

CU ★ PRESENTS

2020-21 Season  
Digital program



Theatre & Dance

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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



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



*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.*



# In *Appropriate*, America grapples with its ghosts

By Becca Vaclavik

## ***appropriate***

*adj.*

1. suitable or fitting for a particular purpose, person, occasion, etc.
2. belonging to or peculiar to a person; proper.

*v.*

1. to set apart, authorize, or legislate for some specific purpose or use
2. to take to or for oneself; take possession of
3. to take without permission or consent; seize; expropriate
4. to steal, especially to commit petty theft.

How is the American experience defined? Who defines it and what are its histories? These are questions playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins found himself digging into when he noticed how differently stories about White families and Black families are

critically received. Speaking to BOMB Magazine in 2018, **Jacobs-Jenkins said:**

“... Nobody calls *A Raisin in the Sun* or *The Piano Lesson* family dramas—they’re plays about the ‘Black experience in America.’ So I read all those ‘American family’ plays and started thinking about the way whiteness was being encoded. Like, how might I read these plays as being about the ‘white experience in America?’ ... I wanted to write a self-consciously ‘American family drama.’ ... I had this impulse to see what would happen if I made blackness present but essentially invisible.”

The result was his work *Appropriate*—whether pronounced ap·PRO·priate or appropri·ATE· is intentionally vague; both definitions are present on the opening pages of the script—a play about a White family unpacking their family’s dilapidated Arkansas plantation in the wake of their patriarch’s death. It is “classic” American family drama. But it’s also brimming with more, through its double meanings in the text and cultural iconography.

“I like that something can look like one thing, but mean two different things,” **said Jacobs-Jenkins** in

an interview with Vogue. “Language is really unstable in that way.”

Heather Kelley, who serves as the production’s dramaturg as well as a cast member, encourages audiences to listen for how the characters discuss ownership—of the property, of people—as well as how ghosts, both literal and figurative, are present in the play.

“This play asks who’s *not* there on stage—whose story is not being told, whose story is not being privileged—in a very deliberate and meaningful way,” said Kelley. “How often—when people think of an American family—are we picturing a White one? And what does that mean? How can we begin to unpack and challenge that in all forms?”

“[As White cast and audience members,] we have a responsibility to know as much as we can about this history and grapple with its ongoing perpetuation and legacy, rather than rest in our privilege.”

*The Department of Theatre & Dance production of **Appropriate** is available to stream at [cupresents.org](https://cupresents.org) from April 23-30, 2021. Virtual tickets start at \$7.*

# Open Space

Curated by CU Dance Connection

April 22-30, 2021

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## Lost In Everything While Searching For Nothing

Choreographed by **Araya Morris**

Performed by **Cassidy Clark, Xaalan Dolence, Devin Garza, Rachel Halmrast, Araya Morris, Brady Mountain, Sarah Napier and Maya Blom Walker**

Filmed and edited by **Joshua Buted**

Lighting design by **Xaalan Dolence**

Music credits:

*Call Me Joker* by Hildur Guðnadóttir

## On the Edge

Choreographed and performed by **Dominique Holling**

Filmed and edited by **Chance Purcell**

Music credits:

*Let You Down* by NF

# **it happened.**

Choreographed, performed, filmed and edited by  
**Julia Worthington**

Music credits:

*aisatsana* by Aphex Twin

# **Yes Mom, I am making new friends in the pandemic**

Choreographed, performed, filmed and edited by  
**Katarina Lott**

Music credits:

*Time of the Season* by The Zombies

# **Continuous Chaos**

Choreographed, performed, filmed and edited by  
**Lana Salfiti**

Music credits:

*Looming* by Crywolf

# something to hold on to

Choreographed, performed, filmed and edited by  
**Anna Pillot**

Music credits:

Sound score by Anna Pillot

## Recoletos #1

Choreographed by **Jesus Muñoz**

Performed by **Caroline Butcher, Jesus Muñoz, Poet  
Lyon and Monica Weller**

Filmed by **Misha Kuetemeier and Jesus Muñoz**

Edited by **Jesus Muñoz**

Music credits:

