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## **Multi-Sensory Experience Offers New Way to Explore Lippitt House Museum**

(Providence, RI) A new multi-sensory installation at Lippitt House Museum provides an innovative way for visitors to explore the building's life over many generations. **Back to the Work: Encounters with Historical & Contemporary Voices** creates an immersive experience with props, lights, sounds and voices -- both historical and contemporary -- to understand those who built the house and continue to care for it today. The installation is created by Strange Attractor Theatre, who combine investigative research with an interactive experience. Back to the Work opens on March 4 and runs twice a week through the end of April.

As visitors move through the museum's furnished period room on the first floor, they encounter lights, props and audio recordings that explore the theme of 19th century labor and make connections to work and labor issues today. The building comes to life through the voices of the people responsible for caring for it and creating the many objects that surround us. Guests discover and discuss the people – past and present – whose work make Lippitt House Museum's beautiful environment possible.

An unusual approach for a historic house museum, Back to the Work allows visitors to experience the house in a new way and hear stories not usually told. "We were looking for a way to involve contemporary artists in a project that would provide visitors a new way to experience Lippitt House Museum and help tell a broader story of all the people connected to the house – not just the Lippitt family but also the servants who lived and worked there as well as the craftspeople who built the house," comments Museum Director Carrie Taylor.

Lippitt House was built in 1865 for Henry Lippitt, 33rd Governor of Rhode Island and owner of several textile mills in Rhode Island. The building remained in the family for 114 years and was home to four generations. It has been designated a National Historic Landmark for its significance as one of the best preserved Victorian interiors in the country. Today, it shares both the stories of the Lippitt family and those of the servants who lived and worked in the house.

Back to the Work runs Tuesdays at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 2:00 pm from March 4-April 29. The experience features a timed entrance so visitors explore the rooms together. While it is not guided, visual and sound cues guide guests through the rooms on the first floor. Admission is free, but reservations are required due to limited capacity.

Lippitt House Museum is an ADA-accessible property located at 199 Hope Street in Providence. For further details, visit [www.LippittHouse.org](http://www.LippittHouse.org) or call (401) 453-0688.

Back to the Work is supported by the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, an independent state-affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council seeds, supports, and strengthens public history, cultural heritage, civic education, and community engagement by and for all Rhode Islanders.

### **About Lippitt House Museum**

Preserve Rhode Island's 1865 Lippitt House Museum offers guided tours, special exhibitions, lectures, art installations, concerts, and family programs. A National Historic Landmark, Lippitt House has one of the best preserved Victorian interiors in America, allowing visitors to step into Providence's Golden Age. Following the Lippitt family's example of public service, the Museum's cultural programming promotes civic engagement, the arts, and history of Providence.

**[www.lippitthouse.org](http://www.lippitthouse.org)**

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