

About Us

Silk Road Cultural Center is a Chicago-based interdisciplinary arts organization rooted in the modern communities of the historic Silk Roads, including our diaspora communities. We embrace the arts as a catalyst for connecting people, places, histories, and futures.

About *Road Less Traveled*

Framed by Robert Frost's beloved poem "The Road Not Taken," *Road Less Traveled* intertwines the lives of Frost and Chinese American trailblazer, Tye Leung Schulze. Set in the early twentieth century, these two iconoclastic figures appear in distinct yet parallel worlds as they wrestle with choices, consequences, and meanings.

From Our Co-Founders, Malik Gillani & Jamil Khoury

Frost's "The Road Not Taken" is considered the quintessentially American poem, yet it resonates with peoples and cultures around the world, and has been translated into dozens of languages. We have long been fascinated by how the poem reflects immigrant experiences and the choices immigrants grapple with. Brava to Lyra for so elegantly conveying a world that seamlessly connects all these threads.

Creative Team

Lyra Nalan, Playwright
Helen Young, Co-Director
Maura Kidwell, Co-Director
Yiwen Wu, Dramaturg
Gordon Chow, Project Coordinator

Cast

Helen Young	Tye
Christopher Hainsworth	Robert
Naomi Zhanel Kalter	Mei-Lam, Dolly, Ethel, & Ms. X
Josh Odor	Carol & John
Emily Zhang	Stage Directions Reader

Special thanks to Peacedale Global Arts.

This workshop is being supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation.



PAUL M. ANGELL
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SILK ROAD CULTURAL CENTER

Proudly Presents

Road Less Traveled

A Staged Reading

Written by Lyra Nalan

Conceived by Jamil Khoury

Commissioned by Silk Road Cultural Center

Co-directed by Helen Young & Maura Kidwell

Saturday, November 22, 2025, at 2 PM

150 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL

3rd Floor, Randolph Room