

# Showtime

—Ryan Koch

The stage is set  
Put on your costume  
Pick up your props  
Position yourself, the show  
will premiere soon.  
Months of rehearsals  
You're ready  
It opens  
The piercing light  
and searing heat stop you.  
Catch your breath  
Frozen, sudden stage fright  
Beads of sweat form quickly  
from every pore  
Hands shaking  
Forget your lines  
Deep breath, deep breath,  
deep breath  
Now, silence  
It's show time.  
“Welcome to the 'Stan,  
now get off my plane.”