



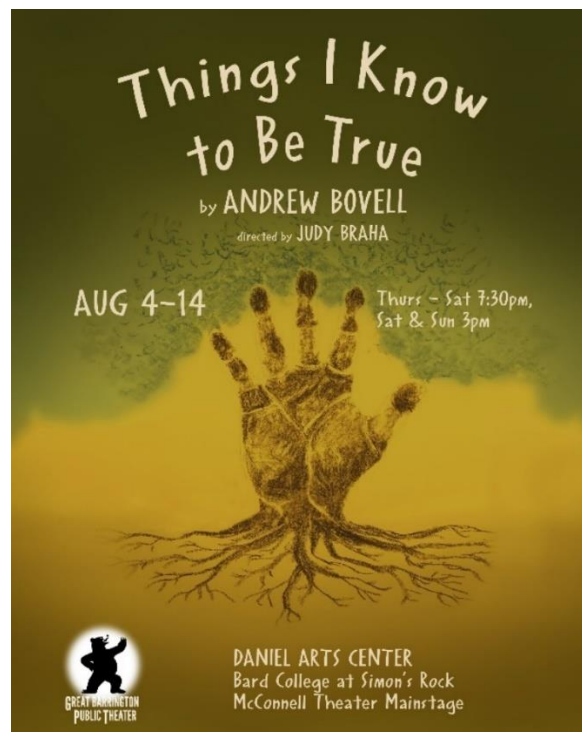
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For Immediate Release
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Note: Press opening Fri. August 5, 7:30pm.

July 20, 2022

Things I Know to Be True at Great Barrington Public Theater, August 4-14, turns an ordinary American family's unraveling, redemption and bonds of love into extraordinary theater.



"It's the most beautiful thing in the garden. It's the only thing that doesn't grow in a straight line and hasn't been pruned to within an inch of its life."

The GB Public Theater 2022 mainstage season continues Aug.4 – Aug 14 with an evocative, penetrating drama about the vicissitudes and complexities of family dynamics, self-identity and

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the nature and meaning of love today. Written by multi-award-winning Australian playwright Andrew Bovell, and rewritten for American audiences, it premiered in Milwaukee in 2019 to wide critical acclaim. It was slated for New York until Covid diverted plans. Earlier this year GBPT was able to secure rights for a brief East Coast premiere.

A year of change and unsettling discovery for the Price family is played out by a superb ensemble, including Corrina May; John Wojda; Liz Hayes; David Keohane; Raya Malcolm and Jo Michael Rezes. Directed by Judy Braha, who directed last year's hit *Mr. Fullerton*, ***Things I Know to Be True*** brings the realistic joy, fierceness, fears and dreams of the family to the McConnell Theater stage for ten performances only.

"I want a garden full of chaos and mess and places where you can hide and get away when you need to."

As audiences witness the resilience of enduring marriage and the changing nature of family love strained to breaking, they are drawn into individual dilemmas and decisions as parents and siblings drift apart, while reaching out to each other for identity, familiarity, love and rescue.

"I don't have the answers. Not now. Not yet. And if you keep asking I'm going to cry."

"When I first read ***Things I Know to Be True*** in 2019 I knew I wanted to find a slot for it. It's a multi-faceted, serious drama that will move audiences," GB Public artistic director Jim Frangione says. "It's intimate and personal, and challenges conventions and constructs as well as offering us a profound, poetic and entertaining look into the heart of an ordinary family today."

As director Judy Braha describes it, "***Things I Know to Be True*** is a beautiful new work. As four adult siblings struggle to grasp their lives independent from family, their parents grapple with the past, their children's unexpected choices and their very empty nest. The play captures family resilience, the shifting seasons of life and the conundrum we all face growing up as we run away only to be drawn back to our roots. Bovell paints a fascinating, complex world that is poetic, funny, audacious and brutally honest."

"I know that people aren't perfect. Even the people you love. Especially the people you love. And I know that love is not enough to save them."

Things I Know to Be True will be staged ten times only, from Aug. 4-14, Thurs.-Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm, in the McConnell Mainstage Theater, Daniel Arts Center, Bard College at Simon's Rock, 84 Alford Rd, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Tickets can be reserved on the [Great Barrington Public Theater website](http://www.GreatBarringtonPublicTheater.org).

The creative team and cast of ***Things I Know to Be True*** are available for interview.

