

PEOPLE

June 23-27

Co-Produced by CulturalDC and
Extreme Lengths Productions

WATCHING



PEOPLE WATCHING

JUNE 23-27, 2021

People Watching is co-produced by CulturalDC and Extreme Lengths Productions, as part of CulturalDC's 2020-2021 Mobile Arts Season. This performance is in partnership with eNvy Condominiums and The Kelvin (Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners) and HQO (DC Water Headquarters).

We acknowledge that this performance takes place on the Native land of the Anacostan, Piscataway, Pamunkey, and Powhatan peoples.

We also acknowledge that this performance can exist at this moment and this moment only, due to the rapidly changing neighborhoods where it takes place. One year from now, the view that you see will look drastically different and some of the performance sites may no longer exist.

COLLABORATORS

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|---------------------------|--|
| Producing Director | Ben Levine |
| Associate Producer | Annie Peterson |
| Choreography | Sadie Leigh |
| Dramaturgy | Eric Swartz |
| Sound Design | Stephen Johnson III, Emma Pauline Rothman, and Sadie Leigh, featuring songs by Emma Pauline Rothman, Sadie Leigh, Bad Brains, and Black Box |
| Costume Design | Lucy Wakeland |
| Performance | Krystal Collins Carolyn Hoehner Stephen Lyons II Annie Peterson Emma Pauline Rothman |

KRYSTAL COLLINS, Performance

Hailing from the Midwest, Krystal (they/she) captivated their first audience in the produce section of the local Moo & Oink (may the beloved Chicago grocery store chain rest in power). They are a performer, choreographer, dance educator, curator, administrator and most importantly a proud power disrupting sagittarius. For them, dance and movement are vehicles that drive toward community, social change and liberation. As a Black non-binary femme, Krystal's artistic practice amalgamates many lenses of Blackness, including: queerness, girl/womanhood, popular culture, joy, ancestral and spiritual practices. After graduating from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (BFA '18), they currently move, groove, and reside in Washington, DC and have danced for Contradiction Dance Theatre, darlingdance, Heart Stück Bearnie, AJ Collabs, ReVision Dance Company and now Extreme Lengths Productions.

CAROLYN HOEHNER, Performance

Carolyn Hoehner (she/her) is a dancer, actor, and maker in Washington DC. Her creative research centers on audience empathy and using radical hospitality as a form for performance. She believes in the art of a good dinner party. Some artsy credits include being selected as a 2019 fellow at Art: Omi Dance where she will return as a mentor in July 2021, a 2017 choreographer in Doug Varone's DEVICES cohort, and a 2016 artist-in-residence at the Trinity Fellows Academy. She has a BA in theater, dance, and english from James Madison University and is an alumni of the Studio Acting Conservatory. Currently she dances and makes with Britta Joy Peterson, Robert Priore, Tariq Darrell O'Meally, and Extreme Lengths Productions. For mostly content of her cat Toulouse, a ginger cat who lives with Carolyn in her Navy Yard studio apartment, you can follow her on instagram @caroehoehner.

SADIE LEIGH, Choreography + Sound Design

Sadie Leigh (she/her) is a lifelong lover, performer, and maker of dance, born and raised in the DC/Metropolitan area. She performs with the illustrious Heart Stück Bernie, comprises one third of the performance collective Area Woman, and is a long time company member with Pointless Theatre Company. Whether in a gallery, a black box, a brewery, a proscenium stage, or your living room, she creates work derived from source material ranging from idiosyncratic and pedestrian gestures to disappointing text messages to fever dreams and happy accidents. You can find her as an often-student, sometimes-teacher, frequent-maker, and full time Operations Manager at Dance Place. She particularly likes floral desserts, making music with her siblings in their band, MICHAEL, and her cat, Lady Stardust. | IG: @sadieleighbeing

BEN LEVINE, Producing Director

As a multi-disciplinary artist, Ben Levine (he/they) aims to combine his dance and theater training with his knowledge of technology and a firm mindset that anything is possible to make awesome art. He brings over a decade of experience to his roles as the Producing Director of Extreme Lengths Productions; Director of Production/ Technical Director at Dance Place in Washington, DC; and Production Manager at the National Performance Network. Named "Best Up-For-Anything Technical Director" by the Washington City Paper, Ben works as a theater technician and carpenter, as well as a lighting, scenic, and projection designer for dance and theater. His go-big-or-go-home attitude, desire to work highly collaboratively, and disinterest in traditional proscenium performances has led him to create work at the intersection of installation art and contemporary dance. Recent awards include the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Artist Fellowship (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), DCCA project grant (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), and Anacostia Arts Center Performing Arts Incubator Artist in Residence (2019). In 2019, Ben was selected as a participant in the Dance/USA Institute for Leadership Training. He holds degrees in Theater Arts and Mathematics from Drew University.