Musical Score by Jesus Muñoz

*Amor Eterno* (Live) by Juan Gabriel



# **still wait.**

Choreographed by **Rachel Halmrast**  
in collaboration with dancers

Performed by **Katie Carothers, Cassidy Clark, Jaclyn Gary and Rachel Halmrast**

Filmed by **George Holmes à Court**

Edited by **Rachel Halmrast**  
in collaboration with dancers

Music credits:

*Dead Eagles* by Kontravoid

# **Eyes in Honey**

Choreographed by **Isabella Poscente**

Performed by **Jesus Muñoz and Isabella Poscente**

Filmed by **Gabby Mejia and Olivia Shea**

Edited by **Isabella Poscente**

Music credits:

*Space Song* by Beach House

# Exposure

Choreographed, performed, filmed and edited by  
**Chelsea Magyar**

Music credits:

*Save Your Tears* (Official Instrumental) by  
The Weeknd

# Junior Wiggles

Choreographed by **Sarah Napier** in collaboration  
with dancers

Performed by **Xaalan Dolence, Araya Morris and  
Sarah Napier**

Filmed and edited by **Sarah Napier**

Music credits:

*I Feel Like Dancing* by The Night Game

# S[T]IMULATIONS

Choreographed and performed by **Christina Mitchell**

Filmed by **Xaalan Dolence**

Edited by **Christina Mitchell**

Lighting design by **Xaalan Dolence**

# Molting

Choreographed and performed by **Nathan Bala**

Filmed and edited by **Connor Hayes and Jon Ha**

Music credits:

*Making Water, Reap & Sow and Crops are Dead* by  
Harry Gregson-Williams

# Arriving at The Beat

Choreographed by **Nicky Shindler** in collaboration  
with dancers

Performed and filmed by **Constance Harris, Nicky  
Shindler and Sara Swain**

Edited by **Nicky Shindler**

Music credits:

*Ready or Not* by Herbie Hancock

# CU Theatre & Dance Production team

## DANCE PRODUCTION

**Technical crew:** Nathan Bala, Nicholas Cozzo, Aleighya Dawkins, Xaalan Dolence, Ruth Goldenberg, Madeline Grove, Sam Morin, Viktoria Padilla

