



HB
STUDIO

Promotional art by Judy Bruno Bennett

INSIDE OUT

**an Acting Out production
hosted by HB Studio**

Saturday, Dec. 5 & 12 | 8PM

Sunday, Dec. 6 & 13 | 3PM

Acting Out presents

INSIDE OUT

hosted by HB Studio

Saturday, Dec. 5 & 12, 2020 | 8:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 6 & 13, 2020 | 3:00 PM

Conceived and directed by Richard Hoehler

Assisted by Francesca Ferrara

Written by incarcerated men and performed by formerly incarcerated actors

Featuring:

Labre Fulcher, Charles Grosso, Ron Horton, Samuel Johnson, Chris Lee, Jason Morales, Luis Moran, José Rodriguez, Louis D. Rodriguez, Kawage Thomas, Gilfredo Valentin and Damien Walker

Understudy: Richie Dang

Written by:

Bill Blount, Sabor William Frazer, Ron Horton, Jason Morales, Chas Ransom, Miggy Rodriguez, A. Roque, Sherman Symes, Will Terry and Damien Walker

Edith Meeks, Executive & Artistic Director

Lauren Ritter, Production Manager

Stage Manager: Sarah Chiriboga

Asst. Stage Manager: Amanda Enzo

Lorraine de Silva, Zoom Tech

Ongoing support: The India Blake Foundation. Special grant: The Cecelia and Seward Johnson Foundation



Council on
the Arts

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INSIDE OUT

1. WRONGFULLY CONVICTED

written and performed by Damien Walker

2. HIS-STORY

by Anthony (True) Bannister

Jamaal: Charlie Grosso

Timothy: Ron Horton

3. RANDOM THOUGHTS

by Will Terry

1: Sam Johnson

2: Chris Lee

3: Damien Walker/Jose Rodriguez

Slim: Kawage Thomas

4. THE LETTER

written and performed by Jason Morales

5. LA SOMBRA (THE SHADOW)

by A. Roque

Hombre 1: Luis Moran

Hombre 2: Gilfredo Valentin

6. HERE IN PRISON

by Sabor William Frazier, Sherman Symes

Man 1: Sam Johnson

Man 2: Louis D. Rodriguez

Man 3: Kawage Thomas

7. THE G BUILDING

by Jason Morales, Miggie Rodriguez

Peter: Charlie Grosso

Dex: Kawage Thomas

J: Sam Johnson

Rick: Santo Morales

Don: Ron Horton

Owen: Michael Horowitz

8. THE BOX

by Ron Horton

Vernon: Chris Lee

9. MA MONTAGE

by Will Terry, Jason Morales, Chas Ransome

Son 1: Gilfredo Valentin

Son 2: Luis Moran

Son 3: Louis D. Rodriguez

10. FROM KING TO KINGPIN

written and performed by Damien Walker

11. THE DILEMMA

by Bill Blount

Davis: Labre Davis

Commissioner 1: Ron Horton

Commissioner 2: Charlie Grosso

Chorus: Gilfredo Valentin, Jason Morales,

Louis D. Rodriguez, Sam Johnson, Chris

Lee, Kawage Thomas, Damien Walker,

Luis Moran

“We cancel our experience. This is an American habit.” Clifford Odets wrote those words over eighty years ago and we are still grappling with them. We seem not to learn from our mistakes and adhere instead to Einstein’s definition of insanity – doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. We label and separate our fellow human beings according to race, gender, caste, sexual identity, disability, and economic status. We impoverish the great majority of people, and after setting them on a desperate course where in order to survive, many break the law, we over-punish them for the mistakes they have made – the mistakes we have often forced them to make.

Art is not a panacea, but it does help stop the vicious cycle we have created. Art shows us who we are and what we have done – good and bad. It is an action that does indeed bring about different outcomes. It awakens in those beaten down by the world a sense of who they were before the cruelty of their childhoods and the “system” defined them otherwise. It allows the disenfranchised to see the blessed children they really are and celebrates them, realizing their intrinsic value. Of all the arts, theater is probably the most accessible to the untrained. It is the art, as Gene Frankel said, where, “You are the instrument you play – you are that important!”

