



# *When It Works, where are you? Invitations and shared practices*

An MFA Project

Performed by **Barnaby O'Rorke** and You

April 19, 21 & 23 at 5 p.m. PDT

**UCDAVIS**

**COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE**

# UC DAVIS

---

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE  
AND DANCE

Presents

## *When It Works, where are you? Invitations and shared practices*

An MFA Project

Performed by **Barnaby O'Rorke and You**



Like us on Facebook! Search for  
**UC Davis Theatre and Dance**

Discover more about the productions, events and  
people from the UC Davis Department of Theatre and  
Dance.

## When it works, where are you?

**This is an online sharing of my practise. Since the beginning of the lockdown I have been working outside, on beaches and up trees. Then writing, filming and thinking about that. This is that material presented and played with.**

The answer to "When it works, where are you?" is personal, specific and changeable, perhaps unanswerable...

I would like the question itself to inspire other questions for you. What does "works" mean? When does something work and *what* is working? Who is the "you"? And where could that be? Can it be in different places? Is it in your house, in your hands, behind your forehead or is it in the relationship with that which is working? The question came from thinking through and attempting a decentering of ourselves from what and who and where. When I am playing music there is an engagement that happens that could be "working." It's immersive, transparent, transitional, permeable, both controlled and wild: time and place are different. Boundaries are different. What, in your life, has been engaging for you? When have you felt that you are no longer contained within your head but have moved out into the surety of knowing and being within a larger body. A room, a hall, a crowd, a beach, a sea, a dance.

I would like the question to be a bodily sensation. What does understanding feel like?

The double meaning of "work" in this English language creates a strange tension for me. There is the work we do which is a job, labour, a way of getting by, and then there is the work as in "NOW its all *working*," which indicates a coming together or the feeling that every *thing* is doing what it does best. It's a question. What is work? Is this working for you? Are there other meaning of work? Is it the same meaning?

This performance is my work. A coming together.

**Please, the most important thing is to relax. Take it all lightly. Allow your attention to move, transmogrify and dissipate. There is nothing to "get" here. There *is* something to experience. The best way to watch this work (working on you)**

**is to imagine you are watching a sunset or a cloud of starlings in front of that sunset. Given time it will work on you. Perhaps in ways you only realize later. Perhaps it just makes you breath a little easier. Let you eyes wander around your room. Perhaps use headphones or not. Consider it a radio performance with images. Perhaps. Let you eyes close. You may have only missed something if you don't remember that your eyes are your own.**

This work is an attempt to share my own practise and thoughts through all the possibilities of Zoom and Ecamm. It was predicated by lockdown protocols.

I will offer from time to time things you can do. Small physical puzzles or explorations. The aim is to place us inside our bodies while on Zoom.

If you would like to write, draw, dance or work alongside please do so. There are holes and deserts of content in the piece just for that.

Perhaps have a glass of water nearby.

If later you would wish to share anything with me my email is [dbororke@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dbororke@ucdavis.edu)

Material from the performance and more can be seen again on [www.barnabytree.com](http://www.barnabytree.com)

Please enjoy.

**All the recorded and live work is by me, the music and the videos. Some of the videos that have me in them where shoot by Katelyn Stiles, my best friend. I didn't make the ocean, the trees or the rain. I did not make Zoom or even my own body. They all have there own voices. I hope these voices are also present.**

***Thanks to all these others and phenomena.***

Warm regards, Barnaby

## **UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Staff**

Production Manager	<b>Susie Owens</b>
Asst. Technical Director	<b>Myke Kunkel</b>
Facility Manager/Audio Specialist	<b>Megan Kimura</b>
Master Electrician	<b>Patrick O'Reilly</b>
Costume Shop Foreman	<b>McKayla Butym</b>
Marketing and Public Relations	<b>Michael G. French</b>

## **UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance Faculty**

**Larry Bogad**, Chair, Performance Studies

**Mindy Cooper**, Acting, Musical Theatre

**David Grenke**, Dance

**Lynette Hunter**, Performance Studies

**Margaret Laurena Kemp**, Acting

**Maggie Morgan**, Costume Design

**Jon D. Rossini**, Performance Studies

### **Lecturers**

**Stuart Carroll**, Ballet

**Mary Beth Cavanaugh**, Movement

**Paul Gordon**, Granada Artist-in-Residence

**Pamila Z. Gray**, Lighting

**Michele Apríña Leavy**, Acting

**Curtis Moore**, Granada Artist-in-Residence

**Steven Schmidt**, Instructor, Production Management

**Ian Wallace**, Visual Design

### **Arts Administration**

**Karen Ostergard**, Chief Administrative Officer

**Barbara Olivier**, Undergraduate Program Coordinator

**Julie McGilvray**, Undergraduate Advisor

**Melany Miners**, Graduate Program Coordinator

**Michael G. French**, Arts Marketing Specialist

## **DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS**

### ***Juliet and Romeo***

A New Musical

Book by Paul Gordon

Music and lyrics by Paul Gordon and Curtis Moore

Directed by Mindy Cooper and Lisa Quoresimo

June 3-5