



# At the Wedding



By  
Bryna Turner

Directed by  
Jennifer Alice Acker

JAN 30-FEB 15, 2025  
**#OutFrontWedding**



 **REGIONS**

A Co-Production with



Production Sponsor

**Markus Shipley**  
Director RSM

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## A Note from Paul



Few things bring people together like a wedding, and at the same time the concept of marriage for some people is very polarizing and political.

But let's not get political tonight. We've had enough politics recently to last a lifetime.

When my husband and I got married, it was the summer of 2021. Well, technically we got legally married in May of 2020, but we all remember what was happening at the time. So, we signed the papers and took some photos (outside) in 2020 and had the "ceremony" and party with our friends and family July of 2021 - that magical time when we didn't have to wear masks and there weren't new variants popping up yet.

Our plans for 2020 were scrapped and we retooled to make it all work in 2021. Few people invited and an indoors/outdoors gathering at our friend's beautiful home as opposed to the venue we had set pre-COVID. This very theater was where the rehearsal dinner took place (so all the out-of-town people could finally see it) and everything was set. Food and drinks. Minimal flowers. We treated it just like a show with deadlines and plans so that nothing could catch us by surprise.

Except this wasn't a show - it was a wedding.

July 2021 with a ceremony and photos outdoors in the Georgia heat meant that I was sweating so much that my wedding party had to ice me down with frozen vegetables while fanning me so the sweat wouldn't show up in pictures. Our dog, who was obviously part of the ceremony, almost jumped into the pool in the backyard as we walked down the aisle, and people got so drunk that we ran out of food and ended up ordering pizza for everyone later in the night - before all of us ended up jumping into the pool either fully dressed or in our underwear. All did not go *\*exactly\** to plan but I wouldn't have had it any other way.

The wedding you'll see here tonight is not going to go exactly as planned. They never do, but that's how the best memories are made.



Enjoy our wedding/show.

**Paul Conroy** (*He/Him/His*)  
Founder & Producing Artistic Director  
Out Front Theatre Company



presents

In Partnership with



# At the Wedding

BY  
**BRYNA TURNER**

## STARRING

Katie Wickline, Aliya Kraar, Benhamin Sprunger, Femmaeve MacQueen, Wanyu Yang, Sofia Palmero, Tony George, Cece Campbell, E Haeberlin, Garrett McPherson, Sarah Barnhart, Chloe Butts, Ruth Rodriguez

## DIRECTOR

Jennifer Alice Acker

## PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Lily Mayfield

## ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Christina Ricks

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

Beate M. Czogalla

## COSTUME DESIGNER

Eliza Rainey

## SCENIC DESIGNER

Patrick Hamilton

## SOUND DESIGNER

Donovan Lewis

## DRAMATURG

Kamari Taylor

## INTIMACY DIRECTOR

Laura Hackman

*The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.*



REGIONS



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF  
Cultural Affairs

This program is supported in part by Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. Georgia Council for the Arts also receives support from its partner agency - the National Endowment for the Arts. This program is supported in part by the City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. Funding for this program is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.





# At the Wedding



### SETTING:

*A wedding in Northern California.*

**THERE WILL BE ONE  
15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.**

### CAST

Carlo .....Katie Wickline  
 Carly.....Aliya Kraar  
 Eli ..... Benjamin Sprunger  
 Maria.....Femmaeve MacQueen  
 Leigh.....Wanyu Yang  
 Eva ..... Sofia Palmero  
 Victor .....Tony George  
 Understudies.....Cece Campbell, E Haerberlin,  
 Garrett McPherson  
 Standbys .....Sarah Barnhart, Chloe Butts,  
 Ruth Rodriguez

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director ..... Jennifer Alice Acker  
 Production Stage Manager.....Lily Mayfield  
 Assistant Stage Manager ..... Christina Ricks  
 Lighting Designer .....Beate M. Czogalla  
 Costume Designer.....Eliza Rainey  
 Scenic Designer..... Patrick Hamilton  
 Sound Designer .....Donovan Lewis  
 Dramaturg.....Kamari Taylor  
 Lighting Intern.....Anna Daugherty  
 Intimacy Director..... Laura Hackman  
 Master Carpenter.....John Atwell  
 Photographer ..... Sydney Lee  
 Videographer .....Saturnblu Productions  
 Public Relations..... JMF Communications  
 Graphic Designer.....Brandon D Hunt

*"At the Wedding"* is presented as a co-production with Georgia College and State University's Department of Theatre and Dance.

*"At the Wedding"* is generously sponsored by Markus Shipley - Director RSM.

*"At the Wedding"* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

*We apologize for anyone who may have been accidentally omitted from this program.*



## Director's Note



I've been reflecting a lot about community and queer joy as resistance recently. I've also been avoiding writing these director's notes like the plague.

