

MIKE GOMEZ

Biography

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A longtime veteran of the entertainment industry, MIKE GOMEZ is perhaps best known for his memorable performance in Jeff Bridges' cult classic, THE BIG LEBOWSKI, as the AUTO CIRCUS COP. His comedic scene, "Leads?" in the film remains as one of the favorites of 'Dude' audiences everywhere.

MIKE is also known as the actor who effectively started the Ferengi race in the phenomenal Sci-Fi series, STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION. His turn as DAIMON TARR in the first season of the Sci-Fi TV series was the first time that audiences were introduced to the cunning Ferengi race. He later returned as another Ferengi commander, DAIMON LURIN, in the fifth season of the show, one of only two actors in the history of the series who portrayed two different characters.

MIKE's work in the Sci-Fi genre continued when he later guest starred as JORGE CONCEPCION in the first show of the second season of X-FILES.

As an actor, MIKE's credits reflect a body of work which spans a thirty-five year history of television, theater and film. An alumni of the Dallas Theatre Centre in Dallas, Texas, MIKE started his television career as 'Campamocha ', the bumbling fix-it man, on PBS's long running children's bilingual musical series, CARRASCOLENDAS, out of Austin, Texas. Afterwards, his move to California initiated his continuing work in Hollywood.

In 1978, MIKE was cast as JOEY CASTRO in the the Mark Taper production of Luis Valdez's ZOOT SUIT, a three-year project that led him to co-star in the Broadway production of the play at the Winter Garden in New York and in the Universal Studios film. Thereafter, MIKE was approached by the producers of a New York play that would soon premiere in Beverly Hills. At the Solari Theatre, FATHERS & SONS, starring Richard Chamberlain and featuring MIKE as ZEKE, the Western Badman, played to sold out audiences. During the run of the play, Oscar-winning director, Tony Richardson decided MIKE would be the perfect foil for Jack Nicolson's character in the upcoming Universal film, THE BORDER. MIKE's definitive

portrayal in the feature induced one New York critic to compare him to “a glinty-eyed George Hamilton”.

Over the years, MIKE has become a familiar face on television, guest starring on THE SHIELD, BONES, PRISON BREAK, MY OWN WORST ENEMY, SHARK, GENERAL HOSPITAL, AMERICAN FAMILY, RESURRECTION BLVD, CHICAGO HOPE, WALKER TEXAS RANGER, YELLOW ROSE, 21 JUMPT STREET, T. J. HOOKER, X-FILES, STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, BROS GARCIA, LOS BELTRAN, among many others, and on one of America’s favorite shows, DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES.

MIKE was also seen as a series regular, CAPT. GALLARDO, on the NBC remake of the long running police drama, HUNTER, starring Fred Dryer and Stephanie Kramer. His movie-of-the-week credits include THE READING ROOM, with renowned actor, James Earl Jones, the CBS epic disaster, LOCUSTS, with Lucy Lawless, WOMEN OF SAN QUENTIN, RETURN TO JUSTICE, THE OUT OF TOWNERS and the mini-series, ROBERT KENNEDY: HIS LIFE & TIMES. Other TV credits include LATINO LAUGH FESTIVAL, RITUALS, HILL ST. BLUES, HART TO HART, HOW THE WEST WAS WON, EYE TO EYE and FBI: UNTOLD STORY, among others.

MIKE’s work in film includes co-starring and supporting roles in HEARBREAK RIDGE with Clint Eastwood, MILAGRO BEANFIELD WAR, directed by Robert Redford, the Cohen Bros’ THE BIG LEBOWSKI with Jeff Bridges, EL NORTE, directed by Gregory Nava, ZOOT SUIT, directed by Luis Valdez, BORN IN EAST L.A. starring Cheech Marin, THE BORDER with Jack Nicolson, YES MAN with Jim Carrey, THE PATRIOT with Leslie Nielsen, DANCE WITH ME with Vanessa Williams & Chayenne, TIME OUT, directed by Jon Bang Carlson, RUNNING WOMAN, LUMINARIAS, APPOINTMENT WITH FEAR and ROAD DOGZ, to name a few.

In theater, MIKE has worked extensively, as an actor, director and producer. Starting his career at the Dallas Theatre Centre, MIKE has performed at major theaters around the country including Broadway’s Winter Garden, the Mark Taper Forum, The Aquarius Theater (now Nickelodeum), San Diego’s Old Globe, the Ricardo Montalban Theatre, the Nosotros Theatre, and many others. A partial list of his theater credits include ZOOT SUIT, AUGUST 29TH, THE LAST ANGRY BROWN HAT, FATHERS & SONS, HAMLET, THE IMPOSTER, DEATH & THE BLACKSMITH, CAMINO CONFUSION, CELEBRATION, LA FIACA, ROMERO & JULIETTE, and A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE.

Of special note is MIKE's portrayal as ABRAHAM QUINTANILLA in the stage musical production of Selena Quintanilla's life, SELENA: A CELEBRATION OF LIFE at the Ricardo Montalban Theatre (formerly the Doolittle Theatre), where he garnered rave reviews as Selena's father.

As a director, MIKE's credits include THE LAST ANGRY BROWN HAT, WAITING FOR CALLAS TO SING, A RAISIN IN THE SUN, NATIONAL ACTORS' SHOWCASES for the ABC and CBS networks, and MACHO MEN & THE WOMEN WHO LOVE THEM at the Lee Strasberg Institute.

In 2006, MIKE produced the 36th Annual Nosotros Golden Eagle Awards at the Ricardo Montalban Theatre in Hollywood for NOSOTROS.

Throughout the years, MIKE has been extensively involved and has supported various community, nonprofit and charitable organizations including Fantasy Fiesta, a adoption celebration sponsored by the LA. Dept of Adoptions, the National Migrants Workers' Conference for Children, United Farmworkers of America, L.A. Special Olympics, L.A. Marathon, AIDS Walk LA, March of Dimes, American Red Cross and NOSOTROS.

MIKE's civic involvement includes:

- * two terms on the Board of Directors of NOSOTROS, a nonprofit organization
- * as an alternate on the Screen Actors Guild Board of Directors
- * Member a Special Advisory Committee for the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF) (2005 - 2011)
- * as a Member of Public Access Committee for the City of El Monte (2009)
- * as a Member of the 100th Anniversary Committee, City of El Monte (2011)
- * as a Member of the Arts in Public Places Committee, (2011)
- * as a Cultural Commissioner City of El Monte, CA (2010 - 2011)
- * Three-time Governor's Appointee to the Performers Peer Group Executive Committee, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (EMMYS) (2006 - 2010)

Among the various honors MIKE has received are:

- * NOSOTROS GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD, Most Promising Actor
- * NOSOTROS GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD, President's Award
- * LATINOS IN HOLLYWOOD, Los Angeles Mayor Riordan & Los Angeles City Council
- * WHO'S WHO AMONG HISPANIC AMERICANS

MIKE's professional credits and work can be found on the following various websites:

www.mikegomez.info
www.yahoo.com
www.google.com
www.wikipedia.org
www.imdb.com
www.tvguide.com/celebrities mike-gomez
uk-tv-guide.com/celebrityMike+Gomez/60645
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