

Professional Profile

DAMON DIMARCO

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EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Higher Education:

Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts
New Brunswick, New Jersey
Master of Fine Arts in Professional Actor's Training, 1996

Drew University
Madison, New Jersey
Bachelor of Arts, Double Major in English Literature and Theater Arts, 1993

Professional and Academic Positions:

Adjunct Professor of Theater Arts
Drew University
Madison, New Jersey
2000 – 2007
Taught acting and directing; seminars in movement, stage combat, auditioning, cold reading

Instructor
New York Film Academy
New York, New York
2007 – 2008
Taught acting, directing, movement, stage combat, auditioning, cold reading, voice and speech, Shakespeare, script analysis

Visiting artist and Inaugural Fellow
New River Dramatists
Healing Springs, North Carolina
Assisted playwrights such as Lee Blessing, Stephen Adly Guirgis, Denis Johnson, James McLure, Angus MacLachlan, and N. Scott Momaday to refine works in progress.

Honors, Awards, & Distinctions

Winner of the 1993 Robert Fisher Oxnam Award in Playwriting – Drew University

Full-length play ***Shock & Awe*** earned:

finalist for the Princess Grace Awards (2005)

finalist for Reverie Productions' Next Generation Playwright's Award (2008)

semi-finalist for the Julie Harris Playwright Award (2008)

selected for World Debut as part of the 2009 Y.E.S. Festival at Northern Kentucky University.

scenes from ***Shock & Awe*** were produced as part of the Fire Dept.'s acclaimed 2008 event *AT WAR: American Playwrights Respond to Iraq*, moderated by Janeane Garofalo and David Straithairn.

Out of Bounds: Coming Out of Sexual Abuse, Addiction, and My Life of Lies on the NFL Closet (with Roy Simmons, former NFL offensive linebacker) was nominated for a 2006 Lambda Award.

On camera subject Expert for "How it Was: Voices of 9/11" two-hour documentary which aired on the National Geographic Channel, 2007.

On air subject Expert for CNN, Fox News, various radio programs across the country from 2004 to present.

MEMBERSHIPS

Actors Equity Association (AEA)

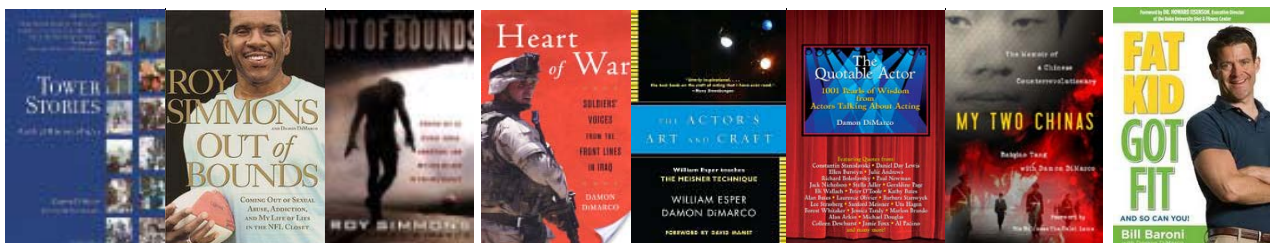
American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA)

Screen Actors Guild (SAG)

Authors Guild

BODY OF WORK

Book Gallery:



Books:

ORAL HISTORY

Tower Stories: An Oral History of 9/11, featuring a foreword by Tom Kean, Chairman of the Independent 9/11 Commission, and an introduction by the author (first released as *Tower Stories: The Autobiography of 9/11* by Revolution Publishing in 2004; revised, expanded edition published by Santa Monica Press, 2007; leather bound collector's edition released by Easton Press, 2009)

Heart of War: Soldiers' Voices from Iraq (Citadel Press, 2007)

BOOKS ON ACTING

The Actor's Art & Craft, with William Esper, featuring a foreword by Pulitzer Prize winner David Mamet (Anchor Books, 2008)

The Quotable Actor: 1001 Pearls of Wisdom from Actors Talking About Acting (Santa Monica Press, 2009)

