

# THE LAKE EFFECT



  
**SILK ROAD RISING**  
ENGAGING THEATRE: ON STAGE / ONLINE

April 23, 2013 to May 26, 2013

Written by Rajiv Joseph  
Directed by Timothy Douglas

THE WORLD PREMIERE

# THE LAKE EFFECT

Written by **Rajiv Joseph**  
Directed by **Timothy Douglas**

Originally commissioned by Silk Road Rising and Crossroads Theater (New Brunswick, New Jersey) with development support from the Lark Play Development Center (New York City).

*THE LAKE EFFECT* is produced by special arrangement with THE GERSH AGENCY, 41 Madison Avenue, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10010.

**SILK ROAD RISING is a proud member of**



Silk Road Rising creates live theatre and online videos that tell stories through primarily Asian American and Middle Eastern American lenses.

Contact Silk Road Rising for information on how to get involved:

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## CAST LIST

**Minita Gandhi\*** | Priya  
**Adam Poss\*** | Vijay  
**Mark Smith** | Bernard  
**Amrita Dhaliwal** | Understudy for Priya  
**Semaj Miller** | Understudy for Bernard  
**Omer Abbas Salem** | Understudy for Vijay

## PRODUCTION TEAM

**Jamil Khoury** | Founding Artistic Director  
**Malik Gillani** | Founding Managing Director  
**Rajiv Joseph** | Playwright  
**Timothy Douglas\*\*** | Director  
**Caitlin Duerinck** | Co-Production Manager  
**Corey Pond** | Co-Production Manager & Assistant Director  
**John Grant-Phillips\*** | Stage Manager  
**Dan Stratton** | Set Designer  
**Janice Pytel, U.S.A.\*\*\*** | Costume Designer  
**Sarah Hughey** | Resident Lighting Designer  
**Rick Sims** | Sound Designer  
**Neal Ryan Shaw** | Resident Dramaturg  
**Jesse Gaffney** | Resident Props Designer  
**Joe Dybdal** | Technical Director  
**Kelly A. Claussen** | Assistant Stage Manager  
**Sarah Ibis** | Resident Program Editor  
**Al Gillani** | Box Office Coordinator  
**Katie Welch** | House Manager  
**Deann Baker** | Video Coordinator & Editor  
**Brandon Allen** | Arts Management Intern  
**Christina Wong** | Graphic Arts Volunteer  
**Prashant Bhargava, Dipika Cherala, Minita Gandhi, Kamal Hans, Lavina Jadhvani, Anish Jethmalani, Puja Mohindra, and Megha Ralapati** | South Asian American Community Outreach Steering Committee

\* Denotes member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

\*\* The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

\*\*\* Denotes member of United Scenic Artists, the union of professional designers, artists, and craftspeople.

# BIOS



**Rajiv Joseph** (Playwright) wrote *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* (a 2010 finalist for the Pulitzer Prize), *Huck and Holden*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, *Animals Out of Paper*, *The Monster at the Door*, and *The North Pool*. He is the book-writer and co-lyricist for the upcoming musical, *Fly*, adapted from JM Barrie's novel, *Peter Pan*. Rajiv Joseph received his BA in Creative Writing from Miami University and his MFA in Playwriting from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He served for three years in the Peace Corps in Senegal, West Africa.



**Timothy Douglas** (Director) Previous Chicago credits include *Etiquette of Vigilance* at Steppenwolf, and *Mourning Becomes Electra* and *Changes of the Heart* at Remy Bumppo. Off Broadway, he directed *Bronte* and *Rosmersholm*; regional credits include the world premiere of August Wilson's *Radio Golf* for Yale Rep, *Trip to Bountiful* for Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park (Associate Artist), ACT, The Guthrie, Berkeley Rep, South Coast Rep, Woolly Mammoth, Mark Taper, Milwaukee Rep, three Humana premieres for Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Downstage (New Zealand), National Theatre (Norway), and many others. Timothy Douglas holds an MFA from the Yale School of Drama.



