

Flipping Cancer

December 2, 2016, 8:30am

Old Clinic Auditorium

UNC Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Intensive Integration Curriculum

Flipping Cancer is a performance installation in dance/movement, story, and visual landscapes, developed from interviews and research collaborations with persons facing advanced cancers.

Sponsors

All involved in the Flipping Cancer project send our thanks for the generosity and remarkable collaborative spirit among our partners in the Intensive Integration curriculum. We are also immensely grateful for co-sponsors:

Center for Faculty Excellence, Arts@TheCore

In memory and honor of Ward Cates, UNC Interdisciplinary Health Communication

HHIVE Lab in Health Humanities

Artists featured

Marie Garlock (creator, performer)

Rev. Stacy Grove (soundscapes)

Stacey L. Kirby (visual ephemera / art)

Alex Maness (lights, projection), Andrew Synowiez (projection, sound)

Rob Morrell, Liz Lloyd, Nicole Damari, Sonny Kelly (performance chorus*)

*These partners have responded to the call for involvement based on their (body) knowledges of dealing with advanced cancers currently themselves, or with family members, while simultaneously working across health sciences fields professionally—as physician, PharmD, med student, and crisis response coordinator. Thank you!

Interviewees (in performance order)

Barbara

Pink Gala, + all

Danielle

performance chorus

Barbara

Sheryl

Patrick

performance chorus

Gail, + all

Barbara

Dr. E, + all

Marie

performance chorus

Lila, + all

Danielle

performance chorus

Barbara

Credits: Geraldine Ondrizek (*Cellular* time lapse film: healthy cells / cancerous cells' sounds, movement, reed.edu/art/ondrizek/) music excerpts from Flying Lotus, Bjork, Boards of Canada\

More Information

Background: This project was created through oral history interviews and what is called critical performance ethnography research. It engages interviews in one-on-one and in public settings focused on pursuits for health justice. Many interviewees' affiliations featured in this performance may expand the means by which we understand contemporary definitions of "patient advocacy."

Process: Today's performance incorporates collaborators + techniques from InterPlay workshops at UNC Hospitals earlier in this week's residency—thank you to [Heidi Gessner](#), M.Div., Rev. [Patricia Cadle](#), for hosting Marie (facilitator) + Rev. Stacy Grove (sound healing music in clinical + community settings). Among other sites (see below), many partners + interviewees featured in Flipping Cancer emerged after offering InterPlay programming at cancer clinics, and in community health advocacy meetings involving patients, caregivers, and healthcare providers who deal with advanced cancers.

Research partners / resources: *Coping Creatively w/ Cancer* meditation/support group (CCNC); NC Forward Together Moral Movement ([naacpnc.org](#)); Walnut Cove NAACP/Appalachian Voices/ACT Against Coal Ash ([actagainstcoalash.org](#)); Breast Cancer Action Community Leaders for Change ([bcaction.org](#)); InterPlay workshops ([interplay.org](#)) at Cancer Centers of NC, Duke Hospitals, UNC Hospitals, sites across U.S.; Trainings w/ National Center for Health Research's Patient Advocacy National Network ([nc4hr.org](#)); Center for Environmental Health, Environmental Working Group ([ceh.org](#), [ewg.org](#), [skindeep.org](#)); Grief + Health workshops ([heartspacespiritualresources.org](#)); BCA Campaigns ([thinkbeforeyoupink.org](#)). See: Stupid Cancer ([stupidcancer.org](#)), Grief, illness + representation of families of color ([lovealwaysbook.com](#)), Special Thanks: Doris Ann Price, Em Pike, Dr. Amy Weil, Lisa White, Joseph Megel, Dr. Barry Saunders, Dr. Jules Odendahl-James, all our families, + Vegan Flava Cafe ([veganflavacafe.com](#))

dedicated to our loved ones, our teachers

contact marie@itisinyou.org, itisinyou.org

the clock speaks (text of last recording m. garlock; music, flying lotus *camel*)

there is something beyond this time	stopped at the fracture point	the witness	not exhausted, the signifier's just not mine)
between the secondhand	the fraction	from the seat	
stopped short	of months and days	of consciousness—unconscious	in a moment of relations
a moment	normalcy's median, maze.	curiosity, which does not hear (its)	between motion, and rest,
I sit poised on a frame of concrete	...you found it rather tough to	limits, but (its) prophecy:	emergent
and blocked.	navigate? to balance inculcate		deleterious
fixed	with propagate, the healthy cells	that reverberating, time	material,
frames	with their nemeses,	is responsive,	ethics
your doorway	found wanting	—the excess interior	unreduced
between seven minutes*	by these/your very premises	infolding at feedback, loops the	ethereal—
and counting—	of divine and divination	channel, red and parting	it is not a war
	of reify and recalculation	to reveal the ulterior motive	dialectic,
sharing curiosities	we don't have it right	who bears no markings of the	but tension between
with the careful careless	nor do we hope to	rules, but only the cogency	the released
breeze		to live	and the venture,
of diagnoses	...your precision is the mid sec-	not defiant	the unresolved
swept in	tion between correct and death,	just creative	potential.
like a storm,	when carcinogen carcinoma an-	as the resonance exceeds	knowing you shall die
in a breath	giogenesis is the term marker of	unit, united measurement	how then shall you live,
	instance immediate beyond itself.	of intensity unbound	knowing you shall live,
curving and carving apart	constancy, onlooking,		—how then?
your bones	falls beside itself		
from their flesh.	with surprise: shocked	of virtual autonomic, antinomic,	
tumultuous,	and willful eyes,	double function, double body,	
my linear line	fair, to fully observe	double time (myth and symbol are	