

Hello Friend, Announcing our 15th Anniversary Season for 2017-18! [View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.



COURAGEOUS. RESPONSIVE. THOUGHTFUL.



Founding Artistic Director Jamil Khoury Announces Our 15th Anniversary Season!

When a new theatre company launches its first season, all hopes are pinned on reaching a second. Then a fifth. Then a tenth season. Each one a milestone in its own right. But the tenth season is seen as a tipping point—from there, the company either begins to power down or commits to longevity.



Five years later, the coveted fifteenth season shines as a testament to the company's achievements—to the relevance of their mission, the quality of their artistic work, the veracity of their artists and staff, and the sheer vitality of their role within the theatrical ecosystem.

Please join us for Silk Road Rising's 15th Anniversary Season as we bear witness to why the stories we tell and the playwrights we produce help make Chicago theatre that much richer and more responsive.

Be part of celebrating the enormous achievement that is Silk Road's fifteen seasons on stage, online, in the classroom, and in the community. Because without our audiences and supporters we wouldn't be here today. So here's to a seminal anniversary and to building toward the next fifteen!

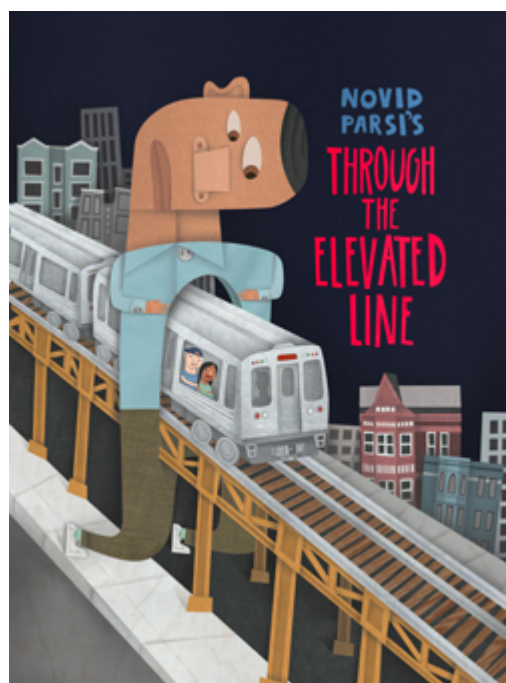
Mainstage Productions

Wild Boar
The U.S. Premiere

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Chinese to English Translation by Joanna C. Lee and Ken Smith
Adapted by David Henry Hwang
Directed by Helen Young

A suspenseful investigation of journalistic integrity, city planning, and social conscience, *Wild Boar* is a new play from Hong Kong's most acclaimed young playwright. When a controversial professor goes missing, an editor and his student band together to publicize the truth. Old flames spark and friendships are tested in the U.S. premiere of this thriller about media manipulation, fake news, and who gets to speak for the poor.



Through the Elevated Line

The World Premiere
March 8 to April 15, 2018
Written by Novid Parsi
Directed by Carin Silkaitis

Having fled Iran where he was imprisoned for being a gay man, a damaged Razi arrives at his sister's Chicago doorstep only to disrupt the life she and her American husband have built together. As the Chicago Cubs vie to make history, rivalries of a different kind simmer in the Uptown two-flat that Razi tries to call home. With echoes of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Novid Parsi's world premiere drama probes the boundaries between family, loss, prejudice, and desire.

Hollow/Wave

The World Premiere
May 17 to May 27, 2018
Written and Performed by Anu Bhatt
Director by Barbara Zahora

Anu Bhatt combines the personal with the poetic in her new one-woman show about depression, body image, and sexual assault. Seeking a balance of identities as a South Asian working actor in Chicago, Bhatt investigates the meaning of success as she embraces her own unique identity. With courage and self-effacing humor, she combines raw memories with lyricism in a daring dance for empowerment through imperfection.



Crescent and Star Staged Reading Series: Arab and Muslim Journeys

Twice, Thrice, Frice

August 5 and 6, 2017
Written by Fouad Teymour
Directed by Kareem Fahmy

After news of an affair involving one of their husbands, long-held secrets begin to emerge in the lives of three Muslim women, threatening the friendship that binds them together. With humor and mischief, *Twice, Thrice, Frice* unleashes a debate about polygamy and fidelity, as each woman struggles with her sexuality and faith.



