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Grey Box Collective Marks Ten Years with Documentary Film Premiere, Encore Performance, and Coloring Book Release

PHOENIX, AZ — Grey Box Collective (GBC), Phoenix’s multidisciplinary arts organization known for making, as they put it, “weird art about tough stuff,” will celebrate its tenth anniversary with *A Decade in the Grey* on Saturday, April 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Third Street Theater, Phoenix Center for the Arts. The milestone event will feature the world premiere of the organization’s first documentary film, an encore live performance, and the release of GBC’s fourth coloring book.

The evening begins at 7:00 p.m. with an encore performance of *Finger Painting [for grown-ups]*, a work that blends childlike wonder with adult jadedness, described by GBC founder Molly W. Schenck as landing “somewhere between cynical and whimsical”. Originally written by Schenck in 2009, the piece was restaged in 2014; that ensemble went on to inspire the formation of Grey Box Collective. GBC produced a new iteration of *Finger Painting [for grown-ups]* in October 2025 which will be restaged for the April 26th event. This encore is performed by Lauren Scott, Adam Mendez, and Micah Jondel DeShazer featuring costume design by Ashley Gamba.

Following intermission, the evening continues with the world premiere of *A Decade in the Grey*, a documentary chronicling ten years of GBC’s work led by filmmaker Luisa Santos Martinez. Through archival footage, behind-the-scenes rehearsal glimpses, and interviews with Schenck and a diverse group of collaborators, the film traces the evolution of the company’s devising process, its Trauma-Informed Creative Practices, and its growth from a grassroots Phoenix startup to a sustained arts organization.

A Q&A with performers, filmmakers, and creatives will follow the screening, opening the floor for conversation about the work and the decade behind it. The evening is expected to conclude around 9:15 p.m.

The event also marks the release of GBC’s fourth coloring book, inspired by Jamie Olguin’s photography from the October 2025 performance of *Finger Painting [for grown-ups]*. Designed with creative prompts intended to encourage joy and play, the coloring book is available as an add-on with any ticket purchase through April 3rd. Limited quantities will be available at the door. This coloring book is illustrated by Erika Valdez.

What Audiences Are Saying

“It was a true pleasure to witness the performance tonight. It was engaging, thoughtful, thought-provoking, honest, personal, funny, relatable, beautifully performed, and wonderfully constructed.”

“The way the performance reflected the collective social anxiety I already feel, offered an antidote for fear and stress through joy and group play. I appreciated the interactive moments, care, and thoughtfulness of the performers and creative team. It was engaging and cathartic.”

“Grey Box Collective offers a space to hold and reflect our very human experiences, together, with care and intention.”

Tickets are available on a sliding scale (\$20–\$60), with discounted rates for students, educators, and working artists. General admission and limited on-stage seating options are available; on-stage tickets must be purchased by April 24th. Coloring book add-ons must be purchased with a ticket by April 3rd. Tickets and full event details are available at greyboxcollective.com.

About Grey Box Collective

Grey Box Collective is a Phoenix-based multidisciplinary arts organization that produces projects that act as artistic vehicles for social transformation and embodied activism (i.e. makes weird art about tough stuff). Founded in 2016 by Molly W. Schenck, GBC has produced 30+ new works, 12 experimental films, 4 coloring books, 70+ podcast

episodes, 68 workshops and community events, a 60-hour professional development curriculum, and now its first documentary film. The organization also offers trainings, workshops, and consultations for artists and educators seeking ethical, sustainable approaches to making difficult art during difficult times.

A Decade in the Grey is supported in part by Phoenix Arts & Culture, the Arizona Commission on the Arts, and Phoenix Center for the Arts.

Event Details

What: *A Decade in the Grey* — *Documentary Premiere + Encore Performance + Coloring Book Release*

When: Saturday, April 26, 2026 | Doors 6:30 p.m. | Show 7:00 p.m.

Where: Third Street Theater, Phoenix Center for the Arts

Tickets: Sliding scale \$20–\$60 | greyboxcollective.com

Content Note: Intended for audiences 18+. Includes strong language and discussions of mental health and systemic harm.