

Dámaso Rodríguez

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Affiliations

- Artists Repertory Theatre Artistic Director, 2013 – present
- The Pasadena Playhouse Associate Artistic Director, 2007 – 2010
- Furious Theatre Company Co-Founding Artistic Director, 2001 – 2012
- Furious Theatre Residency at The Pasadena Playhouse, 2004-2011
- Columbia College Hollywood Directing Faculty, 2010 – 2012
- Member: Stage Directors & Choreographers Society

Awards & Recognition

- Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award; Back Stage Garland Award; LA Weekly Theatre Award; NAACP Theatre Award; Pasadena Arts Council's Gold Crown Award; 2012 Zelda Fichandler Award Finalist; Knowledge Universe Rising Star Award; and dozens of Critics' Recommendations from Los Angeles Times, LA Weekly, Back Stage and other media.

Upcoming Projects

Artists Repertory Theatre

***An Octoroon* by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**

***The Humans* by Stephen Karam**

***Magellanica* by E.M. Lewis – World Premiere**

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

***Romeo & Juliet* by William Shakespeare**

Partial List of Past Theatre Productions (See website for complete list)

Artists Repertory Theatre

***Cuba Libre* by Carlos Lacámara & Jorge Gomez – World Premiere Musical**

“...sharp direction and choreography, spiffy design and projections, exhilarating dancing, incendiary music and, crucially, crack timing. – Oregon Artswatch”

***Produced in association with Broadway producer Susan Dietz**

Artists Repertory Theatre

***The Skin of Our Teeth* by Thornton Wilder – Rare Revival**

“Hilarious, imaginative, creative, satirical and exciting ... Fearlessly rendered by Artists Repertory Theatre, this laugh-a-second, multi-millennia mindbender shouldn't be missed...” - Oregon Live

***Featuring a professional ensemble of 14 supported by more than 150 community guest stars**

Artists Repertory Theatre

***The Big Meal* by Dan LeFranc – West Coast Premiere**

“Crisp, clean, technically perfect, and drawing sensational performances from its actors, “The Big Meal” fulfills its promise as a Portland theater milestone.” – The Oregonian

***Inaugural production as Artists Rep's artistic director**

Pasadena Playhouse

***The Heiress* by Ruth & Augustus Goetz – Starring Richard Chamberlain**

“With this fine, funny take on a venerable drama, director Dámaso Rodríguez proves that tragedy works best in counterpoint. Mr. Rodríguez's direction, so confident as to be invisible, highlights what's interesting and graceful in the play's every nuance.” – Stage and Cinema

***Los Angeles Times Critic's Choice**

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Pasadena Playhouse

***The Little Foxes* by Lillian Hellman – Starring Kelly McGillis & Julia Duffy**

“...riveting revival of one of the iconic works of the American stage...Rodríguez is in sync with the scripter's agenda, guiding a superbly balanced ensemble through every nuance of the subsequent disintegration of the bottom-feeding Hubbard clan...” – Variety

***Los Angeles Times Critic's Choice**

Intiman Theatre

***Paradise Lost* by Clifford Odets – Rare Revival**

“Paradise Lost” is a fascinating, pulsating slab of theatrical history in Intiman Theatre's gutsy, vigorously performed resurrection.” – Seattle Times

Pasadena Playhouse

***Orson's Shadow* by Austin Pendleton – Starring Sharon Lawrence* & Charles Shaughnessy**

“In addition to his brisk pacing and evocative stage pictures, helmer Dámaso Rodríguez (recently elevated to associate status under Playhouse a.d. Sheldon Epps) fearlessly encourages his Herculean figures to strut their stuff full-tilt.” – Variety

***Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award winner for Featured Performance**

A Noise Within Classical Repertory

***The Eccentricities of a Nightingale* by Tennessee Williams – Rare Revival**

"Dámaso Rodríguez dances the entire production through the play's musicality on a stage lit beautifully by James P. Taylor in the soft gauziness that Williams' "romantic clichés" demand” – LA Weekly