## COSTUMES

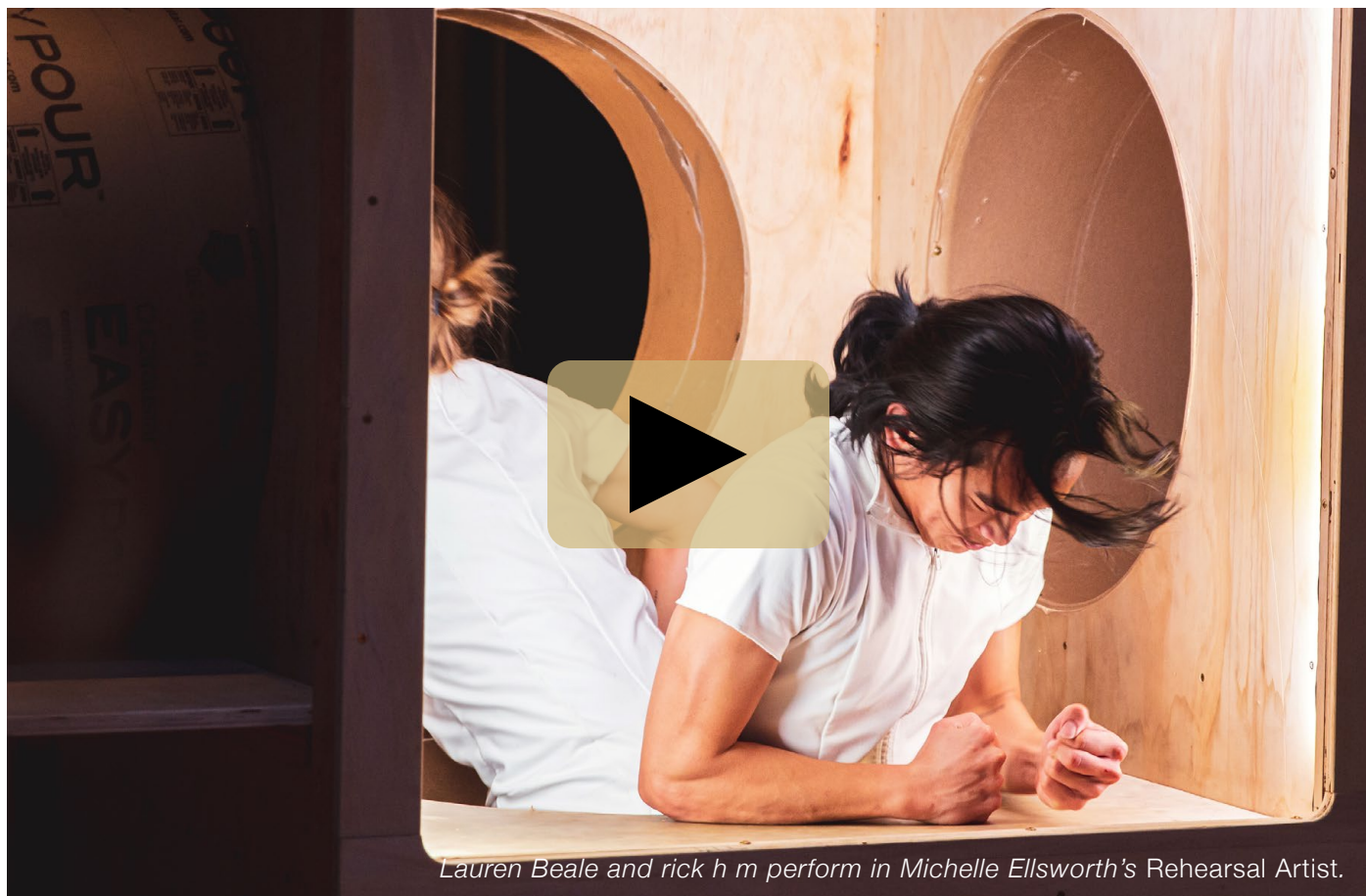
**Costume Shop production assistants:** Mari Beazley, Darcy Brander, Kaylyn, Buehler, Celeste Fenton, Sarah Jeffers, Joe Kennedy, Victor Longman, Graham Longworth, Emily Ray, Winnie Wenger. **Practicum students:** Matthias Bolon, Stephanie Castro-Rivera, Evan Cerda, Rachel Fields, Zoe Fiscoff, Eric Gaydon, Cameron Hazlip, Grace Kohler, Sabrina Mason, Sophia Morris, Kinari Rima

## SCENERY AND ELECTRICS

**Scene shop production assistants:** Stephanie Castro-Rivera, Peri Cooper, Aleighya Dawkins, Asher Farr, Rachael Fields, Cali Greenbaum, Nikky Haabestad, Aiden Heydt, Ari Kutzer, Kyle Lawrence, Calvin Logan, Hannah Male, Edwin McArthur, Sam Morin, Vik Padilla, Hayley Parnell, Connor Robertson, Kelsea Sibold, Logan Wallace, Madelyn Wible, Destin Woods. **Production Practicum students:** Matthias Bolon, Kaylyn Buehler, Natalie Connelly, Claudia Davis, Jo Hoagland, Greta Hooston, Clara Hoppe, Isabella Jones, Mimi Kuntz, Maya Owens, Hayley Parnell,

Emily Ray, Taylor Rivet, Connor Robertson, Stephanie Talder. **Lighting Practicum students:** Darcy Brander, Lexi Brooker, Christian Castañeda, Evan Cerda, Rita DiSibio, Bennet Forsyth, Eric Gaydon, Victoria Harbison, Aidan Heydt, Greta Hooston, Wesley Juels, Mimi Kuntz, Maya Owens, Lauren Perlis, Marianne Pettis, Connor Robertson, Stephanie Talder

# CU ★ PRESENTS Digital



*Lauren Beale and Rick H M perform in Michelle Ellsworth's Rehearsal Artist.*

## Watch. Listen. Gather. **Online.**

Each week, we bring you curated creations from the artists you'd see in any other CU Presents season, in the comfort of your own home.

