

# Please consider donating to these causes:

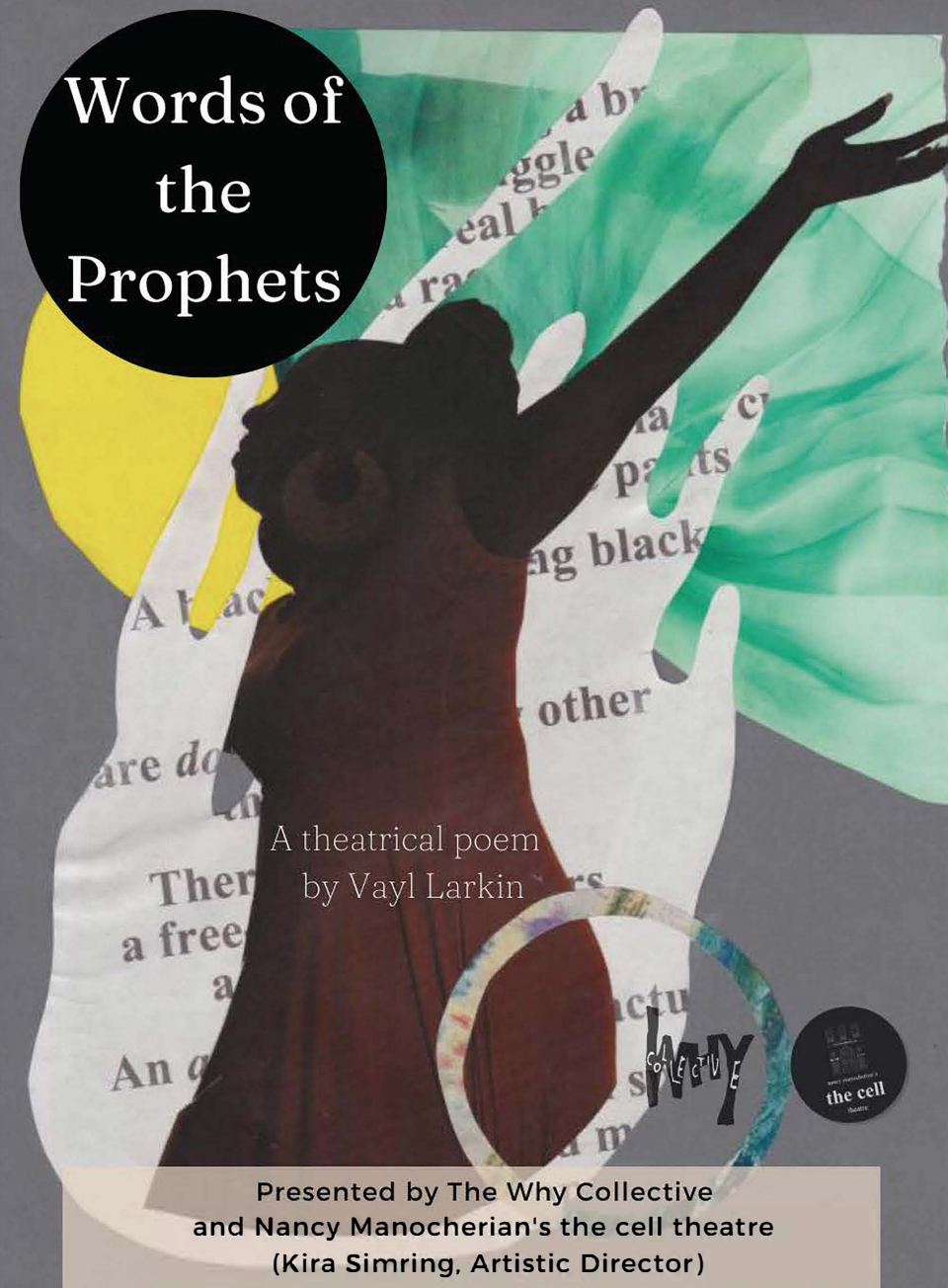


A Black, Trans-led non-profit providing transitional housing for those returning from incarceration, as well as rent/utilities support, and safe, brave spaces for trans folks experiencing housing insecurity and/or homelessness.

The SKU campaign raises awareness for the unjust violence against people living with the Intersectionality of being Black and trans, many of whom will statistically experience homelessness in their lives.



## Words of the Prophets



A theatrical poem by Vayl Larkin

WHY COLLECTIVE



Presented by The Why Collective and Nancy Manocherian's the cell theatre (Kira Simring, Artistic Director)



P2P was founded in 1968 after the assassination of MLK, Jr., and provides food, clothing, and financial resources to those experiencing housing and food insecurity, while educating others about the impact of poverty and injustice.

The Why Collective is especially grateful to the staff of Nancy Manocherian's the cell theatre for making this event and residency possible

## NEXT UP

### May 12- 14 The Women Have Something to Say

co-production with Intersection Arts of Houston, TX  
Nicole Kenley-Miller, Founder/Director

...presents the stories of 13 artists on the journey to find their voices, told through monologues, songs, and movement, all written, directed, composed, and choreographed by the womxn themselves. The stories range in topic from sexism in the classical music industry, racism, age-ism, body image, silencing of women, immigrant experiences, to motherhood.



### May 14: 11:00am-1:00pm What Do YOU Have to Say?

A Creative workshop exploring our inner voices through writing, painting, and music. All genders welcome!



Scan here to donate to the next project, which amplifies womxn's voices and offers people of all gender identities and expressions the opportunity to explore their own true voice.

