

CU ★ PRESENTS

2023-24 Season



College of Music  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

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the home of performing  
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is to inspire artistry and  
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**[Read full land acknowledgment.](#)**

# SoundWorks

featuring the Centaurus High School Chamber Orchestra

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Grusin Music Hall

## Program

### Small Worlds

Josie Arnett

*Centaurus High School Chamber Orchestra and CU Boulder students*

*Heather Murphy, conductor*

### Wind's Odyssey

Riley Fuller

*Riley Fuller, piano*

### Dreamscapes

Luka Vezmar

I. The Wandering Clock

II. The Forest Dweller

III. The Cursed Marionette

*Gleyton Pinto, bass clarinet*

*Max Randal, piano*

### brush and bristle

Alan Mackwell

*Jordan Grantonic, violin*

*Greg Abrell, violin*

*Allyson Stibbards, viola*

*Peyton Magalhaes, cello*

—Intermission—

# Boulevard

JC Maynard

*Allan McMurray, Fellow Commission*

*Carson Conley, clarinet*

*Greg Barth, alto sax*

*Cian Krueger, tenor sax*

*Alex Loran, bari sax*

*Thomas Nance, trumpet*

*Scott Underwood, trombone*

*Nathan Burak, drums*

*Danny Kaminski, upright bass*

*Holly McMahon, piano*

*JC Maynard, conductor*

# The Quest

Alex Loran

*Alex Loran, alto sax*

*Jonah Sutine, tenor sax*

*Will Foster, baritone sax*

*Jack Dunning, trombone*

*Kyle Nakaji, trombone*

*Madison Sinan, flugelhorn*

*Pedro Lopez, flugelhorn*

*Sophia Stout, guitar*

*Eddie Ness, bass*

*Zach Howarth, drums*

# Program notes

## Small Worlds

Josie Arnett

Josie Arnett's *Small Worlds* was composed for the Centaurus High School Chamber Orchestra and written for the sole purpose of being fun for young string players to play. The Centaurus students participated in every aspect of the piece. The piece is titled after and inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's *Small Worlds Portfolio*. To write this piece, each Centaurus orchestra student traced various shapes and colors from three different Kandinsky paintings from the *Small Worlds Portfolio*. Then Arnett, in a variety of methods, turned these tracings into musical materials. The music from these paintings were used as the foundation for the piece and are littered throughout the music. The piece balances simplicity and complexity in a manner meant to match Kandinsky's work, and designed to bring joy to the performers and the audience. Arnett is endlessly thankful for the work that the Centaurus High School Chamber Orchestra and the CU Boulder string players have put into this piece, and grateful for the leadership of Centaurus' orchestra director, Heather Murphy.

## Wind's Odyssey

Riley Fuller

I can't say I was inspired by the wind when I was writing this piece, but upon listening back to it, all I could think of was wind.

## Dreamscapes

Luka Vezmar

*Dreamscapes* is a piece for bass clarinet and piano, and is based off of three dreams that I had. Movement one is titled *The Wandering Clock* and it's a slower movement. This dream was like a Salvador Dali Painting and a Tim Burton film rolled into one, and I have a friend who was a clock and we just walked around and enjoyed life. Movement two is called *The Forest Dweller* and it was a nightmare of mine. It started off with me walking through the woods and then I noticed a creature following me. The movement then turns all paranoid, ending in a jumpscare! But it turns out all the creature wanted



was to show me the way out of the woods, and off to safety. Movement three is entitled *The Cursed Marionette*, which was just based of an insane dream of mine that had no rhyme or reason to it, and you'll hear that emulated in the movement as well.

## **Boulevard**

JC Maynard

*Allan McMurray Fellow Commission*

*Boulevard* is a multi-genre work for small jazz ensemble inspired by the likes of George Gershwin and 1920s big bands, fused with mid-19th century pop and modern cinematic orchestration. Commissioned for the 2023 Alan McMurray Award, it tells stories set in an urban environment—the hustle and bustle of cities, the thousands of human cogs working to create the machines of the industrial age, the technicolor world of young romance, and the grandeur and excitement of the American melting pot.