Probably because in October when I was hired, the thoughts I would have outlined here were different. I would have said something like, what a joy to see queer women and non-binary folks love, lust, fumble, fear, feel, laugh and heal on stage - an unfortunately too rare thing in Atlanta. I would have said something like what a privilege it is as a bi woman in a straight presenting relationship to get to tell this story about the nuances and pain and hilarity of identity, labels and belonging. I would have also said something along the lines of thank god(dess) for a laugh to take our minds off it all!

But now, in my avoidance to write my director's notes, a thing I normally relish, I have to examine why. Why don't I feel the lure to wax poetic about these things anymore? Why do I struggle to know what to say at all? Even when all of the above still stands... it's because the big *why* of why we are telling this story has shifted for me since October, just as the world has shifted since October.

I will say this, this play, even upon first reading, reminded me why I love people.

Thanks to some deft writing by our playwright Bryna Turner, it reminded me how clever people can be. And creative. And funny. And sexy. And heartbreaking and beautiful.

How sometimes in life we meet people who can miraculously carve out kindness for us, when we need it the most. Even without being asked.

How sometimes when we are tuned in we can see someone fully, whole and incomplete. And we can connect, dead on, with humanity and tenderness and kind, direct honesty and a gentle humor in our hearts.

"The only way out is through" has been a recurring discussion in rehearsals, as we witness Carlo make it through her ex's wedding. Luckily for Carlo, and us, in good times and bad, for richer or poorer, till death do us part, we can find hands reaching out, and we can reach out our own, and go through it together.

And so I feel more grateful than ever for our community. It is such a painful, precious thing to see each other, in our grief, individual and collective, and to hold space (whether via the lyrics of *Defying Gravity*, or other means), and to take up each other's hands and say 'let's walk through this, together.' Reminding each other to laugh along the way in the face of it all, because as Bryna reminds us in their production notes, "It's a comedy." And because queer joy can never be doused. We're too funny for that, anyway.

I love you. Stay brave. Stay joyful. It is sacred.



**Jennifer Alice Acker** (*She/Her*)  
Director, *At The Wedding*

# COMMITMENTS & VALUES

## MISSION

Out Front Theatre Company's mission is to tell LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intergender, Asexual) stories.

## VISION

Out Front Theatre Company's vision is to strengthen the LGBTQIA+ community in Georgia by exploring and celebrating the universal human experience through the lens of gender and sexuality.

## EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION COMMITMENT

The staff and board of Out Front Theatre Company want to put the following metrics in place so that we can track them to completion. We want our stakeholders and our patrons to see real results.

- We want to have representative board members from black and brown communities, as well as gender nonconforming representatives and increase that representation by at least 10% every year until we reach a goal of above 50%.
- We want to produce, support, or promote at least 2 shows/events from creatives of color every year and increase that number by at least 20% every year.
- We want to increase our presence in communities of color and in women's communities through intentional outreach. We can do this by creating a communication strategy to expand our patronage. To that end, we will recruit a community outreach intern or staff member to help achieve this goal.
- We want to increase our intersectional involvement by partnering with other socially progressive nonprofit organizations to collaborate on community events. The goal is to have at least one partner event per year with an ultimate goal of three per year.

Please visit  
[www.OutFrontTheatre.com](http://www.OutFrontTheatre.com)  
to learn more.



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are gathered on the unceded land of the Mvskoke (Muscogee/Creek) peoples. We ask you to join us in acknowledging the Mvskoke community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. Out Front Theatre Company also acknowledges that it was founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples, including those on whose land this institution is located.

This acknowledgment demonstrates a commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.



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## THE MUSCOGEE NATION

**For more information on this nation,  
as well as how to support to them,  
please visit [www.muscogeenation.com](http://www.muscogeenation.com)**



# CAST & CREW BIOS

## CAST

**KATIE WICKLINE** *She/Her* (Carlo) is thrilled to be returning to the Out Front Stage for more gay chaos! Out Front Theatre: *SnowGirls - The Musical* (Jolly). Previous Atlanta credits include: Femtine in *Les MisAmerica* (Sketchworks Comedy), *A Midsommar Night's Dream* (Limelight Theatre), *Robin Hood* (Topsy Tales), Garth in *Save the Video Store!* (Into the Film), Helena in *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Atlanta Street Fringe). Touring: *Energy Endgame* (National Theatre for Children). She was previously on the house sketch team at Dynamic El Dorado and is currently on the improv team "The Main Squeeze" at Limelight Theatre. BA in Theatre from Florida State University. She'd like to thank her incredible director, cast, and her therapist for helping her overcome Imposter Syndrome. When she isn't writing dick jokes she's currently taking ice skating classes (this isn't relevant to the show, she just wants you all to know that.) Send her validation at her insta: @ktmariewick

**ALIYA KRAAR** *She/Her* (Carly) is thrilled to join the cast of *At the Wedding* for their special day! Previous credits include: Out Front Theatre: Debut. *Business Ideas* (Alliance Theater), *Fiddler on the Roof* (City Springs Theatre Company), *The Wishing Place* (Essential Theatre Festival), *Prayer for the French Republic*, and *Oh to be Pure Again* (Actor's Express). Aliya would like to thank the cast of *27 Dresses* and all her married friends for helping her prepare for this role. Need a plus one? Follow her on social media: @aliya\_rose914 on all platforms.

