### Don't Miss Silk Road Rising's Upcoming Staged Reading Series!

# SEMITIC COMMONWEALTH

STAGED READINGS OF PLAYS
ABOUT ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Curated by Jamil Khoury, Michael Malek Najjar, and Corey Pond

A staged reading series comprised of **six plays** by **Arab** and **Jewish** playwrights **exploring** the **human toll** of the **Israeli—Palestinian** conflict. Rather than strive to achieve balance and moral equivalency between "competing" narratives, these works **investigate** themes of **identity**, **occupation**, **exile**, and **home** with remarkable **clarity** and **honesty**.



2017 FEBRUARY 10-26



LEARN MORE AT WWW.SemiticCommonwealth.org



Written & Performed by CHRISTINE BUNUAN | Directed by J.R. SULLIVAN

December 1–23, 2016



www.SilkRoadChristmas.org
THE WORLD PREMIERE
Com Ed.

Season Sponsor

## Christmas at Christine's

The World Premiere

Written and Performed by **Christine Bunuan** Directed by **J.R. Sullivan** 

#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Jamil Khoury | Founding Artistic Director

Malik Gillani | Founding Executive Director

Christine Bunuan\* | Playwright/Actor

J.R. Sullivan+ | Director

Ryan Brewster | Musical Director

Helen Colleen Lattyak\* | Stage Manager

Corey Pond | Production Manager

Yeaji Kim | Set and Projections Designer

Kristof Janezic | Lighting Designer and Master Electrician

Katie Vaughters | Costume Designer

Eric Backus | Sound Designer

**Alec Long** | Props Designer

Alan Weusthoff | Technical Director

Kevin Rolfs | Scenic Artist

Deann Baker | Video Editor and Coordinator

Rachna Sheth | Social Media Coordinator

Brent Ervin-Eickhoff | Education and Community Engagement Coordinator

Al Gillani | Box Office Manager

Nick Johnson | House Manager

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

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

This program is partially supported by a grant from the **Illinois Arts Council**, a state agency.

This project is partially supported by **CityArts**, a grant from the **City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events**.



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\* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States. a national theatrical labor union.



+ Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation, which exists to foster, promote and develop the creativity and craft of stage directors and choreographers.



#### **TEAM BIOS**



**Christine Bunuan** (Actor/Playwright) is a veteran of the Chicago stage. She has appeared at Silk Road Rising in *Broadway Sings The Silk Road* and Re-Spiced: A Silk Road Cabaret. She was in the first national tour and Chicago sit down company of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (David Stone Productions). She was most recently seen as Calphurnia and Metella Cimber in Julius Caesar at Writers Theatre. Her other credits include Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, TimeLine Theatre Company, Mercury Theater Chicago, Chicago Children's Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, Marriott Lincolnshire, Drury Lane Theatre, Mason Street Warehouse, TheatreSquared, and many more. Recently, Christine assistant directed shows at AboutFace and Prologue Theatre, expanding her knowledge of how things work on the other side of the table. She also made her first television appearance on the hit TV show Chicago PD this season. She earned her BFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University. She is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and serves on the Central Regional Board. Please feel free to visit her website www.christinebunuan.com for more info.



**J.R. Sullivan** (Director) is a director, producer, and writer, having worked in theaters nationwide as well as heading companies as artistic director. He was the Artistic Director of New York's Off-Broadway Pearl Theatre Company, presented with a Drama Desk Award in 2011, where he directed productions of Hard Times, Playboy of the Western World, Widowers' Houses, Biography, The Importance of Being Earnest, Richard II, A Moon for the Misbegotten, and the New York premiere of Wittenberg. Sullivan was the founder and producing director of the New American Theater in northern Illinois, and also served as associate artistic director for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, where he directed productions ranging from Shakespeare to Tennessee Williams, including productions of Richard III, Hamlet, Henry V, The Glass Menagerie, and most recently, Amadeus. His work has also been seen in regional theaters nationwide, including the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Theatre X, Philadelphia's Arden Theatre, the Studio Theatre in Washington DC, the Delaware Theatre Company, and the Resident Ensemble Players at the University of Delaware. In Chicago he has directed for Northlight Theatre, American Theatre Company, A Red Orchid Theatre, Live Bait Theatre, Prop Theatre, and the Onyx Theatre. His adaptations of Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice and Sense and Sensibility, in collaboration with Joseph Hanreddy, have been produced at regional houses nationwide, including Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, the Oregon and Utah Shakespeare festivals, South Coast Repertory Theater, Round House Theatre, People's Light & Theater Company, The Cincinnati Playhouse, and Connecticut Rep.



Helen Colleen Lattyak (Stage Manager) is a stage manager whose credits include *The Secretaries, Le Switch, Abraham Lincoln Was A F\*gg\*t*, and *We Three Lizas* with About Face Theatre. Other credits: *Sucker Punch, SAMSARA* and *Failure: A Love Story*, at Victory Gardens Theater. *Ultra American: A Patriot Act, Muthaland* and *The Hundred Flowers Project* at Silk Road Rising, *Brahmanli: A One-Hijra Stand Up Comedy Show* with About Face Theater and Silk Road Rising, *Freedom, NY* at Teatro Vista, *Betrayal* at Oak Park Festival Theater. Helen is a company member at TUTA Theater Chicago where she stage managed *Baal, The Wedding*, and *Uncle Vanya* with TUTA Theatre. Helen is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago and a member of the Actors Equity Association.