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*Spiritual Formation + Creativity*

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*Present*

# *Dark Night*

Digital Program

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Boise, ID

## Partners



## Community Partners



## Producers Circle

Linda Miller  
Hiroshi Motoki  
Sarah Tintle  
Pam & Rich

# About Dark Night

## Prologue...

The dark night of the soul is that experience of life when the things we use to orient ourselves to the world are stripped away. Often without warning or preparation. What happens next is found in the mysteries of the spiritual life.

## Entering the Night...

This is where our journey begins. We have preferences, desires, and dreams we are pursuing. We have habits of thought and action that we are cultivating and curating. At our core, we have a spirit that is being formed.

We journey through our days, excited for what we find to be good. We do what we can to achieve our goals...to get what we want. We gain the joy of consolations upon achieving even the smallest gain. We land that job, maintain a loving relationship, or earn a good reputation. Upon entering the night, it is the joy we derived from these good things that is stripped from us.

Often without warning.

We experience disorientation, disillusionment, grief, and overwhelm. We are lost, even blind, in the darkness. We have gone from what we thought we knew to something completely different. The spirit rails. The soul aches. The darkness has come.

## **Enduring the Night...**

In the darkness we are not in charge. We can't even see, let alone direct ourselves toward a particular goal. St. John of the Cross writes about a soul that is at peace in the dark – one open to the effect of the darkness upon it. How is this possible? We ache at the separation we experience. We grieve the loss of our former world. We are disillusioned by the shift. We are disoriented in our new position. Our ability to hope and dream seems lost, along with our ability to see.

We have two choices.

We can reach back for the life we had known before the darkness came or we can look forward into the dark and choose to endure the night. Many will reach back for the consolations they had known, to no avail – finding bitterness where there once was sweetness. Those who choose to endure the night will press forward, not knowing when the night will end – honoring the enduring spirit within them.

## **Exiting the Night...**

We don't know when the night will end. Nor can we will the sun to rise. Yet there is a promise of completion, of fulfillment

of the work, that was begun in us even before the darkness came. If we choose to endure we might come to experience this completion. We might become the kinds of people that are not moved by the push and pull of our senses, desires, or even our own lives.

Exiting the night is yet another shift. To hope and dream again may feel foreign. Experiencing the lifting of the night may feel disorienting.

However, the spirit that has endured the night has come to rest. It has been shaped by holding onto love, even in the dark. Now in the light, the path of love is found and walked with ease.

*Dark Night*

## *Creative Team*



# Creative Team

## **Andrew Nemr (Visionnaire and Performer)**

Mentored by Gregory Hines and an international artist, teacher, and speaker, Andrew's work has crossed music, dance, theatre, film, and the visual arts, exploring art as a vehicle for storytelling and community building. "A masterly tapper" (New York Times), Andrew has shared the stage with Jazz greats Clark Terry and Jimmy Heath, Harry Connick, Jr., Les Paul, the Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton Orchestras, and modern day hymn writers Keith and Kristyn Getty. He has collaborated with Max ZT and House of Waters, cellist Dave Eggar, percussionists Susie Ibarra and Chuck Palmer, and visual artist Makoto Fujimura. His solo work has been recognized with numerous awards, grants, fellowships, and commissions, most notably from the National Endowment for the Arts, TED, Google, and Deutsche Grammophon. Nemr is recorded on the Grammy nominated recording *Itsbyenne Reel* by Dave Eggar, the DVD Documentary and companion album *Tuesdays at Mona's* by Mona's Hot Four, and is the topic of the award-

winning documentary short film *Identity: The Andrew Nemr Story*. He is a published author and writes regularly at *The Notes with Andrew Nemr*.v

