



OFF  
THE  
HOOK  
ARTS

at the intersection  
of music & ideas

## SUMMERFEST 2019 EVENTS LISTING BY DATE

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### **Perception, Deception, Illusion, Confusion:**

"Reality is an illusion, albeit a very persistent one." — Albert Einstein

"The most enchanting things in nature and art are based on deception." — Vladimir Nabokov (from *The Gift*)

*Off the Hook Arts SummerFest 2019* brings together music, neuroscience, psychology, magic, comedy, painting, and photography in a unique festival to explore the mysteries, methods, facts, and fantasies of human perception. Discover techniques of deception and illusion in the arts and in life. Confused? GREAT. You'll love our 2019 festival!

Featuring presentations by scientists Rael Cahn, Anne Cleary, Assal Habibi, Steve Macknik, Carol Seeger, and Jessi Witt.

Psychiatrist and photographer Arie Shalev

Magician and Mathematician Petter Kolm

Painter Haley Hasler

Comedy Writer David Misch

AND OF COURSE MUSIC! Featuring the Miami String Quartet, pianists Stephen Beck, Carlo Grante, and Marija Stroke, clarinetist Deborah Marshall; soprano Shereen Pimentel and Nina Berman; violinist Kyu-Young Kim, cellists Mike Block, Colin Carr, (some other cellist) Mihai Marica and Käthe Jarka; jazz musicians bassist Myles Sloniker, singer Cordelia Tapping, pianist Mark Sloniker, and violinist Zach Brock; plus special guests: the innovative genre-bending duo of Klezmer clarinetist David Krakauer and pianist Kathleen Tagg.

### **Opening Week Special Event I**

#### **GRAND OPENING: Perception Deception. Illusion Confusion.**

A taste of Magic, Music, Art and Perception.

Monday, June 17, 7pm – 9pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Our Grand Opening event brings a taste of what is to come in SummerFest 2019, with an evening packed full of presentations and performances of magic, music, comedy, cognitive psychology, and visual arts. Featuring an extraordinary lineup of artists including: Petter Kolm, mathematician; Anne Cleary, cognitive psychologist; Bruce Adolphe, artistic director/composer; David Misch, writer/comedian; Arie Shalev, psychiatrist/photographer; Carlo Grante, pianist.

## **CSU COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE: Perceptual and Cognitive Illusions: Quirks of our Everyday Experience**

Tuesday, June 18 – 20 | CSU Behavioral Sciences Building and Nancy Richardson Design Center

During the first few days of Off the Hook Arts' SummerFest 2019, a select group of cognitive scientists from around the world will be convening in Fort Collins for a mini-conference on perceptual and cognitive illusions and other oddities of our everyday impressions and experiences. Many of the scientists in attendance are authors of interesting books. In fact, many of the attendees will be contributing chapters to an edited book under contract with Routledge called "Memory Quirks: The Study of Odd Phenomena in Memory," and they will be convening to discuss their in-progress chapter contributions to this unique book. Others will be presenting their latest research on perception, memory and cognition and yet others will simply attend to hear about and discuss ongoing research and issues in the field. This event is open to the public. Day passes are available for \$100 per person. (schedule to be published soon.) Please register on our website.

### **VIEWPOINTS Series I: The Secret Life of Jokes**

A duck, an iguana, and a priest go into a bar to find out how guffaws depend on misdirection, deception, ambiguity and randomness. (Note: Duck, iguana, priest, and bar not included.)

Tuesday, June 18, 12pm – 1pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center or CSU Behavioral Sciences Building

Speaker: David Misch

The Science of Ha!: David Misch ("Mork and Mindy", "The Muppets Take Manhattan", "Saturday Night Live", "Funny: The Book", his own comedy courses at UCLA and USC) explores the unexpected congruities between science and comedy. While one shoots for Nobel Prizes and the other for fat guys falling over, the funnier one uses scientific spheres like anthropology, neurology and psychology for its effects. With the aid of copious comedy clips, David shows how deception, ambiguity, pattern recognition, evolution and error-related negativity make you spit up your milk.

