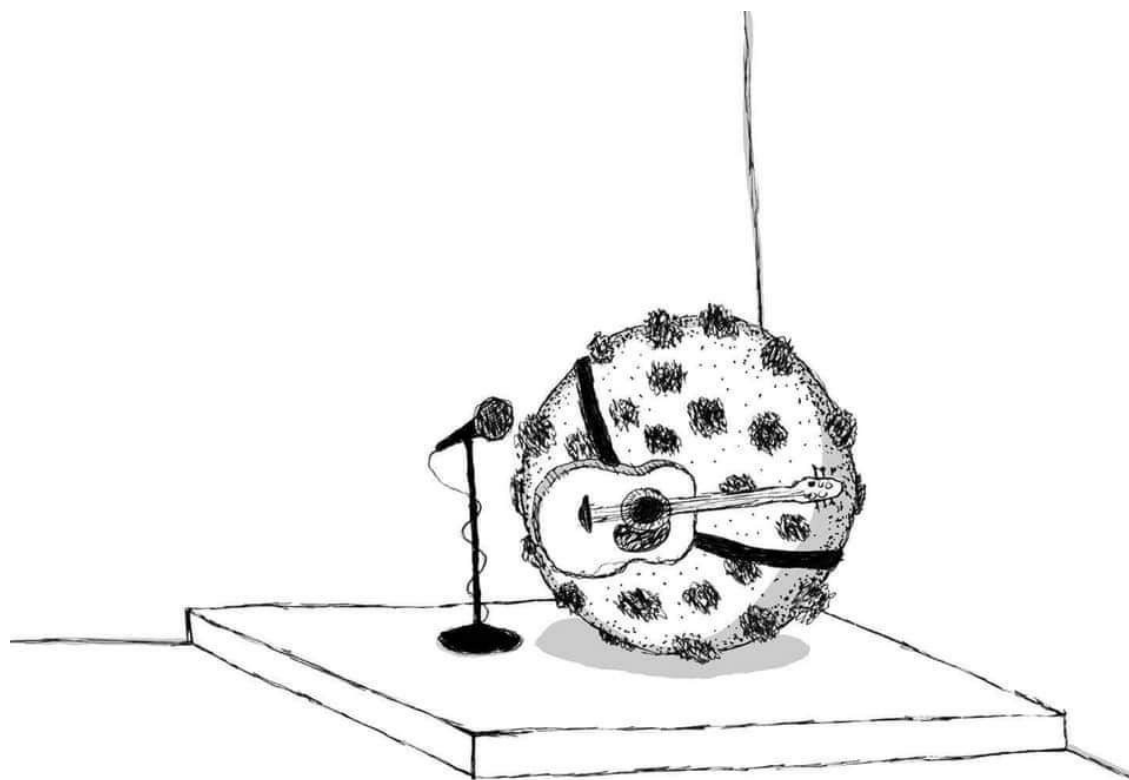




For best results, [view this e-mail in your browser.](#)

Are we post-COVID yet?

Trials and Tribulations



“This one’s dedicated to all the people that didn’t believe in me when I was getting started.”

☒

Have to you see this cartoon floating around social media? It's funny. It's political. It might even be divisive. But the reality is, it's still true. As much as we all want COVID to just go away, it turns out viruses don't listen to reason.

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returning to "normal" or even returning to the "new normal." Lately, we've been thinking about whether normal is ever coming back. As the national numbers surge and many prognosticators predict the return of public mask-wearing (at a minimum), it's time for the immersive community to seriously consider the idea that we have to design for the reality of ongoing public health demands.

So, what do we do about masks? *Sleep No More* seems to have convinced people it's fun to wear something over your face. What about social distancing? Zoom shows prospered creatively during quarantine. Do we run more smaller shows? One-on-ones remain popular, if not a profitable way to run immersive events. Do we require vaccines? Since we exclude pregnant people from thrill rides, we can easily bounce people who can't or won't get a vaccine. This is to say, there are answers to all the questions we have about public health. We just need to stay creative.

What is most awkward about this moment in history is that the conversation about infection rates, vaccines and personal freedom all ended up in a messy space. When did COVID become pop culture, where having an opinion about disease was equivalent to arguing about your favorite Marvel movie? Well, this is the world we live in, and as artists, art makers and culture shapers, we have to encounter the world as it is, even as we work to make it the place we want to be.

Join us this month as we walk through an exciting range of new work ready to challenge your ideas, stimulate your imagination, and excite your senses. Just remember to be safe out there.

