

ANNA GUNN, DAVID HARBOUR,
ALICIA SILVERSTONE AND ROBIN THOMAS
STAR IN PULITZER PRIZE WINNER DONALD MARGULIES'
TIME STANDS STILL AT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

Tony Award Winner Daniel Sullivan Directs the World Premiere Commission

LOS ANGELES, December 10, 2008 — The lure of a world premiere play by Pulitzer winner **Donald Margulies** (*Dinner with Friends*) directed by Tony Award winner **Daniel Sullivan** (*Proof*) is enticing enough to convince actors **Anna Gunn** (HBO's *Deadwood*, AMC's *Breaking Bad*), **Alicia Silverstone** (*Clueless*, *Miss Match*), **David Harbour** (*Quantum of Solace*, *Revolutionary Road*, *State of Play*) and **Robin Thomas** (*Damages*, *Murphy Brown*) to temporarily forgo the screens for a stint at the Geffen Playhouse. The second produced work in the Geffen's ongoing commission program, *Time Stands Still* opens February 11, 2009 on the theater's main stage.

Time Stands Still focuses around a longtime couple and journalistic team – she a photographer, he a reporter – who return to New York from an extended stint in the war-torn Middle East. **Anna Gunn** portrays the role of Sarah, a headstrong visionary who must negotiate re-entry into a domestic realm she no longer recognizes. Gunn is an experienced theater actress whose stage credits include *The Rehearsal* on Broadway as well as *Hysteria* and Sir Peter Hall's production of *Measure for Measure* in Los Angeles. Acclaimed Broadway actor **David Harbour**, who starred in Tom Stoppard's *Coast of Utopia* trilogy and garnered a Tony nomination for his role in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, plays James, a foreign correspondent whose chaotic profession threatens his personal life.

Complicating Sarah and James' re-adjustment to domestic life is the appearance of Sarah's one-time mentor and editor Richard, played by television veteran **Robin Thomas**, and his new, much younger, and "very hot" girlfriend, Mandy, played by Golden Globe nominee **Alicia Silverstone** who is returning to the Geffen stage for the third time (*Boston Marriage*, *Speed-the-Plow*).

"Casting a world premiere is a different kind of process – actors who originate a role ultimately play a part in shaping the final script," said Margulies. "I had the benefit of hearing Alicia and Anna read their parts in workshops as the play evolved. With David and Robin, I wrote the roles and then Dan and I searched to find the right actors to help bring the characters to life. I look forward to working with this exciting ensemble."

Time Stands Still is the third premiere and fourth collaboration between Margulies and Sullivan (who directed the Broadway productions of the playwright's *Brooklyn Boy* and *Sight Unseen*), and their second collaboration at the Geffen Playhouse (*Dinner with Friends* in 2000). Margulies' other plays at the Geffen were *Collected Stories*, in 1999, and the recent Los Angeles premiere of *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment*.

-more-

TIME STANDS STILL (World Premiere)

By Donald Margulies

Directed by Daniel Sullivan

Previews: February 3 to February 10, 2009

Opening Night: February 11, 2009

Closing Night: March 15, 2009

Cast

Anna Gunn	Sarah
David Harbour	James
Alicia Silverstone	Mandy
Robin Thomas	Richard

Production Credits

Scenic Designer	John Lee Beatty
Costume Designer	Rita Ryack
Lighting Designer	Peter Kaczorowski
Sound Designer	Jon Gottlieb
Production Stage Manager	James T. McDermott
Assistant Stage Manager	Jill Gold

Performance Schedule

Monday	No performances
Tuesday – Thursday	7:30pm
Friday	8:00pm
Saturday	4:00pm; 8:30pm
Sunday	2:00pm; 7:00pm

Ticket Info

Tickets (\$45 to \$79) are on sale now at the Geffen Playhouse box office, online at GeffenPlayhouse.com, via credit card phone order at (310) 208-5454, at all Ticketmaster outlets, or by calling Ticketmaster at (213) 480-3232.

