

The Historic Chicago Temple Building
77 West Washington Street, Chicago

www.srtp.org

Directed by Elizabeth Margolius Musical Direction by Gary Powell

THE WORLD PREMIERE

October 21 – November 1, 2009

Featuring: Christine Bunuan, Dipika Cherala,
Katherine L. Condit, Joseph Anthony Foronda,
Erik Kaiko, Govind Kumar, and David Rhee

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LEAD Silk Road Theatre Project's most active supporters are the Board of Directors, a group of people dedicated to sustaining the mission and goals of this acclaimed young company. Others show their leadership by joining a steering or honorary committee for our periodic annual fund campaigns and benefit events. If you wish to discuss leadership opportunities at SRTP, please contact Executive Director Malik Gillani at malik@srtp.org.

RECEIVE Get advance news about Silk Road's activities, productions and events from our e-newsletter. Send us an email at info@srtp.org or just stop by the Box Office—no spam or selling of lists, we promise!

CONTACT SILK ROAD THEATRE PROJECT

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director | **Jamil Khoury**
Executive Director | **Malik Gillani**
Director | **Elizabeth Margolius**
Musical Director | **Gary Powell**
Stage Manager | **Michelle Dane**
Performer | **Christine Bunuan**
Performer | **Dipika Cherala**
Performer | **Katherine L. Condit**
Performer | **Joseph Anthony Foronda**
Performer | **Erik Kaiko**
Performer | **Govind Kumar**
Performer | **David Rhee**
Percussionist | **Phil Martin**
Technical Director | **Jason Pikscher**
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FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JAMIL KHOURY



Welcome to *Silk Road Cabaret: Broadway Sings the Silk Road*. It's high time we do a cabaret! And oh what fun it is. Armed with a few dozen original cast recordings, I selected a bunch of my favorite songs and enlisted the brilliant creativity of director Elizabeth Margolius, music director Gary Powell, and a stellar group of performers. As you're about to see, *Silk Road Cabaret* is a playful and ironic twist on our commitment to showcasing playwrights of Asian, Middle Eastern, and Mediterranean backgrounds. We're calling it a 'departure piece.' The composers and lyricists who created these Broadway musicals were not of Silk Road backgrounds. Yet for millions of Americans they created what became these almost 'iconic representations' of Silk Road peoples. Whether steeped in historical reality or whimsical fantasy, cultural authenticity or crude caricature, these beloved musicals have influenced our perceptions of the Silk Road for decades. Sometimes for better and sometimes for worse. So in true Silk Road Theatre Project fashion we are reclaiming the mantle of representation and making each song our own. Life is indeed a cabaret, ole chum, so sit back, relax, and enjoy!

SILK ROAD CABARET
BROADWAY SINGS THE SILK ROAD

runs approximately 80 minutes with no intermission.

SONG
LIST

1.

You’ve Got to be Carefully Taught – Govind Kumar
From the musical *South Pacific* (1949). Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II.
2.

Next – Ensemble
From the musical *Pacific Overtures* (1976). Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim.
3.

Statues and Stories – Christine Bunuan and Katherine L Condit
From the musical *The Light in the Piazza* (2005). Music and Lyrics by Adam Guettel.
4.

On a Slow Boat to China (1948) – Joseph Anthony Foronda, Erik Kaiko, Govind Kumar, and David Rhee
Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser.
5.

Are You Sure You Want to be Famous – Dipika Cherala
From the musical *Bombay Dreams* (2002). Music by A R Rahman, Lyrics by Don Black.
6.

Imelda Marcos Shoes Mystique – Ensemble
From the musical *Imelda* (2005). Music by Nathan Wang, Lyrics by Aaron Coleman.
7.

Bali Hai – Ensemble
From the musical *South Pacific* (1949). Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II.
8.

Something Wonderful – Christine Bunuan
From the musical *The King and I* (1951). Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II.
9.

Stranger in Paradise – David Rhee
From the musical *Kismet* (1953). Music by Alexander Borodin, Lyrics by Robert Wright and George Forest.
10.

Be Italian – Ensemble
From the musical *Nine* (1982). Music and Lyrics by Maury Yeston.
11.

Here Be Oysters – Joseph Anthony Foronda
From the musical *Chu Chin Chow* (1916). Music by Frederic Norton, Lyrics by Oscar Asche.
12.