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# Spring 2021 at CU Theatre & Dance



## Measure for Measure

A play by William Shakespeare  
Premiering March 12

[Learn more](#)



## LoveFest:

A Concert of Songs, Scenes and  
Stories from the musical Loveville High  
Premiering April 2

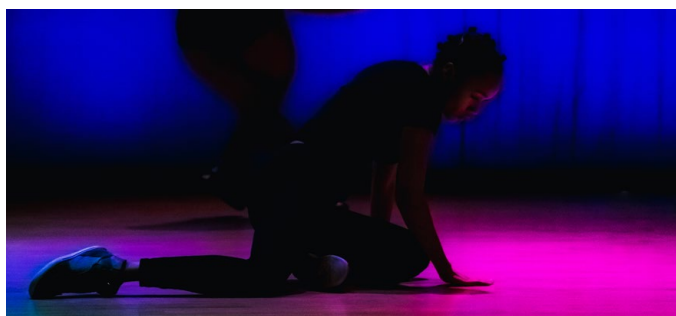
[Learn more](#)



## 2020-21 New Play Festival

Premiering April 15

[Learn more](#)



## Open Space

Curated by CU Dance Connection  
April 22-30

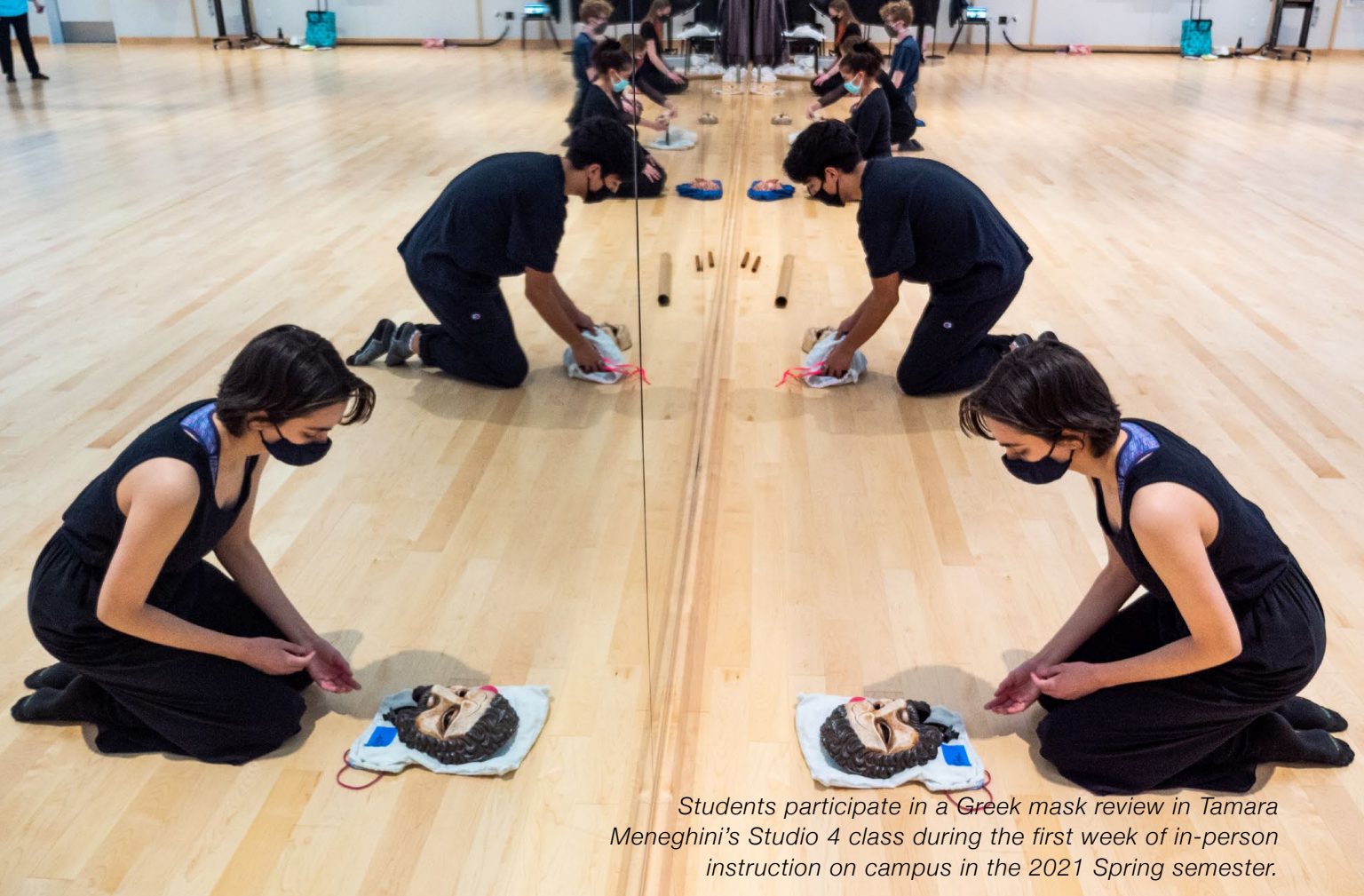
[Learn more](#)



