A black leather diary with a heart-shaped padlock is shown on a wooden surface. The diary is open, and the padlock is resting on the cover. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The Diary of
Black
Men

HOW DO YOU LOVE A BLACK WOMAN?

PAUL WILLIAMS THEATRICAL GROUP

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Paul Williams

WRITER

Thomas Meloncon

MARKETING & SPONSORSHIPS

DIRECTOR

Samanta Strigaro

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

William Leecan

LOGISTICS DIRECTOR

Julia Doumbia

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

David Williams

STAFF

Director	Tobi Gadison
Host	Cedra "Ced Boogie" Walton
Producer	Cathy Dance
Producer	Noel Roberts
Casting	Cathy Dance, Noel Roberts
Music Director	Jerz Mason
	Entertainment Group, LLC
Tech/Lights/Sound	NuMillenium Media
Wardrobe	Cathy Dance, Noel Roberts
Props	Cathy Dance, Noel Roberts

CAST

Upper Class Man	TEDDY AMES
Lover Man	CARLO CAMPBELL
Rap Artist/Activist	DEREK THOMPSON
Blue Collar Man	BEN JACKSON
Wanna Be Pimp Man	JCANN
Afrocentric Man	PHOENIX JACKSON
Preacher	ROBERT MURRAY
Dancer/Woman in Club	EVEYLN EBO

THE STAGE PLAY

The phenomenon known as "The Diary of Black Men" is an exciting and tantalizing theatrical production that has played to sold-out audiences in the U. S. and United Kingdom for nearly a quarter of a century. Written by Houstonian Thomas Meloncon, this choreopoem has stood the test of time and is the longest touring and most successful stage play in Black theatre history.

The play's subtitle "How Do You Love A Black Woman?" provokes thoughts of a historical nature and magnitude. Originally penned in the late 70's, this newly updated version addresses the issues of love, trust and black family values that have long been discussed by economists, politicians, theologians, social scientists, etc., thus making the black man, in the words of Mr. Meloncon, "...the most talked about animal in America." This observation could very well be the catalyst that has consistently packed venues in every corner of this country and abroad. The play attempts to address that statement and the aforementioned question of black love through a series of vignettes and scenarios examining the relationships between Black men and women using six male stereotypes: Lover Man, Blue Collar Man, The Activist, Upper Class Man, The Afrocentric Man, and Wanna Be Pimp.

The show is a remarkable presentation that passionately combines prose, poetry and dance that complements each other in a highly dramatic style. It has always been a revolutionary piece that delivers art and social commentary creating an emotional response from its audience. It opens with the men perched upon pedestals in tableau. Being true to their stereotype and character, each male offer their pitch to impress the lone female character in the play.

"The Diary of Black Men" is a justly redeeming morality play laced with comedy and drama, revealing, tantalizing and provocative talk about Black men and their voice in the Human conversation.

CAST



TEDDY AMES (UPPER CLASS MAN)

Teddy Ames is an American actor. Born and raised in Philadelphia, and educated in the Philadelphia school system. Teddy has been in the acting industry for more than a decade, and in that time, he has been in various television commercials, several full feature films, a few cable series, and a number of stage productions.



CARLO CAMPBELL (LOVER MAN)

West Philadelphian who is an MC, Actor, Director, Poet, Writer, Educator, and a professor in Drexel's Theatre Dept. A founding member and Co-Artistic director of the African American theatre company, Theatre In The X. He directed Pac And Biggie Are Dead by Biko Eisen-Martin. You can see him in an upcoming film about the life of Cecil B. Moore.



JCANN (WANNA BE PIMP MAN)

A Houston born entertainer who has sold out six consecutive tours. He has been featured in music videos starring Juicy J and Wiz Khalifa. With a comedy special debuting on Tubi before the end of this year, he is not slowing down. He currently performs as one part of comedic music group, Brodeci of H-Town. Recipient of All Access Art Show Day in TX.



EVELYN EBO (DANCER)

Studied dance at four. At fifteen her professional dance career started with the Philadelphia Dance Company (Philadanco), where she also started her teaching career. Toured with The Wiz, Broadway production of Shakespeare's Timon of Athens, Black Nativity. Credits include "Fame", "The Cosby Show" and the "Sports Illustrated Swimsuit TV Special."



BEN JACKSON (BLUE COLLAR MAN)

A 2x finalist in Funniest Comic in Texas, Ben was awarded Best Comic in Houston by Broadcast Houston, December 2023. Ben has hosted & performed with comedy legends John Witherspoon, Damon Wayans, Bobby Lee, Rob Stapleton, Thea Vidale, musical acts Pokey Bear, Ginuwine, and Adina Howard. Upcoming comedy film, "I Got The Juice".



PHOENIX JACKSON (AFROCENTRIC MAN)

Phoenix Jackson, born as Steven Johnson in Philadelphia, PA, is a talented actor and writer. He is best known by the pen name "Phoenix Jackson," symbolizing rebirth and resilience within his craft. Notably, Phoenix's work has graced the Sundance Film Festival in films such as "Cost of a Soul" and "Who Ever Told You It Was OK to Dream?"



ROBERT MURRAY (PREACHER)

Robert 'Brotha Blaze' Murray is an actor and writer from Philadelphia, PA. He has appeared in films, "End of The Line," "A Cup Full Of Crazy" and "Under His Control"; and theatrical productions at Arden Theater and Manhattan Repertory Theater. Robert also teaches workshops for The Don Evans Players.

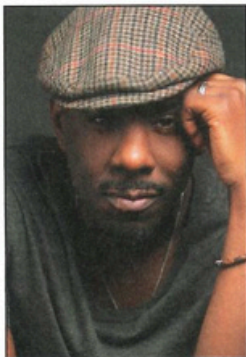


DEREK THOMPSON (RAP ARTIST/ACTIVIST)

He just so happened to come across acting while playing around with his friends, writing and starring in a web series, "Ghetto Pass Revokers", which displayed his comedic and drama skills. He made a cameo in his 1st full feature film, "Bedridden", in 2021. Derek has been writing and producing films and skits since 2013. Several awards for his creativity.

DIRECTOR TOBI GADISON

His formative years in D.C. and Philadelphia laid the groundwork for his artistic pursuits. He honed his craft at the world-renowned Freedom Theatre in Philadelphia and furthered his training at the prestigious Uta Hagen's HB Studios in New York. At Howard University he delved into the worlds of music and business. His commitment to community empowerment took him to New Orleans, where he served as a program administrator for the impactful L.O.V.E. Clubs youth outreach program. He graced the screen in blockbuster films like "Ray," "The Dukes of Hazzard," "Just My Luck," and the unforgettable "Glory Road," earning accolades such as an ABFF Best Actor nomination along the way. He cofounded Manifesto Consulting



Group, a dynamic venture that fostered artistic expression and community development through initiatives like The Hip Hop Art Program and The Actors' Institute. His passion for storytelling led him to direct several short films and theatrical productions, further showcasing his multifaceted talent. With performances in the gripping political drama

"Bedside" and the heartwarming holiday film "Chance For Love," currently premiering on Tubi, he showcases his extraordinary versatility. Tobi's influence reaches far beyond the screen. He's a dedicated mentor, educator, and community champion, empowering aspiring actors through The Actors District, recently hailed as "The Best Acting School" in Philadelphia.

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Inquiries? Email: paul@paulwilliamstheatricalgroup.com
or visit paulwilliamstheatricalgroup.com