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CONTACT:

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Staged Reading:

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AUDITIONS – April 17–18, 2009, Friday and Saturday

STAGED READING – April 19, 2009, Sunday

"The Domestic Crusaders",

The First Major Muslim–American Play for the Post 9–11 World,

Nuyorican Poets Cafe, NYC – www.domesticcrusaders.com

WHAT: The Domestic Crusaders makes its New York premiere at the world famous Nuyorican in Fall 2009. Opening 9/11/09 to 10/19/09. Please engage in this historic effort by auditioning or attending the staged reading in NYC.

"The Domestic Crusaders is exactly the sort of theater we need today. The gulf that separates cultures must be bridged and Art is one of our best hopes. I'll be supporting this all the way." – Emma Thompson, Academy Award winning actress and screenwriter

"Domestic Crusaders is to Muslim American theater what A Raisin in the Sun is to African American theater."— Pulitzer Prize nominated author Mitch Berman

WHEN:

Auditions:

April 17–18, Friday and Saturday, 10am – 1pm

Staged Reading:

April 19, Sunday, 6pm – 8pm

<http://domesticcrusaders.com/events.html>

Come see the first entire half [more than 70 minutes of entertainment] as an intimate reading with professional actors. Followed by Q and A with the Playwright Wajahat Ali, Producer MacArthur Genius, Pulitzer nominated author Ishmael Reed and Rome Neal, and Director Carla Blank afterward

\$10 entrance admission is a donation towards staging the play (All donations are tax deductible).

WHERE: Nuyorican Poets Café
www.nuyorican.org
236 E 3rd St
New York, NY 10009
212-465-3167

WHO: Auditions:
All actors, both professional and raw, amateur talent encouraged to audition. The Performances shall be from September 10th until October 11th. Rehearsals begin August 1st until Performance.

Staged Reading:
Anyone who loves theater.

SYNOPSIS: The Domestic Crusaders focuses on one day in the life of a modern Muslim Pakistani-American family of six eclectic, unique members, who convene at the family house to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of the youngest child. With a background of 9-11 and the scapegoating of Muslim Americans, the tensions and sparks fly among the three generations, culminating in an intense family battle as each "crusader" struggles to assert and impose their respective voices and opinions, while still attempting to maintain and understand that unifying thread that makes them part of the same family.

The three generations of the family include: the grandfather, Hakim, a retired, Pakistani army official who harbors a terrible secret; Salman, his son, a middle-aged corporate engineer trying to maintain his pride and self-respect; Khulsoom, Salman's wife, longing for her homeland and wishing to impart her traditions, values, and morals to her American-born children; Salahuddin, the eldest child, stubbornly clinging to his ideals of success, as well as his

anger and resentment towards his father; Fatima, the middle child, passionately advocating her Islamic identity, while rejecting the traditional stereotypes and biases of her mother; Ghafur, the youngest, the golden child abandoning his family's expectations in order to discover his own path...These individuals are The Domestic Crusaders!

CRUSADERS:

FATIMA (Daughter): Looking for Actresses Ages 20 to 30; Preferably South Asian or Middle Eastern; California, American accent; Part requires wearing hijab [head covering] on stage;

SALAHUDDIN/SAL (Elder Son): Actors ages 23 to 32; Preferably South Asian or Middle Eastern; Dresses sharp; American accent.

GHAFUR (Youngest Son): Young actors ages 20 to 27; Part will require small beard and wearing of skull cap; Preferably South Asian or Middle Eastern; American accent.

SALMAN/ABU (Father): Actors ages from mid 30's to 50's; South Asian with intermediate Urdu/Hindi skills strongly preferred.

KHULSOOM (Mother): Actress ages from mid 30's to 50's; South Asian with intermediate Urdu/Hindi skills strongly preferred

HAKIM (Grandfather): Actors ages from mid 30's to 50's; South Asian with intermediate Urdu/Hindi skills strongly preferred.