

CU ★ PRESENTS
2023-24 Season



Theatre & Dance
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

NEED TO KNOW FOR THE SHOW

- Refrain from using electronic devices **during** the performance. Feel free to view this program on your device at **any time prior to** the performance, **during intermission** or **after the performance ends**.
- Photography and video recordings of any type are strictly prohibited during the performance.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere. CU Boulder is a smoke-free campus.

CU ★ PRESENTS is
the home of performing
arts at the University of
Colorado Boulder.



Remarkable
performances are the
heart of **CU Boulder
Theatre & Dance**.



CU Boulder acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute and many other Native American nations. Their forced removal from these territories has caused devastating and lasting impacts.

[Read full land acknowledgment.](#)

Open Space

Curated by CU Dance Connection

7:30 p.m., March 1-2, 2024

2 p.m., March 3, 2024

Charlotte York Irey Theatre

Choreographers

Riley Holcomb

Edward Lee

Sam Blagg

Angela Gumieniak

Devon Beckum

Claire Terhaar

Devin Garza

Lighting Designer

Jonathan Spencer

Stage Manager

Kyra MacGregor

Run Crew

Aaron Klass

Frank Brickman

Ashleigh Parish

Brie Sutton

Program

Bad Romance (A Reclamation)

Choreography

Riley Holcomb

Performer(s)

Sam Blagg, Maya Blom-Walker, Riley Carter, Riley, Holcomb, Elizabeth Irvin, Jasmine Linkenheil, Brie Sutton, Sasha Trubitsyna and Adin William

Music

Bad Romance by Lady Gaga

Program/Choreographer's notes

Every dancer in this piece has been dancing since they were young. Growing up as a dancer often means endless comparisons between yourself and other dancers. Most of us are consistently working to find the joy that dance brought us when we were young. The goal was to create a dance that we felt confident doing, something that we could impress ourselves with, not the audience. This dance is about creating an environment where we are working as a whole, rather than comparing ourselves to one another. Our goal is to dance with joy and passion, and we hope that is enough.

SPECIAL THANKS: Thank you to all the dancers in this piece who brought such energy and love to every single rehearsal; it would not have been possible without all of you.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Riley Holcomb is in her third year at CU Boulder pursuing a BFA in dance with a minor in sociology and a certificate in hip hop studies. She currently works with young students as a dance teacher at Airborne, where she has found her passion for teaching and choreography. The young dancers she works with are a constant inspiration to her, as they remind her of the joy that dance is supposed to be about. This is her first time presenting a group work on the CU Boulder stage, and she hopes you enjoy watching it as much as she enjoyed creating it.

B.O.B

Choreography

Edward Lee

Performer(s)

Devon Beckum, Devin Garza, Edward Lee, Belinda Polynice and Becca Schaff

Music

B.O.B - Bombs over Baghdad by Outcast

Program/Choreographer's notes

I love all my people and their energy!!

SPECIAL THANKS: Thank you to the whole crew for making this show possible!

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Edward Lee views this piece as a checkpoint for where they are in their study of hip hop/street-style dance.

The Hand of the Collective

Choreographer

Sam Blagg

Performer(s)

Izzy Banse, Cassy Clark, Ashley Caizer, Riley Holcomb, Gianna Lucarelli, Anna Pesce, Cleo Washington and Adin Williams

Music

Chicago by Alt J

Special thanks

Thank you to all the dancers in this piece! Thank you for dancing with me and making this process so enjoyable. Also, thank you to everyone on the crew who made this show possible!

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Sam Blagg (she/her) is a versatile dance artist who enjoys performing and choreographing in the Denver/Boulder area. Sam is in her final year at CU Boulder, working towards a BFA in dance with a hip-hop certificate. She has trained in multiple different styles, like contemporary, jazz, ballet, tap and various street styles. Her research is currently focused on the community created within a piece and the playfulness within opposing dynamics.

It Was Supposed to be a Duet

Choreography

Angela Gumieniak

Performer(s)

Angela Gumieniak

Music

Lonely Heart by 5 Seconds of Summer

Program/Choreographer's notes

In an attempt to avoid discomfort, something equally uncomfortable arose ... I do wonder where the other person went though.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Angela began dancing at the Arvada Center where she studied jazz, ballet, hip hop and modern. In her time at the center, Angela was a teaching assistant as well as a member of their performing company. Angela continued their dance studies at CU Boulder exploring a variety of different styles such as contemporary, ballet, contact improvisation, and assorted street dance styles. Angela is pursuing her BFA in dance as well as an undergraduate degree in English literary studies. Post-graduation, they hope to join a repertory dance company as well as release and perform their own works.

