



## News

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## **OLD GLOBE PRESENTS NICKY SILVER'S *THE FOOD CHAIN***

### ***AWARD-WINNING PLAYWRIGHT'S WILD AND WICKEDLY FUNNY PLAY DEBUTS ON CASSIUS CARTER CENTRE STAGE***

San Diego – The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is pleased to present *The Food Chain*, by **Nicky Silver**, directed by **Matt August**, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage **April 24 through May 30** (press opening: Thursday, April 29 at 8pm).

Social satire meets absurdist comedy in this hilarious off-Broadway hit that centers on the actions of an anorexic poet; her closed-mouthed husband; a “delicious” male model; his food “junkie” stalker; along with a wacky crisis hotline volunteer. In describing the play, Silver wrote, “It's like there are two happy people in every high school – the head cheerleader and the football quarterback, and the rest of us just sit on the sidelines picking our noses and eating.” An award-winning comedy about the emotional food chain we have structured in today's society of instant gratification and obsession with appearances, this wonderfully wicked play skewers America's preoccupation with beauty, sex, food and fashion.

Considered a master of razor-sharp wit and black humor, **Nicky Silver** is one of the leading comic voices of his generation. He has written several highly acclaimed plays, including *Liars*, *Pinheads*, *and Geeks*, *Free Will and Wanton Lust*, *Siblings in Paradise*, *Artists and Concubines*, *My Marriage to Marisa Tomei*, *Scopophilia*, *Fetid Itch*, *Fat Men in Skirts*, *Pterodactyls*, *Fit to Be Tied*, *The Eros Trilogy* and *The Altruists*, among others. *The Food Chain* opened off-Broadway at the Westside Theatre where it received great critical acclaim, as well as an Obie Award for Tom McGowan's (*Rounding Third*) performance as “Otto.” The Woolly Mammoth production of *Free Will and Wanton Lust* won D.C.'s Helen Hayes Award for Best New Play. *Pterodactyls*, which was produced last year at the Vineyard Theatre, received an Oppenheimer Award, a Kesselring Award, and a Drama Desk nomination. The Vineyard's production of *Raised in Captivity* was nominated for an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Drama Desk Award. *The Food Chain* was produced off-Broadway at the Westside Theatre following its original production at the Woolly Mammoth, directed by Silver. His screenplay credits include *The Flipside*, *Shockproof*, *Hairworld* (aka *High Roller*), *Darkness of Night*, *Ladies' Men*, and *Women on Wheels*. He has also adapted *Raised in Captivity* and *The Food Chain* for the screen. Silver is a graduate of New York University's Experimental Theatre Wing and a member of Drama Department.

**Matt August** directed the Globe's acclaimed production of David Ives' *Time Flies* last summer. On Broadway he has served as Associate Director for Jack O'Brien's productions of *Henry IV*, *Imaginary Friends*, *The Invention of Love*, and *The Full Monty*. He also directed the Australia company of *The Full Monty*. His off-Broadway credits include *16 Wounded* at Cherry Lane Alternative; *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Romeo and Juliet* with the National Shakespeare Company; and *Velvet Ropes* at the Drama League. Regionally he directed *16 Wounded* (starring Martin Landau) at Long Wharf Theatre, and *Jump Rope* at Next Stages at Boston Playwrights. August has served as Assistant Director to Tony Award-winner John Rando on three productions, as well as with Nicholas Martin, Gordon Davidson, Libby Appel, Joseph Hardy, Robert Wilson and was The Acting Company's Staff Repertory Director from 1999-2000. He has been named a Drama League Fellow and a Phil Killian Directing Fellow from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

The cast of *The Food Chain* includes **Paulo Andino** as *Serge*; **Rod Brogan** (Globe/USD MFA Student) as *Ford*; **Michael Lluberes** as *Otto*; **Christa Scott-Reed** as *Amanda*; and **Marilyn Sokol** as *Bea*. The production team includes Matt August (*Time Flies*), director; James Noone (*The Woman in Black*, *Getting and Spending*), scenic design; Holly Poe Durbin (*Sky Girls*, *Time Flies*, *Beyond Therapy*), costume design; Chris Rynne, lighting design; Paul Peterson, sound design; and Tracy Skoczelas, stage manager.

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*The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for over 68 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 12-14 plays and musicals on its three stages, including the highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, as exemplified by Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan, Tina Landau, Nora Ephron and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Imaginary Friends, The Full Monty, Pride's Crossing and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Jack O'Brien and Craig Noel and Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting the standard for excellence in American theater.*

