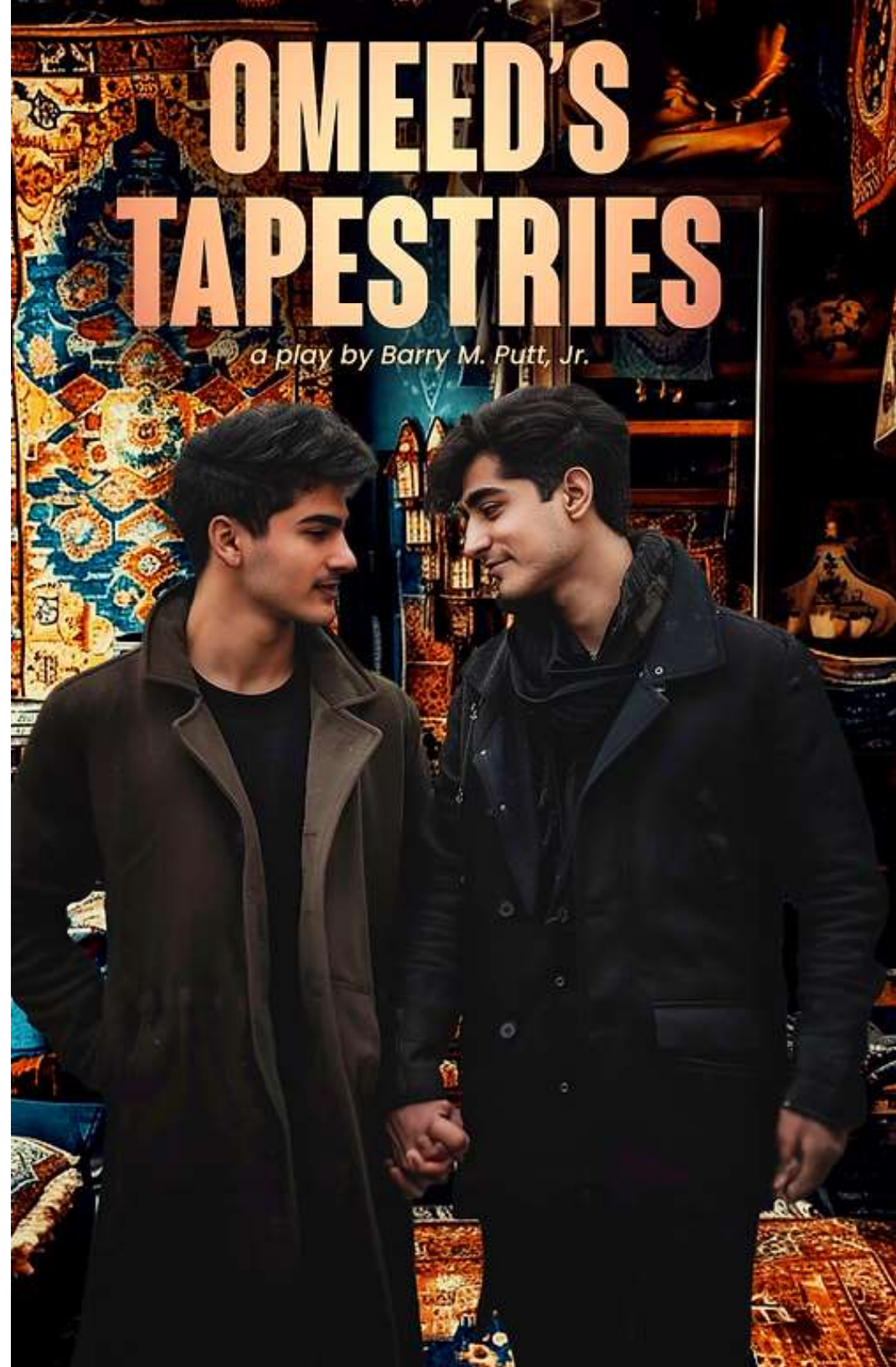


Sara Ali Bugaighis is an Arab-American writer/producer who focuses on stories of multicultural characters and their search for identity. She moved to New York from Saudi Arabia to work as a researcher and an associate producer in documentary filmmaking before pursuing writing. Sara is a graduate of the NYU Tisch Department of Dramatic Writing MFA and holds a Bachelor of Arts from The George Washington University.

Jay Michaels began his career during the off-off Broadway & Underground Movements. Today, he is a highly respected figure in NY theatre, film, and TV. Producer/Promotional Exec cred include Joyce Theater's Drama Desk Award-winning American Theater series; national tours of *Cats*, *Edwin Drood*, and *Les Misérables*; Broadway shows: *Guys & Dolls*, *Damn Yankees*, *Vagina Monologues*, *Beginnings*, and *Audra McDonald* at Town Hall. Michaels is a TV commentator and speech writer. He has written remarks for the Weissler, Netherlander and Shubert organizations, James Earl Jones, Jon Stewart, Vera Wang, Mayors Lindsay and Dinkins; and Hillary Clinton to name a few. He is a visiting professor at numerous universities and published author.



