

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

Out of the Blocks is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Speaker 1 ([00:00](#)):

You say "[inaudible 00:00:02], how are you?" You say, "[inaudible 00:00:03]." Good. Very good, yeah. My name is George [Anagnosto 00:00:09]. I'm here in the Greek coffee house named Olympia Coffeehouse. I come to the US very young. I come right at 18 years old. We grew up poor. I want another life. A better life, from young. I just want to get out of there. There's things I want to do. And I come here, I love this country. This is the best country in the world. That was 1972. Then I come to be the manager of [inaudible 00:00:47] nightclub in [inaudible 00:00:47]. Used to be club [inaudible 00:00:49] and Latin Casino, and then the [inaudible 00:00:51] palace. It's a big place. You used to bring names here about... Four Tops. Temptations. Chubby Checker. Big names.

I got a good life from 23 years old. Got everything. 1982 I think was... I was out with some friends and I drink whatever, [inaudible 00:01:17]. And what happened, I like [inaudible 00:01:21]. I stay

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there for three months at the [inaudible 00:01:27], take me two years to work good. I have to bring my mother from Greece to my house because I can't just move around.

Speaker 2 ([01:37](#)):

You got in a car accident or what?

Speaker 1 ([01:39](#)):

It was five minutes from my house, but I hit... I think fall asleep. And I hit telephone pole or something. Good thing my car was big, was a Thunderbird that day. Got a big car and they cut the car to get me out. Both legs was broke. Things has changed. Things is change.