**BENJAMIN SPRUNGER** *He/Him* (Eli) Out Front Theatre debut. New to Atlanta, Ben was previously seen at Lavender Fest in *Open: A Queer Comedy*. Previous Chicago theater credits include: About Face (nine productions including *Significant Other* and *The Pride*), Raven, Music Theater Works, Northlight, Pride Films & Plays, Goodman, TimeLine, Steppenwolf, Strawdog, Griffin (2011 Jeff nomination for Bobby in *Company*), Steep, CityLit, and Theater Wit.

Los Angeles theater credits include: Mark Taper Forum and Pasadena Playhouse. Television credits: Chicago Fire (3 episodes), Chicago P.D., Tyler Perry's Assisted Living, The Red Line, Passions, and Will & Grace (2 episodes as Will's boyfriend's sister's fiancé). Ben is also the co-author of an adaptation of *Giovanni's Room* by James Baldwin - the first stage production to be officially sanctioned by the Baldwin Estate - which will have its world premiere in May 2025 at Quintessence Theatre Group in Philadelphia. Follow him @thebenigma on Instagram.

**FEMMAEVE MACQUEEN** *She/They* (Maria) is jazzed to be in her first show at Out Front Theatre! Previous Atlanta credits include *Antigone '23* (PushPush Arts), *Grim Night - Grimm Tales* (PushPush Arts), *Dorian Gray* (ATL Fringe Fest), *WALLPAPER* (ATL Fringe Fest), and *Tell Me Where It Hurts* (FAD\_Lab). In 2024, Femm became one of the first transgender actresses to portray Irina Arkadina in *The Seagull* (Pullman Yards, Performance Jam ATL). She is very grateful for all the support she receives from her community of friends and dedicates this performance to all the trans and gender-nonconforming people whose lives made this moment of audacious transvisibility possible. Cheers!

**WANYU YANG** *They/Them* (Leigh) is excited to be at Out Front for the first time! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta credits: *The Other Shore* (Theater Emory), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Contemporary Classics), *Blood Wedding* (Theater Emory), *Kim's Convenience* (Aurora Theatre), *walls* (SheATL). Apprenticeship: Tom Key Arts Leadership Program; Directing (Theatrical Outfit). They would like to thank Texas Pete (the cat, not the hot sauce) for always believing in them. Instagram: @wanyvyang. Email: wanyvyang@gmail.com.

**SOFÍA PALMERO** *They/She* (Eva) is thrilled to be back on Out Front's stage! Previous Out Front credits include: *I Wanna F\*cking Tear You Apart*, *The Santa Closet*, *Standing on Ceremony*, and *Bull in a China Shop*. Previous Atlanta credits: *Fuddy Meers* (Essence to

## CAST & CREW BIOS (CONTINUED)

Crux), *Spirits to Enforce* (Vernal & Sere), and *Henry IV & V* (Shakespeare on Draft). You may also catch a glimpse of them on Amazon Prime opposite Will Ferrell in *You're Cordially Invited*, or on Peacock in Blumhouse's campy queer horror film *They/Them*. They would like to thank the entire team at Out Front for trusting them yet again, Bryna Turner for writing words that seem to fit perfectly in their mouth, and their partner Zyon for keeping them fed. Follow them on IG: @sofia\_withanf

**TONY GEORGE** *He/Him* (Victor) is so excited to be making his debut on the Out Front stage! Previous Atlanta credits: Out Front Theatre: Debut. *Butterflies: A Tale of Two Brothers* (Synchronicity Theatre). Previous Theatre Credits: *The Lost Colony* (Roanoke Island Historical Association), *Tecumseh!* (Scioto Society), *Hairspray* (Prattville Way Off Broadway Theatre), *The Flick, Woyzeck* (Rylander Theatre), and *I Hate Hamlet* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival). Tony has also worked on sets for *The Summer I Turned Pretty* and *The Wonder Years*. Tony sends love to his mother and sister, who always encouraged him to follow his crazy dreams. Follow him @boigeorge32 on Instagram.

**CECE CAMPBELL** *She/Her* (Carly/Eva US) is a recent graduate of Oglethorpe University (2024) Theatre includes; The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra *The Ant and The Grasshopper* (Ant), *The Lion and the Mouse* (Lion), and *The Tortoise and the Hare* (Tortoise). Alliance Theatre *Gimme Please* (U/S Big/Little Gimme) Actors Express *Cabaret* (Rosie), *Heathers* (Heather McNamara), and *Urinetown* (Soupy Sue). Theatrical Outfit *Young John Lewis* (Mammie Till/Ensemble) Credits while training: Oxford University (Oxford, England); *12 Angry Jurors* (Number 8); *Grapes of Wrath* (Ma/ Dance Captain); *Othello* (Montano); *M\*\*\*\*\* with A Hat* (Veronica). Other works: *Christmas Carol* and *The Wiz* (set designer). She thanks God and sends a special thanks to The People Store, family, friends, and the Stars for constantly pushing her to be her best.

