



**Gregg Opelka** has written music and lyrics for nine musicals, including *The Beverly Hillbillies*, *The Musical*, which will have its Chicagoland world premiere in summer 2014 at Theatre at the Center, Munster, Ind. Based on the popular TV comedy, *The Beverly Hillbillies*, *The Musical* is written by two-time Tony Awards nominee and veteran TV comedy writer David Rogers. Additionally, Opelka has written scores for other popular musicals including: *Hotel d'Amour* (based on Georges Feydeau's *A Flea in Her Ear*); his two-woman French cabaret send-up *C'est la*

*Vie* (formerly *La Vie Ennui*), which was named "one of the eight wonders of 2002 Chicago theatre" by *Chicago Reader*; *Monky Business*, which was dubbed the male version of *Nunsense* by the *Houston Chronicle* at its opening in Galveston, Texas; and his screwball comedy musical, *Soup du Jour*, winner of numerous awards around the United States, including two Jeff Awards in 2002 for its Chicago debut. His first children's musical, *Snow White*, with book by two-time Emmy Award winner Donna Swajeski, premiered in 2013 at the Delaware Children's Theatre. Opelka's two nonmusical plays, the rom-com *Marrying Terry* and one-act thriller *The Lavender Necktie*, premiered respectively at Victory Gardens Theater in 2007 and at American Globe Theatre in New York City in 2011. For Evanston-based Light Opera Works, he created new English lyrics for seven German and French operettas, including *The Merry Widow*, *The Duchess of Chicago*, *The Isle of Tulipatan* and *The Chocolate Soldier*. His award-winning musicals and plays have been produced all over North America, Europe, Russia and Australia. Outside the world of theatre through his company Vox Poetarum (Voice of the Poets), Opelka has created the only complete audio book of Virgil's *Aeneid* in the original Latin.

*Photo: Carol Saller.*

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