SONS of the PROPHET

By Stephen Karam; Directed by Jef Hall-Flavin

MAY 20–JUN 5
on the Proscenium Stage

Produced with special support from Paul and Pat Sackett and the Park Square Premiere Producers’ Club

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2015-2016 SEASON

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Dear Park Square Patron,

Because you’re here today, you just might be a theatre trendsetter. You are interested in good contemporary writing. You’ve heard the buzz some shows like this already have from early productions in New York, Seattle, Chicago or Louisville. You enjoy taking an unexpected journey that can suddenly land you smack in the middle of your own life.

They may debate the word “trendsetter,” but Paul and Pat Sackett, along with the other members of our Premiere Producers’ Club bring us fresh plays – and support their productions. Many of our producers got to enjoy Pat’s signature brownies and miniature pineapple upside down cakes at the first rehearsal with this amazing cast.

If you love new plays, we encourage you to join our Premiere Producers’ Club for upcoming theatrical journeys.

We want you back this fall for The Realistic Joneses by Will Eno, new to the Twin Cities just two years after its Broadway opening. We’ll also invite you to a reading of Eno’s Middleton.

We want you back next spring for The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence by Madeleine George. We’ve been following the development of this rare and inventive script for four years and now it’s ready for our stage.

However you join us – in the seats or as a donor – Park Square is “New theatre for you. (yes you.)”

Gratefully,

Richard Cook, Artistic Director
651.767.8482 | cook@parksquaretheatre.org

C. Michael-jon Pease, Executive Director, CFRE
651.767.8497 | pease@parksquaretheatre.org

OUR MISSION is to enrich our community by producing and presenting exceptional live theatre that touches the heart, engages the mind and delights the spirit.

Dear Park Square Patron,
THE STORY

Joseph Douaihy isn’t doing well. The marathon champion has chronic pain. His father just died, his uncle is ailing and his brother is a handful. Once he let slip that he’s distantly related to Kahlil Gibran, the author of The Prophet, his publisher boss began dogging him to write a family memoir.

Stephen Karam’s Pulitzer Prize finalist is a comic and poignant exploration of our secret needs, the surprising people that fulfill them, and the unspoken moments of renewal that can happen on any typical day. “Written with insight and compassion, not to mention biting wit...with sustaining measures of hope, love and good humor. The question of why we suffer is unanswerable, but how we suffer defines our character...” – The New York Times

THE PLAYWRIGHT

**STEPHEN KARAM** is the author of *The Humans*, a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize, and *Sons of the Prophet*, a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize and winner of the 2012 Drama Critics Circle, Outer Critics Circle, Lucille Lortel and Hull-Warriner Awards for Best Play. Other plays include *Speech & Debate*, the inaugural production of Roundabout Underground; and *columbinus* (New York Theatre Workshop). He wrote the libretto for *Dark Sisters*, an original chamber opera with composer Nico Muhly. For film, Stephen has written screenplay adaptations of Chekhov's *The Seagull* (starring Annette Bening, Elisabeth Moss, Corey Stoll and Saoirse Ronan), and *Speech & Debate*. Stephen is a MacDowell Colony fellow, and the recipient of the inaugural Sam Norkin Off-Broadway Drama Desk Award. He teaches playwriting at The New School. Born and raised in Scranton, PA, he’s a graduate of Brown University.
SONS of the PROPHET

By Stephen Karam

Director .............................................. Jef Hall-Flavin
Scenic Designer ................................. Joseph Stanley
Costume Designer ......................... Clare Brauch
Costume Design Assistant ............ Gene Nelson
Lighting Designer .............................. Michael P. Kittel
Sound Designer ............................... Katharine Horowitz
Properties Designer ....................... Jennifer Johnson
Stage Manager ................................. Megan Fae Dougherty*

CAST

Joseph ................................................ sasha andreev*
Gloria ................................................. angela Timberman*
Charles ............................................... Maxwell Collyard
Bill ...................................................... Michael Tezla*
Timothy ............................................. Dave Gangler
Vin ...................................................... Ricardo Beaird
Dr. Manor/Ensemble ......................... Patty Mathews
Mrs. McAndrews/Ensemble ............. sally ann Wright

PERFORMANCE TIME: The performance will run approximately
1 hour, 40 minutes, no intermission.

