



PATRICK MUELLER

Immersive & Experiential Artist | Designer | Consultant

ARTISTIC PRACTICE & BACKGROUND

I'm a Denver-based artist working in embodied immersive & experiential forms. My 20 years of professional experience includes contemporary dance, theatre, and interdisciplinary performance; installation and performance art works; lighting & environment design; film direction and video design; and production & stage management.

My work emerges from the intersection of immersive experience design, ephemeral place-making, and social engagement. My practice is deeply collaborative, driven by extensive academic, in-studio, and dialogic community research. I am committed to rigorous, potent innovation toward expanding potentials for communication and experience within the field of contemporary live art.

As the founding artistic director of Control Group Productions, I've guided the creation of over 20 major works in the last decade, and led the creation and curation of two blackbox performance venues. Through Control Group I've built project partnerships with the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, the Biennial of the Americas, Denver office of Arts & Venues, and other prominent local institutions. Our projects have received support from Colorado Creative Industries and the National Endowment for the Arts, Colorado's Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, the Denver Foundation's Arts Affinity Group, and many other foundations, family trusts, and individual donors.

Outside of Control Group, I've created commissioned dance-theatre works for Open Dance Project in Houston (2016) and CoMotion Dance Company in Carbondale, CO (2015); choreographed the Denver Center for the Performing Arts production of *The Wild Party* (2017); and contributed choreography and performance for a variety of local companies and dance studios. In 2016 I originated a role in Third Rail Project's DCPA production *Sweet & Lucky*. Prior to forming Control Group, I performed extensively across Europe and the Eastern U.S. with Ben J. Riepe Kompanie (DE), Mancopy Danse Kompagni (DK), Troika Ranch Dance Theatre (NY), and others.

I've taught extensively, from professional technique classes to undergraduate academic courses to a broad spectrum of workshops and master classes. I taught for several years each with Naropa University's Performance BFA program and Red Rocks Community College's Dance Program, in both cases participating in curriculum development on the department level and in the classroom. 2013-16 I served as Lead Faculty and Production Manager at Colorado Conservatory of Dance. As a Lighting Designer and technician I've worked with the Presenting Denver Dance Festival, Art as Action, Maya Theatre Productions, and other local companies.

I'm deeply involved and invested in the local performing arts culture, increasingly focused on the emerging immersive design & performance community. I'm a founding member of the Denver Immersive Artists League, a collaborator on Denver Immersive Summit activities, and an attendee of No Proscenium's 2019 Immersive Design Summit in San Francisco.

My Immersive Design Consulting practice channels my professional experience and industry knowledge into education and development for other artists and projects. From creative commissions to production support to training and analysis, I work to share best practices and refine the approaches and aesthetic vision of my fellow artists and community members.





MINI-DOCUMENTARY

on my work, Control Group's collaborative process, and the creation of *Aggregate Immateriality* (2019).



VIDEO RETROSPECTIVE

of works 2013-2018, including *Solace* (2018), *Watching Night Falling* (2018), *Tiny Utopias* (2016), *CREATION (re-creation)* (2015), *Setting Fires* (2017), *Alone with Todd* (2016), *(the world we've created)* (2014), *FEAR & PROPHEETS* (2013).



WORKS & ACTIVITIES

on the Control Group website, including company works and commissioned creations.



COMPLETE C.V.

View my complete Curriculum Vitae [here](#).

IMMERSIVE DESIGN CONSULTING

education | commissions | collaboration | support

I approach Immersive Design Consulting as a partnership with fellow artists, event planners, education providers, and community stakeholders.

I am by no means an expert in everything immersive, but I've been creating within the framework of this emerging genre for over a decade – long before the term “immersive” was familiar to audiences or most artists. Over the last several years, I have been at ground zero as immersive performance has gathered professional and popular followings in Colorado and across the country.

I see my immersive creative practice as a natural progression of my extensive exploration of expanding potentials in contemporary live art, encompassing direction, choreography, lighting & environment design, found-space venue transformations, audience tracking & engagement models, scripting, event planning, and more.

