

# Rick Najera's LATINOLOGUES

**Latinologues™** is an award-winning, nationally recognized collection of comedic and poignant monologues about the Latino experience in America that was created, written, directed and produced for stage by **Rick Najera**, one of America's leading comedy writers.



Award-Winning Writer/Performer Rick Najera

Having written for such ground-breaking shows as **MAD TV** and **In Living Color**, Najera wanted to create a showcase for Latino talent. The idea was first conceived when Najera discovered a hunger for Latino actors to have a showcase, one where they could be seen in comedy. “So many times we’re seen as serious and dramatic but not funny, and comedy is universal,” said Najera.

From headlining on the Las Vegas Strip, to standing ovations and sold out crowds, **Latinologues™** has toured the nation and received rave reviews such as ‘Top Pick’, ‘Recommended’ and ‘Critics Choice’ from theater critics nationwide. The show has also received numerous accolades and official commendations from City Mayors and U.S. Senators for its production and was recently awarded an Imagen Award for **Best Live Theatrical Production**. Each monologue delivered is meant to educate, inspire and most of all make you laugh. The show is and remains to be a true service to the Latino community.

The New York Times

October 26, 2005



From left, Rick Najera, Eugenio Derbez (in drag) and Rene Lopez in "Latinologues" on Broadway.

See Also with The New York Times  
RECOMMEND

Latinologues made its **Broadway debut** in September 2005 at the legendary **Helen Hayes Theatre** with an initial 12-week engagement, plus an additional four-week extension by popular demand. The Broadway show was directed by the legendary comedian, **Cheech Marin**, and featured Rick Najera,



Eugenio Derbez, Rene Lavan and Shirley A. Rumierk.

“It’s comedy with a universal appeal with a Latin flavor.” said Najera.

From the well-known and most loved character, Buford Gomez, who provides a comprehensive seminar on efficient border patrol tactics, to Miss East L.A. who will do anything to save

her crown, to Fidel who outsmarts ‘La Migra’ and heads to Puerto Vallarta for free.

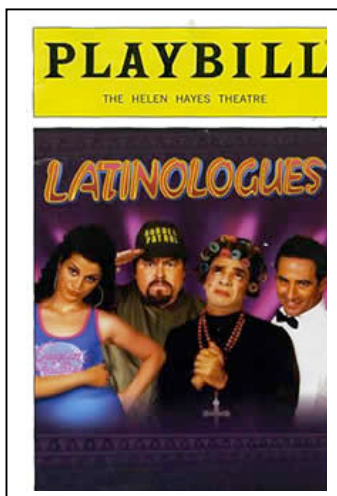
Other characters include ‘Alejandro’ the heartthrob bus boy who is mesmerized by a blonde, the unstoppable and radical Mecha members who fight to create justice “I may be radical but don’t call after ten, my mom gets mad” to the Manic Hispanic Hollywood Producer which the Houston Chronicle calls “Charles Nelson Riley dipped in salsa.” These characters will make you laugh and definitely get you thinking. The Los Angeles Reader says “Najera’s work bursts from the barrio to the universal.”

Latinologues™ has been featured around the country in cities such as San Diego, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, New York, Miami and at *SiTVs Latino Laugh Festival*, on Showtime’s *Latino Laugh Festival*, HBO’s *Aspen Comedy Festival*, *The Big Stinkin’ Comedy Festival* in Austin and the *Festival of Independent Theaters* in Dallas for which it was named “Most daring production”. There have been productions at two Tony Award winning theaters, South Coast Repertory Theater in Costa Mesa and the Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago. Latinologues™ has also been performed at numerous fundraisers to benefit non-profit organizations.

The show has been a favorite across the nation for years with a rotating cast performing monologues that keep the show fresh. Released by Image Entertainment, Latinologues™ DVD Volume 1 & 2 are available in stores or via the internet.

Visit [www.latinologues.net](http://www.latinologues.net) for more information.

## Reviews



"What *Latinologues* manages with humor and sharp insight is to capture the great culture and spirit we share in common. The rich tapestry is presented in clever, sharply written vignettes that made me roar with belly laughs born of familiarity." **More of Review...** -- Geraldo Rivera, Fox News

"The audience was in stitches!" -- New York Times

"*Latinologues* is filled with incredible energy and great talent." -- Howard Kissel, New York Daily News

"*Latinologues*" most certainly proves that good humor is a universal language. Cheech Marin has directed with just the right manic flavor and the cast is truly terrific! Derbez shows us why he's a superstar in Mexico, Lavan is mucho macho, Rumierk is gorgeous and gifted and Najera is brilliant." **More of Review...** -- Roma Torre, New York 1 News