## **The Quest**

Alex Loran

*The Quest* outlines the stages of the archetypal “Hero’s Journey”. Follow along as our hero (played by Sophia Stout on guitar) experiences the pitfalls and triumphs found along the way. You’ll meet the heralds (trombones), allies (flugelhorns), mentor (alto sax), enemies (tenor sax), and of course witness the final battle with the antagonist (played by Will Foster on baritone sax). Best of luck on your journey!

# Personnel

*Text that is bold and underlined is a hyperlink; click or tap for more information.*

## **CU Boulder Soundworks**

**Egemen Kesikli**, director

**Annika Socolofsky**, faculty coach

**Nicholas Felder**, outreach coordinator

**Rain Michael**, stage manager

**Abby Kellems, Gracie Fagan**

**and Josie Arnett**, social media

## **Josie Arnett, composer**

Josie Arnett is a composer, pianist, singer and overall instrument enthusiast. She grew up playing a variety of instruments including piano, upright and electric bass, ukulele, banjo, cello, guitar and any other instrument she could get her hands on. Arnett started piano lessons at a young age and grew up playing the music of Bruce Hornsby, Billy Joel, The Beatles and countless pop and rock songs. As a composer, she has been inspired by film music, minimalism, jazz and rock. She is currently based in Boulder, Colorado, and pursuing a Bachelor of Music in composition with a Certificate in music theory at the University of Colorado Boulder. She has written for a variety of ensembles, performs as a pianist and singer, works with local choirs and schools, and teaches private piano lessons. Arnett's music often centers around the emotional gesture of the music in order to encourage the audience to connect with the music on an emotional level, and frequently integrates elements of psychology, visual art, film and nature into her music. Arnett is extremely grateful for her family and friends that constantly encourage her as a musician and a person.

## Riley Fuller, composer

Riley Fuller is a composer and pianist. Fuller is an avid fan of French and Russian Romantic piano repertoire and is a jazz inspiree. He is at home skiing his home state of Colorado, but has an appetite for scenery beyond the Rocky Mountains. He is in his first year as a composition major at CU Boulder.

## Alex Loran, composer

Alex Loran is a jazz saxophonist, singer and composer studying in the Thompson Jazz Studies program at CU Boulder. She has been composing since she was in high school, mostly sticking to jazz but also exploring R&B, funk, Latin jazz and avant-garde styles as well. Recently, Loran debuted her *New Beginnings Suite* for jazz big band at her senior recital. After she graduates in May with a Bachelor of Music, Loran plans to apply to jazz composition master's programs to further pursue her writing goals. She is so excited to be premiering one of her new works in her very first SoundWorks performance!

## Joshua Carter Maynard, composer

Joshua Carter (JC) Maynard is a composer and conductor from Colorado Springs, CO, who specializes in bringing passion for choral and chamber music to a new generation of musicians. Currently studying a Bachelor of Music Composition at the University of Boulder Colorado, Maynard never allows himself to be confined to one artistic box — instead, blending genres and disparate sources of inspiration in all his works.

In addition to producing many awarded compositions for mediums like choir and orchestra to electronics and jazz combos, Maynard is the founder and conductor of the Renova New Music Ensemble — CU Boulder's premier contemporary choral group. Prioritizing collaboration and musician ownership in all his projects, Maynard has conducted and had pieces performed by groups such as the Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble, the University of Wyoming Bel Canto Choir, the CU Boulder Chamber Singers, Lírios String Quartet, the Denver Playground Ensemble, and more.



As well as his time as a composer, conductor, and vocalist — having performed on stages from Buell Theater to Carnegie Hall — Maynard has experience as a producer and recording technician, an audio editor and mixing engineer, a private lesson instructor, a musical theater performer, and an ensemble administrator. He has two published novels, *The Four Sunrises* and *The Venom of Gold*, and his music is available on all streaming services at “JC Maynard.”

# Upcoming Events

*Event details are subject to change, but the CU Presents website will always be up to date. Click or tap below to explore your options.*



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*Tickets start at \$20*



## Eklund Opera

*Tickets start at \$15*



## Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre Program

*Tickets start at \$17*



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## Student Ensembles

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## Student Recitals

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## Educational Events

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