



*Mile High
Immersive
Yearbook*

CLASS OF 2019

Letter from the editors

Last November, 250 people sold out the first Denver Immersive Summit. Something was in the air. Something new. Something exciting.

Denver has long been a crossroads of culture, a last stop for Beat Poets and jazz stars, for wanderers captured by that little something different out here. In recent years, Denver has proven itself fertile ground for a new generation of creativity, including startup art collectives, digital entrepreneurs, and wild-eyed pioneers of the yet-unnamed next big thing.

Denver, Colorado's big city, our Mile High State, remains suspended between epic nature and endless possibility. No wonder immersive arts and entertainment are taking off here. And no place on the planet has an immersive community like the one we've got. Both creatively and otherwise, here out west we have long been stretching the boundaries of human experience.

That's why you're holding in your hands a preview copy of the first-ever Mile High Immersive Yearbook. Here within these pages is a celebration of our local scene, a little piece of our recent Mile High immersive history. We wanted to create a book that would help tell the story of this region, and demonstrate that immersive is a powerful emerging form of art and entertainment worth investing in.

After all, immersive is much more than a buzzword. For you who is browsing these pages, for the producers who pour their sweat and financial resources into experiences that no one has ever had before, for those who see something transformative possible in this space, for patrons who risk the price of a ticket to (hopefully) have their minds blown: for all of us, immersive is a call to action. It's not the next big thing so much as it is the next meaningful thing.

With the Mile High Immersive Yearbook, we celebrate that daring and grit, that funky courage and wild excitement. We hope to document the beginnings of an art form and entertainment industry that not only help shape the Colorado creative landscape, but is also shaped by it.

Here's to ambition as big as the Rocky Mountains and experiences as sublime as untracked fresh powder on the back bowls.

Here's to Mile High Immersive.
May art and entertainment never be the same.

- *The yearbook editors*

The Mile High Immersive Yearbook is the creation of Immersive Denver, founded in 2018 by Jenny Filipetti and David Thomas as the Denver Immersive Summit. Learn more or get involved at community.denverimmersivesummit.com.

All Yearbook design and production by Jenny Filipetti: jennyfilipetti.com.
The bot icon used as the default yearbook photo is by Irina Mir: irmirx.tumblr.com.

Our special thanks for the production of this preview edition to Charlie Miller, the DCPA, CU Denver Inworks, attendees of the first-ever Denver Immersive Summit, and especially to all of you who submitted your photos and details to this first edition!

Did we miss you?

Besides helping share and celebrate our story, we hope the Mile High Immersive Yearbook will become a valuable tool for you connect with new colleagues, companies, and opportunities.

