



Experience the Unforgettable

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**History Theatre's new musical celebrates
the power of music to improve children's lives,
and honors the legacy of a Minnesota composer.**

SAINT PAUL, MN – History Theatre will produce the world premiere of a new musical by local artists Dominic Orlando (book and lyrics) and the late Hiram Titus (composer). ***The Working Boys Band*** tells the story of Professor C.C. Heintzeman, a German-born educator who believed in the power of music to give structure and purpose to people's lives, especially for the children who worked in the mills and factories of Minneapolis in the years before Child Labor Laws. The story of the Minneapolis Working Boys Band and its founder was suggested to History Theatre back in 2010 when Titus handed a photo of the band circa 1915 and his first draft of the opening number to artistic director Ron Peluso. In September of 2013, Titus submitted the show's finale just days before suffering a fatal cardiac arrest; Raymond Berg joined the team to finish the musical arrangements.

The Working Boys Band was part of History Theatre's 2013 RAW STAGES New Works Festival and a Next Stages workshop in the summer of 2013. The world premiere is produced in partnership with McNally Smith College of Music, MacPhail Center for Music, and Walker West Music Academy, and will feature actors Jon Andrew Hegge, Kendall Anne Thompson, Martin Ruben, Randy Schmeling, Carl Schoenborn, Jen Burleigh-Bentz, Christian Bardin, and the recipient of the 2013 Ivey Award for Emerging Artist, Ricardo Vázquez. They will be joined by a band and ensemble made up of Joshua Harrison, Keegan L. Robinson, Jack Alexander, Mary Bair, Elyse Barnard, Charlie Couture, Nic Delcambre, Shelby Ernst, Jonah Harrison, Atlee Jensen, Izzy Karr, Rory Mitchell, and Raphael Ruggero.

The Working Boys Band

OPENS: Saturday, May 3, 2014

CLOSES: Sunday, June 1, 2014

PLAYING: Thurs, Fri, Sat. @ 8 p.m. | Sun. @ 2 p.m. | Thurs. @ 10 a.m.
Complete performance schedule is included on page 4

TICKETS: Tier 1 **\$40**; Tier 2 **\$36**; Tier 3 **\$32**
Seniors (60+ years old) get \$2 off | Students (5 to 18 years old): **\$15**
Discount rates are available for groups of 12 or more.

Audio Described and ASL interpreted performance on 5/18/14 at 2:00 p.m.

Performing at History Theatre, 30 East Tenth Street | St. Paul, MN 55101

History Theatre Box Office at 651.292.4323 or www.historytheatre.com/tickets/

Promotional photos and photos provided by the Heintzeman family
are currently available for download <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gt8bja78rivud3x/yljQ9sKMiq>.
Production photos will be posted by Friday, May 2.

continued

About the Play

In 1917, as America entered The Great War, Professor Heintzeman worked to build support from the civic leaders of Minneapolis for a marching band that would keep boys out of trouble after their shifts in the mills and factories. Instilling the principals of discipline, commitment, and camaraderie into a group of teenage boys from myriad ethnic backgrounds was no small feat, especially when his every move was scrutinized by the Commission of Public Safety – a board appointed by the governor to investigate and suppress any disloyalty or disruption of the public order; they were particularly suspicious of those with German heritage. Heintzeman presses on, spurred both by his faith in the children and his assistant's faith in him. Love begins to flourish in a couple of unexpected places as the Professor, his assistant, and his Working Boys Band manage to pull together in time to march in the Loyalty Day parade.

About the Artists

Dominic Orlando

PLAYWRIGHT AND LYRICIST

In June, Dominic will be heading to a residency at Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Ground Floor to work on book and lyrics for the commissioned musical, *The Barbary Coast* about the criminal underworld during the California Gold Rush. Other commissions include the screenplay adaptation for his *Danny Casolaro Died for You*, optioned by Caliber Media/Aviation films, and *Hammer & Sickle* an adaptation of Don DeLillo's short story for ArtsEmerson in Boston. Dominic is a two-time Jerome Fellow and McKnight Fellow to the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis, where he's a founding producer at The Workhaus Collective, the Center's company-in-residence, co-producing eighteen world premieres since 2007, including his own *Short Play About Globalization* (2007), *The Sense of What Should Be* (2009) and *A Short Play About 9/11* (2011). In the twin cities he has worked with the Guthrie Theater, Jungle Theater, Theatre Forever, Red Eye, Off-Leash Area, Teatro Del Pueblo, and the Minnesota Fringe. He's a co-creator of *Fissures {Lost & Found}* (with Dominique Serrand, Steve Epp, Nathan Keepers and writers of the Workhaus Collective) which premiered at the 2010 Humana Festival of New American Plays. *Danny Casolaro Died for You* will have its Midwest premiere this October at TimeLine Theatre in Chicago.