**E HAEBERLIN** *They/She* (Carlo/Leigh US) Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta credits include: *Roob & Noob* (Alliance Theatre), *Busted Open* (Limelight Theatre), *Lesbian Ghost Hunters* (RoleCall Theatre), *Hell Over Heels* (RoleCall Theatre), and *Vagina Monologues* (Marq Squared Studios). They have been involved in both the theatre and film scene within Atlanta for six years and currently teach & direct children's theatre with Synchronicity and Alliance. E would like to thank their partner, James, for being their top supporter and fan in everything they do. If you love poetry, follow their account on Instagram! @poetry\_ehaeberlin

**GARRETT MCPHERSON** *He/Him* (Victor/Eli US) is excited to be a part this wonderful ensemble. Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta Credits: Stanley in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Actors Theatre of the South) George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life* (Stage Door Theatre), The Man in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Synchronicity Theatre). Film Credits: *Doom Patrol* (HBOmax). Garrett is a graduate of Baylor University with a BFA in Theatre Performance and double minor in History and Religion. In addition to acting, Garrett also works as a handyman, having serviced the greater Atlanta Metro since 2019. Follow him on Instagram @garrettraymcperson

**SARAH BARNHART** *She/Her* (Maria Standby) is honored to have this opportunity to perform on the Out Front stage! Sarah has loved performing since she was young and has been in many productions throughout high school. She is currently a sophomore at Georgia College, majoring in Mass Communications and minoring in theatre. Her most recent performance was in *At The Wedding* at GCSU as Maria. Lots of love to her family, friends, Alpha Psi Omega (Theta Beta chapter), Out Front Theatre Company, and her two cats Hazel and Finnick. Enjoy the show!

# CAST & CREW BIOS (CONTINUED)

**CHLOE BUTTS** *She/Her* (Eva/Carly Standby) is so excited to be involved with production. This is her Out Front Theatre debut! Her credits include *At the Wedding* (Georgia College & State University) and *We Will Rock You* (GCSU). Chloe is a junior studying theatre and marketing at Georgia College & State University. She would like to thank Amy Pinney for her support and guidance. She would also like to thank Out Front for this incredible opportunity! Follow her @chloe.butts on Instagram.

**RUTH RODRIGUEZ** *She/Her* (Carlo/Leigh Standby) is excited to participate in this beautiful production! This is her Out Front Theatre debut. Previous educational credits include *At the Wedding* (Georgia College & State University) and *Twelfth Night* (GCSU). Previous community theatre credits include *Into the Woods* (Dogwood Theatre Company), *Arsenic and Old Lace* (DWT), and *Clue: On Stage* (DWT). She would like to thank her supportive professors, family, and friends for always pushing her to be the best she can be, and Out Front Theatre for this incredible opportunity!

## CREATIVE TEAM

**JENNIFER ALICE ACKER** *She/Her* (Director) is an Atlanta based director and actor, and a small business and productivity consultant with Fae + Fauna Consulting. She is a graduate of Florida State University, holding dual degrees in Music and Theatre, and has studied with Theatre Academy London, The Globe Theatre (London) and apprenticed with the Atlanta Shakespeare Company. Out Front directing credits include *Christmas with the Crawfords* and *Christmas Dearest*. Other directing credits include *Lizzie* at Actor's Express, *Wonderland* and *Mac|Beth* at Synchronicity, *Citizen's Market* at Horizon Theatre, *Wonder Women* for Studio Tenn and the Atlanta Music Theatre Festival, and *The Last Time We Were Here* for The New York Music Theatre Festival. Influenced deeply by her background in musical theatre, the works of William Shakespeare and the

devised theatre of Jerzy Grotowski, Jennifer's work tends to favor striking visuals, authentic storytelling, and a strong flirtation with the line where magic and reality meet. Deep love and gratitude to the cast, creative team, my parents and my partner!  
[www.jenniferaliceacker.com](http://www.jenniferaliceacker.com)

**LILY MAYFIELD** *She/Her* (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to make her Out Front Theatre debut! Previous Atlanta credits: *A Christmas Story* (Theatrical Outfit), *The Game* (Horizon Theatre), *Passing Strange* (Theatrical Outfit), *The Humans* (Theatrical Outfit), *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Theatrical Outfit), *The White Chip* (Theatrical Outfit and Dad's Garage). She also participated in the Theatrical Outfit Tom Key Arts Leadership Apprenticeship Program with a focus in directing in the 22/23 season.

