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## Don't Miss Your Chance to See EPIC Showcase



### New Plays by New Playwrights

**June 8 & 9 at 2pm**  
**EPIC Showcase Spring 2019**  
**A Collection of Staged Readings**  
**Written by Chicagoans**  
**Directed by Corey Pond with Tracy Strimple**



Have you ever wondered what young people would write about if they were given the platform? If older adults in retirement communities were given a chance to stage a play, what stories would they tell?

This weekend, Silk Road Rising is hosting EPIC Showcase, a compilation of short plays written by two generations of creative community members.

The festival has stories of love, prejudice, laughter, and sorrow. This impressive class of writers have constructed unique stories on complex themes such as bullying, the problems of perfectionism, teenage pregnancy, anti-semitism, coming out and keeping secrets, to name just a few.

Come find out how storytelling connects us across the generations. The readings are performed by actors from the Silk Road Rising community.



Saturday, June 8th at 2pm

Sunday, June 9th at 2pm

## Listen to this interview with Jamil Khoury



### The Podcast by Chicago in Arabic

"The Podcast by Chicago in Arabic" is hosted by Anwar Jebran and Malek Abdulsamad, founders of Arabic Media Company, and features stories and ideas by Arabs and Arab-Americans who had an impact in their organizations and communities in Chicago and around the nation.

In their most recent episode, they sat down with Founding Artistic Director Jamil Khoury for a captivating conversation on the history of Silk Road Rising, Arab American theatre, and the challenges of representation in our polarized political era.

[Listen to the Interview Here](#)

## Go See *Gilgamesh and Enkidu*



## Pivot Arts Presents this World Premiere

June 7-9, 2019

*Gilgamesh and Enkidu*

The Edge Theater

A collaboration between Toronto-based musician/actor Ahmed Moneka and actor/writer Jesse LaVercombe with Chicago playwright and director Seth Bockley

[Purchase Tickets for "Gilgamesh and Enkidu"](#)

This two-man epic reanimates the world's oldest written narrative with *maqam*-style Iraqi music and 21st century biography, highlighting Ahmed Moneka's own exile from Baghdad. *Gilgamesh and Enkidu* fuses highly physical theatre, soul-filled musical expression, ancient text and intimate storytelling, illuminating the tale's eternal mysteries of mortality and the universal balm of friendship.

Part of the [Pivot Arts Festival](#), this production includes the U.S. debut of Moneka, who was forced to leave his home in Baghdad after receiving multiple threats for appearing in the short film *The Society*, which exposes the ongoing indignity and danger that homosexuals face in Iraq.

Immediately following the Saturday, June 8 performance, there will be a post-play discussion on intersectional identities led by About Face Theatre Artistic Director Megan Carney.

[Learn More About Pivot Arts Festival](#)



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