Hiram Titus

COMPOSER

Minneapolis native Hiram Titus was a musical prodigy who studied piano with world-renowned musicians and composers from the time he was 12 years old. After graduating from Oberlin College, he became composer-in-residence at the Children's Theatre Company. During more than 30 years in the twin cities' arts community, Mr. Titus composed dozens of productions for both the Guthrie Theater and Children's Theatre Company. Some of his most popular works include *Great Expectations*, *Hamlet*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Peter Pan*, and *Dr. Seuss' The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins*. Titus also served as the composer for History Theatre's *Hormel Girls* in 2007. National opera houses commissioned works from him including *Rosina* which premiered at the Minnesota Opera and has enjoyed many productions across the country. As a gifted music director and pianist, he wrote and directed choral works for Unity Christ Church, serving as composer-in-residence for the more than 15 years. He composed for TV movies such as *Alice in Wonderland* and *Puss in Boots* (for which he received an ACE Award), and the 1987 film *The Little Mermaid*. Hiram Titus passed away on September 16, 2013 after succumbing to a cardiac arrest.

Raymond Berg

MUSICAL ARRANGER

Raymond is pleased and honored to provide the orchestrations for *The Working Boys Band*. His arranging has been heard at the History Theatre in *Sisters of Swing* and *Christmas of Swing*, where he appeared onstage as Vic. Raymond has received Ivey Awards for Musical Direction for Jungle Theatre's *Urinetown* in 2013 and *Love, Janis* at the Ordway McKnight in 2007. He is well known in the Twin Cities for his musical direction.

Ron Peluso^{*†}

DIRECTOR

Now in his 19th season as Artistic Director, Ron has commissioned over 60 playwrights and composers and produced more than 50 original works, including the popular *Sisters of Swing* and *Beyond the Rainbow*. He has also commissioned and directed Jeffrey Hatcher's critically acclaimed scripts *A Piece of the Rope* and *Tyrone & Ralph*. He commissioned *The Incredible Season...* from Eric Simonson after directing his Broadway-hit play *Lombardi* in 2012. He has directed over 150 professional productions with such companies as Florida Stage, Riverside Theatre, Pennsylvania Opera Theater, Mixed Blood Theatre, Old Creamery Theatre, and the Minnesota Opera. Ron holds an M.F.A. in Directing from the University of Minnesota.

Andrew Fleser

MUSIC DIRECTOR

This is Andrew Fleser's fourth production with History Theatre, having previously served as music director for *This Side of Paradise* (for which he received Best Music Director 2013 from Lavender Magazine) and *The Christmas Schooner* (2010), and as assistant music director for *Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story* (2011). Andrew has also served as music director for productions with Skylark Opera, Dead Composers Society, Hamline University, and the University of Minnesota. He is currently an instructor of Keyboard and Music Theory at McNally Smith College of Music, and music director at Valley Community Presbyterian Church in Golden Valley. He received his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Collaborative Piano at the University of Minnesota.

Special Events

Afterthoughts

Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

Patrons are invited to stay for a lively post-show discussion following every Sunday matinee featuring artists and special guests talking about topics related to the production

FREE to ticketed patrons

Complete performance schedule is included on page 4

About History Theatre

Since 1978, the History Theatre Experience has created:

- Inspiration. The History Theater Experience brings real stories about real people to the stage in an immediate experience that touches our lives.
- 116 world premiere performances, more than any other theater in the Twin Cities. The History Theatre is one of the country's most impressive new play development homes – bringing to full production new work by Jeffrey Hatcher, Melanie Marnich, Craig Wright, Kim Hines, Dorie Baizley, John Olive, Kira Obolensky, and more.
- Brave, entertaining explorations of all the histories that make up our diverse community. From *Farm Boys* to *Snapshots: Life in the City*, from the celebratory *Wellstone!* to the dark, complex *Piece of the Rope* about Minnesota's first public execution, HT has moved Minnesotans to rediscover, relive, and respect every piece of their history. More than 200,000 students have connected with history through performances at HT.

ACCESSIBILITY

History Theatre is equipped with an FM hearing enhancement system. We offer ASL interpreted and Audio Described performances. We have complimentary wheelchairs for those patrons who need extra assistance into the building. The handicap-accessible entrance is on Cedar St. Just inside the entrance is an elevator that will take patrons to the theatre level. Patrons are asked to indicate any special needs that when ordering tickets.

continued

History Theatre
The Working Boys Band
At the HISTORY THEATRE
Performance Schedule, 2014

Thursday, May 1	<i>Preview (Pay What You Can)</i>	8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 2	<i>Preview</i>	8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 3	<i>Opening</i>	8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 4	<i>Afterthoughts</i>	2:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m.
Thursday, May 8		10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 9		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 10		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 11	<i>Afterthoughts</i>	2:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m.
Thursday, May 15		10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 16		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 17		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 18	<i>Afterthoughts</i>	2:00 p.m. <i>ASL/AD</i> 4:15 p.m.
Thursday, May 22		10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 23		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 24		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 25	<i>Afterthoughts</i>	2:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m.
Thursday, May 29		10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 30		8:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 31		8:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 1	<i>Afterthoughts</i>	2:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m.

AD/ASL = Audio Description & American Sign Language interpreted performance