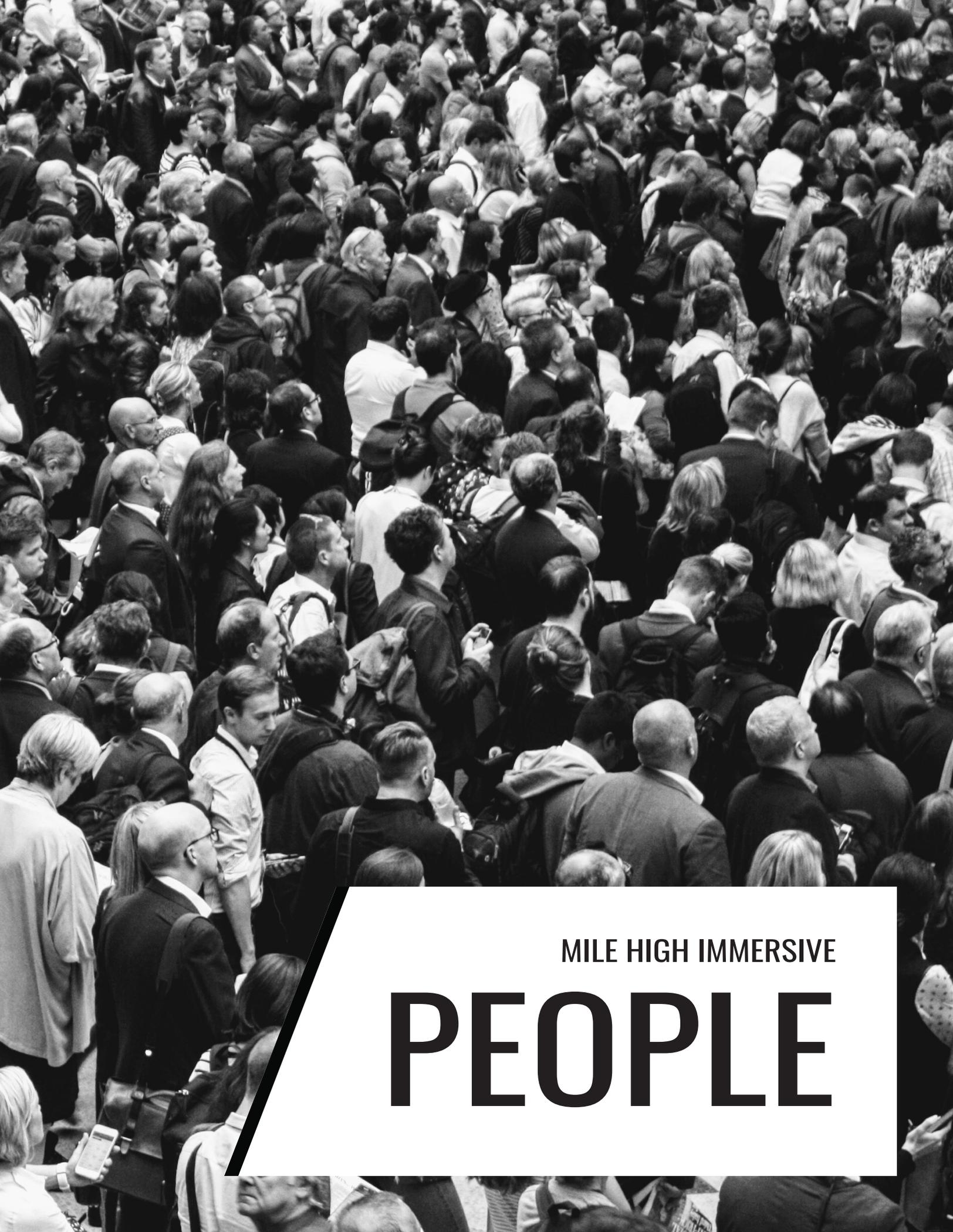
But right now, we know this book doesn't include everyone in the Mile High immersive space. This isn't even everyone who was at the first Denver Immersive Summit. Rather than tell a half-finished story, we're extending the submission period for the Yearbook!

Visit the submission below now through September 30th, 2019 to take part. We'll also be opening up sponsorships and advertisements to give you a chance to further promote your productions and help fund the bound edition of this book.

Help us celebrate your work and paint a more accurate portrait of what immersive looks like in Colorado in 2019! And please spread the word: if you, a friend, your favorite puzzle room, your local meetup, or anyone else in the immersosphere is missing from this preview copy, let them know how to take part!

