

Luis Peirano has a PhD in Humanities from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, and an M.A. in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is a sociologist, a specialist in communications and culture, and theatre director. He was the founder and first Dean of the School of Communication Sciences and Arts of the Universidad Católica del Perú, as well as promoter of the Masters in Communications program at said university. He is a member and past President of the Ethics Court of the Peruvian Press Council, as well as member of the National Cultural Commission of Peru and the Technical Consulting Commission of UNESCO.

Over the past 30 years, in addition to being a cultural researcher and promoter, he was President of DESCO, a Peruvian non-profit development agency, and has directed many theatre productions, most recently *Al pie del Támesis* by Mario Vargas Llosa, *Life is a Dream* and *The Great Theatre of the World* by Calderón de la Barca, and *Galileo* by Bertolt Brecht. He created and hosted the television program "Memoria del Teatro" and has published various essays on communications and Peruvian culture.

Dr Peirano was a visiting scholar at the University of Amsterdam. For the 2009-10 MAIPR programme, Dr Peirano taught 'Ritual and Performance' during Amsterdam's first semester in 2009.