**CHRISTINA RICKS** *She/Her* (Assistant Stage Manager) is ecstatic to make her debut as an assistant stage manager at Out Front Theatre. Previous ASM credits in Atlanta: *Amélie*, *Wild with Happy*, and *The Game* (Horizon theatre). She would like to thank God along with her family for all of their love and support. Feel free to follow her on Instagram @royal\_ricks.01!

**BEATE M. CZOGALLA** *She/Her* (Lighting Designer) is happy to be back at Out Front Theatre! After designing the lighting for *The Gulf, one in two* and *Homos, Or Everyone In America* she's excited to work on *At The Wedding*. She is on the faculty of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Georgia College & State University. She has a B.A. and M.A. in Theatre from Giessen University (Germany) and an MFA in Scenography and Lighting Design from Virginia Tech. Ms. Czogalla has designed internationally with credits in Europe, North America and the Caribbean, including dance, concert and architectural lighting design, and she works as an art director for film and television as well. She is also a Solar System Ambassador for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory/ NASA.



## CAST & CREW BIOS (CONTINUED)

**ELIZA RAINEY** *They/Them* (Costume Designer) is a Theatre & English student at Georgia College & State University. Previous Out Front Theatre credits include: *Hairspray* (Assistant Wig Designer), Educational credits: *At the Wedding* (Costume Designer), *We Will Rock You* (Hair & Makeup Designer), *Leveling Up* (Assistant Costume Designer & Wardrobe Supervisor), *Head Over Heels* (Makeup Designer). They are so excited for everyone to enjoy the show. This was a great process to be a part of and they are extremely grateful for this opportunity to work with Out Front.

**DONOVAN LEWIS** *He/Him* (Sound Designer) is a sound designer in Atlanta. He made his sound design debut here at Out Front Theatre where he designed the Georgia premiere production of *At the Wake of a Dead Drag Queen*. Since then, he has worked on sound for many theaters including Stagedoor, Theatrical Outfit, and Oglethorpe University, where he graduated in 2023. Currently he is in the Emerging Talent Group with Multiband Studios. He thanks Out Front for this opportunity and his friends and family for their unwavering support. Enjoy the show!

**KAMARI TAYLOR** *They/He/She* (Dramaturg) is second-year Theatre & Performance Studies major at Kennesaw State University with a concentration in acting. At Out Front they

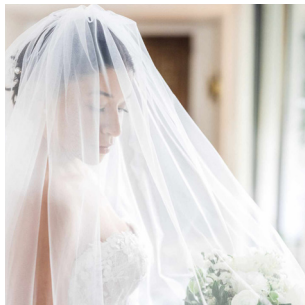
have been the guest dramaturg for *Murder on the Polar Express*. At KSU they are engaged with many faculty and student-led theatre events: Sound designer for Student Company Musical Theatre Showcases, Playwright and Director for *The 12th annual Coming Out! Celebration*, Assistant Dramaturg for *Barbecue* and *Pride & Prejudice*, Playwright for Ten Minute Play Festival, and Witch in *Macbeth*.

**LAURA HACKMAN** *She/Her* (Intimacy Director) is thrilled to be back at Out Front where she previously enjoyed doing intimacy direction for *Murder on the Polar Express*, *Hairspray*, *Psycho Beach Party*, and *The Prom*. Locally, Laura has also choreographed intimacy at The Alliance Theatre, Actor's Express, Woodstock Arts, Oglethorpe University, and Georgia State University. In NYC, Laura serves as the Resident Intimacy Consultant for Mercury Store and will be Intimacy Director for the upcoming premier of *Initiative* at The Public Theatre. Laura is also a theatre director with more than 70 productions to her name and an arts educator, currently teaching in the School of Film, Media and Theatre at Georgia State University and Oglethorpe University. She holds an MFA in Directing from The Catholic University of America.



## Dramaturgy

*At the Wedding* by Bryna Turner is a piece about love, forgiveness, and retrospection. And hey, while we're "at the wedding," what is a wedding anyway? As we all know, a wedding is an event that unifies a couple together, resulting in loyalty, rings, and tax cuts. But, do we know why weddings are what they are today? It's traditions! Beyond the wedding planning, which the character Eva notes is "exactly as bad as everyone says it is," what makes a wedding more than a ceremony are the activities, events, and words we choose to uphold due to familial, religious, or personal background. Despite how fun these things are today, you may find the origin of these beloved customs to be rather intriguing, to say the least. Wedding culture can look a little different in queer spaces due to the inherent heteronormativity, but we will dive more into that later. For now, we'll start off with a few wedding staples.



