



inside stories

897

CONVERSATIONS AND COMMENTARY ON STORYTELLING IN ITS MANY FORMS.

sunday, january 16, 2011

WEEKEND ROUND-UP ON STORYTELLING

Just a few things I've come across this week, or thought to post about.



GLBT HISTORY MUSEUM: First, I'm excited about the opening, this past Thursday, of the [GLBT History Museum](#) at 4127 - 18th Street in San Francisco's very queer Castro District (photo from the museum's website). A project of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society in San Francisco, the museum is the first of its kind in the United States, and only the second in the world (the first was the [Schwules Museum](#) in Berlin, which has a description of their permanent exhibition in English [here](#)). Drawing on the Society's large archive of documents, photos, audio and video recordings, ephemera, and other materials, the opening exhibit in the main gallery is called "Our Vast Queer Past: Celebrating GLBT History." As the curators say in a statement, the show "offers a kaleidoscopic view of nearly a century of queer experience in San Francisco and the Bay Area. It does not form a single narrative; our history is too varied and unruly to be limited in that way. Instead, we bring together multiple stories, sometimes interlinking, sometimes isolated, sometimes in conflict." (You can also watch my short video

about me



Paul V. De Rosa

NOTE: PLEASE VISIT www.workingnarratives.org for weekly blog posts on storytelling and social change. "Inside Stories" is only updated very rarely now, but please read the archives for posts on the many forms of storytelling -- from journalism to genealogy to psychology to film to literature to walking tours and more. Also check out the podcast archive! You can email me at [paulvdc \[at\] gmail \[dot\] com](mailto:paulvdc@gmail.com). Thanks for visiting!

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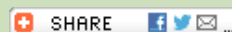


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about the GLBT Historical Society's archives [here](#).)



RECOLLECTING ADAMS: This 2009 series of short animated videos from artist Marianne Rodriguez Petit is ridiculously well done. (The still image above is from episode 5.) In each of the 15 short episodes of "[Recollecting Adams](#)," one narrator from the town of Adams, Massachusetts tells stories from the lives of their families and town, and Marianne has beautifully animated these stories in different styles. As the website aptly says, together these stories "paint a rich portrait of the history of immigration, the mills, the Church, town life, and more, across generations." Dip in at random, or go through the whole series in order. Whatever the case, the series is gorgeous and well worth watching.

KING LIAR: Lastly, here's something forwarded to me by [Richard Ackoon](#), a painter from Trinidad. It's [Lord Nelson's](#) famous calypso tune "King Liar," about a lying competition in which the three top fabulists try to out-do each other. In other words, the song is a story about people telling tall tales. Calypso music started in Trinidad in the early 1900s, and is largely a form of storytelling, says Richard. His claim is backed up by no less an authority than the all-knowing if poorly-sourced [Wikipedia](#), which says that calypso became a way of spreading news around Trinidad. I had a little trouble understanding the singer's accent, and if you do, too, you can read the lyrics [here](#). Enjoy!

[Audience](#) (9)
[Audio Tours](#) (4)
[Author](#) (14)
[Character](#) (14)
[Digital Media and Video Games](#) (15)
[Editing](#) (2)
[Events](#) (10)
[Experience](#) (13)
[Film and Television](#) (23)
[Journalism](#) (7)
[Kris Kovick](#) (2)
[Language](#) (4)
[Listening and Response](#) (11)
[Medium and Form](#) (39)
[Memory and Imagination](#) (36)
[Museums](#) (8)
[New Orleans](#) (9)
[News and Roundups](#) (38)
[Oral History](#) (11)
[Perspective](#) (4)
[Place](#) (21)
[Podcast Episodes](#) (36)
[Power and Responsibility](#) (25)
[Reading and Writing](#) (14)
[Relationship](#) (5)
[Scope](#) (7)
[Stories About Stories](#) (5)
[Suspense](#) (8)
[Theater](#) (17)
[Time](#) (3)
[Video Episodes](#) (8)



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- ▶ [2015](#) (1)
 - ▶ [January](#) (1)
- ▶ [2014](#) (2)
 - ▶ [August](#) (1)
 - ▶ [June](#) (1)
- ▶ [2013](#) (13)
 - ▶ [November](#) (1)
 - ▶ [July](#) (1)
 - ▶ [May](#) (1)
 - ▶ [April](#) (3)
 - ▶ [March](#) (5)
 - ▶ [February](#) (2)
- ▶ [2012](#) (20)
 - ▶ [December](#) (3)
 - ▶ [November](#) (3)
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 - ▶ December (3)
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 - ▶ October (5)
 - ▶ September (4)
 - ▶ August (3)
 - ▶ July (5)
 - ▶ June (2)
 - ▶ May (5)
 - ▶ April (2)
 - ▶ March (4)
 - ▶ February (5)
 - ▼ January (5)
 - MUSEUMS AND POWER: SITES OF CONSCIENCE
 - WEEKEND ROUND-UP: "THE STREAM" "L.A. GANG TOURS," ...
 - MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
 - [WEEKEND ROUND-UP ON STORYTELLING](#)
 - MARSHALL GANZ IN "SOJOURNERS MAGAZINE" ON WHY STOR...
- ▶ 2010 (80)
 - ▶ December (6)
 - ▶ November (8)
 - ▶ October (7)
 - ▶ September (10)
 - ▶ August (5)
 - ▶ July (8)
 - ▶ June (3)
 - ▶ May (8)
 - ▶ April (8)
 - ▶ March (8)
 - ▶ February (3)
 - ▶ January (6)
- ▶ 2009 (47)
 - ▶ December (6)
 - ▶ November (6)
 - ▶ October (15)
 - ▶ September (15)
 - ▶ August (2)
 - ▶ June (1)
 - ▶ May (1)
 - ▶ April (1)



