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**A.R.T./MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training
presents
THE BOSTON ABOLITIONISTS PROJECT
Devised by the Class of 2013 & Steven Bogart
Directed by Steven Bogart
May 24-31
Loeb Drama Center**

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - The American Repertory Theater/Moscow Art Theater School Institute for Advanced Theater Training ends its 2012-13 Season with ***The Boston Abolitionists Project***, devised by the Class of 2013 and Steven Bogart, and directed by Bogart. The production runs May 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, and 31 at 7:30pm at the Experimental Theater in the Loeb Drama Center Harvard Square, Cambridge.

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 passes and sends panic through the North Slope of Beacon Hill. Slave Catchers are on the hunt in northern cities like Boston. Thousands of free African Americans are fleeing the country. Abolitionists are challenging The Constitution of the United States. Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has become a national literary phenomenon. Anthony Burns, a former slave living freely in Boston is arrested. People in Boston and as far away as Worcester are rallying to save Burns from a return to slavery, as the country heads toward the Civil War.

Director **Steven Bogart** is a playwright, stage director, teacher, and visual artist. He directed *Cabaret* for the A.R.T., *Legally Dead* for Boston Playwrights' Theater, and has collaborated on projects including projects with Neil Galman, James Carroll, Kate Snodgrass, and Amanda Palmer. He leads workshops in collaborative playwriting around the state of Massachusetts and has created over 50 workshop theatre pieces. His plays have been performed at Boston Theater Works, Boston Theater Marathon, in New York and Chicago. Bogart was a 2009 Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant recipient in playwriting, is an Artist-in-Residence in theater at Southern New Hampshire University, and has taught acting for Emerson College.

Developed as part of The National Civil War Project, ***The Boston Abolitionists Project*** is a devised theater piece that explores the turmoil surrounding the people of Massachusetts during the mid-eighteen fifties leading up to the dawn of the Civil War.

Admission is free. Tickets should be reserved by calling the A.R.T. Box Office at (617) 547-8300; or online at <http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org>

The Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard was established in 1987 by the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) as a training ground for the professional American theater. Its programs are fully integrated with the activities of the A.R.T. In the summer of 1998, the Institute commenced a historic joint program with the Moscow Art Theater (MXAT) School. Students engage with two invaluable resources: the work of the A.R.T. and that of the MXAT, as well as their affiliated schools. Together, this exclusive partnership offers students opportunities for training and growth unmatched by any program in the country. The core program features a rigorous two-year, five-semester period of training in acting, dramaturgy, or voice pedagogy, during which students work closely with the professionals at the A.R.T. and the MXAT as well as with the best master teachers from the United States and Russia. At the end of the program, students receive a Certificate of Achievement from the faculty of the American Repertory Theater and an M.F.A. Degree from the faculty of the Moscow Art Theater School. Further information about this program can be obtained by calling the Institute at (617) 495-2668 or online at <http://www.harvardtheatertraining.org>.