



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The Comedy and Drama of a Community Art Center:  
theatre KAPOW presents *Circle Mirror Transformation*, December 4 - 8, 2013**

theatre KAPOW presents ***Circle Mirror Transformation*** by Steinberg Award-winning playwright Annie Baker, December 4 - 8 at Studio 550 in Manchester, NH.

In the small town of Shirley, Vermont, an unlikely collection of strangers sign up for Marty's "Adult Creative Drama" class: a recently divorced carpenter, a high school junior, a former actress, and Marty's husband. Unfolding like a charmingly funny indie film, the group plays Marty's imaginative (and sometimes awkward) theatre games. But as their relationships develop over the course of the summer, the seemingly silly games generate some real-life drama. This delightful comedy, called an "absorbing, unblinking and sharply funny play" by the *New York Times*, celebrates the subtle and surprising power of creativity. ***Circle Mirror Transformation*** premiered in New York at Playwrights Horizons, won the 2010 Obie Award for Best New American Play and was voted one of the top ten plays of 2009 by *The New York Times*, *Time Out New York*, and *The New Yorker*.

theatre KAPOW is pleased to be collaborating on ***Circle Mirror Transformation*** with Studio 550 Community Arts Center. "Studio 550 is a community arts center in downtown Manchester that believes art is for everyone, regardless of skill, age, or background," says Programs Director, Monica Leap. "Everyone has the capacity to be creative. At a young age we know that inherently. As we grow older, we tend to forget. Studio 550 gives big kids and little kids alike an excuse to play."

***Circle Mirror Transformation*** is being directed by Lowell Williams, an acclaimed playwright, director and actor and a prominent member of the NH theatre community. A graduate of the MFA program at Goddard College, his plays *SIX NIGHTS IN THE BLACK BELT*, *THE WARMTH OF THE COLD*, and others have been widely produced throughout the region and the US. He recently collaborated with theatre KAPOW to bring a reading of his play *LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS* to the New England Theater Conference.

The ensemble actors includes Carey Cahoon, Katie Collins, Aaron Compagna and Gary Trahan of Manchester, and Olivia Dodd of Dunbarton. theatre KAPOW's sixth season features a series of events based upon the theme of "awake." The company will focus on an exploration of awakenings of human consciousness. This season's shows demand of artists and audiences both a sense of heightened awareness not only of what is happening in the world around us but also of what it means to be a human being.

Performances are Wednesday, December 4 and Friday, December 6 at 7.30 pm and Sunday, December 8 at 3:00pm at Studio 550 in Manchester. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students. For tickets or more information, visit [www.tkapow.com](http://www.tkapow.com).

### **About Annie Baker**

Annie Baker grew up in Amherst, Massachusetts. She received the 2013 Steinberg Playwriting Award. Her other full-length plays include *The Aliens* (Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, OBIE Award for Best New American Play), *Body Awareness* (Atlantic Theater Company, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations for Best Play/Emerging Playwright) and *Nocturama*. She is a member of New Dramatists, MCC's Playwrights Coalition and EST, and she is an alumna of Youngblood, Ars Nova's Play Group and the Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab. Recent honors include a New York Drama Critics Circle Award, a Susan Smith Blackburn Prize nomination, a Lilly Award, a Time Warner Storytelling Fellowship, and a MacDowell fellowship.

### **About theatre KAPOW**

*theatre KAPOW* ([www.tkapow.com](http://www.tkapow.com)) develops ensemble productions of great dramatic literature to explore the human experience and inspire and challenge both artist and audience. tKAPOW places emphasis on the importance of rigorous formal training to develop an ensemble of skilled and dedicated theatre artists.

Now in its sixth season, tKAPOW has established a reputation for presenting important dramatic literature including productions by August Strindberg, Henrik Ibsen, Sam Shepard, David Mamet, Sarah Ruhl, and Tony Kushner. tKAPOW also supports the development of new work through an annual 24 Hour Play Festival and an original performance piece in the spring. The editors of New Hampshire Magazine named theatre KAPOW the Best Contemporary Theatre in New Hampshire for 2013.

*theatre KAPOW* is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.

Visit [www.tkapow.com](http://www.tkapow.com) to learn more.

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Photo Captions:

109: Carey Cahoon, Katie Collins, Olivia Dodd, Gary Trahan, and Aaron Compagna in theatre KAPOW's production of *Circle Mirror Transformation* by Annie Baker, December 4, 6, and 8, 2013. <http://www.tkapow.com/>. Photo by Matthew Lomanno Photography.

128: (clockwise from top) Katie Collins, Aaron Compagna, Carey Cahoon, Olivia Dodd and Gary Trahan in theatre KAPOW's production of *Circle Mirror Transformation* by Annie Baker, December 4, 6 and 8, 2013. <http://www.tkapow.com/>. Photo by Matthew Lomanno Photography.