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For Immediate Release

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Lawrence Howard in the World Premiere of John “Babbacombe” Lee

Armchair Adventurer Series

Fridays and Saturdays, January 18, 19, 25, 26 at 8 pm

Hipbone Studio, 1847 East Burnside Street, Portland

Photographs: <http://www.lawrencehoward.name/presskit.htm>

Show Website: <http://www.portlandstorytheater.com/armchairadventurer/adventurer.htm>

About Lawrence: <http://www.lawrencehoward.name>

Portland, OR – January 3, 2013 – Portland Story Theater cofounder Lawrence Howard, who took his one-man show *Shackleton’s Antarctic Nightmare* to New York’s United Solo Festival last fall, relates a true, historical tale about the “man they could not hang.” John “Babbacombe” Lee was convicted of murdering his master in a three-ring circus of a court, but his execution failed three times—was it mechanical failure, witchcraft, or was it stayed by divine hand? This 90-minute production will take place at Hipbone Studio for four shows only on January 18, 19, 25 and 26, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.

"This is a story that Armchair Adventurers, history buffs, lovers of all things England, Steampunk aficionados, and those of you who just plain love a good mystery will enjoy." says Howard. "It’s been a fascination of mine ever since I heard the band, *Fairport Convention*, sing the folk opera during my college days."

John "Babbacombe" Lee, a story set in Victorian England, is an exciting whodunit, complete with scandalous reporting from the Victorian tabloids known as the "penny dreadfuls." Lawrence Howard weaves together a fascinating range of topics, including Victorian morals and class divisions, master-servant relations, the English legal system, and the history of capital punishment, focusing on the development of a new invention – the long-drop method of hanging.

Like all of Lawrence Howard’s work," says director Lynne Duddy, "this is a true, historical story that has been painstakingly researched and is historically accurate. But it’s presented as a compelling narrative – real storytelling – not as a report or a lecture."

Tickets are \$15.00 and are available for purchase online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/278767> or at the door on the day of the show for \$20.00. Special discounts available and are posted on our Twitter and Facebook Social Media Pages. For all media inquiries in reference to John “Babbacombe” Lee please contact Lynne Duddy, Media Contact, 503.284.2226 or by email at tellers@portlandstorytheater.com.

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