

CU ★ PRESENTS



2020-21 Season
Digital program



Theatre & Dance
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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



2020-21 Digital Programs

October-December 2020

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Theatre & Dance season **interrogates** urgent crises

By Becca Vaclavik

In a typical year, the Department of Theatre & Dance plans its season well in advance, choosing events long before audiences experience them live. Of course, 2020 is anything but a typical year. So when COVID-19 shut down campus in March, leadership was forced to scrap a nearly complete season and envision something new for 2020-21.

“COVID-19 left us in a space of doing some deep thinking around how we can use this platform as a vehicle to continue to hold together and nurture a

sense of community,” said Associate Chair of Dance Helanius J. Wilkins.

In the months since, the department has put together an abbreviated virtual season, featuring *The Laramie Project*, *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*, and *[un]WRAP*. The new fall lineup interrogates many of the long-simmering crises 2020 has brought to a boil.

In October 1998, two men brutally murdered 21 year-old Matthew Shepard because he was gay. *The Laramie Project* is an investigative play created through 200 real-life interviews with the residents of Laramie, Wyoming, in the years that followed. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the first production and 22 years since Matthew’s death.

“In recent years, hate crimes have been on the rise,” said Elise Collins, who directs the production. “*The Laramie Project* serves as a litmus test to assess how far we’ve come as a nation and how far we still need to go.”

She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms is an action-packed, hilarious homage to geek culture that tells the story of Agnes, a girl playing Dungeons & Dragons to better understand the world of her

recently deceased sister Tilly. Its themes resonate personally with director Amanda Rose Villarreal.

“I have played D&D since I was in seventh grade, and it was the one place where I could explore my own identity. The queer space of D&D allows for a utopic reinvisioning of one’s self that growing up in conservative areas, as I did, doesn’t allow for ... This play issues a challenge for the ‘average’ person, whether that’s white, cis-, or hetero-.”

Finally, this year’s *[un]WRAP* event, titled *(un) doing and (re)making*, features forums with and performances by renowned guest artists who are exploring inequities in dance.

“Artists have started to create a blueprint for the undoing of the field by looking deeply at how it exists right now. And then the remaking of it,” said Wilkins, who curated the symposium. “We’re expanding our conversations. Going forward, what do we want our world to be?”

Photo credit: Building a Better Fishtrap: from the river’s mouth—Oceana James and Jaimé Yawa Dzandu. Photo by Jessica Lee.

There’s more to this story! Read the expanded features at cupresents.org.

More on Theatre

More on Dance

FRESH: Fall 2020

A CU dance concert

Dec. 4-5, 2020

spring layers

Choreographed and Performed by: **Katie Carothers**

110112

Choreographed and Performed by: **Christina Mitchell**

Filmed and Edited by: **Laura Conway**

Music: *Anyone Can Play Guitar* by Midwife

Rain Down on Me

Choreographed and Performed by: **Aleighya AJ Dawkins**

Music: *Who's that Chick* by David Guetta ft. Rihanna; *Part II* by Crumb; *Infinite Regress* by Praa; *Écoute chérie* by Vendredi Sur Mer; *Playground* by Steve Lacy; *Papaoutai* by Stromae; *Lost in Yesterday* by Tame Impala; *FloiDada* by Animal Collective

Go Play Outside

Choreographed and Performed by: **Chelsea Magyar**

Music: *You Say* by the Piano Guys; original song by Lauren Daigle

helmet hair

Choreographed by: **Anna Pillot**

Performed by: **Caroline Butcher and Anna Pillot**

Music: **Claude Debussy and Hoagy Carmichael**, played by **Caroline Butcher**

Together and Apart

Choreographed and Performed by: **Araya Morris and Xaalan Dolence**

Music: *Together* by The xx

**f*cking with the symmetry of courts
and carts AKA “where’s the bread?”
AKA “wheels.com” AKA the men in our
shoulders and knees AKA shifting the
point of reference**

Choreography: **Christina Mitchell and Madison Palffy**

Performed by: **Christina Mitchell, Madison Palffy and Nicky Shindler**

Edited by: **Madison Palffy**

self-love-letter

Choreographed and Performed by: **Katarina Lott**

Music: *Make You Feel My Love* by Bob Dylan, sang and played by Katarina Lott

It’s a Matter of Perspective

Choreographed and Performed by: **Maddie Grove**

I am, I was, I will be

Choreographed by: **Helanius J. Wilkins, Larry Southall, Erika Randall, Chrissy Nelson, Jesse Manno and Anya Cloud**, in collaboration with the performers

