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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**"HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!**  
**DURST IS AT HIS SLY, SAVVY BEST.**  
**A SHARP ONE MAN SHOW."** - *The New York Times*

**"SMASHING 'BASHING!'**  
**WILL DURST IS THE NATURAL SUCCESSOR**  
**TO MORT SAHL."** - *The New York Post*

HANGING CHAD PRODUCTIONS  
JENNIFER SACHS AND ALLEN SPIVAK PRESENT

# WILL DURST

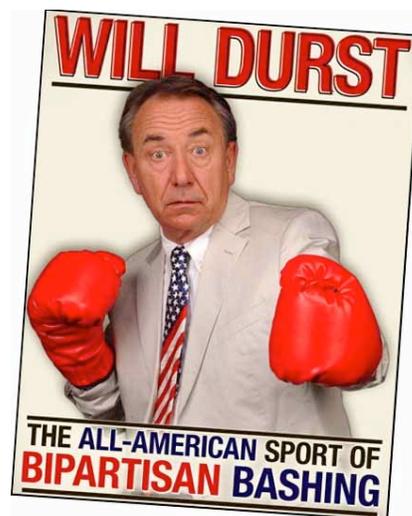
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## THE ALL-AMERICAN SPORT OF BIPARTISAN BASHING

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DIRECTED BY ERIC KREBS

OFF-BROADWAY AT NEW WORLD STAGES



Talk about a *Patriot's Act*... Political satirist and pundit **Will Durst** brings his newest work, *The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing*, to New York. Hanging Chad Productions, Jennifer Sachs and Allen Spivak present the open-ended off-Broadway engagement at New World Stages (340 West 50th Street). *Will Durst: The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing* is directed by Eric Krebs and features a production design by Peter Feuchtwanger.

"One may or may not be a regular CNN viewer or Newsweek reader, but that doesn't mean that one has to suffer Bushes gladly," says Durst. "*The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing* is a 90 minute political comedy for people who are sick of politics as usual. We laugh to keep from crying, right? And with a president, two houses of Congress and endless parade of presidential hopefuls making daily punch lines out of headlines, I've got the best joke-writers in the business working for me."

The show opened in August to rave reviews with The New York Times reporting that Durst is "cracking people up for 90-minutes in a sharp one man show" and the New York Post hailing Durst as "the natural successor to Mort Sahl." And for once, both the liberal left and the conservative right agree on something with Air America Radio calling Durst "one of the greatest commentators of all things political," and Fox News Radio hailing him as "a great political satirist! One of the funniest guys around!"

Based in San Francisco, Will Durst has practiced his craft for over 30 years and has made more than 400 television appearances, including "Countdown with Keith Olberman," "Crossfire," CNN, Fox News, Comedy Central, "Good Morning America," "Last Comic Standing," C-SPAN, "The Today Show," "The Late Show With David Letterman" and "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." He has been nominated for five Emmy Awards and was the recipient of seven consecutive nominations for American Comedy Awards Stand Up of the Year. Most recently he was the co-host with Willie Brown, former mayor of San Francisco, on the morning drive time show on San Francisco's KQKE.

*Will Durst: The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing* plays at New World Stages (340 West 50th Street) Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 10:00 p.m.; and Sunday at 3:00 p.m.. Tickets go on sale June 25<sup>th</sup> and are \$30 - \$50. \$20.00 student rush tickets are available at all performances 20 minutes prior to curtain with valid student ID. Call Telecharge.com at 212-239-6200. Visit [www.willdurst.com/](http://www.willdurst.com/).

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PHOTO EDITORS: High-res (jpg, 300dpi) images of Will Durst can be downloaded at <http://www.willdurst.com/MediaKit/>

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# WILL DURST

## THE ALL-AMERICAN SPORT OF BIPARTISAN BASHING

THE REVIEWS ARE IN ...DURST'S A HIT!