*All hail, Queen Victoria!* When Victoria held her wedding February 10th, 1840, she not only broke traditions, but started 3 new trends as a result of it. After designing it herself, Victoria stunned the crowd in a delicate all white dress, something uncommon at the time as brides usually wore colors like red, blue, and brown. This immediately elevated the status of what weddings could be; white was much harder to maintain and buy new, making it an expensive choice, but a chic and bold fashion statement. What else was unusual was the

time of day. Wedding's used to be held in the evening hours, but Victoria's was held around 1 PM- the first royal afternoon wedding in 100 years. This made it easy for her wedding to be viewed by anyone and she paraded around town after the ceremony. This gave the notion that weddings were to be an exciting spectacle, setting the precedent that all royal weddings should be this way. And not only were the rides around town cool, but wedding cakes just got a little more interesting to look at, too. Victoria pioneered wedding toppers, having herself and her husband, Prince Albert, made into figurines to sit atop her 3-tier 14-inch English plum cake. Imagine seeing that for the first time! Surely Carlo might respond: "That's a wedding, alright. That's a fucking wedding!"

Although not as romantic, arranged marriages also have a huge part in wedding customs today. Do you know the tradition that it's bad luck to see your partner before the wedding? This started because couples, in many cases, literally never

## Dramaturgy (CONTINUED)

got to see each other before the wedding. Although the veil has other meanings, a veil was used in this context to make sure the couple really didn't see each other until the bride made it to the altar. Why? Simply put, it was so the groom wouldn't have second thoughts about marrying the bride if he deemed her "unattractive." "It was extremely important that these ceremonies went through as they were essentially business transactions. The father walking his daughter down the aisle and handing her off to the husband was in exchange for a dowry. Did this always have to happen? No. But for some families to maintain their livelihood, they had no other choice.

Wow. Some of these traditions are more lighthearted than others, but just like language, they evolve. Everything doesn't mean what it used to. With that being said, much of the culture surrounding weddings is still heteronormative. In the play, Carly mentions the beautiful ceremony, but Carlo dismisses it as "aggressively heterosexual." To avoid the overly straight route, let's consider queer wedding culture and its history. Are there queer traditions? To answer that, let's look into when same-sex marriage became legal. June 26, 2015, almost 10 years ago, the Obergefell v.



Hodges case enacted marriage equality nationwide. If you think about a person, 10 years old is still elementary age- queer marriage hasn't even hit the teens yet! At this age, gay marriage is still growing, changing, and you're trying to find out how you fit into yourself. There's a lot of freedom as you look for ways to redefine a traditional wedding, if that's what you and your partner want. A few ways people have already decided how to queer their wedding include: mixed gender bridal and groom shower, no garter toss, and being officiated by a drag queen! One popular trend is to incorporate Justice Anthony Kennedy's statement in the Obergefell v. Hodges case into the wedding ceremony: ***"No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family..."***

And now, I want to hear from you! Have ideas about queer wedding traditions? Did something cool at your wedding? Looking for ways to add to yours? Scan the QR code and comment your thoughts, ideas, and experiences! Hooray for LOVE!

Kamari Taylor







# Immediate Family

By Paul Oakley Stovall  
Directed by Thandiwe DeShazor

In the Bryant family's Hyde Park home, prodigal son Jesse shows up for a family wedding with his new Swedish boyfriend and turns the family reunion into a family showdown. Evy can't understand why her younger brothers are so mysterious and distant; Jesse is afraid to be true to himself and honest with his family; and no one can understand why Tony is so eager to get married. Modern Family meets Guess Who's Coming to Dinner as these siblings try to bridge their differences with a little help from God, card games and their Immediate Family.

**MARCH 13-29, 2025**

Tickets: \$20+  
Out Front Theatre Company  
999 Brady Avenue, Atlanta



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**Markus Shipley  
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Out Front Theatre Company was established to tell stories of the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intergender, Asexual) experience and community, giving voice to LGBTQIA+ authors, composers, artists, and creators through the medium of theatre and the performing arts. Out Front plans to develop new works and produce classic pieces of theatre that have communicated these stories of the LGBTQIA+ population to a wider audience over time.

As a non-profit organization with a dedicated focus to better the LGBTQIA+ population, we strive to:

- **Produce** established works and premiere productions created by members of the LGBTQIA+ society,
- **Generate** productions with universal themes which are important to the LGBTQIA+ community,
- **Educate** the populous to LGBTQIA+ history,
- **Work** with local and national LGBTQIA+ organizations to bring awareness of issues facing the LGBTQIA+ to the greater Atlanta area,
- **Create** artistic and educational opportunities for at-risk LGBTQIA+ youths by collaborating with local educational institutions and organizations,
- **Expand** the number of theatrical opportunities for artists who are members of or who support the LGBTQIA+ community.

Out Front hopes to create a narrative that will reach beyond the stage, into the

conversations and minds our audiences and artists. Theatre's power as a catalyst to spur dialogues goes back thousands of years. Out Front lives to continue that grand tradition of bringing the stories of the LGBTQIA+ people into the spotlight.

## LGBTQIA+ Definitions

**L stands for Lesbian:** Term used to describe female identified people attracted romantically, erotically, and/or emotionally to other female identified people.

**G stands for Gay:** Term used in some cultural settings to represent male identified people who are attracted to other male identified people in a romantic, erotic and/or emotional sense. Also, a term used to refer to the LGBTQIA+ community as a whole or as an individual identity label for anyone who does not identify as heterosexual.

