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Silk Road Theatre Project

"Silk Road has been promising us new work of international repute. They have most assuredly delivered."
- Chris Jones, Chicago Tribune



The World Premiere of
Shishir Kurup's

MERCHANT ON VENICE

Directed by
Stuart Carden

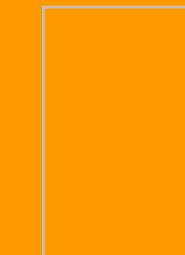
Featuring: Anish Jethmalani, Gerardo Cardenas, Kamal Hans, Vincent P. Mahler, Andy Nagraj, Marvin Quihada, Sadieh Rifai, Amira Sabbagh, Madrid St. Angelo, Pranidhi Varshney and Tariq Vasudeva

Now Through November 4



Sadieh Rifai (foreground) and Anish Jethmalani (background)

Presenting Sponsor



The Professional Theatre-in-Residence at
The Historic Chicago Temple Building

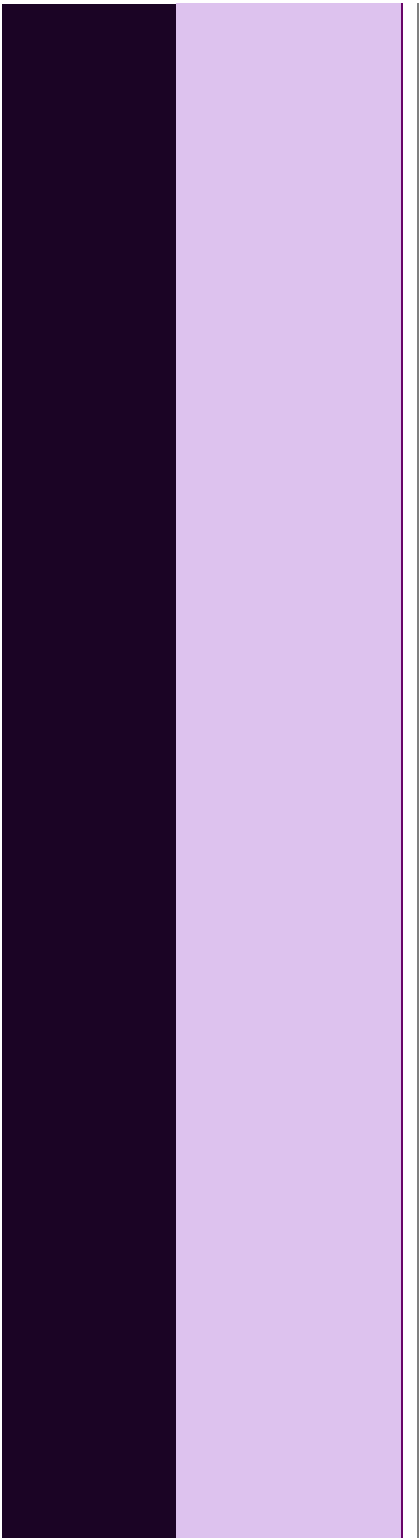
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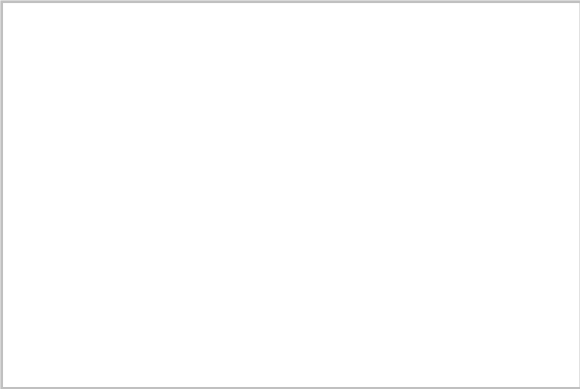
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Columbia College Honors Silk Road



Great video clips of Merchant on [Venice](#) at [The Stage Channel](#)

"**Shishir Kurup's remarkable** polycultural deconstruction of William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, will have an extensive international life...10 times as funny, smart, and intellectually stimulating as *The Bomb-itty of Errors*...a must-see for anyone who follows progressive approaches to Shakespeare...a big, new, risky, rambunctious show...uncannily accurate and transformative...a superb piece of passionate, irreverent, insightful writing...if you have a teenager studying this difficult play, a trip to see Kurup's eye-popping version will have their eyes bulging out of their sockets."
- Chris Jones, Chicago Tribune



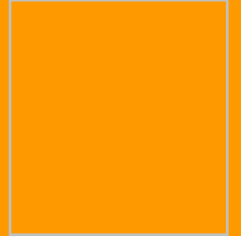
Gerardo Cardenas (left), Andy Nagraj (center), and Marvin Quihada (right)