*The New York Times*

**"HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!**

**A SHARP ONE MAN SHOW. DURST IS AT HIS SLY, SAVVY BEST."**

**DAILY NEWS**

**"FUNNY!**

COMBINES THE BEST ELEMENTS OF  
VINTAGE **GEORGE CARLIN**  
AND **DENNIS MILLER!**"

**NEW YORK POST**

**"SMASHING 'BASHING!'  
BRILLIANTLY CRAFTED!  
THE NATURAL SUCCESSOR TO  
MORT SAHL.**

**... RIVALS GEORGE CARLIN!"**

**THE NEW YORKER**

**"HE'S PERFECTED A VERBAL  
JITTERBUG OF COMEDY  
TAKING ON POLITICS, WAR  
AND RHETORIC"**



**"I LAUGHED MY BUTT OFF!"**

**"A COMEDIAN WHO IS ACTUALLY FUNNY!  
ONE OF THE GREATEST COMMENTATORS OF  
ALL THINGS POLITICAL! I THINK HE'S ONE OF THE BEST!"**



**"A GREAT POLITICAL SATIRIST!**

**ONE OF THE FUNNIEST GUYS AROUND!"  
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO LAUGH,  
YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER SEEING WILL DURST!**



99.5 FM in New York City

**"SIDE-SPLITTINGLY FUNNY!**

DURST IS A BRILLIANT RACOUNTEUR AND AN ASTUTE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHER. THERE IS SOME WILL ROGERS THERE, LEWIS BLACK'S UNINHIBITED RAGE, MORT SAHL'S ELECTRIC SPEED CHATTER AND LENNY BRUCE'S WISDOM MIXED WITH CYNICISM. BUT HE IS AN ORIGINAL FOR TODAY. TREAT YOURSELF TO *WILL DURST: THE ALL AMERICAN SPORT OF BIPARTISAN BASHING!*"

**WOR**  
RADIO 710 AM

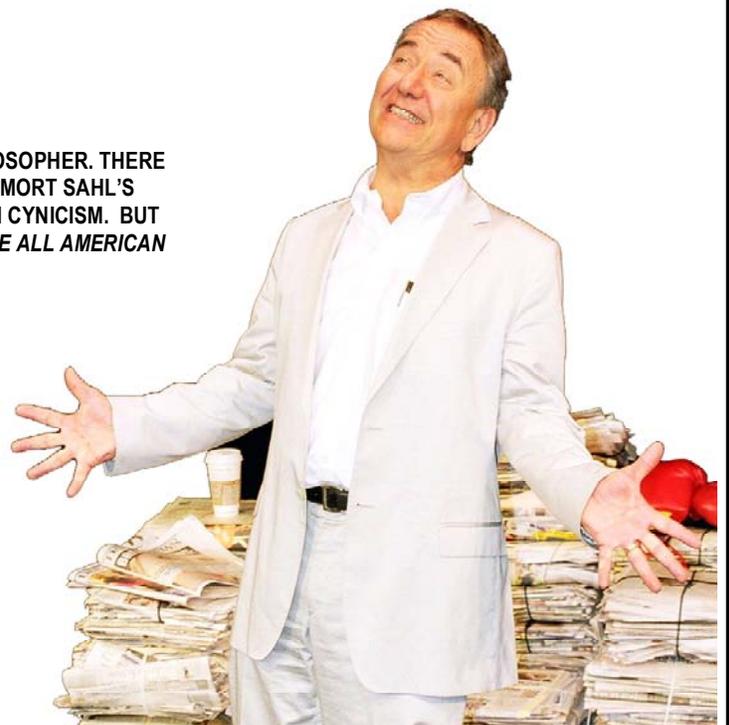
**"IF YOU'RE TIRED  
OF POLITICS AS USUAL,  
YOU'LL LOVE  
WILL DURST!"**

**CD101.9**  
Smooth Jazz

**"SHARP POLITICAL  
COMMENTARY!  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY  
OFFENDER!"**

**AP** Associated Press Radio

**"FUNNY AND BRIGHT!"**



# DURST-ISMS

*"George W. Bush is my own personal full employment act.  
He's like if Reagan and Quayle had a kid. Quagan."*

*"The reason the Democrats are so intent on passing a stem-cell bill is they're  
depending on the research to grow themselves a spine."*

*"Bush isn't dumb, he's just a Wheel of Fortune President in a Jeopardy world."*

*"The Clintons got \$20 million for their autobiographies.  
Seems like a lot of money for the memoirs of 2 people who for 8 years testified  
under oath, they couldn't remember a single thing."*

