The University of Colorado Boulder Department of Theatre & Dance

2015-2016 Season

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Presented by The University of Colorado Boulder Department of Theatre & Dance

Choreography by Amanda Benzin and Samantha Salters

These MFA Thesis projects by Amanda Benzin and Samantha Salters are investigations of identity. Both pieces are reflections of the choreographer's own experiences. Amanda's piece "Re-membering me" questions how the body absorbs, performs, and can deconstruct or reconstruct identities. Samantha's piece "Eat me" examines how the black body is misunderstood, objectified, stereotyped and consumed. We, the choreographers, aim to open a space for feeling, reflection and conversation.

Untangling,
Amanda and Samantha
Re-membering Me
Choreographed and facilitated by Amanda Benzin

It Begins
Text spoken by ____________________________ Amanda Benzin
Text created from ____________________________

Re-membering the Solar Plexus
Embodied by _________________________________ Bailey Anderson, Amanda Benzin, Rosely Conz, Ondine Geary

I know Places,” by _____________________________ Lykke Li

Re-membering the Throat
Embodied by _________________________________ Amanda Benzin and Gabrielle Whitcomb

"He Rest for the Wicked" by ______________________ Lykke Li

Re-membering the Heart
Embodied by _________________________________ Amanda Benzin, Bailey Anderson, Rosely Conz, Ondine Geary, Gabrielle Whitcomb

Music and composition by ______________________ Jesse Mann

Re-membering the Root, the Sacral, the Third-eye, the Crown
Embodied by _________________________________ Bailey Anderson, Amanda Benzin, Rosely Conz, Ondine Geary, Gabrielle Whitcomb

Music and composition by ______________________ Jesse Mann

Eat Me
Choreographed and designed by Samantha Salters

Eat Us
Movement Expressions
by _____________________________ Satya AQUI, Amanda Benzin, Millie Heckler, Sophie Hernandez, Taylor King, Samantha Salters, Taylor Sullivan

Poetry organized and written by ____________________________ Bailey Anderson, Ondine Geary

Video performance by _____________________________ Aaron Allen, Jesse Manno

Music credentials
by _____________________________ Bailey Anderson, "Blind" by E.U., "Booey" by Jennifer Lopez feat. Iggy Azalea, "Ditty Wine" by Tony Matterhorn, "Amaconda" by Nicki Minaj, "Babalon" by BM Fest Da Luo, "Ditty" by Big Freedia, "Blow" by Beyoncé

Eat We
Movement Expressions
by _____________________________ Satya AQUI, Amanda Benzin, Millie Heckler, Sophie Hernandez, Taylor King, Samantha Salters, Taylor Sullivan

Video performance by _____________________________ Aaron Allen, Jesse Manno

Video recorded by _______________________________ Bailey Anderson

Artistic Team
Lighting Designer ____________________________ Jason Banks
Costume Designers __________________________ Amanda Benzin, Samantha Salters
Projection Designers __________________________ Samantha Salters
Opening Video Designers ________________________ Amanda Benzin, Samantha Salters

Theatre & Dance Department staff
Department Chair _____________________________ Bud Coleman
Director of Dance ______________________________ Erika Randall
Production Coordinator __________________________ Conrie Lane
Theatre Technical Director _________________________ Kerry Cripe
Director of Dance Production _____________________ Jaimy Bell
Lighting, Sound & Projection Advisor ___________________ Jason Banks
Costume Design Advisor _________________________ Markus Henry
Scenic Design Advisor ___________________________ Bruce Bargner
Scene Shop Foreman _____________________________ Stephen Balgoyen
Costume Shop Manager ____________________________ Ted Stark
Business Manager ________________________________ Stasy Wilt
Program Coordinator _______________________________ Sharon Van Buren
Graduate Program Assistant _________________________ Patricia Paige
Receptionist ____________________________________ Peggy Posick
Outreach Coordinator ______________________________ Alex Marshall
Academic Advisor _________________________________ Kyle Naidd
Costume Stock/Inventory Manager ____________________ December Mathaisson
Costume Tech Lab Assistant ___________________________ Amanda Herrera
Dance Costume Coordinator ___________________________ Shelby Fuentes
Dance Events Coordinator ____________________________ Rosely Conz
Dance Video Recording/Archivist ______________________ Rachel Dodson
Loft Production Coordinator _________________________ Wil Lewis
Front of House Manager _____________________________ Hadley Kimmings Peck
House Managers ____________________________________ Nathan Elyson, Samantha Salters, Indi Wanabe, Sami Wesley

