

Contact: Maliwan Diemer  
Manager of Public Relations and Special Events  
773-325-7819, [mdiemer@depaul.edu](mailto:mdiemer@depaul.edu)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 29, 2007

**DePaul Faculty One of Seven Selected by**  
**Humana Festival of New American Plays**  
***Carlos Murillo's Dark Play Delves Into Online Virtual World***

Each year, approximately 3,000 scripts are submitted to the Humana Festival of New American Plays. This year Carlos Murillo, Assistant Professor at the Theatre School at DePaul University, is one of only seven playwrights to be selected for the prestigious program. His work *dark play or stories for boys* will premiere as part of the internationally celebrated festival, which runs February 25 – April 7, 2007.

*dark play or stories for boys*, directed by Michael John Garcés, is the complex story of a teenage boy's fictional internet identity that begins as nothing more than a harmless game. But the game takes on a frightening reality when real emotion overtakes his online relationship. When Nick's virtual world online collides with the real one, his fantasies of love, intimacy, obsession and betrayal spiral into consequences that lead him to the brink of death.

Carlos Murillo's plays have been produced in New York (New York City Summer Play Festival, En Garde Arts, Soho Repertory Theatre, Hangar Theatre), Los Angeles (The Theatre @ Boston Court, Circle X Theatre Co., Son of Semele Ensemble), Chicago (Walkabout Theater Company, DePaul University), Seattle (The Group Theatre), Minneapolis (The Red Eye Theater) and Austin (the dirigo group), and developed at The Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, The Goodman Theatre, Sundance Theatre, The Playwrights' Center, Bay Area Playwrights Festival, South Coast Repertory, A.S.K. Theatre Projects and others. He was a Jerome Fellow at the Playwrights' Center (95-96), a recipient of grants from Rockefeller Foundation and Minnesota State Arts Board, and a two-time winner of the National Latino Playwriting Award (1996 & 2006). Mr. Murillo is an Assistant Professor at The Theatre School at DePaul University in Chicago.

-- MORE --

“Needless to say I'm thrilled to have my play in this prestigious festival,” explains Murillo. “It's a tremendous opportunity to bring my work to a larger audience, and to work with some of the most accomplished artists working in the theatre today. We have assembled an excellent cast, and I am looking forward to working with them and director Michael Garcés on bringing the play to life.”

Murillo described his work at DePaul University by saying, “I owe a great debt to The Theatre School - last year I staged a workshop production of the piece with students in our acting program, who later performed the play in a reading at the Goodman Theatre Latino Festival, (two of those students traveled to Louisville in September for a reading there that helped secure the slot). The opportunity to work on the play with our students was instrumental in getting the play into its present shape.”

Founded in 1976 by Jon Jory, the Humana Festival of New American Plays has been produced by the Actors Theatre of Louisville annually since its inception. From its humble beginnings honoring two outstanding playwrights to its current configuration of seven new plays and series of shorts, this event is now heralded as "the nation's best-known new play festival" by *The New York Times* and "the Kentucky Derby of American theatre" by the *Los Angeles Times*. Known for identifying top writers in the field, past recipients' plays have gone on to win Pulitzer Prizes, American Theatre Critics Awards and Susan Smith Blackburn Prizes.

*dark play or stories for boys* will be performed in the Bingham Theatre in Louisville, Kentucky, March 2 – March 31, 2007. For ticket information call 502-584-1205 or 1-800-4-ATL-TIX or visit [www.actorstheatre.org](http://www.actorstheatre.org). For details about the Humana Festival of New American Plays, including a full performance schedule, please visit [www.actorstheatre.org/humana.htm](http://www.actorstheatre.org/humana.htm).

For more information about The Theatre School at DePaul University and its programs, please visit <http://theatreschool.depaul.edu>. Interview opportunities are available. Please contact Maliwan Diemer at 773-325-8719.

###

*The Theatre School at DePaul University educates, trains and inspires students of theatre in a conservatory setting that is rigorous, disciplined and culturally diverse. The school and its students strive for the highest level of professional skill and artistry. A commitment to diversity and equality in education is central to its mission. As an integral part of the training, The Theatre School produces public programs and performances from a wide repertoire of classic, contemporary and original plays that challenge, entertain and stimulate the imagination. The school seeks to enhance the intellectual and cultural life of the university community, the city and the profession.*