The incarcerated are perhaps the most marginalized people on the planet. Their voices are muted and their plights often obscured by clichéd media tropes. *INSIDE OUT* is an honest document of voices you seldom hear – uncensored, intelligent, filled with longing and expressed with eloquence and awkwardness. Listen to them. Take them in. Break free of our “American habit.” Grab hold of the hand that is reaching out to you.

Richard Hoehler
Creator & Director, *Acting Out*



Richard Hoehler

Richard Hoehler has created four Off Broadway solo shows: I OF THE STORM, NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK, WORKING CLASS (OOBR AWARD-Best Solo Performance), and HUMAN RESOURCES (BEST OF FEST). His newest solo piece, E, a “live memoir,” has been featured at The Cornelia Street Café, Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, and the Commons. Other acting stage work: ROUNDING THIRD, K2, KALIGHAT, TRUE WEST, CRIES FOR PEACE, THE RUBBER ROOM, INADMISSABLE, DAY OF THE DAD (Best Actor in a Lead Role), SEX TODAY, LOVE TOMORROW, and HAIR (55+). Television: NYPD BLUE, LAW & ORDER, CRIMINAL INTENT, THIRD WATCH (recurring), and THE BLACK BOX. Richard is an adjunct professor at John Jay College, director of the Theatre Workshop at Otisville State Prison and creator and instructor of ACTING OUT, an acting workshop for the formerly incarcerated at HB Studio. His short play, BUT FOR THE GRACE, will premiere at the New Circle Company in December.



Francesca Ferrara

Francesca Ferrara is an actress and teaching artist based in New York City. She is a member of the faculty of Five Towns College and a member of the guest faculty at HB Studio. Francesca is also a frequent guest artist at the Theatre Workshop of Otisville, where she played Mary Jane in THIS IS THIS, and served as assistant director for FATHERS AND SONS. For the Acting Out Company, she was assistant director for TALK TO ME throughout our

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pandemic summer run. Francesca's two favorite acting challenges have been playing Juliet for the National Players and Lorraine in the series finale of MAD MEN.

Richie Dang

Richie Dang is a 2020 graduate of the Hagen Core Training program at HB Studio and an actor based in New York and Los Angeles.



Labre Fulcher

Labre Fulcher was born in San Diego in 1975. A few weeks before he was to be released from Otisville Correctional Facility, a friend suggested he try Otisville Theatre Workshop. He had never thought acting was something he could do, and with Richard's encouragement, he joined the Acting Out company in early 2020. He was last seen in TALK TO ME, as one of the Odets Guyz. Labre's other passions include playing chess, cooking, and watching travel and cooking programs.





Charlie Grosso

Charlie Grosso was released from prison nearly four months ago, after serving 40 years. Despite being inside for four decades, he can honestly say that he has had a beautiful life. Through the practice of meditation and the craft of theater, his life is purposeful. He will share with anyone who is curious or interested in learning why, after 40 years, it was, and is, beautiful!



Ron Horton

Ron Horton, one of the original members of Acting Out, was last seen in TALK TO ME, in which he portrayed Troy from August Wilson's FENCES. During his 30-year incarceration, he discovered acting and directing, which delivered him through some very dark years. Ron became a triple threat after joining Hoehler's Theatre Workshop at Otisville – adding playwriting to the mix, where he wrote THE BOX, a piece making its debut in this production of INSIDE OUT, as it was not permitted to be performed on the inside. Ron also took a turn Off-Broadway in the ensemble of I NEVER SANG FOR MY FATHER in 2019 at The Chain Theatre.



Sam Johnson

Sam Johnson was born in Harlem and has two younger sisters. Fitness is his number one passion, and he works as a professional personal trainer. Sam also loves to read and attended John Jay College inside Otisville and outside on the main campus in NYC. He acted in FATHERS AND SONS and TALK TO ME, both directed by Richard Hoehler. Sam enjoys being a company member of Acting Out and is looking forward to future projects.



