

Hello & First Name>>, have you thought about drone operators? A new play explores this theme in UNMANNED.
[View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.



From Artistic Director Jamil Khoury



War on Terror. U.S. Surveillance State. Homeland Security. Collateral Damage.

Meet the Drones. Pilotless freedom fighters or unmanned killing machines? A lifesaving aeronautic masterpiece or an emblem of aviatory cowardice? Or maybe it's more grey than that? The drone as metaphor, but metaphor for what?

Playwright Robert Myers and visual artist Sabba Elahi have thought a lot about U.S. drone policy and they want us to as well. For even the most "depersonalized" of warfare has a way of getting personal. And yes, there are people involved. A lot of them. Their stories are our stories and if you listen, if you look beyond the headlines and the fear, I think you'll be surprised at how much you learn about yourself. After all, we can "neutralize" the weapon, anesthetize it even, but its outcomes belong to us.

I hope to see you this weekend. Actors Atra Asdou and Daniel Houle have turned the seemingly remote into something shockingly intimate and up close. Setting the stage will be a first-of-its-kind art exhibit!

Unmanned by Robert Myers THIS WEEKEND ONLY



June 28 - June 29, 2014

A STAGED READING

Directed by Sandeep Das

By turns comic and appalling, *Unmanned* dramatizes the lives of two drone operators in a remote desert in the American Southwest—one, a retired male fighter pilot who is terrified to fly; the other, a young female gamer who has never flown. This sets the stage for an exploration of the bizarre and disturbing profession of the military drone "pilot" and the ways in which technology has radically altered contemporary life and warfare.

VENUE

Performances held at Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 W Washington St, Chicago

DATES

Saturday, June 28 at 4:00pm

Sunday, June 29 at 4:00pm

TICKETS

Tickets are \$10 each. Tickets can be purchased [online](#) or by calling (312) 857-1234 x201.

[Buy Tickets](#)

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CHICAGO ARTISTS COALITION

The Playwright, the Visual Artist, & the Musician



Robert Myers is the author of over a dozen stage plays, including *Atwater: Fixin' to Die* (Helen Hayes Nominee); *The Lynching of Leo Frank* (Joseph Jefferson Award, Best New Work); *Dead of Night: The Execution of Fred Hampton*; *Painting Persia*; *Mesopotamia*; *Unmanned* (which he adapted as *Drone Pilots* for BBC's Radio 4); and *Twilight Country*.

He also co-translated *Baghdadi Bath* by Jawad Al Assadi and *Rituals of Signs and Transformations* by Saadallah Wannous. [Learn More >>](#)

Sabba Syal Elahi is an interdisciplinary artist, educator, and cultural worker and focuses her art practice in fibers and drawing/painting.

shifting shape of personal and communal identities. Sabba has been active with Chicago's South Asian artist community, curating and coproducing, *Voices of Resistance* (2009-2011), an annual exhibition and performance evening.

[Learn More >>](#)



Michael J. Miles is a master banjoist, guitarist, orchestral composer, author of numerous theatrical works combining music and history, and acclaimed music educator.

Michael's now-international performance career began with his first musical love, the banjo. Widely regarded as one of America's most inventive and accomplished clawhammer banjo players, Michael's earliest recording -- *Counterpoint* -- was described by Pete Seeger as "the most beautiful I've heard..." [Learn More >>](#)

Literature on Drones



There exists significant literature that informs us about the technology of drones, US drone policy, the impact of drone warfare, both on the ground and on those who operate drones, and the moral, ethical, personal, and political questions surrounding the use of drones.

We have identified three articles below that you may find helpful in increasing your understanding.

[Confessions of a Drone Warrior](#)

By Matthew Power for *GQ*

[The Rise of the Killer Drones: How America Goes to War in Secret](#)

By Michael Hastings for *Rolling Stone*

[Obama's Speech on Drone Policy](#)

New York Times

Our neighborhood partners provide generous support to Silk Road Rising throughout the year. Please help us show our appreciation by patronizing these outstanding businesses.



Thank you for attending a play or a staged reading at Silk Road Rising. In purchasing tickets, you opted in to receive communication from us.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update your profile](#) | [Forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2014 All rights reserved.

Silk Road Rising
6 E Monroe St
801
Chicago, IL 60603

[Add us to your address book](#)