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Denver Center Theatre Company Hosts World Premiere Play

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DENVER (CBS4) – "Appoggiatura" is making its first appearance on stage at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Hosting the world premiere of a play means that often times the writer and director are tweaking the show during its run. It's also the first time that actors can make a print on the characters.

"I love working on world premieres. I love working with writers who are still in process with their work. It's a very exciting play to be," said Rob Nagle, who plays "Aunt Chuck".

The show is set in Venice. It's about three main characters who travel together to grieve the loss of a loved one. The trip is funny and sad, time bends and memories are stirred in a way that heals the heart.

"The comedy is very ... I want to say it's light. It's effervescent. It's like life, it's like the comedy of life," said Lenne Klingaman, who plays Slyvie and Young Helen in the show.

"I just found it beautiful. I found the play beautiful and heartbreaking. It's about love and loss and letting go, but mostly love," Nagle told CBS4.



Appoggiatura is a musical term. It refers to when the second to the last note leans into the last note right before it resolves.

"It serves, of course, as a metaphor for how we live with each other. We lean with each other," Nagle said.

"Appoggiatura" opened on Jan. 16th. The actors say that audiences have received the play enthusiastically.

"Some are just an uproar of laughter, and others you can feel them lean in and you hear the sighs of recognition," Klingaman added.

"Appoggiatura" runs through Jan. 22nd at the Ricketson Theatre at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. For tickets call 800-641-1222 or log on to www.denvercenter.org.

- Written for CBSDenver.com by Special Projects Producer Libby Smith