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Liz Hayes (Pip)

Liz Hayes* (Pip) Recent acting credits include George Brandt's *Grounded* at The Gamm Theatre and *Into the Woods* with Fiasco Theater at McCarter, Old Globe and Roundabout Theaters and the Menier Chocolate Factory in London. She has appeared onstage with many Regional and Boston-based companies and has been nominated for both IRNE and Elliot Norton Awards. Liz is currently the resident Voice & Dialect coach on *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* and teaches in Columbia University's MFA Acting Program. She is married to actor Paul L. Coffey and Mom to Sean Frank Coffey. Member: AEA, SAG-AFTRA, VASTA and The Actors Center.



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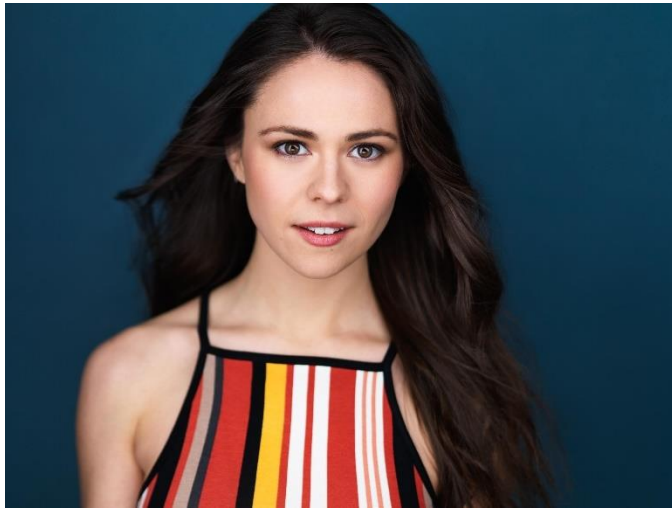
David Keohane (Ben)

David Keohane* (Ben) is a freelance actor, director, and arts educator currently based in the Mid-Hudson Valley. David is a graduate of Boston University, where he studied acting, directing, playwriting, and theater management. He also holds a Shakespearean acting certificate from the London Academy of Music + Dramatic Art. He has worked extensively in both Boston and Chicago. Locally, David is a teaching artist with Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, and has independently taught myth creation, dream reenactment, improvisation, and ensemble-building. Favorite performance credits include *Vanity Fair*, *The Crucible*, *Frankenstein*, *The Tempest*, *Comedy of Errors*, and *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. www.davidmkeohane.com.

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Raya Malcolm (Rosie)

Raya Malcolm (Rosie) is an actor, musician & devising artist living in upstate New York and is thrilled to be returning to GBPT, having previously appeared in *Breakwater* in 2019. She has worked with various regional theaters including Berkshire Playwrights Lab, Saratoga Shakespeare Company, Stages On the Sound and Troy Foundry Theatre, of which she is an Associate Artistic Director. Raya also makes up 1/3 of the indie-folk singing trio, Hold On Honeys. You can catch her this fall helping to devise an original, immersive musical with her Troy Foundry Theatre fam. When not acting or music-making, you can find her zenning out on her yoga mat. www.rayamalcolm.com. IG: @rayamalcolm, @holdonhoneys.



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Corinna May (Fran)

Corinna May* (Fran) Great Barrington Public Theater debut! Berkshires: Berkshire Theatre Group: *Shirley Valentine, Importance of Being Earnest, Holiday Memories, Benefactors, Same Time Next Year, Homestead Crossing, Two-headed*. WAM/BTG: *The Bakelite Masterpiece*. Shakespeare & Co.: 30+ (selected) *Morning After Grace, Roman Fever, The Memory of Water, A Winter's Tale, Enchanted April, Jack and Jill, Betrayal, Fortune and Misfortune, House of Mirth, A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Wharton Salon. Pythagoras Theatre. Broadway National Tour: *The Graduate* with all five Missus Rs. Regional (selected) Portland Stage Co., Merrimack Rep., Syracuse Stage, Rep. Theater of St. Louis, Capitol Rep. Film: *Split Ends* (starring); *Speck's Last*. TV: *House of Cards; Unforgettable; Law & Order*; PBS: *Evening at the Pops*. Playwright: *Dancing With the Czar*. Unions: AEA, SAG-AFTRA, Dramatists Guild.



