

Reimagined, Revised, and Reinvigorated
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A Stunning New Website



We are thrilled to announce that Silk Road Rising's website has received a long-awaited makeover!

Enjoy captivating show photos from our beloved productions spanning two decades, discover the latest about our upcoming projects, and indulge in our rich digital content - all conveniently housed in one virtual location.

Be sure to check out our brand new website below and immerse yourself in the world of Silk Road Rising!



Cultivating New Narratives

Creating

We celebrate the artistic legacies of our diverse communities, and amplify stories that are by us, about us, and for all.

Challenging Disinformation

Advocating

Storytelling enables us to challenge the racism, Orientalism, and coloniality that feeds false narratives and poisons American democracy.



Promoting a Culture of Continuous Learning

Educating

We use stories to share ideas, imagine new possibilities, and explore what it means to be American in the 21st century.

[Click here to visit our new website!](#)

From Rummana Hussain, Proud Member of the Silk Road Rising Board of Directors

Silk Road Rising's long-time board member, Rummana Hussain, published a commentary this week about the anguish and trauma being experienced in Gaza and Israel, and how this has led to a sharp rise in hate and prejudice in the United States.

Rummana is a columnist and a member of the Chicago Sun-Times Editorial Board.

**Click here to read Rummana's piece,
"Our blood seems to be worth a lot
less"**

When Refuge Becomes Home



Sandra Delgado in Silk Road Rising's 2012 World Premiere of Adriana Sevan's *Night Over Erzinga*, directed by Lisa Portes.

In 2012, Silk Road Rising produced the World Premiere of Adriana Sevan's *Night Over Erzinga*, directed by Lisa Portes.

Spanning the Ottoman Empire to New York City, and across three generations of an Armenian and Dominican family, *Night Over Erzinga* explored how a family could reach through time, unearth an untold story, and bring its children “home.” From collective tragedy to personal triumph, ancestors reunited with the living in a breathtakingly beautiful journey toward making peace with the past and reclaiming one’s heritage.

This play was originally commissioned and developed by *Middle East America: A National New Plays Initiative* created by Golden Thread

Productions (San Francisco), The Lark Play Development Center (NYC), and Silk Road Rising (Chicago).

Our production was part of a two-city rolling world premiere that began at Golden Thread Productions in San Francisco (September 2011) and concluded in Chicago (October/November 2012).



Sandra Delgado (left) as Young Alice Oghidanian and Diana Simonzadeh (right) as Alice's mother.

An Evening of Comedy with Azhar Usman



Widely regarded as one of the pioneers of ‘American Muslim comedy,’ former attorney and fintech-startup-entrepreneur-turned-multi-hyphenate (actor, writer, producer) Azhar Usman is excited to return to his standup roots. He’s worked in Hollywood for the past several years, including with two-time Academy Award winner Mahershala Ali and comedy heavyweights Ramy Youssef and Mo Amer. Azhar also recently joined the Marvel Cinematic Universe as Najaf the Gyro King in *Ms. Marvel*.

Many of you may remember Silk Road Rising's 2016 production of Azhar's one-man show, *Ultra American: A Patriot Act*, directed by Aaron Todd Douglas.

The Chicago native will headline Zanies Comedy Club ([1548 N. Wells Street, Chicago, IL 60610](#) - Box Office: 312-337-4027) for three nights next month: Monday, November 13th; Tuesday, November 14th; and

Wednesday, November 15th (9:15 pm CT showtimes).

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased directly from the club's website [HERE](#).

The Thank You Corner

Your support has enabled Silk Road Rising to expand our digital presence and create a brand-new website that encapsulates the vibrancy and urgency of our work.

thank you
thank you
thank you

**Support a Vision of America that is
Welcoming, Polycultural, and Dynamic.**

**Support a Vision of the World that is
Open, Willing, and Creative.**

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