## 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 graduated from the S.U.N.Y. Purchase Acting Conservatory and has worked in the U.S. and abroad.

<u>FILM & TV</u>: 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 Lymon Story" by Tina Andrews, portraying the infamous Morris Levy, dir. by Broadway vet Wayne Cilento at The Lion Thtr. Others NY credits: "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 awardwinning comedy "The Baby Monitor" at Blueberry Pond Playwrights Fest. dir. by Roger Hendricks Simon; staged readings of "The Heart of Biddy Mason" by 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: Jean Shepherd in "A Christmas Story"; King Arthur in "Camelot"; Jacques in "As You Like It"; Toad in "A Year With Frog & Toad"; King Charlemagne in "Pippin"; Kris Kringle in "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> St."; Marvin in "Falsettos"; Che Guevara in "Evita"; 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: The Ritz Thtr., Scranton, PA; 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.

<u>CD & RADIO</u>: 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 supporting actor in a musical by (NEPTA) Northeastern PA Theatrical Alliance 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 OOBR Magazine