



presents:

*Off-Kilter Cabaret:  
Organ Recital*

June 16-19, 2022  
Tek Box at the Cowles Center

# *Off-Kilter Cabaret*

Show Order

## **The "Hearty" Brain**

Created and performed by Scott Sorensen  
Audio: Philip Sheppard  
Collaboration: Seth Eberle and Cami Applequist

## **Capitol Riot**

Written by Daniel P. Reiva  
Performed by Shatha Elkhair, Miranda Jerabek,  
Delvina Logeais, Lars Nelson, and Jenny Tam  
Music by Robin Reyfield  
*\*contains swearing*

## **Spoken and Un-Scene**

Written and performed by Braille  
Sound Engineer: Dameun Strange  
*Special thanks to Vision Loss Resources and Blind  
Inc. for support*

## **Organic Knitting**

Choreographed and Performed by Hazel Hill, Bani Lee,  
Heather Lee, Lainey Lee, Gretchen Pick, Gabriel Rodreick,  
Lilly Rossow, Neha Siddiqui, and Andrea Zimmerman.  
*Special thanks to Hope Grathwol who contributed  
to the choreographic process.*  
Music: "Life" and "Patience" from Cedar Thoms' Brighter  
Days Ahead by Christopher Thomson, Anamika Music  
ASCAP

**\*\*Short Intermission\*\***

*The following pieces may contain mature content*  
**Nobody Knows the Trouble**

Created and performed by Pat Samples

## **Ordinary**

Created and performed by Atlas O Phoenix  
Costume: Feather Happy, Professor Wilkes LLC, Folors  
Fantasy, AblazeMe (all via Etsy)  
Music: Instant Karma by John Lennon  
Good as Hell by Lizzo  
*\*contains nudity*

## **Lie-Down Comedy with Amy Salloway**

Created and performed by Amy Salloway  
Sound Design: John LaSala  
Voice of Ed McMahon: Joe Whiteis  
Music: Johnny's Theme (The Tonight Show Theme) by  
Doc Severinsen  
*Special thanks to Paul Herwig, Paula Weakly,  
Phoenix Stremski, Klark Eversman and Eric Cohen for  
advice on set and prop construction*

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**Lighting Design:** Mike Grogan

**Sound and Lighting Operator:** Alex Clark

**Stage Manager:** Misty Brehmer

**ASL Interpreter:** Maria Dively

**Captioning:** Lisa Richardson, Veritext CART Captioning

**Audio Description:** Connie Fullmer

**Curated by the Off-Kilter Leadership Group:**

Sam Jasmine, Amy Salloway, Jon Skaalen, Paul Herwig and Jennifer Ilse

### *A Note from the Off-Kilter Leadership Group*

Off-Leash Area's new performance program is designed to highlight and support artists with disabilities, by making space for and giving voice to artists with disabilities in the design and leadership of the program. This cabaret-style production was curated by the Off-Kilter Leadership Group. Our aim is that **Off-Kilter** becomes not only an annual event, but grows to provide artistic development support to members of the disability community, bringing attention to the artistry and perspectives of these individuals.

This year Off-Leash Area is excited to partner with Young Dance, whose mission is *transforming lives through movement*.

## Artist Bios

**Braille's** evolution as an artist began as a young person, meeting and learning from photographers, videographers and musicians — wanting to do with music, spoken word and hip hop wordplay what people like Ernest Withers did in photographing the Civil Rights movement. Forced to limit artistic activity due to disabling illness, Braille has shown art in solo shows and a touring show. Now, in this show, Braille gets to stretch further and “rewrite my story without having to erase anything.”

**Atlas O Phoenix** (they/them/theirs) is an award-winning film director, writer, producer, editor, and actor. Atlas describes their work, “My work as intense and evocative. I want to

encourage viewers to move past their comfort zone towards discovering themselves, their world views, attitudes, and the way they see themselves. I want to explore the fluidity of our existence and what legacy we leave behind. At this point in my artistic journey, embracing my transition in my 50s, I want to create art that not only explores the darkness of the soul; I want to examine its flight to the light. LGBTQIA2+ artists are an enormous inspiration to me, because these stories are powerful and are about overcoming obscene social obstacles based on sexual orientation and gender expression. For some of us, this includes a radical bias towards the color of our skin. If we are vigilant about rejecting tropes, cliches, and tokenism, LGBTQIA2+ art will continue to evolve into a powerful and inspiring force for good in the world.”