It's not too late! Submit your details at:
tinyurl.com/immersiveyearbook





MILE HIGH IMMERSIVE

PEOPLE



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leethermon.com/fun



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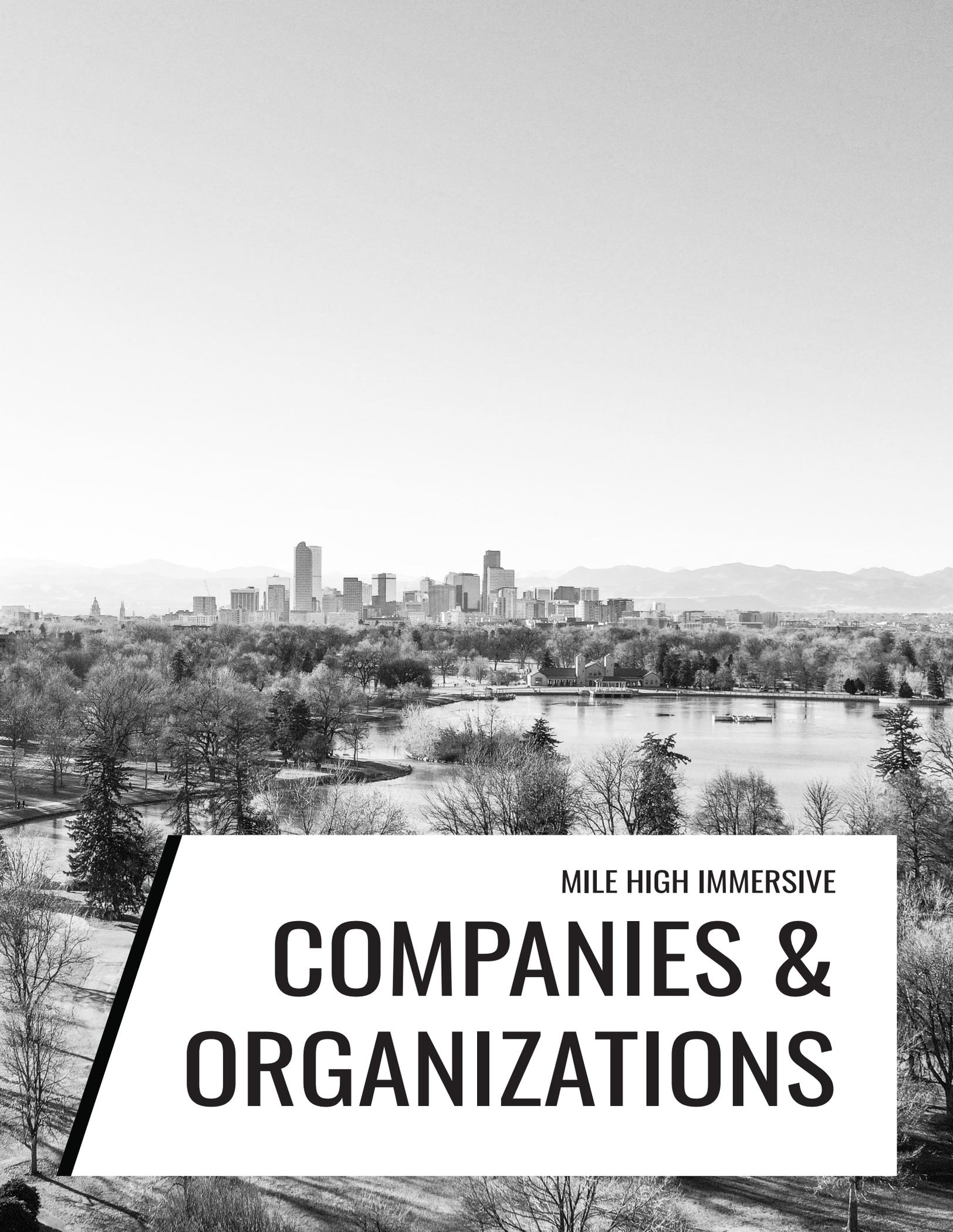
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KEVIN YOSHIDA

I am a visualist + architect who believes that design must uphold both ethics + esthetics.

k2y.design



MILE HIGH IMMERSIVE

COMPANIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Arts, Theatre, Events, and Performance

A.C.E. Entertainment

A comedy trio specializing in sight-specific, participatory public shows and corporate events since 1998. Their many accolades include Westword's Best of Denver and induction into the Colorado Improv Hall of Fame.

linda@acecomedy.com
acecomedy.com

Audacious Theatre

Audacious Theatre creates productions that engage all the senses. Our productions are innovative, immersive, and collaborative.

