



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **ROCK OPERA WITH BITE or LGBTQ+ VAMPIRES INVADE NEW YORK**

**NEW YORK, NY** – Librettist Heather Jopling & composer David Velarde are thrilled to announce the debut of their original vampire rock opera *Mythos: The Crimson Chorus* at the 2018 New York Musical Festival (NYMF). *Mythos* premieres as an official selection of the NYMF Concert Series this August at the Green Room 42 - 570 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue (4<sup>th</sup> Floor of Yotel) from Aug 2 through Aug 4<sup>th</sup>.

With music running the gamut from orchestral rock to grunge, blues and pop, *Mythos* spins an alternative tale of star-crossed lovers. An arrogant vampire is cursed to love and lose the same human for all eternity. Will the lovers subvert the curse or will they be forever doomed?

*Mythos* offers audiences the opportunity to view theatre through a nonstandard lens. Each of three concerts is cast in a distinctive manner. A female vampire seduces a male human for one audience; hetero-normative relationships play out in the next concert; another audience witnesses LGBTQ+ dynamics. Through diverse casting and fluid character portrayals, *Mythos* challenges traditional expectations of attraction and desire. The cast of 13 includes: Janine DiVita, Derek Ferguson, Leo Grinberg, David LaMarr, Elisha Marie, Jenn Susi, Emily Seibert, Cathy Ang, Rachel Caron, Nichole Forde, Glen Llanes, Eddie Rodriguez Jr. and Damien Smith.

**CONCERT DATES:** Thursday, Aug 2 6:00 p.m. (Traditional casting), Friday, August 3, 7:00 p.m. (Alternative casting), Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m. (LGBTQ+ casting). Tickets \$29.50

The New York Musical Festival nurtures the creation, production, and public presentation of stylistically, thematically, and culturally diverse new musicals to ensure the future vitality of musical theater.

Now in its fifteenth year, the Festival is the premier musical theater event in the world. The preeminent site for launching new musicals and discovering new talent, the Festival provides an affordable platform for artists to mount professional productions that reach their peers, industry leaders, and musical theater fans. More than 90 Festival shows have gone on to productions on and Off-Broadway, in regional theaters in all 50 states, and in more than 24 countries worldwide. Festival alumni have received a wide array of awards including the Tony Award® and the Pulitzer Prize. In 2013, NYMF received a special Drama Desk Award in recognition of its work "creating and nurturing new musical theater, ensuring the future of this essential art form."

NYMF is the flagship program of National Music Theater Network, Inc., a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization. 2018 NYMF is sponsored by The City of New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, PRG, TheaterMania, Clear Channel Outdoor, Tinc Productions and Fox Stage Productions and is supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, and by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

The NYMF PASS is a great way to experience The New York Musical Festival. With a NYMF PASS, you can get into the theater before individual ticket holders. Passes also offer the exclusive ability to book tickets before they go on sale to the public. Individual tickets on sale now.

The 2018 New York Musical Festival will take place July 9th - August 5th. For more information, please visit: [www.nymf.org](http://www.nymf.org)