



Breckenridge
Creative Arts
breckcreate.org



IMAGE CREDITS (FROM LEFT), DEVOTCHKA; PHOTO BY JEN ROSENSTEIN. BANDALOOP; PHOTO BY BRADEN MAYFIELD. CONTRAPPUNTO BY GIUSEPPE LICARI; PHOTO COURTESY MING STUDIOS. PAUL D. MILLER (A.K.A. DJ SPOOKY); PHOTO BY TOBIN POPPENBERG.

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BRECKENRIDGE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS RETURNS AUGUST 9-18, 2019

Featuring Colorado premieres, new commissions and Rocky Mountain exclusives

BRECKENRIDGE, CO (May 21, 2019) – The Breckenridge International Festival of Arts (BIFA) returns to the high country for a fifth year with its celebration of adventure, play and creativity from August 9-18, 2019. From aerial artistry and in-river performance installations to gypsy folk-punk and the return of a stone-hearted troll, BIFA offers an exhilarating program of extraordinary events in spectacular places and spaces across Breckenridge, Colorado.

Inspired by themes of environment and mountain culture, the 10-day festival brings together a variety of performances, exhibitions, screenings, workshops, talks and surprise collaborations, with an eclectic mix of music, dance, film, visual arts and family entertainment. Dozens of scheduled events, indoors and outdoors, ticketed and free, are showcased at venues and sites throughout town.

The 2019 festival features a variety of eco-minded performances and exhibitions, including new commissions by Rotterdam-based Sicilian artist **Giuseppe Licari**, American art collective **The Canary Project** (Susannah Sayler and Edward Morris) and Danish artist and designer **Thomas Dambo** who returns to Breckenridge to create a new wooden troll sculpture. In addition to outdoor installations, trailside concerts and open-air cinematic events, BIFA will also present transcontinental rockers **DeVotchKa** in support of their new album, multimedia artist **DJ Spooky** (Paul D. Miller) in a musical exploration of geological phenomena, and renowned vertical dance company **BANDALOOP** in a series of site-reactive performances in and around town.

Along with an eclectic mix of national and international creatives, the festival also showcases visual and performing artists from throughout the region and state, including **Gretchen Marie Schaefer, Tara Rynders, Courtney McGuire, Jess Webb, Chimney Choir, Russick Smith, Kevin Larkin, Karen Lauffer, Jess Rose, Patrick O'Halloran, Kenn Lee, Beau Thomas, Leon Joseph Littlebird, Nina Waters, DeWater & Wagner**, and many more.

Additionally, the Breckenridge Arts District once again serves as the heart of BIFA, bringing together studios, galleries, performance spaces, public art and historic landmarks that animate and populate a vibrant cultural corridor in downtown Breckenridge. Throughout the festival, the Arts District's campus becomes an interactive hub of creativity, offering free workshops, demonstrations, artist talks and hands-on activities for all ages.

Juxtaposed with so much lighthearted play, this year's festival also promises a series of ecological artworks and experiences to inspire a range of thought-provoking responses—from reflecting on how our interaction with the environment affects humankind, to environmental activism as an expression of patriotism.

“Like many of the works we have presented at BIFA in the past, our ecological series can be appreciated on a purely aesthetic level, because it will transform the landscape with the kinds of awe-inspiring spectacles our 10-day summer festival is known for,” said Robb Woulfe, President and CEO of Breckenridge Creative Arts, the event's producer. “However, for those who wish to dig deeper, these works will also provide a jumping off point for contemplations—and ecological action—concerning our role in nature.”

Recognized as one of the top mountain resort destinations in the world, Breckenridge is a beautiful and historic Colorado town that attracts over a million visitors yearly. Nestled in the heart of the Central Rocky Mountains, the town offers year-round activities to please outdoor enthusiasts, vacationing families and cultural travelers.

Established in 2014, Breckenridge Creative Arts (BCA)—or BreckCreate for short—was developed by the Town of Breckenridge to support and promote arts, culture, and creative experiences throughout Breckenridge. This multidisciplinary nonprofit organization is responsible for the successful management of a series of programs, properties, and partnerships that collectively animate and populate a cultural corridor in the heart of downtown Breckenridge. From quality performing and visual arts to the development of one of region's newest arts districts, Breckenridge Creative Arts is a transformative force for Breckenridge and the greater Summit County community. For more information, visit breckcreate.org.

Funding for BIFA is generously provided by the Town of Breckenridge, National Endowment for the Arts and Colorado Creative Industries, with additional media support from Mountain Living. More information on BIFA artists follows. For the most up to date information and schedule, please visit: breckcreate.org/bifa.

Press images and video [available here](#).

ABOUT THE ARTISTS + PROJECTS:

GOLDEN SHELTER

By Giuseppe Licari

Aug 9-18, On View Daily
Moonstone Trail, | FREE

Addressing the urgency of climate change, *Golden Shelter* is an installation by Rotterdam-based Sicilian artist Giuseppe Licari that brings attention to the importance of our woodlands for the survival of our planet.

BLUE RIVER

By Giuseppe Licari + Gretchen Marie Schaefer

Aug 9-Sep 8, On View Daily
Gallery@OMH, Old Masonic Hall | FREE

Blue River is an installation by Dutch artist Giuseppe Licari and Denver-based artist Gretchen Marie Schaefer inspired by the history of Breckenridge and the radical transformation of its rich physical and human landscape since the Gold Rush.