COLLABORATIONS

My Two Chinas: The Memoir of a Chinese Counterrevolutionary, with Tang Baiqiao, featuring a foreword by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama of Tibet; a preface by Jeff Widener, photojournalist and Pulitzer finalist for his iconic "Tank Man" photo; and an introduction by Dr. Robert Thurman, the Je Tsongkhapa Professor of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies at Columbia University, and co-founder of Tibet House, New York City. (Prometheus Books, 2011)

Out of Bounds: Coming Out of Sexual Abuse, Addiction, and My Life of Lies in the NFL Closet, with Roy Simmons, former NFL offensive linebacker (Hardcover, Carrol & Graf, 2005; Trade paperback, DaCapo Press, 2006)

Fat Kid Got Fit: And So Can You! with Bill Baroni (Hardcover, Lyons Press, 2012)

Plays:

My Mariners (full-length drama with music), with Jeffrey Harper. Commissioned by and premiered at the Sundog Theatre, Staten Island in 2006, in conjunction with the Sailors' Snug Harbor. Drama. Cast: 7 men, ensemble.

Shock & Awe (full-length drama), based on the author's book ***Heart of War: Soldiers' Voices from the Front Lines of Iraq***. was originally developed at New York's Public Theater by actor/director/writer Scott Hudson (*Sweet Storm*). World Premiere held at the 2009 Y.E.S. Festival of New Plays at the University of Northern Kentucky. Drama. Cast: 8 men, 1 woman, ensemble.

Screenplays:

Allegiance (co-written with Dominic Fumusa)

Optioned by Mary Stuart Masterson, with John Leguizamo and Mary Stuart Masterson attached to play the leads.

FEATURE, Drama

Loosely based on the stage play ***Shock & Awe***.

The Big Break (co-written with Adam Feingold)

FEATURE, Comedy

Sex Tape (co-written with Josh Casauobon)

FEATURE, Drama/Suspense

SELECT REVIEWS

For ***Tower Stories: An Oral History of 9/11***:

“The only widely available oral history of 9/11 from the perspective of New Yorkers, this monumental work (originally released by Revolution in 2004) has been updated for the sixth anniversary of the national tragedy. In the weeks following the World Trade Center attack, DiMarco, in the tradition of Studs Terkel, wandered Manhattan collecting the stories of Gothamites who survived the collapse of the towers, came to help or simply bore witness—whether from elsewhere in the city, across the country or overseas . . . DiMarco’s contribution to the memory of that horrific day is enormous; the testimonies collected here form an amazing, one-of-a-kind account.”

STAR REVIEW from Publisher’s Weekly

“Arguably the most successful attempt at capturing the enormity of the events of 9/11, Damon DiMarco’s sprawling oral history runs a wide gamut of testimony from survivors, responders, witnesses and people whose lives were forever altered by the attacks. The human stories are presented with a raw candor a thousand times more affecting than any cold statistic offered by a commission. The most recent, expanded edition includes follow-up interviews with some of the individuals initially profiled, providing updates on their lives and their ongoing struggles to come to terms with the events of a decade ago. “Tower Stories” is a riveting and disarmingly emotional read.”

MSNBC Today

“. . .unique, a multitude of firsthand experiences preserved as few other 9/11 books have done. This second edition is expanded with many more photographs and with updates about a number of the witnesses interviewed. Recommended for all public and undergraduate libraries.”

Margaret Heilbrun, Library Journal

“While the events of that day were tragic, inspirational reading experience. Most people experienced the terrorist attacks from a safe distance. Like me, many witnessed the events unfold on television. This book not only puts human faces with the events but also gives a glimpse into the rich culture of New Yorkers. While many of the contributors are obviously still struggling to come to grips with the events of that day, they are survivors, and for that reason, they have earned my admiration. Their stories need to be told and preserved as part of the historical record, and DiMarco does this in a compelling fashion.”

Journal of Folklore Research

“I hope this book remains in print for a very long time to come, because everyone should read it. Our children should read it. With regard to 9/11, we-as a people-cannot allow a myth to take root. We must ground ourselves in our pain if we have any hope of moving forward. And move forward we must.”

