); IRA; 403(b).

Life Insurance Name:

Woolly Mammoth as a beneficiary to receive proceeds at the end of a lifetime.

Charitable Trust Gifts:

A charitable trust is an irrevocable trust established for charitable purposes.

LET US KNOW YOUR PLANS — AND DEEPEN YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH WOOLLY.

For a confidential conversation or to share your intentions, please contact Woolly's Development Department at **202-312-5276** or email **development@woollymammoth.net**.

- Donna Ari. Mammoth Forever

MAMMOTH FOREVER: A PLANNED GIVING INITIATIVE

We would like to thank the farsighted group of donors who have included Woolly Mammoth in their estate plans:

Donna Ari Gene & Dale Kenney

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Nan Beckley Amy Phillips
Elizabeth & Paul L. Friedman Julie F. Rios

Renee Gier Evelyn & Scott Schreiber

David Gorsline Howard Shalwitz
Nancy A. Hartsock Linda W. Sorkin

<u>Linette S. Hwu</u> Marvin F. Weissberg

To learn more about how to make a planned gift, please contact our Development Department by calling 202-312-5276 or email us at development@woollymammoth.net



Photo by Cameron Whitman





Photo by Jeff Lorch





INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING? CONTACT ONE OF OUR LOCAL SALES EXPERTS TODAY!

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