STEPHEN LYONS II, Performance

Stephen Lyons II (he/him) is a DMV-based dancer, choreographer, director, and filmmaker. He began his dance journey with Aberdeen Dance Company in high school before training in hip hop dance styles with Phunktions Hip Hop Dance Company and Culture Shock DC. His approach to storytelling has since expanded to include writing and directing for the stage and screen. Stephen has just concluded his third year as Artistic Director of Culture Shock DC and works to enrich, educate, and entertain his community through dance. He was selected by Dance Place for the 2020 New Releases Choreographer's Showcase. He was also a recipient of a Vital Signs Mini-Grant from UMD to create a project that affirms black lives. Most recently he presented work at Dance Place's Exquisite Frame show in April 2021. Stephen currently studies Theatre and Dance at the University of Maryland. | IG: @stphnlyns

STEPHEN JOHNSON III, Sound Design

Composer Stephen Johnson III (he/him) explores avant-gardism and examinations of culture in concert and electronic music, blending these practices and employing graphic scores, extensive audio editing techniques and the repurposing of familiar songs and sounds. Stephen received the prestigious Linehan Artist Scholar award at UMBC where he graduated with two BAs, in 2017, one in music technology and one in composition. Stephen's work investigates the conventions of various mediums- concert performance, video art, and streamed music. Stephen has directed and co-directed various projects, including a multi-site

performance, a collaboration entitled 'x', and 'america' the premiere work of his music/dance company Forward Movements, co-run with choreographer, Sarah Schmitz. Stephen continues to pursue new perspectives on music in concert, electronic, and dance settings.

ANNIE PETERSON, Associate Producer + Performance

Annie Peterson (she/they) is a movement-based artist and producer in Washington, DC. Her practice is rooted in somatic-based inquiry and queer calibrations, which often looks like vessels of choreography, task, and material-based performance. Obsessed with the tension of performance, showing the play in concentration, and the often awkward sublime, AP has collaborated with and performed in the works of Extreme Lengths Productions, Britta Joy Peterson, Maria Gillespie, Daniel Burkholder, Wild Space Dance Company, and Hyperlocal MKE, among others. A thrice undergraduate research fellow for both movement/performance research and somatic/pedagogical research, AP received her BFA in Contemporary Dance Performance and Choreography with a second major in Journalism and Media Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts (2019). | IG: @peteann

EMMA PAULINE ROTHMAN, Sound Design + Performance

Emma Pauline (they/she) is a performer, musician, teacher and herbalist born and raised in Takoma Park, MD. They are an alum of Hampshire College and world music organization Village Harmony, and a former artist in residence at Habitable Spaces as well as Holly & the Neighbors. Hobbies include tarot cards, gardening and Wikipedia. Thank you to everyone who made this bizarre work possible! | IG: @quiltwitch

ERIC SWARTZ, Dramaturgy

Eric Swartz (he/él) is a DC-based theatermaker working as a Director, Producer, and Playwright. He has directed for Theater Alliance, GALA Hispanic, Young Playwrights', and Pointless Theatre Co., where he is a Company Member. He is a former Associate Artistic Director at Theater Alliance, where he helped produce Helen Hayes awarded productions of *Still Life with Rocket*, *Mnemonic*, *Word Becomes Flesh*, *Black Nativity*, and *Occupied Territories*. Beyond the DMV he has worked with the Latino Theater Company at the Los Angeles Theatre Center and serves on the Steering Committee of the Latinx Theatre Commons. A proud Queer, Salvadoran-American, DC native, he creates original bilingual works for the stage under the name El Chelito. Upcoming: *Óyeme: The Beautiful* at Imagination Stage. More information at chelitoteatro.com



LUCY WAKELAND, Costume Design

Lucy Wakeland (she/her) She received her BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2013 and she has been working in wigs, makeup, and costumes in the DMV area ever since. Her design work has been seen at Rep Stage, The Folger Shakespeare Library, Rapid Lemon Productions, and Annapolis Shakespeare. She has assisted on several productions for the Everyman Theatre, Centerstage, Arena Stage, DC Shakespeare Theatre Company, Imagination Stage, and Maryland Lyric Opera. Lucy is originally from Jackson, Mississippi and currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland.

