

**the
process
series**

NEW WORKS IN
DEVELOPMENT

The Story of Us

April 15 & 16

By UNC LGBTQ+ Alumni

Presented by the Process Series, Carolina Pride Alum
Network, and StreetSigns Center for Literature and
Performance



**SouthernOral
HistoryProgram**

UNC - Chapel Hill
Department of Communications

Directed by Joseph Megel**

Script edited by Elisabeth Lewis Corley

Oral Histories of E. Patrick Johnson, Janora McDuffie, Cecil Wooten, Tony Kearney, Sara Isaacson, Henry Clayton Jackson, Terri Phoenix, Larry Alford, Ken Sherrill, Robert Reid-Pharr, Jeremy Crouthamel, Cedric Brown, Elliott Kozuch, Mark Kleischmidt, Dick Allen, Katie Hultquist, Joseph Herzenberg, Tom Carr, Amanda Maris, Maia Bar Am, P. Allen Gray, Jr., Emmy Johnson, Michael Lau, Will Thomason, Blake Huffman, Christina Fisher, and Sherri Zann Rosenthal.

Technical Director Will Bosley

Music provided by DJ VSPRTN

Projections by Bronwyn White & Liam Bradford

Sound & Lights by Tech Factory

Production Staff

Dramaturg..... Elisabeth Lewis Corley
Graphics..... Alayna Fennell
Web Design.....Alayna Fennell & Evan Davison
Marketing Assistant..... Sariel Singletary & Cindy Lin
Box office..... Kajayla Powell, Sariel Singletary, & Cindy Lin
Press & Marketing..... Claire Walsh & Cindy Lin
Assistant Producer..... Brendan Hilliard

Communication Studies

Avi Santo, Chair

StreetSigns Center for Literature and Performance

Elisabeth Lewis Corley, Executive Producer

** Indicates Member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers

Cast

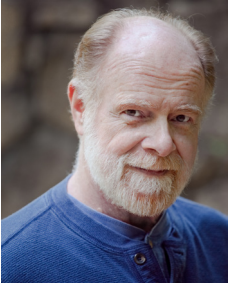
Narrators

Played By

E. Patrick Johnson.....	E. Patrick Johnson
Janora McDuffie.....	Janora McDuffie*
Cecil Wooten.....	Max Von Essen*
Tony Kearney.....	Philip McAdoo*
Sara Isaacson.....	Vivienne Benesch*
Henry Clayton Jackson.....	Eric Rosen*
Terri Phoenix.....	Sam Peterson
Larry Alford.....	David Adamson*
Ken Sherrill.....	Andrew Carlberg
Robert Reid-Pharr.....	Thomas King (TeKay)
Jeremy Crouthamel.....	Chris Chiron
Cedric Brown	Cedric Brown
Mark Kleinschmidt.....	Thurston Cherry*
Dick Allen.....	Chris Chiron
Katie Hultquist.....	Vivienne Benesch*
Joseph Herzenberg.....	Eric Rosen*
Tom Carr.....	David Adamson*
Amanda Maris.....	Leah Ai Ling Woehr
Maia Bar Am.....	Donna Dyke
P. Allen Gray, Jr.	Steve Dobbins
Emmy Johnson.....	Leah Ai Ling Woehr
Michael Lau.....	Naveed Moeed
Will Thomason.....	Thurston Cherry*
Blake Huffman.....	Naveed Moeed
Elliott Kuzuch.....	David Terry
Sherri Zann Rosenthal.....	Elisabeth Lewis Corley*
Christina Fisher.....	Elisabeth Lewis Corley*

* Indicates Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

Actor Bios



David Adamson

Adamson spent over 40 years as a member of PlayMakers and enjoyed playing various roles in productions such as *Death in Everybody*, *Leaving Eden*, and *An Enemy of the People*. He also spent six seasons with the NC Shakespeare Festival, as well as 15 years in New York City working with theater companies like the Veterans Ensemble Theatre Co, Riverside Shakespeare, and the Public Theatre.



Vivienne Benesch

Benesch is a director, producer, actor, and teacher. She is the Producing Artistic Director of PlayMakers Repertory Company and was the Artistic Director of Chautauqua Theater Company and Conservatory. With an OBIE Award for her performance in Lee Blessing's *Going to St. Ives*, Vivienne has worked on and Off-Broadway, in film and television, and at many of the country's most celebrated theaters.



Cedric Brown

Brown is a longtime creative. He is the author of *Tar Heel Born: A Native Son Speaks on Race, Religion, and Reconciliation*. Cedric recently returned to his hometown of Winston-Salem after 30 years in the San Francisco Bay Area, with his partner Ray driving the UHaul.