## Appropriate

A play by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins  
April 23-30

[Learn more](#)



*Students participate in a Greek mask review in Tamara Meneghini's Studio 4 class during the first week of in-person instruction on campus in the 2021 Spring semester.*

# Today and every day, **your support matters.**

CU Presents inspires thousands of arts patrons of all ages every year. Your gift supports the people and activities of CU's Theatre & Dance Department in this time of uncertainty.

**How to give to the Department of Theatre & Dance:**

**OR**      **Call to make a gift  
at 303-492-3054**

# Personnel

As of March 9, 2021

## COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES: DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

**Department Chair & Director of Dance**  
Erika Randall

**Associate Chair & Director of Theatre**  
Kevin Rich

**Associate Chair of Dance**  
Helanius Wilkins

**Production Coordinator**  
Connie Lane

**Director of Dance Production**  
Iain Court

**Costume Production Director**  
Ted Stark

**Technical Director**  
Jordan Feeler

**Associate Technical Director**  
Stephen Balgooyen

**Master Electrician**  
Cooper Braun-Enos

**Music/Accompanist Coordinator for Dance**  
Jesse Manno

**Assistant to the Director of Dance Production**  
Anna Pillot

**Assistant to the Costume Production Director**  
Veronica Dewey

**Business Manager**  
Stacy Witt

**Program Coordinator**  
Stacy Norwood

**Graduate Program Assistant**  
Patricia Paige

**Production Outreach & Engagement Liaison**  
Ondine Geary

**Administrative Assistant**  
Ciera Barrow

**Academic Advisor**  
Jessica Baron

**Costume Rental/Stock Manager**  
Jo Hoagland

**Costume Tech Lab Assistant**  
Ana Langmead

**Costume Shop Bookkeeper**  
Natalie Connelly

**Costume Shopper**  
Clara Hoppe

**Dance Costume Coordinator**  
Sarah Napier

**Dance Events Coordinator**  
Constance Harris

**Dance Video Recording/Archivist**  
rick h m

**Front of House Manager**  
Matara Hitchcock

**House Managers**  
Xaalan Dolance, Matara Hitchcock, Lauren Perlis

## CU PRESENTS

**Executive Director**  
Joan McLean Braun

**Marketing and PR Director**  
Laima Haley

**Operations Director**  
Andrew Metzroth

**Interim Director of Communications, College of Music**  
Sabine Kortals Stein

**Director, Macky Auditorium**  
Rudy Betancourt

**Assistant Director of Marketing**  
Daniel Leonard

**Assistant Director of Public Relations**  
Becca Vaclavik

**House Manager**  
Rojana Savoye

**Publications Specialist**  
Sabrina Green

**Box Office Manager**  
Christin Woolley

**Box Office Services Coordinator**  
Adrienne Havelka

**Social Media Assistant**  
Erika Haase

**Video Producer**  
Vanessa Cornejo

**Interim Digital Communications Coordinator**  
Tiara Stephan

**Marketing Assistant**  
Natalie Werner

**Public Relations Assistant**  
Olivia Lerwick

# 2020-21 Digital Programs

March-May 2021

## Editors

Sabine Kortals Stein  
Becca Vaclavik

## Designer

Sabrina Green

## Contributors

Sabine Kortals Stein  
Becca Vaclavik

## Photography

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