

MAY ADRALES

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A 2nd generation, Filipina-American director, artistic leader, educator and mother, May Adrales is a New York based (by way of Appalachia) acclaimed director of musicals, classics and new work, nationally and internationally, and recognized for increasing visibility and prominence of theater by underrepresented voices and producing artistically adventurous work. Most recently awarded the prestigious Alan Schneider TCG Directing Award and the Andrew Ammerman Award at Arena Stage.

At the helm of over 25 world premieres at numerous major regional and New York theaters, Adrales is a pioneer of new work. In theaters across the country, she has commissioned, developed and initiated successful pathways to production. Adrales builds creative and supportive environments for theater artists to generate original work, leading bold new initiatives that foster creative risk and innovation.

Her production of Academy Award nominee, Qui Nguyen's, Vietgone, garnered three Lucille Lortel nominations, an Obie award, LATimes Critics Pick, NYTimes Critics Pick, Top Ten productions of 2017. Adrales's production of In The Heights set box office records and played in four sold-out runs at Milwaukee Rep, Seattle Rep, Cincinnati Playhouse and Portland Center Stage.

Direction that has been described as electrifyingly innovative, high-octane, powerful, dynamic and visually arresting, what ties her wide-ranging body of work is creativity, risk and most importantly, joy.

MAY ADRALES

POSITIONS HELD

- DIRECTOR OF THE THEATRE PROGRAM, Fordham University 2021-present
- ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 2017-2021
- ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, The Lark Play Development Center, 2021
- TEACHER, Yale School of Drama, A.R.T., Brown/Trinity, Juilliard, NYU 2012-2018
- DIRECTOR OF ARTISTIC PROGRAMS, Lark Play Development Center, 2008-2011

DIRECTING

** denotes world premiere*

* Golden Shield (Anchuli Felicia King)	2022	Manhattan Theatre Club
* Nagasaki (Rajiv Joseph)	2021	Second Stage Theater
Eclipsed (Danai Gurira)	2020	Milwaukee Rep
* Poor Yella Rednecks (Qui Nguyen)	2019-23	South Coast Rep/Manhattan Theater Club Hudson Valley Shakespeare
Much Ado About Nothing (original music, Nellie McKay)	2019	Milwaukee Rep/Seattle Rep/Cincinnati Playhouse/Portland Center Stage
* In The Heights (Lin Manuel Miranda, Quiara Alegria Hudes)	2018-19	
* The Chinese Lady (Lloyd Suh)	2019	Milwaukee Rep
* Natural Shocks (Lauren Gunderson)	2018	WP Theater
* Little Black Shadows (Kemp Powers)	2018	South Coast Rep
* The Way the Mountain Moved (Idris Goodwin)	2018	Oregon Shakespeare Festival
Animal Farm (Wooldridge/Orwell)	2018	Milwaukee Rep/Baltimore Center Stage
The Who and The What (Ayad Ahktar)	2017	Milwaukee Rep
* Somebody's Daughter (Chisa Hutchinson)	2017	Second Stage Theater
* Vietgone (Qui Nguyen)	2016-17	Manhattan Theater Club/South Coast Rep/Seattle Rep/OSF
* girl shakes loose (Imani Uzuri and Zakiyyah Alexander)	2017	Penumbra Theater Company
* The Strangest (Betty Shamieh)	2017	Here Arts Center
Tokyo Fish Story (Kimber Lee)	2016	Old Globe Theater
* Disgraced (Ayad Ahktar)	2016	Syracuse Stage
* The Wedding Gift (Chisa Hutchinson)	2016	Contemporary American Theater Festival
* Trouble Cometh (Richard Dresser)	2015	San Francisco Playhouse
In the Next Room (Sarah Ruhl)	2015	Syracuse Stage
* Everything You Touch (Sheila Callaghan)	2015	Contemporary American Theater Festival
* Luce (JC Lee)	2014	Lincoln Center Theater
* after all the terrible things I do (A. Rey Pamatmat)	2014	Milwaukee Repertory Theater
Breath and Imagination (Daniel Beaty)	2014	Cleveland Playhouse

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DIRECTING (continued)