Three Little Maids – Christine Bunuan, Dipika Cherala, and Katherine L. Condit
From the musical *Hot Mikado* (1986). Music adapted by Rob Bowman, Lyrics adapted by David H. Bell, based on *The Mikado* (1885) by W.S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan.
13.

One Night in Bangkok – Ensemble
From the musical *Chess* (1986). Music by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus, Lyrics by Tim Rice.

14.

Surpanaka’s Tango – Dipika Cherala
From the musical *Sita Ram* (2006). Music and Lyrics by David Kersnar and Jai Uttal.
15.

Bui Doi – Erik Kaiko
From the musical *Miss Saigon* (1989). Music by Claude-Michel Schonberg, Lyrics by Alain Boublil and Richard Maltby, Jr.
16.

A Step Too Far – Christine Bunuan, Dipika Cherala, and David Rhee
From the musical *Aida* (2000). Music by Elton John, Lyrics by Tim Rice.
17.

Turn Back, O Man – Katherine L. Condit
From the musical *Godspell* (1971). Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz.
18.

Not Since Ninevah – Ensemble
From the musical *Kismet* (1953). Music by Alexander Borodin, Lyrics by Robert Wright and George Forest.
19.

Bring All the Boys Back Home – Erik Kaiko and Govind Kumar
From the musical *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (1971). Music by Galt MacDermot, Lyrics by John Guare.
20.

Istanbul (Not Constantinople) (1953) – Ensemble
Music by Nat Simon, Lyrics by Jimmy Kennedy.
21.

Life Is – Katherine L. Condit
From the musical *Zorba* (1968). Music by John Knader, Lyrics by Fred Ebb.
22.

The American Dream – Joseph Anthony Foronda
From the musical *Miss Saigon* (1989). Music by Claude-Michel Schonberg, Lyrics by Alain Boublil and Richard Maltby, Jr.
23.

Could We Start Again Please – Ensemble
From the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* (1971). Music by Andrew Lloyd Weber, Lyrics by Tim Rice.

Encore

- Shalom*** – Ensemble
From the musical *Milk and Honey* (1961). Music and Lyrics by Jerry Sherman.

CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS



Christine Bunuan is excited to work with Silk Road Theatre Project. Recently, she played Ching in the remount of *The Mistress Cycle* (Apple Tree and the Auditorium). Credits include: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Original Chicago Company and National Tour), *Kafka on the Shore* (Steppenwolf), *Miss Saigon* (Drury Lane Oakbrook), *A Christmas Carol* (Goodman), *Aladdin* (Marriott Lincolnshire), and *Peter Pan The Musical* (Chicago Shakespeare). Much love to her family and Sean!



Dipika Cherala is a graduate of Northwestern University, where she earned a degree in Vocal Performance and a certificate in Musical Theatre. Recent credits include: *Sita Ram: The Rock Opera* (Lookingglass) and *Trouble in Tahiti* (NU). Dipika would like to thank her family for their unwavering support and love. It is only because of them that she is the woman you see today. To my friends: VO HO DYOOOD. Lowe on your paces.



Katherine L. Condit last worked at SRTP directing a staged reading of Michael Golumco's *Cowboy vs. Samurai*. Katherine was Artistic Director of cobalt ensemble theatre. She appeared on Broadway in *Chess*; toured in *Cats* (Vienna and Zurich), *A Chorus Line*, and *Joseph*; and has appeared locally at the Goodman, Drury Lane Oakbrook, and Bailiwick. Forever grateful to David who without a doubt is the best choice I ever made.



Joseph Anthony Foronda last appeared at SRTP in 2008 as Boo-Seng Lee in Julia Cho's *Durango*. Broadway credits include: *Pacific Overtures* 2004 Revival, *Miss Saigon*, and *SHOGUN: The Musical*. Chicago credits include: *Aladdin* and *Pacific Overtures* (Chicago Shakespeare -Jeff Award), *The King & I* and *Miss Saigon* (Drury Lane Oakbrook, 1st/2nd National Tours-Jeff Award), *The Romance of Magno Rubio* (Victory Gardens), and *Frog & Toad* (Chicago Children's Theatre). Love to family and friends.