Andrew Carlberg

Carlberg is an Academy Award-winning film, television, new media, Broadway and Los Angeles stage producer, named “Hollywood’s New Leaders” by *Variety*. His recent credits include producing the films *Sister of the Groom* and *The Fallout*, as well as executive producing the short film *Anna*.



Thurston Cherry

Cherry is an actor, content creator, voiceover artist, and writer from Raleigh, NC who gained a social media following through his Dumbdumb call video segments and viral Black History Month video. He brings his creative energy to Hollywood and continues to put a smile on everyone’s face with his originality and signature phrase “ThanxThanx”.



Chris Chiron

Chiron earned his masters in communication studies at Carolina. A veteran locally of productions by Wordshed and StreetSigns, Chris has regularly collaborated with the Process Series on new works.



Elisabeth Lewis Corley

Corley is a multi-talented writer, actor, founder of the Atlanta Shakespeare Company, and producer with experience in poetry, screenwriting, and translations. She has performed and worked with various Off-Broadway shows including Signature Theatre Company, 47th Street Theatre, Harland's Creek Productions, and Triangle Theatre. Corley holds an MFA in Poetry from the Warren Wilson Program for Writers and a BA with Highest Honors in Poetry from UNC-Chapel Hill.



Steven Dobbins

Dobbins is a UNC alumnus and a longtime University employee who has enjoyed acting and singing on Triangle stages for the last 25 years. He has performed the entire canon of Gilbert & Sullivan comic operettas with the Durham Savoyards, of which he is a former President. He thanks Joseph Megel for the opportunity to join *The Story Of Us*.



Donna Dyke

Dyke (she/they) is a trans artist, organizer, and grower based in Chapel Hill, NC. While the bulk of her recent organizing and artistry have involved drag and queer nightlife, she is very excited to be dipping her toes back into stage acting :). Connect on IG: @ladyyyke



E. Patrick Johnson

Johnson is the Dean of the School of Communication at Northwestern University and a performer whose research and artistry have significantly impacted African American, performance, and sexuality studies. He is the founder and director of the Black Arts Initiative at Northwestern and a Project& artist. Johnson is the author of two award-winning books, *Appropriating Blackness* and *Sweet Tea*, and has edited several critical anthologies, including *Black Queer Studies* and *solo/black/woman*.



Thomas King (TeKay)

TeKay is the Artistic Director and Program Head of Theatre at Southwest Tennessee Community College, with degrees from UNC and the University of Memphis. He recently directed the regional premiere of *Immediate Family* at Theatre Memphis, and has performed on Broadway and in regional productions. TeKay was also part of the world premiere production and recording of Michael Ching's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* opera a cappella.



Philip McAdoo

Dr. McAdoo is a former Coca-Cola Scholar, Broadway performer, LGBTQ activist, and educator. He has worked to combat homophobia and advocate for the rights of LGBTQ youth, families, and educators. He specializes in character development from the perspective of diversity and inclusion and has written articles

and conducted workshops on the topic. He is the author of two books and the Founder and COO of Philip McAdoo Diversity and Inclusion Consulting, LLC.

Janora McDuffie

McDuffie, originally from Durham, is a talented actress, host, and voice over artist. She has appeared on several TV shows, including *Grey's Anatomy*, and currently stars as Aunt Liz in the hit film *Praise This*. McDuffie is also known for her work as a host on the award-winning web series, *No More Down Low TV*, which celebrated LGBT+ people of color.



Naveed Moeed

Moeed is local writer, actor and photographer. He was most recently seen in the role of Hugo for Switchyard Theatre's production of *Present Laughter* and has stage-managed productions at the Communications Department at UNC. A current board member at Bare Theatre and The Quaker Project (a multimedia storytelling collaboration).



Sam Peterson

Peterson is the author of *Trunky* (transgender junky), and *Sugar, A Memoir of Craving*. His current projects are "The Gay Blade," a queer knife-aficionado show, and "Why Live!?" an inspirational podcast, both on YouTube. He lives in Durham with Walter, his cat.





Eric Rosen

Rosen is a writer, director, and producer who founded About Face Theatre, Chicago's LGBTQ theater company. He was also the Artistic Director of Kansas City Repertory Theatre and his work has been seen across the country at notable theaters. He is currently working on a series about the rivalry between Bram Stoker and Oscar Wilde.