**Minita Gandhi** (Priya) is thrilled to return to Silk Road Rising where she was last seen in *The Doctor is Indian*. She just closed the national premiere of *Disconnect* at Victory Gardens. Regional credits include Indiana Repertory, Milwaukee Repertory, Berkeley Repertory, The Gift, Arena Stage, and Lookingglass Theater with Tony award winning director Mary Zimmerman. TV and Film credits include *The Chicago Code*, *Parvati's Golden Skin*, *The Drunk*, and a series regular as anchor Nina Shankar on the Onion News Network. She travels with the corporate comedy improv group Wavelength and is represented by The Gray Talent Group.



**Adam Poss** (Vijay) returns to Silk Road Rising where he was last seen in *Scorched*. Chicago credits include work at the Goodman Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre, 16th Street Theater, and Steppenwolf Garage Theatre. Regional credits include *The History Boys* (The Studio Theatre, DC) and *The North Pool* (TheatreWorks, Silicon Valley). Television work includes *The Chicago Code*, *The Mob Doctor*, *Chicago Fire*, and *Shameless*; he also will be seen in the upcoming film *The Drunk*. Adam is a member of *Erasing The Distance*, which educates about mental illness through theatre.



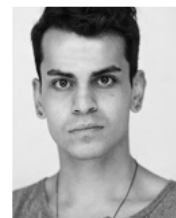
**Mark Smith** (Bernard) is honored to be working with Silk Road Rising. He was recently seen in *How Long Will I Cry* (Steppenwolf) and Katori Hall's *Hoodoo Love* (The Collective Theater). Other credits include *Dream Girls*, *The Color Purple*, and *All My Single Ladies* (Theater 47). TV credits include *Under Employed*, *Mob Doctor*, and *Boss*. Thanks to my family for their continual and enthusiastic support.



**Amrita Dhaliwal** (Understudy for Priya) is an actor and comedienne represented by Stewart Talent. Her work has spanned multiple stages, from theatre to film to clown. She most recently toured a solo act, called *Lady Love*, to Fringe Festivals around the U.S. You can learn more about Amrita at <http://meetamrita.com>.



**Semaj Miller** (Understudy for Bernard) is beyond ecstatic to make his Silk Road Rising debut! A native Chicagoan, he was seen in Dream FIERCE Production's staging of *Riff Raff*. Semaj Miller has appeared in productions at Syracuse Stage, Victory Gardens, and ETA Creative Arts Foundation. Much love to my supportive family and friends, my amazing SU Drama professors, and every hand that has touched this wonderful production. God Bless!



**Omer Abbas Salem** (Understudy for Vijay) is thrilled to be making his Silk Road Rising debut. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and has been living in Chicago since 2010. He has previously worked with Leftend Productions, Polarity Ensemble, the Neo-Futurists, and Chicago Dell'Arte. He would like to thank his friends for their undying support with special thanks going to Cady Herren for teaching him to shoot for the stars.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## 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.

Special Thanks to **Coca-Cola Company** and **Walter L. Sojka Funeral Home** for prop support.

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*My house shall be a house of prayer for all peoples. ISAIAH 56:7*



## UPCOMING 2013 SHOWS

July 30-September 1

### *Invasion!*

Written by **Jonas Hassen Khemiri**  
Directed by **Anna Bahow**



*Invasion!* is a tornado of words, images and ideas, all centered around a magical name: Abulkasem. The play assaults our deepest prejudices about identity, race and language. At once hilarious, disturbing and poignant, this mischievously subversive play deconstructs a threatening identity—the Arab male—and forces us to confront our own cultural identity.

November 12-December 15

### *Paulus*

Written by **Motti Lerner**  
Directed by **Jimmy McDermott**



Set between 58 A.D. and 64 A.D., *Paulus* imagines the Apostle Paul, who bridged Christianity from a Jewish sect to a global religion. Framed as an intra-Jewish debate, Paul's quest to universalize monotheism provokes strong opposition from the Jewish Establishment, the Jerusalem Church, the Emperor Nero, and a skeptical 62 year old Jesus.

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

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