

David Radamés Toro

Stage Director, Acting Coach, Physical Theatre Clinician



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CURRICULUM VITAE

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

Director

<i>Zorro</i> †	Arizona Opera	October 2025
<i>Falstaff</i> †	Portland Opera	May 2025
<i>Zorro</i> †	San José Opera	April 2025
<i>L'Orfeo</i> †	Arizona State University	March 2025
<i>Opera Outdoors</i> †	Opera Omaha	Sept 2024
<i>Das Rheingold</i> , associate director	Calgary Opera	2024
<i>Arizona Opera Studio Cabaret</i>	Arizona Opera	2024
<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Arizona State University	2024
<i>Cruzar la Cara de la Luna</i>	Austin Opera	2024
<i>Cruzar la Cara de la Luna</i> (fully orchestrated premiere)	Minnesota Opera	2023
<i>The Pirates of Penzance</i>	Arizona State University	2023
<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Tri-Cities Opera Syracuse Opera	2023
<i>Mystery on the Docks</i>	Tri-Cities Opera	2022
<i>La Bohème</i>	Opera Steamboat	2022
<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	Opera Idaho	2022
<i>The Shining</i>	Opera Colorado	2022
<i>The Fall of Atlantis</i> (Workshop), co-director/dramaturg	Scott Lord & David Arkenstone	2022
<i>¡Ópera Afuera!</i>	Minnesota Opera	2021
<i>Stone Soup</i>	Tri-Cities Opera	2021
<i>Unsung</i>	Act Up Theatre	2021
<i>L'enfant et les sortilèges</i>	Spotlight on Opera	2021
<i>Three Way</i>	Fargo Moorhead Opera	2021
<i>Opera in the Outfield</i>	Minnesota Opera	2020
<i>The Magic Flute: A Virtual Opera</i>	Opera Neo	2020
<i>Glory Denied</i>	Opera Fayetteville	2020
<i>Opera to Go: Jack and the Beanstalk</i>	Opera Saratoga	2020
<i>Flight</i>	Minnesota Opera	2020
<i>The Other Room</i>	An Opera Theatre (AOT)	2019
<i>La Calisto</i>	Opera Neo	2019
<i>The Consul</i>	University of Minnesota	2019
<i>Brundibár & The Gondoliers</i>	Minnesota Opera	2019
<i>The Consul</i>	An Opera Theatre (AOT)	2018
<i>Dinner at Eight</i> (European premiere), associate director	Wexford Festival Opera	2018
<i>Il Giasone</i>	Opera Neo	2017
<i>I'll Be Seeing You: A Resident Artist U.S.O. show</i>	Minnesota Opera	2017
<i>Misbehavin' at the Met: A Resident Artist Cabaret</i>	Minnesota Opera	2016
<i>Rose Made Man</i> (world premiere)	Cohen New Works Festival	2015
<i>Into the Woods</i>	Butler Opera Center	2015
<i>Das Lied von der Erde</i> , co-director/choreographer	Butler Opera Center	2014
<i>Rapture & The Impresario</i>	New Fangled Opera	2014
<i>Past the Checkpoints</i>	Butler Opera Center	2013
<i>Les enfants terribles</i>	Butler Opera Center	2013
<i>New York Stories</i>	Butler Opera Center	2012
<i>Der Kaiser von Atlantis</i>	Butler School of Music	2011