*"Every time I hear the oil companies talk about solar energy I worry they've  
developed a plan to block out the sun."*

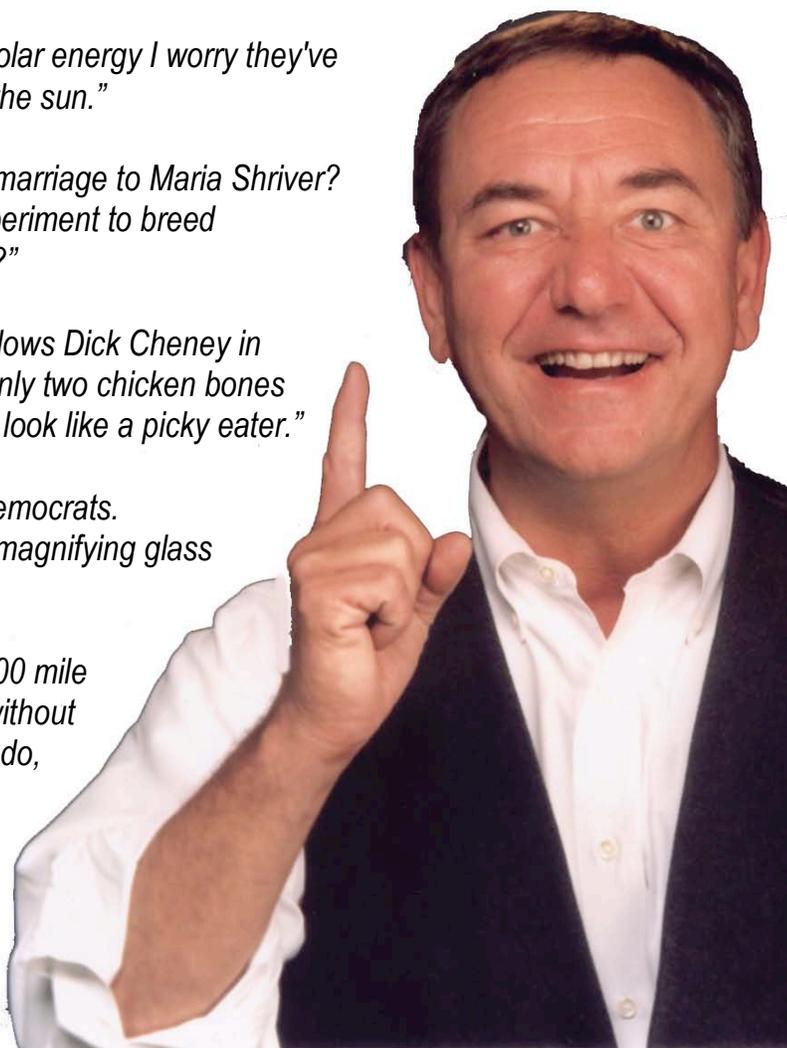
*"What is the deal with Arnold Schwarzenegger's marriage to Maria Shriver?  
What is that: phase one in a genetic experiment to breed  
a bullet-proof Kennedy?"*

*"As Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi follows Dick Cheney in  
Presidential succession. That means she's only two chicken bones  
away from the Presidency. And Bush does not look like a picky eater."*

*"Bush claims he wants to work with the Democrats.  
Yeah, right. The same way a 5-year-old with a magnifying glass  
wants to work with ants."*

*"How exactly does Congress plan on building a 700 mile  
long, 15 foot high fence on the Mexican border without  
using Mexican labor? What are they going to do,  
draft housewives from La Jolla?"*

*"People like the President because he seems like  
a guy you could have a beer with.  
But now it's time to take away the car keys."*



SEE **WILL DURST: THE ALL-AMERICAN SPORT OF BIPARTISAN BASHING**  
**NOW PLAYING OFF-BROADWAY AT NEW WORLD STAGES, 340 WEST 50<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

FOR TICKETS CALL **TELECHARGE.COM (212) 239-6200**

VISIT **WWW.WILLDURST.COM**

# NEW YORK POST

## SATIRE TO ADMIRE IN A SMASHING 'BASHING'



### THEATER REVIEW

Rating: ★★★★★

August 16, 2007 -- CONSIDERING the socially contentious times we live in, it's surprising there isn't more political satire out there. Will Durst arrived last night to rectify the situation with his one-man show "The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing."