Erik Kaiko is excited to be back at SRTP, where he played Jimmy in the Midwest premiere of *Durango* and Nanking Relative/Victim in the staged reading of Christopher Chen's *Into the Numbers*. He spent his summer in the ensemble of Disney's *Aladdin* (Chicago Shakespeare), and was in *Pacific Overtures* (Porchlight) earlier this year. Go U Northwestern! Thanks: the Kaiko family, Megan, and the Gail Force. [www.erikkaiko.com]



Govind Kumar is thrilled to be a part of *Silk Road Cabaret!* Govind was last seen in *Yeast Nation* (American Theater Company). Previous credits include: *The History Boys* (Timeline Theater), *The Adventures of Captain Marbles* (Provision Theatre), and *The Audacity of Dope* (Second City). Proud Northwestern University graduate. Thanks to friends and family for their support!



David Rhee is excited to be returning to one of Chicago's most important theatre organizations. David last appeared at SRTP in a staged reading of *Durango*. New York credits include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Broadway), *Twelfth Night*, and *Sweet Charity*. Chicago credits include: *Kafka on the Shore* (Steppenwolf), *Pacific Overtures*, *M. Butterfly*, and *Miss Saigon*. Many thanks to God, family, and New Trier High School. For my advisee boys in their Senior Year.

Jamil Khoury (Curator/Producer) is Founding Artistic Director of Silk Road Theatre Project. He conceived of, and is a featured playwright in, Silk Road's upcoming production of *The DNA Trail: A Genealogy of Short Plays about Ancestry, Identity, and Utter Confusion* (spring 2010). Jamil's play *Precious Stones* won the 2003 After Dark Award for Outstanding New Work and has been performed in ten cities across the U.S. Other plays include *Fitna* and *Azizati*.

Malik Gillani (Producer) is Founding Executive Director of Silk Road Theatre Project. Malik nurtured SRTP from its embryonic stage into a celebrated theatre company, integrating business acumen and fiscal responsibility within an artistic mission. He is the recipient of the IBM Business and Technology Leadership Award and was honored by Changing Worlds for Outstanding Contributions to the Arts. Recently, Malik received the prestigious Chicago Community Trust Fellowship Award.

Elizabeth Margolius (Director) is a stage director with a primary focus in the development and direction of musical theatre and opera. She is the co-founder and co-artistic director of DirectorsLabChicago, an annual international forum for emerging directors, and is an artistic associate of Theatre Building Chicago. Elizabeth's 2007 critically acclaimed re-envisioning of *Songs for a New World* for the Bohemian Theatre Ensemble was remounted twice in 2008 at Theatre Building Chicago and Theatre on the Lake.

Gary Powell (Music Director) is honored to be working with Silk Road Theatre Project. Most recently he was the music director for Quest Ensemble's production of *Alas! Alack! Zorro's Back!* Gary is a music director for Theatre Building Chicago's New Musicals initiative and was the conductor for Bailiwick's Jeff Award winning production of *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Other credits include: *Into the Woods*, *Jerry Springer The Opera*, *Sound of Music*, and *South Pacific*.

Phil Martin (Percussionist) is originally from Iowa and studied music at the University of North Texas and the University of Northern Iowa. Chicago Theatre credits

include: *Menopause the Musical* (Apollo Theater), *Ragtime*, *A Wonderful Life*, *Candide*, and *Pacific Overtures* (Porchlight), *Drood*, and *The Taffetas* (Noble Fool), *Fiorello* (Timeline), *Knute Rockne All-American* and *Phantom* (Theater at the Center), *John & Jen* (Apple Tree), and *La Cage Aux Folles* (BoHo).

Michelle Dane (Stage Manager) is excited to be working on *Silk Road Cabaret* as well as recently becoming the Production & Facilities Manager for SRTP. She holds a B.S. in Education in English, Speech & Theatre and a B.F.A. in Theatre Management and has worked throughout the country as a stage manager, box office manager, accountant, HR manager and production manager. Thanks to JP for serving so I could go to the great white north!

Jason Pikscher (Technical Director) is thrilled to be working with SRTP for the 5th time, most recently on Motti Lerner's *Pangs of the Messiah*. Recent TD credits include: *Cotton Patch Gospel* (Provision), *Macbeth* (First Folio Shakespeare Festival), and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Harper College). Thanks so much to Andrea for all her love and support. I couldn't do it without you.

Lee Keenan (Scenic Designer) is an SRTP Artistic Associate where he most recently designed the set for Philip Gotanda's *Yohen*. He is a company member of The House Theatre and faculty lighting designer at Loyola University Chicago. Lee has designed for numerous theatres including: Lookingglass, 500 Clown, Next, Milwaukee Repertory, Apple Tree, Circle, Griffin, The Hypocrites, Collaboration, and Barrel of Monkeys. But really he just wants to dance.

