

Title of the artwork / collection: ELLIPSES: The Earthly Musical

Romance in Stone: When a collaboration is created for the intention of creating a new musical, the playwright/composer determines whether the script is set in stone or whether the stone weathers the director's and performers' ideas and experimentations. David Quang Pham lets his stone ELLIPSES go through a natural erosion this past year. Now, this stone gets a chance to be artificially layered this July.

Evolving Trends in Drama: David Quang Pham's upbringing started in the virtual medium while many playwrights in the past started their career on a physical stage. He is a part of the new generation of musical writers who started off in the virtual medium before evolving into the physical stage. As he moves into New York City, he emerges into the artist development of a traditional musical writer. That has been a trend in the performing arts. He now plans to throw his stone into a new environment (Colorado) to see how the stage director and performers carve his stone or how he lets himself erode.

Description of the artwork: ELLIPSES stars the Galaxy family and their dog Gravity as they sing and dance their way through the Big Bang.

The online collaboration between Atlanta, Georgia and Wyoming, Michigan exhibited at DigiFest'21. Between August 2020 and July 2021, ELLIPSES was developed in David Quang Pham's Working Title Playwrights New Play and Dramaturgy Apprenticeship.

This year, ELLIPSES is both virtually and physically developed between New York City and Denver, Colorado. In May 2022, ELLIPSES was selected to be showcased at the 2022 Colorado New Musical Festival. ELLIPSES looks to be developed in a two-month-long process with the associates of Backstory Theatre. It starts with a virtual audition process between June 6-17. An in-person audition is happening on June 18 at Backstory Theatre. Then the in-person rehearsals with the authors' online attendance happens on the following Wednesdays and Saturdays until mid-July. David Quang Pham will fly out from New York City to Denver. He will be for the final dress rehearsals. The musicals will finally have showcases outdoors at Brunner Farmhouse in Broomfield, Colorado on July 19, 21, and 23, 2022.

At DigiFest, David Quang Pham will discuss the new musical development processes starting with cast auditions, team formation, rehearsals, script reformatting, and production. David Quang Pham will present the research he will do while collaborating in the virtual and in-person space with new performers. Marketing graphics will be made through Corel and Adobe software. During his stay at Brunner Farmhouse, he will discuss how he utilizes his astrophysics background once again to make the concert an experience under the stars. The exhibition will present the concert of ELLIPSES at Brunner Farmhouse. At DigiFest, David Quang Pham will speak in detail of the June-July process that leads up to the July 21st concert. For an inside look at the creative process, visit: <https://www.ellipsesplay.com>

Author(s) name(s): David Quang Pham

Country: United States of America

Affiliation: Backstory Theatre

Bio: David Quang Pham (he/him) is a musical theater science communicator. His purpose is to guide scientists to the fourth wall and theatre artists to the fourth dimension. Due to youthful trips to operas and space camp, he now writes love letters to science, devising stories from its branches. His notable musicals personifying quantum mechanics and cosmology are respectively: [TOUR](#) (2020 DUAF finalist) and [ELLIPSES](#) (2022 Colorado New Musical Festival, 2022 Eugene O'Neill Theater Center NMTC semifinalist). Queer Theatre Kalamazoo is producing his floral-herbal musical *TURNOVER: A NEW LEAF* for their tenth season in 2023. Composer [Janelle Lawrence](#) mentors him, helping to forge his broad range of musical styles including pop, punk, tango, and Xiqu. After completing an astrophysics and theatre education at Michigan State University, he studied playwriting as the second apprentice of [Working Title Playwrights](#), Atlanta. He is the Literary Fellow of [Playwrights Foundation](#), San Francisco. As a new play dramaturg, his work (Nico Juber's *MILLENNIALS ARE KILLING MUSICALS*, Michael McGoldrick's *ALLIES*) has been seen at organizations such as Feinstein's/54 Below, Open Jar Studios, and Paterson Performing Arts Development Council. He is a critic in Kennedy Center's BIPOC Critics Lab whose work is published in TheaterMania; a moderator at LMDA; a founding member of CreateTheater and the International Dramaturgy Lab; a member of [SIIΣ](#), ASCAP, and the Dramatists Guild. His moonbase is in New York City and his earthbase is in Wyoming, Michigan. Be up to lightspeed at davidquang.com