The San Francisco-based stand-up, whose credentials are established in an opening video montage of his many years of television appearances, is the natural successor to Mort Sahl. Like Sahl, Durst uses newspapers as a prop, literally reading from today's headlines in search of new material.

Needless to say, he finds it. Easily.

Proudly describing himself as a "moderate" and establishing his regular-guy credentials with seemingly endless references to his love of cheeseburgers, Durst finds our current president a satirical gold mine.



*In his one-man show, comedian Will Durst uses newspapers as a prop, literally reading from today's headlines in search of new material.*

"I am part of his No Comic Left Behind program," he says of Bush, from whom he quotes liberally in one of the evening's funniest segments. True to the show's title, he also spends a good part of the evening making fun of Democrats, although he admits he finds it difficult: "You can't mock a vacuum."

Besides his free-ranging attack

on the current administration - he describes Cheney as looking "like a sleepy lizard in search of a warm rock" - he also deals with such topics as gay marriage ("The only difference between gay and straight is which way your head is facing during sex"), consumerism ("The American people love the Home Shopping Network because it's commercial-free") and religion.

Some 80 minutes of expertly crafted one-liners are delivered in a relaxed, naturalistic tone that enhances their effect. But where Durst really demonstrates his mastery is with a brilliantly crafted closing diatribe against the current administration. Not only does he rival George Carlin, but he shows that he's not quite so bipartisan after all.

**WILL DURST: THE ALL-AMERICAN SPORT OF BASHING** *New World Stages, 340 W. 50th St.; (212) 239-6200.*



August 16, 2007

# The New York Times

THEATER REVIEW | 'THE ALL-AMERICAN SPORT OF BIPARTISAN BASHING'

## Start Spearing the News

By NEIL GENZLINGER

Perhaps you've seen Will Durst, the political humorist, doing sound-bite commentary on television, trying to riff on questions from some stiff anchor or talk-show host, and your reaction has been, "This guy's kind of drab." But that's not the real Will Durst. The guy now cracking people up for 90 minutes at New World Stages in a sharp one-man show: that's the real Will Durst.

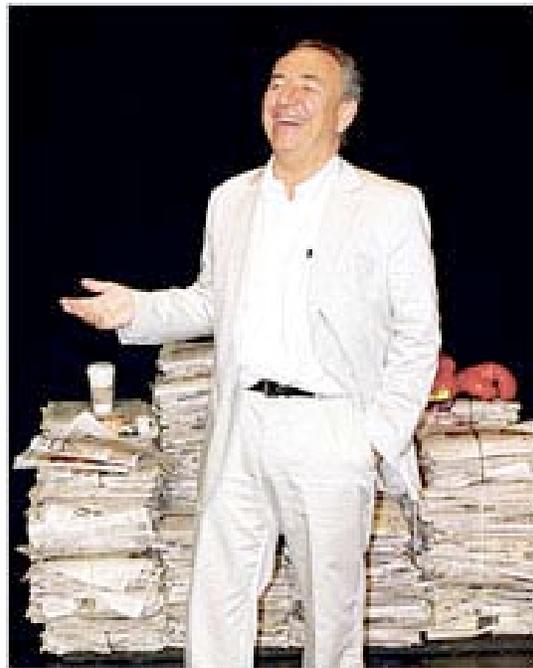
Television isn't Mr. Durst's best medium; it doesn't do well with wry or folksy or brainy. Sure, Jon Stewart is brainy, but in a smirking sort of way. Mr. Durst doesn't smirk; he observes and remarks. Mr. Stewart is the hotter star, Mr. Durst the more lovable one, which is why the stage is the right place for him.

He is also, however, a bit of a liar. His show, which opened last night, is called "The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing," but it's hardly bipartisan. Yes, there are some Hillary Rodham Clinton and John Kerry jokes, but they function mainly as a sort of DNA test for the audience. Mr. Durst gets in some dandy double takes when the laughs aren't as lusty as they are for his Bush-Cheney-etc. gibes. And of those there are many.

The show, directed by Eric Krebs, opens with a video collage of Mr. Durst's television appearances that's uncomfortably hagiographic, but once the live Mr. Durst shows up, all is quickly forgiven.

