

RENE RUIZ

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER/ACTOR



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OBJECTIVE

To continue a career in the performing arts as a creator of entertainment that communicates to and informs a contemporary audience.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

April 2008

N'Disguize

Co-Creator/Co-Director

Hershey Park, Hershey, PA

Contracted to write and direct an interactive contemporary acappella show to perform at Hershey Park for park guests and special events.

August 2008

Barry Manilow- Ultimate Manilow

Creative Consultant

Served on the creative team for the Barry Manilow show at the Las Vegas Hilton

*February 1998-
to PRESENT*

Toxic Audio

Creator-Producer-Director

Off-Broadway and Las Vegas

Conceived and directed this award-winning concept show showcasing the human voice with contemporary a cappella music and musical improvisation. Originally produced for the Orlando Fringe Festival, the show played Off-Broadway in 2004 where it received the Drama Desk Award for "Unique Theatrical Experience" The show now tours the country with multiple casts and recently completed an engagement in Las Vegas. The show has toured the U.S., Japan, Barcelona, and Canada. Also served as Executive Producer of three Original Cast Album CD's featuring material from different editions of the show. One of these CD's, "Chemistry", received "Album Of The Year" honors from the Contemporary Acappella Recording Awards.

1989-2004

Walt Disney World/ Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Performer/Show Director/Voice Work

Show Director/Developer

Created, directed and managed corporate theatre for Disney Event Productions for events in all 4 Disney parks. Extensive experience with environmental and improvisational theatre.

Superstar Television

Master of Ceremonies for a live stage show integrating park guests into classic scenes from hit television shows. Duties included casting, coaching of guests through scenes and improvisational skills.

Monster Sound Show

Master of Ceremonies for a live stage show coaching park guests in the art of creating foley effects for a short comedy/horror film. Duties included casting, coaching of guests through scenes and improvisational skills. Served as instructor in sound and foley techniques for various educational tours.

Indiana Jones Epic Stunt Spectacular

Role: Assistant Director/Emcee

Casting, coaching of guests through show scenes. Contributed material that has been incorporated into show script.

Let's Make A Deal

Master of Ceremonies for a live stage show based on the classic game show. Performed as an actual broadcast with four camera setup. Also acted as co-host and voice-over announcer.

Four-For-A-Dollar

Bass/Baritone singer in a four-part a capella group that performs at the Theatre Of The Stars.

The Innoventors

Role: Biff Bendum, Innoventor of Health and Fitness

Streetmosphere character that roams the Future World area of Epcot promoting health and fitness in fun and interesting ways. Created character and many concepts of the performance.

Star-A-Day Program

Master of Ceremonies for a program allowing park guests to see famous celebrities visiting Walt Disney World. Responsible for coordinating and conducting interviews, press events and photo shoots with over 200 stars.

(List available on request)

GE Technolab

Host for an interactive science show written and produced by the creators of the **Bill Nye, the Science Guy** television series for Epcot's Innoventions. Included working with children in a high energy environment with live science experiments.

The Voiceovers

Formed and performs with a contemporary a capella group known outside the park as Toxic Audio. Opened for the Beauty and the Beast show at the Disney/MGM Studios.

Special Events:

Parade Announcer- Commentator for park parades.

Sunset Celebration- Ringmaster for a Key West type celebration that took place at Pleasure Island.

America Online Interviews- Used knowledge of computers to officiate and co-ordinate AOL chat sessions with several celebrities at Epcot.

Various Press Events- Book signings, Sci-Fi Convention Emcee, Radio and Television interviews promoting the Disney/MGM Studios.

THEATRICAL PRODUCTION

January 1998

Fiddler On The Roof

Produced by the JCC Maitland, FL
Recreated much of the original choreography.

Director-Choreographer

February 1997

Forever Plaid

Produced by the Lakeland Civic Center
Directed an Equity production utilizing the original staging and choreography.

Director-Choreographer

November 1995

The Gifts of the Magi

Produced by the Osceola Center for the Arts

Director-Choreographer-Set Design

June 1995

Is There Life After High School?

Produced by the Osceola Center for the Arts

Director-Choreographer-Set Design

April 1995

Weird Romance- Her Pilgrim Soul

Produced by Buddy Productions
Second act of a two-act Alan Menken/David Spencer/Alan Brennert musical presented at the 1995 Orlando Fringe Festival. This production led to the Civic Theatre of Central Florida commission for the full production of the show in September of that year.

Producer-Director-Choreographer

September 1992

Six Women With Brain Death or Expiring Minds Want To Know

April 1993

Director-Choreographer-Asst. Music Director

Produced by the Civic Theatre of Central Florida
Produced for the 1993 Orlando Fringe Festival

This show was originally produced for the Civic Theatre of Central Florida's Second Stage series. A cutting of this production was chosen to represent the Civic Theatre at: the 1992 Florida Theatre Conference (Best Show honors); the Southeastern Theater Conference in Washington D.C. (Best Show) and the American Association of Community Theaters Conference (AACT/FEST) in Knoxville, Tennessee. The show was subsequently presented at the 1993 Orlando Fringe Festival.

EDUCATION

Music Education, Musical Theatre-*University of Texas at Austin*

Jazz, Tap, Ballet-*The Dance Place, Austin, Texas*

Character workshop with Joe Sears And Jaston Williams (Greater Tuna)- *Paramount Theatre, Austin, Texas*

INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES

- Movies, Original Cast Albums, Books, Animals, the music of Stephen Sondheim, Songwriting, Lyric Writing, Computers

SPECIAL QUALITIES

- Background and education in Music and Dance and extensive knowledge of classic, new and obscure musicals makes me an ideal director for Musical Theatre projects and other entertainments involving music or dance.
- Organized and experienced in all aspects of production work including set design, staging, lighting, sound, choreography, musical accompaniment, singing and character and story development.
- Special interest in researching and re-discovering lesser-known musical theater pieces and preserving them.
- Experience with Walt Disney World special events and promotions have taught me to respond quickly to changing situations and make last-minute decisions.
- Extensive experience with environmental and improvisational theatre
- Work with Walt Disney Co., Universal Studios, Sea World and Hershey Park has gained me valuable knowledge in customer service and guest relations.