SCENES:

Prologue – July
On Work – August
On Pain – September
On Talking – November

On Home – November
On Friendship – November
On Reason & Passion – December
On Yesterday & Today – March

SONS OF THE PROPHET was originally commissioned by Roundabout Theatre Company, New York, NY (Todd Haimes, Artistic Director) and produced in association with Huntington Theatre Company, Boston, MA (Peter DuBois, Artistic Director; Michael Maso, Managing Director). SONS OF THE PROPHET is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

As a courtesy to our actors and those around you,
please DEACTIVATE all PHONES and ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

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Park Square Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.
“You are far greater than you know, and all is well.” The Lebanese-American poet Kahlil Gibran published these words in his 1932 The Prophet. The loosely structured novel records its title character’s philosophical reflections and conversations with citizens of a fictionalized Mediterranean city. The work became highly influential as an early example of inspirational fiction; Gibran’s works are often cited as following Shakespeare’s as the most popular in the world.

Gibran’s exhortation, quoted in the first scene of Sons of the Prophet, is a powerful counterpoint to the suffering that so many dramatists have posed as central to the human condition, and it has been central to Western drama since its inception. Suffering is inherently dramatic, a potent stimulus or an ultimate act of revenge. From Sophocles’ Oedipus to Shakespeare’s Hamlet (that uber-sufferer of Western drama) to Kushner’s Prior Walter, anguish can reach metaphysical levels (though, to be sure, Joseph Douaihy experiences great physical pain). Suffering on stage can reach existential levels. It calls into question not only a character’s identity but the entire order of the universe.

Suffering is deeply personal. Empathy and sympathy can be palliatives for the sufferer, but no matter how genuine, they are rarely transformative experiences for the provider. (And in the worst cases, they can degenerate into the “grief porn” which Joseph decries in the play.) The nature of suffering is that we are certain that we suffer alone. This may be why Charles Douaihy and his father cherish a painting of St. Rafka, the nineteenth-century Lebanese nun who prayed for Christ to allow her to share in his suffering. St. Rafka soon experienced terrible headaches and eye pain. She ultimately became blind and paralyzed before developing a mysterious wound in her shoulder, which persisted for seven years until her death. St. Rafka’s martyrdom demonstrated that suffering, even as mighty as Christ’s, need not take place in solitary.

For Charles and his father, the painting of St. Rafka is a totem, proof that suffering can be shared and thus abated. It offers hope that we are, as Gibran claimed, greater than we know. The death of Prince last month moved his record sales to the top of the charts as fans privately downloaded their favorite hits. But the enduring memories will be of the thousands who, purple-clad, poured into downtown Minneapolis to cry, sing, remember, dance, mourn together. The sudden passing of a star doesn’t induce suffering akin to St. Rafka’s or the Douaihys’, but it is telling that on the night of April 21, so many could not stay home alone. Suffering is personal, indescribable, often indiscernible to all but the sufferer. But perhaps we, like some characters in Sons of the Prophet, can find comfort in Gibran’s words; what if, by his claim that you are greater than you know, Gibran was addressing more than one person? Note the major difference between the opening and closing scenes of the play. All is well, Stephen Karam suggests, when we don’t go it alone.

Matt DiCintio has been a producing director for Emigrant Theater and a dramaturg for Park Square and the Guthrie, among others. His writing has been published in the Routledge Companion to Dramaturgy, Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama, American Theatre and City Pages. Matt holds a PhD in Drama from Tufts University.
SASHA ANDREEV
Joseph
Park Square Ragtime, The Odyssey, Rock’n’Roll Representative Theatre
Hennepin Theatre Trust: Buyer and Cellar; Guthrie Theater, Jungle Theater, Theater Latté Da, Mixed Blood Theatre, Yellow Tree Theatre, Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Actors Theatre of Louisville TV/Film Best Man Down, Ghost From The Machine, Tom Clancy’s The Division: Agent Origins (Amazon), Curb Appeal (HGTv), Evine Live Training B.A., Drama, Vassar College; Acting Apprentice Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville; National Theater Institute Awards Musical Direction and Performances Ivey Award (Don Juan Giovanni, Theatre de la Jeune Lune)

RICARDO BEAIRD
Vin
Park Square Debut Representative Theatre Yellow Tree Theatre: Clybourne Park; Pangea World Theater; Conference of the Birds; Stage of Fools Theatre: The Last Days of Judas Iscariot; Public Theatre of MN: Much Ado About Nothing, I and You; Nebraska Shakespeare Festival: The Tempest Training B.A., Theatre and Marketing, Middle Tennessee State University; additional training with the Nashville Shakespeare Festival.

