



Hollow/Wave

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.

The 2017-18 season also includes three staged reading series that are as daring and topical as ever.



Playwrights Fouad Teymour, Fawzia Afzal-Khan, and Mona Mansour

We begin with our “**Crescent and Star**” staged reading series, focused on Arab and Muslim Journeys. First up in the series is Fouad Teymour’s spirited rumination on polygamy, fidelity, and faith in the sharp-witted ***Twice, Thrice, Frice*** (August 5-6, 2017). We then bear witness to the lively testimony of a Muslim feminist artist-scholar as she lampoons the patriarchal extremists who’ve hijacked Islam in Fawzia Afzal-Khan’s ***Jihad Against Violence: Oh ISIS Up Yours*** (August 19-20, 2017). Finally, we ponder whether an Arab American should enlist in the U.S. military in ***We Swim, We Talk, We Go to War*** (September 9-10, 2017), Mona Mansour’s poignant and cutting rumination on what happens when both “us” and “them” reside in the same bodies.



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Next are two staged readings in collaboration with **Goethe-Institut of Washington D.C. and Goethe-Institut of Chicago**, respectively. First, we pose the thorny question: what does privacy mean in the digital age? We explore this challenge through **P3M5: The Plurality of Privacy Project (January 13-14, 2018)**, a collection of fascinating five-minute plays written by fifteen acclaimed playwrights. Next, we present ***Pure Land* (February 3-4, 2018)**, written by Iranian playwright Mehdi Moradpour. Translated from German to English by Neil Blackadder, this award-winning play pits a torturous past against an uncertain future with sobering effect.

Finally, our season concludes with **"New China Festival: Staged Readings of Plays from China and Taiwan."** Curated by Tony Award-winning playwright **David Henry Hwang**, this series will highlight the work of contemporary playwrights from China and Taiwan with staged readings of three stylistically and aesthetically diverse plays translated from Chinese to English.



Curator David Henry Hwang

Lead Director Helen Young

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