

Players' Ring  
Theatre

SEACOAST SUMMER READING SESSIONS

PRESENT

# CONCERT READING THE END OF ALL FLESH

Written by and featuring  
2-Time Tony™ Award Winner

## GREG KOTIS

AND WITH AYUN HALLIDAY, SAMMY PIGNALOSA, AND AVERY ROSE PEDELL  
ACCOMPANIED BY BITTER PILL'S BILLY BUTLER, TOMER OZ, & MICHAEL MCKAY

# AUGUST 25 - 27

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PRESENT

# THE END OF ALL FLESH

WRITTEN BY GREG KOTIS

WITH

PA ----- GREG KOTIS  
MA ----- AYUN HALLIDAY  
BOY ----- SAMMY PIGNALOSA  
GIRL ----- AVERY ROSE PEDELL

ACCOMPANIED BY

**BILLY BUTLER** (UPRIGHT BASS)

**MIKE MCKAY** (BANJO)

**TOMER OZ** (GUITAR)

DIRECTED BY **TOM ALSIP**

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER: **LAUREN ROSEN**

The End of All Flesh is a rollicking post-apocalyptic fable unfolding on a remote mountain top sometime in America's distant future. Having made it through the End Times, Ma and Pa fight to keep themselves and their son, Boy, alive, by hunting, gathering, and maintaining a healthy distrust of strangers. But Boy's near grown now, and his new friend Girl is putting some mighty funny ideas in his head about familial hierarchies and the Patriarchy. Expect plenty of picking (and some grim grinning) in a concert reading of a new dark comedy that explores environmental collapse, gender norms, generation gaps, survivalist practices, and the creative potential of a pandemic beard...in song!

SHOW DURATION: 90 MIN WITHOUT INTERMISSION

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## IN SHOW ORDER

<b>WHAT WILL BECOME...</b>	MA, PA
<b>HATEFUL</b>	PA
<b>BAD</b>	GIRL, BOY
<b>MY LOVE</b>	GIRL, BOY
<b>ANOTHER WORLD</b>	MA, ALL
<b>WHAT A WOMAN CAN DO</b>	GIRL, MA
<b>CHILDREN, BEWARE!</b>	MA, GIRL, BOY
<b>THE SLICIN' KNIFE</b>	PA
<b>A VERY SAD SONG</b>	GIRL, MA
<b>THE STRUCTURE</b>	GIRL
<b>FEEDBAG</b>	MA & CO.
<b>THE BESEECHMENTS</b>	BOY & CO.
<b>A VERY SAD SONG (REPRISE)</b>	MA & CO.
<b>THANKS FOR COMIN'!</b>	ALL



**Greg Kotis** (Playwright, Pa, Banjo) is a two time Tony™ Award winning author of many plays and musicals including Urinetown (Book/Lyrics), I Am Nobody, Give the People What They Want, Michael von Siebenburg Melts Through the Floorboards, Yeast Nation (Book/Lyrics), The Truth About Santa, Pig Farm, Eat the Taste, and Jobey and Katherine. Future projects include ZM, an original musical about teenaged fast-food workers trying to survive a zombie plague. Greg is a co-founder (along with his wife Ayun Halliday) of Theater of the Apes, and is a member of the Neo-Futurists, the Cardiff Giant Theater Company, ASCAP, and the Dramatists Guild. He grew up in Wellfleet, Massachusetts, and now lives in New York City.



**Ayun Halliday** (Ma) is a performer, playwright, and author of eight books, including No Touch Monkey! And Other Travel Lessons Learned Too Late and most recently, Creative, Not Famous: The Small Potato Manifesto. Ayun was a member of the NeoFuturists in the '80s and '90s. She co-founded Theater of the Apes with her husband Greg Kotis, and prior to the pandemic, hosted its monthly book-based variety show Necromancers of the Public Domain. Ayun is the Chief Primatologist - and sole employee - of the award winning, hand illustrated zine, The East Village Inky. [ayunhalliday.com](http://ayunhalliday.com)



**Sammy Pignalosa** (Boy) is a 21 year old actor from Westchester, NY currently living in New York City. He attended the Institute for American Musical Theater where he had the opportunity to meet and work with Greg Kotis and Mark Hollman on their projects “ZM” and “Good Luck in Space.” Sammy also starred in an off Broadway play titled “Against the Hillside” in 2018 and voiced the wiry Blueberry Syrup in an IHOP commercial. He is absolutely thrilled to be a part of this show and is extremely grateful to his family for their endless encouragement and love!



**Avery Rose Pedell** (Girl) is an actor, director, and collaborator. Avery is especially passionate about telling queer and feminist stories. Avery's work is best done in the company of others and she strongly believes that there is no singular way to tell a story. She graduated with High Honors from Wesleyan University with a BA in Theater and Feminist, Gender & Sexuality Studies with a concentration in Gender and Performance. Insta: [@averyrose23](https://www.instagram.com/averyrose23)



**Billy Butler** (Upright Bass) has been a music and theatre maker for more than three decades. Most recently, he was the bass playing patriarch, Burl in *Smoke On The Mountain* at Hackmatack Playhouse and his new musical, *Children Of The Grim*, had its workshop premiere at The Ring this past May. Before the apocalypse, he appeared as Cratchit/Marley in the world premiere of Dolly Parton's *Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol* at the Colonial Theatre in Boston and as Billy in *ONCE the Musical* at Speakeasy Stage. Off-Broadway: *Crazy Head Space* (Abraxas Stage), *Stepchild* (Interborough Rep) and as

Hedwig in *Hedwig* and the *Angry Inch* (Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS).

