

Rejecting the myth of the model minority.  
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Syrian artists Aziz Asmar and Anis Hamdoun created a mural depicting George Floyd in the town of Binnish, Syria. Click on the photo to read more about this and other political art from Middle Eastern artists responding to George Floyd and the movement for Black Lives.

## ***The Model Minority Trap: Anti-Blackness in Our Silk Road Communities***

Since the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, we at Silk Road Rising are both galvanized and inspired by the protests and conversations occurring in Chicago and nationwide. We are particularly determined to begin addressing anti-Blackness within our Asian, Middle Eastern, and Muslim communities, as well as within our broader theatre communities.

In the weeks and months to come, we plan to begin engaging our communities with a new initiative, *The Model Minority Trap: Anti-Blackness in Our Silk Road Communities*.

Our hope is that out of this initiative will emerge either digital narratives, a devised theatre piece, a documentary film, a video play, or any combinations thereof.


We realize these descriptions are vague. This lack of specificity is indicative of the fact that we are contemplating and formulating ideas. As we do so, we will be seeking input from various communities and individuals as we continue to shape the project. We are committing to this important journey of learning, actualizing, and changing.

identity and challenge white supremacy, and promote meaningful change within and between our communities.

## Theatre Artists Demand Justice and Accountability


Silk Road Rising believes Black Lives Matter, and we are proud to be part of the Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists (CAATA) and the Middle Eastern and North African Theatre Makers Alliance (MENATMA) as we demand an end to systemic racism in our police forces and criminal justice systems.

We encourage you to read the following statements.



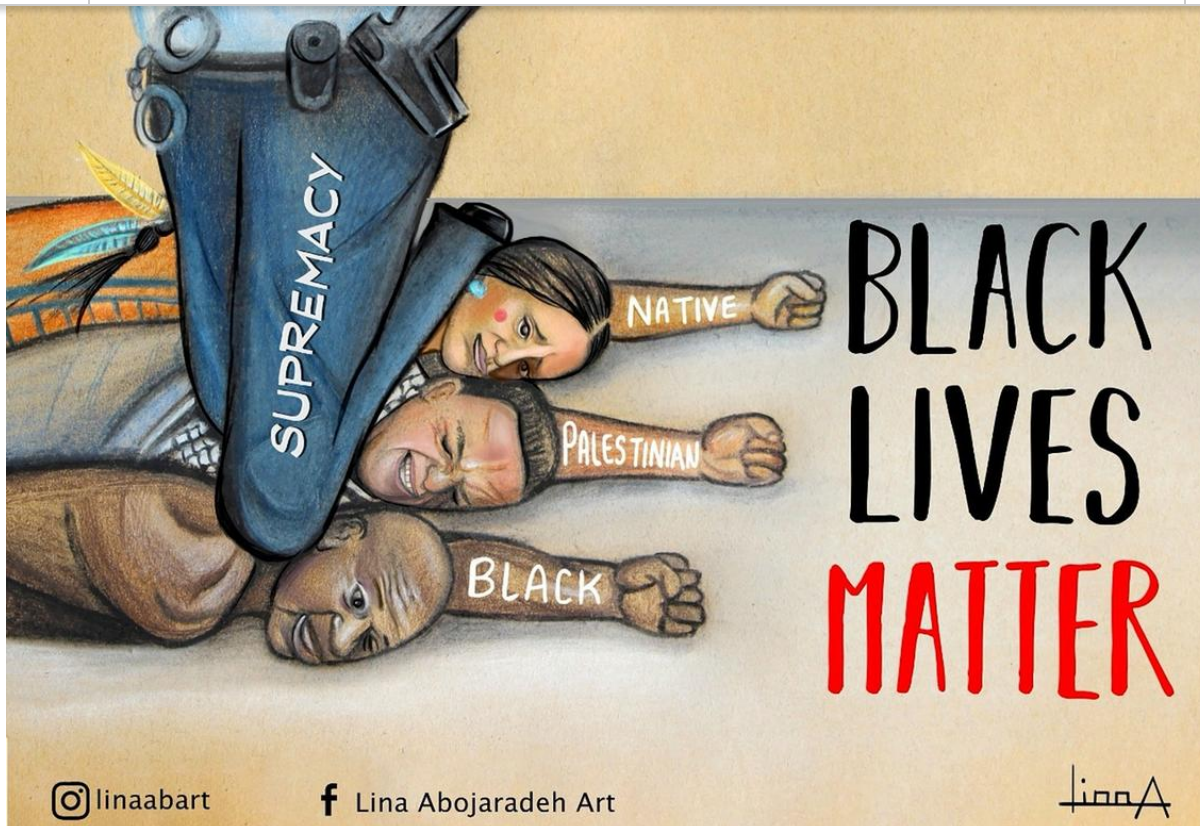
"The Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists (CAATA) stands in solidarity with Black and African American communities and expresses our grief and outrage at the historical and ever-growing list of murders, which we consider to be modern-day lynchings, including the recent killings of George Floyd (46), Ahmaud Arbery (25), Breonna Taylor (26), and Tony McDade (38), and many more."

[Read the Full CAATA Statement of Solidarity](#)



"We stand with Black communities in demanding justice for George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and countless others murdered in a centuries-long history of state-sanctioned violence against Black bodies in this country. We stand in solidarity with The Movement for Black Lives and the ongoing protests. We are committed to anti-racist, decolonizing practices, and demand that Black humanity be embedded in the consciousness of every system, institution and individual in our nation, and in our selves."

[Read the Full MENATMA Statement of Solidarity](#)



📷 linaabart

📌 Lina Abojaradeh Art

linaA

From Palestinian artist Lina Abojaradeh:

"As an artist and activist, I had to draw something in response to the murder of George Floyd. I stayed up all night to finish this, and couldn't help but think of how connected different forms of oppression are."

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