

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mark Cannistraro (212) 923-4552

"How wonderful it is to finally have the opportunity to enjoy and savor the score of Richard Isen and Erik Haagensen's A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE with its original cast. This is a show with real wit, wisdom and lyricism. If you're a fan of "Six Feet Under," you'll love A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE."
-Stephen Flaherty (Tony Award®-winning composer of Ragtime, Anastasia, Once On This Island, Seussical)

Clearsong Records Announces July 6th Release of "A Fine And Private Place" Cast Recording

(New York, NY--June 10th, 2004) **CLEARSONG RECORDS** is pleased to announce the July 6th release of the long-awaited Premiere Cast Recording of **"A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE,"** the 1989 musical based on the best-seller by **PETER S. BEAGLE** ("The Last Unicorn") with book and lyrics by **ERIK HAAGENSEN** and music by **RICHARD ISEN**. Featuring the talents of Broadway veterans **GABRIEL BARRE** ("Starmites"), **EVALYN BARON** ("Les Miserables," "Scrambled Feet"), **MAUREEN SILLIMAN** ("Is There Life After High School?" "Pictures in the Hall"), **BRIAN SUTHERLAND** ("Steel Pier," "1776") and **CHARLES GOFF** ("Drood," "State Fair"), the recording can be purchased from major music retailers as well as online outlets such as Amazon.com and CD Baby. Individual songs from the recording can be downloaded from Apple iTunes, Napster and AOL's Music Net. For more information, please log onto the recording's official website at www.afandpp.com.

This recording is the first in musical theatre history to reassemble the entire original cast of a musical some 15 years after the final curtain came down. All of the performers on the CD originally performed their roles at Goodspeed's Norma Terris Theatre in 1989 and were reunited for the 2004 CD.

"A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE" tells the story of Jonathan Rebeck, who lives in a Bronx cemetery courtesy of his feathered friend, a wise (and wisecracking) Raven, who flies in stolen fast food in exchange for companionship. Rebeck helps newly arrived ghosts to accept death, after which they vanish. But Michael Morgan has other plans. A ghost at only 34, he wants to live. His efforts bring chaos into Rebeck's life in the form of perpetually visiting widow Gertrude Klapper. He also romances the shy Laura, who never experienced love while alive. But Michael has a secret, which could destroy everything. How Michael and Laura find love after death and how Gertrude cajoles Jonathan back to life in the real world comprise the conclusion of this whimsical and touching fantasy.

ERIK HAAGENSEN is a playwright-lyricist whose musicals have been seen in regional theatres across the country. He devised the critically acclaimed Off-Broadway York Theatre production of "Taking a Chance on Love: The Lyrics and Life of John Latouche," which was subsequently recorded by Original Cast Records. Most recently, he wrote the book and lyrics for the new musical "Summer" (music by Paul Schwartz), based on the novel by Edith Wharton, which was selected to receive a National Endowment for the Arts New American Works grant and won a Richard Rodgers Development Award. It was chosen as one of nine

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musicals (culled from 186 entries from 16 countries) to be showcased in the International Festival of Musical Theatre's "Sony Global Search for New Musicals" in Cardiff, Wales. His other credits include the reconstruction of Alan Jay Lerner and Bernstein's original, pre-Broadway version of "1600 Pennsylvania Avenue," (Kennedy Center) and his reworking of the Jule Styne musical, "Darling of the Day," (York Theatre Company's Musicals in Mufti), which is slated to receive a full production in Chicago in 2005. Erik is also a writer and editor for Back Stage, where he pens the column "Making Musicals."

RICHARD ISEN's musical theater scores include: "Spring Awakening," written with David Petrarca and Joel Beard and produced by the Chelsea Theater; "Salford Road: A Musical Photograph," (written with Grammy Award Winning producer Stefan Rudnicki and poet Gareth Owen and winner of The Edinburgh Festival Fringe First Award; and "Night City Diaries," a cabaret piece based on poet Arthur Rimbaud produced by Playwright's Horizons. Richard has written music for downtown theater artists and companies including Obie award winning Lee Nagrin's groundbreaking WHORL at the St. Mark's Church, La Mama and Mabou Mines as well as television (earning him an Emmy nomination for original music), radio and beep-tone music for some of the very first commercial software available from Apple Computer. His first CD release, "Let It Fall," is also available on Clearsong Records. Richard holds an MFA in Musical Theatre from New York University and is a member of ASCAP.

Musical Direction is by **HENRY ARONSON**. The recording was produced by **KRISTEN BLODGETTE** and **DAVID LAI**.

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