I'm invested in sharing these ideas and contributing to other artists' practices, processes, and products. I tailor engagements to partners' needs and interests, looking for how best to support growth of new skill sets, promote methodical approaches and comprehensive planning, and generally advance the craft and capacities of everyone involved.

CORE CONSULTING AREAS

Commissioned Events & Works for:

- professional companies
- youth & community ensembles
- festivals & special events
- marketing activations & product launches
- immersive activations at events

Workshops & Trainings in:

- immersive design
- interactive performance
- contemporary movement
- site-specific approaches
- collaborative practice

Production Design (lead or support) for:

- audience movement & engagement
- immersive event design
- space / environment / site use & transformation
- lighting (design/delivery/operation)

Production Support including:

- guest direction in rehearsal
- performance review & response
- event planning & execution
- technical direction & stage management





In the new wave of dance and theatre, immersive experiences are gaining ground. And in Denver, Patrick Mueller and Control Group Productions ride on the top of that wave.

– Susan Froyd, Westword Magazine

SOME HIGHLIGHTS

creation | performance | consulting

2019 Production (upcoming): *Aggregate Immateriality*

created & presented by Control Group Productions

An immersive meditation on fear, death, and darkness, set in an abandoned slaughterhouse in North Denver. [Project details here.](#)

2019 Consultation (production, upcoming): *Zabiti*

created & presented by Rainbow Militia

Lighting & Immersive Design consultation for an immersive fairytale transforming Denver Rock Drill into a magic forest.

2018 Production: *Watching Night Falling*

created & presented by Control Group Productions

A walking tour of Stanley Marketplace and the Westerly Creek greenbelt, exploring migration experiences of birds and people. [Project details here.](#)

2018-19 Consultation (general): *Itchy-O*

Performance review and rehearsal direction for local immersive rock band Itchy-O, focusing on audience interaction, immersive tactics, and group choreography.

2018 Production: *Rausch*

created & presented by Control Group & The Catamounts

An immersive odyssey into the wilds of South Boulder, performed in Boulder County public space. [Project details here.](#)

Nominated for a 2019 Henry Award for Best New Play.

2017 Commissioned Choreography: *The Wild Party*

produced by Off-Center at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography and assistant direction for an immersive production of LaChiusa's *The Wild Party*, presented at The Hangar at Stanley Marketplace.

2016 Commissioned Work: *Tiny Utopias*

commissioned & performed by Open Dance Project (Houston, TX)

A dance-theatre exploration of the nature and creation of ephemeral utopias.

2016 Collaboration & Performance: *Sweet & Lucky*

created by Third Rail Projects (Brooklyn, NY), presented by Off-Center at DCPA

An immersive performance exploring love, loss, and memory, presented in a transformed warehouse in Denver's RiNo Arts District.

2015 Commissioned Work: *DAMAGES*

commissioned & performed by CoMotion Dance Company (Carbondale, CO)

A collaborative dance-theatre work based on personal experiences of childrearing and early childhood development.

2013 Premiere (multi-site performance / bus tour): *FEAR & PROPHETS*

created & presented by Control Group with support from the Biennial of the Americas

An immersive bus tour of Denver, anchored by multi-site-specific performance & videography.

"Like nothing else in Denver's dance scene. The pendulum of possibility swings wildly from one instant to the next. It has its own distinct dream logic that is so powerful, you might never want to wake up."

—Deanne Gertner, Presenting Denver

"The motion-based performances dreamed up by Patrick Mueller and Control Group Productions cross so many disciplinary lines that it's hard to know what to call them, and perhaps it's ridiculous to even try to pin it down."

—Susan Froyd, Westword Magazine

"A performative triumph. Watching Night Falling brilliantly leverages the built and natural landscape to crack open possibilities for performance in the twenty-first century, interactive or otherwise."

—Deanne Gertner, Presenting Denver

"Weirder than anything I ever seen a hobo do."

—Lt. Cayle England, Denver Police Department

"I'd take that over a Penske Truck full of models any day."

—Mark Sink, visual artist



CONTACT

To inquire about consultations, partnerships, new work commissions, and education & event bookings, please contact:

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Images by Nicholas Caputo,
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