www.audacioustheatre.com

Band of Toughs (aka BoTs)

Band of Toughs (BoTs) is a group of interdisciplinary artists that got together to produce genre-mashing theatre events with a rock and roll sensibility. We stage our events in atypical spaces with a serious dose of inventiveness and accessibility.

cmylott@gmail.com
bandoftoughs.org
(612) 387-2121

Control Group Productions

We create immersive events – site-specific, experiential, interactive, audience-mobile. Through partnered & client events, social engagement, and services for professionals, we're building a home for immersive art in the independent theatre scene.

controlgroupproductions.org

DCPA Off-Center

Off-Center is a line of programming at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts that produces unexpected theatrical experiences that put the audience at the center of the story.

www.denvercenter.org

Denver Collaborative Events

Ready for a completely unique experience? At Denver Collaborative Events, we're smashing the "ballroom and booze" mentality of boring events and creating one-of-a-kind immersive theatrical experiences where your guests become a part of the story.

john@theday-of.com
www.denvercollaborativeevents.com

The Handsome Little Devils

"They are worldbuilders, experience makers, magicians, buskers, performers, engineers, costume designers. . . and clowns." – 303 Magazine

We create experiences for theatre, festivals, corporate events and private gatherings.

cole@handsomelittledevils.com

Hanzon Studios Inc.

Hanzon Studios is an immersive production company primarily serving the works of, and collaborations with, Lonnie Hanzon.

lonniehanzon@me.com
Lonniehanzon.com

Katy Williams Design

Katy Williams Design is a theatrical design company, specializing in puppetry. Puppets are a fantastic way to get creative in the immersive world. We produce the Rocky Mountain Puppet Slam, a quarterly showcase featuring work of Colorado puppeteers!

katy@katywilliamsdesign.com
www.katywilliamsdesign.com

Lumonics

Lumonics, the creation of pioneering light artists, Dorothy Tanner and Mel Tanner (1925-1993) has been presenting immersive environments to audiences around the US since 1969, the past 10+ years in Denver.

lumonics.net

Madame Z Mystery Show

Madame Z Traveling Mystery Show creates interactive, wild west mystery theater. If you come to our show, you're IN the show!

www.madameztravelingmysteryshow.com
1209 Washington Ave
Golden, CO 80403

Now Or Never Theatre

Artistic Director Betsy Tobin has directed and performed original theatre across the United States, in Canada, Guinea, and throughout Europe where she won awards for her innovative immersive work with shadows, puppets, actors, and video layering.

www.nowornevertheatre.com

Prismajic

Prismajic creates immersive experiences that awaken the imagination and stir the soul. Our mission is to harness the power of art to transform how people look at themselves and the world.

2219 E. 21st Ave
Denver, CO 80205

Secret Love Collective

Secret Love Collective was born in 2017. Through gatherings, events, performances, and exhibitions, we engage friends and strangers in questioning the status quo, rigid categories of identity, dominant social structures, and art world hierarchies.

www.secretlovecollective.com

Shamanic Dolls

Immersive Theater/ Ritual Activation/ Social Activism/ Sacred Comedy/ Storytelling/ Embodiment of the Divine. Using the creative process as a healing modality. Through workshops and performances we seek to showcase the evolving wisdom of our age.

shamanicdolls@gmail.com
www.shamanicdolls.com

TBD Immersive

We produce large scale multi-disciplinary immersive experience primarily in DC but with our Artistic Director moving part time to Denver in 2020 we plan to continue to produce work in both cities!

www.tbdimmersive.com

Creative Technology / Services

CreaTech Innovation

CreaTech is an educational technology organization that seeks to provide artists and creatives with technical skills.

www.facebook.com/createchinnovation

Deep Space Drive-In

We focus on projection mapping, VJing and immersive interaction for large installations and performance.

deepspacedrivein.com

Denver 3D Print Company

We're a full service invention shop that uses state of the art software (CAD, CAM, 3D scanning, reverse engineering) and manufacturing (different types of 3D printing, CNC, silicone molding) to make custom products and patents.

info@denver3dprintco.com
www.denver3dprintco.com

GOBOUTIT

Curation of immersive experiences. We offer job opportunities to creators.

design.secreteffect.com

IDEATE

IDEATE is an architecture + urban design + creative consultancy that empowers fellow creatives to evolve and manifest catalytic impact through arts+culture. IDEATE balances the dualities of production/pre-visualization and pragmatism/creativity.