All collage art by Emilie Karl @snake.in.hanoi

## Cast

Norm Mattox (*he/him*)..... *Storyteller Voice*  
Alberto Medero (*he/him*).....*Storyteller ASL*  
Julian Singer-Corbin (*he/him*)..... *Narrator Voice/Body*  
Dickie Hearts (*he/him*)..... *Narrator ASL*  
Maleni Chaitoo (*she/her*)..... *Narrator ASL*  
JNK Enzo (*they/ze*)..... *Graffiti Body*  
Justin Withers (*he/his*).....*Broadside Body*  
DeMarco Sleeper (*he/him*)..... *Ballet Body*  
Mary-Angela Granberry (*she/her*).....*Trompe-l'œil Body*  
Sydney Anderson (*she/her*)..... *Soprano*  
Sophie Delphis (*she/her*)..... *Mezzo-soprano*

## Creative and Technical Team

Vayl Larkin (*they/them*), Playwright  
JNK Enzo (*they/ze*), Stage Director/Lead Choreographer\*  
Maleni Chaitoo (*she/her*), Director of ASL  
Sydney Anderson (*she/her*), Music Director/Stage Manager  
Julian Singer-Corbin (*he/him*), Technical Director  
Zoe Griffith (*she/her*), Lighting Designer  
Micaela Bottari (*she/her*), Scenic Designer/ASM  
Sebastian Armendariz (*he/him*), Livestream Producer/  
Projection & Sound Designer  
Derek J. Weagle (*they/them*), Composer - Graffiti Scene  
Vasily Ratmansky (*he/him*), Composer - Broadside scene  
Elizabeth Gartman (*she/her*), Composer - Ballet scene  
Tyson Gholston Davis (*he/him*), Composer - Trompe-l'œil scene  
Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton - Dramaturg and Bias Consultant  
Elemen2al the Poet - Poetry and Bias Consultant

\*Choreography was done through collaborative devising by  
JNK Enzo, Mary-Angela Granberry, Justin Withers, and DeMarco Sleeper

Scan this code to read more about the cast  
and creative team in our digital program



## A note from The Playwright

As I have watched Enzo and the cast bring these scenes and characters to moving, breathing life, I have been overwhelmed not only by gratitude, but also by memories: An inspiration for The Ballet who once gave me his desperately cheap walkup when he found better lodgings, thereby ending my two-year homeless stint. A man I knew only as Shadow, Haudenosaunee, but on the run from the Rez after a bad childhood. He only slept outdoors, in the woods. We talked about poetry, and philosophy, and nature, and he found out the hard way that I'm strangely immune to poison ivy. The young woman who followed me around from event to event, while I fought to take the glamor off my life in her eyes, because she was headed straight for one like it, and I didn't want that for her. I wish you all could know them. I hope this piece helps. Thank you for your open hearts as we experience it together.

- Vayl Larkin

## A note from The Director

When Sydney approached me to potentially direct Vayl's play, I was hella excited. Upon first read of the work, I was shocked and in awe of how transformative it was for me. As a very visual person, a queer, disabled, Black, and formerly homeless person and sex worker, I felt that the story was written for me, by a person who has never met me. This work seeks to see the unseen or rather, the things that which we wish we didn't need to see. I am honored to have collaborated with so many talented, beautiful and peaceful souls. This work is THEE work. This is the work that deserves attention, the press, the funding, that gives back to community and provides safe space but most importantly, this work talks the talk and walks the walk. Don't look away, please enjoy.

- JNK Enzo

## This production was made possible by...

Becky Burns, Cara Morse, Chapman Family Foundation, Cherie Caluda,  
Elizabeth Schneider, HW Sparks, James E Coats, Jaquelyn Benard, Jesse  
Anderson, John Douglas Anderson, Judy Scharing, Jim & Sue  
Anderson, Ken Milder, Monica Gomez, Michael Sindler,  
Peter Ver Brugge, Samara, Inc., Shari Ramming

## Additional thanks to...

Materials for the Arts, Opera America, Debbie Chapman, Hannah Ciesil (House  
Manager), Richard Urquiza (Livestream/Technical Assistant), Aisha Simpson, Dylan  
Geil, and so many more who supported this project, including ASL consultants and  
last-minute interpreters.

## EPILOGUE

Special Thanks for References & Quotations in "Words of the Prophets." Thank you to the many people we have known who live and often work on the street. Some of you saved our hearts, some our lives, some our souls. Our greatest wish is for each person who reads this to go and find respectful ways to educate themselves on the lives, experiences and art of homeless folks, and all the people who inhabit the gray area where we go when we lose our grip on something - money, support, family, our own minds. These stories can enrich the lives of people who never knew they needed them.

### Song Quotes in the Final Scene:

1 - Curtis, I. (1980) "Love Will Tear Us Apart"  
performed by Joy Division on *Closer*

2 - May, B.&Queen (1990) "The Show Must Go On"  
on *The Show Must Go On*

3 - Knowles, B. et. al (2016) "Formation"  
on *Lemonade*

4 - My Chemical Romance (2006) "Welcome to the Black Parade" on  
*The Black Parade*

5 - Simon, P. (1964) "The Sound of Silence"  
performed by Simon & Garfunkel  
on *Monday Morning, 3am*

### Statistics Sourced From:

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

National Alliance to End Homelessness, State of Homelessness: 2020 Edition

Havocscope, a provider of data on the black market, 2015

Prostitution: Prices and Statistics of the Global Sex Trade

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development