

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



Brian Potts ([00:00](#)):

Hi, my name is Brian Potts. I'm recording studio director for Connection.

Speaker 2 ([00:04](#)):

I'm on the visionary side of the company. Brian is on technical side.

Brian Potts ([00:09](#)):

Heading into... towards the control room here. Personally, my favorite room in the whole place. These are actually mic preamps that I built myself. These are clones of SSL [[crosstalk 00:00:20](#)]. This is one of my favorites. This is [[crosstalk 00:00:26](#)], all kinds of fun toys. They say go big or go home. So we went big.

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Speaker 2 ([00:40](#)):

We could have picked a place downtown somewhere or any other kind of upscale sort of neighborhood. But that's not part of who we are. Connection, our values are harmony, quality, community.

Brian Potts ([00:55](#)):

An important part of this vision is bringing different styles together. The track that we did here, One Baltimore, was written and recorded in one day by... Half the people that have been here probably never met each other before, but we came together with one common vision and one common goal. And we wrote and recorded that song, in one day.

Speaker 3 ([01:38](#)):

(singing).

Speaker 2 ([01:42](#)):

When we opened the doors, some people told us, well be careful about these people in the corner. Be careful about that person, this person. I personally didn't believe in that. My approach was, it depends on how we're going to approach people with respect and how with time they will understand that this is about them. And we decided, you know what, we're going to start doing event that is just for the community.