OPEN ROAD INTEGRATED MEDIA AND CONCORD FREE PRESS ANNOUNCE THE EBOOK PUBLICATION OF *ZIG ZAG WANDERER* BY MADISON SMARTT BELL

Zig Zag Wanderer is the 9th ebook Open Road has published from Madison Smartt Bell

Book helps Concord Free Press reach \$500,000 in donations

New York, NY (September 21, 2015) — Open Road Integrated Media, a digital publisher and multimedia content company, announced today an agreement with Madison Smartt Bell to publish his story collection *Zig Zag Wanderer: Stories from Here, Stories from There* as an ebook on September 29, 2015. The book's print edition was published in 2014 by Concord Free Press, the Massachusetts publisher that gives away high-quality original paperback books and encourages readers to donate to outside organizations or individuals in need in exchange for a free book. The Concord Free Press edition of *Zig Zag Wanderer* has inspired more than \$45,000 in generosity around the world, helping the publisher to reach the \$500,000 mark in donations raised. With this new agreement, Bell will donate at least 15% of his earnings from the Open Road ebook edition to Concord Free Press.

Open Road has previously published eight Madison Smartt Bell titles, including *The Washington Square Ensemble, Straight Cut, The Year of Silence,* and *Soldier's Joy*.

Stretching from New York to Haiti to Paris to London, *Zig Zag Wanderer* is a collection of eighteen stories informed by Bell's eye for revealing detail and his ability to draw empathy for his characters— most of them outsiders in one way or another. All of the stories are influenced by music, and by Bell's interest in the musicality of prose.

"We are excited to welcome *Zig Zag Wanderer* into the Open Road catalogue of Madison Smartt Bell ebooks," said Jane Friedman, CEO and Cofounder of Open Road Integrated Media. "This addition is a prime example of Open Road's commitment to reinvigorating the backlists of great writers."

"We're proud to see Madison's fantastic collection *Zig Zag Wanderer* published in an ebook edition with the innovative team at Open Road," said Stona Fitch, Editor-in-Chief of Concord Free Press. "Great books can have many lives, moving from one format and approach to another—all to reach new readers."

Madison Smartt Bell is a critically acclaimed writer of more than a dozen novels and story collections, as well as numerous essays and reviews for publications such as *Harper's* and the *New York Times Book Review.* His books have been finalists for both the National Book Award and the PEN/Faulkner Award, among others. He is well known for his Haitian Revolutionary trilogy: *All Souls' Rising, Master of the Crossroads,* and *The Stone That the Builder Refused.*

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