FEATURED WORK: Tree-o

DESCRIPTION: Elevating music to new heights, Tree-o features three musicians — cellist Russick Smith, violinist Karen Lauffer and mandolinist Kevin Larkin — in a series of free concerts held in the forest, high among the pine boughs and branches. A performance art installation, each musical session features instrumental melodies performed with the trio perched aloft upon the trees.

FEATURED WORK: A Simple Space by Gravity & Other Myths

DESCRIPTION: Get up close and personal with one of Australia’s hottest and most original circus ensembles. In the award-winning show that has captivated sell-out festival audiences worldwide, seven young acrobats push themselves to their physical limits and beyond in an awe-inspiring performance of supreme acrobatic ability, strength and skill.

FEATURED WORK: Concrete Jams Sk8 + Jazz

THEMES: improvisation, performance

DESCRIPTION: Skateboarding and jazz collide as BIFA brings together athletes and artists in unexpected ways. Essential to both disciplines is the ability to improvise and juggle with together art and expression. This 360-degree immersion showcases the art of improvisation in both music and sport, drawing a new kind of performance art that involves musicians and professional skateboarders. Duckie Lasercat and X Games professional skateboarders Jordy Barratt, Bucky Lasek and X Games gold medalist Andy Macdonald will contribute to the music on the fly.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS: Denver-based Other Black perform a blend of jazz, funk and hip-hop, while Russick and Kevin creatively collaborate to build music in unexpected ways, essential to both disciplines.

BRECKENRIDGE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS
August 9-19, 2018 | breckcreate.org/bifa

A 10-day program of extraordinary events in spectacular places and spaces across Breckenridge. Inspired by themes of environment and mountain culture, the multidisciplinary festival brings together an eclectic mix of music, dance, film, visual arts and family entertainment.
FEATURED WORK: Nature Will Not Miss Us by Nicole Banowetz
THEMES: power of nature
MEDIUM: inflatables

DESCRIPTION: Nature Will Not Miss Us is inspired by the Anping Treehouse in Tainan City, Taiwan. The Anping Treehouse is one banyan tree that for the past 70 years has grown over and consumed an old warehouse, breaking through windows and creeping along walls. Nature Will Not Miss Us is a reminder of the power of nature and its ability to thrive in the absence of human interference. In the town we keep nature controlled, pruned, and potted, but we must remember that nature surrounds us.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:
Nicole Banowetz makes sewn inflatable sculptures and delicate assembled forms, which move freely between growth and decay blurring the distinction between decoration and disease. Inspired by the natural world, Banowetz's work addresses human qualities while using the imagery she finds in the animal, plant, mineral and bacterial worlds.

FEATURED WORK: Peeking [Name TBD] by Tom Dekyvere
THEMES: built environments, magic, upcycled art
MEDIUM: recycled and reclaimed wood

DESCRIPTION: Based on woodland myth, the artist’s newest work, commissioned by BIFA, will be a gentle giant perched high atop a rocky hillside, stacking stones. Made from recycled and reclaimed wood, the sculpture will be built with the help of local volunteers who will source scrap lumber for its construction.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:
Specializing in building family-friendly installations from upcycled materials, this will be Dambo’s first exhibition in Colorado and a West Coast premiere of his world-famous giants. Note: Thomas Dambo often, if not always, names his sculptures after one of the people who helps him build it. Upon completion and installation of his artwork in Breckenridge, a proper first name will be given to the giant in honor of a local volunteer.

FEATURED WORK: Balanced Rock Sculptures by Michael Grab
THEMES: meditation, balance, nature
MEDIUM: rocks

DESCRIPTION: BIFA’s opening weekend will feature world-renowned stone balancing artist Michael Grab creating rock sculptures in the Blue River, immediately next to Riverwalk Center, from 12pm to approximately 8:30pm on August 10–12.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:
Michael Grab was born in Canada and relocated to Boulder, Colorado in 2002 to attend University. He stumbled upon the art of stone balance through an unexpected whim in 2008. Since then he has gained a local reputation for designing highly unlikely balanced rock formations up and down Boulder Creek, which flows through the heart of Boulder.

FEATURED WORK: Tempting Landscapes by Edina Tokodi
THEMES: natural cycles, sustainable living
MEDIUM: native plants, moss

DESCRIPTION: Using plants native to both the mountains and downtown Breckenridge, Tempting Landscapes reflects the cycle and the resilience of life, and advocates sustainable living and participation in the metamorphosis of an evolving visual culture.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:
Edina Tokodi uses “green guerrilla” strategies to bring nature into the exhibition space. Tokodi’s work is a seamless fusion of landscape art and real materials found in the outdoors.