

Hello Friend, playwright Adriana Sevahn Nichols shares her story!
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Yerevan State Youth Theatre actors from *Night Over Erzinga* establish the first wishing tree at the Genocide Memorial.

A Life Transforming Journey

Thank you for being my wishing tree.



Dear Friend,

Silk Road Rising changed my life.

They said yes to developing and producing *Night Over Erzinga*, a very difficult and personal play I had written about the Armenian Genocide. This is who they are.

They do not shy away from telling the stories that need to be told, witnessed, and embraced.

They care for the play as if it were an intimate and beloved member of their family, bringing together artists of the highest caliber to breathe life into images and words.

They connect with the particular community whose story is being told to ensure that their culture, faith, tragedies, and triumphs are told with the utmost of care and responsibility.

They prepare their audiences for the story they are about to receive through videos, newsletters, and culturally relevant events.

It is this kind of tireless care for the artist and the audience that bridges differences and inspires dialogue.

Courageous dialogue... for their work is not about homogenization, it's about asking difficult questions, not to force an answer, but to discover who we are.

I celebrate Silk Road Rising as the national treasure they are in this very difficult time we are living in.

I'm writing to you today to ask you to support Silk Road Rising with a year-end donation. Your gift is the "risk capital" that allows Silk Road Rising to commission, develop, and produce new stories.

I am honored that our collaboration -- from acorn to oak tree -- lives as an example of what can emerge when one's vision is given space to flourish and grow. May it inspire you to help foster the next generation of American storytellers.

Click [HERE](#) to make a donation.

With much love to you for supporting Silk Road Rising,

Adriana Sevahn Nichols

In 2008, Silk Road Rising partnered with New York City's Lark Play Development Center and San Francisco's Golden Thread Productions to respond to a dearth of plays about the Middle Eastern American experience.

An outcome of this partnership has been the development of *Middle East America: A National New Plays Initiative*. Middle East America commissions playwrights to create new works that enrich the American story.

Adriana Sevahn Nichols was the inaugural recipient of the initiative's Distinguished Playwright Award in 2008. With new play development support from all three companies she wrote *Night Over Erzinga*, which we produced to great acclaim in 2012.

As a result of the production and ongoing publicity for the play, it was translated into Armenian.

This year, the play quite literally "returned home" for a production in Armenia.

The Armenia her ancestors were forced to flee a hundred years ago has welcomed them home through *Night Over Erzinga*. This, to us, is nothing short of miraculous.

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