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Jo Michael Rezes (Mark/Mia)

Jo Michael Rezes (Mark/Mia) is a nonbinary theatermaker from Greater Boston thrilled to be joining GBPT for *Things I Know to Be True!* Acting credits: *Rocky Horror Show* (Entropy Theatre); *Nosferatu, The Vampyr* (Sparkhaven Theatre), *The Inheritance* (SpeakEasy Stage Co. — Regional Premiere). Directing: *Trans [Plays] of Remembrance* (HowlRound.TV) and *Cloud 9* (AD, The Nora – Elliot Norton Award). Jo instructs gender and performance courses across the country (Yale Drama, UMass Law, Tufts). Their TEDTalk, *A Playful Exploration of Gender Performance*, is available online! Rezes is a proud Vassar alum, Ph.D. Candidate at Tufts University, and Lecturer in Theatre at Boston College. Learn more about Jo: www.JMRezes.com (they/them)



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John Wojda (Bob)

John Wojda (Bob) has performed on Broadway in *The Nap*, *Present Laughter*, *Two Shakespearean Actors*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Macbeth*. Among his many off-Broadway credits is an Obie award for *Ecstasy* at The New Group. John was featured in the first national tour of *Spring Awakening*, played London and Paris in *West Side Story*, and dozens of leading roles in resident repertories including four seasons at Canada's Stratford Festival. His television credits include *Dr. Death*, *FBI Most Wanted*, *Manifest*, *The Blacklist*, *Blue Bloods*, *Madam Secretary*, *Mr. Robot*, *Third Watch*, and all of the *Law and Order* shows. In Massachusetts; The Huntington Theater, Merrimack Repertory, North Shore Music Theater, Cape Cod Theatre Project and Berkshire Playwrights' Lab.



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Playwright Andrew Bovell

Andrew Bovell is an internationally recognized writer for stage and screen. His works for the stage include *The Secret River*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *Anthem* (2020), *Holy Day* (2001), *Who's Afraid of the Working Class?* (1998), *Speaking in Tongues* (1996), *Scenes from a Separation* (1995), *Ship of Fools* (1999) and *After Dinner* (1988). Productions of Andrew's plays are performed throughout Asia, UK, America and Europe. Andrew is adapting his play *When the Rain Stops Falling* into an opera with music by Quentin Grant. His film credits include *In the Shadow of Iris; A Most Wanted Man* (2014) an adaptation of John Le Carre's novel for director Anton Corbijn (starring Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Rachel McAdams, Willem Defoe and Robyn Wright) which premiered at Sundance Film Festival; *Edge of Darkness* (2010) starring Mel Gibson; and many more.



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Director Judy Braha

Judy Braha has been a director, teacher, actor, and arts advocate in New England for over three decades. Head of the MFA Directing program at Boston University School of Theatre for over 15 years and faculty member in the BFA Acting program for over 25, she most recently collaborated with the BU Prison Education Program and CFA Prison Initiative as a guest artist in André de Quadros' groundbreaking class *Empowering Song*. Co-creator of the BU CFA Collaborative Arts Incubator, with de Quadros and Jeannette Guillemin, she is most interested in nurturing heightened collaborative experiences and enlivening the arts for social justice. Braha's teaching and guest-artist credits also include Brandeis University, Emerson College, Yale University International Conference in Choral Conducting, MIT, Northeastern University, Wheaton College, Suffolk University, and Boston University Summer Theatre Institute. Professionally, she has directed regionally at many theaters including Actors' Shakespeare Project, Boston Center for American Performance, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New Repertory Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, and The Nora Theatre Company at Central Square Theater.

As a founding member of The New Ehrlich Theater in the 1980's, Braha directed many award-winning productions including *Bent*, *The Fifth of July* and *House of Blue Leaves*, paving the way

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for the amazing theater renaissance in Boston's South End. Braha continues to be a proud member of SDC, AEA, SAG-AFTRA and, of course, StageSource where she was a member of the Board of Directors for its first six years.

°Member Stage Directors and Choreographers (SDC) Union

Great Barrington Public Theater was founded by Artistic Director Jim Frangione and Executive Director Deann Simmons Halper to create opportunities for theater artists in the Berkshires and neighboring regions. Great Barrington Public Theater recognizes the many excellent playwrights, actors, directors, designers, administrators and technicians living in the Berkshires and surrounding areas. Our objective is to bring a mix of new and contemporary plays to the stage in a variety of formats; to generate and foster creative and rigorous opportunity for local theater artists, while engaging our theatergoing public with new and contemporary readings, workshops, and fully staged productions, involving local talent as often as possible, and always keeping ticket prices affordable.