some great sites on storytelling

New Yorker fiction podcast - short story and discussion every month

American Writers - creative writing

podcast and blog

The Story - radio show of stories behind the news

The Moth - true stories told live on stage, without notes

Speakeasy - Washington DC group has events, workshops

Living Proof - book and blog on story advocacy

The Storytelling Seminar - research and practice on storytelling

Center for Social Media - resources on socially-engaged media-making

NGS Magazine - from the National Genealogical Association

Kimberly's Genealogy Blog - good how-to and commentary

African American Lives - PBS mini-series on genealogy

American Genealogy Magazine - defunct, but archives online

Archaeology Magazine - news, views and more on archaeology worldwide

National Council on Public History - making the past useful to the public

Words and Silences - annual journal of Int'l Oral History Assoc.

Oral History Association - journal, conference, etc.

Contemporary Legend – journal on contemporary (urban) legend

City Lore - to foster New York's – and America's – living cultural heritage

Journal of American Folklore - traditional art, lit, knowledge, practice

Lit Drift - blog on "storytelling in the 21st century"

Wild Caught Stories - a rotary journal of creative community building

National Storytelling Network - conference, magazine and resources for storytelling

International Storytelling Center - sponsors festival, events, etc.

Exhibitionist - magazine of the Nat'l Assoc. for Museum Exhibition

American Association for State and Local History

Museum - magazine on all kinds of museums, including history

Telling Stories - oral histories conducted by high school students

Streetside Stories - literacy arts nonprofit in San Francisco

The Stanford Storytelling Project - weekly show of stories on a theme

This American Life - weekly show/podcast of stories on a theme

StoryCorps - nonprofit that gathers oral histories

On the Media - WNYC show/podcast about media

A Storied Career - blog on uses of storytelling, with a focus on work

Nieman Narrative Digest - compendium of narrative journalism

Columbia Journalism Review - magazine for a strong press, strong democracy

Parabola Magazine - myth, symbol, ritual in art in world traditions

Tin House - a quarterly literary journal, also sponsors events

Granta Magazine - great fiction, essays, photos

Creative Writing Now - ideas, tips, contests, free online courses

Poets and Writers - resource for creative writers

Narrative Magazine - new fiction and essays

The Liquid Narrative Group - research at NCSU computer science dept.

Center for Studies in Oral Tradition - has a journal as well

Marvels and Tales - journal on folktale and fairy-tale

Journal of Narrative Theory - academic journal

Storyworlds - a scholarly journal of narrative studies

Project Narrative - interdisciplinary research at OSU

The Educational Uses of Digital Storytelling - U of Houston resources page

Image - quarterly journal on literature, art and faith, with other resources

Animating Democracy - a project on the arts and civic engagement

Center for Future Storytelling at MIT - stories and new media

The Medium - NY Times blog on internet/TV convergence

Center for Digital Storytelling - first-person stories and new media

Lawyers and Literature - links and articles by WVU prof

The Dulwich Centre - research on narrative therapy

Foley Center for the Study of Lives - life stories

Centre for Narrative Research - academic center in UK

Center for Narrative Studies - leadership and social change

Yale Journal for Humanities in Medicine -

online clearinghouse

The Program in Narrative Medicine at
Columbia University

American Theater Magazine - news and
features

Theater Magazine - sharp writing on new
and challenging work

Film in Focus - smart writing/video about
film

Filmmaker Magazine - a magazine and
blog about independent film

Reality Roll Call - news about and casting
calls for reality TV



people and organizations featured in the podcast or in videos

6th Regiment U.S. Colored Troops
Reenactors

Columbia Center for Oral History

Ford's Theatre

Forget Memory, author Anne Basting

GLBT Historical Society

George King

HIV Story Project / Generations HIV

Housing is a Human Right

Junebug Productions

Laura Bolaños Cadena

Living in Emergency, documentary film

MCC Theater

Maya Lilly

Neighborhood Story Project

Newseum

Ophira Eisenberg

Program in Narrative Medicine

Renaissance Journalism Center

Rimini Protokoll

Secret City

Starlight Runner Entertainment

Storahtelling

StoryCorps Memory Loss Initiative

Streetcar Named Desire, on Broadway

Studio 360

Susie Bright

Teatro de los Sentidos / Theatre of the
Senses

Telsey + Co. Casting

The Truth audio drama

Thousand Kites

US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Voices of Rwanda

Women On the Rise Telling HerStory
(WORTH)

smartMeme