Working on a set that consists of bundles of newspapers, he shifts effortlessly between well-rehearsed bits and material that seems new. (Karl Rove: "proof that Satan and the Pillsbury Doughboy had more than just a passing acquaintance.") President Bush is hailed as one of the country's greatest leaders ever — for humorists. ("I'm part of his no-comic-left-behind program.")

The show is loose enough that quoting from it is dangerous; it will presumably be different every night. Perhaps as the run goes along, Mr. Durst will purge some of the staler material: the Dick Cheney hunting accident jokes; the why-can't-we-find-Osama stuff. But the crowning moment is likely to



Jason E. Grossman

*Will Durst is no fan of the Bush administration.*

remain intact.

It comes at the end and ties the package together, making it a show rather than just a stand-up comedy routine: a tirade of adjectives that will have any Bush loyalists who accidentally wandered into the room under their seats, and everyone else out of theirs, cheering.

*"Will Durst: The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing" is at New World Stages, 340 West 50th Street, Manhattan, (212) 239-6200.*

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NTDTV HOSTS WORLD  
VOCAL COMPETITION

ARTS & CULTURE B6

UPTOWN  
NANNY

ENTERTAINMENT B8



TORCH ARRIVES  
IN BERLIN

WORLD A5



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FREE

## Theater Review: 'Will Durst: The All-American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing'

**A winner by a landslide!**

By **JUDD HOLLANDER**  
Special to *The Epoch Times*

Anyone attending a performance of Will Durst's one-man show be warned: Don't take a drink of water whenever he speaks, as you'll most likely choke on it as you split your sides laughing.

A political, comedic, and performance tour-de-force, Mr. Durst attacks both the left and right with equal enthusiasm, taking on everyone from President Bush ("the Full Employment Act" for a comedian) to Hillary Clinton. He also tackles such subjects as immigration, homeland security, the war in Iraq, global warming, trickle-down economics, the NRA, and PETA.

With a folksy, matter-of-fact way about him, Durst comes across as a regular guy and is able to establish an immediate relationship with his audience as he

reports the news of the day or comments on the political situation at large. The fact that all of his "source material" comes out of the mouths and deeds of politicians makes it seem all the funnier—or sadder, depending on your point of view.

Durst, however, is not a comic doing a monologue or even a stand-up set—rather, he's a political humorist. As such, while making fun of various hot button topics and figures, he's also making a darker commentary on the state of America today. A hilarious example of this was when he commented on a man who hid a live monkey under his hat as he flew from Lima, Peru, to New York City, after changing planes in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. (The animal not being noticed until passengers saw his tail on the flight to New York.) Pretty funny; however, it makes one think twice about airport security.

At the core of the evening is Durst's sad realization of how politically polarized our country has become over the years,

with 20 percent of the population on the far left, 20 percent on the far right, and the 60 percent in the middle often forced to choose between candidates trying to appease these two extreme factions. He also quite correctly points out there are no such things as completely red (Republican) or blue (Democrat) states.

Interspersed with these points are some hilarious zingers, such as some actual comments by President Bush ("More and more of our imports are coming from overseas") and Senator Hillary Clinton ("I find it inconceivable that a sitting President of the United States would lie to me"). The audience also gets to revisit Vice President Cheney's accidentally shooting a member of his hunting party and the spectacular free-fall that was John Kerry's presidential campaign.

Perhaps the most satirical moment comes toward the end when Durst notes that since so many special interests groups have lobbyists to represent them, the people should have them too—"Someone to go to Washington to represent

our interests.... We could call them representatives."—telling comments indeed for anyone who has ever felt cut off from those supposed to speak for them in government.

Both hilarious and painfully true, it's comforting to see someone shining a spotlight on the foibles and frailties of government and its leaders (past, present, and wanna-be). This is a show definitely not to be missed, no matter what part of the political spectrum one occupies.

**Will Durst: The All American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing**

Written and performed by  
Will Durst  
New World Stages  
340 West 50th Street  
Tickets: 212-239-6200 or  
[www.telecharge.com](http://www.telecharge.com)  
Information: [www.willdurst.com](http://www.willdurst.com)  
Open Run

*Judd Hollander is the New York correspondent for the London publication *The Stage*.*