MAXWELL COLLYARD
Charles
Park Square (as Assistant Director) Great Expectations Representative Theatre (as Actor) Bryant Lake Bowl and Bedlam Theatre: You Don’t Have To Leave But You Can’t Stay Here; Arts Center on 7: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Lemonade for the Lawnboy; (as Assistant Director) Walking Shadow Theatre Company: Midwinter Night’s Revel; Theater Latté Da: C., Oliver!, Our Town; (as Playwright) Minnesota Fringe Festival 2015: Ferguson, USA Training

B.A., Physics and Theatre, St. Olaf College; additional training with Jon Ferguson, Kevin Kling, Michael Montenegro, Melissa Hart, and through the Summer Intensive at Studio 206

DAVE GANGLER
Timothy
Park Square A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Of Mice and Men, Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure Representative Theatre Torch Theater: Dangerous Liaisons; Walking Shadow Theatre Company: Mary Stuart; Jungle Theater: The Rivals; Theatre Pro Rata: Waiting for Godot; The Mystery Café: Let’s Kill the Boss; Paul Bunyan Playhouse: The 39 Steps TV/Film Angel (WB), The Andy Dick Show (MTV), Freaks and Geeks (Dreamworks/NBC), Nikki (WB) Training B.A., University of Washington Upcoming Projects Bryant Lake Bowl: Shade’s Brigade; The Mystery Café: The ex-Feds

PATTY MATHEWS
Dr. Manor/Ensemble
Park Square Harvey Representative Theatre Commonweal Theatre Company: Arsenic and Old Lace; Children’s Theatre Company: Ramona; Door Shakespeare: Twelfth Night; Here Today Productions: Three Tall Women; Theater Latté Da: The Death of Bessie Smith; Jon Hassler Theatre: The Miracle Worker Film A Descent of Woodpeckers Training B.A., Dramatic Arts, University of Nebraska at Omaha Other Various radio and TV commercials Upcoming Projects Touring with The Looney Lutherns

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MICHAEL TEZLA*
Bill
Park Square Visiting Mr. Green, Taking Sides, Waltz of The Toreadors, The Chosen, The Diary of Anne Frank, Goodmorning Desdemona Goodnight Juliet
Representative Theatre Virginia Stage Company: The Woman in Black; Penumbra Theatre: Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom, Strut; Jungle Theater: Happgood; Mixed Blood Theatre: King of the Kosher Grocers; Goodman Theatre: The Cherry Orchard; Court Theatre: Tartuffe; Guthrie Theater, Theatre in the Square, American Players, Peninsula Players TV/Film All My Children (ABC), Guiding Light (CBS), Another World (NBC), Chicago Story (NBC), Laurel Avenue (HBO) / Wilson, A Serious Man, The Last Love Letter, Holiday Beach, World and Time Enough, Last Seen, The Quietest Sound, My New Life

ANGELA TIMBERMAN*
Gloria
Park Square The Sisters Rosensweig, Painting Churches, Good People Representative Theatre Guthrie Theater, Jungle Theater, Children’s Theatre Company, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, History Theatre, Illusion Theater, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts Upcoming Projects Park Square: The Realistic Joneses

SALLY ANN WRIGHT
Mrs. McAndrews/Ensemble
Park Square Becky’s New Car Representative Theatre Old Log Theater: Jeeves in Bloom, Dixie Swim Club; Troupe America’s Tour: Love Loss and What I Wore, Lemonade for the Lawnboy; Ordway Center: Beauty and the Beast; Theater Latté Da: Passage of Dreams; Gremlin Theatre/Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival: The Enemy: Time and A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur; Torch Theater: Macbeth, Whatever Happened to Baby Jane; Illusion Theater: Angelheaded Hipster, Autistic License; Jungle Theater: Picnic; Minnesota Jewish Theatre: Twilight of the Golds; Artisphere Theater: Looking for Normal; Starting Gate: Richard III; Bloomington Arts Center: Gypsy Awards/Other Best Actress, Lavender Magazine 2008 (Looking for Normal) and 2014 (Gypsy)