Student rush tickets are available one hour prior to curtain for \$15.

ANNA GUNN (Sarah)

Anna Gunn's stage credits include *The Beggar's Opera*, the world premiere of *Uncommon Ground*, Keith Reddin's *Peacekeeper* starring opposite Jeremy Piven, the American premiere of *Hysteria* at the Mark Taper Forum, and she went on to star as Isabella in *Measure for Measure* at the Ahmanson Theatre. While living in LA, New York beckoned and Anna was brought east to make her Broadway debut opposite Roger Rees in *The Rehearsal* at the Roundabout Theater. In television, Anna is currently starring as Skyler White on the Emmy award winning hit "Breaking Bad" on AMC. Previously, she starred as Martha Bullock in the widely celebrated HBO series *Deadwood*, earning both a SAG and Emmy nomination for best ensemble and best television drama. Her film credits include the independent feature *Without Evidence* with Angelina Jolie, the dark comedy *Nobody's Baby*, directed by David Seltzer, and the indie movie *Santa Fe* with Lolita Davidovich and written by Tony Award winner Mark Medoff. She was also seen in the blockbuster Tony Scott film, *Enemy of the State*, appearing opposite Jon Voight.

DAVID HARBOUR (James)

Having recently wrapped his third major film role this year, Tony nominated actor David Harbour is making his west coast theater debut at the Geffen Playhouse. David's recent films include *State Of Play* with Russell Crowe, *Quantum of Solace* as the crazy scotch drinking CIA agent "Greg Beam," and director Sam Mendes' upcoming *Revolutionary Road*. David is already famous for delivering standout performances on the prestigious stages of New York and London. He captured a Tony nomination for his critically acclaimed portrayal of the character "Nick" alongside of Kathleen Turner in Anthony Page's Broadway production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?*, and captivated audiences and critics alike performing the lead role of "Nicholas Stankevich" in Tom Stoppard's epic trilogy *Coast of Utopia* at Lincoln Center. David also collaborated with playwright Tom Stoppard and theater

-more-

director Jack O'Brien as lead character "Moses Jackson" in the Broadway production *The Invention of Love*. Other notable theater credits include: *Between US* (MTC), *Fifth of July* (Signature), *A Bad Friend* (Lincoln Center), *Twelfth Night* (NYSF), and most recently *Hamlet* (NYSF).

DONALD MARGULIES (Playwright)

Donald Margulies' plays include *Brooklyn Boy*, *Dinner with Friends* (Geffen Playhouse), *Sight Unseen*, *Collected Stories* (Geffen Playhouse), *The Loman Family Picnic*, *God Of Vengeance*, *The Model Apartment*, *What's Wrong with this Picture?*, *Found a Peanut* and the upcoming Geffen-commissioned *Time Stands Still*. He has won a Lucille Lortel Award, an American Theatre Critics Award, two Los Angeles Drama Critics Awards, two OBIE Awards, two Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Awards, five Drama Desk Award nominations, two Pulitzer Prize nominations and one Pulitzer Prize. His works have been performed on and off Broadway; at major theatres across the United States including South Coast Repertory, Manhattan Theatre Club, Primary Stages, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Long Wharf Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Old Globe Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse and Joseph Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival; and in Paris, London, Rome, Madrid, Tel Aviv, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Sydney, Berlin, Vienna and many other cities around the world. Mr. Margulies has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, The New York Foundation for the Arts, and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. In 2005 he was honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters with an Award in Literature and by the National Foundation for Jewish Culture with its Cultural Achievement Award, and was the recipient of the 2000 Sidney Kingsley Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Theatre by a playwright. Mr. Margulies is an alumnus of New Dramatists and serves on the council of The Dramatists Guild of America. He is an adjunct professor of English and Theatre Studies at Yale University.

