

For Immediate Release

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Photos for KILL ME NOW:

<http://kaliyuga.com/KillMeNow.htm>

**Kaliyuga Arts Presents
The U.S. Premiere of Brad Fraser's
Kill Me Now**

October 3 – 13, 2013

KILL ME NOW

by Brad Fraser

Directed and Designed by John Sowle

Preview: October 3

Opens: October 4

Closes: October 13

Following the phenomenal success of their production of Brad Fraser's TRUE LOVE LIES this past spring, Kaliyuga Arts continues its "Fraser Mini-Fest" with KILL ME NOW, his newest, deepest, and most compassionate work to date. This U.S. Premiere is being presented for 8 performances only and runs Thursdays through Sundays from October 3 until October 13 at the Cross Street Theater Center (home of Stageworks/Hudson), 41-A Cross Street in Hudson, NY.

KILL ME NOW features Kaliyuga Arts veterans Molly Parker-Myers, Samuel Hoeksema, and Steven Patterson as well as two New York actors new to the company, Kay Capasso and JD Scalzo. The play is directed and designed by John Sowle, Artistic Director of Kaliyuga Arts, with Jennifer Dobies as Stage Manager.

The play has its official World Premiere in early September at Workshop West in Edmonton, Alberta. So this will be the second full production KILL ME NOW has ever received – a real coup for both Kaliyuga Arts and Capital Region audiences. Described by the playwright as a 'comedy about euthanasia', KILL ME NOW uses humor as its weapon of choice in dealing with the serious, complex, and sometimes shocking issues it raises. And while it touches on such hot button topics as the rights of the disabled and the ability (or inability) of adults to make end-of-life choices, at its core it's about the family ties we forge, whether they are biological or not, and about finding compassion in ourselves and in others when our physical and emotional limitations are stretched to the breaking point. And while the play takes

audiences to some very dark places, it leavens the journey with healthy doses of laughter.

Director John Sowle says, "We're thrilled to be presenting the first U.S production of this Brad Fraser masterpiece. Kaliyuga Arts' first production, IN CIRCLES in 1986 in Los Angeles, featured disabled actress Peggy Oliveri in her wheelchair playing Gertrude Stein. Since then we have always embraced the depiction of physically and developmentally challenged characters in honest and revealing situations. KILL ME NOW explores that territory in especially frank and dramatic ways. We hope it will be a confirmation to some and a revelation to others in our audience. "

In the play, widower Jake Sturdy, once a promising novelist now a creative writing teacher, works hard to care for his severely disabled son Joey who, despite his challenges, is still very much a typical teenage boy. He's aided in this by his younger sister Twyla and Joey's best friend Rowdy, who is afflicted with fetal alcohol syndrome. A clandestine affair with Robyn, a married woman, is Jake's only respite from the pressures of his life. But when Jake himself is suddenly stricken with a crippling condition, everything he wants for his family is put in jeopardy and all of them are forced to face some very hard questions about pain, mortality, and the true price of love. KILL ME NOW is a funny, shattering, and heartbreaking story about caring for and ultimately having to say good-bye to those we love.

Be warned. The production contains nudity and adult situations and is recommended for mature audiences only. And bring Kleenex.

There will be a low-cost preview on Thursday October 3 and a talkback with the actors and director will be conducted following the performance on Thursday October 10. For ticket information and purchase, call 518.822.9667 or visit www.stageworkshudson.org. And for further information about the show, visit www.kaliyuga.com.

FACT SHEET:

BRAD FRASER (Playwright) is one of Canada's foremost writers for the stage, in addition to being a director for stage and film, a talk show host, a columnist, a lecturer, and wearing many other hats. His play UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS AND THE TRUE NATURE OF LOVE premiered in 1989 and was filmed by director Denys Arcand as "Love And Human Remains". His POOR SUPER MAN (presented by Kaliyuga Arts in San Francisco in 1997) was nominated for a Governor Generals Award for Drama and was developed into a feature film called "Leaving Metropolis" with Brad himself as writer and director. POOR SUPER MAN and UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS AND THE TRUE NATURE OF LOVE were both listed by "Time Magazine" as one of the top ten plays of their respective years. Other works for the stage include MARTIN YESTERDAY, SNAKE IN FRIDGE, the musical OUTRAGEOUS , COLD MEAT PARTY, FIVE@ FIFTY, and TRUE LOVE LIES (presented by Kaliyuga Arts at Stageworks/Hudson this past spring). Brad's numerous awards have included The London Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright, The L.A. Critics Award, The Dora Mavor Moore Award, and London's Time Out Award for Best New Play. Brad is a five-time winner of the Alberta Culture Playwrighting Competition and a two-time winner of the prestigious Chalmers Award. He also worked as a writer and Supervising Producer on Showtime's highly popular "Queer As Folk" for three seasons and continues to develop scripts for film, TV and Stage.