Chris Feurig (Lighting Designer) is ecstatic to make his debut with SRTP. He has served as the Student Lighting Designer for Lake Forest College for 3 years and has been the Master Electrician for the previous 4. He was recently nominated for the KCACTF Region 3 Design Competition in Saginaw, MI. Credits include: *The Waiting Room*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Big Love* and *Electra*. "As the sun goes down we shall honor and remember them."

SPECIAL
THANKS

To our gracious hosts at the First United Methodist Church at The Chicago Temple, who exhibit hospitality and generosity towards us on a daily basis, and provide us a space in which we can flourish and grow.

To Erik Nussbaum, Director of Music and the Arts at the First United Methodist Church, for so generously lending us the baby grand piano being used in the show.

To David Kersnar (*Sita Ram*) and Lookingglass Theatre and to Nathan Wang (*Imelda*).

To Falkor Group, and in particular Brent Allen and Ben Wilson, for providing financial support to Silk Road Theatre Project when we needed it most.

To Jonathan Abarbanel, Danny Bernardo, and Albert Williams for their wisdom and knowledge about Broadway musicals.

To A-Squared Theatre, About Face Theatre, Chicago Cabaret Professionals, Porchlight Music Theatre, Rasaka Theatre, Theatre Building Chicago and Victory Gardens Theatre.

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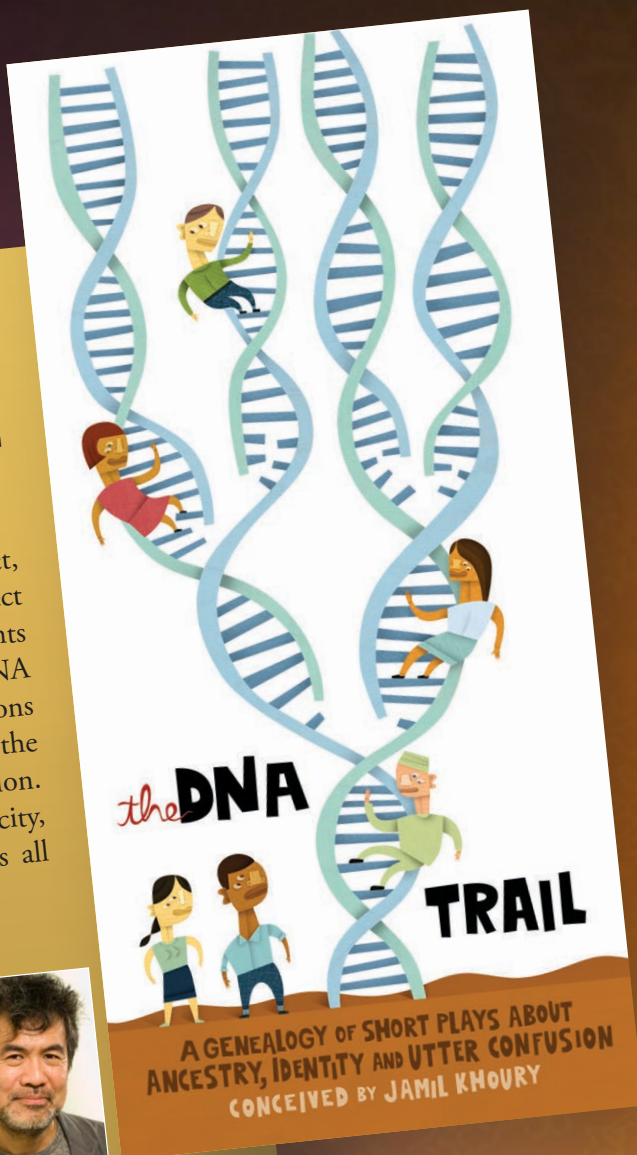
THE DNA TRAIL

A Genealogy of Short Plays About
 Ancestry, Identity, & Utter Confusion

Conceived by Jamil Khoury
 Directed by Steve Scott

For this adventurous project, Silk Road Theatre Project commissioned seven playwrights to each take a genealogical DNA test and revisit their assumptions about identity politics and the perennial “who am I” question. Self, family, community, ethnicity, race, history, geography—it’s all up for grabs.

Featuring Plays by :



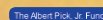
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