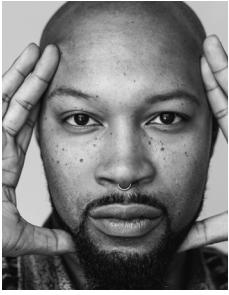
David Terry

Terry is Ph.D. alumn of the Communication Studies department at UNC. He received tenure and promotion as a professor of performance studies at San Jose State University and Louisiana State University. He lives in Durham where he works as a writer and executive coach.



Max Von Essen

Von Essen is a Tony, Drama Desk and Grammy-nominated actor and singer known for his role in *An American in Paris*. He double majored in Vocal Performance and Economics at UNC, co-founded Company Carolina, and received the John L. Haber '70 Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Arts in 2017.



DJ VSPRTN

DJ VSPRTN can be seen around the triangle. You can catch them at their vinyl set in Annexe every third Friday or “Renaissance Disko “ at Rubies at Five Points in Durham. They have also opened for acts like Moor Mother, Benjamin Damage, DJ Haram, Khrysis & Nick Sanborn (of Sylvan Esso).



Leah Woehr

Woehr is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Communication at UNC Chapel Hill. She is a performance studies scholar, interested in storytelling, identity, and the Asian American Diaspora. Woehr is thrilled to be a part of this project and to work alongside these fantastic performers.

About CPAN

Carolina Pride Alum Network (CPAN) is an alumni affinity group, which seeks to foster community among LGBTQIA+ alumni, faculty, staff, and students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Our purpose is to engage the LGBTQIA+ constituency to increase involvement and drive progress for our community at Carolina. We are deeply committed to amplifying the voices of LGBTQIA+ experiences, and we have a unique opportunity now to tell our story and document our legacy at Carolina. Proudly, CPAN is supporting “The Story of Us,” a ground-breaking collaboration with Wilson Library, the Southern Oral History Program, and the Department of Communication and committed to preserving—and sharing—our voices. The project will include a permanent collection in Wilson Library, giving a broader and richer understanding of our history, not only to the LGBTQIA+ community but to the Carolina community as a whole.

Visit <https://carolinapride.unc.edu/> to learn more!

“I am excited for the launch of ‘The Story of Us’ because it represents our legacy at Carolina. “LGBTQIA+ people have been a part of the fabric of this university for decades, if not centuries. Now is the time to recognize those experiences and honor that history.” - Hogan Medlin '11, CPAN President.



A Special Thank you to...

CPAN's National Board Members and The Story of Us committee, Caroline Evans, Assistant Director for Global Development Nick Graham, University Archivist, University Libraries, Artist in Residence and Director of Process Series Joseph Megel, Carolina Academic Library Associate Cassie Tanks, CPAN Fellow and Southern Oral History Program Instructor Hooper Schultz, UNC's Development Office and Marketing Department, Program Manager of the Southern Oral History Program Sara Wood, and the UNC Department of Music.

Patrons to The Story of Us

Larry Alford, Ariyah Aprils and Chanel Chambers, Terry Bowman, Larry Brady, Rei Caravellas, Russell Clarke, Josh Clinard, Donald Cooley, Ashley Davidson and Emily Roberts, Carrie Dobbins, Edwin Farthing, Justin Flexen, Howard Fradkin, Stanley Gaddy, Ellen Gerber, Jeremy Glover, Shawne Grabs, Chip Graves, Glenn Grossman, John Hammond, Connie Hiatt, David Howell, Tony Kearney, Janora McDuffie-Ryan, Phillip Parkerson, Kent Parks, Kedrick Perry, David Robie, Jerry Salak, Billy and Meagan Scott, Ken Smith, Scott Taylor, Laurie and John Thomas, Mackenzie Thomas, Rebecca Tillet, Jesse White, Bert Woodward, and Justin Young

The Process Series is supported by the generosity of:

The College of Arts and Sciences, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Arts Everywhere, Carolina Latinx Center, The Asian American Center, Carolina Pride Alumni Network (CPAN), and these UNC Departments: African, African American, and Diaspora Studies; American Studies; Art and Art History; Communication; Dramatic Art; English and Comparative Literature; German and Slavic Languages; and Music. This project was supported by the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts; the Chatham Arts Council; and the Manbites Dog Theater Fund.



Manbites Dog
Theater Fund



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Check out our next Performance!



body w/o borders

**By Özlem Özgül Dündar, Translated by
Henning Bochert**

Featuring Actor Sanjana Taskar

April 21-22 at 7:30pm

At Swain Hall Black Box Theatre

A play by Turkish-German playwright Özlem Özgül Dündar, dealing with violence targeted at migrant Turkish workers who came to Germany in the fifties and sixties.

Scan here to
RSVP and for
more info!