### **DYNAMICS Series I: Deceptive Cadences, a concert**

Tuesday, June 18, 6:30pm – 8:30pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Speaker: Bruce Adolphe, artistic director/composer

Artists: Colin Carr, cello. Marija Stroke, piano.

Composers throughout history have used deception as an essential aspect of musical discourse. Deceptive Cadences looks at that tradition with a program of stunning works that expand concepts of musical form, culminating in one of Bach's masterpieces for solo cello. With Colin Carr, cello, and Marija Stroke, piano.

### **ART SHOW OPENS: Image and Illusion: An art exhibition**

Wednesday, June 19, 12pm – 6pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Featuring works by artists Arie Shalev, Haley Hasler, and George Deem, the Carnegie Center for Creativity is a well-known gallery for weekly art exhibits. The main gallery is a backdrop for this summer's festival theme of Perception/Deception. Illusion/Confusion, and the home of our evening events during the first two weeks of this season's Off the Hook Arts SummerFest. The gallery is open from 12 - 6pm, Wednesday - Saturday, from June 19 - June 29.

### **VIEWPOINTS Series II: Champions of Illusion**

Wednesday, June 19, 12pm – 1pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center, CSU

Speaker: Stephen Macknik

Program: Stephen Macknik and Susana Martinez-Conde have studied the neuroscience of sensory and cognitive illusions in their laboratories for almost two decades, and promoted them to general audiences as an exciting and spectacular tool to confront our wider misperceptions and sharpen our critical thinking skills in our so called 'post-truth' era.

In Champions of Illusion, Profs. Stephen Macknik and Susana Martinez-Conde present a smorgasbord of mystifying images, many selected from their Best Illusion of the Year Contest. Whether it's false motion, tricks of perspective, or shifting colors, Champions of Illusion is packed with adventures in visual perception. If you have ever found yourself face-to-face with an utterly bewildering illusion, you know the powerful effect such images have on the mind. The question we often ask ourselves is, How is that possible? Martinez-Conde and Macknik, who study the intersection of neuroscience, illusions, and stage magic, explain just why we think we see the things we see.

The Best Illusion of the Year Contest draws entries from vision scientists, artists, magicians, and mathematicians bent on creating today's most beguiling illusions. Featuring the contest's most bizarre effects and unbelievable mind tricks, along with classic illusions and illuminating descriptions of what is actually going on in your brain when you are deceived by visuals on the page, Champions of Illusion is an electrifying mix of science and magic that you will not soon forget.

### **Opening Week Special Event Series II: Mystery for the Mind: Making the Impossible Possible**

Wednesday, June 19, 7:00pm – 9:00pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Presenter: Petter Kolm, Mathemagician

**Magic and Math:** Certainly, we know the laws of science cannot be defied, right? Yet, sometimes we hear that "you can do anything you set your mind to."

In the engaging and interactive show "Mystery of the Mind," mathemagician Petter Kolm demonstrates that the boundaries of what is possible can be extended quite far, making the seemingly impossible possible. Join us for an extraordinary experience of mind bewilderment and magic.

Join us for a talk about math and perception with magician/mathematician Petter Kolm.

### **VIEWPOINTS Series III: Salient Instances in Trauma and Photography**

*What we see and what we remember*

Thursday, June 20, 12pm – 1pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Speaker: Arie Shalev

Program: As a presenter in 2016, Dr. Arie Shalev spoke on PTSD and is back by popular demand. An intense, focused and deeply thoughtful psychiatrist and researcher, Dr. Shalev will address issues related to trauma and his own art form, photography. Dr. Shalev's photographic artworks will be on display during the festival as part of the Art Show at the Carnegie Center for Creativity.

### **CONCERT Series I: Chopin Dreams**

Thursday, June 20, 7pm – 9pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Carlo Grante, piano.

Italian virtuoso Carlo Grante plays two famous piano works of Chopin followed by Chopin Dreams, in which Bruce Adolphe reimagines Chopin's music as if Chopin were alive today, working as a pianist in New York. In closing, Grante plays two of Ravel's dazzling keyboard masterpieces.

