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A CHEROKEE DAUGHTER'S JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY RETRACING
THE TRAIL OF TEARS

ARTSEMERSON PRESENTS
AND SO WE WALKED

A ONE-WOMAN SHOW FROM DELANNA STUDI
SIX PERFORMANCES ONLY
EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER
ROBERT J. ORCHARD STAGE
APRIL 26 – 30, 2023

[Boston, MA – Tuesday, April 4, 2023] – ArtsEmerson, Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theater and film and the professional presenting and producing organization of Emerson College, is excited to welcome Cherokee actress, artist, and activist DeLanna Studi and her frank, heartwarming, and surprisingly funny one-woman show **And So We Walked** illuminating and reckoning with one of the darkest corners of American history. **And So We Walked** will run six performances only from April 26 – 30, 2023 at the Emerson Paramount Center Robert J. Orchard Stage. In Studi's story, a contemporary Cherokee woman and her father embark on an unforgettable 900-mile journey along the Trail of Tears, retracing the same path her great-great grandparents took in the 1830s during the forced relocation of 17,000 Cherokee people. Studi's recounting of the trip draws on extraordinary first-person interviews, historical research, and the artist's personal experiences to paint a portrait of conflict, contradictions, and survival.



Photo credits L to R: And So We Walked, Photo by Patrick Weishampel, And So We Walked, Triad Stage, Photo by Owens Daniel Photography.

“Boston has always been one of my favorite cities,” says DeLanna Studi. “It’s an honor to bring my story here, a city that has such a rich and complicated history, especially in its relation to Native people. It is truly a blessing to be on this stage!”

[PLAYWRIGHT DELANNA STUDI ON AND SO WE WALKED](#)

“Too often Indigenous stories are thought of as relics of a distant past- but Indigenous peoples are here now, and their stories impact all of us today,” says ArtsEmerson Director of Artistic Programming Ronee Penoi. “Understanding contemporary Indigenous perspectives gives us new understanding of our world, of the United States, of what we have in common, and how our futures are intertwined. DeLanna’s work is a gift - a window into her nation, her family, and her spirit. Anyone passionate about living a full and wholehearted life should not miss this stunning work. We are honored to welcome DeLanna as the first Native American artist that we know of on the ArtsEmerson stage. Being Cherokee myself, this work resonates deeply with me.”



DeLanna Studi
Photo by VanderVeen Photographers

Tickets for **And So We Walked** may be purchased 24/7 at [ArtsEmerson.org](https://www.ArtsEmerson.org), or by calling 617-824-8400 (Tue-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00PM ET). The Paramount Center Box Office (559 Washington Street, Boston) is open for walk-up service Thu-Sat from Noon - 6:00 PM ET. Tickets start at \$25. Groups of 10+ attending a performance save up to 30%.

Thanks to generous support from Rockland Trust, a limited number of \$10 Mobile Rush tickets will be available at 10:00 AM ET each performance day on a first-come, first-served basis, exclusively through the TodayTix mobile app. For more information, please click on “General Public” when you visit [ArtsEmerson’s Offers web page](#).

For production stills and other media kit assets, click [here](#).

LISTINGS INFORMATION FOR **AND SO WE WALKED**

Dates:

April 26 – 30, 2023

Venue:

Emerson Paramount Center
Robert J. Orchard Stage
559 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111

Performance Schedule:

Wednesday, April 26, 2023	7:30PM ET	Press Performance
Thursday, April 27, 2023	7:30PM ET	
Friday, April 28, 2023	8:00PM ET	
Saturday, April 29, 2023	2:00PM ET	
Saturday, April 29, 2023	8:00PM ET	
Sunday, April 30, 2023	2:00PM ET	

Ticket Information:

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Content:

Recommended for Ages 13+

Running Time:

130 minutes, including one intermission

Access:

Audio Described Performance – Sunday, April 30 at 2:00PM ET

Public Health Information:

