

'Sweet & Lucky' is unlike anything you've seen before



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Photos from 'Sweet & Lucky'

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It's called a "360-degree multi-sensory experience." But what does that mean, exactly? "[Sweet & Lucky](#)," the new show created by the team at the [Denver Center's Off-Center](#) and [New York's Third Rail Projects](#), is as unconventional as it is disarming and fascinating. It's like walking through a painting or a photo album. It's like wandering through someone else's dream or living your own. It's simply one of the most beautiful experiences I've ever been lucky enough to witness.

The Denver Center's Off-Center is already known for presenting unique and unconventional offerings to the theater-going public of Denver, but this collaboration with New York's Third Rail Projects is truly exciting. Third Rail Projects creates site-specific, immersive dance-theater that is unlike anything you've ever seen before. They've been creating art for more than 15 years with award-winning immersive shows getting rave reviews by The New York Times and Vogue Magazine. Now, Denver is lucky enough to get this new project as a collaboration and the run has recently been extended through August 7, but it's selling out rapidly, so you'll want to act fast.

When you arrive at "Sweet & Lucky" you're told to check your purse and any other belongings. It's explained that you'll be separated from your group during the experience. And they provide some small, plastic hand fans to use (take one. It gets very hot in there.) You and your party are then released into a fake antique shop where nothing is for sale and everything looks very deliberate. Take note of what you see, because it's all going to come back to you later.

When the “show” begins, several actors assemble in the antique store pulling small groups of visitors together for a short discussion. You’re at a funeral. You don’t know who’s. Then you’re given an umbrella and ushered into the warehouse, where the funeral is taking place under a canopy of rain. It’s an immediate sensation as the cool water falls from the “sky” and humidity thickens the air. Throughout the next two hours, you’re taken through several short scenes, all loosely connected together through a story about two lovers.

It’s not totally clear what is happening at any time. At one point you’re watching a short science fiction film under the stars while sitting in the back of a pickup truck. At another point you’re watching the lovers skinny dip in a small pond under the cover of night. Later, you’re helping create a recipe in a dream-like kitchen as the host hums and jumps around on the furniture. It’s a little chaotic and you’re just along for the ride. You never know what to expect around each corner, but the actors take such impressive care of each audience member that it becomes a truly intimate experience.

Towards the end of the show, as promised, you’re separated from your group and given a one-on-one experience with one of the performers. For my time, a small, beautiful woman with largely expressive eyes (no names or program was given) asked me if I felt like I was lucky in life and we discussed the last face you see before you close your eyes at night. We stood there, talking while overlooking another star-filled pond. When she opened the gate to walk on the pond, she giggled as I struggled to wrap my mind around the fact that it wasn’t actually water I was stepping on. It was in that moment that I was overwhelmed by the experience that was “Sweet & Lucky” and the tears began to form. It’s more than a show. It’s more than a “360-degree multi-sensory experience.” It’s a brief encapsulation of humanity discussed through the exploration of memories and sensations. And it’s brilliant. There is nothing else that could possibly explain this experience in words. You just need to go and to live through the experience yourself. Tickets are highly limited [so act fast](#) to secure your own entry into the Sweet & Lucky Antique store, where nothing is for sale but you can take the experience with you.

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