† = future projects

Assistant Director

<i>MacBeth</i> †	Washington National Opera	November 2024
<i>Thais</i>	Utah Opera Minnesota Opera	2024 2018
<i>The Lion, the Unicorn, and Me</i>	Washington National Opera	2023
<i>Das Rheingold</i>	Seattle Opera Minnesota Opera	2023 2016
<i>The Shining</i> (New orchestration premiere)	Opera Parallèle	2023
<i>The Shining</i> (world premiere production)	Lyric Opera of Kansas City Minnesota Opera	2023 2016
<i>Elektra</i>	Washington National Opera	2022
<i>L'elisir d'amore</i>	Seattle Opera	2022
<i>Come Home, A Celebration of Return</i>	Washington National Opera	2021
<i>Otello</i>	Washington National Opera	2019
<i>Le nozze di Figaro</i>	Cincinnati Opera Minnesota Opera	2019 2017
<i>El Pasado Nunca Se Termina</i>	Fort Worth Opera	2019
<i>Today it Rains</i> (world premiere)	Opera Parallèle	2019
<i>Il Trovatore</i>	Central City Opera	2018
<i>Rigoletto</i>	Minnesota Opera	2018
<i>Dead Man Walking</i>	Minnesota Opera	2018
<i>Don Pasquale</i>	Minnesota Opera	2017
<i>The Cradle Will Rock</i>	Opera Saratoga	2017
<i>Falstaff</i>	Opera Saratoga	2017
<i>La Bohème</i>	Minnesota Opera	2017
<i>Dinner at Eight</i> (world premiere)	Minnesota Opera	2017
<i>L'arbore di Diana</i>	Minnesota Opera	2017
<i>Romeo et Juliette</i>	Minnesota Opera	2016
<i>Restless Strangers Hagegård Stages Argento</i>	Source Song Festival	2016
<i>Il Postino</i>	Opera Saratoga	2016
<i>Rusalka</i>	Minnesota Opera	2016
<i>Die Zauberflöte</i>	Minnesota Opera	2015
<i>Ariadne Auf Naxos</i>	Minnesota Opera	2015
<i>A New Kind of Fallout</i> (world premiere)	Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh	2015

Scenes experience available upon request

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Guerilla Opera: Libretto Writing Course	Autumn 2024
Celebration Barn: Viewpoints, Suzuki, and Composition Led by Ellen Lauren and J. Ed Araiza	July 2024
Beth Morrison Project: Producer Academy	Autumn 2020
Viewpoints Masterclass for Singers with Anne Bogart	December 2019
Viewpoints Masterclass for Directors with Anne Bogart	April 2019
Resident Artist Program, Minnesota Opera	2015-2018
Young Artist Program, Opera Saratoga	2016, 2017
Young Artist Program, Pittsburgh Festival Opera	2014, 2015
Young Artist Program, Opera Steamboat (formerly Emerald City Opera)	2012, 2014
International Physical Theatre Laboratory with Sergei Ostrenko	2009

DIRECTORS ASSISTED

Francesca Zambello, Stephen Lawless, Brenna Corner, David Alden, Ian Rutherford, Leonard Foglia, Brian Staufenbiel, Joachim Schamberger, Andrea Cigni, Austin Regan, Joel Ivany, Chuck Hudson, Lawrence Edelson, Octavio Cardenas, Tomer Zvulun, Peter Rothstein, Matthew Ozawa, Håkan Hagegård, Eric Simonson, Tobias Ribitzki, Jonathan Eaton

CONDUCTORS

Steven White, Timothy Myers, Stephanie Rhodes Russell, Christian Capocaccia, Gerard Schwarz, Ernest Richardson, Giampaolo Bisanti, Sara Jobin, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, John Cockerill, Peter Kozma, Cris Frisco, Geoffrey McDonald, Benjamin Bayle, David Hanlon, Nicole Paiement, John Baril, Nicholas Kraemer, Craig Kier, David Agler, Andrew Bisantz, Jim Lowe, Michael Christie, Jonathan Brandani, Kelly Kuo, Kathleen Kelly, Laurie Rogers

HONORS/AWARDS

Star Tribune: Top Ten Classical Music Events in the Twin Cities 2023: No. 3 – *Cruzar la Cara de la Luna* (Director) 2023
The Irish Times Theatre Awards: Best Opera: Nomination – *Dinner at Eight* (Associate Director) 2018
Austin Critic’s Table: Best Opera: Nomination – *Les enfants terribles* (Director) 2013
Columbus Theatre Roundtable Awards: Winner – Best Musical – *Trojan Woman* (Music Director) 2007