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Liquid Luck Productions

Liquid Luck is a Colorado-based video production house formed by Ian and Lauryn Kellett specializing in business branding, documentaries, and television series. Our recent project was a video, "Museum of AI", for The Deciding Project.

www.liquidluckproductions.com

M-Brain Entertainment LLC

Early start up specializing in 3D art and animation asset production for VR, AR and other interactive experiences. M-Brain brings 25 years of games and VFX industry experience to help you build entirely new dimensions.

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Museum of AI

Museum of AI produces popup installations for artificial intelligence experiential marketing events. We show people how to better work with AI. The MoAI team includes several Immersive Denver members and is proud to be Denver-based.

https://Museumof.AI

Oh Hey Creative

Marketing, communications, and community building with a special interest in immersive collaborations

bryant@ohheycreative.com
www.ohheycreative.com

Pixel Mill Studios

We offer really creative video production services throughout the Boulder/Denver area; we first fell in love with immersive technologies at Tokyo's Digital Art Museum, and now we're all in!

www.pixelmillstudios.com

Puzzle and Escape Rooms

Escape Realm

Escape Realm produces escape room experiences in the Denver area. We design and fabricate every element in house to bring each unique space to life. We have helped over 20 escape room business with props, puzzles, and full room designs.

escaperealm.com

Puzzah!

Puzzah! designs, fabricates and produces puzzle rooms, scavenger hunts, games and more in the Denver area and beyond.

info@puzzah.com
www.puzzah.com

Venues

Stanley Marketplace

Stanley's a food hall and urban market in a converted airplane factory that sometimes hosts immersive experiences.

stanleymarketplace.com

2501 Dallas Street
Aurora, CO 80010

The Hangar at Stanley

The Hangar at Stanley is a large event space in a converted airplane hangar inside Stanley Marketplace that's hosted several immersive productions.

www.stanleyvenues.com

2501 Dallas Street, Suite 135
Aurora, CO 80010





MILE HIGH IMMERSIVE

EVENTS



DENVER IMMERSIVE SUMMIT

In November 2018, over 250 immersive artists, designers, producers, students, fans, and educators gathered at the CU Denver campus for a day of talks, pop-up performances, conversation, resource-sharing, and connecting.



Morning keynote speaker Noah J. Nelson, the founder of *No Proscenium: The Guide to Everything Immersive*, kicks off the day with a reflection on why presence is the secret to immersive success.



The Handsome Little Devils welcome attendees to the Denver Immersive Summit and snap photos with fans from their Monkey Wagon.



Over 30 local creatives collectively hosted 12 breakout sessions throughout the day, in addition to keynotes by Jenny Weinbloom and Noah J. Nelson. Here, Patrick Mueller of Control Group Productions leads a hands-on afternoon workshop on how to engage with participatory audiences. **Above right:** discussing the big questions in immersive in a session facilitated by Amy Lynn Herman.





Denver-based artist Laleh Mehran created a glittering cavern of networked interactive entities in *The Interstitium*, an immersive installation exhibited this year at the Mattress Factory contemporary art museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



Immersing visitors in 6,000 square feet of a “surrealist forest” at the MOA, *Natura Obscura* by Prismajic was one of this year’s largest multisensory installations to open in the region, featuring ancillary installations by several other local artists.

theatre in the wild

The Shamanic Dolls Solstic Ball took place on a full moon solstice in an enchanted inner forest, replete with mystic fairy tale characters, live original music, dance, circus, and holiday delights.



