

MEDIA ADVISORY

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National Academy of Sciences Announces Staged Reading of *Moving Bodies*, Play about Richard Feynman

WASHINGTON – Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences (CPNAS) and Tonic Theater Company announce a staged theatrical reading of Arthur Giron’s *Moving Bodies*, a play chronicling the brilliant life of Nobel Prize-winning scientist Richard Feynman. The performance is directed by Rachael Murray and it features Nick DePinto, Drew Dicks, Ilona Dulaksi, Liz Dutton, Kurt Elftmann, Michael Gabel, Brit Herring, Caitlin Partridge and Laura Rocklyn. It is the third collaboration between CPNAS and Tonic Theater Company. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation commissioned *Moving Bodies*.

From his role in the development of the atomic bomb to his controversial testimony at the investigation of the Challenger disaster, Feynman casts a long shadow across the worlds of physics and mathematics. Through playwright Arthur Giron’s eyes, we see how Feynman became one of the most influential scientists of the 20th century. The performance includes a 15 minute intermission and is followed by a post-show discussion with Giron and producer Kurt Elftmann.

Giron is an educator and professional playwright. He was formerly head of the Graduate Playwriting Program at Carnegie Mellon University. His work was on Broadway last season, having co-written the book for the epic musical *Amazing Grace*. Giron's 15 plays are performed in the U.S. and abroad. Among them *Emilie's Voltaire* was awarded The Galileo Prize for dramas with science content. He is founder of Ensemble Studio Theater in New York, a theater dedicated to the development of new plays. He lives in New York City.

The reading is on Monday, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the National Academy of Sciences Auditorium, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Reservations and photo IDs are required. No charge. To make a reservation, visit <http://movingbodies.eventbrite.com>

Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences sponsors exhibitions, film screenings, theatrical readings, the quasi-monthly salon called D.C. Art Science Evening Rendezvous (DASER), and other events that explore relationships among the arts and sciences. For more information, visit www.cpnas.org.

Tonic Theater Company is dedicated to increasing knowledge and understanding of history and science through theater, particularly the development and presentation of new plays. Tonic is committed to using technology to serve and expand its community and to making history and science theater both entertaining and self-sustaining. In 2016 Tonic will present its first full production, *Darwin at Down*, by Gino DiIorio, an intimate portrait of the conflict between Charles and Emma Darwin over Charles's decision to publish his theory of evolution in *On the Origin of Species*. For more information, visit <http://www.tonictheater.org/>

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