

FERMAT'S LAST THEATER  
PRESENTS SINGER/STORYTELLER TOM KASTLE IN

# JOE HILL

ALIVE AS YOU  
AND ME

A multimedia  
show about IWW  
legend Joe Hill and the  
war between capital  
and labor from  
1890 through  
the 1920's



**Folksinger Tom Kastle's** performance of the musical play, Joe Hill, Alive as You and Me, celebrates the legacy of the martyred poet and labor leader. It is an evening of songs, stories, and solidarity, and a remarkable 70-minute collective experience.

**Joe Hill – Alive as You and Me** tells the story of the legendary IWW organizer and songwriter, his life, death and martyrdom.

Using images, songs and stories, **Tom Kastle** and his guitar use Joe's life as the lens to examine the shooting war between capital and labor from 1890 into the 1920's. From Sweden to San Pedro California, from Salt Lake City to Chicago, from Seattle to Paterson New Jersey and Lawrence Massachusetts, members of the Industrial Workers of the World, the Wobblies, fought for their lives, dignity and a little beauty.

The **Wobblies** were an industrial union and represented all the workers in a mine, mill or factory and welcomed all races, creeds and colors and demanded equality for women.

Through songs, stories and speeches, they sought to create a unique culture that encompassed all of the lives of working men and women. Their spirit lives on! When asked by a boss what they wanted, they had a simple answer – everything.

And we meet some important and colorful characters along the way – **Lucy Parsons, Big Bill Haywood, T-Bone Slim, James Connolly** and **Mother Jones**. This show debuted in 2022 in Madison, Wisconsin and has toured the Woody Guthrie Center in Tulsa, the American Labor Museum in Haledon, NJ, site of the Paterson Silk Strike, Chicago and the Universities of Akron and Michigan State and many other cities.

“

Your visit to the museum meant a great deal to us and your performance was truly award winning. Everyone loved it and enjoyed singing along with you. Congratulations on the outstanding work that you do. Your program is such a valuable teaching tool that should be performed in every school in America. Solidarity Forever!”

— **American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark**

“

Tom Kastle is sounding sweeter than ever these days, especially in his 'natural habitat' as he leads the whole crowd in Joe Hill songs.”

— **Marilyn Rea Beyer/Midnight Special WFMT**

“

Joe Hill, Alive as You and Me is a one-man show, two if you count Kastle's guitar. They took the rapt audience through a sometimes laughing journey, with some class war horrors en route.”

— **Patrick Chura, Distinguished Professor of English, University of Akron**

Bring this show to your town, campus, museum or union hall. We are now booking shows for Fall 2025 and all of 2026. For information email [fermatstheatermadison@gmail.com](mailto:fermatstheatermadison@gmail.com) and put **Joe Hill show** in the subject line.

Listen to **The Preacher and the Slave**, one of many songs from the performance!

<https://on.soundcloud.com/Dv6eSt6k2MxkHZju7>

**Fermat's Last Theater** is based in Madison, Wisconsin and is dedicated to using words, music and images to address injustice and inequality through works of documentary theater.

Visit us at [fermatstheater.org](http://fermatstheater.org)