



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Carey Cahoon

(603) 785-5724

ccahoon@tkapow.com

**theatre KAPOW reads *Work Song* at the Currier Museum of Art
July 13, 2014**

theatre KAPOW continues the ARTiculate Playreading Series in partnership with the Currier Museum of Art on Sunday, July 13 at 2 pm. Jeffrey Hatcher and Eric Simonson's *Work Song* is read in relation to the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Zimmerman House, which is part of the Currier's collection.

In this thrilling and imaginative play about the famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, audiences get an in-depth look at the master builder at three distinct phases of his life and career: in Act One, as a young man in a hurry to change the way people live and finding inspiration in Mamah Cheney, a unconventional (married) woman who becomes the great love of his life and leads to his greatest tragedy; in Act Two, as a doubting genius at the crossroads, fending off creditors and reeling in clients before he salvages himself by coming up with one of his greatest creations, the house called "Fallingwater"; and in Act Three, as an old showman at twilight, visiting a house from his past and taking stock of his sacrifices and successes in his quest to build the perfect dwelling. *Work Song* is about Wright's ideas, his passions, his love affairs and his tragedies. It's a play about a man who wanted to create the perfect home for the American family but could never build one for himself.

The Isadore J. and Lucille Zimmerman House (1950) was designed by one of the world's greatest modern architects, Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959). Wright designed the house, the interiors, all the furniture, the gardens, and even the mailbox. In 1979 the building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Dr. and Mrs. Zimmerman left the property to the Currier in 1988. In 1990 the house and grounds were opened so that visitors could enjoy glimpses of a private world from the 1950s and 1960s, including the Zimmermans' personal collection of modern art, pottery, and sculpture. Many people believe that the Zimmerman House is a total work of art. The only Wright home open to the public in New England, it is also one of only a few Wright buildings owned and operated by an art museum.

"Many elements in the play raise questions about form versus function in designing a home," said Carey Cahoon, theatre KAPOW co-founder. "In particular, in the third act of the play, those questions turn to what makes a house a home, and what happens to it when it passes from its original builder to another owner. Wright (the character) explains what it means to have a home designed by him. He and the other characters discuss the importance of a music room, use of

windows and natural light, low ceilings, and the maintenance necessary to keep these homes up. So many of those issues resonate with the Zimmerman House.” The ARTiculate Playreading Series gives audiences the opportunity to hear new or rarely produced plays that relate to special exhibitions at the Currier or objects or artists in the museum's permanent collection. After each of the readings, stay for a conversation lead by local experts in the fields of fine art, dramatic literature, and politics.

The reading of *Work Song* will feature the largest company of theatre KAPOW actors to date for the ARTiculate Playreading Series. Director Matthew Cahoon will lead the eight actors including Neal Blaiklock, Joel Breen, Carey Cahoon, Gina Carballo, Dave Heard, Peter Josephson, Mark Marshall, and Colby Morgan. Discussion will be led by Dr. Landis K. Magnuson, Professor of Theater at Saint Anselm College, and Jane Seney, Senior Educator at the Currier and manager of the Zimmerman House tour program. The ARTiculate Playreading Series is supported by New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Admission to the readings and participation in the discussions is free with museum admission (\$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for students). **Passes for free admission to the museum** may be checked out from more than 90 public libraries across the state. Students, faculty and staff from seven area colleges also receive free admission to the museum.

About theatre KAPOW

theatre KAPOW (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 seventh 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 to learn more.

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12. Wayne Asbury, Peter Josephson and Gina Carballo in theatre KAPOW's ARTiculate Playreading Series at the Currier Museum of Art. <http://www.tkapow.com/>. Photo by Matthew Lomanno.

127. theatre KAPOW's ARTiculate Playreading Series at the Currier Museum of Art. <http://www.tkapow.com/>. Photo by Matthew Lomanno.

151. Dr. Landis K. Magnuson leads a discussion at theatre KAPOW's ARTiculate Playreading Series at the Currier Museum of Art. <http://www.tkapow.com/>. Photo by Matthew Lomanno.