

Hello Friend, Kim Schultz's "No Place Called Home" is crafted from interviews with Iraqi refugees.
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Real Life, Human Stories...



From the desk of
Artistic Director Jamil Khoury

The ongoing tragedies in Iraq and Syria are today bearing witness to the greatest refugee crisis since World War II.

Wars, occupations, and sectarian violence have forcibly displaced millions of innocent people from their homes and ancestral lands; people with names and stories, dreams and immediate needs.

American military involvement in Iraq and Syria necessitates that we confront these human stories, stories all too often lost amidst images of bloodshed and carnage.

In Kim Schultz's [No Place Called Home](#), we get to meet some of these brave individuals, and experience their struggles and triumphs as if they are our own. Along the way we are moved, enlightened, challenged, and inspired. Schultz weaves humor and romance with urgency and raw honesty. It is solo performance at its best - elevating, illuminating, and cathartic.

I hope you will join us for this special and limited engagement event. *No Place Called Home* performs from February 19th thru 22nd only. To purchase tickets, click [HERE](#).

No Place Called Home - Feb 19th thru 22nd ONLY!



In 2009, Intersections International commissioned [Kim Schultz](#) to travel to the Middle East to meet with Iraqi refugees and hear their stories. She was tasked with writing a play that would call attention to one of the most urgent and underreported social justice crises of our time: the Iraqi refugee crisis.

The play that came out of this international exchange is [No Place Called Home](#), which had its inaugural production in New York City and since then has toured all over the country, including to The Kennedy Center. And now, for a limited engagement, it is presented at Silk Road Rising from Thursday, February 19th through Sunday, February 22nd. Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets.

In discussing her experience as both a writer and a performer in the play (Schultz portrays twelve characters in this one-woman show), she says:

"Each time I perform the play, I am surprised by the different ways it moves both me and the audience. Audience members come in expecting one thing and leave feeling another. I think they are surprised by their journey. Each time performing is different for me too. A new character speaks to me in a different way or I am moved by something in a particular monologue that startles me. I sometimes feel like the Iraqis themselves are speaking and why shouldn't they be? Most of my "characters" are real people after all (only a few are composite characters combining several people I met). So when I speak, they are speaking, literally. I was in the room with them. I watched their mannerisms, heard their stories, drank their tea. So sometimes it can throw me in its 'realness'. But I allow it. I honor the spirit that lives in each story, in each person. I allow it to rear its ugly head. Or at least I try to."

In reflecting upon the presentation of the play, Schultz says,

"No Place Called Home is only a play. I used to think it could change the world, but it can only do so much. It's only a play, after all. But it is a start. And if it can move you, surprise you, create in you an empathy that was dormant before for people in dire need, then it has meaning. It is a face on a mounting almost-invisible humanitarian crisis."

A trailer for the play can be seen [HERE](#).

A limited 4-night engagement is scheduled for *No Place Called Home* at Silk Road Rising (77 W Washington St, Chicago). Production dates are February 19th thru 22nd. Tickets are \$15.

To learn more and to purchase tickets, click [HERE](#).

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Lauren Yee's SAMSARA at Victory Gardens...



SAMSARA at Victory Gardens Theater

By Lauren Yee

Directed by Seth Bockley

February 6 – March 8, 2015

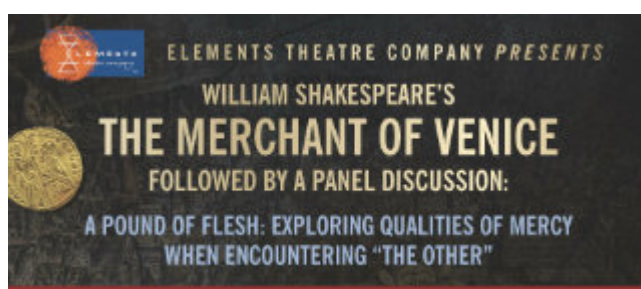
Americans Katie and Craig are having a baby with Suraiya, a surrogate from India. As all three "parents" anxiously await the baby's due date, Katie and Suraiya are attacked by flights of their imagination: a

seductive Frenchman and a sharp-tongued fetus. Originally developed at Victory Gardens' IGNITION New Play Festival in 2012, this smart world premiere comedy takes us on a hilarious and highly theatrical journey into 21st century parenthood.

Silk Road Rising patrons receive 20% off regular ticket prices. Use code SILK.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and buy tickets online or call 773-871-3000

Elements Theatre Company's *Pound of Flesh* Tour



Orleans, Massachusetts-based Elements Theatre Company is touring to New York and Chicago this month with a series based on Shakespeare's THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, including performances, workshops, and panel discussions on our culture's view of "The Other."

Following each performance, noted scholars, artists, and religious leaders will discuss the theme, "A Pound of Flesh: Exploring Qualities of Mercy when Encountering "The Other"" -- addressing issues of prejudice and tolerance in our society today.

The Chicago schedule is:

Feb. 15 (7pm) and Feb. 16 (2:30pm) -- Mayer Kaplan Jewish Community Center, Skokie

Feb. 17 (12pm) -- Chicago Theological Seminary

Feb. 18 (7pm) -- KAM Isaiah Israel Synagogue

Feb. 22 (7pm) and Feb. 23 (10am) -- Dominican University Performing Arts Center

To learn more, click [HERE](#).



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