Masks covering mouth and nose are mandatory inside all Theatres of Emerson College venues at all times (except for speakers, performers, and musicians while actively participating in a performance or presentation.) Based on most recent scientific findings, we are recommending N95, KN95, or well-fitting 3-ply surgical masks; however, any mask with at least 3-ply construction is permissible. No gaiters, bandanas, or masks with vents are allowed. [Click here to review full Public Health info.](#)

BIOGRAPHIES**DeLanna Studi (Artist)**

DeLanna Studi is a proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation and is honored to be the new Artistic Director of Native Voices at the Autry. She has over 25 years of experience as a performer, storyteller, educator, facilitator, advocate, and activist. Her theater credits include the First National Broadway Tour of Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize winning play *August: Osage County*, Off-Broadway's *Gloria: A Life at the Daryl Roth Theatre*, *Informed Consent* at the Duke Theater on 42nd Street, and Regional Theaters (Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Center Stage, Cornerstone, and Indiana Repertory Theater). DeLanna originated roles in over eighteen World Premieres including fourteen Native productions. A pivotal moment in her career was writing and performing *And So We Walked: An Artist's Journey Along the Trail of Tears* based on retracing her family's footsteps along the Trail of Tears with her father. *And So We Walked* has been produced throughout the country and was the first American play chosen for the *Journees Theatrales de Carthage* in Tunisia, Africa. In film and television, DeLanna can be seen in the Peabody Award winning *Edge of America*, Hallmark's *Dreamkeeper*, *Goliath*, *Shameless*, and *General Hospital*. She is a recipient of the Butcher Scholar Award, MAP Fund Grant, and Cherokee Preservation Grant. Studi has been a part of residencies and workshops at various universities and organizations including: Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program, Brown University /Trinity Repertory Theater, Dartmouth College/ Hopkins Center, University of Wisconsin: Green Bay, University of Wisconsin: Madison, Arizona State University, Gonzaga University, University of

North Carolina: Chapel Hill, and Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Since 2007, she has served as the chair of the SAG-AFTRA National Native Americans Committee.

Octopus Theatricals (Producer) Founded by creative producer Mara Isaacs, Octopus Theatricals collaborates with artists and organizations to foster an expansive range of compelling theatrical works for local and global audiences. Current projects include: *Hadestown* by Anaïs Mitchell (Broadway, 8 Tony Awards including Best Musical; Grammy Award, Best Musical Theater Album); Gabriel Byrne's *Walking with Ghosts* (Broadway); *Goddess* created by Saheem Ali, Jocelyn Bioh and Michael Thurber; *Bhangin' It* by Rehana Lew Mirza, Mike Lew and Sam Willmott; *Dreaming Zenzile* by Somi Kakoma; (...*Iphigenia*), a new opera by Wayne Shorter and Esperanza Spalding; *In The Same Tongue* created by choreographer Dianne McIntyre with music by Diedre Murray; *The Social! Dance Club* conceived by Steven Hoggett, Christine Jones & David Byrne; *And So We Walked* by DeLanna Studi; Theatre for One (in person and virtual) and many more. Octopus Theatricals is also home to the Producer Hub, an online resource supporting independent producers in the experimental and performing arts sectors. Octopustheatricals.com

PRESENTER INFORMATION

ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the professional presenting and producing organization at Emerson College, and its mission is to bring people together to experience powerful performances that delight, provoke, and inspire, celebrating both our differences and common humanity. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard — the year the U.S. Census confirmed there was no single cultural majority in Boston — ArtsEmerson is committed to building a cultural institution that reflects the diversity of our city. Our imaginative and globe-spanning live and virtual performances, films, and conversations invites each of us to be part of a Boston that is more creative, equitable, and connected. ArtsEmerson is led by Executive Director, David Howse. For more information visit ArtsEmerson.org.

Emerson College

ArtsEmerson and HowlRound Theatre Commons both operate from within the Emerson College Office of the Arts. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theater District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit Emerson.edu. For media inquiries specific to Emerson College, please contact Michelle Gaseau (E: Michelle_Gaseau@emerson.edu, O: 617-824-3547, C: 617-429-2624).

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