ALICIA SILVERSTONE (Mandy)

Broadway: *The Graduate*. Los Angeles: *Boston Marriage* (dir. David Mamet), *Speed the Plow* (Geffen Playhouse), *Carol's Eve* (Met Theatre). Film: *Clueless*, *Batman and Robin*, *The Crush*, *Blast From the Past*, *Love's Labour's Lost* (dir. Kenneth Branagh), *Beauty Shop*, *The Babysitter*, *Hideaway*, *Le Nouveau Monde*, *Silence Becomes You*, *True Crime* and *Stormbreaker*. Producer: *Excess Baggage*, *Braceface* (executive producer/voice of lead character; Daytime Emmy nomination). Television movies: *Candles on Bay Street* (CBS/Hallmark) and *The Cool and the Crazy* (Showtime). Series regular: *Miss Match*, (Globen Globe nomination), *The Wonder Years*.

DANIEL SULLIVAN (Director)

From 1981 to 1997, Mr. Sullivan served as Artistic Director of Seattle Repertory Theatre, where he directed more than 60 productions including *Uncle Vanya*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *She Stoops To Conquer*, *Inspecting Carol*, *The Mandrake*, *The Wedding*, *As You Like It*, *Major Barbara* among many others. He established Seattle Rep's new play program, developing new works by Jon Robin Baitz, Herb Gardner, A.R. Gurney, Arthur Miller, Wendy Wasserstein, Charlayne Woodard, and William Mastrosimone, among others. Daniel Sullivan has directed in theatres both nationally and abroad. Mr. Sullivan's revival of *The Homecoming* by Harold Pinter was on Broadway this past season. Recent Broadway credits include *Prelude to a Kiss*, *Rabbit Hole*, *After the Night and the Music*, *Julius Caesar*, *Brooklyn Boy*, *Sight Unseen*, *The Retreat from Moscow*, *Proof*, *Morning's At Seven*, *I'm Not Rappaport*, *Major Barbara*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Conversations With My Father*, Lincoln Center's *Ah! Wilderness*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, and *An American Daughter*. Recent off-Broadway credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (in Central Park), *Stuff Happens* (NY premiere), *Third*, *Intimate Apparel*, *In Real Life*, *Ten Unknowns*, *Spinning Into Butter*, *Dinner With Friends*, *Far East*, *Psychopathia Sexualis*, *A Fair Country*, *The Substance of Fire*, and *London Suite*. Mr. Sullivan's film and television credits include *The Substance of Fire* and the PBS presentation of "Far East." Mr. Sullivan is the SwanLund Professor of Theater at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

ROBIN THOMAS (Richard)

Los Angeles theatre audiences have seen Robin Thomas in the Tiffany Theatre production of *Laura* and starring with Linda Hamilton in *Worse than Murder - Ethel and Julius Rosenberg* as Julius. In New York City he appeared in productions of *Counselor-At-Law*, Norman Mailer's *Straw Head*, *The Heiress*, and *Canine Mutiny Court Martial*, among others. Robin's film credits include starring as Joan Allen's husband in *The Contender*, for which he and the cast received a Broadcast Film Critics Award, the soon to be released comedy *American Summer*, as well as roles in *Star Maps*, *Clockstoppers*, *Bullworth*, *Jade*, *About Last Night*, *Summer School*, *Welcome Home Roxy Carmichael*, and as Susan Sarandon's husband in *The Banger Sisters*. Thomas has most recently guest starred

-more-

on *House*, *The Closer*, *Cold Case*, *NCIS*, *CSI*, *Shark* and *Law & Order*, and has been featured in numerous *Movies of the Week*, most recently starring with Kathy Bates in *Ambulance Girl*. He was a series regular on *The Mommies*, and has had recurring roles on *Damages*, *The Division*, *thirtysomething* and was the father of *Murphy Brown's* baby.

ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

The Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and musicals, the Geffen Playhouse continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company is helmed by Producing Director and President of the Board Gilbert (Gil) Cates, Artistic Director Randall Arney, Managing Director Susan Barton and Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit **GeffenPlayhouse.com**.

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

Geffen Playhouse
10886 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles (Westwood), CA 90024
310.208.5454
www.GeffenPlayhouse.com

###