Thomas Kean, Chairman, 9/11 Commission (From the book’s foreword)

“This book defends the understanding, as also the horror, of that day. We are indebted to Mr. DiMarco for the effort and for the editorial acuity.”

William F. Buckley, Jr.

For ***My Two Chinas: The Memoir of a Chinese Counterrevolutionary*** with Tang Baiqiao

“His Holiness hopes that this book will encourage other Chinese to strengthen their democratic aspirations and put the spotlight on the weakness of the attitudes of some of the current leaders in China.”

from the book’s foreword by His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet.

“*My Two Chinas* is beautifully written by Baiqiao Tang and Damon DiMarco. The bravery shown by Tang and other Chinese students who stood up to the Communist Chinese government was extraordinary. Their story deserves to be known. This is the place to start.”

Edward I. Koch, Former Mayor of New York City (from 1978 -1989), influential political commentator.

“*My Two Chinas* is a very personal and insightful story about one man’s struggle to be free. I consider it a must-read for anyone encouraged by stories of hope and the good fight. Author Damon DiMarco brilliantly leads the reader through the maze of Baiqiao Tang’s life as he runs from secret police, survives torture and imprisonment, and eventually escapes to the United States. But perhaps best of all, reading this book helped me to answer many questions I had regarding the events that transpired in the crackdown that followed Tiananmen Square. Many pro-democracy activists are still imprisoned in China today. I

admire the courage and bravery shown by Baiqiao Tang and thousands of other Chinese like him who shined during those dark days.”

from the book’s preface by Jeff Widener, Pulitzer-finalist, nominated for the acclaimed “Tank Man” photo taken at Tiananmen Square.

“There are many Chinese—more than a billion of them—but there are relatively few to speak for them: to speak for their rights, their dignity, and their freedom. Baiqiao Tang is one such person. He speaks, not only for himself, but for masses of his countrymen, who are gagged. If the Communist dictatorship in China ever falls, Tang will be one of those who gave it a hard, wonderful push.”

Jay Nordlinger, Senior Editor, *National Review*

“This memoir is courageously written in the ink of blood and tears. It exposes the crimes and human cruelty committed by China’s government behind the guise of prosperity. Despite enormous challenges, Hunan native Tang Baiqiao has struggled ceaselessly to drive the darkness out of China.”

He Qinglian, renowned economist; critic of Chinese media; author of the international bestseller *The Pitfalls of Modernization*.

“One can make sweeping statements about China, and they will probably be at least partially true. But a higher level of truth is found in the day-to-day experiences of someone like Baiqiao Tang. Although he writes mostly about his native Hunan Province, this is the story of China. Tang’s grandfather used to complain about the decline of the writing skills of his countrymen. Too bad he isn’t alive to enjoy his grandson’s beautifully written autobiography, which reads almost like a novel. I couldn’t set it down.”

Prof. James D. Seymour of Chinese Hong Kong University, expert on China and Tibet, author of *New Ghosts, Old Ghosts: Prisons and Labor Reform Camps in China*.

“Tang Baiqiao’s support for Chinese freedom and human rights has remained constant since his days as a student leader during the 1989 democracy movement, as conveyed in this outstanding book. His work and indomitable fighting spirit have made a tremendous impact on the international community. His unwavering belief in China’s future as a democracy makes him a voice to be heeded as the world continues to change.”

Yan Jiaqi, noted political scientist and dissident; adviser in Zhao Ziyang’s political reform office; leading intellectual during the 1989 democracy movement; author of *Turbulent Decade: A History of the Cultural Revolution*.

"A soul-stirring story. In telling Tang's story, Tang and DiMarco highlight the plight of many Chinese dissidents, and do so with keen sensitivity. Over the years, Tang has acted as a beacon of hope and resolve to those who seek change for China. Let the message of this book go forth: we remember Tiananmen Square, and our work has just begun."

Jiao Guobiao, noted dissident writer; banned Professor of Journalism Beijing University; author of the ground-breaking essay, *Denouncing the Central Propaganda Department*.

