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# Rockaway Press

M E D I A R E L E A S E

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## Debut Performance of *Mario the Peddler* SOLD OUT!

Tony Bottagaro's one-man show *Mario the Peddler* played to a sold-out audience at the Colorado History Museum Friday night. The show, a fundraiser for the upcoming exhibit "The Italian Americans of Denver," was a complete success. Mario captivated the audience of over three hundred as he walked with them along the streets of New York from his home in Little Italy through Downtown to Battery Park.

Friday night was the debut performance and the first in a series of *Mario the Peddler* shows for author Tony Bottagaro. He breathed life into the gutsy main character of his gritty bestselling novel, *The Poet, The Count and The Peddler*. At the end of the performance, each member of the audience left with their own personal copy of the novel. Many stood in a long line to have their autographed by Tony.

As the evening unfolded, the audience found not only hope for the future, but also discovered the child within through the magic of the peddler's trinkets. Mario took the members of the audience on a journey in which they uncovered their own deep-seated faith and their hope for the future. As Mario hawked his wares trinket by trinket, they eagerly awaited to hear about each one and the bits of wisdom and slices of humor associated with it.

The show has a message of unconditional love and Bottagaro's presentation was warm, uplifting, and inspirational, leaving those watching with the feeling that a Mario lives in us all of us, regardless of our age, ethnicity, or position in life. It let the soul speak and forced the heart to listen!



Mario  
the  
Peddler™

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