Dance Production Technical Crew
Taylor King, Kaitlyn Lawrence, Caroline Rhoads, Loken Russell, Brandon Smart, Vanessa Weingarten, Gabrielle Whitcomb, Christin Woolley

Dance Production Practicum Students
Sasha Alcott, Sheridan Bernstein, Kyle Boyd, Molly Dalahunt, Shelby Fuentes, Mora Guskine, Leigh Salamon, Ryan Sinton, Taylor Sullivan

Costumes
Costume Shop Employees
Kaana Cowden, Casey Dean, Olivia Deyer, Zoe Garrison, Saara Georges, Conor Mead, Paige Olson, Hobbi Todd, Liz Williamson, Mary Wilkinson, Corrina Phillips, Hannah Ruffing, Kate Tara, India Wanabo

Costume Practicum Students
Hayden Stabler, Mary Elliott, Eddy Jordan, Maddie Levin, Jack Menzies, Connie Phillips, Jake Siekmann, Birdie Plank

Scenery and Electrics
Technical Assistants
Ashley Arvola, Greg Baker, Caleb Bay, Bryce Cooper, Chas Crawford, Forest Fowler, Jordan Hammer, Phoebe Matton, Zach Porteous, Amy Richman, Laura Sandler, Jake Siekmann, Brandon Smart, Erin Thibodeaux, Ryan Winchester, Jared Web, Christin Woolley

Tech Studio Students
Dillon Colagrossi, Nate Corby, Kaana Cowden, Keilani Fuqua, Eddy Jordan, Phoebe Matton, Jack Manzies, Anna-Marie Monzon, John Wtconcott, Samantha Yoho

Production Team
Director of Dance Production ________________________ Iain Court
Assistant Technical Director ___________________________ Celt Irvin
Stage Manager ____________________________________ Colt Irvin
Assistant Stage Manager _______________________________ Ryan Sinton
Lightboard Operator _________________________________ Leigh Mor Salamon
Soundboard Operator _________________________________ Molly Dalahunt
Run Crew ___________________________________________ Lauren Allara Smit

Special thanks from the choreographers
From Amanda Benzin:
To my cast for your unending and generous support, for asking insightful questions, and for fully engaging and committing yourselves to this process and to the work. I am humbled by your incredible spirits and talents.
To Giesel Mason for your questions and your commitment to art, the work, and to the artist you are mentoring. To Nada and Diachenko for making the time to really listen and observe. To Deepi Mai for your presence and encouragement to push against boundaries. To Erika Randall, for seeing me and helping me to see myself.
To Jesse Mano for your creativity, your encouragement, your suggestions, and your unending excitement and commitment. To my partner Michael, for encouraging me on this journey of self-exploration.

From Samantha Salters:
To my cast, family, collaborators, and motivators. You inspire me to keep pushing forward and expressing myself.
To Donna Mejia for your (always) positive energy, confidence in my artistry and this project, and perceptive wisdom. Nil Armah Sowah for your words of encouragement and insight into complicated territories of dance expression. Dr. Amma Armah Sowah for your words of encouragement and insight into complicated territories of dance expression. Dr. Amma Armah Sowah for your words of encouragement and insight into complicated territories of dance expression. Dr. Amma Armah Sowah for your words of encouragement and insight into complicated territories of dance expression. Stacey Witt for your contributions behind the scenes and your incredible spirits and talents.

To Jared Browsh, Gesel Mason, Vanessa Roberts, Larry Southall, and Rebecca Zinner for your artistic contributions, creative perspectives, and commitment to joining me in my process.

From both:
To the Theatre & Dance Department at CU-Boulder and ACE grant committee for providing the financial support that made this show possible.
To Iain Court for your calmness, professionalism, humor, creativity, insight, and light.
To Connie Lane for your contributions behind the scenes and for always being there, there and at Gateway.
To Jared Browsh for your positive energy, your guidance, and amazing designs.
To all the crew members that, though invisible to the audience, make this work visibly possible.

Program
There will be a 15-minute intermission between pieces