"Good versus evil. A fractured nation. A family torn apart. The banished hero continues to fight from exile. This book carries all the hallmarks of myth, and yet it really happened. Tang Baiqiao has torn back the veil. Let the world take a good long look. Here is a true story of Tiananmen Square."

Thomas Guo Guoting, leading human rights attorney, law professor, author.

"Do you remember the massacre that took place at Tiananmen Square? Do you remember the brave souls who gave their lives for democracy? Tang Baiqiao has never forgotten. His excellent book serves a noble purpose: to remind the world of what China lost, and what its people still hope to gain."

Xu Wenli, founder of the Chinese Democracy Party, imprisoned for sixteen years for pro-democracy activism, now senior fellow at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University.

"These days, many people dominate the world spotlight, and often for the wrong reasons. To me, the real hero is Tang Baiqiao, whose commitment to democracy and human rights has never wavered, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable odds. As the eyes of the world focus on China's economic success, I am proud that Tang Baiqiao continues his fight to defend those vulnerable groups whom the Chinese government persecutes. Young people everywhere should read this book. Tang Baiqiao's inspiring life will fuel their dreams for a better world."

Dan Li, noted AIDS activist in China, winner of the international Reebok Human Rights Award

For *The Actor's Art & Craft* with William Esper

". . . I've spent my life working with actors. To do so one needs but a few, essential tools, the mastery of which is the challenging work of a lifetime: be patient, be precise, be terse, encourage, suggest, praise, listen. I was first exposed to these tools through the example of Bill Esper, and I am very grateful."

David Mamet, Pulitzer Prize in Drama (from the book's foreword)

“ . . . a fantastic, long-overdue exploration of actor training. Co-authored by [William] Esper protégé Damon DiMarco, himself an actor and teacher, the book is a step-by-step overview of the exercises and ideas Esper has sharpened and refined through the years. His goal is to clearly define a technique applicable to any challenge an actor may face in the course of a career — whether Shakespeare or Stoppard, the stage or the Internet. The aim is to build a well-structured foundation that can handle any style, situation, or format . . . By following a class of real students over the course of a year, the authors successfully put the reader through the class as well. Many acting books, going back to Stanislavsky, have used this device, but it really works here because there is so much pure sincerity and wisdom in Esper’s approach. Beginning with basic repetition exercises and moving on to concentration and scene study, Esper and DiMarco chronicle one of the best and most effective techniques an actor can study. The book serves as an amazing tool and resource without being dogmatic or hampering. As Esper puts it, ‘Ultimately technique does not constrain an artist’s instincts, it frees them.’”

Backstage Magazine 10/16/08

“A veritable magnum opus on acting from a master teacher.”

Olympia Dukakis, Academy Award winner

“ . . . It’s the best book on the craft of acting that I have ever read.”

Mary Steenburgen, Academy Award winner

“ . . . A must-read for aspiring and established actors of all stripes . . . The Actor’s Art and Craft is co-written by Damon DiMarco, an actor and former Esper student who spent more than a year observing Esper’s teaching methods . . . DiMarco’s engaging prose adds a textured layer to some of the everyday circumstances encountered by Esper’s students . . . It’s little wonder why The Actor’s Art & Craft is one of the most eagerly anticipated performing arts books of the spring 2008 publishing season.”

Show Business Weekly

“ . . . Every serious actor who dreams of becoming a first rate artist must read this book!”

Calista Flockhart, Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild, and Theater World Award winner

“ . . . This book is a wonderful journey into Bill’s process. It gives the novice and even the veteran actor a vocabulary and guidelines on how to solve the acting problems that any text presents.”

Sam Rockwell, Satellite and Montreal Film Festival Award winner

“In his long-awaited book, co-authored by Damon DiMarco, Esper documents for the first time the technique that he has developed over the last thirty years of teaching. Esper’s technique extends, refines, and details exercises that were omitted from or developed since Meisner’s own book, *Sanford Meisner on Acting* (co-authored by Dennis Longwell) . . . Esper’s ability to articulate the pedagogical and philosophical rationale for each exercise make this book a valuable record of the technique . . . both informative and practical . . . but the true value of *The Actor’s Art and Craft* is found in page after page of Esper’s inspiring perspective on the craft of acting and on Meisner’s technique in practice. Esper’s book provides the reader a front-row seat in the classroom of one of our most important contemporary master-acting teachers.”