Other NYC credits: New York Musical Theatre Festival, Joe's Pub, iStar Theatre Lab, 54 Below, the Liberty Theatre on 42nd street, and busking on the streets of Manhattan. He was the 2018/19 Artist-in-Residence for the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra. He wrote the book, music, and lyrics for *Gay Bride of Frankenstein*, *Missing: Wynter*, *The Brechtones*, *Titus Andronicus Musicus*, music and lyrics for Cynthia von Buhler's, *Ziegfeld's Midnight Frolic*, and scored his first film, *Passage of Time*, in 2020. As a musician he has released six solo records and has appeared on dozens of studio recordings. Currently, he is touring with his band, *Bitter Pill*, who just released their third album and are heading back into the studio to record the neo-gothic children's musical, *Children of the Grim* - a collection of original and traditional children's stories, nursery rhymes, and folk songs. Billy is also a recipient of the Excellence in American Theatre Award by the New England Theatre Council. [bitterpillband.com](http://bitterpillband.com)



**Tomer Oz** (Guitar) is a theatre artist, active in the greater New England area. Some recent credits include; *Children of the Grim* (at the Players' Ring w/ Bitter Pill), *Demetrius* in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (St Anselm Players), *Ethan* in *The Full Monty* (ROH), *Feste* and *Sebastian* in *Twelfth Night* (Advice to the Players), *Sergei* in *We Are Pussy Riot* (3S Artspace), *Smee* in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Hackmatack Playhouse), and *Mercutio* in *Romeo and Juliet* (theatre.unmasked). Tomer also directed the premiere of Jon McCormack's original funk and rock-opera *Paintbox* and plays guitar and speaks words with the anachronistic jazz, blues, vaudeville and folk band *Bitter Pill* ([bitterpillband.com](http://bitterpillband.com)).



**Mike McKay** (Banjo) is a man of few words but definitely one of the most talented musicians (banjo, mandolin) around. Catch him on tour with [Bitterpillband.com](http://Bitterpillband.com).

Mike hope you'll enjoy the show tonight!



**Tom Alsip** (Director) is an Assistant Professor and the Director of the Musical Theatre program at the University of New Hampshire. A graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Tom worked for a decade as a performer and director in New York City. He performed on the National Tour of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* and created roles in the original cast recording of *When Push Comes to Shove* and the Off-Broadway productions of *Black Hole Wedding* and *Wood!* He earned his MFA in directing from the University of Alabama and has directed professionally across the United States, including working on several new musicals both in and outside of NYC.

He is a proud member of AEA and SDC and sits on the Editorial Board for the *Southern Theatre Magazine*. He is so thankful to be back working on this production for a second year. Thanks to Greg, Ayun, Lauren, the entire cast and crew. Much love to his girls, Cristina and Cece.

**Lauren Rosen** (Associate Producer) worked as a freelance director for many years - in film, theatre and opera, spanning New York to Honolulu. She has worked as a teaching artist within the NY and NJ Public school system and has been a guest director and artist at SUNY Stony Brook, Fordham at Lincoln Center, The Hartt School and Johns Hopkins University. For the past ten years, Lauren has worked in nonprofit arts management with a focus on community engagement and public programming. Currently, She is on the Arts & Culture task force for the Portsmouth 400th and is Project Manager for the city of Portsmouth's participation in Americans for the Arts' Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 study.

## SPECIAL THANKS

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### THE MARK BAUM ESTATE

The Estate graciously houses all of our artists and offers a peaceful and inspiring environment to create and relax. We are so grateful for their contribution to this process.

The Mark Baum Estate, located on the site of the artist's historic property in Southern Coastal Maine, is delighted to offer the premises to a new generation of dedicated artists and writers whose vision would thrive in this unique setting, as Baum's did.

The Estate is actively developing an artist's residency program for 2020 to offer the premises for a new generation of inspired and dedicated artists whose vision would thrive in this unique setting, as Baum's did. We offer private viewings of the paintings in the Estate's collection by appointment.

For more information on the Estate, Baum's life, gallery of the artist's body of work and the residency, please visit <https://markbaumestate.com/>.



The Rochester Opera House played a crucial role in the development of "The End of All Flesh" by welcoming the first staged reading of the piece last summer. Our deepest gratitude, especially to Jenry Towle!

Rochester Opera House's mission is to educate, engage, empower, challenge, and inspire a community of all ages by presenting extraordinary and culturally diverse theatre, performance art, music, dance, and film on the city's foremost performing arts stage. As we preserve our vibrant historic theater for future generations, we embrace the integration of a broad arts culture in our community. Through the cultivation of new performers, diversity of shows, and innovative arts education programs developed with an "ARTS FOR ALL" philosophy, we bring the incredible power of the arts to the widest possible audience.

**AND THANK YOU TO**

**JAMES PAONE**

**DAVID FORREST**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 | 11AM - 1PM**

## **WRITING A MUSICAL**

**A WORKSHOP WITH 2-TIME  
TONY™ AWARD WINNER**

**GREG KOTIS**



Explore the fundamentals of writing an original musical with playwright Greg Kotis (Urinetown). Emphasis will be on character, story structure, scene structure, and identifying and writing songs for a musical.

Attendance is limited to 15 participants.

Suitable for musical mavens of all ages.

Registration Fee: \$30

**<https://www.playersring.org/kotis-workshop>**