

THEATRE & DANCE

2024-25



CU ★ PRESENTS



Theatre & Dance

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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The University of Colorado Boulder, Colorado's flagship university, honors and recognizes the many contributions of Indigenous peoples in our state. 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.

Catapult

A BFA dance concert

7:30 p.m., Feb. 7-8, 2025

2 p.m., Feb. 9, 2025

Charlotte York Irey Theatre

Choreography

Devon Beckum

Riley Holcomb

Angela Gumieniak

Sawyer Shepardson

Cleo Washington

Edward Lee

Becca Schaff

Lighting Design

Anna Pillot

Technical Director

Kate Bashore

Kyra MacGregor

Production Director

Kate Bashore

Production Managers

Kyra MacGregor

Mackenzie Derrick

Stage Manager

Brosnan Bustamante

PROGRAM

Sorry, I'm Projecting

Choreography

Devon Beckum

Performers

Devon Beckum, Sam Blagg, Quinn Corry, Elizabeth Ervin, Angela Gumieniak, Kylie Powers, Becca Schaff, Sasha Trubitsyna, Adin Williams

Music

Alan Jenkins and The Kettering Vampires: *The Black Angel's Death Song*

Spiritualized: *I Think I'm in Love*

The Lumineers: *Patience*

Animal Collective: *My Girls*

Costume Design

Ted Stark and Tyreis Hunte

Special Thanks

This piece would not have been possible without the support of my cast so thank you, every one of you. Thank you to my readers, Michelle and Chrissy, and my parents for their endless and unwavering support.

As it Sounds, So it Feels

Choreography

Riley Holcomb

Performers

Lizzy Ahrens, Annelise Bell, Brianna Freeland, Riley Holcomb, Hannah Lechman, Gianna Lucarelli, Emma Sammoury, Camden Sharkey, and Emily VanLeeuwen

Music

Charli xcx: *B2b*

Troye Sivan: *Rush*

Charli xcx: *Party 4 U*

Costume Design

The dancers

About the Choreographer

Riley Holcomb is a passionate dance educator and choreographer dedicated to sharing the joy of movement through rhythm and storytelling. For the past two years, she has been teaching dance to children and leading free, community-based tap classes, fostering accessibility and inclusivity in the art form. As an apprentice with Tap Into the Network, she has honed her skills in education-based tap choreography, deepening their commitment to the next generation of dancers. Upcoming projects include serving

as the assistant choreographer for *Something Rotten!* (CU Presents) and choreographer for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Sandbox Student Series). With a love for musical theatre and a strong foundation in tap, Holcomb continues to create work that celebrates rhythm, expression, and community.

Special Thanks

I am incredibly grateful to my dancers, who have put so much care, love, and time into this piece. I quite literally could not have done this without you. Thank you to my family; I could not have done this without your support and love. Lastly, thank you to my students, who have always been my biggest source of inspiration and joy.

Apostasy

Choreography

Angela Gumieniak

Performers

Devon Beckum, Maddie Dusel, Talli Fox, Angela Gumieniak, Riley Holcomb, Jessica McKay, Trinity Rieck, Cadence Ryan, Sawyer Shepardson

Music

Nuovo Testamento: *Heat*

The Cistercian monks of Stift Heiligenkreuz: *Responsorium*
“Libera Me”

Bauhaus: *Bela Lugosi’s Dead*

Intro ambiance with voice over by Angela Gumieniak

Costume Design

Theodore Stark and Veronica Dewey

About the Choreographer

Angela Gumieniak began her dance journey at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities as a student, teaching assistant and member of their performing company. Over the course of their college career Gumieniak has had the opportunity to study a wide variety of dance forms and rediscovered a love for modern jazz. In 2024, Gumieniak received an Undergraduate Research Opportunity Grant

to participate in the Nan Giordano Certification Program, a Giordano jazz technique teacher training program facilitated by the Giordano Dance Company in Chicago, Illinois. They are also currently an apprentice to Davis Contemporary Dance Company in Denver. She will be graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance in spring 2025 as well as a degree in literary studies and a minor in Spanish.

Special Thanks

- My amazing cast for your willingness to play around and be vulnerable in this process
- My parents for their support
- My dance teachers for your support and believing I could make it this far. Special thanks to Christina Noël-Addock, Therese Patton-Sanchez, Emily Hoch-Windus, Taylor Coniglio, Lanea Blackburn and Ashi Smythe.
- My best friend Cassie—this wouldn't have been possible without you.