In this issue

Your summer is not over yet! Check out:

- An Immersive Test Kitchen
- An accessible and immersive music festival
- A bondage-themed opera
- Meow Wolf and more!

What are you waiting for? There are tickets to buy!

LIVE PRODUCTIONS

Test Kitchen

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ODDKNOCK



Recent Denver arrivals and producers Oddknock describe their 4,000 foot intervention in RINO as "an initiative of experiential mess making: a rolling residency for physical theater artists to dive in and juice the fruit of their curiosities in an experimental, provocative play space. Kitted out with materials to catalyze wildness and quirky storytelling, Test Kitchen provides a consent-based space for honest conversation and collaboration."

Sounds like our kinda place.

Where: 3722 Chestnut Pl, Denver,

When: Test Kitchen #3 runs August 13th and 14th

Pricing: Free

The Shine Music Festival



The Shine Music Festival offers a radically accessible, first of its kind live music event for all, including adaptation and accommodations for hearing and sensory impaired concert-goers. For over two years, the Shine team has worked with various organizations serving the disabled communities to create a space that would allow everyone to attend; a space where people of all abilities can come together and share in the amazing power of live music. For a complete lineup and more information, see the festival site: <https://shinemusicfestival.com/>

Where: Levitt Pavilion, Denver

When: August 8th

Pricing: \$25 suggested donation

UNBOUND

PRESENTED BY



UNBOUND is a new kink opera about searching for a sexual fantasy — the one you think you want, and the one that may change you. Entering a dark gay fetish club, Guy meets two men who offer him scenarios of desire, but no emotional connection. Then a stranger offers something new and different: a bondage experience. Rope & aerial centered, non-normative, welcoming environment for learning, exploration, practice, play, and performance. Count us in!

Where: Studio Friction, 740 Lipan Street, Denver

When: August 27 & 31 at 8:00pm, September 2 & 4 at 8:00pm, and August 29 at 3:00pm

Pricing: Tickets are \$30 for general admission or \$60 for an additional hour-long rope tutorial and prime seating. This is an 18+ event, the last day to purchase tickets is Aug 25. Tickets [are available here](#).



Light it up! Lumonics Immersed is a total art installation which takes place in the Lumonics warehouse in Denver. The exhibit presents the late Dorothy and Mel Tanner's mesmerizing light sculptures, and lasers, special effects, and original music and video created by Dorothy Tanner and Marc Billard.

Where: Lumonics Studio, 800 E 73rd Ave Unit 11, Denver

Pricing: \$20 available at <https://lumonics.ticketleap.com/>



It's here! **Meow Wolf Denver** has set its opening date for September 17th and put tickets on sale now! Find out more about the **Convergence Station** and find out what all the fuss is about around that funky building stuck between I-25 and Colfax.

Where:

When: Opens Sept 17th

Pricing: \$30-35 for Colorado Residents, \$40-45 Non-residents, available here: <https://www.convergencestation.com/>

Location: 1338 1st St, Denver, CO 80204

STILL SHOWING!

Van Gogh Alive

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Denver Center for the Performing Arts

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a "a large-scale, multi-sensory experience to entertain the whole family." [Learn more or get tickets to Van Gogh Alive](#)

Where: The Hangar at Stanley Marketplace 2501 Dallas St Aurora, Co

When: July 9 – September 26 Sun, Tue-Thu: 10am to 8pm. Final entry at 7pm. Fri-Sat: 10am to 9pm. Final entry at 8pm.

Pricing: \$50.00 Youth/Student (Ages 5-18 or College with Student ID)
\$25.00 Children 4 & Under \$0.00.

NEWS

The Battle for Casa Bonita

The Hollywood Reporter was the first to [break the news](#): South Park Creators and CU Boulder alums Trey Parker and Matt Stone want to buy Casa Bonita. Of course they do! We do too. And as the wheels of bankruptcy grind along and the future of the great immersive space hangs in the balance, we will take a wait and see stance. In the meantime, we have thrown our support behind the super fans at the [Save Casa Bonita](#) movement. Someone, get CB open!

Local Pride

Local artist and activist Maggie Whittum showed up on the [No Proscenium podcast](#) to help mark Disability Pride Month. Enjoy Maggie's insight and be sure to get on the No Pro list!

Open (Rainbow Dome) House

Friday August 27th 5-9pm and Saturday August 28th 10am-4pm Rainbow

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West 2nd Ave unit 10, <https://www.rainbowdome.com/>

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