

Michael DiGioia / Extended Bio

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Michael DiGioia (pronounced D-Joya) stems from Chicago and was raised in Niles, Illinois and is of Italian descent. He is a proud graduate of the S.U.N.Y. Purchase Acting Conservatory and has worked in the U.S. and abroad. His career alternates between independent films, classical theater and musicals.

FILM & TV: Michael was featured in various independent films and shorts, some of which were selections of: CANNES LIONS; SUNDANCE FILM FEST; PALM SPRINGS ShortFest; L.A. CINEMA FEST OF HOLLYWOOD; KENT FILM FEST, CT; BROWNFISH FILM FEST, NY and; NY SHORTS FEST. TV/Cable credits include: Windy City Live ABC 7-Chicago (Mother's Day Special); stints on PBS/CTW's "Ghostwriters"; CBS' "Guiding Light"; Lifetime's Dr. Ruth Westheimer (reenactments) and; Commercials for Twix Candy and Cigna Insurance.

OFF-BWAY & OFF-OFF-BWAY: Michael is most proud of having worked Off-Bway with The Mirror Rep. Co. alongside John Strasberg, F. Murray Abraham, Tovah Feldshuh, Anne Jackson, Elizabeth Franz and **Geraldine Page**. Other NY Credits: Nicu's Spoon Thtr's "Elizabeth Rex" playing Ned Lowenscroft which, in light of favorable reviews, moved to Off-Bway to Center Stage Thtr and; the Broadway-Workshop of "Why Do Fools Fall In Love/Frankie Lyman Story" by **Tina Andrews**, portraying the infamous Morris Levy, dir. by Broadway vet **Wayne Cilento** with musical direction by Jim Abbott, starring **Billy Porter** at The Lion Thtr. Others NY credits: Susan Tammany's award-winning play "La Fenix/The Life of Sor Juana Inez de la Cruz" at The Raw Space; "The Bunner Sisters" dir. by Linda Selman at the National Arts Club; "Impostors" dir. by Ari Laura Kreith at the Mint Thtr.; Jude Albert's award-winning comedy "The Baby Monitor" at Blueberry Pond Playwrights Fest. dir. by **Roger Hendricks Simon**; staged readings of "The Heart of Biddy Mason" by Love Boat star **Ted Lange** at The Lark Thtr. Other Venues: **The Actors Studio**; Theater for the New City; Lion Thtr.; Mint Thtr.; The Present Co.; Theatre of The Open Eye; The Jewish Rep.; The West Bank Thtr.; The Ravenswood Thtr.; Primary Stages; Fools' Company Space; the Judith Shakespeare Co. and; Stageplays Theatre Co.

REGIONAL, STOCK & TOURS: Michael has performed in regional/stock theatres throughout the U.S and toured India with the Minnesota Opera Co. in "Once Upon a Mattress". **FAVORITE ROLES:** King Arthur in "Camelot"; Jacques in "As You Like It"; Marvin in "Falsettos"; Che Guevara in "Evita"; King Charlemagne in "Pippin"; Mosca in "Volpone"; Dromio of Syracuse in "Comedy of Errors"; Renfield in "Dracula"; Billy Crocker in "Anything Goes"; Patroclus in "Troilus and Cressida"; Orin in "Mourning Becomes Electra"; Zeppo Marx in "Minnie's Boys"; Norman in "Moon Children" and; the title role in Pirandello's "Man With The Flower In His Mouth". Theaters include: Lucy Lockett Thtr. Wildwood Park AR; The Shawnee Playhouse, PA; The Pittsburgh Playhs; 3-Rivers Shakespeare Fest (Cathedral of Learning); The Milford Thetr, PA; The Penguin Rep., Stony Point NY; The Hangar Thtr, Ithaca NY; Carousel Dinner Thtr, Akron OH; Hunterdon Hills Playhouse NJ; The Forum Group, Edison NJ; Colorado Rep., Colorado Springs; Darien Dinner Thtr, CT; Candlewood Playhouse, CT; The Florida Rep, W. Palm.

CONCERTS & CABARETS: Michael teamed up with musical dir./Bway conductor **Bob Billig** and singer Martina Vidmar for "BROADWAY JUBILEE-A Tribute to the Golden Age" performing at YM&WHA in Wayne NJ and with musical dir. **Woody Regan** at Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts NJ and at Temple Israel in So. Merrick NY. Michael performed his solo cabaret at Don't Tell Mama NYC; The Triad NYC; Seabourn Cruise Lines; and was featured in "Words Fail Me -The Music of Michael Leonard" at the Penguin Rep., NY. Other venues include: Dopo Teatro Cabaret NYC, Le Mediterranee Bistro NYC, the Sheraton-Russell Hotel NYC and; The Newport Hotel, N. Miami FL.

CD & RADIO: Michael's debut vocal demo "Another Look: Broadway & Standards" continues to do well via digital distributions on CDBaby.com, selections of which were aired on David Kenney's show "Everything Old is New Again" **WBAI Radio** (NY), and on Garrett Stack's "Broadway Bound" **WMNR Fine Arts Radio** (CT & NY).

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS:

- *Nominated for Outstanding leading actor in a musical by BroadwayWorld.com (Regional) for King Arthur in CAMELOT
- *Nominated for Outstanding leading actor in a musical by BroadwayWorld.com (Regional) for King Charlemagne in PIPPIN
- *Nominated for Outstanding Leading Actor by New York Innovative Theater Awards for Ned in ELIZABETH REX
- *Awarded Best Actor by Spotlight on Theatre NYC for Father Antonio in LA FENIX
- *Awarded one of the Top 5 Performers of The Year by Pittsburgh Magazine for Che Guevara in EVITA
- *Awarded Highest Rated Newcomer by passengers & staff of Seabourn Cruise Lines
- *Judith Shakespeare Co. awarded one of the Top 10 Off-Off Broadway Companies by OOB Magazine