**B stands for Bisexual:** A person emotionally, physically, and/or sexually attracted to people of more than one sex and/or gender. This attraction does not have to be equally split between genders and there may be a preference for one gender over others.

**T stands for Transgender:** A person who lives as a member of a gender other than that expected based on anatomical sex. Sexual orientation varies and is not dependent on gender identity. This term is sometimes used to refer to the gender variant community as a whole.





## STAFF AND BOARD LIST

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**Q stands for Queer:** An umbrella term, which embraces a matrix of sexual preferences, orientations, and habits of the not-exclusively-heterosexual-and-monogamous majority. Queer includes lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transpeople, intersex persons, and many other sexually transgressive explorers. The term is sometimes used as a sexual orientation label instead of 'bisexual' as a way of acknowledging that there are more than two genders to be attracted to, or as a way of stating a non-heterosexual orientation without having to state who they are attracted to.

**I stands for Intergender:** Intergender people have a gender identity that is in the middle between the binary genders of female and male, and may be a mix of both.

**A stands for Asexual:** A term describing individuals who do not experience sexual attraction or do not have interest in or desire for sex. Asexuality is different from celibacy, which means abstaining from sex. Asexuality is often viewed as a spectrum - meaning there are varying levels and identities regarding someone's emotional, spiritual and romantic attraction. The best way to refer to the asexual community is to use the umbrella term "ace" or "aces" as in the "ace community," which acknowledges that spectrum.

**+ stands for Many Other Identifications** including, but not limited to pansexual, genderqueer, polysexual, agender, androsexual, demisexual, and skoliosexual. We strive to be as inclusive as we can and know we can always improve.

**Please visit [outfronttheatre.com](http://outfronttheatre.com) for a more expansive list of identities, sexualities, terms, resources and more**

*We welcome all humans, regardless of labels, and hope we celebrate and accept everyone regardless of how they identify.*

# Donation Listing

Donations made between July 1, 2024 - January 23, 2025.

Out Front Theatre Company is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The health of the company depends on support from patrons just like you! All donations are 100% tax deductible and greatly appreciated! No gift is too small because it truly takes a community to make the arts thrive and grow.

We wouldn't be here without the support of the friends listed below and we would LOVE to add your name to our list of supporters! Donation information is available at the box office or at [outfronttheatre.com](http://outfronttheatre.com).

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Alyssa Sikora	Amy Toale	Joshua Pitre	Meredith Lester
Aimee Belwood	Alex Duncan	Justice O Obiaya	Michael Sands
Nikolas Carleo	Adam Miller	Melissa West	Nancy Landesberg
Felipe Mendes	Noah Vega	Patricia Hernandez	Whitney Johnson
Skyler Brown	Mary Saville	Allison Hughes Stroud	Celenia Toledo
Robert Hindsman	Kevin Roost	Christopher Wharton	David Leanza
Megan Poole	Katherine Myers	Crista Irwin	William Dilworth
Jordan Patrick	Jenice Burke	Doyle Reynolds	Bruce Garner
Sharon J Braunstein	Emma Eisnagle	Grace Davenport	Sarah Williams
Michael Reedy	Cathleen O-Neal	Kelly Tonina Cooper	Angela Reed
Matthew Johnson	Cameron Brake	R. Beth Showman	Daniel Hollifield
John Packman	Corey McAllister	Tanya Johnson	Amy Outlaw
Alexander Austin	Jeff Jacobson	Virginia Early	David Aurilio
Zachary Hartzell	Jennifer Skura	John Nay	Glenn Frankel
Victor Gregg	Alyssa Isham	Victoria Rudd	Michael Temkin
Lorie Dunn	Jackie Lenz	Brian Paige	Natalie Hogg
Fred Foote	Charlie Edwards		Michael Marolla

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for more info and our calendar of events, visit