OMEED'S TAPESTRIES

written by Barry M. Putt, Jr.
directed by Robert Liebowitz
Sara Ali Bugaighis, *assistant director*
Jay Michaels, *production management*

Jane Clementi
Tyler Clementi Foundation
opening remarks

Stage Directions/Radio Announcer Allison Grace Furlong
Afshar Mosaheb Amr Nabeel
Kahveh/Townsperson/ Officer Dabbagh..... Arjun Biju
Officer Shojaee/Nahro John DeFilippo
Omeed Shahidian..... Kamran Taherpour
Mahasti Hajsafi..... Sara Massoudi
Hossein/ Judge Iraj Tabari Tauqeer Paul
Farbod Hajsafi..... Wasim Azeez

*A special thank you goes to
Jane Clementi from the
Tyler Clementi Foundation
for providing opening remarks*



*And special applause to singers
Garek
for donating the presentation of his song
Stray (acoustic version)
and
Colton Ford
for his song True Love.*

*Each stand in solidarity with the message
found within the play
Omeed's Tapestries and for LGBTQ rights worldwide.*

*This reading was made possible by the support of
Stephanie Ciarrocca, Thursday Farrar, Roger Malouf,
Debbie and Tom McArthur, Gina Morris,
Nancy and Frank Newman, Mildred Newman, Jenn Putt,
Judie and Barry Putt, Sr., and Betsy Williams.*

Wasim Azeez is recognized for his versatile performances across languages including Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Malayalam, and English, with proficiency in Arabic. He starred in "Alone Alone on a Wide Wide Sea," featured at the Oscar-qualifying Tasveer and Chicago South Asian Film Festivals, and in Netflix-backed "Billo Rani." His upcoming project, "The Apple Picker's Son," is from the American Film Institute. With performances at The Public, Vineyard, Theater for the New City, and The Tank, Azeez amplifies Middle East

Kamran Taherpour is thrilled to take part in this staged reading of Omeed's Tapestries. When he's not busy getting rejected for roles you can catch him performing improv at

Improvolution. Kamran continues his acting study at the T. Schreiber Studio where he enjoys experimenting his craft and discovering new ways to play.

Arjun Biju After graduating from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Arjun has gone on to appear in various professional workshops, plays, and short films. Most recently James in White Bitches in Delhi at the Williamstown Theater Festival.

John DeFilippo Off-B'way: Malvolio (Classical Theatre of Harlem, world premiere), The Last Night of the Oki Dog (Theatre Row, NY premiere). Regional/Touring: Hamlet (NY Circus Project - DC run); Much Ado About Nothing/Pericles (Hip to Hip Theatre); Macbeth, Taming of the Shrew (Cumberland Theatre). Film/TV: New York Homicide S3 (ITV/Oxygen); Intimate; The Show Must Go Online. Upcoming: Look At Me Now and Act Before You Think.

Sara Massoudi (she/her) is a performer, director, and teaching artist. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Oklahoma City University with a BFA in Acting and minors in Directing and Children's Theatre. This is her NYC acting debut! She most recently

directed Matilda Jr., choreographed High School Musical, and is currently directing Mary Poppins Jr. at the JCC Manhattan. She also has performed in cabarets at Don't Tell Mama and the Broadway Comedy Club. Many thanks to the creative team for this opportunity, and her fellow cast for their hard work.

Tauqeer Paul traveled across shores and appeared in many soap operas. He has demonstrated unparalleled talent, as evidenced by his numerous leading roles across a wide variety of productions, including Impossible Yet True, Angan, Kamzarf, MAQM, ABZ. His performances have consistently garnered critical acclaim and international attention, establishing him as a notable figure in the performing arts. In 2022, Mr. Paul

was the first Pakistani male actor to receive the Best Actor Award in the Short Film category at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, solidifying his position as an exceptional talent in the global acting community. He has also been featured at New York Fashion Week as a distinguished guest, further demonstrating his influence in the industry.

Amr Nabeel is an actor, singer, writer and fashion designer. He has been performing for 15 years across London, Los Angeles and Rome. Amr Nabeel studied theatre at the performing arts conservatory Hurtwood House and earned his B.F.A. in Acting from New York Film Academy. He has worked in both theatre and film, from playing Nate Bunch in the feature film *Never Alone* (Dir.

Paul Bunch) to bringing the house down as the larger than life Angel Du-mott Schunard in *RENT*. Amr Nabeel has had his designs featured at New York Fashion Week in addition to designing for celebrities like Selena Gomez and Jack Harlow. His work in fashion can be found on www.amrnabeel.com. A recent New York transplant, he is currently in the process of publishing his first book on modern dating and befriending his local dry cleaner.

Barry M. Putt, Jr.'s plays have been performed throughout the U.S. and in France, Canada, and the UAE by companies including Beacon Theatre Productions, Dreamcatchers, and Caesar's Ford Theatre, Inc. His comedy, *A Different Blend of Friendship* won the New Jersey Wordsmiths Award. Barry's film credits encompass co-writing the multi-award-winning short film *Departures*, the VR miniseries *Maren's Rock*, and six development deals with companies such as Omega Entertainment. He was a staff writer on Ebru-TV's Telly Award-winning series *Wisdom Tree* and head writer for Craven Productions *In the Cellar*. Barry has scripted over 50 audio-drama productions for companies in the U.S. Canada, and China. His work as an author in-

cludes the books *Stories Told through Sound* (Applause) and *Alice: Life Behind the Counter* in Mel's Greasy Spoon (BearManor Media.) For more information, go to www.barrymputtjr.com

Robert Liebowitz (director) has directed over 100 productions since 1977, in all sorts of venues. This is his first endeavor with Barry, and he is honored to be leading the charge on Mr. Putt's important new play.