Chris Lee

Chris Lee hails from Harlem N.Y. He is an actor, rapper, singer, songwriter, peer mentor and life coach who has appeared in productions such as THIS IS THIS, FATHERS AND SONS and TALK TO ME as well as a guest appearance on Pix 11 news MONICA MAKES IT HAPPEN with reporter Monica Morales. He loves playing basketball and watching football.



Jason Morales

Jason Morales was born in Brooklyn and is the second eldest of nine children. His creative credits include: Readings at BAM for student shows, assistant director and actor for Random House's annual awards ceremony for NYC high school seniors, actor and writer for HB Studio Conversations: Otisville Theatre Workshop, and actor for the original production of INSIDE OUT performed in Otisville Correctional Facility, for which he wrote three pieces: THE LETTER, G

BUILDING, and LETTER TO MA. Most recently, he played Tom in TALK TO ME for Acting Out at HB Studio. Jason's greatest achievement, by far, is his beautiful 6 year old daughter.

Luis Moran

Luis Moran first began acting with the Otisville Theatre Workshop, led by Richard Hoehler. He performed in the workshop's production of FATHERS AND SONS and found it so rewarding that he streams into Acting Out classes all the way from Mexico. Luis was seen in the Zoom production of TALK TO ME last Summer and is happy to be returning in this show playing multiple roles.

Jose Rodriguez

Jose Rodriguez was born in a small town called San Pedro Sula, Honduras. His family migrated to this country when he was only a child. The story goes that he was put on a floating tire to cross the river, and the family all made it safely across. He was raised in the Bronx. He loves baseball, movies, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.



Louis D. Rodriguez

Louis D. Rodriguez is a core member of the Acting Out company. He believes his theatre work informs all aspects of his life, including his former incarceration and his present position as a member of the clergy. Louis had a devastating accident last year that left him paraplegic, yet he is still at it, working from his hospital bed, learning scenes and monologues, performing major roles with Acting Out, and looking forward to the day he can walk out of the rehabilitation center.



Kawage Thomas

Kawage Thomas was born in the Bronx and is currently married with two children. He stepped onto a stage for the first time at Otisville Correctional Facility in the original production TUF LOVE. Released from Otisville almost ten years ago, Kawage joined Acting Out in January 2020 and is a core member of the group. He played Tony from Shanley's SAVAGE IN LIMBO for the summer run of the Zoom show TALK TO ME.



Gilfredo Valentin, Jr.

Gilfredo Valentin, Jr. was born in Yonkers, New York to Puerto Rican parents. He has two sisters and is the proud father of a 12 year old junior high school student. His theatre credits include ESTOP FABLES, BUFFALO SOLDIER, TWELVE ANGRY MEN, EXONERATED, TALK TO ME, and THE COUCH. He grew up loving

animals and has become a certified dog trainer. He has raised and trained dozens of service dogs for veterans who have come home from war suffering from PTSD and physical disabilities.

Damien Walker

Damien Walker is one of three sons born and raised in the Bronx N.Y. At the age of 21, he was sent to prison for a crime that he did not commit. While in prison, Damien discovered his talent for writing and performing spoken word. Prior to his current role and original works in INSIDE OUT Damien held a lead role in Richard Hoehler's THIS IS THIS, a play that Damien co-wrote.

Sarah Chiriboga

Sarah Chiriboga is a New York-based stage manager. She is a graduate of The New York City College of Technology. Recent credits include THE LAST TREE IN JERUSALEM/PAGE OF TALMUD (TheaterLab), THE PAT & JULIE PROJECT (HB Studio), SWAN LAKE ROCK OPERA (Chelsea Music Hall), 23 & ME (Hudson Guild Theater), BEULAH LAND (122 CC), STARR STREET (HB Studio).



Amanda Enzo

Amanda Enzo is an interdisciplinary artist originally from Cleveland, Ohio. She is currently pursuing her M.F.A. in Performance and Interactive Media Arts with a focus on the Afrocentric. She recently graduated with her B.A. in Theater and Film Production from Brooklyn College. Enzo works in HB's Registration Office and is currently in pre-production stages for some new works.