Chopin Dreams

Intermission

L'Isle joyeuse

Gaspard de la nuit

Bruce Adolphe (b.1955)

Claude Debussy (1862 - 1918)

Maurice Ravel (1875 - 1937)

### **VIEWPOINTS Series IV: When Your Eyes Deceive You: The Science Behind Visual Illusions**

Friday, June 21, 12pm – 1pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center, CSU

Speaker: CSU Professor of Cognitive Psychology Jessi Witt

Program: Remember #TheDress? Some people saw a white and gold dress yet others saw a blue and black dress. People have the impression that they see the world accurately and the same way as everyone else. We will discuss how #TheDress and other visual illusions challenge this intuition about perception.

### **DYNAMICS SERIES II: Art Chat\*: a discussion with painter Haley Hasler and Bruce Adolphe**

Friday, June 21, 5:30pm – 7:30pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Artwork by: Haley Hasler, Arieh Shalev, George Deem

Artist: Zach Brock, jazz violin. Art Lande, jazz piano.

Renowned Colorado painter Haley Hasler, whose work will be shown in the Off the Hook art exhibit, discusses how historical images and techniques play a role in her work with Bruce Adolphe, whose music similarly reacts to music of the past. Join us at 5:30pm for this eye opening artist talk, stay for a gourmet reception and musical performance by Zach Brock, Grammy-winning jazz violinist and jazz giant, pianist Art Lande. Program to be announced from the stage.

### **CONCERT Series II: Pianothon: Take 6!**

Saturday, June 22, 9am – 6pm | Coppermuse's Patio Garden

Artists: Community members --- all ages, abilities, and genres that involve the piano

Play-what-you-can, pay-what-you-can, as we raise money for Off the Hook Arts Academy education programs. We provide the Steinway grand piano - you provide the music! Whether you're a performer or music appreciator, it's the ideal way for all ages to easily give back through a unique musical experience.

### **CONCERT Series III: Chopin Dreams**

Saturday, June 22, 7pm – 9pm | Center for Musical Arts, 200 E. Baseline Road, Lafayette, CO

Artist: Carlo Grante, piano.

Program: Italian virtuoso Carlo Grante plays two famous piano works of Chopin followed by Chopin Dreams, in which Bruce Adolphe reimagines Chopin's music as if Chopin were alive today, working as a pianist in New York. Following works include two of Ravel's dazzling keyboard masterpieces.

### **CONCERT Series IV: Together Again, for the First Time!**

Sunday, June 23, 11am – 1pm | Ace Gillet's Lounge

Artists: Cordelia Tapping, jazz voice. Zach Brock, jazz violin. Myles Sloniker, bass. Mark Sloniker, piano.

Having performed together in various combinations but never all together, this intergenerational jazz quartet will make this a memorable morning of magical music-making. Brunch will be available during the performance. Works to be decided from stage.

### **DYNAMICS Series III: What is a Song, Anyway?**

Monday, June 24, 6:30pm – 9pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Speakers: Pianist Stephen Beck and composer Bruce Adolphe

Artist: Nina Berman, soprano; Stephen Beck, piano.

Pianist Stephen Beck and composer Bruce Adolphe discuss the music and personality of the late American master of the avant garde and one of Adolphe's teachers, Milton Babbitt, before a concert featuring his unique vocal music.

**VIEWPOINTS Series V: Bistable Perception – When Change in Awareness is Experienced in the Absence of Changing Stimulation**

Tuesday, June 25, 12pm – 1pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center, CSU

Speaker: Assal Habibi

Program: Did you ever notice what happens when you look at an ambiguous figure? Your perception is unstable, changing spontaneously between two possible interpretations. The fact is perception is an active process wherein the brain seeks to interpret the world around us. When sensory input is ambiguous, perception tends to fluctuate over time and allows for multiple, competing perceptual interpretations- in other words bistable perception. In this talk, we will review what is known about bistable perception, the brain mechanisms underlying this process and how we can learn about human behavior by understanding how we perceive ambiguity

**DYNAMICS Series IV: That Sounds Familiar: Piano Puzzlers and Other Musical Mysteries**

Tuesday, June 25, 6:30pm – 9pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Speaker: Bruce Adolphe, host; Anne Cleary, cognitive psychologist; Assal Habibi, neuroscientist. Carol Seeger, cognitive psychologist.

