

Artist: **A.R.T. Players**, with original score by **Marianne Nowottny** Title: *Provocative Dramas by Arch Oboler* Time: Two tracks, 53 minutes Format: CD, 8-page booklet Label: Abaton Book Company, ABC#036 UPC: 675130544924 Release date: **September 13, 2011** 

Abaton Book Company is pleased to introduce a new audio drama series: Abaton Radio Theater, produced and directed by Lauri Bortz, engineered by Mark Dagley. We proudly present Abaton Radio Theater's first release, *Provocative Dramas by Arch Oboler*, a tribute to the master of the medium.

Arch Oboler was to radio what Rod Serling was to TV, an innovative writer/producer/director who favored spine tingling, socially conscious science fiction and horror stories, and politically charged, left-leaning dramas. Oboler (born 1907 in Chicago) began scripting radio shows as a teenager and rose to success with the 1930s thriller anthology *Lights Out*. He went on to create the wartime series *Arch Oboler's Plays*, in which great stars acted out topical stories that exposed the often abated cruelty of life at battle and acknowledged the many hardships suffered by those on the homefront.

This CD contains new recordings of *Catwife* and *Baby*, two plays first aired in the late '30s. *Catwife*, the most popular play in Oboler's *Lights Out* series, is the chilling story of a once loving marriage gone horribly awry. The greatest bogey man of all time, Boris Karloff, originated the lead. *Baby*, which Joan Crawford once starred in, is a psychological drama portraying a young wife's struggle to come to terms with the possibility of motherhood and the certainty of World War.

Abaton Radio Theater's productions of *Catwife* and *Baby* feature the A.R.T. Players: Lauri Bortz, Amy Fulgham, Jordan Kaplan and Brady Ovson, with an original score by Marianne Nowottny, a singer/songwriter/composer who has released several CDs and 45s on the Abaton label.

For more information on *Provocative Dramas by Arch Oboler* and Abaton Radio Theater, email <u>abatonbookcompany@comcast.net</u> or visit <u>www.abatonbookcompany.com</u>