

ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Artists Rep presents the ferociously funny *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza Tony winner and Broadway hit kicks off 29th season

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – August 17, 2011. This 2009 Tony winner for Best Play tells the story of two sets of parents who meet to discuss a bullying incident in what they hoped would be a “civilized manner.” As the evening wears on that intent goes awry, and the play turns ferociously hilarious, shocking and disturbing, as the parents battle for ethical superiority.

Set in a renovated loft apartment in The Pearl district, what begins as a calm, collected negotiation between two high-powered and well-to-do couples quickly unravels into a situation where both parties are stripped of their urbane pretense. At times violent, at times crude, at times intoxicated, the parents’ attempt to rise above the carnal inclinations of their developing children turns into a battle between the sexes, and a test of their marriages.

“Come watch people you will recognize getting in touch with their inner 11-year old,” said Director Denis Arndt. “Parents behaving badly can be lots of fun. In this play the audience will play with us... this is not a spectator sport here.”

In 2009, *God of Carnage* opened on Broadway in a production starring Jeff Daniels, Hope Davis, James Gandolfini and Marcia Gay Harden. It ran for over a year, received overwhelmingly positive reviews, and was the third-longest running play of that decade. It won three Tony awards, including Tony Award for Best Play. Regionally, *God of Carnage* was produced at Seattle Repertory Theatre as part of its 2010/11 season with Denis Arndt, who is directing Artists Rep's upcoming production, playing Alan Raleigh. Roman Polanski is directing the film adaptation currently shooting in Paris and starring Jodie Foster, Kate Winslet, Christoph Waltz and John C. Reilly. It is scheduled to be released this September.

➔ **PHOTOS FROM THIS PRODUCTION WILL BE AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

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God of Carnage

Written by: Yasmina Reza
Directed by: Denis Arndt
Featuring: Patrick Disney, Michael Mendelson, Trisha Miller, Allison Tigard
Performance Dates: September 6 – October 9
Wednesday through Sunday at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:00pm
Wednesday matinee at 11:00am on September 28
Opening Night is Friday, September 9
Venue: Artists Repertory Theatre - Alder Stage (16th and Alder St.)
Tickets: Advance tickets \$20-\$42; Students \$20. 503.241.1278 or www.artistsrep.org
On the web: [Website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

CAST

Michael Novak	Patrick Disney
Veronica Novak	Allison Tigard
Alan Raleigh	Michael Mendelson
Annette Raleigh	Trisha Miller

PRODUCTION DESIGNERS AND CREW

Scenic Designer	Bryan Boyd
Lighting Designer	Jeff Forbes
Sound Designer	Rodolfo Ortega
Costume Designer	Gregory Pulver
Props Designer	kollodi
Stage Manager	Carol Ann Wohlmutter
Production Assistant	Stephanie Edwards

BIOGRAPHIES

Yasmina Reza, is a French playwright, actress, novelist and screenwriter. In 1987 she wrote *Conversations after a Burial*, which won the Molière Award, the French equivalent of the Tony Award, for Best Author. She went on to translate Kafka's *Metamorphosis* for Roman Polanski but it wasn't until 1994, with the premiere of *Art* in Paris, that Reza received widespread recognition for her work. The 90-minute satire, in which three male friends feud over an all-white painting, earned the playwright international acclaim, a Laurence Olivier Award and a Tony in 1998. Since then it has been produced worldwide and translated and performed in over 30 languages. In 1997, her first novel, *Hammerklavier*, was published and another work of fiction, *Une Désolation*, was published in 2001. Her newly published 2007 work *L'Aube le Soir ou la Nuit (Dawn Evening or Night)*, dealing with Nicolas Sarkozy's pursuit of the French presidency, has already caused a sensation in France. Her more recent plays include *Life X 3* (2000), *A Spanish Play* (2004) and *God of Carnage* (2007).

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Denis Arndt, a veteran of the American Stage, has performed in major theaters across the country and in Canada, including New York's Public Theatre and Chicago's Goodman Theatre as well as Kansas City Rep, Houston's Alley Theatre, Washington DC's Arena Stage and Studio Theatre; in Seattle, Seattle Repertory Theatre, ACT, Empty Space and Intiman. A few regional productions include, *God of Carnage* at Seattle Rep as Alan Raleigh, *Dealer's Choice* at Mark Taper Forum; *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe* at Intiman Theatre where he is a founding member; *Juno And The Paycock* at Arena Stage and the title role in *Richard III* at Seattle Rep, directed by Daniel Sullivan. He also played the title role in *The Ballad of Soapy Smith* for Joe Papp at New York's Public Theatre; Prospero in *The Tempest* at Goodman Theatre; Puntila in *Puntila and His Hired Man* at Remains Theatre for which he was awarded the Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Actor. Mr. Arndt played 15 seasons with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival performing title roles in *King Lear*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Coriolanus*; Iago in *Othello*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*, Proteus in *Two Gents*. He was seen as James in *Moon for the Misbegotten* opposite Jean Smart, and Jamie in *Long Day's Journey Into Night* with William Hurt who played Edmund. He has been seen in many film and television roles including *LA Law*, *Picket Fences*, *The Practice*, *Boston Legal*, *Providence*, *Colombo*, *Murder She Wrote*, *Basic Instinct*, *Metro*, *Supernatural*, *24*, *Swat* and most recently, *Grey's Anatomy*.

Artists Repertory Theatre

The 2011/12 Artists Repertory Theatre season is presented by the Paul G. Allen Foundation. The 2011 print media sponsor is The Oregonian, the season radio sponsor is KINK.FM. *God of Carnage* is supported by CFM Strategic Communications, The Standard and Maletis Beverage. Founded in 1982, Artists Repertory Theatre is the longest-running professional theater company in Portland. Artists Rep strives to challenge artists and audiences with plays of depth and vibrancy in an intimate setting. Artists Rep explores the strengths, frailties, and diversity of the human condition primarily through regional premieres, commissioned works and selected classics appropriate to contemporary issues.

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