ADDITIONAL SKILLS/STUDIES

Suzuki/Viewpoints	Meisner Technique	Basic Pass in Unarmed Combat by SAFD
Mime/Pantomime	Ballet & Jazz Dance	Acting Coach
Trigger Analysis	Episodic Analysis	Musical Forces Theory
Dalcroze Eurythmics	Alexander Technique	Meyerhold’s Biomechanics

LANGUAGES STUDIED

French (10 years) German (5 years) Spanish (5 years) Italian (diction)

REVIEWS

Cruzar La Cara de la Luna, Austin Opera, 2024

“All of this serves to amplify the artistic and theatrical excellence of the cast and highlight the expert direction of David Radamés Toro.” ~ Broadway World

Cruzar La Cara de la Luna, Minnesota Opera, 2023

“Cruzar la Cara de la Luna” is far more than an adventurous fusion of styles. It’s one of the most exciting and deeply involving productions that Minnesota Opera has presented so far this century.” ~ Star Tribune

“Where [David] Radamés Toro’s direction excel[s] is in the relationships developed between the characters, both in 2010 and 50 years earlier on Laurentino and Renata’s wedding day....The production successfully illustrates the complexity of the different family dynamics as it offers a message of hope, forgiveness and redemption.” ~ Twin Cities Pioneer Press

Flight, Minnesota Opera, 2020

“Minnesota Opera’s staging is skillfully constructed” ~ Twin Cities Pioneer Press

“This staging showed that “Flight” has a beating heart, and something to say...” ~ Minneapolis Star Tribune

La Calisto, Opera Neo, 2019

“[Opera NEO’s] well-sung and cleverly staged production...” ~San Diego Union Tribune

The Consul, An Opera Theatre (AOT), 2018

“Kneading the action together was the sensitive guiding hand of director David Radamés Toro, whose feeling for each character stopped the opera from seeming like a rant” ~ Star Tribune

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin , DMA – Opera Direction	2015
The Ohio State University , MM – Vocal Performance	2007
The Ohio State University , MA – Vocal Pedagogy	2004
The University of Colorado at Boulder , BM – Vocal Performance, with high honors	2002

PRIMARY TEACHERS

Robert DeSimone	<i>(Retired Director of Opera Studies, University of Texas)</i>
Robert Hatten	<i>(Retired Professor of Music Theory, University of Texas)</i>
Jeanine Thompson	<i>(Retired Professor of Theatre, The Ohio State University)</i>
Maureen Ryan	<i>(Retired Professor of Theatre, The Ohio State University)</i>
John Robin Rice	<i>(Professor of Voice, Shepherd School of Music)</i>
Patrick Mason	<i>(Retired Professor of Voice, University of Colorado)</i>
Greg Goldsten	<i>(Mime performer and instructor)</i>
Chuck Hudson	<i>(Freelance director and mime instructor)</i>
Anne Bogart	<i>(Founder and Artistic Director, SITI Company)</i>
Jonathan Eaton	<i>(Director of Opera, University of Northern Texas)</i>
Mutsumi Moteki	<i>(Professor of Vocal Coaching, University of Colorado)</i>
Peter Kozma	<i>(Founder and Artistic Director, Opera Neo)</i>

WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES

Vocal and Dramatic Coach – Master Coach <i>Coach singers on Arias, spoken monologues, and character building. Specialize in Trigger Analysis and Episodic Analysis. Focus on text and musical setting, melodic/emotional trajectory, biorhythms and biomechanics.</i>	2010 - present
Utah Opera – Masterclass <i>In a masterclass format, coached the 2023/24 cohort of Resident Artist singers. Arias included “La Maya y el Ruiseñor” from Goyescas; “Largo al Factotum” from The Barber of Seville; and “Nobles Seigneurs” from Les Huguenots.</i>	May 2024
Calgary Opera –Workshop and Masterclass <i>Led a class in body isolations based on Decroux’s Corporeal Mime Coached members of the McPhee Artist Development Program in acting through text and song, and dramatic pacing in arias such as “Il mio Tesoro and Je veux vivre”.</i>	April 2024
Opera Neo – Head of Directing Staff <i>Mentored and instructed Opera Neo’s directing artists apprentices Taught the apprentices skills for being an assistant director in opera Gave feedback on scenes directed by the apprentices Served as interim stage director for Mitridate, when director, Peter Kozma, was recovering from Covid-19</i>	June, July 2023
Tri-Cities Opera – Stage Director and Clinician <i>Taught Basic Exercises from Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training, corporeal body isolations, and physical comedy to Tri-Cities Opera’s resident artists and affiliated graduate students from Binghamton University.</i>	September 2021, 2022 April 2023
Opera Steamboat – State Director, Master Coach, and Clinician <i>Taught Basic Exercises from Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training, corporeal body isolations, and the four beats of comedy. Taught an accelerated workshop in Sanford Meisner’s acting technique. Coached young artists on their arias.</i>	June 2022
Spotlight on Opera – Instructor and Master Coach (via zoom) <i>Coached young artist singers on arias and monologues. Taught classes in corporeal mime, comic and dramatic timing based on classical mime, and Suzuki Tadashi actor training.</i>	July 2021
Seattle Opera, Teen Vocal Studio – Instructor and Masterclass (via zoom) <i>Instruction in body isolations, hand articulation and the four beats of comedy and two beats of drama based on Mime principles. Lectured on how to build a character followed by a discussion. Led a masterclass for participants of the program.</i>	February 2021
Opera Neo – Instructor (Via Zoom) <i>Introduced young artist singers to body isolations based on Corporeal Mime and body mapping principles. Discussed and practiced the ideas of Behavioral and Expressive gesture, the beats of gesture, and variations. Practiced the beats of comedy and beats of drama based on Mime principals and discussed examples in the inherited opera repertory. Discussed American schools of acting and how they apply to acting for the opera stage.</i>	July 2020
Opera Reading Project – Master Class <i>Led a masterclass for opera singers participating in Opera Reading Project including arias from Don Giovanni, Hérodiade, and The Rape of Lucretia.</i>	January 2020

Opera Neo – Stage Director and Instructor	Summers
<i>Taught Basic Exercises from Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training, corporeal body isolations, and the four beats of comedy to Opera Neo’s Studio Artists.</i>	2019, 2017
<i>Sat on Audition Workshop and Topics in Opera panels.</i>	
Minnesota Opera – Instructor of Movement and Acting for the opera stage	2015-2018
<i>Taught weekly classes the resident artist singers including:</i>	
<i>In-depth study of elements of shape and gesture for the stage.</i>	
<i>Anne Bogart’s 9 Viewpoints, Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training, classical mime, and Decroux corporeal mime.</i>	
<i>Exercises in stage composition and collaboration.</i>	
<i>Basic and intermediate Meisner technique.</i>	
<i>Introduction to Meyerhold’s biomechanics, Laban efforts, and gestural mechanics.</i>	
Minnesota Opera, Project Opera – Guest Clinician March 2017	March
<i>Taught high school students an introduction to Decroux corporeal mime to introduce triple design, basic exercises from Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training and discussed the importance of nonverbal acting for opera singers.</i>	2017
Viewpoints and Stage Composition, Austin, TX – Master Clinician	2013-2014
<i>An extra-curricular workshop series comprised of theatre and opera majors from the University of Texas, Austin.</i>	
<i>In-depth training of Anne Bogart’s Viewpoints, Stage composition, and Body isolations for theatre and music students.</i>	
<i>Introduced principles of movement and musical gesture based on Dalcroze principles.</i>	
Butler Opera Center Young Artist Program	June
<i>Directed high school and undergraduate singers in opera scenes.</i>	2012, 2013
<i>Led discussions in scene preparation and rehearsal expectations.</i>	
Druid City Opera – Stage Director and Movement Instructor	May
<i>Taught a two-part workshop for the young artists including an introduction to Anne Bogart’s Viewpoints and Decroux body isolations.</i>	2012
<i>Staged Opera Scenes starting the Druid City young artists</i>	
Private Voice Instructor	2002-2011
<i>Maintained a private voice studio for students of various ages and experiences.</i>	
<i>Students frequently won competitions and succeeded in admission to college voice/music theatre programs.</i>	

ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

Arizona State University – Stage Director and Lecturer <i>Co-Taught Sophomore Music Theatre students physical theatre methods from Suzuki/Viewpoints and Corporeal Mime. Coached students of all levels in acting through song and aria. Taught Graduate students methods in script analysis, dramaturgy, and character analysis, using these methods to deliver aria as a monologue. Taught undergraduate voice majors level one Meisner method and how to apply it towards recitativo. Taught a course on collaboration for Graduate and undergraduate students, where I guided them through creating an opera scenes program based on 21st century American Opera and Music theatre. Students served as directors as well as performers. We met weekly to discuss themes in the scenes and how they could all be sewn together into a pasticcio. Directed The Pirates of Penzance and Le nozze di Figaro. Taught Private lessons in stage direction and assistant directing to interested students.</i>	August 2023 – May 2025
University of Texas, Austin – Guest Clinician <i>Taught a class on body isolations, elements of gesture, and physical comedy to graduate students in opera performance.</i>	February 2024
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg – Guest Clinician <i>Led a masterclass for undergraduate voice majors focusing on musical communication and physicality. Coached the undergraduate concerto competition winner on “Deh! tu, bell'anima” before her concert debut with orchestra. We focused on communicating the spoken language and use of body language. Met with Latino/Hispanic identifying students to discuss their goals in music and music education.</i>	December 2023
Ithaca College – Guest Lecturer <i>Lectured on career training and expectations as an Assistant Director in professional opera for Chuck Hudson’s Opera Direction Certificate Program.</i>	May 2022
University of Colorado, Boulder – Masterclass <i>Led a masterclass for five graduate voice students singing arias from Flight, Manon, Faust, The Manchurian Candidate, and The Rake's Progress.</i>	March 2022
University of Colorado, Boulder – Guest Instructor <i>Led a class on corporeal mime isolations and classical mime comic timing for undergraduate and graduate opera and music theatre students.</i>	March 2022
Colorado State University, Pueblo – Guest Clinician <i>Taught Basic Exercises based on Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training to undergraduate voice majors and discussed how Suzuki training applies to opera performance. Taught an introduction to corporeal body isolations and the four beats of comedy based on mime principles.</i>	March 2022
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee – Guest Instructor <i>Taught three days of workshops in acting and physical theatre techniques including beginning Meisner Technique, Suzuki Tadashi’s actor training, corporeal mime body isolations, classical mime beats of comedy and of drama, and Anne Bogart’s Nine Viewpoints.</i>	September 2021

State University of New York, Freedonia – Guest Clinician (via Zoom)	April 2021
<i>Lectured on Suzuki Tadashi’s actor Training and demonstrated selected exercises.</i>	
<i>Discussed how Suzuki Method applies towards stage directing in opera and its similarities in other physical theatre methodologies.</i>	
Virginia Tech – Guest Instructor (via Zoom)	February 2021
<i>Coached undergraduate students individually on their arias.</i>	
<i>Lectured on a Convocation-Webinar: “A Latino in Opera” discussing issues of equity in opera.</i>	
Texas A&M, Kingsville – Guest Clinician (via Zoom)	March 2020
<i>Taught an introduction to corporeal mime and Alexander Technique body mapping principles.</i>	
<i>Introduced students to comic and dramatic time in mime.</i>	
<i>Answered students’ questions about directing and auditioning in professional opera.</i>	
University of Minnesota – Guest Lecturer, MUS 5250	Spring 2019
<i>Directed undergraduate and graduate students in a production of The Consul</i>	
<i>Coached student performers on character development, dramatic pacing in arias, and stage craft.</i>	