Members of the Catamounts have had a busy year, taking immersive outdoors with experiences like *FEED: Dreams* (below), and *Rausch*. The Boulder-based group specializes in “theatre for the adventurous palate,” a task they’ve taken literally by including curated food and drink in their productions. Last season’s production of *Beowulf: A Thousand Years of Baggage* (at left) converted the Carsen Theatre to a Scandinavian mead hall.



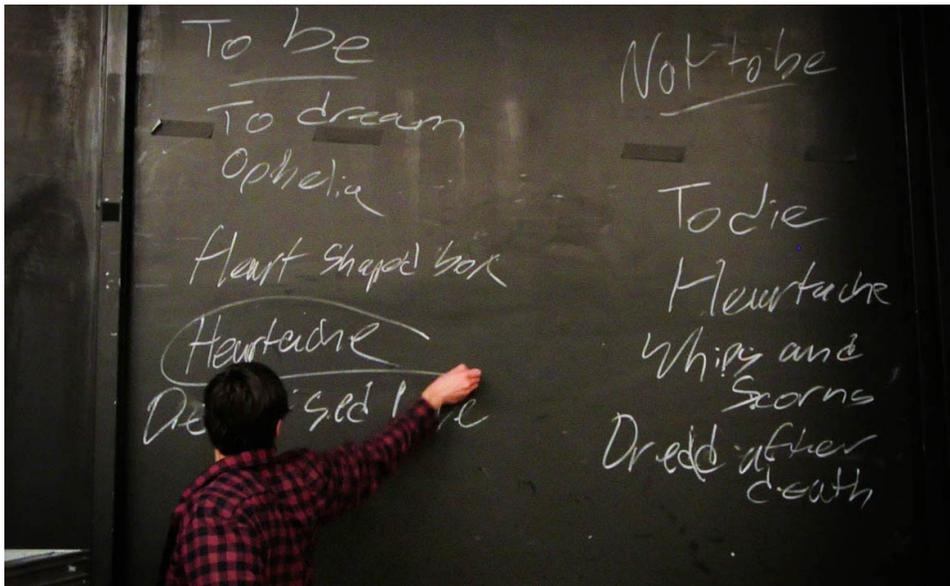
Denver Immersive Opera brings contemporary relevance to opera, often set in local venues. At left, scenes from *Giovanna's*, their all-female reboot of Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, set in 1997.



Colorado is
a crossroads
of immersive
creativity,
suspended
between
epic nature
and endless
possibility.



Performers in Zabiti's immersive circus adventure *Heroines* invite audience members to wander through interactive sets as a magical story unfolds around them.



Produced by Band of Toughs, *Nirvamlet* mixed 90s grunge and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, transforming parts of the DCPA into a present-day Elsinore castle.

THIS IS THE PLACE

... WHERE EVEN ACADEMIC LECTURES ARE JUST A LITTLE MORE IMMERSIVE.

Below: David Thomas of CU Denver and John Sharp of Parsons give a talk about the aesthetics of fun and immersive art at the Enchantment Society.

Bottom image: Did someone say Pharaoh? At Front Range Community College, the classroom becomes the stage as microbiology and humanities students work together to solve a theatrical medical mystery.