## **Tony Yazbeck (Director)**

Tony Yazbeck most recently starred as Cary Grant in the new musical *Flying Over Sunset* on Broadway at Lincoln Center Theatre. For his turn in the 2014 Broadway revival of *On the Town*, he won the Astaire Award and was nominated for the Tony, Drama League, and Outer Critics Circle awards for his virtuosic performance. He also starred in the Susan Stroman/Harold Prince–helmed Japan and Broadway productions of *Prince of Broadway* for which he received the Chita Rivera Award as well as Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations. Other Broadway credits include *Finding Neverland* (J.M. Barrie), *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *Irving Berlin’s White Christmas* (Phil Davis), *Gypsy* with Patti LuPone (Tulsa; Outer Critics Circle nomination), *A Chorus Line* (Al), *Oklahoma!*, and *Never Gonna Dance*. Tony has directed theatrical productions and concerts with the YoungArts Foundation and has collaborated and created with wonderful directors like Bill T. Jones and Tina Landau. He made his New York directorial debut at David Geffen Hall in 2024 with Stephen Schwartz’s *Children of Eden* and will be directing *Jane Eyre* in concert at Lincoln Center in February 2026.

## **Stephen Proctor (Visual Artist/Projections)**

Stephen Proctor is a visual artist who creates imaginative, contemplative experiences through landscape cinematography,



aerial photography, and immersive projection. By combining cutting-edge technology with the beauty of the natural world, his work invites us to slow down, discover wonder, and see the unseen. Described as an ‘ancient-future’ fusion, Stephen’s art blends modern tools like drones and projectors with timeless spiritual themes, evoking a deep sense of awe and connection to the world around us. For over twenty years, Stephen has collaborated with musicians, composers, authors, fine artists, and contemporary dancers. His immersive projections have enhanced live events across diverse genres, adding emotional depth and dynamic energy to both mainstream and liturgical spaces. His work explores themes of reflection, faith, and the intersection of technology and nature. Stephen’s philosophy of slowing down and connecting with nature is explored in his photo-essay book, *Wild Wonder: What Nature Teaches Us About Slowing Down and Living Well* (Ink & Willow/Penguin Random House, 2024).

## **Ime N. Etuk (Filmmaker)**

Ime N. Etuk is the founder of Loin Speaks, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to elevating the narratives of underrepresented communities. A versatile Director and Producer who has worked in various stages of film and television production, he began on the path of journalism eventually field producing for ABC NEWS shows, *World News Tonight*, and *20/20*. One of 14 finalists selected from a pool of over a thousand applicants for the prestigious Directors Guild of America’s training program, Ime has worked alongside some of the most prolific directors in Hollywood including Paul Haggis

“Crash,” The Coen Brothers “The Man Who Wasn’t There,” Antoine Fuqua “Training Day” and David Lynch “Twin Peaks”. His own debut feature “Hurricane in the Rose Garden” played at Slamdance and the Pan African film festivals before being picked up for distribution.

## **Sebastian Rogers (Filmmaker)**

Sebastian Rogers is the Founder of Peripheral Vision PDX and currently works as the Creative Director for Lion Speaks. Born in Norfolk, England to an immigrant mother from India and an English father, Sebastian was raised in a cross-cultural home. After work as a producer and songwriter with platinum-selling artists, and contracts as a performing artist, a spiritual transformation ultimately led him into full-time Christian ministry, before shifting his focus entirely to running Peripheral Vision PDX, which he founded to provide films and media training to under-served communities, organizations and ministries.

## **Ben Tobin (Photographer)**

Ben Tobin is a street photographer based in Spokane, Washington, where he has spent years documenting the city’s evolving story through everyday moments. His work focuses on overlooked details, fleeting gestures, and the quiet presence of people moving through public space. Beginning in action sports journalism, Ben learned how to anticipate movement and read energy in a scene. Over time, this instinct translated into a slower, more observational practice rooted in empathy, patience, and place. His photography now reflects the layered complexity

of urban life – resilience, isolation, joy, and community – all unfolding on the city’s streets. By walking the same routes, learning the rhythms of light, and listening deeply to what’s around him, Ben sees photography as a way to bear witness. His images ask viewers to look again – at others, at themselves, and at the places they call home.

## **Esther Mun (Graphic Designer)**

Esther first practiced design at Pentagram, one of the world’s most prestigious design agencies, under Paula Scher. Esther then went on to become an integral member of the Duffy + Partners, another acclaimed design team with an aptitude for typography and illustration. In 2006, she co-founded an independent design studio in NYC, Little Fury Design, with an initial product line of linkable notebooks. The Studio went on to specialize in branding and packaging for companies like Boom Chicka Pop, Chobani, Nona Lim, Sierra Mist and more. She has received numerous design honors, including recognition from AIGA, Art Directors Club, Graphis, One Show and Type Directors Club.