JEF HALL-FLAVIN
Director


Other Currently: Executive Director, Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theater Festival; Formerly: Associate Director, The Shakespeare Theatre Company; Outreach Associate, Guthrie Theater; Artistic Director, Outward Spiral Theatre Company; Teacher/Lecturer: Guthrie Theater, Mayo Medical School, University of Minnesota, Concordia University, Stephen’s College, University of Otago (New Zealand) Upcoming Projects Park Square: Macbeth (2017)

CLARE BRAUCH Costume Designer
MEGAN FAE DOUGHERTY*
Stage Manager
Park Square Great Expectations, My Children! My Africa!; Elliot, A Soldier’s Fugue; The Other Place; The Color Purple; Sexy Laundry; Behind the Eye; Cyrano; Good People; Stick Fly; Or Representative Theatre TigerLion Arts: Nature, The Dragons Are Singing Tonight; Troupe America: A Christmas Carol; Utah Shakespeare Festival: 2007 Season; Santa Fe Opera: 2006 Season Training B.A., Theatre Administration, Bemidji State University

KATHARINE HOROWITZ Sound Designer
Park Square Romeo and Juliet, My Children! My Africa!, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Sexy Laundry, The School for Lies, Or Representative Theatre Second City Theatricals, Pillsbury House Theatre, Mixed

Blood Theatre, Mu Performing Arts, Girl Friday Productions, Walking Shadow Theatre Company TV/Film “In The Kitchen With...” Killing Joke Productions Training B.A., Theatre Arts, University of Iowa Awards/Other Member, Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association; Artist to Watch by Metro Magazine, 2010 Upcoming Projects Pillsbury House Theatre: Scapegoat; Park Square: Calendar Girls

JENNIFER JOHNSON Properties Designer
Park Square Elliot, a Soldier’s Fugue Representative Theatre University of Minnesota: Earthquakes in London; Theatre Unbound: Title IX; Normandale Theatre: The Tempest; Penumbra: By the Way Meet Vera Stark Training B.A., Theatre Arts, University of MN

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The Realistic Joneses Sept 23 – Oct 16, 2016 Comedy/Drama

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A Raisin in the Sun Oct 28 – Nov 20, 2016 Drama

Sandbox Theatre presents
Big Money Jan 12 – 28, 2017 Drama/Comedy
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Nina Simone: Four Women Feb 7 – 26, 2017 Play with Music
Macbeth Mar 17 – Apr 9, 2017 Tragedy

The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence April 7 – 30, 2017 Comedy/Drama
Amy’s View May 12 – June 4, 2017 Drama
Theatre Pro Rata presents

Might as Well Be Dead: A Nero Wolfe Mystery Jun 16 – Jul 30, 2017 Mystery
Girl Friday Productions presents
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JOSEPH STANLEY Scenic Designer
Park Square The Language Archive
Representative Theatre Children’s Theatre Company: Jungle Book; Mu Performing Arts: You For Me For You; Frank Theatre: The Arsonists; Mixed Blood Theatre: Charm; Stages Theatre Company: Number the Stars; Pillsbury House Theatre: Bright Half Life Training M.F.A., Scenography, University of Minnesota; B.A., Theatre, Indiana University Awards/Other Ivey Award for Scenic Design, 2010; Co-Founder and Artistic Director of 15 HEAD- a theatre lab, 1995-2005 Upcoming Projects Children’s Theatre Company: Pinocchio; Mixed Blood Theatre: Barbecue and Orange

Production Staff & Crew
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Wardrobe Assistant: Becca Chapin
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Assistant Technical Director: Ian Stoutenburgh
Paint Charge: Angelique Powers
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Carpenters: James Duncan, Ben Schave, Brittany Pooladian
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Electrician: Micayla Thebault-Spieker, Erin Beldedio, Jake Otto

Park Square’s Premiere Producers’ Club Ventures to Humana Festival of New American Plays