GREEN PATRIOT POSTERS

By The Canary Project

Aug 9-18, On View Daily
Arts District Lawn | FREE

Green Patriot Posters (GPP) is a public intervention by American art collective The Canary Project (Susannah Saylor and Edward Morris) centered on posters that encourage all U.S. citizens to take part in building a sustainable economy.

TRAIL MIX

Aug 9–18, 2 pm & 4 pm

Iowa Hill, FREE

Trail Mix combines art, music, hiking and biking along the trails of Breckenridge through free outdoor concerts and environmental installations, featuring pop-up performances throughout BIFA. Featuring artworks by Giuseppe Licari, Thomas Dambo and The Canary Project; musical performances curated by Russick Smith.

AN EVENING WITH DEVOTCHKA

Aug 11, 7:30 pm

Riverwalk Center | \$30 ADV, \$35 DOS

DeVotchKa is a four-piece multi-instrumental and vocal ensemble that fuses Romani, Greek, Slavic, Bolero, Mariachi music with American punk and folk roots. Based in Denver, the quartet is made up of Nick Urata, Tom Hagerman, Jeanie Schroder and Shawn King.

BANDALOOP: Outdoors

A Site-Reactive Film Shoot

Aug 10–11, Times TBA

Locations TBA | FREE

BANDALOOP celebrates the human spirit, nature, and communities through dance that uses climbing technology to expand and challenge what is possible. A pioneer in vertical performance, BANDALOOP seamlessly weaves dynamic physicality and intricate choreography to turn the dance floor on its side. *This film shoot will take place in multiple locations around Summit County, with a number of the sites being open to the public. Specifics on production times, locations and public access viewing points/logistics will be announced closer to the filming dates.*

HEART OF A FOREST + ARCTIC RHYTHMS

Featuring DJ Spooky

Aug 13, 7:30 pm

Riverwalk Center | FREE

Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky is a composer, multimedia artist and writer whose work immerses audiences in a blend of genres, global culture, and environmental and social issues. At BIFA, he will perform two meditations on nature, *Heart of a Forest* and *Arctic Rhythms*, with a live string ensemble, projected imagery, and electronic and hip-hop music.

WADING FOR CUPCAKES

With Tara Rynders, Jess Webb, Courtney McGuire + Tim Rynders

Aug 15–18, 12 pm & 5 pm

Blue River, near Riverwalk Center | FREE

The river reminds us how to let go, how to be free, and how to be moved. In *Wading for Cupcakes*, performance artists Tara Rynders, Courtney McGuire and Jess Webb, along with environmental engineer Tim Rynders, present an interactive journey in the Blue River that invites us to consider the watersheds upon which all life depends.

BANDALOOP: Outdoors

An Open Rehearsal

Aug 15, 5 pm + 6 pm

Location TBA | FREE

BANDALOOP combines dance with rock climbing, sport, ritual and environmental awareness. A pioneer in vertical performance, BANDALOOP has performed on architectural landmarks, skyscrapers and historic sites around the world. *These 20-minute, free open rehearsal performances will take place on the facade of a local building yet to be announced.*

ON THE GREEN

An Eco-Movie Night

Aug 15, 8:30 pm

Riverwalk Center Lawn | FREE

A series of cinematic shorts exploring conservation, climate change and the environment in a family-friendly outdoor screening on the Riverwalk Center lawn. Co-presented with Breckenridge Film Festival.

ISAK HEARTSTONE

By Thomas Dambo

Ongoing Installation, On View Daily

Trollstigen Trail | FREE

Isak Heartstone is a large-scale, wooden troll sculpture created by Danish artist Thomas Dambo, who specializes in making imaginative art pieces, furniture and more from recycled materials. Over the last three years, Dambo and his team of volunteers have made dozens of site-specific sculptures around the world

TREE-O

Featuring Russick Smith, Karen Lauffer and Kevin Larkin

Aug 9, 6 pm; Aug 10-11 + Aug 16-17, 1 pm & 6 pm; Aug 18, 1 pm

Illinois Creek Trail | FREE

Elevating music to new heights, Tree-o features three musician 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.

CHIRP!

Featuring Chimney Choir

Aug 10-11 & Aug 17-18, 11 am; Iowa Hill Trail | FREE

Aug 10-11 & Aug 17-18, 3 pm; Illinois Creek Trail | FREE

Harmonizing their voices to create an ethereal atmosphere in the forest, Chimney Choir is a Denver-based performance ensemble who blends old time folk songs and minimal music into their own quirky compositions. A musical installation, each concert features a vocal soundscape performed along a trail.

BANDALOO: Indoors

An Immersive Performance

Aug 16-17, 11 am & 1:30 pm

Riverwalk Center | FREE

BANDALOO celebrates the human spirit, nature, and communities through dance that uses climbing technology to expand and challenge what is possible. A pioneer in vertical performance, BANDALOO seamlessly weaves dynamic physicality and intricate choreography to turn the dance floor on its side. *These 30-minute, free indoor performances are general admission with standing room and floor seating only. No tickets are required, but admission is first-come, first-served for venue access.*

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