## **Gage Hunt (Digital Designer)**

Gage Hunt is an award-winning multidisciplinary designer working with organizations across the nonprofit, hospitality, arts, and entertainment worlds. Combining expertise in marketing and strategy with the eye of an artist, his approach always strives to create striking visuals with yet resonant meaning beneath the surface. In this capacity Gage has worked with The New York Public Library, Young Life, the Library of America, Redeemer City to City, and Holy Post Media, among many others.

## **Rob Harari (Production and Sound Designer)**

Rob Harari has versatility in the field of audio and music as a music producer, educator, composer, sound designer, audio engineer, musician, and researcher. Over a 40-year career in music, Harari has worked on multiple Grammy-nominated albums and Emmy Award-winning programming for children's educational content on PBS, in addition to hundreds of live performances. He contributed soundtracks to multiple TV shows and documentaries. Adding academia to his resume has led to various research interests including: the field of Psychoacoustics through collaboration with Hackensack University Medical Center to understand the health impacts of hostile acoustical environments. Being awarded a \$500k grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to design high school curriculum "Multimedia Immersion Inspires STEM Interest" that ties production techniques in animation and audio with scientific principles of physics, systems integration design, computer science. Harari has also partnered with Neural Engineer Dr. George McConnell in an observational study of brain activity during the cognitive process of learning music through to performance while capturing real-time brain activity to "re-ignite" those neural networks through musical performance. Most recently, Harari was invited as Artist-in-Residence for the US Virgin Islands Department of Education's music program introducing electro-acoustic music performance with the use of MIDI grid controllers to middle and high school teachers and students. His latest documentary "Kaleidoscope Eyes – A Legacy in Stained Glass" premiered summer 2025 for which he produced and composed the score.

## Rasheeda Winfield (Production Manager)

Rasheeda Winfield is a strategic force who brings bold ideas to life through thoughtful execution and behind-the-scenes precision. Working across media, entertainment, and live events, she thrives where vision meets execution. Her multifaceted production background spans branded experiences like the Jersey Mike's Football Tailgate Tour, independent film including *In Her Element*, produced for the Queen Collective, a collaboration between Tribeca Studios and Procter & Gamble to elevate underrepresented directors, and executive producing feature length documentary and Wilbur Award 2023 recipient, *Juneteenth: Faith & Freedom*. Rasheeda has also delivered for major networks like NBCUniversal and spearheaded initiatives for mission-driven platforms such as *I'll Go First* in partnership with the award-winning storytellers, The Moth.

A stylized, handwritten-style logo for "Dark Night". The text is written in a bold, cursive script with thick, dark strokes. The letters are interconnected, giving it a sense of movement and fluidity. The overall aesthetic is modern and artistic, typical of branding for a creative or entertainment project.

## A Place for Reflection

The Dark Night of the Soul is a highly individual experience, yet common to many. This space is an invitation to encounter, reflect on, and honor the choices you've made to endure your dark nights of the soul. Take some time to consider the following prompts. Fill in the spaces with whatever comes up.

I stand here having endured...

In the dark night, I feel...

When the night ends, I...

## Contributors

Dark Night is made possible by the generous of Partners, Community Partners, Producers Circle members, and contributors just like you. As of August 1st, the following have contributed financially to bring Dark Night to life:

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# Dark Night Project

Following the live event, the Dark Night Project continues with a number of media projects. Over the coming months stay connected to see the progress and release of the following:

LIVE

PODCAST

BOOK CLUB

FILM

BOOK

COURSE

## To be continued...

Dark Night is a multi-faceted project inviting participants to encounter, reflect on, and honor the choice to endure dark nights of the soul.

Here are a few ways to stay connected:

Visit [darknightlive.com](http://darknightlive.com)

and Sign up for Dark Night Updates

Support the project at [donorbox.org/dark-night](http://donorbox.org/dark-night)

Visit [NemrInstitute.org](http://NemrInstitute.org)

and Explore Other Projects