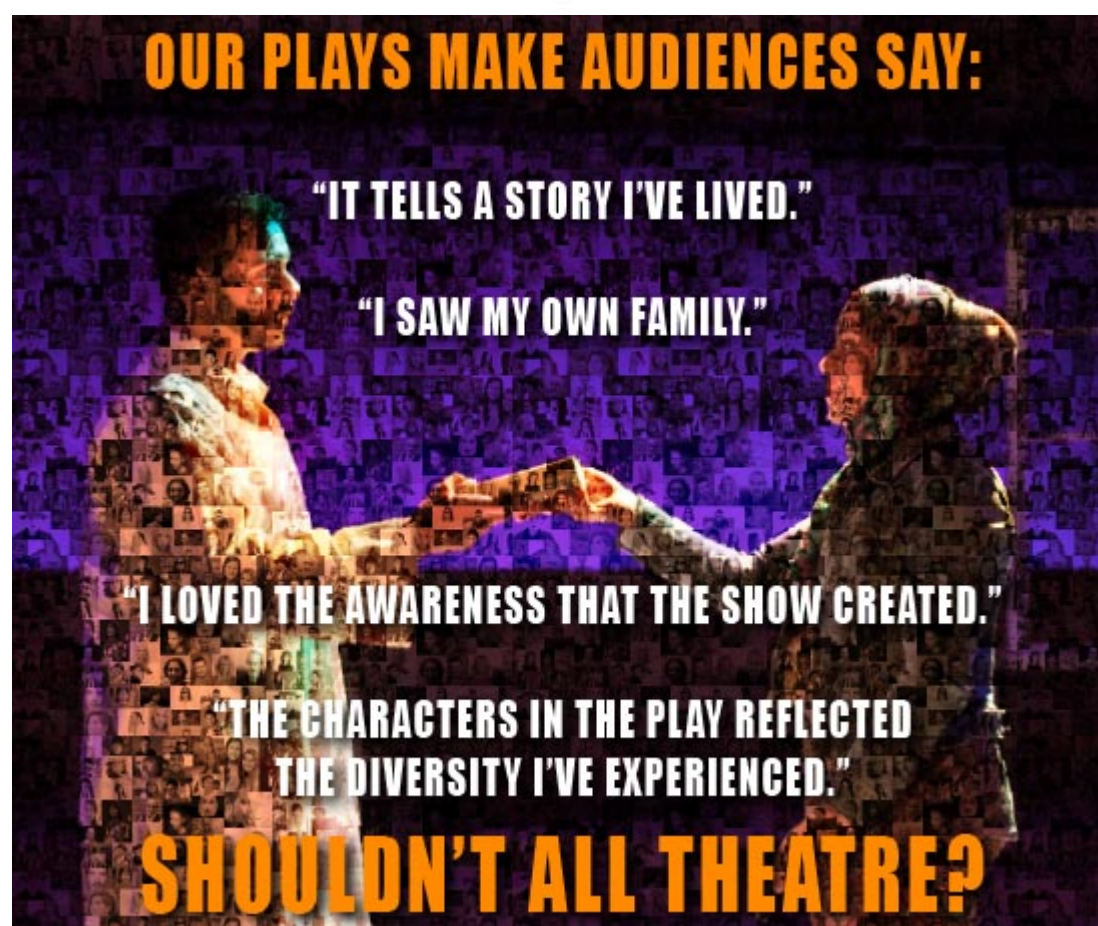


Hello Friend Want to know how we increase representation? [View Online](#) Or [Forward](#) to a friend.



With [more](#) and [more articles](#) being written daily about the importance of [increased representation](#) of Arab, Asian and Muslim American [communities](#) in the arts across the nation, Silk Road Rising's commitment to representation has never been more vital.

Describing a chapter about Silk Road Rising in her doctoral thesis (University of Birmingham, UK), Dr. Roaa Ali says, "It is an academic love letter to a company that not only inspired me and countless people, but also challenged us and led the way to thinking outside of the box, empowering us to own a voice and own a definition."

**"One of the core challenges that Silk Road Rising set out to address was the lack of visible self-representation by Arab, Asian, and Muslim American artists countering the negative stereotypes that smeared them after 9/11. SRR aimed, thus, at providing a stable platform that would cater specifically to Asian American and Middle Eastern American artistic expressions and encourage their visibility."**

**-Dr. Roaa Ali**

Dr. Roaa Ali's thesis is testimony to our commitment to expanding representation in theatre. It discusses Silk Road Rising's work in creating live theatre, as well as our commitment to exploring the internet as a new sphere for promoting political and social goals.

## Representation On Stage



By dedicating ourselves to the work of playwrights of Silk Road backgrounds, we're showcasing the narratives of underrepresented communities. Our commitment also extends to the world of



### Representation Online



Silk Road Rising also creates and distributes [online video plays](#) exploring how different cultures and communities overlap. These productions are shared on our website, and have been accessed by thousands of viewers from around the world. Through this medium, we're able to reach audiences far beyond our Chicago base. Watch the online video play, *Multi Meets Poly*, below.



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