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Contact: Katy Fuller, Marketing, Membership, & Events Manager

Address: 59 School Street, Edgartown, MA 02539

Phone: (508) 627-4441 x123

URL: <http://www.mvmuseum.org>



**TONY HORWITZ PRESENTS NEW BOOK IN
CONJUNCTION WITH MUSEUM CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT**

Tuesday, December 13th ~ 5:30pm ~ Museum Library

Edgartown, MA – December 2, 2011 – In conjunction with the ongoing exhibit, *We Are Marching Along: Martha's Vineyard and the Civil War*, the Museum is welcoming author Tony Horwitz to discuss his latest book. *Midnight Rising: John Brown and the Raid that Sparked the Civil War* tells the story of John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry that divided the union between North and South.

Few Americans know the true story of the militant idealists who invaded Virginia before the Civil War. Horwitz describes John Brown's insurrection in vivid detail, illuminating a nation on the brink of conflict. Brown saw the destruction of slavery as a fulfillment of America's founding principles. But unlike most abolitionists, he was prepared to spill blood. In 1859, he formed a private army backed by Northern conspirators known as the Secret Six. That same year at a mountain hideout in Maryland, Brown convened a guerrilla band of eighteen men who invaded Harpers Ferry, seizing its massive federal armory, freeing slaves, and vowing to liberate every bondman in the South. The crisis brought calls for secession and helped elect Abraham Lincoln, who later began to fulfill Brown's dream with the Emancipation Proclamation.

Tony Horwitz is the bestselling author of *Confederates in the Attic*, *A Voyage Long and Strange*, *Blue Latitudes*, and *Baghdad without a Map*, as well as a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has worked for *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New Yorker*. He has also been a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University and a visiting scholar at the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University. He lives on the Island with his wife Geraldine Brooks, and their two sons.

Tony Horwitz will speak in the Museum Library on Tuesday, December 13th at 5:30pm. Admission is \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members. Books will be available for purchase and signing. A reception will be held in the Civil War exhibition.

Visit www.mvmuseum.org for more information about upcoming programming and exhibits. The Martha's Vineyard Museum is dedicated to furthering an interest in, experience of, and appreciation for the history and culture of the Island and its environs. The Museum is open year round, 10am to 4pm Monday through Saturday. Admission is free to Members; admission for non-Members is \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children 6 to 15 and free for children under the age of 6.