Artist: Bruce Adolphe, piano.

Is that a Chopin waltz or tune by Cole Porter? If it's both, it is probably a Piano Puzzler by Bruce Adolphe. Now on public radio's Performance Today weekly for 17 years (and one of the first podcasts available), Piano Puzzlers present perceptual problems and confusing keyboard conundrums (no drums needed). In this program, three scientists join Bruce in examining musical confusion and clarity, followed by a one-hour concert of nothing but piano puzzlers!

**DYNAMICS Series V: Haydn's Humor: a talk and concert with the Miami String Quartet**

Wednesday, June 26, 6:30pm – 9pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Speaker: Bruce Adolphe

Artist: Miami String Quartet -- Benny Kim and Cathy Meng Robinson, violins. Scott Lee, viola. Keith Robinson, cello.

Haydn was the first composer to write comical music without words. How does instrumental, non-verbal humor happen? In a talk with live musical demonstrations by the Miami String Quartet, Bruce Adolphe investigates the comic techniques and the subversive rhetoric of Classical music's first comedian. Following a gourmet reception, the Miami String Quartet plays a concert of two Haydn Quartets.

**VIEWPOINTS Series VI: A tangled web of perception: The neurophysiology of hallucinating our reality and really hallucinating**

Thursday, June 27, 12pm – 1pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center, CSU

Speaker: Rael Cahn

Program: Dr. Rael Cahn will explore ways in which the brain hallucinates our experience of "reality" during everyday consciousness, how the brain reflexively "fills in" perceptual details, the brain's response to visual illusions while under the influence of psychedelic drugs, and the comparative neural activity during meditation vs. psychedelics and associated mystical and altered states of consciousness.

### **DYNAMICS Series VI: Hearing Double**

Friday, June 28, 6:30pm – 8pm | Carnegie Center for Creativity

Artist: Miami String Quartet with Matthew Zalkind, cello.

Joining Bruce Adolphe in this concert is composer Julia Adolphe. Two Adolphe works (one by each Adolphe, niece and uncle) are the center of a concert framed by virtuoso solo violin works. Both Adolphe compositions are inspired by extra-musical thoughts but pursue these poetic ideas in purely musical terms. What is the creative process by which literature and images evolve into music? That question will be explored in the talk before the performance. Featuring the world premiere of Bruce Adolphe's *Are there not a thousand forms of sorrow?*, co-commissioned by Off the Hook Arts in a consortium with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, New York, in celebration of their 50th Anniversary.

### **ACADEMY SERIES: Master Class with the Miami String Quartet**

Saturday, June 29, 1 - 4pm | Trinity Lutheran Church

Artist: Miami String Quartet – Benny Kim and Cathy Meng Robinson, violins. Scott Lee, viola.

Keith Robinson, cello.

Ticket: Donations welcome, free and open to the public.

Open to the public, this invaluable teaching method of focusing on one individual or ensemble performer in front of an audience is a bird's eye view into the musical process for students of all ages. Work with members of the Miami String Quartet, or just come to observe as a teacher or general arts appreciator, some of the finest musicians and teachers of the day. To register please contact Jephtha Bernstein, [director@offthe-hookarts.org](mailto:director@offthe-hookarts.org) or call 970-305-2261.

### **DYNAMICS: Series VII: Hands-on Science Fair**

Sunday, June 30, 11am - 3pm | Nancy Richardson Design Center, CSU

### **CONCERT SERIES V: View From New York**

Monday, July 1, 7pm – 9pm | Museum of Discovery

Artist: Shereen Pimentel, soprano; Marija Stroke, piano; Deborah Marshall, clarinet;

Bruce Adolphe, host/composer.