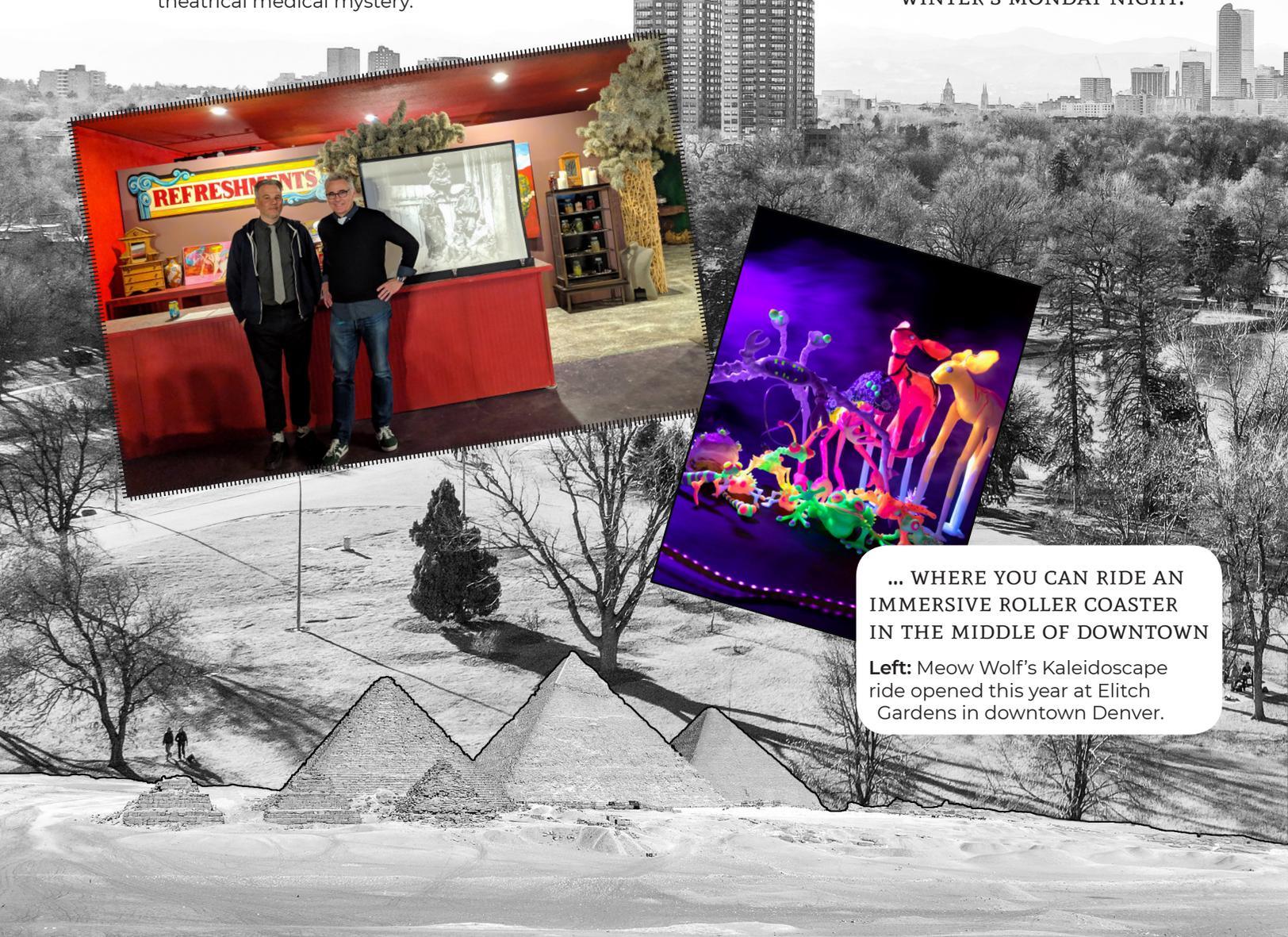


... WHERE OVER 120 PEOPLE WILL SHOW UP TO TALK IMMERSIVE THEATRE AT THE DCPA ON AN ORDINARY WINTER'S MONDAY NIGHT.



... WHERE YOU CAN RIDE AN IMMERSIVE ROLLER COASTER IN THE MIDDLE OF DOWNTOWN

Left: Meow Wolf's Kaleidoscape ride opened this year at Elitch Gardens in downtown Denver.



Autographs

Hey _____ -
It was so awesome to meet you at the
Denver Immersive Retrospectacle. I can't
wait to meet up on _____
to keep the conversation going about
_____ !!

KIT !!

2 GOOD + 2 BE
= 4 GOTTEN