

Stephen Mendel Bio

Stephen Mendel was born and raised in Montreal, Canada and yes, does speak French. He is a dual American/Canadian citizen. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Drama from Bishop's University and postgraduate studies at Concordia University he began an active career in theatre, voice, film and television.

A stint in a children's musical theatre tour, which took in far northern Canada, crystallized his desire to come to southern California. He'd been in Los Angeles just long enough to have appeared on television shows on all the broadcast networks and movies at the major studios, when he was offered the role of **Detective Fred Carson** on the CBS series "**Night Heat**" which ran for five seasons and filmed in Toronto, Canada. It became the number one show in Canada and won its time slot on CBS. While back in Canada, Stephen also had the opportunity to work on mini-series'; "**Echoes in the Darkness**" TV movies; "**The Enigma of Bobby Bittman**" and guest star on other episodic television shows; "**Mariah State**" and "**The New Alfred Hitchcock Presents**." He hosted broadcast and live charitable events for Big Brothers, The Muscular Dystrophy Assoc., The Humane Society, The Multiple Sclerosis Assoc., and participated in celebrity sports events such as the American Airlines Skiathon.

When "**Night Heat**" wrapped, he returned to Los Angeles and has been busy with TV guest star roles; "**Las Vegas**", "**24**", "**CSI: Miami**", "**JAG**", "**The Practice**", "**Judging Amy**", "**The X-Files**", "**Murder She Wrote**", "**L.A. Law**" and several mini-series', "**An Inconvenient Woman**", "**Tom and Roseanne**." Features include leads in; "**Miriam**", "**Provocateur**" (starring Jane March), "**Midnight Heat**" (starring Tim Matheson), and "**Jack Frost**" as well as leading roles in, "**Exception to the Rule**" (starring Eric McCormack), "**Final Round**" (starring Lorenzo Llamas), "**Heaven's Fire**" (starring Eric Roberts) and "**The Show-down**."

Stephen appears with **Tom Hanks** in the **Steven Spielberg** directed feature "**The Terminal**" although sadly several scenes did not make the final cut.

Stephen recently completed filming on "**CEO**", a major feature directed by Wu Tian Ming (most noted for his films, The King of Masks and The Old Well), which took him to China (twice), Paris, New York and South Carolina.

Stephen's has a chameleon like ability to completely change his appearance and is often virtually unrecognizable from one role to the next.

On stage at venues like the Pasadena Playhouse, the Matrix, the Odyssey, the Edison and the Centaur Theatres, he has played Froggy Lesoeur in "**The Foreigner**", Gerry in "**After Crystal Night**" and Frank in "**Educating Rita**."

In 1999 Stephen decided to complete his Master's Degree in Theatre and received an MFA from California State University, Long Beach in June of 2001. While there he taught acting, theatre history and audition techniques and studied voice, movement, theatre analysis and criticism and continued to perform frequently on stage. In 2003 he became a scuba diving instructor taking the grueling 14 week L.A. County Underwater Instructor's program.

Stephen has a busy voice over career with many radio and television commercials, documentary narration and the voice of **Splinter** the ninja master rat on the **FOX** live-action series "**Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: The Next Mutation**."

Off-stage –camera, he plays the guitar and sings with a group of folk musicians at fundraisers, charitable events and just for fun. He skies, teaches scuba diving, runs, backpacks, bicycles and practices the obscure martial art of aki-jutsu.