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ONE INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES
PRIDE MONTH PERFORMANCE OF PAUL OUTLAW'S
THE PLACE IN WHICH I'LL FIT WILL NOT EXIST UNTIL I MAKE IT

Reading and Reception to Take Place Saturday, June 29, 2024, at Mercado La Paloma

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Los Angeles, CA (May 21, 2024) — One Institute announced today a special Pride Month performance of Paul Outlaw's *The Place in Which I'll Fit Will Not Exist Until I Make It*, a spellbinding reading of writings and interviews by queer African American luminaries from the 1950s to the present day. The reading debuted to an enthusiastic audience at One Institute's inaugural Circa: Queer Histories Festival in 2023. This

encore performance and reception will take place on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at Mercado La Paloma in Los Angeles.

Each of the eight Black voices showcased in *The Place in Which I'll Fit Will Not Exist Until I Make It* is carefully selected and performed by award-winning performing artist Paul Outlaw and corresponds to one decade in each of the 70+ years of One Institute's existence. This powerful tapestry captures crucial snapshots of queer culture and serves as a poignant timeline of our community's triumphs and challenges.

"Paul Outlaw's captivating reading at the inaugural Circa Festival was both a tribute to iconic African American artists and activists since the 1950's and a celebration of One Institute's seven decades of rich, storied history," said Tony Valenzuela, Executive Director. "We are thrilled to host an encore performance for Pride Month."

The event will take place at **Mercado La Paloma on Saturday, June 29, 2024, from 6-8:30 p.m.** Doors for the program open at 5:45 p.m. and the reading will begin at 6:00 p.m. Following the performance, audiences are invited to join One Institute for a reception with the artists. Food and drinks will be served.

"I was deeply moved by Paul Outlaw's erudite and emotionally profound performance at Circa last fall," said Amelia Jones, Robert A. Day Professor and Vice Dean of Faculty and Research at the USC Roski School of Art & Design. "This is not your ordinary reading. Outlaw choreographed a rich evening of voices, music, and his own bodily movement to draw us into a consideration of queer Black histories. It was a gorgeous and tightly conceived performance that has stayed with me."

Admission to this event is free. RSVP at <a href="https://www.oneinstitute.org/june-29-2024-the-place-in-which-ill-fit-will-not-exist-until-i-make-it/">https://www.oneinstitute.org/june-29-2024-the-place-in-which-ill-fit-will-not-exist-until-i-make-it/</a>

This event is presented by One Institute and co-produced by C. Jerome Woods. Texts selected and edited by Paul Outlaw. Graphic design and animation by Ray Busmann. Photograph by A.G. Jones. This program is made possible in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Special thanks to the evening's venue partner, Mercado La Paloma.

Content Warning: This program may contain explicit references to topics relevant to the Black LGBTQIA+ experience, including but not limited to sex, self-harm, substance abuse, racism, homophobia, and transphobia. This program may not be suitable for all ages.

#### **About the Organizers**

**Paul Outlaw** is an award-winning Los Angeles and Berlin-based multidisciplinary performing artist. The central themes of his artistic practice are the constructs of race

and sexual identity, and the ways in which violence—both physical and psychological—has haunted them throughout Euro-American history. Significant collaborations and solo projects have been presented in Los Angeles by LACMA, MOCA, the Getty, Boston Court Pasadena, Highways Performance Space, Gawdafful National Theater and Los Angeles Performance Practice; nationally by The Lab (San Francisco), Yale Union (Portland, OR); and internationally by the Maxim Gorki Theater (Berlin) and GES-2/V-A-C Foundation (Moscow), among others. Outlaw was one of the LGBTQIA+ changemakers featured in One Institute's peripatetic Pride Publics exhibition in 2021. The world premiere of his latest theatrical work, *BBC (Big Black Cockroach)*, will be presented at Los Angeles' Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater (REDCAT) in June 2024. For more about Paul Outlaw, please visit <u>outlawplay.com</u>.

**Ray Busmann** is a German-born artist and educator living in Los Angeles whose career extends across multiple disciplines and multiple continents. Ray's mission is to enlighten minds and souls through his work on uplifting, heart-centered projects.

**C. Jerome Woods** is the founding/director of the Black Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Project, an organization established to chronicle the lives, times, and contributions of Black LGBT persons and their significant others. He is a retired special education teacher and published poet. In addition, he is a recipient of various community, literary, cultural, and educational awards. Previously, he has worked with One Institute as an artist in *Pride Publics: Words and Actions* (2021) and as a member of the Circa: Queer Histories Festival Steering Committee (2023). As he continues to collect, exhibit, document, and share that which is Black LGBT (+), he hopes to establish a repository that will house, preserve, present, and provide study as well as research and discovery opportunities in Los Angeles.

#### **About One Institute**

Founded in 1952, One Institute (formerly ONE Archives Foundation) is the oldest active LGBTQ+ organization in the United States. One Institute produces one-of-a-kind exhibitions and public programs that elevate queer and trans history and embrace emerging stories. Through K-12 teacher trainings, lesson plans, and youth mentorship programs, One empowers the next generation of teachers and students bringing queer and trans history into classrooms and communities. Additionally, the Institute assists in promoting the materials within ONE Archives at the USC Libraries, which houses the largest collection of LGBTQ+ materials in the world.

The curatorial and educational choices made by One Institute are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ+ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional and authentic narratives of Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), women, gender-nonconforming and transgender people, people of various abilities, youth, and elders across all socio-economic classes. Learn more at oneinstitute.org, and connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @oneinstitutela.

The 2024 Circa: Queer Histories Festival, presented by One Institute, will take place during LGBTQ+ History Month, October 1-31, at venues across Los Angeles County. Learn more at <u>circafestival.org</u>.

## **SELECTED PRESS IMAGES**





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All press images are available for download <u>here</u>.

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