Program Notes

Healing myself for myself, not for you, not for others, not for an ethereal being in the sky.

Work in response to lived experiences of the following passages from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church, Second Edition*:

402, 499, 796, 922, 1250, 1424, 1446, 1455-1457, 1542, 1601-1620, 2357- 2370, and others.

For Their Eyes Only

Choreography

Sawyer Shepardson

Performers

Marlena Nava Chorna, Maddie Dusel, Brianna Freeland,
Talli Fox, Edward Lee, Sawyer Shepardson,
Emily VanLeewun, Cleo Washington, Adin Williams

Music

Peter Thomas Sound Orchestra: *Cold Goodbye*

Lost Souls Of Saturn: *Psycho-Pompous Satellite Acapella*
(*Bonus Track*)

Nicolas Jaar: *No One is Looking at You*

Costume Design

Dancers, Ted Stark and Tyreis Hunte

About the Choreographer

Sawyer Shepardson, originally from Riverton, Wyoming, began her dance journey in her hometown before pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance. After spending two years at Casper College, she transferred to CU Boulder, where she is a senior with her main focus in contemporary dance. Shepardson recently trained with Staibdance during a transformative summer in Italy and is driven by a passion to build a career in dance performance.

Program Notes

This work explores the duality of performance—how the stage can feel like a sanctuary while life can demand constant performance. Through movement, the work investigates introspection, empathy and the personal relationship Shepardson has with performance. The work confronts the fragile boundary between authenticity and the roles we're forced to play. Here, the line between truth and pretense blurs, laying bare the raw discomfort of inhabiting a world that expects you to perform even when the act is your own.

From the Horse's Mouth and Mind

Choreography

Cleo Washington

Performers

Marlena Nava Chorna, Maddie Dusel, Elizabeth Ervin, Angela Gumieniak, Edward Lee, Gianna Lucarelli, Sawyer Shepardson, Emily VanLeewun, Cleo Washington

Music

Moses Sumney: *Doomed*

Benjamin Clementine: *Adios*

Elmiene: *Marking My Time*

Costume Design

Tyreis Hunte

About the Choreographer

Cleo Washington, a proud first-generation college student, is a senior at the University of Colorado Boulder, pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance. A Colorado native from Aurora, Washington's movement journey began with colorguard, sparking a passion for dance that led her to CU Boulder.

Beyond her studies, Washington has worked with high school students and young adults in various groups, including Blue Knights as well as Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps, that tour across the U.S. Recently, she participated in a dance residency at the University of Oregon, further fueling her commitment to the art form. Washington looks forward to continuing her growth and inspiring others through dance as she embarks on the next chapter of her journey.

Program Notes

From the Horse's Mouth and Mind extends a warm invitation to any guest willing to stay. This work explores the complexities of interpersonal relationships, delving into themes of care and lovelessness that can feel as confining as walls closing in. It likens the maintenance of relationships to the upkeep of a house—every new person you meet is a guest to greet. But what happens when these guests overstay their welcome? To truly understand what remains with you is to uncover a deeper understanding of yourself.

Lean/Above

Choreography

Edward Lee

Performers

Ellie Barczak, Devon Beckum, Samantha Blagg,
Chris Bremner, Maddie Dusel, Elizabeth Ervin,
Brianna Freeland, Angela Gumieniak, Laura Jumper,
Edward Lee, Sparrow LoCurto, Becca Schaff,
Sawyer Shepardson, Emily VanLeeuwen, Cleo Washington,
Adin Williams

Music

Franky Knuckles and Lisa Michaelis: *Rain Falls*

Max Graef: *Jazz 104*

Busta Rhymes and Kendrick Lamar: *Look Over Your Shoulder*

Costume Design

Dancers, Ted Stark and Tyreis Hunte

About the Choreographer

Edward Lee is a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a hip-hop certificate. He started dancing in his sophomore year of high school, growing and taking in knowledge over time. His work is deeply committed to honoring and uplifting the roots of hip-hop dance and culture, paying tribute to the pioneers who have shaped and defined the art form. Lee has

worked closely with respected figures in the field, including Larry Southall and Rennie Harris, whose mentorship has helped him deepen his understanding of hip-hop dance while honing his own unique voice within the community. Through his performances and choreography, Lee finds comfort and a deep sense of community in street dance styles, using them as a vehicle to navigate his identity within the culture.