Jihad



Against Violence: Oh ISIS Up Yours!

August 19 and 20, 2017

Written by Fawzia Afzal-Khan
Directed by George Potter

A Muslim feminist responds to the hijacking of Islam by patriarchal extremists. Her unfiltered, stream of consciousness reflections provide a potent indictment of the surreal and sardonic world we now inhabit, and a welcome reminder that sisterhood is powerful.

Playwright Fawzia Afzal-Khan

We Swim, We Talk, We Go to War

September 9 and 10, 2017

Written by Mona Mansour
Directed by Anna Bahow

Should an Arab American enlist in the U.S. military? A progressive woman and her conservative nephew dip into the treacherous waters of identity, family, and militarism. Co-commissioned with San Francisco's Golden Thread Productions and New York's Lark Play Development Center as part of the Middle East America New Plays Initiative, *We Swim, We Talk, We Go to War* blurs the lines between "us" and "them," presenting a provocative exploration of the tragic and indelible ripples of war.



Playwright Mona Mansour

In Collaboration with the Goethe-Institut: A Pairing of Staged Readings



P3M5: The Plurality of Privacy Project

January 13 and 14, 2018

What does privacy mean in the digital age? *P3M5* is a groundbreaking transatlantic theater project featuring 5-Minute Plays from such renowned playwrights as Philip Kan Gotanda, Kenneth Lin, Rachida Lamrabet, and Marioan Hosseini. Presented in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Washington, D.C., and theaters across the U.S. and Europe, the collection aims to create an artistic and cultural dialogue around our divergent understandings of privacy in North America and Europe.



Playwright Mehdi Moradpour

Pure Land

February 3 and 4, 2018

Written by Mehdi Moradpour

Translated from German to English by Neil Blackadder

Director To Be Announced

German Iranian playwright Mehdi Moradpour's *Reines Land*, nominated for the Munich Prize for German Drama, traces the story of Tara, a pregnant Middle Eastern woman seeking political asylum amidst crippling bureaucracy and crumbling relationships. Translated from German to English with the same poetic language that won Moradpour the Eurodram Award, and presented in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Chicago, *Pure Land* pits a torturous past against an uncertain future with sobering effect.

New China Festival: Staged Readings of Plays from China and Taiwan



Curator David Henry Hwang

Lead Director Helen Young

Plays To Be Announced

July 2018

Curator: David Henry Hwang

Lead Director: Helen Young

Staged readings of three plays translated from Chinese to English that highlight the work of contemporary playwrights from China and Taiwan. Stylistically and aesthetically diverse, the featured plays examine a Chinese society rife with tensions between tradition and accelerating change, consumerism and communism, and authoritarianism and personal freedom. New China Festival will also include a panel discussion about the state of theatre in the Chinese speaking world and the insights American audiences can gain from Chinese plays.

Subscribe Today And Secure Your Seats!

Subscriptions are available by calling the Box Office at 312.857.1234 ext. 201 or online at www.SilkRoadRising.org. For our 15th Anniversary Season, we are offering three different subscription packages:

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Mainstage Productions (*Wild Boar*, *Through the Elevated Line*, and *Hollow/Wave*).

[15th Anniversary Season Staged Reading Series FlexPass - \\$80.00](#)

Each 15th Anniversary Season Staged Reading Series FlexPass offers you one ticket to each of the eight plays in our three Staged Reading series ("Crescent and Star" series, "In Collaboration with Goethe-Institut" series, and "New China Festival").

[15th Anniversary Season FlexPass + Staged Reading Series Total Access - \\$165.00](#)

Each 15th Anniversary Season FlexPass + Staged Reading Series Total Access offers you one ticket to all three of our Mainstage Productions (*Wild Boar*, *Through the Elevated Line*, and *Hollow/Wave*), as well as one ticket to each of the eight plays in our three Staged Reading series ("Crescent and Star" series, "In Collaboration with Goethe-Institut" series, and "New China Festival").

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