

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

217 Records

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Longfellow’s “The Song of Hiawatha” Released as Limited Edition 5-CD Recording

PORTLAND, MAINE (*October 1, 2007*) – In honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 217 Records announces the release of a special 5-CD boxed set of Longfellow’s epic poem “The Song of Hiawatha.”

Michael Maglaras, founder of 217 Records, recorded this masterpiece in its entirety in Longfellow’s hometown of Portland, Maine. Accompanied by a soundtrack of more than 1,000 pieces of Native American music and sound effects, Maglaras brings the story of Hiawatha – more than 6,500 lines – to life for a modern audience.

Maglaras is an independent businessman, filmmaker, classically-trained musician, and founder of 217 Records in Stamford, Connecticut – a label devoted to celebrating the American artistic experience through recordings of American poetry and alternative rock and jazz.

Longfellow began “Hiawatha” in June of 1854 and, writing at a feverish pace, completed it by March, 1855. Published in that year, it immediately became a national best-seller, selling 10,000 copies within a few months. “Hiawatha” is a narrative poem rich with imagery and profound beauty. Weaving together old Native American legends from many North American tribal nations, “Hiawatha” is the story of America’s first superhero.

This special limited edition bicentennial 5-CD boxed set is available at the Maine Historical Society Museum Store in Portland, Maine and online at:

<http://www.two17records.com>

On Saturday, December 1st at 1:00 p.m. Maglaras will do a special live performance of “The Song of Hiawatha” in its entirety at the St. Lawrence Arts & Community Center in Portland, Maine. This five hour performance will have four intermissions and complimentary refreshments. Free and open to the public.

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