

## 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 ([00:01](#)):

We making the Italian bread in the mixer. About 20 minutes and we're ready to start rolling and we make the Italian bread.

Speaker 2 ([00:10](#)):

How much... I mean like, how many pounds of dough you got going in?

Speaker 1 ([00:12](#)):

I believe it's about 150 pounds right now. My name is John Avgerinos. I'm located 4711 Eastern Avenue. It be a bakery for 35 years I have it. My daddy owns it before. We make everything here. Koulourakia, kourabiedes, [Anasetos 00:00:35] baklava, egg custard and more. We came from Greece from 1969. We

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worked seven days a week to try to make it. Usually, I used to get up three o'clock in the morning. At the time you are baker, you get up early in the morning. Early birds got their worm.

Speaker 2 ([00:57](#)):

What's the most difficult part of the job?

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

To get up in the morning.

Speaker 2 ([01:04](#)):

What keeps you going? What keeps you wanting to get up every morning and do this?

Speaker 1 ([01:11](#)):

We got to make a living. That's it. We got to make a living.