



COMPANION STAR

a living laboratory for the creative process

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CONTACT

Michael Douglas Jones
Companion Star

631-827-1964
Michael.jones@companionstar.org

Companion Star to Co-Produce Donald Knaack's Green Rap Opera, ODIN

Belpport, NY – The LongIsland-based performing arts organization Companion Star has entered an agreement with Vermont Composer and percussionist, Donald Knaack, to produce his rap opera ODIN.

A true “green” opera, the orchestral instruments are made entirely from recycled garbage. Playwrights Workshop Montreal and the Swedish percussion ensemble Kroumata have joined as supporting partners in this production.

Companion Star is a living laboratory for the creative process: its goal is to create, produce and present breakthrough music-theatre works that reflect the spectacular diversity of the world. It are dedicated to providing a safe haven where artists from many countries, ethnic backgrounds, walks of life and stages in career can unleash their raw creativity through improvisation. Its revolutionary and high-yield method mines the psychological process of creation and allows every stage of a project’s creation to emerge organically. In this fast-moving world, there is much art that is made quickly—too quickly - and the result is often unsatisfying to both performers and audiences. There is a longing for artists to create work in a new way. Companion Star was founded out of this longing and the belief that investing time and deep collaborative work in a project will yield world-shattering results.

Like all of its productions, Odin will be developed in a workshop-oriented system intended to dissolve conventional performance boundaries and hierarchies. The premiere is scheduled for 2011.