

SELECTIONS FROM

*why we tell  
the story*  
*Cabaret*

CURATED BY MARCUS NANCE

## SONGS AND READINGS

### I. LIFE

“I, Too”

By **Langston Hughes** (1902–1967)

“Summertime”

By **George Gershwin** (1898–1937)  
and **Ira Gershwin** (1896–1983)

From *Porgy and Bess*

“They Live in You”

By **Mark Mancina** (b. 1957),  
**Lebohlang “Lebo M” Morake** (b. 1964)  
and **Jay Rifkin** (b. 1955)

From *The Lion King*

“Change Don’t Come Easy”

By **David Bryan** (b. 1962) and **Joe DiPietro** (b. 1961)

From *Memphis*

“Big Black Man”

By **David Yazbek** (b. 1961)

From *The Full Monty*

### II. PAIN

“Democracy”

By **Langston Hughes** (1902–1967)

“Black and Blue”

By **Fats Waller** (1904–1943), **Andy Razaf** (1895–1973)  
and **Harry Brooks** (1895–1970)

From *Ain’t Misbehavin’*

### III. FAMILY

“Human Family”

By **Maya Angelou** (1928–2014)

“Family”

By **Henry Krieger** (b. 1945) and **Tom Eyan** (1940–1991)

From *Dreamgirls*

“The Negro Mother”

By **Langston Hughes** (1902–1967)

### IV. LOVE

“Dat’s Love”

By **Georges Bizet** (1838–1875)  
and **Oscar Hammerstein II** (1895–1960)

From *Carmen Jones*

“Elaborate Lives”

By **Elton John** (b. 1947)

From *Aida*

“I Got Love”

By **Gary Geld** (b. 1935)

From *Purlie*

### V. FAITH

“The Negro Speaks of Rivers”

By **Langston Hughes** (1902–1967)

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“River in the Rain”

By **Roger Miller** (1936–1992)

From *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

“Ol’ Man River”

By **Jerome Kern** (1885–1945)

and **Oscar Hammerstein II** (1895–1960)

From *Show Boat*

## VI. HOPE

“Still I Rise”

By **Maya Angelou** (1928–2014)

“I’m Here”

By **Brenda Russell** (b. 1949), **Stephen Bray** (b. 1956)

and **Allee Willis** (1947–2019)

From *The Color Purple*

## VII. YOU

“Why We Tell the Story”

By **Lynn Ahrens** (b. 1948) and **Stephen Flaherty** (b. 1960)

From *Once on This Island*

“I Dream a World”

By **Langston Hughes** (1902–1967)

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## COPYRIGHT & PUBLISHING

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