Performed by: **Dominique Holling, Dara Dawson, Kay Foley, Maddie Grove, Claire Terhaar, Sam Blagg, Maya Blom Walker, Devin Garza, Brady Mountain, Bridgette Hough and McKaela Spradlin**

Music: **Jesse Manno; *Pushem Up* by Armand Van Helden and Sampleslaya**

Filmed and Edited by: **rick h m**

CU Theatre & Dance Production team

DANCE PRODUCTION

Technical crew: Nathan Bala, Aleighya Dawkins, Xaalan Dolence, Brealyn Hager, Sam Morin, Viktoria Padilla, Olivia Sander, James Solis-Gutierrez

COSTUMES

Costume Shop production assistants: Mari Beazley, Darcy Brander, Kaylyn Buehler, Celeste Fenton, Chloe Freibott, Joe Kennedy, Graham Longworth, Nia Quan, Emily Ray. **Practicum students:** Casey Caplin, Peri Cooper, Emma Donnelly, Bennett Forsyth, Wesley Juels, Sabrina Mason, Viktoria Padilla

SCENERY AND ELECTRICS

Scene shop production assistants: Stephanie Castro-Rivera, Asher Farr, Rachel Fields, Cali Greenbaum, Ari Kutzer, Kyle Lawrence, Calvin Logan, Hannah Male, Sam Morin, Vik Padilla, Hayley Parnell, Connor Robertson, Kelsea Sibold, Logan Wallace, Madelyn Wible, Destin Woods. **Production Practicum students:** Grant Bowman, Darcy Brander, Lexi Borrker, Chris Casteñeda, Kara D'Allesandro, Rita DiSibio, Zoe Fischhoff, Bennet Forsyth, Aidan Heydt, Wesley Juels, Joe Kennedy, Issy Leustig, Graham Longworth, DJ McAllister, Cody Snider. **Lighting Practicum students:** Grant Bowman, Kaylyn Buehler, Jonathan Burgart, Casey Caplin, Evan Cerda, Kara D'Alessandro, Rita DiSibio, Rachel Fields, Zoe Fischhoff, Jo Hoagland, Joe Kennedy, Issy Leustig, Graham Longworth, Cody Snider

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Fall 2020 at CU Theatre & Dance



[un]WRAP:

(un)doing and (re)making

Curated by CU Dance faculty and ED&I

Nov. 13-19

[Learn more](#)



She Kills Monsters:

Virtual Realms

A play by Qui Nguyen

Nov. 13-20

[Learn more](#)



FRESH: Fall 2020

A CU dance concert

Dec. 4-5

on CU Presents Digital

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Personnel

As of Oct. 12, 2020

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES: DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Department Chair & Director of Dance Erika Randall	Associate Technical Director Stephen Balgooyen	Program Coordinator Stacy Norwood	Costume Shop Bookkeeper Zoe Fischhoff
Associate Chair & Director of Theatre Kevin Rich	Roe Green Visiting Artist for Theatre & Dance, Fall 2020 Gregory Towle	Graduate Program Assistant Patricia Paige	Costume Shopper Clara Hoppe
Associate Chair of Dance Helanius Wilkins	Master Electrician Cooper Braun-Enos	Production Outreach & Engagement Liaison Ondine Geary	Dance Costume Coordinator Sarah Napier
Production Coordinator Connie Lane Cooper Braun-Enos	Music/Accompanist Coordinator for Dance Jesse Manno	Administrative Assistant Ciera Barrow	Dance Events Coordinator Christina Mitchell
Director of Dance Production Iain Court	Assistant to the Director of Dance Production Anna Pillot	Academic Advisor Jessica Baron	Dance Video Recording/Archivist rick h m
Costume Production Director Ted Stark	Assistant to the Costume Production Director Veronica Dewey	Costume Rental/Stock Manager Darcy Brander	Front of House Manager Matarata Hitchcock
Technical Director Jordan Feeler	Business Manager Stacy Witt	Costume Tech Lab Assistant Ana Langmead	House Managers Xaalan Dolance, Matarata Hitchcock, Madison Palffy

*The Department of Theatre & Dance acknowledges that the University sits upon land within **the territories of the Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapaho** peoples and are grateful to have the opportunity to be here. Further, we acknowledge the 48 contemporary tribal nations that are historically tied to lands that make up Colorado. We recognize and pay our respects to these Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. We pay our respects to the ancestors, elders, relations past, present and emerging.*

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