New Yorkers have a unique perspective on America, as was popularized comically by the famous New Yorker magazine map of the USA. But how does that New York perspective manifest in music? Is there a New York sound? Come listen! Program includes Gershwin, Kern, Copland, and Adolphe.

### **VIEWPOINTS Series VII: Why Children Reject Loving Parents**

Tuesday, July 2, 12p - 1pm | Location TBD

Speaker: Jennifer Harman, CSU Associate Professor of Psychology

Program: Many children reject or refuse to have a relationship with a loving parent, and it is often hard for people to understand the cause of this rejection. Oftentimes, the parent who is rejected is blamed, as observers assume that they must be abusive or have done something wrong to make the child act that way. This talk will explore form of family violence known as parental alienation, which is when a child rejects a parent for untrue, exaggerated, or unjustifiable reasons. The cause of this rejection and the child's behaviors run counter-intuitive to what we might expect, yet are fully explicable once the true cause is exposed.

### **CONCERT Series VI: Breath & Hammer**

Monday, July 8, 7pm - 9pm | Rialto Theatre, Loveland  
Artists: David Krakauer, Klezmer clarinet; Kathleen Tagg, piano.

Grammy nominated clarinetist/world music star David Krakauer and acclaimed pianist-composer Kathleen Tagg come together in a passionate, eclectic and highly personal musical journey that they call "Breath and Hammer". Enhanced by an immersive video feed, this unique collaboration is made up of Krakauer & Tagg's arrangements of "simple songs" that uses extended techniques, loops and samples in a program ranging from Zorn to Klezmer, along with compositions by the duo and a host of performer-composers from around the globe, bridging the cultures of the past and transforming them into new work that looks towards the future.

### **The Bard's Confession: Magical Thinking – a Storytelling**

July 9, 7:00 – 9:00 pm | New Belgium Brewery  
Host: Mary Roberts  
Musician: TBA

We all hold strong beliefs, stronger than what evidence or experience would indicate is true. As kids we believe in Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy.

As adults, we believe that we will win the lottery or if we wear our lucky shirt to the game, our team will win. All a form of magical thinking. But sometimes magical thinking works.

When we tell our personal stories of joy, suffering, laughter and chaos, they reflect our humanity as shaped and inspired by our physical world and our imagination. These stories help us make meaning of our experiences and when we look deeper and more honestly, they are the stories of our ancestors and for our descendants. It's how we remember who we are and where we're going.

Tonight, we will have six storytellers who will recount personal true tales that reflect the sacred triumvirate of art, nature, and the human condition. The stories will reflect a moment in time or a game-changing event that involves conflict, transformation and resolution.

### **VIEWPOINTS Series VIII: Truth, Lies, and Poetry: Wrapping Our Heads Around Reality in the Study of Nature**

Tuesday, July 9, 12pm - 1pm | Ginger and Baker  
Speaker: Scott Denning, CSU Professor of Atmospheric Sciences

Program: How can we know what is true about the natural world and our place in it? Historian Yuval Harari says the modern age began with the "discovery of ignorance," when we began to doubt what had previously been deemed eternal truths. The formalized skepticism known as the scientific method has transformed us and the world we inhabit, replacing a search for truth with useful but ambiguous layers of approximation. Yet there are things we know for sure, and there are certainly lies. We can use the light of science to find our way, but must draw on the best in us to bring meaning to its results.

### **DYNAMICS Series VIII: Perception of Impressions**

Wednesday, July 10, 6:30pm – 8pm | Museum of Discovery  
Speaker: Bruce Adolphe  
Artist: Marija Stroke, piano. Mihai Marica, cello. Kyu-Young Kim, violin.

Artist: Marija Stroke, piano. Mihai Marica, cello. Kyu-Young Kim, violin.  
Debussy forever changed the art of music with his floating harmonies, fleeting rhythms, and the conviction that pleasure was the guiding principle of composition. George Crumb has been an innovative voice for our own time, and both Debussy and Crumb found inspiration in Eastern musical concepts and sounds. Added to this colorful, evocative sound world is a new work based on the optical illusions of MC Escher by composer Roger Zare.