Have you ever seen a play in another city and thought “That would be perfect for Park Square! How can I encourage them to consider it?” A group of nine avid theater-goers joined Richard Cook and Jamil Jude at the 40th Humana Festival of New American Plays in Louisville. Richard and Jamil were able to offer their ‘professional’ opinions, and were most interested in hearing what the ‘amateur’ theater-goers thought of each play, all with the shared intent of finding work to enliven Park Square’s stages. Over three days we enjoyed – some more, some less – performances of six new works, engaged in endless conversations about the work we’d seen and whether it was ‘a Park Square play’, shared our impressions over breakfast, lunch, dinner (and bourbon), and got an inside look at the process of sourcing plays for Park Square’s stages. As a member of the Premiere Producers’ Club, you (yes you!) could be a part of the process of finding new work for Park Square’s stages, and meet like-minded, passionate theater-goers in the process. For a $1,000 annual contribution to help the theater develop and license new plays, you are invited to rehearsals, to meet the cast and artistic staff, and join staff and club members on theater weekends. If you care about the future of theater in general and Park Square in particular, you need to be part of this exclusive and enthusiastic group! We’re already planning our excursion for 2017! For more information, contact Paul and Pat Sackett at psackett@hotmail.com.
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(Evening) Jiffy Kunik - Performance Supervisor; Adrian Larkin, Ashe Jaafaru, CJ Pitts, Federic Nobello, Jackson Smith, Jimmy Vincent, Kasey Tunell, Mariah Christensen, Matt Cawley, Michelle Clark, Mina Kobayashi, Missy Keller, Sarah Bauer, Vince Hannam, Allison Osberg, Taylor Seaberg;  
(Daytime) Adrian Larkin - Lead House Manager; Staci Sathre - House Manager; Gayle Smith, Louise Rosemark, Ann Feider, Patricia Arnold, Paula Manzuk, Ting Ting Cheng, Federic Nobello, Lyndse Hart, Jimmy Vincent

**Ticket Agents:** Ben Cook-Feltz, Jimmy Vincent  
**Usher and Friday Morning Club Coordinator:** Judy Bartlett

**ARTISTIC ASSOCIATES**  
Aditi Kapil, Playwright, Director and Actor;  
Carson Kreitzer, Playwright; Ricardo Vázquez, Playwright and Actor;  
James A. Williams, Director, Actor and Teacher

**ACCESS SERVICES STAFF**  
Audio Description: Rick Jacobson;  
American Sign Language Interpreters: Mary Baremore, Elly Carpenter, Paul Deeming, Shelley Lehner, Susan Masters, Charlotte Reiner; Open Captioning: Kathleen Conroy, Jill Vaughn

**CONSULTANTS**  
Assignment Writer: Matt DiCintio; Auditor: Clifton Larson Allen; Community Engagement Consultants: Jamil Jude, Alicia Wiesneth; Disability Advisor: Jill Vaughn; Graphic Designer: Madge Duffey; Photographer: Petronella J. Ytsma; Videographer: Michael Hanisch; Volunteer Curators: Jennifer Bisch, Toni Dachis, Roger Nielsen

**VOLUNTEERS**  
Friday Morning Club: Susan Adix, Doreen Aszmus, Sue Bjerke, Jerry and Nancy Carroll, Pat Dalluhn, Monica Fritzzen, Betty Markland, Pat Sackett; Thanks to all of our Volunteer Ushers

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PARK SQUARE INFORMATION
CONTACT
Park Square Theatre
408 St. Peter Street, Suite 110, Saint Paul, MN 55102
Ticket Office: 651.291.7005
Usher Hotline: 651.767.8489
Education: 651.291.9196
Donor Development: 651.767.8485
Audience Services & Group Sales: 651.767.8487
Audition Hotline: 651.767.8491

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TICKET OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday – Friday:
12:00 – 5:00pm & 6:30 – 8:00pm (performance days only)
12:00 – 5:00pm (non-performance days)
Saturday: 2:00 – 8:00pm (performance days only)
*For Saturday matinees, ticket office and phone lines open at 12:30pm
Sunday: 12:30 – 3:30pm (performance days only)

Proscenium Stage seats 348. Andy Boss Thrust Stage seats 203. The Historic Hamm Building is smoke-free. Latecomers are seated at the discretion of the House Manager. Restrooms and water fountains on main floor and lower level. Cameras/audio/video equipment and laser pointers prohibited.

These activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, and a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota.
Calendar GIRLS
By Tim Firth; Directed by Mary M. Finnerty

JUN 17–JUL 24 Proscenium Stage

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When a group of friends raises funds for a local charity (by posing in the buff for a calendar) their hilarious venture becomes a media sensation, exposing themselves in ways they hadn’t anticipated and testing the strength of their friendships. “…in the great good cause of cheering us up in hard times, Calendar Girls is just the ticket.” – Telegraph

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Don’t Miss:

in photo: Christina Baldwin*, Shanan Custer, Charity Jones*
*Member, Actors’ Equity Association; photo by Petronella J. Ytsma

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