THEATER + SCIENCE + HARMONY: MOTION INSTITUTE LAUNCHES KICKSTARTER CAMPAIGN FOR THE KEPLER STORY

Motion Institute has just launched a one-month Kickstarter campaign to raise \$40,000 towards the production of *The Kepler Story*, an immersive theater performance set to run at California Academy of Sciences Morrison Planetarium in October 2013: http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/2117013622/the-kepler-story-theater-science-harmony One week in, the campaign has reached 25% of its goal, but the organization is looking to astronomy buffs, theater fans and others to push it to 100%.

"The Kepler Story is the first live theater performance about an astronomer set in a planetarium dome," said Nina Wise, writer and director of *The Kepler Story*. "This Kickstarter campaign lets our supporters have a personal hand in bringing Johannes Kepler's incredible story and discoveries to life in the dome." Kickstarter is a popular crowdfunding platform where creative and innovative projects get funding from a wide base of backers online.

The Kepler Story, a collaborative production of Motion Institute and CAS, is a performance work about 17th Century astronomer and mystic Johannes Kepler and his vision of the harmony of the universe. Performed by Norbert Weisser, the piece integrates spectacular visuals, deeply moving music by Zoe Keating, and state-of-the-art sound design, to create an immersive 3D experience in the planetarium dome that transforms the minds and bodies of audience members.

The campaign's financial goal will help fund the costs of the production's artistic team. A range of fantastic rewards give backers a rare opportunity to directly support the artists and get personally involved. Rewards include an intimate dinner with writer/producer Nina Wise and composer Zoe Keating, behind the scenes access to the production of *The Kepler Story* and an invitation to a dress rehearsal, Nina Wise's original script, art by Bay Area artists and more.

Kickstarter campaigns are on an all or nothing basis. Motion Institute must meet its goal of \$40,000 by August 19th or it will not receive any funding. Visit the campaign and pledge your support today: www.kickstarter.com/projects/2117013622/the-kepler-story-theater-science-harmony. Like *The Kepler Story* on Facebook to get updates and help spread the word: www.facebook.com/thekeplerstory. Full project information at www.thekeplerstory.org

Motion Institute is a Bay Area nonprofit theater production company that offers audiences a singular view of current issues, presented in ways that are contemporary, innovative and embedded in the narratives of their own lives. www.motioninstitute.com

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