I, in the space of us

Choreography

Becca Schaff

Performers

Izzy Banse, Ellie Barczak, Devon Beckum, Sam Blagg, Elizabeth Ervin, Talli Fox, Edward Lee, Gianna Lucarelli, Izzy Phipps, Kylie Powers, Becca Schaff, Sasha Trubitsyna, Cleo Washington, Adin Williams

(in collaboration with Kristen Holleyman)

Music

Terekke: *l8r h8r*

Leon Vynehall: *It Breaks (Chapter IX)*

Joe Armon-Jones, Maxwell Owin: *Midnight Oil (Sparkzzz)*

Kenza, Vinnie Mak: *All Mine*

Mac Miller and SZA: *DJ's Chord Organ*

Leon Vynehall: *Envelopes (Chapter VI)*

Costume Design

Dancers, Ted Stark, Tyreis Hunte and Veronica Dewey

About the Choreographer

Becca Schaff is a multidisciplinary dancer and choreographer who creates works inspired by the environment inside queer dance clubs and the community established within. Through her queer identity, she challenges the boundaries between modern and hip-hop dance, disrupting the stark binary between the styles. Schaff desires to dance with her full movement experience and vocabulary to transcend the labels of style while still respecting the deep roots and culture that hip-hop styles entail.

Program Notes

I, in the space of us, attempts to embrace the in between space of modern and street styles, specifically house. It embodies community, highlights individual expression, emphasizes queer identity and relies on the power of house music to drive it. Thank you to the Black and Brown queer bodies that created this art form that is so full of love and appreciation. Thank you to my mentors, Anya, Larry and Rennie for your experienced pedagogy and tireless leadership. Thank you to this cast and their patience, willingness to try and friendship through this collaboration. Thank you to Kristen for your immense kindness, support and brilliance that you bring into the space.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Run Crew: Alyssa Slatky, Monet Vigil, Priyanka Balasubramaniam, Sophia Juarez

Costume Shop Production Assistants: Marie-Antoinette Banks, Jonathan Bashford, Alexandria Cox, Sara David, Elena Diederich, Liliana Eurich, Briana Gebhart, Maddy Goldberg, Savvy Gullett, Tyreis Hunt, Koral Jackson, Rebekah Jeffery, Shannon Kosman, Kirra Lindauer, Kyra MacGregor, Madeline McRoberts, Hope Mills, Adison Palmer, Wulfgar Parmenter, Cyrus Porter, Brooke Rawcliffe, Hailey Roller, Norah Schaefer, Sydney Sowl, Kai Symons, Emily Zhou, Khalil Flowers

Dance Production Crew: Kaia Schiff, Katrina Chandrashekhar Sonwane, Edward Lee, Devon Beckum, Angela Gumieniak, Evan Hunter, Nathan Klimpel, Alessa Oltman, Hazel Palmer, Rory Smith, Alston Tyndall, Tyreis Hunte

Lighting Technicians: Alessa Oltman, Cheri Bauman, Zoe Gidiere

Scene Shop Production Assistants: Lilly Bergen, Gwen Burke, Peyton Burns, Roan Cochrane, Hayley Delich, Xan Gardner, Ruth Goldenberg, Lauren Haas, Nathan Klimpel, Emily Littlefield, Kyra MacGregor, Sam Nicastro, Algie Schneider, Kai Symons, Sophie Wills, Rachel Zwerenz

2050 Production Students: Amaara Alikhan, Korinne Bishop, Liam Connelly, Lia Cucuzzella, Catherine Darrow, Emily Doreste, Liliana Eurich, Marcus Giordano, Sofia Gonzalez, Lauren Haas, Clayton Harlamert, Josephine McGinty, Peyton Melun, Cassie Metrick, Emma Myers, Brandon Oster-Wickstrom, Adison Palmer, Wulfgar Parmenter, Bianca Patten, Isabelle Phillips, Layna Platt, Julia Prause, Joey Richards, Shannon Rymut, Abby Sinno, Rory Smith, Sam Sutter, Saxton Tobin-Jones, Skyler Tu, Kieran Warger, Sarah Zimah

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