***Los Angeles Times Critic's Choice**

A Noise Within Classical Repertory

***Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward – Starring Scott Lowell**

"Noel Coward's deathless “improbable farce” about a second marriage sent haywire by the first wife's ghost receives an engrossing account, agreeably quirky, reliably stylish.” – Los Angeles Times

***Los Angeles Times Critic's Choice**

Furious Theatre Company at [Inside] the Ford Amphitheatre

***No Good Deed* by Matt Pelfrey – World Premiere**

"Director Dámaso Rodríguez's thrillingly visceral world-premiere staging of Matt Pelfrey's subversive dark comedy "No Good Deed" represents a welcome return for the iconoclastic company.” – Back Stage

***Recipient of L.A. County Arts Commission Winter Residency**

Furious Theatre Company at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre

***Grace* by Craig Wright – Los Angeles Premiere**

“Edgy, raucous and uncompromising ... with admirable clarity, director Dámaso Rodríguez steers his skilled cast through Wright's dense ruminations.” – Los Angeles Times

***Three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards including Best Production & Direction**

Furious Theatre Company at the Pasadena Playhouse Balcony Theatre

***Back of the Throat* by Yussef El Guindi – Los Angeles Premiere**

“‘Throat’ is a tight little ride, decisively directed by Dámaso Rodríguez, who also draws specific, engaging performances from his ensemble.” – Los Angeles Times

***Los Angeles Times Critic's Choice**

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The Theatre at Boston Court

***The Pain and the Itch* by Bruce Norris – Los Angeles Premiere**

“One of the most thrilling and adventurous productions of the year.” – Back Stage

***Three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award nominations including Best Production**

Furious Theatre Company at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre

***Hunter Gatherers* by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb – Los Angeles Premiere**

“Dámaso Rodríguez's relentlessly paced staging builds suspense with the visceral engagement of a cinematic thriller and draws nicely realized characters from the entire cast.” – Los Angeles Times

***Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award winner for Ensemble Performance**

Furious Theatre Company at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre

***Saturday Night at the Palace* by Paul Slabolepszy – U.S. Premiere**

“Director Dámaso Rodríguez, guiding a finely calibrated ensemble and an exemplary design team, elicits an electrifying theatre experience.” – Back Stage

***NAACP Theatre Award winner for Best Direction**

Development Workshops & Staged Readings (Partial List)

***The Thanksgiving Play* by Larissa FastHorse** – Artists Rep’s Table/Room/Stage Workshop

***We, the Invisibles* by Susan Soon He Stanton** – Playwrights’ Center Play Labs Festival

***Cuba Libre (A New Musical)* by Carlos Lacámara & Tiempo Libre** – Artists Repertory Theatre

***Aunt Stossie’s Coming for Five Days* by Ellen Simon** – Pasadena Playhouse

***All There Is (Love stories from StoryCorps)* co-adapted with Scott Lowell** – Pasadena Playhouse

***The Prince of Atlantis* by Steven Drukman** – South Coast Repertory Pacific Playwrights Festival

***Bottled Up* by Erica Lipez** – Furious Theatre/Naked Angels

***Big Money (A New Musical)* by Kyle Jarrow & Nathan Leigh** – Pasadena Playhouse

***Twenty-Three and a Half Hours* by Carey Crim** – Pasadena Playhouse

***The Confessions of Deacon Jim* by Jason Aaron Goldberg** – Pasadena Playhouse

***NOgoodDEED* by Matt Pelfrey** – Pasadena Playhouse

Honors & Distinctions

- TCG Young Leader of Color; Guest Artist: Ibero-American Theatre Forum (hosted by Spain’s Ministry of Culture in the Canary Islands); Guest Panelist: How Theatre Failed America (at the Kirk Douglas Theatre); TCG Delegate: Havana International Theatre Festival; NEA Shakespeare in American Communities Panelist

Specialized Training

Shakespeare Textual Analysis, Stanislavski System, Alexander Technique, Linklater Voice, Improvisation

Education

B.A. in Theatre Arts – Texas A&M University

Teaching Experience

Guest Instructor: Occidental College, Columbia College Hollywood, Portland Actors Conservatory, Texas A&M University, University of Texas at Austin-Los Angeles Program, University of Southern California M.F.A Playwriting, University of Portland, Willamette University