

GOLDEN THREAD PRODUCTIONS presents: Award-winning educational drama for high school audiences

ReOrient Festival's High School Matinee Series
November 9th and 16th, 11am

Golden Thread Productions is pleased to offer our ReOrient Festival's Student Matinee series—featuring short plays exploring contemporary themes in the Middle East to High School audiences.

Program Description

The ReOrient Festival 2-hour Matinee showcases the diversity of modern-day voices and styles from the Middle East. We offer a truly unique opportunity for your students to experience **professional multicultural theater**. We are committed to **diversity and inclusiveness** and a program that will provide an enriching experience for your students:

- Program—six short plays with playwrights from Iraq, Iran, Egypt, England, and the U.S. Running 115 minutes including a 15 minute-intermission and followed by a 20-minute post-performance Q & A.
- Features—the festival presents the immigrant story, America's earliest and ultimate narrative. **Students will resonate with present-day themes**, such as immigration, identity, displacement, political upheaval, and finding home.

Educational Standards

Plays fulfill and compliment **California Educational Standards** –

- English Language Arts S3 (Literary Response and Analysis)
- Visual and Performing Arts S3 (Historical and Cultural Context), S4 (Aesthetic Valuing), and S5 (Connections, Relationships, Applications)
- History-Social Studies (Research, Evidence, Point of View)
- World Language standards (Connection between Language and Cultural Views of the World)

Support Activities· Informative **Teacher's Study Guide** provides background and context to the productions.

- Our pre-show **classroom visits** by our actors will help contextualize the plays and prepare students to more deeply engage in the productions.
- Our post-show **Q & A session** with the actors who will help to facilitate a discussion pertaining to themes from the plays relevant to young people.

Dates/ Booking

- We are offering two student matinees: **Friday, November 9th** and **Friday, November 16th**. Both productions will take place at Noh Space (2840 Mariposa Street in the Mission District, San Francisco) at 11am.
- For student groups, tickets are \$10 per student. The productions have limited seating; please contact us as soon as possible to secure a space for your school.
- To book your class, please email laine@goldenthread.org.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

- Get your class excited about their upcoming ReOrient Festival Matinee by introducing our **5-minute High School Playwriting Contest about the Middle East**, open to all high school students. It is our hope that this competition will stimulate interest in theatrical activities and to explore the creative possibilities of writing for the stage, as well as support their continued growth of diversity of culture in the Middle East. A flier for this competition is attached; please post and distribute widely.
- Additional Opportunities for Participation—We are also offering High School students the opportunity to be a **student usher** for one or many of the performances during the festival. We also have opportunities for **internships** within the organization. Please contact us for further information about this opportunity.
Contact us today for booking a matinee for your classroom and further information!

See you at the theater!

The ReOrient Festival
High School Student Matinee Program
Performs November 9 and 16, 2012, 11am
Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St., San Francisco

War and Peace

by Tawfiq al-Hakim, translated by Salma Khadra Jayyusi, directed by Hafiz Karmali
Acclaimed Egyptian playwright Tawfiq al-Hakim's *War and Peace* presents Politica, a vivacious woman, who must choose between her domineering husband War and oft-disappointed lover Peace. Funny and subtle, this symbolic short play could keep a senior seminar in a political science department busy for weeks.

World Premiere

The Birds Flew In

by Youssef El Guindi, directed by Evren Odciğin
The mother of a dead soldier cannot reconcile her conflicted feelings about the Iraqi War. El Guindi, the 2011 winner of the prestigious Middle East America Award, paints a tender and complicated portrait of the ultimate pain of losing a child.

World Premiere

The Letter

by Mona Mansour and Tala Manassah, directed by Sara Razavi
In 2011, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner was blocked from receiving an honorary degree from CUNY for his criticism of Israel. Palestinian-American physicist Kamal and his philosopher daughter Alia take their outrage to the stage, but, first, can they really prove that they are human?

World Premiere

Stalemate

by Silva Semerciyan, directed by Desdemona Chiang
At a hi-fi shop and a disco in London and a war field in Iraq, the inherent racism and sexism of the bravura male culture is brilliantly skewered in this funny and hard-hitting play by the William Saroyan Prize winner Silva Semerciyan.

World Premiere

In the Days That Follow

by Jen Silverman, directed by Christine Young
In this poignant play by up-and-coming writer Jen Silverman, former Israeli soldier Orh follows Lebanese poet Iman to the United States mesmerized by the haunting beauty of her poetry. Can their mutual love of words heal the personal and political wounds they carry?

World Premiere

2012

by Farzam Farrokhi, directed by Sara Razavi
Three strangers on cell phones walk into a café. It might sound like a joke, but this could be the end of the world. Introducing local playwright Farzam Farrokhi.