Maybe, I Don't Know

Choreography

Devon Beckum

Performer(s)

Devin Garza, Sam Blagg, Kylie Powers, Becca Schaff, Edward Lee, Elizabeth Ervin, Riley Carter, Adin Williams, Sasha Trubitsyna and Anna Pesce

Music

Selfish Gene by Panda Bear

Special thanks

Special thank you to each and every one of my cast members! I genuinely could not have done it without this cast.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Devon Beckum is a dancer from Colorado Springs. She is currently in her junior year studying dance in the BFA track with a certificate in hip-hop studies. Devon has trained in various dance styles including: ballet, contemporary, jazz and various street styles.

Silvia

Choreography

Claire Terhaar

Performer(s)

Claire Terhaar, Macy Will

Music

Movement 6 by Floating Points, Pharoah Sanders and
The London Symphony Orchestra

Program/Choreographer's notes

This piece is an abstraction on the story of two young characters from Virgil's *Aeneid*; Lavinia and Silvia.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Claire grew up dancing and training in the Front Range area and is a senior in CU's dance BA program. This is Claire's first choreographic work for the Irey stage.

SPECIAL THANKS: Special thanks to Macy and Kate.

This is what happens when the structure receives feedback

Choreography

Devin Garza

Performer(s)

Devon Beckum, Sam Blagg, Cassy Clark, Rachel Halmrast, Elizabeth Irvin, Anna Lowrimore, Kylie Powers and Becca Schaff

Music

Rose of Sharon by Xiu Xiu

Program/Choreographer's notes

A physical narrative that carves through the vulnerabilities and insecurities of audience perception. We breathe, we bleed, we dance. We live through the labor and love of movement expression but it comes with the cost of being gawked at by the audience who does the job of seeing and perceiving. No one will ever feel as full as long as we are being perceived.

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER: Devin Garza (she/her/hers) is a dancer and choreographer from Colorado Springs. She has been dancing since she was 4 years old and began choreographing at 15. Her work utilizes the tools of shadow work and geometric patterns to navigate the importance of embodying the human in an artist before emphasizing the technicalities that comes equipped with a dancer's identity. She is currently getting a BFA in dance, a minor in business, and a certificate in hip hop studies at the University of Colorado Boulder and has had her work featured in various shows at the school. Her choreography was also featured in The Runaway Grooms' music video for their song *Jenny* as well as TedX 2019.

SPECIAL THANKS: Special thanks to the dancers inside the work, everyone working on tech behind the scenes, and to the longevity of process and internal embracement. None of this could happen without you.

Personnel

JONATHAN SPENCER (Lighting Designer), lighting and Scenic designer working principally for Broadway, Touring, Regional, and Off-Broadway productions. Having collaborated on more than 130 productions and counting, lighting designs include the recent world premiere *Mr. Hollands Opus* at Ogunquit Playhouse. And *RENT 20th – 25th Anniversary National Tours* which ran for more than 1200 performances, *The Priscilla Queen of the Desert First National Tour*, Off-Broadway: *Who's Holiday* (West Side Theatre), Carrie Mae Weems' *Grace Notes: Reflections for Now* (John F Kennedy Center, Yale Repertory, and Spoleto Festival USA) and *You Are Mine Own* Directed by Atom Egoyan (Spoleto Festival USA). Spencer teaches lighting at the University of Colorado Boulder Theatre & Dance department and the Southern Oregon University Masters of Theater Studies program. Member USA 829.

JSpencerDesign.com

Theatre & Dance Production Team

Costume Shop

Production Assistants: Ali Cox, Sara David, Elena Diederich, Liliana Eurich, Koral Jackson, Joan McEnhill, Hope Mills, Wulfgar Parmenter, Brooke Rawcliffe, Hailey Roller, Norah Schaefer, Aodhnaite Shields, Emily Zhou

Dance Production

Technical Crew: Sam Blagg, Devin Garza, Hoang Nguyen, Alessa Oltman, Kaia Schiff, Cadence Ryan, Ruth Goldenburg, Devon Beckum, Maya Walker, Sasha Trubitsyna, Kate Gomez Moore, Joanna Southcott, Alston Tyndall

Scenery and Electrics

Lighting Practicum Students: Mikayla Jassem

The Students of 2050: Roan Cochrane, Zoe Cooper, James Corness, Diego Gelpcke, Maddy Goldberg, Gideon Harris, Koral Jackson, Adrian Knappertz, Jackson Laughlin, Elliott Lewis, Sophie Lisle, Emily Littlefield, Dakota Makinen, Declan Manion, Layla Middleton, Thylyn Moore, Alesa Moskal, Manu Narasimha Moorthy, Tai Ngo, Sam Nicastro, Jenna Rose, Leon Spiess, Jude Stivers, Oliver Szabo, Jacob Turner, Ellison Wavra, Sam Weingart, Ellen Wyatt

Event details are subject to change, but the CU Presents website will always be up to date. Click or tap below to explore your options.



Theatre events

Tickets start at \$20



Dance events

Ticket prices vary



Artist Series

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Devon Beckum

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Devon Beckum

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