

Dámaso Rodriguez

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www.damasorodriguez.com • Member: Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

Affiliations

- Artists Repertory Theatre Artistic Director, 2013 – present
- Pasadena Playhouse Associate Artistic Director, 2007 – 2010
- Furious Theatre Company Co-Founding Artistic Director, 2001 – 2012
- Pasadena Playhouse Resident Artist, 2004 – 2011
- Columbia College Hollywood Directing Faculty, 2010 – 2012

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; 2014 Knowledge Universe Rising Star Award; and dozens of Critics' Recommendations from Los Angeles Times, LA Weekly, Back Stage and other media.

Upcoming Productions

Artists Repertory Theatre

***Tribes* by Nina Raine** January/February 2015

Artists Repertory Theatre

***The Liar* by David Ives** May/June 2015

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

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

Pasadena Playhouse

***The Heiress* by Ruth & Augustus Goetz – Starring Richard Chamberlain, Heather Tom & Julia Duffy**

“With this fine, funny take on a venerable drama, director Dámaso Rodriguez proves that tragedy works best in counterpoint. Mr. Rodriguez’s direction, so confident as to be invisible, highlights what’s interesting and graceful in the play’s every nuance. He quietly creates moments without slowing or discombobulating the action, designs stage pictures that are natural yet balanced, and even directs scene changes to flow with the story.” – Stage and Cinema

***Los Angeles Times Critic’s Choice**

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...Rodriguez 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 as aristocrat-wannabe Regina (Kelly McGillis) does battle with her ruthless brothers...” – Variety

***Los Angeles Times Critic’s Choice**

Intiman Theatre

***Paradise Lost* by Clifford Odets**

“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**

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“In addition to his brisk pacing and evocative stage pictures, helmer Dámaso Rodriguez (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

***Desire Under the Elms* by Eugene O’Neill**

"Under Dámaso Rodriguez’s superb direction, the performances are all excellent, playing up the intense, high drama and never dissolving into melodramatic drivel." – LA Weekly

***Inaugural season at the new \$13mil Redmond Stage**

A Noise Within Classical Repertory

***The Eccentricities of a Nightingale* by Tennessee Williams**

"Dámaso Rodriguez 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 Rodriguez'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 Rodriguez 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 Rodriguez, who also draws specific, engaging performances from his ensemble.” – Los Angeles Times

***Los Angeles Times Critic’s Choice**

Furious Theatre Company in a co-production with 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

***An Impending Rupture of the Belly* by Matt Pelfrey – World Premiere**

“Pelfrey's gripping, funny play is mounted with hilarious ferocity by Dámaso Rodriguez, who captures the crippling anxiety of uncertain times in a staging as droll as it is dire.” – Los Angeles Times

***Four LA Weekly Theatre Award nominations including Best Production & Direction**

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Furious Theatre Company at the Pasadena Playhouse Carrie Hamilton Theatre

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

“Dámaso Rodriguez'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 Rodriguez, 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)

***Cuba Libre* (A New Musical) by Carlos Lácámara & 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**

***Something to Hold* by Paul Charlton – LoNyLa Project Transatlantic Lab**

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

***Shatter Street* (a screenplay) by Matt Pelfrey – Furious Theatre/Naked Angels**

***The Prince of Atlantis* by Steven Drukman – South Coast Repertory New SCRipts Reading**

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

***Babel Belly* by Craig Jessen – UCLA/Los Angeles Theatre Center**

***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**

***Hothouse Bruiser* (a television pilot) by Joel Metzger – Slamdance Film Festival**

Honors & Distinctions

- Texas A&M University Distinguished Visiting Alumnus; 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); Theatre Educators of America Diversity 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

Directing Instructor: Columbia College-Hollywood

Guest Instructor: Occidental College

Guest Instructor: Portland Actors Conservatory

Guest Lecturer: Texas A&M University

Guest Lecturer: University of Texas at Austin-Los Angeles Program

Guest Lecturer: University of Southern California M.F.A Playwriting

Guest Lecturer: University of Portland

Guest Panelist: Willamette University

Guest Panelist: August Wilson Monologue Competition

Professional Mentor: L.A. County Arts Commission Internship Program

Professional Mentor: Occidental College Internship Program

Professional Mentor: Stage Directors & Choreographers Foundation Observership Program

Professional Mentor: A Noise Within Classical Repertory Theatre