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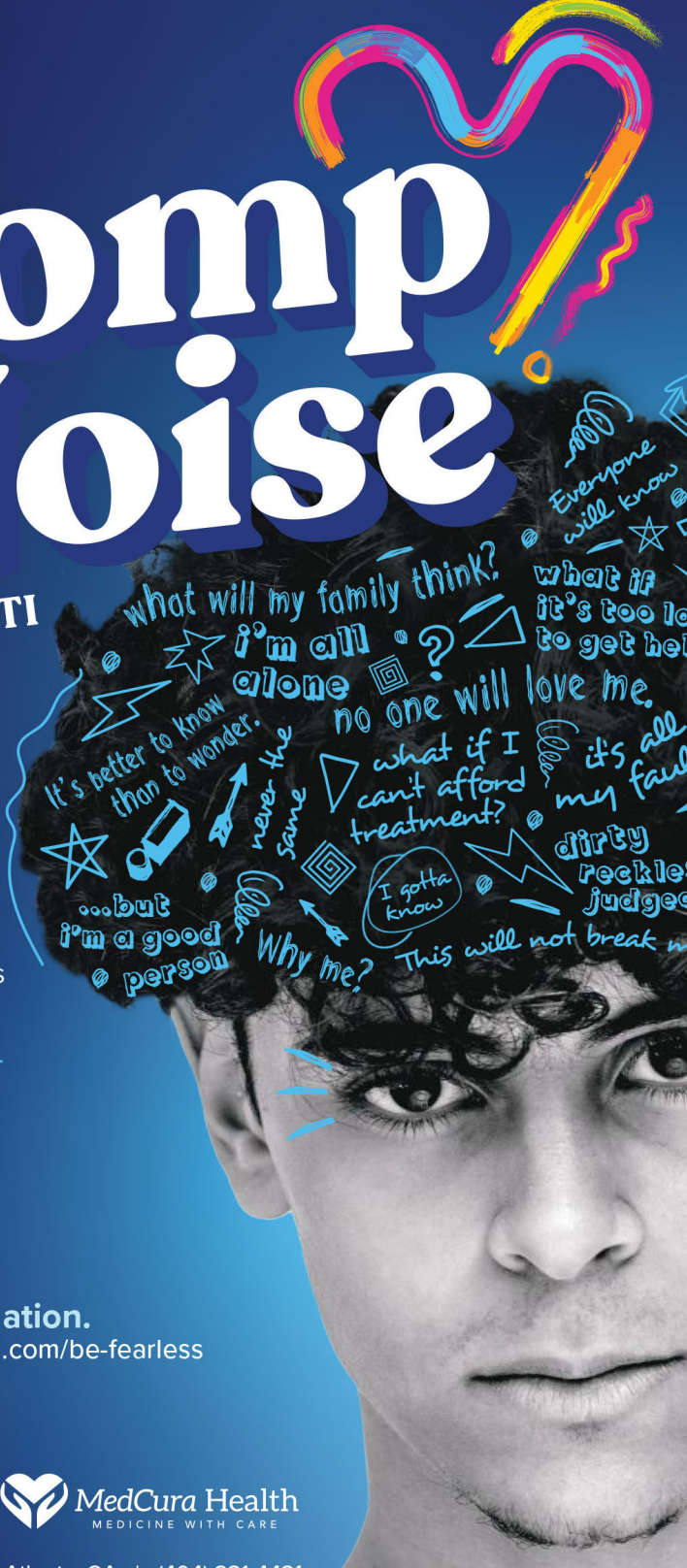
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2024-2025

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**MARCH 15, 2025 2PM & 7PM**

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1660 N Decatur Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30307



Dr. Melissa Arasi, AWC Artistic Director  
Donald Milton III, AGMC Artistic Director

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2024 - 2025 Season

## A World of Believing

Our holiday concert

Friday, December 6 @ 8pm | *First Baptist Church of Decatur*  
Saturday, December 7 @ 7pm | *First Baptist Church of Decatur*  
Sunday, December 8 @ 3pm | *Northside Drive Baptist Church*



## If It Ain't Queer, It Ain't Here

Cabaret with dessert and drinks

Saturday, February 8 @ 4pm | *First Baptist Church Decatur, Carreker Hall*  
Saturday, February 8 @ 7:30pm | *First Baptist Church Decatur, Carreker Hall*



## They Changed Our Lives

Featuring Southern premiere of *Sincerely Yours, Pauli Murray*

Saturday, May 17 @ 7pm | *Location TBA*  
Sunday, May 18 @ 3pm | *Location TBA*



[www.oursongatlanta.org](http://www.oursongatlanta.org)



@oursongatlanta



OurSong Atlanta

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By Amiel Gladstone  
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**MARCH 9 • 2 P.M.**  
**RUSSELL AUDITORIUM**

**PG-13**

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Saturday, March 15, 2024

Doors open at 2pm Show at 3PM

A FREE SHOW FOR QUEER  
FOLK WITH **ALZHEIMER'S &  
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WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN  
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The image shows the interior of a Mexican restaurant. In the foreground, there is a wooden table. Behind it is a bar with a backlit menu board displaying various food items. The bar has a colorful, patterned cushion. The background features a large, ornate chandelier and a potted plant. The lighting is warm and ambient.

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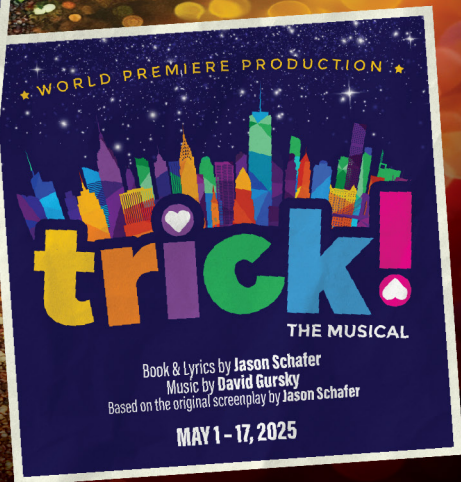






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