** denotes world premiere*

* Five Days 'Til Saturday (Qui Nguyen)	2014	NYU Tisch
* Electric Baby (Stefanie Zdravec <i>*East Coast Premiere</i>)	2013	Two River Theater
Chinglish (David Henry Hwang)	2013	Portland Center Stage/Syracuse Stage
Dance and the Railroad (David Henry Hwang) Deathtrap	2013	Signature Theater/Wuzhen Theater Festival
(Ira Levin)	2013	Pioneer Theater Company
The Mountaintop (Katori Hall)	2012	Milwaukee Rep
Animals Out of Paper (Rajiv Joseph)	2012	Chester Theater Company
* Whaddabloodclott!!! (Katori Hall)	2012	Williamstown Theater Festival
* Olives and Blood (Michael Bradford)	2012	Here Arts Center
* Last Pair of Earlies (Joshua Allen)	2012	Juilliard School
* In This House (Schlessinger, Bernstein & Reid)	2011	Two River Theater
* Our Lot (K. Newbom and D. Hancock)	2011	Clubbed Thumb
* Love's Labour's Lost (Shakespeare)	2011	New York University
* The Wife (Tommy Smith)	2011	Access Theater
* Mary (Thomas Bradshaw)	2010	Goodman Theatre
* Edith Can Shoot Things & Hit Them (A. Rey Pamatmat)	2010	Actors Theatre of Louisville
Yellowman Dael Orlandersmith	2010	Milwaukee Repertory Theater
* Hard Wall at High Speed (Ashlin Knight)	2010	Astoria Performing Arts Center
* The Bereaved (Thomas Bradshaw)	2009	Partial Comfort Productions
* Ching Chong Chinaman (Lauren Yee)	2009	Pan Asian Repertory
Faith, Hope and Charity (Odon Horvath, original adaptation)	2008	Pure Theater
* Dome (<i>Devised</i>)	2008	Prospect Theater Company
* Exit Cuckoo (Lisa Ramirez, <i>Best Solo Performance</i>)	2008	Midtown International Theater Festival
* Ophelia: opera in blue	2007	Prospect Theater Company
* White Hot (Tommy Smith)	2007	Here Arts Center
Marisol (Jose Rivera)	2007	Pure Theater
* Unrequited (Shakespeare adaptation)	2007	Public Theater
* Don Giovanni (Mozart, Associate Director)	2006	Estates Theater (Prague) and BAM
* Hamlet (Shakespeare)	2006	Yale School of Drama
* Guest from the Future (Levi & Marvin, Associate Director)	2005	Bard Summerscape Festival
* Antony and Cleopatra (Shakespeare)	2005	Yale School of Drama

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Teaching Experience

Yale School of Drama 2011-2017	Lecturer: <i>Bridge to the Profession</i> , a directing class aimed to provide emerging directors the tools to transition into the professional field. Headed Mentor Program.
Brown University 2015-16	Adjunct Professor: <i>Staging Shakespeare</i> , a directing class for 20 MFA actors and directors to build a foundation for directing the Bard.
NYU Tisch 2014-2015	Teacher and Director <i>Devised Theater</i> , a six-month devised theater project with the MFA actors and writer, Qui Nguyen, involving movement, writing and acting workshops and culminating in a fully staged production.
A.C.T. 2012	Teacher: An intensive workshop with MFA actors for new play process.
Primary Stages 2012-2014	Lecturer: <i>A Director Prepares</i> , a two-week intensive aimed at preparing a director for production.
A.R.T/Harvard 2012	Teacher and Director: Led an intensive devised workshop process with the MFA actors and dramaturgs, which culminated in a fully written play.
Fordham University 2010 and 2013	Director and Mentor, Directed Fordham BA actors in Emily Mann's <i>Mrs. Packard</i> . Also mentored directing students throughout their thesis process.
New York University 2011	Teacher and Director: Directed two student productions <i>Love's Labours Lost</i> and <i>Beautiful Bodies</i> . Focus on text, scene work, voice, movement and ensemble.
The Public Theater 2006-2010	Shakespeare Lab faculty: Co-creator along with Barry Edelstein and John Dias; Administrative head of the Public's professional conservatory for actors; taught ensemble and acting. Directed the final showcase of Shakespearean scenes and sonnets. Supervised and organized community engagement, which served over 300 people in Shakespeare workshops and performances across all five boroughs of NYC.
Epic Theater Ensemble 2011	Shakespeare Othello Remix: Led a 20-student, ages 13-17, devised original works based on Shakespeare scenes which cultivated into performance.

Artistic Residencies and Awards

TCG Alan Schneider Directing Award	Andrew Ammerman Award for Directing
Time Out's Best Top Ten of 2010 and 2017	Best of 2013 and 2017 <i>NYTimes</i> Theater
Best Solo Performance Award for <i>Exit Cuckoo</i>	Picks TCG New Generations Grant
Josephine Abady LPTW Directing award	Paul Green Directing Award
Stage Directors Society Denham Fellowship	New York Theater Workshop Directing
Williamstown Theater Festival Directing Fellowship	Fellow Van Lier Directing Fellowship
Women's Project Director Lab	SoHo Rep Writer/Director Lab
Drama League Directing Fellow	Long Wharf Artistic Fellow

Education

Yale School of Drama, Master of Fine Arts, directing
University of Virginia, Bachelor of Arts, English Literature & Modern Studies, *magna cum laude*
Trained in Suzuki, Viewpoints, Linklater technique, Stanislowski, Meisner, Shakespeare voice and text