



Jason Alexander

Louis B. Mayer, JIMMY

Over his acclaimed 50-year career as an actor and entertainer, Jason Alexander has also maintained a diverse and noted career as a director across the multiple mediums of film, television, and theater.

After years of developing and directing special programs and benefits in both New York and Los Angeles, Jason became an official member of the Director's Guild of America in 1994 when he directed "The Good Samaritan" episode of the hit sitcom *Seinfeld*. Though officially his television debut as a director, he was nominated for a DGA Award for "Best Direction of a Situation Comedy." Since then, Jason has worked consistently as a director on some of television's top shows, and most notably as one of the few directors not relegated to either "just comedy" or "just drama." His noted television assignments include: *Til Death*, *Campus Ladies*, *Franklin and Bash*, *Everybody Hates Chris*, *Mike and Molly*, *Criminal Minds* and *Young Sheldon*. Jason also created and directed two national television campaigns: a series of comedic public service ads regarding the dangers of second-hand smoke and a series of spots for Jenny Craig Diet and Nutrition.

Jason is the director of two feature length films: *For Better or Worse* (1996), a broad rom-com/heist film starring James Woods, Lolita Davidovich, Joe Mantegna, Rip Torn, John Amos and Bea Arthur and *Just Looking* (1999), a period coming-of-age dramedy starring Patti Lupone and Gretchen Mol. Jason also created and directed the short film *Cooler Online*, a music video for Brad Paisley's song of the same title. For his work on that piece, Jason won the American Country Music Award for "Best Direction of a Music Video."

But it is his experience with and passion for the live stage that has led him to a notable career as a theater director with a reputation for developing new works, as well as re-imagining revivals of classics.

Jason served as the Artistic Director of the L.A. based Reprise Theatre Company for five years. While there he produced 18 fully staged musicals, a dozen concerts and several special events. Within that, his direction was particularly outstanding on productions of *Sunday in the Park With George*, *The Fantasticks* and a revamped production of *Damn Yankees* in which he authored the revised libretto, setting the piece in the 1980s and featuring Black and Latino actors. Also in Los Angeles, Jason has directed acclaimed productions of Sam Shephard's *The God of Hell*, starring Bryan Cranston for the Geffen Playhouse; Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound*, starring Gina

www.JIMMYTheMovie.com



Hecht for the Odyssey Theatre; Karren Zacarias' *Native Gardens* starring Bruce Davison and Francis Fisher at the Pasadena Playhouse; the world premiere of *The Joy Wheel* at the Ruskin Theater and a highly lauded production of Steven Levenson's *If I Forget* at the Fountain Theater.

Regionally, Jason directed the world premiere of *Windfall* by Scooter Pietsch at the Arkansas Repertory Theater and then again at The Bay Street Theatre in Sag Harbor. Most notable was his direction of a visionary new production of Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years* at Syracuse Stage. Jason's re-imagined staging of the piece received national critical acclaim and Broadway World wrote, "it is a visionary masterpiece."

Most recently, Jason made his New York and Broadway directing debuts with Sandy Rustin's *The Cottage* that played a successful run at the Hayes Theatre on Broadway with Eric McCormack and Laura Belle Bundy heading the ensemble. He is currently in development to direct a film version of the play for the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

Jason is also currently in various stages of development and pre-production on a stage adaptation of the now classic story *The War of the Roses* as authored by Emmy Award-winning writer Peter Tolan. Simultaneously, he is developing projects with Ricky Gervais, Penn Jillette and several other writers. He recently completed revisions of Anthony Shaffer's classic thriller, *Sleuth* which he is slated to direct at Chicago's Shakespeare Theatre. And he is scheduled to direct a re-imagined production of Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* for the La Mirada Theatre of the Arts.