"The Latino experience is so vastly underrepresented on Broadway, but this show is able to coast on the cravings of its audience." -- The New Yorker

"This is funny stuff." **More of Review...** -- Marilyn Stasio, Variety

"Its target audience will surely go for *Latinologues*." **More of Review...**  
-- Frank Scheck, Hollywood Reporter

"The laughs are loud, abundant." -- Rose Bernardo, Entertainment Weekly  
"Najera sets a solid foundation for the production with director Cheech Marin providing his hard-earned comedic wisdom and perspectives to shape and pace the performance." -- Gregg Bellon, newyorktheatre.com

"*Latinologues* plays like a smash hit." -- David Barbour, Lighting & Sound America

"It's difficult to put into words just how incredible it was to see a Latino production featured on Broadway. With a witty script, talented actors, and a realistic but respectful view of Latino stereotypes, *Latinologues* is definitely worth the price of admission. In fact, it's worth paying again when you decide to see it a second time after telling friends and family about it." -- Amen for LatinRapper.com **More of Review...**

"[These] Sketches from Latino Performers Spice up Broadway." -- Tom Sansani, Columbia Daily Spectator

"I enjoyed it immensely." -- David F. Richardson, Theater Critic for WOR Radio

"Najera is hilarious, Rumierk has good moves, Derbez's highlight is when he appears in drag, and Lavan adds comedy." -- William Wolf, New York Calling

"The performers are all impressive comedians." -- Matthew Murray, Talkin' Broadway

"Even English-speaking audiences will wear a smile after '*Latinologues*'." -- Kathy Shwiff, dailyrecord.com

"Billed as 'a comedy about life in America,' *LATINOLOGUES* is an adult comedy show that is more of a magnified look at the varied idiosyncrasies ingrained in Latin culture and how we have learned to live with countless adversity, retained our sanity (almost), and managed to look good in the process. Told through a series of poignant monologues - a sort of absurd state-of-the-Latino-union address - the show provides a satirical reflection on our time (dis)honored traditions and cultural and (mis)conceptions. In short: *LATINOLOGUES* is warped fun." **More of Review...** -- unChin Magazine, by Edwin Pagán

## More Reviews...

***Fluent 'Latinologues' fills Majestic with laughter. Make natives of all giddy with delight"*** -- Lawson Taitte, Dallas Morning News

***"Latinologues' takes dead aim at funny bones. All of the pieces drew laughs, sometimes hysterical fits"*** -- Mark Lowry, Star Telegram

***CRITICS PICK*** - "Rick Najera has written and directed a powerhouse evening of biting satire. The monologues presented here are sharp, free, and just plain funny, decorated only with a mystical Latin hanging, Najera and his ensemble perform with energy and ease." -- BACK STAGE WEST "CRITICS PICK" J.A. Eliason

***RECOMMENDED*** - "The evening is packed with Najera's witty observations and eccentric but compelling characterizations that are seamlessly linked. A uniformly solid cast." -- Amy Schaumburg, LA Weekly

***"Latinologues' reduces indignities to laughter. Rick Najera's play takes the sting out of illegal immigration."*** -- Daryl H. Miller, LA Times

***Latino Weekly Review*** "Latinologues is a breathtaking montage about human fraternity. The play keeps audiences laughing from beginning to end." -- Ana Lilia Cortes, Latino Weekly Review

***"This exciting new voice of the Latino experience in America takes laughter to the next level bringing political satire and great humor to the stage. The handsome Fernando Carrillo steals the show (and a few hearts)."*** -- **Al Carlos Hernandez**

***Curtain Up*** Rick Najera's Latinologues: Chile Con Comedy embraces Latino stereotypes and gives them a sardonic twist. In its current incarnation at Coronet Theatre, this collection of monologues and satirical scenes about the Latino experience zips by, its cast of illegals will have you howling with laughter. -- Jana J. Monji, Curtain Up

***"It's [Latinologues] is very, very funny"*** -- Jeff Smith, San Diego Reader

***"Latinologues' a funny, biting look at Latino life in the U.S."*** -- Patricia Morris Buckley, North County Times

***"Latinologues is at its best"*** -- Anne Marie Welsh, Theater Critic, San Diego Union-Tribune

***"Laughs will flow when Rick Najera, 'equal opportunity offender,' brings 'Latinologues' to San Diego Rep."*** -- Preston Turegano, The San Diego Union - Tribune; San Diego, Calif.

***"Author Rick Najera (Latins Anonymous) attacks similar stereotypes with political and satirical, rapier wit."*** -- Will K. Shilling, San Diego City Beat

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