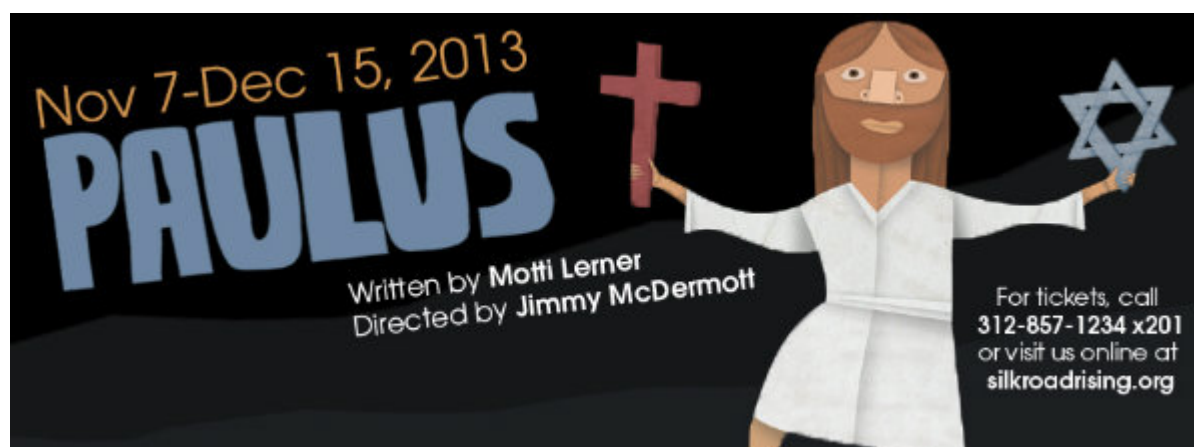


Hello &&First Name>>, *Paulus* promises to be an exciting and unique physical experience of a metaphysical battle. [View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.

LIVE THEATRE | ONLINE VIDEO PLAYS | VIDEO ESSAYS | VOLUNTEER | SUPPORT



Examining the Psyche

"Art is the lie that brings us closer to the truth."

Is *Paulus* historically accurate? Is *Paulus* biblically correct? Is *Paulus* an attack on Christian beliefs? Is *Paulus* a ruse to convert Jews? A resounding no to the latter two questions and a qualified it depends to the first two.

As playwright Motti Lerner explains, "*Paulus* explores neither the historical Paul nor the mythological Paul, but rather a psychological Paul. A Paul who witnessed the crucifixion and was traumatized by it."

History cannot preserve the interior landscape of the Apostle Paul's mind, nor can scripture, but art, on the other hand, can sure well imagine it. As Pablo Picasso said, "Art is the lie that brings us closer to truth."

Hence, *Paulus* coexists quite seamlessly with the historical and biblical narratives, not as a replica or a modern knock off, but as one artist's interpretation: a celebrated Israeli Jewish atheist playwright discovers in the Apostle Paul a revolutionary Jewish thinker with a message of universalism. Therein lie the play's truth, accuracy, and correctness.

In a recent conversation with us, Motti Lerner expounded on this theme:

Like the gospel writer, the playwright is not a historian; he is not interested in relaying facts but in revealing truths...still, since we live in a world where truths and myths are continuously distorted by politicians, by clergy, and by the media, I want to make clear to the audience that I am not using any presumed lack of knowledge to manipulate them. I want the audience to trust the story, engage the story, argue with it, not reject it as somehow "false."

Faith and doubt and historicity have a way of getting entangled. Motti Lerner embarked on a personal journey to understand Jesus and Paul, two radical Jewish visionaries each with a message of redemption and salvation. Lerner's lens was psychological and artistic, not faith based. Along the way he found himself fascinated with Paul, and set out to translate, not archive, Paul's intentions.

It can be argued that no one shaped Western Civilization and the course of Jewish history more so than Paul, whose mission was to universalize monotheism. Was he fulfilling or completing Judaism, as some have claimed, or creating an entirely new religion? That's for others to sort out.

Paulus is artistic because it helps us imagine and helps us ponder big questions, facts notwithstanding and truth be told.

From director Jimmy McDermott:

The world of Motti Lerner's *Paulus* takes us through diseased streets, sacred grounds, fortified citadels, humble safe houses, dank prisons, palatial estates and fleeing ships.

It takes an imaginative and sharp design team to create the esoteric landscape to evoke each of these locales while keeping the environment grounded enough to support the passionate mission of our tragic hero.

The terrific cast and crew have met the challenge at every step.

Paulus promises to be an exciting and unique physical experience of a metaphysical battle.

SCHEDULE

Nov 7 to Dec 15, 2013

Thursdays at 7:30pm
Fridays at 8pm
Saturdays at 4pm
Saturdays at 8pm
Sundays at 4pm

TICKETS

\$25 - Previews
\$35 - Regular Run

[BUY TICKETS »](#)

or call 312.857.1234 x201

How To Find Us:

We're located at Pierce Hall
Historic Chicago Temple Building
77 W Washington St
Chicago, IL 60602

[Click For Directions »](#)



Thank you for attending a play or a staged reading at Silk Road Rising. In purchasing tickets, you opted in to receive communication from us.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update your profile](#) | [Forward to a friend](#)
Copyright © 2013 All rights reserved.

Silk Road Rising
6 E Monroe St
801
Chicago, IL 60603

[Add us to your address book](#)