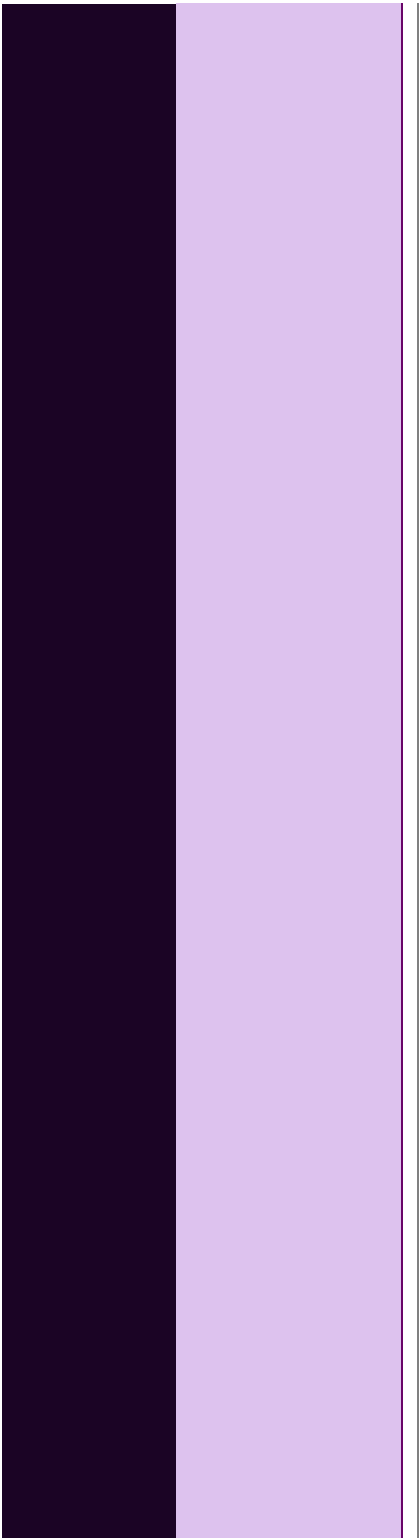
"**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**...hip, funny, ingeniously reconfigured world premiere...Kurup has a Salman Rushdie-like fluency in cross-cultural, pop-cultural hijinks...highly ornamented, wildly comical linguistic flights...a feast of behavioral and musical correspondences that **do Shakespeare proud**...exceptionally buoyant, Bollywood-infused production with an ethnic cast that clearly thrives on this material...ambitions and delicious on many levels...the energy and emotional intensity never flag."
- Hedy Weiss, Chicago Sun-Times

Theatre Project
with the Arts
Entrepreneurship
Award!

Don't Miss
Collaboration's *The
Siddhartha Project!*

Preferred Dining Partner





Pranidhi Varshney (left) and Andy Nagraj (right)

"BRAVO...a sparkling production...both more hopeful and more ambiguous than Shakespeare's...Kurup's wit and wordplay and the pop culture references peppering the play make it so palatable to a 21st century audience...this show delights...an eloquent plea for tolerance and forgiveness...Kurup solves Shakespeare's problem."
- Barbara Vitello, The Daily Herald



Anish Jethmalani (left), Madrid St. Angelo (center), and Vincent P. Mahler (right)

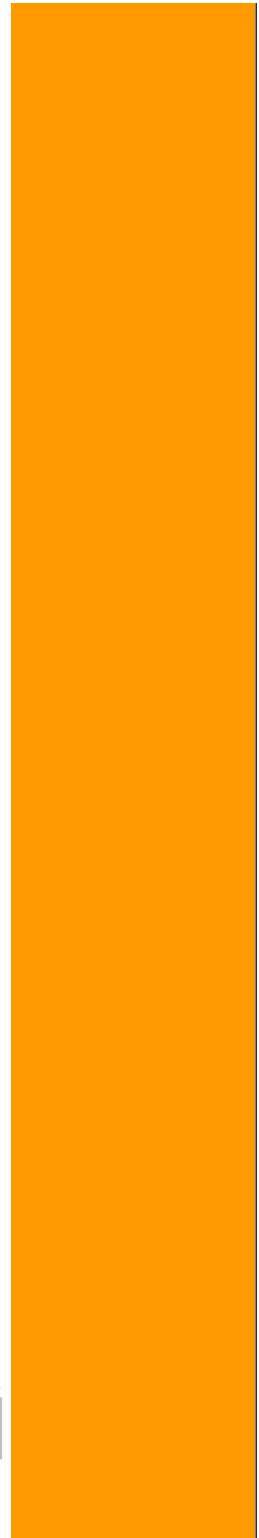
"CRITIC'S PICK...bold, smart, sardonic reinvention...skillfully weaves in post-9/11 paranoia...layers of cultural dissonance both intriguing and disturbing...Stuart Carden's spirited world premiere staging highlights equally the script's sinister undertones and its giddy polyglot mix of traditional and pop-culture references."
- Kerry Reid, The Reader

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Complimentary Teas from the Along
the Silk Road!



Before the Show, After the Show, At Intermission



Silk Road Theatre Project
at The Historic Chicago Temple Building
77 West Washington Street | Pierce Hall | Chicago, IL 60602
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Administrative Offices: Silk Road Theatre Project, 680 South Federal Street, Suite 301, Chicago, IL 60605
Performance Venue: Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 West Washington St, Chicago

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