STEVEN PATTERSON (Jake Sturdy) has performed in New York City and regionally with such theaters as South Coast Repertory, TheatreWorks, Capital Repertory, Stageworks/Hudson, Lexington Conservatory

Theatre, freeFall Theatre, Chenango River Theatre, Centenary Stage Company, Depot Theatre, Contemporary Opera Marin, and the Oregon, Orlando, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, and Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festivals. A few of his favorite roles have been King Lear, Jean Genet in BEAUTY, Austin Wiggin in THE SHAGGS: PHILOSOPHY OF THE WORLD, David in Brad Fraser's POOR SUPER MAN, Zach in A CHORUS LINE, the Creature in FRANKENSTEIN: THE MODERN PROMETHEUS, Ubu in UBU REX, and Judi Boswell in HOW TO PRAY. Co-Artistic Director of Kaliyuga Arts, he currently resides in Catskill, NY.

MOLLY PARKER-MYERS (Robyn Dartona) is an actor and singer based in the Hudson Valley. Molly is delighted to be working with the Kaliyuga Arts team again, after appearing in their previous productions of TRUE LOVE LIES (Carolyn) and THE MOUND BUILDERS (Cynthia). Other recent credits include A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC (Desiree) at Rhinebeck Theatre Society, THE DIVINE SISTER (Mrs. Levinson/Timothy) and FORBIDDEN BROADWAY at Stageworks/Hudson, THE LADIES MAN (Marie) at Shadowland Theatre and THE SOUND OF MUSIC (Elsa) at TriArts Sharon Playhouse. Other favorites include THE LANGUAGE ARCHIVE (Mary), HAIRSPRAY (Velma), THE DROWSY CHAPERONE (The Drowsy Chaperone), DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS (Muriel Eubanks) and FALSETTOS (Doctor Charlotte).

SAMUEL HOEKSEMA (Joey Sturdy) returns to Kaliyuga Arts after appearing as Royce in their production of Brad Fraser's TRUE LOVE LIES earlier this year. Originally from Calgary, Alberta, Samuel moved to New York in 2010, and attended the two-year Professional Acting Program at Circle in the Square Theatre School, graduating this past Spring. Select theatre credits include: LAZY PHILOSOPHY in which he originated the role of Evan (Manhattan Theatre Rep), WAITING FOR LEFTY as Sid (Circle in the Square Theatre), FIVE VARIATIONS ON HAMLET as Hamlet (Frost Theatre), and his own play THE RIGHT TO CHILDREN (Workshop Theatre) as Jack.

KAY CAPASSO (Twyla Sturdy) is an actor based in New York City. She received her Acting MFA at Actors Studio Drama School as part of the graduating class of 2012. Favorite NYC credits include Nan in AS WIDE AS I CAN SEE, Betsy in AFTER THE CIRCUIT, and both Reggie and Jackie in 3X3 or 9 AFTER 9. Prior to New York, she worked professionally in Chicago for three years. Some of her favorite credits there were Sarah in STOP KISS, Ingrid in BECOMING INGRID, and Chris in DANCING AT LUGHNASA.

JD SCALZO (Rowdy Akers) was most recently seen at the Strawberry One-Act Festival in ON THE UPTOWN 2 EXPRESS with Broadway Theatre Studio. He has been a part of several other new works including the New York City premieres of ENVOY with Ensemble, ATRIA in the Midtown International Theatre Festival, BAYSIDE THE UNMUSICAL! (a parody of "Saved by the Bell"), and in THE BLACK BOOK as part of the 2012 Araca Project. Additionally he originated the role of Andrew in the world premiere of FOLLOW ME DOWN with Aporia Theatre produced at The Flea Theatre. JD has also worked with several independent theater companies including RAL Productions, YATA, The Heights Players, and The Looking Glass Theatre. He is a graduate of Wagner College Theatre.