**Daniel Reiva** (he/him/his) has a MA in Theatre Arts from the University of Minnesota and a K-12 theatre/media arts teaching license, having worked as a theatre/media arts teacher since 2001. In addition, for the last forty years he has launched theatre production efforts for many community organizations, schools and independent groups, facilitating community artistic expression and responding to social justice issues. His goal in theatre is to assemble a racially inclusive ensemble, with young and older adults and those with differing abilities and backgrounds. Performers draw upon their performance skills, imaginations and life experience, using theatre games, improvisation, found poetry and creative movement to collaboratively devise theatrical work. An important part of his goal is to facilitate theatre groups to create productions on issues that are pertinent to the community. His most recent production “...and Now This Happens”, concerns the police killing of Daunte Wright in Brooklyn Center. One member of the performance ensemble called working under Dan's direction 'a

great experience' and remarked, 'Thank you for the opportunity to work with you on this important project!'

Actor/writer/storyteller **Amy Salloway** (she/her/hers) is a big fan of the Venn Diagram spot where live theatre, vulnerability and social change overlap. Her award-winning autobiographical solo plays -- *Does This Monologue Make Me Look Fat?*, *So Kiss Me Already*, *Herschel Gertz!*, and *Circumference* -- have toured to audiences across the US and Canada, and she's contributed personal stories to radio programs on MPR and CBC, as well as the national podcast *Risk!* Amy teaches and coaches narrative performance of every kind through The Story Studio, and, in non-pandemic times, hosts Story Club Minneapolis once a month at the Bryant-Lake Bowl. Tonight's piece is an excerpt of a longer work in progress about chronic illness. For more info on Amy, visit [www.facebook.com/awkwardmomentonstage](http://www.facebook.com/awkwardmomentonstage).

**Pat Samples** (she/her/hers), non-fiction writer and poet, is a creative aging champion and advocate for edgy climate action by older adults. She is the author of 8 books and hundreds of published articles and essays. Among her books are *Daily Comforts for Caregivers* and *Body Odyssey: Lessons from the Bones and Belly*. Samples has directed several Minnesota organizations and programs that foster artistic expression in older adults. She has led weekly improvisational movement sessions for older women for over 18 years. She is also a writing coach.

**Scott Paul Sorensen** (he/him/his) is a passionate and kind, 26 years young man from Roseville, Minnesota. As a puppeteer, artist, and tuba player, the arts continuously inspire and connect Scott to the world. Scott works part-time for Goodwill Industries and is an active artist at Interact Center for Visual and Performing Arts, where he writes and creates puppets for

performance, education, and therapy. Puppetry, literature, and wildlife have shaped Scott since a toddler and helped him learn to speak and understand social situations. Jim Henson is Scott's hero. Scott graduated from Irondale High School in 2015. He loves to work and be busy. He has volunteered for many years at the Roseville Library and food shelf. In addition, Scott loves to travel, plays the tuba, and swims for Special Olympics Minnesota.

Since 2010, **Young Dance** has offered programming that integrates dancers with and without disabilities as equal participants in the exploration, creation, and performance of dance. Our mission is to transform lives through movement. The Young Dance All Abilities Dancing class is a group of artists, ranging in age from 11 to 51, with and without disabilities. The artists bring varied expertise and unique perspectives as performers, educators, musicians, physical therapists, activists, and students, to our work together. We aim to push the boundaries of the practice and art of dance.

**Off-Leash Area** is a Minneapolis-based dance and theater company with 23 years of creating original interdisciplinary performance works, including the Ivey Award winning *Psst!*, and designing unique community programs like the Neighborhood Garage Tour. Off-Leash Area champions independent, diverse, and distinct voices in local performing arts, artist-creators of original works, and conducts its collaborations with integrity, respect, and a commitment to high quality production.

Throughout our history, Off-Leash Area has built strong, organic relationships within the disability community. From its collaboration with Blind Inc on its production, *Now Eye See You*

Now Eye Don't, to having created a fully accessible venue with the Off-Leash Art Box, Off-Leash Area has put individuals and organizations among the disability community at the center of its creative and organizational work.

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**Off-Leash Area's**  
*30th Mainstage Production*

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TAKES THE AUDIENCE TO  
AN OTHERWORLDLY SPACE WHERE  
ANCIENT MYTH, FUTURE DREAMS  
AND OUR URGENT PRESENT COLLIDE

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**TekBox at the Cowles Center July 14-17**

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT [OFF-LEASHMINOTAUR.EVENTBRITE.COM](http://OFF-LEASHMINOTAUR.EVENTBRITE.COM)

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