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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The World Premiere of *The End of Sex: Tricky Territory* Creates Exciting Theatre Starring SARA BOTSFORD & TOM ORMENY

BURBANK, CA – March 18, 2019 – The Victory Theatre Center is proud to present the world premiere of *The End of Sex (Or What's Wrong With Mom)* by **Gay Walch**, directed by **Maria Gobetti**. Opening April 26 in Burbank, this boundary-pushing new drama continues a streak of hard-hitting entertainment from the Victory Theatre.

It's Nancy's birthday. Her daughter and son-in-law come to take the parents out to celebrate. But when new desires and old frustrations collide over dinner, all four slide into a tense standoff as Nancy questions her own collusion with the sexual agreements and power dynamics within her own marriage.

Using cutting humor and venturing into tricky territory, *The End of Sex (Or What's Wrong With Mom)* wrestles with how sexual behavior encourages and creates power arrangements – even in consensual relations.

“As soon as I read of this play, I knew the Victory wanted to produce it,” says Gobetti. “Gay Walch has written a riveting play about an adult consensual sexual relationship. She’s investigating concerns about women colluding with their own diminishment.”

Sara Botsford heads the cast with **Tom Ormeny**, **Austin Highsmith** (returning to the Victory after *Resolving Hedda*), **Chad Coe** (returning to the Victory after *Resolving Hedda*) and **Lianna Liew**.

“I am excited to do *The End of Sex* because it takes an unflinching look at the complexities of the relations, sexual and otherwise, of consenting adults,” says Botsford. “And really asks the question: Have we *really* come a long way, baby?”

Sara Botsford hails from a small mining village in northern Canada. Her first exposure to theatre was at age six, playing the Virgin Mary. Since then, she has worked extensively in Canada and the U.S. On film, she has tried to kill Meryl Streep, divorced Robert Redford and Jon Voight, bedded Kevin Costner and Richard Chamberlain, and was done in by Roy Scheider and Christina Ricci. She also spent some time hunting giant worms in **Tremors 4** (DVD Best Actress Nom.), and most recently costarred in **River**, the first North American film shot in Laos. Theatre highlights include: **Good People** at the Geffen (Ovation Nom. supporting actress), **Hamlet** (both Ophelia and Gertrude), **The Real Thing**, directed by Mike Nichols (Broadway and National tour), **Romeo and Juliet**, directed by Sir Peter Hall, **Top Girls**, (OBIE award) directed by Max Stafford Clark; **Private Lives**, **Present Laughter** directed by Brian Bedford; **Candida**, (Goodman theatre) two seasons at the Stratford Festival in Canada. Television highlights: Marilla in **Anne of Green Gables**, opposite Martin Sheen; The “rockin’ grandma” in **Holly Hobbie**, Lady Covington in the Nickelodeon series **Ride**; the animated Christmas special, **The Curse of Clara**; **Lizzie Borden**; the CBC series, **SOPHIE**; the award winning series **E.N.G.** (Best actress Award); She has done dozens of guest stars in various series in both Canada and the U.S.

Tom Ormeny started as a child actor in New York City. His first professional work was on Radio Free Europe. Most recently, he appeared at the Victory in the critically acclaimed **Resolving Hedda**, **Old Glory**, **My Old Friends** and **Broken Glass**. Other theatre acting credits include: **On the Money**, **Haunted Wilderness**, **Escape from Happiness**, **Meet the Wilsons** and **Oleanna**. Tom has also performed at International City, the Odyssey and the Met Theatres in Los Angeles. He has extensive film and television credits including **Primary Colors**, **Gang Related** and guest star appearances in **Mad Men**, **Grey's Anatomy**, etc., with some stints on the soaps **Days of Our Lives** and **General Hospital**. He has directed many productions at The Victory. His dramaturgy and direction earned the Victory's production of **Who's Your Daddy?** by Johnny O'Callaghan a critically acclaimed production at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Off-Broadway at the Irish Rep. He earned his DGA card directing for Disney. Tom has produced, directed and/or acted in over 100 productions at the Victory, the majority of them world premieres.

Gay Walch is a playwright, television writer, screenwriter, producer and blogger, working in a wide array of genres, from drama to comedy. Her plays include **The End of Sex (Or What's Wrong With Mom)**, **The Cradle of Maybe**, an official Eugene O'Neill Playwrights selection and first staged at the O'Neill theater in Waterford, Conn, then Interact Theatre; **Good Money** (Los Angeles Stage & Film), **The Perfect Box** (LaMama Annex), **Butch & Fem** (Circle Rep West), and **Heterosexuals In Crisis**, produced both in New York City at the Henry Street Theater and in Los Angeles at the Santa Monica Playhouse; **The Risk of Hardness** and **The Lobotomist**, both earned O'Neill Playwrights Semi-Finalists. Gay is a recipient of the Edward Albee Fellowship. Television work includes writing/producing drama series for networks and major cable outlets. Gay co-wrote and co-executive produced TBS's sci-fi action movie **Thrill Seekers**. In addition, Gay has written and co-produced two independent features, a suspense dramedy **Welcome To The Neighborhood** which was distributed by Harmony Gold, and a psychological, horror thriller **BTK**.

The creative team for THE END OF SEX includes set designer **Evan Bartoletti**, lighting designer **Carol Doehring**, sound designer **Noah Andrade**, costume designer **Lauri Fitzsimmons**, graphic designer **Jennifer Logan**, and photographer **Tim Sullens**. The dramaturg is **Gail Bryson**, and **Maria Gobetti** and **Gabriel Ormeny** produce for The Victory Theatre Center.

The End Of Sex opens for press on April 26, and runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 4 p.m. through June 2. Three preview performances take place on April 19 and 20 at 8 p.m., and April 21 at 4 p.m. Tickets range from \$28-\$40, except previews which are \$20. Senior & group rates are available. The Victory Theatre Center is located at 3326 W. Victory Blvd in Burbank, CA 91505. For information and to purchase tickets, call 818-841-5421 or go to www.thevictorytheatrecenter.org.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT:

World premiere of *THE END OF SEX (OR WHAT'S WRONG WITH MOM)* — Using cutting humor and venturing into tricky territory, *The End of Sex* wrestles with how sexual behavior encourages power arrangements even in consensual relations. What happens when one woman questions her own collusion with these arrangements? It's Nancy's birthday. Her daughter and son-in-law come to take the parents out to celebrate. All four slide into tricky territory.

WHO:

Written by **Gay Walch**

Directed by **Maria Gobetti**

Starring **Sara Botsford, Tom Ormeny, Austin Highsmith, Chad Coe, and Lianna Liew**

Produced by **Maria Gobetti, Gabriel Ormeny**

Presented by **The Victory Theatre Center**

WHEN:

Previews: April 19, 20, and 21

Opening: April 26

• **Fridays at 8 p.m.:** April 19 (preview), April 26 (Opening Night), May 3, May 10, May 17, May 24, May 31

• **Saturdays at 8 p.m.:** April 20 (preview), April 27, May 4, May 11, May 18, May 25, June 1

- **Sundays at 4 p.m.:** April 21 (preview), April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2

WHERE:

The Big Victory Theatre
3326 W Victory Blvd
Burbank, CA 91505

HOW:

818-841-5421 or www.thevictorytheatrecenter.org

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- Follow us on twitter: [@Victory_Theatre](https://twitter.com/Victory_Theatre)

TICKET PRICE:

- General Admission: \$28
- Preferred Seating: \$40
- Previews: \$20