JOHN SOWLE (Director and Designer) has produced, directed, designed, and performed in hundreds of productions over the years. He founded Kaliyuga Arts in 1986 with his partner Steven Patterson and has received multiple awards for his directing and design work on their Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York productions. Last spring he directed and designed THE MOUND BUILDERS at Stageworks and earlier this year he directed and designed Brad Fraser's TRUE LOVE LIES. John co-directed the PLAY BY PLAY

festivals at Stageworks with Laura Margolis from 2010 through 2012. He also created the set and lights for their production of TENNIS IN NABLUS. In Manhattan, John recently directed and designed Beckett's ALL THAT FALL and Dan Carbone's KINGDOM OF NOT at the Cherry Lane and the Al Carmines/Gertrude Stein musical IN CIRCLES at Judson Church. John has an undergraduate degree from M.I.T in mathematics and received a PhD in Dramatic Art from UC Berkeley.

JENNIFER DOBIES (Production Stage Manager) returns to Kaliyuga Arts after stage managing their production of TRUE LOVE LIES and serving as Production Stage Manager and Artistic Associate for Stageworks/Hudson's 2013 summer season. Jen resides in Durham, NY and is a 2012 graduate of Mount Saint Mary College with a BA in English and a minor in Theater. In 2010, she produced, designed, and directed a Staged Reading of DOG SEES GOD. In her senior year, as an executive member of the Student Government Association, she designed the annual spring concert featuring We The Kings and Mayday Parade. And as President of the campus Drama club, she designed and directed an adaptation of RENT.

About Kaliyuga Arts

We live in terrible times. The Hindus call this Kaliyuga, the last of four ages during which the world slowly devolves into intolerance, entropy and, finally, utter annihilation. But within the madness, islands of sanity can be created. And we believe that the Theatre in particular is one of the things helping us to hold back the dark -- that it is, indeed, one of the few remaining places on Earth where people still gather to celebrate, affirm, and uphold *everything* that makes us human. Our production company, Kaliyuga Arts, was originally founded in Los Angeles, California in 1986. From its inception, it has been dedicated to the presentation of off-beat, challenging work, and has established an ever-expanding reputation for artistic excellence with a wide range of material. Based in San Francisco from 1990 thru 2004, New York City from 2004 thru 2010, and currently located in Catskill, NY (where we are hoping, within the next year, to convert a vacant warehouse into a theater space of our own), Kaliyuga Arts continues to present some of the most exciting, risk-taking and innovative theatre available to audiences anywhere. We love to take on impossible challenges - imaginative use of limited means characterizes our work in general. What we look for above all in the plays we produce is theatre that's going to stimulate artists and audiences alike, shake 'em up a bit, take them places they've never been before.

Calendar of Events

Preview: Thursday, October 3

Opening: Friday, October 4

Closing: Sunday, October 13

Performance Calendar

KILL ME NOW at the Cross Street Theater Center (home of Stageworks/Hudson)

Thursday October 3 at 8pm (Preview)

Friday October 4 at 8pm (Opening)

Saturday October 5 at 8pm

Sunday October 6 at 2pm

Thursday October 10 at 8pm (Talkback with cast and director)

Friday October 11 at 8pm

Saturday October 12 at 8pm
Sunday October 13 at 2pm (Closing)

Cast:

Kay Capasso, Samuel Hoeksema, Molly Parker-Myers, Steven Patterson, and JD Scalzo

Playwright:

Brad Fraser

Production Team:

John Sowle, Director/Designer; Jennifer Dobies, Production Stage Manger

Tickets:

For information regarding tickets, call the Cross Street Theater Center box office at (518) 822-9667. Information is also available at https://secure.stageworkshudson.org/buy_killmenow.php.

Single ticket prices are:

\$10 for the preview performance

\$25 for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday performances

\$20 for Students (with ID) and Seniors (65+)

\$15 for Disabled Patrons (with Parking Permit)

\$15 for the Thursday October 10 performance (includes a talkback with the actors and director)

Further Information:

For information regarding Kaliyuga Arts or KILL ME NOW specifically, contact Kaliyuga Arts by mail at 2678 Old Kings Road, Catskill, NY 12414, by phone at (212) 400-7571, or email John Sowle at john@kaliyuga.com or Steven Patterson at steven@kaliyuga.com. You may also visit our website for further information at www.kaliyuga.com.