Johns Hopkins University Press

For ***Shock & Awe – A Play in Two Acts:***

“. . . an admirable production . . . ***Shock & Awe*** is a polished script, which DiMarco adapted from his book of the same title, taken from interviews he did with returning Iraq veterans. . . it’s impossible not to be moved by sacrifice piled on sacrifice . . . there was a true, life-and-art affirming sense of theatrical community.”

The Cincinnati Enquirer

“Above all, this play points out that the true casualties from this war [in Iraq] are largely hidden to the naked eye.”

Dayton Daily News

For ***The Quotable Actor: 1001 Pearls of Wisdom from Actors Talking About Acting***

“From Peter O’Toole (“Acting is just a matter of farting about in disguises”) to Rod Steiger (“Artists are the only true aristocrats”), there are as many points of view on acting, theater, film, the public, Shakespeare, and fame as there are actors (nearly 500) in *The Quotable Actor*. While many of the quotes are quite serious and often insightful, others are self-deprecating throw-away lines that sound varying degrees of sincerity. Actor, teacher, and director Damon DiMarco groups the quotes, taken from a variety of interviews and other media sources, into loose categories and sequences them to create a sort of dialogue among the different speakers, with overly portentous or dramatic voices balanced by the more flippant comments. While a more careful thematic editing might have yielded a more cohesive work, *The Quotable Actor* is an entertaining and informative read recommended for theatre and movie fans everywhere and a must read for star struck aspiring thespians.”

Bloomsbury Reviews, April 2010

For *Heart of War: Soldiers' Voices from Iraq*

“. . . DiMarco has assembled 18 Iraq war testimonies of soldiers ranging from a West Point-educated tanker who was early into Baghdad to truck drivers who have been targets for improvised explosive devices. Those interviewed include a high proportion of highly intelligent people, whose essential work, which often involved dealing directly with Iraqi culture, is seldom publicized, and they exemplify a panoply of those returning from Iraq – career military, disgruntled and life-disrupted recalled reservists, victims of broken marriages and of contamination by depleted uranium particles, and male and female enlistees who have finally filled their military contracts and are home, they hope, to stay. DiMarco’s respect for his interviewees and sidebars on weapons and tactics (some rather chilling and even appalling) further distinguish this addition to Iraq war literature.”

American Library Association

“Damon DiMarco has assembled an unflinching compilation — first person narratives of returning military personnel — that personalizes America’s involvement in Iraq in a manner all-too-rarely covered by mainstream media. Ignorance, political duplicity, corporate greed and corruption, incompetence, right-wing cynicism, marital infidelity, sexual abuse and the dishearteningly widespread indifference to the existential and medical needs of war veterans are among the issues documented here. Whether voiced by naïve farm kids, street smart city dwellers or the sons and daughters of America’s elite, the accounts of horrors, brutality and pathos are relentless and devastating.”

CultureKiosque

For *Out of Bounds: Coming Out of Sexual Abuse, Addiction, and My Life of Lies in the NFL Closet* (with Roy Simmons, former NFL offensive linebacker):

“A story ...full of raw vitality that too often found auto-combustive expression – before, during and after his days in the NFL...Blisteringly honest portrait of a man fencing with his self-destructive instincts.”

Kirkus Reviews

“In *Out of Bounds*, his always-compelling — and frequently harrowing — autobiography, Simmons comes clean about the toll that living a lie and keeping too many secrets has taken on his life. Those expecting a book full of game plays, football statistics and edited highlights will be in for a shock. While such elements inevitably are part of *Out of Bounds*, they take a back seat to the often lurid details of Simmons’ many addictions and the consequences of his actions.”

The Windy City Times

“Simmons’ tale is not for the faint of heart.”

