

# TORANGE YEGHIAZARIAN

[TORANGEY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TORANGEY@GMAIL.COM)  
TORANGEYEGHIAZARIAN.COM

## **Founder, Artistic & Executive Director Emeritus, Golden Thread Productions, 1996 to 2021**

- First American theatre company devoted to the Middle East
- Artistic Programs: ReOrient Festival & Forum, New Play Development & Commissioning, What do the Women Say?, Fairytale Players Youth Outreach & Education.
- New Play Development Initiatives: Middle East America (in partnership with The Lark and Silk Road Rising); Islam 101 (in partnership with the Northern California Islamic Cultural Center), Kimia (innovative collaborations & devised work)

## **AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & COMMISSIONS**

- Equity Award, Symposium on Equity in the Entertainment Industry at Stanford University (2017)
- Lifetime Achievement Award, Cairo International Festival of Contemporary and Experimental Theatre (2016)
- Legacy Leader of Color, Theatre Communications Group (2016)
- 40 Faces of the Bay Area, Theatre Bay Area (2016)
- Best New Play Award (translation), Toronto Fringe Festival, *A Moment of Silence* by Mohammad Yaghoubi (2016)
- Cal Performances Artistic Literacy Commission, *Layla & Majnun* (2016)
- Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California commissioned artist, *Fifth String* (2014)
- Featured community leader, Bay Area ABC 7's Profiles of Excellence (2013)
- Gerbode Playwright Commissioning Award, *Isfahan Blues* (2012)

## **PLAYWRITING**

THANKSGIVING AT KHODABAKHSHIAN'S (2017), LAYLA & MAJNUN (translated and adapted from Nizami, 2016), ISFAHAN BLUES (2015, published in NEW IRANIAN PLAYS, 2022), THE FIFTH STRING: ZIRYAB'S PASSAGE TO CORDOBA (2014), 444 DAYS (2011, featured in PERFORMING IRAN & MIDDLE EASTERN AMERICAN THEATRE, 2021), DAWN AT MIDNIGHT (2011), CALL ME MEHDI (2005, published in SALAM.PEACE ANTHOLOGY, 2009), THE LOVE MISSILE (2003), ABAGA (2001), PUBLICLY RESTING (1999), BEHIND GLASS WINDOWS (1998), OPERATION NO PENETRATION, LYSISTRATA 97! (1997, adapted from Aristophanes), WAVES (1994), TORCH! (1994)

Plays for Children with Golden Thread Fairytale Players: LEYLA'S QUEST FOR FLIGHT, 21 DAYS THAT CHANGE THE YEAR, NASRUDIN'S MAGNIFICENT JOURNEY TO SAMARKAND, PRINCESS TAMAR RESCUES NAZAR THE BRAVE, THE GIRL WHO LOST HER SMILE, PRINCESS IN THE MIRROR.

## **DIRECTING**

- *Language of Wild Berries*, Naghmeh Samini, Golden Thread Productions, Audio play in 2021, staged in 2022
- *The Trojan Women* (audio play), Euripides, University of CA, Berkeley, 2021
- *Oh My Sweet Land*, Amir Nizar Zuabi, Bay Area home and community kitchens, 2017 & 2018. (Theatre Bay Area Awards recommended, San Francisco Chronicle's the Leaping Man)
- *Our Enemies: Lively Scenes of Love & Combat*, Yusef El Guindi, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 2016. (Theatre Bay Area Awards recommended, San Francisco Chronicle's the Leaping Man)
- *Layla & Majnun*, adapted from poetry by Nizami, commissioned by Berkeley Radical, a program of Cal Performances
- *The Fifth String: Ziryab's Passage to Cordoba*, Torange Yeghiazarian, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 2014
- *A Girl's War*, Joyce Van Dyke, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 2009
- *Nine Armenians*, Leslie Ayvazian, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 2002
- *Scenic Routes*, Yusef El Guindi, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 2002
- *Behind Glass Windows*, Torange Yeghiazarian, Golden Thread Productions, Berkeley, 1998
- *Operation No Penetration, Lysistrata 97! Aristophanes (adaptation)*, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, 1997

# TORANGE YEGHIAZARIAN

[TORANGEY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TORANGEY@GMAIL.COM)

TORANGEYEGHIAZARIAN.COM

- **ReOrient Festival of Short Plays:** Brass Knuckles, Yussef El Guindi (2019), Shelter, Junichi P. Semitsu (2017), Stuck, Amir Azraki (2012), Voice Room, Reza Soroor (2012), I Sell Souls, stage adaptation of poetry by Simin Behbehani (2008), Don't Eat the Tomatoes, Fatma Durmush (2004), Sahmatah Edward Mast & Hanna Eady (2003), Tamam Betty Shamieh (2002) Dual Use Victoria Stewart (2002), Three Stops Yussef El Guindi (2001), The Myth of Creation Sadegh Hedayat (2000), The Revolution Never Ended Tina Ehsanipour (1999), I Am Not A Serial Killer Caveh Zahedi (1999)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *Probing the Wounds of History: 444 Days*, "Performing Iran", Babak Rahimi, Editor, I.B.Tauris, 2021
- *ReOrienting: A Middle Eastern American Casting Case Study*, "Casting a Movement", Daniel Banks & Claire Syler, Editors, Routledge, 2019
- *Layla & Majnun*, a stage adaptation of the romance poem by Nizami Ganjavi, Gleeditions.com, 2019
- *A Moment of Silence* translated from the Persian by Mohammad Yaghoubee. "Modernity and Iranian Drama: Plays and Playwrights", edited by Saeed Talajooy, 2018
- "Performing Identity: Othello's Lethal Need for Belonging" California Shakespeare Company, 2016
- "Centering the Margins" ArtsChangingAmerica.Org 2016
- "On Disgraced" Arabology.Org 2016
- "Building Trust at ReOrient Festival & Forum" American Theater Magazine, 2016
- "Cambridge Encyclopedia of Stage Actors and Acting," Simon Williams, Editor, 2014.
- "Dramatic Defiance in Tehran," The Drama Review, NYU Press, NY. 2012
- "Behind the Iranian Curtain," American Theatre Magazine, TCG, NY. 2010
- *Call Me Mehdi*, "Salaam.Peace: An Anthology of Middle Eastern-American Drama" Dina Amin & Holly Hill, ed. TCG, NY. 2009
- "Women, Gender and Theatre: Iran" Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures, Suad Joseph, ed. 2007.
- "Report from the Cairo Festival of Experimental Theatre" Theatre Bay Area Magazine, San Francisco. 2004
- Ta'ziyeh, Historical Context and Contemporary Implications, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2005
- "Middle of What?" Theatre Bay Area Magazine, San Francisco. 2002

## **TEACHING**

Various workshops in Acting, Playwriting & Play Development Workshops for Adults & Youth in Community, University & High School

KZV Armenian School, Afterschool Theatre Workshops (middle school)

Golestan Persian Language Immersion School, Afterschool Theatre Workshops (K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

Each One Reach One, incorporating Theatre into Social Studies (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

## **EDUCATION & TRAINING**

MA Theatre Arts, San Francisco State University, 1997

VIEWPOINTS/ SUZUKI, Ann Bogart and the SITI Company, Los Angeles, 1998

CREATING POLITICAL THEATRE, San Francisco Mime Troupe 1994

*References Furnished Upon Request*