



B I O G R A P H Y

Russwin Francisco is a Filipino American actor, producer, director, educator, and entrepreneur.

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

As a stage performer, Francisco has appeared in musical and dramatic productions in 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 has included performances in classical, sacred, jazz, madrigal, doo-wop, barbershop, and a cappella genres. He was a featured soloist with the Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Washington, DC, and performed with the a cappella ensemble Nuance for more than 21 years. As a jazz vocalist, he performed throughout the Washington

metropolitan area. He co-established Black Fox Lounge, where he curated the venue's music programming.

In the Philippines, Francisco performed in an internationally broadcast dramatic series on DZRH radio. His voiceover work included a national advertising campaign and musical score narration.

He wrote and directed a stage play that won first prize in a national competition sponsored by De La Salle University and received national recognition for extemporaneous storytelling.

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

Outside the performing arts, he taught business courses at Marymount University while he served as Associate Registrar 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 he continued to teach, he co-founded a public policy research organization that provided intelligence supporting public safety legislation. Following the successful conclusion of that work, he returned to academia and completed his doctorate. Then, he served as a graduate student advisor at UCB while he taught classical mythology at Georgetown University.

During this period, Francisco helped modernize the operations of an existing retail business. The experience eventually led to his founding and operation of a sexual wellness business in Washington, D.C., where he combines retail, education, and community engagement. He presents talks and workshops on leadership, identity, psychological congruence, and sex positivity.