The San Diego Union-Tribune

“Only the second NFL player to admit he was gay (a third, Esera Tuaolo, has since made the announcement), Simmons's confession shocked the sports world. But it is what led up to that show that proves even more shocking. In this gritty, unflinching memoir, Simmons recounts how keeping his sexuality tucked tightly under his football pads steered him into a clandestine life filled with sex, drugs, sex, lies and sex. Unlike recently celebrated and bestselling rehab memoirs, Simmons's story has no happy ending . . . Simmons has since become the only former NFL player to disclose that he is HIV positive, but his illness has done little to derail his self-destructive lifestyle. Even now, 13 years after that televised confession, he seems strangely proud of his exploits. This memoir may not be a must-own for the casual-or even avid-football fan, but it should be required reading for every nascent professional athlete-as a manual of what not to do.”

Publisher’s Weekly

“Simmons is particularly harrowing in relating his descent into the grimy life of drug addiction. . . Readers interested in sports or gay biography will get their money’s worth.”

Library Journal

For ***Fat Kid Got Fit: And So Can You!*** (with Bill Baroni)

“Baroni is neither a trainer, nor a doctor, nor a dietitian, nor a salesman. He’s an ordinary civil servant who lost 120 pounds by following the Duke University Diet & Fitness Center plan. Ten weeks there gave him the knowledge he needed to recognize what the fast-food lifestyle was doing to him. He traces his own path and, with humor and style, passes the information he learned along to readers. This can work for anyone.”

Library Journal STARRED REVIEW

“*Fat Kid Got Fit* is a must for those who suffer because of their weight and want to change. Bill Baroni learned that the best reason to get fit and stay healthy is to enjoy life even more. He created a physical, emotional, and spiritual metamorphosis for himself. This book gives a clear and readable description of the steps he took . . .and so can you!”

Dr. Michael Hamilton, former Director of the Duke University Diet & Fitness Center

“Physically, Bill Baroni is a pale shadow of his former self. But spiritually he’s the same guy – dynamic, funny, magnetic. All those qualities are poured into this wonderful book and reinforce his sane, simple message: I took control of my health, my body, and my life. And you can, too.”

Steve Roberts, co-author of the New York Times bestseller *From This Day Forward*

“*Fat Kid Got Fit* is a must read book for anyone battling their weight. It introduces a new role model to the millions of people worldwide who are fighting for healthier lives. Obesity presents a serious and daunting modern health problem, especially for children. Yet Bill Baroni offers solutions. We can all learn something from his vision, determination, and strength.”

The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson, former Secretary of Health & Human Services, former Wisconsin Governor:

D A M O N D I M A R C O

AEA/AFTRA/SAG

Height: 5'8"
Weight: 175 lbs

Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown

THEATER

Picasso at the Lapin Agile	Einstein	The Holmdel Theatre Festival
Romeo and Juliet	Paris and Romeo	Bristol Riverside Theatre
Laughter on the 23 rd Floor	Ira Stone	The Gateway Playhouse
The Country Girl	Larry	The Trilogy Theater
The Edgar Allen Show	Hank	The Pantheon Theater
The Eight: Reindeer Monologues	Donner	The Duplex Theater
Of Love and Betrayal	Loot	The Kraine Theater

FILM/TELEVISION

Law & Order	FEATURED	NBC
One Life to Live	RECURRING	ABC
Law & Order: SVU	FEATURED	NBC
As the World Turns	RECURRING	CBS
Another World	FEATURED	NBC
Guiding Light	U/5	CBS
Gimme Gimme Gum Gang	Staff Sergeant Gandert	ProDigital Prods.
School's Out!	Principal Live Host	Metro Learning Channel

INDUSTRIAL RESUME AND COMMERCIAL CONFLICTS AVAILABLE

TRAINING

MFA, Rutgers Professional Actors' Training Program (Bill Esper)

BA, Drew University, Double Major in English Lit. & Theater Arts

SPECIAL SKILLS

T'ai Chi, martial arts, boxing, stunts.

Certified Actor Combatant (Jake Turner, B.H. Barry, Rick Sordelet)

Yoga, animals. *et je me débrouille en français*