

PASSAGEWAYS: SONGS OF CONNECTION, ABNORMAL & SUBLIME

Written, Performed & Composed by Amy Oestreicher

Musical Direction & Arrangements by Bob Goldstone

Direction by Shellen Lubin

Video Projection Design by Shannon Epstein

Read the *BroadwayWorld Press Release*

Following runs at Feinstein's/54 Below, Metropolitan Room, The Bijou Theatre, and Barrington Stage Company, performer, songwriter, playwright, and TEDx speaker [Amy Oestreicher](#) brings a premiere solo show to the Triad Theater. *Passageways* is an original song cycle with live music, and artwork projections, all created by the performer. Music, humor and art, interwoven with autobiographical narrative, as the creativity of the artist becomes an unexpected passageway through profound crisis. On *passageways*, there's no way in, no way out, only through. So why not laugh, dance and paint our way towards the light?

Passageways is a musical based on a "fistula" – an abnormal communication between organs that evolves from a surgery or sudden interference. The musical explores the physical and emotional repairs that accompany the path to recovery from a decade of the playwright's autobiographical trauma, including sexual abuse by a trusted mentor, rapidly succeeded by a gastrectomy, coma, organ failure, six years unable to eat or drink a drop of fluid, 28 reconstructive surgeries and the long-winded journey of PTSD that follows. This multidisciplinary narrative explores trauma through the archetypal hero's journey, incorporating live-painting, movement, and original music while illustrated by mixed-media art, and visual media. The story follows the exploration of a woman redefining "home" after trauma. She recreates herself through the discovery of the arts and is able to reclaim her voice and rejoin her community.



We start in the present, Amy having just been discharged from a final surgery which has created a medical "fistula" – an abnormal "communication" between two organs. This most recent medical intervention which has promised to finally reconstruct her digestive organs, has instead, created a further setback. As Amy starts a single sketch of a tree, she is overcome with a past that is too overwhelming for words. Creativity provides a safe container to explore a past world which she once felt part of – a world of pleasure, pain, nature, trust, and betrayal. What tunnels of discovery will this "abnormal passageway" lead Amy through? *Passageways* is a literally "work in progress" continuously created for the audience with a paintbrush, music and projections.