



B I O G R A P H Y

Russwin Francisco is a Filipino American actor, producer, director, educator, and entrepreneur whose work spans theater, film, music, radio, voice performance, academia, public policy, and community engagement.

Francisco produced and appeared as Manny in *The Girl Who Left Home*, a musical feature that received Best Picture at the DC Asian Pacific American Film Festival. He was also an accredited investor in the Broadway production of *Here Lies Love*, which received four Tony Award nominations.

As a stage performer, Francisco has appeared in musical and dramatic productions throughout the Washington, D.C., area for more than three decades. His credits include Iago in *Othello*, Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Lun Tha in *The King and I*, Simba in *The Lion King*, and Bernardo in *West Side Story*.

His vocal work encompasses classical, sacred, jazz, madrigal, doo-wop, barbershop, and a cappella. He was a featured soloist with the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, and performed for more than 21 years with the a cappella ensemble

Nuance. As a jazz vocalist, he performed throughout the Washington metropolitan area. He also co-established Black Fox Lounge, where he curated the venue's artistic programming.

Francisco wrote and directed a stage play that won first prize in a national competition sponsored by De La Salle University. He also received national recognition for extemporaneous storytelling from the Children's Museum and Library, Inc.

He performed in a dramatic series broadcast internationally on DZRH radio. His voiceover credits include a national advertising campaign and narration for a musical score.

Born in Manila, Philippines, Francisco immigrated to the United States in 1982. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from The George Washington University and a Master of Science in Information Systems from Marymount University before completing a Ph.D. in Epistemological Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley. His doctoral work focused on the psychological anthropology of major cultural spheres.

Alongside his work in the performing arts, Francisco pursued a career in higher education. He taught business courses at Marymount University while serving as Associate Registrar and coordinating academic initiatives among 12 colleges and universities in the Washington, D.C., area. He also taught at George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria.

While continuing to teach, Francisco co-founded a public policy research organization whose work provided research and intelligence in support of federal public safety legislation. Following the successful conclusion of that work, he returned to academia to complete his doctorate. He subsequently served as a graduate student advisor at UC Berkeley while teaching classical mythology at Georgetown University.

More recently, Francisco founded and operates a sexual wellness business in Washington, D.C., integrating retail, education, and community engagement. He also presents talks and workshops exploring leadership, sexuality, identity, and personal mastery.

Across these pursuits, Francisco's work is connected by an enduring fascination with character, culture, identity, and the forces that shape human behavior—an inquiry he continues to bring to his work as an actor and storyteller.