





In this collaboration between Chicago's famed sketch comedy group, The Second City, and Dallas Theater Center, we get an up-close and personal look at all that's great (and not so great) in Big D. In a series of satirical sketches that take on Dallas culture. politics, and people, The Second City Does **Dallas** pulls no punches in this scathing parody of everything related to the city. From the residents' famed big hair to mega churches, nothing is off-limits as The Second City barbecues Dallas.

Material created by the Casts of

#### THE SECOND CITY

Chicago style.

Additional Original Material

#### **BROOKE BREIT** and **ED FURMAN**

Music Direction and Original Composition by **MATTHEW LOREN** 

COHEN Directed by **MATT HOVDE** 

Dallas Theater Center 2012-2013 SEASON







# Sketch JLe Second City. Comedy Does Dallas

Sketch comedy has its origins in vaudeville where a large number of short, comedic acts were strung together to form an evening-length show. Sketches are generally between one and ten minutes long and are performed by a group of comic actors. Often sketches are first improvised by the actors and then written down; however, improvisation is not involved in all sketch comedy. The majority of the script for *The Second City Does Dallas* was based on interviews of Dallas leaders and written down long before the actors came into rehearsal. There are parts of the show, though, that are improvised each night and incorporate audience suggestions.

To create the script, writers Brooke Breit and Ed Furman spent four days on the ground in Dallas conducting 22 interviews with political and religious figures of the area. They then flew back to Chicago and spent about ten hours each crafting individual sketches for the show (including songs, scenes, and very short scenes called "blackouts").



While touring Dallas earlier this summer, Second City writers Breit and Furman hung out with the Dallas Cowhovs Cheerleaders

#### Satire Satire is a literary form in which humor, irony, sarcasm, exaggeration and ridicule are used to highlight an individual or societal vice or shortcoming. Satire is not merely entertainment. Its A DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF T purpose is to shine a light on a subject and prompt change. The Second City Does Dallas uses satire in its portrayal of Dallas and illustrates what The Second City sees as the social and political issues of the city. "Howdy, folks!" Standing 52 feet tall, Big Tex, the world's largest cowboy, made his debut as the icon of the State Fair of Texas in 1952.

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As with any good satire, The Second City Does Dallas pokes fun at our city as well as our state. Following are some of the people, places and things that make the joke.



## Amon G. Carter

Creator and publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, lifelong philanthropist and art collector, and the man responsible for bringing the first airplane (and eventually American Airlines) to the area. Amon G. Carter spent his life putting Fort Worth in the national spotlight and his will provided for the creation of the Amon Carter Museum of Fort Worh.



Mike Rawlings with friend and supporter Roger Staubach at Dallas City Hall on February 17, 2011–the day Rawlings announced his mayoral run. A Heisman Trophy winner, Staubach was a quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys from 1969-1979.

# Mayor Mike Rawlings

Elected mayor of Dallas in 2011. Worked in business his entire career (including heading up Pizza Hut, the world's largest pizza company).



# John Wiley Price

Dallas Commissioner currently embroiled in an FBI probe. Price faces possible charges of tax evasion, bribery, money laundering and fraud.



## Governor Rick Perry

Assumed the governorship of Texas when then-Governor George W. Bush resigned to become President of the United States. Perry was then elected governor in 2002 and re-elected in 2006 and 2010, making him the longest serving governor in Texas state history.



## Dick Cheney

Former Vice President under George W. Bush. He received a heart transplant from an anonymous donor in March 2012. That event raised the controversial question of whether someone of his age (71) should receive an organ donation instead of someone younger.



#### Dallas Citizens Council

Membership is by invitation only to this exclusive group. The Council, founded in 1937, states that its mission is to "promote a favorable business climate for Dallas" and "a good quality of life for all Dallas citizens". This group of powerful Dallas business leaders has long been criticized for operating in secret, putting business interests above the interests of the average Dallas citizen, and wielding too much influence in city affairs.

dallascitizenscouncil.org



#### Juneteenth

A holiday celebrating the day when news of Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation finally reached Texas (two years AFTER slaves were freed under the President's order). On June 19th, 1865, two months after the end of the Civil War, Union troops landed in Galveston to take over the state and enforce the Emancipation Proclamation.



# Ted Cruz

A Tea Party conservative who surprised the Republican establishment in July 2012. Ted Cruz beat the more moderate Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to secure the GOP nomination for the US Senate seat which is up for grabs in the November election. The ultra conservative Ted Cruz was born in Canada and will face-off against Democrat candidate Paul Sadler to fill the seat vacated by retiring Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison.



### Klyde Warren Park

A park being constructed on the edge of the Arts District in downtown Dallas. Previously known as Woodall Rodgers Deck Park, the park, which will open in the fall of 2012, was renamed after Klyde Warren, the 9 year old son of billionaire Kelcy Warren.



#### Museum Tower

A large high-rise luxury apartment building being constructed on the edge of the Dallas Arts District. Museum Tower is currently involved in a legal battle with nearby residents and museums because the mirrored panels on the outside of the building create intense heat and light in the area. Since construction began, the light reflected from Museum Tower has destroyed the trees, plants and grounds of the Nasher Sculpture Center, a special outdoor sculpture garden designed by Italian Renzo Piano in 2003.



The Second City satirizes Dallas, making fun of everything from our love of football to the influence of money in Big D. When you think of satire or when you meet someone from outside of Dallas, what elements of Dallas culture do people joke about? What elements of Dallas culture did the show *The Second City Does Dallas* leave out of their satirization?