

The intersection of poetry and performance art
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Snapshots from the *EVE* Workshop



Co-creators and performers Fargo Tbakhi (Eve) and George Abraham (Angel) with performer Ashaand Simone (behind George)

From July 8 - 13, Silk Road Cultural Center had the honor of hosting Palestinian American poets/performance artists, George Abraham and Fargo Tbakhi, for a week-long workshop and public exhibition of their work-in-progress, *EVE*.

Under the inspired leadership of director Sami Ismat, George, Fargo,

and the entire creative team, unleashed their imaginations, took risks, and discovered uncharted territories.

What transpired during the culminating performance was powerful, provocative, and daring. It challenged us to move beyond the borders of traditional theatre-making towards a more interdisciplinary galaxy.

Many thanks to everyone who joined us in supporting this critical milestone in the development of *EVE*.



Director Sami Ismat (standing in the background) and dramaturg Yiwen Wu (seated on the left).



(From left to right) Interdisciplinary artists Kezia Waters, Ashaand Simone, and Sharaina Latrice. Co-creator and performer Fargo Tbakhi (back center).



SRCC's Jamil Khoury (left) and Malik Gillani (right) with Project & Casting Coordinator Sanaa Sayyed (center)

About EVE

EVE is a collaborative performance project which deconstructs John Milton's *Paradise Lost* and the biblical Adam & Eve story, through the lens of Palestinian liberation. Using movement, poetry, and song, *EVE* queers, disrupts, re-imagines, and stitches together multiple timelines: from Milton's life to the existential and lonely spaces of the Palestinian diaspora. At a juncture where *Ars Poetica* meets myth, *EVE* links seemingly disparate histories to a more hopeful and vibrant sense of future and homeland.



Performer Kezia Waters



Performer and puppet maker Sharaina Latrice



(From left to right) Ashaand Simone, Fargo Tbakhi, Kezia Waters, and George Abraham

EVE is being co-commissioned by the Arab American National Museum, Mizna, National Performance Network, and Silk Road Cultural Center.

The workshop and public performance were supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

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