

SAMY LANGS

SAG / AFTRA

B I O G R A P H Y

Mr. Langs completed High school in Tangier, Morocco, successfully at the age of seventeen, speaking seven languages fluently at the “Mission Universitaire et Culturelle Française”.

His studies in piano and music at the Conservatory were completed at the same time and he received a First Prize diploma from this music academy in Tangier.

He studied economics and law at the University of Nice, but started seriously to think much more of a career in show business. During this first year, studying dance, singing, and tap, the very first job came along at the Casino Ruhl in Nice with the musical revue “Nice, Very Nice”; After two months he was already performing solo parts. This was a very pleasant way to pay for his studies on his own.

For the summer season, he worked at the Club Med in Tangier, where, after two months on the entertainment team, he became show director. He was only nineteen.

He got a solo engagement to perform in Cannes for the Film Festival as well as for other revues in Monte Carlo, and in hotels on the French Riviera. He performed for many celebrity guests, such as Rudolf Nureyev, Prince Rainer and Princess Grace of Monaco, Alain Delon, Catherine Deneuve, and many others.

This brought him to a contract in Paris where he worked at the world-renown “Alcazar” and later at the “Paradis Latin” for the well-known show host and director, Jean Marie Rivière, while he was finishing his studies.

The first big starring role came right after that, performing as the “M.C.” in the musical “Cabaret” in Paris. The show subsequently went on tour in Germany, and additional starring roles in Musicals such as “A Chorus line”, “the Rocky Horror show” and other European productions followed this.

In Paris, Mr. Langs discovered the world of impressionism and Pantomime: he decided to combine part of this art with his way of being a musical performer, what made out of him an all-around entertainer. Creating a totally new theatrical category that would even inspire years later, what became the successful CIRQUE DU SOLEIL. He calls himself a “quick-change artist” in a very poetic way. Based on his versatility as a singer, dancer, pantomime, and actor, he decided to write his own little musicals and play all the roles with the help of make-up, costumes, and visual effects. These character transformations were done in seconds without leaving the stage – a new style of illusion was born with great success among theatre audiences.

A very successful show company at that time in France called “The Ziegfields” made him part of their ensemble, and he toured with them for two years in Italy, Switzerland, Austria, France, Spain, and Morocco.

Then came the time when Mr. Langs decided to work for himself and not always as part of someone else's show.

During this last European tour, he met another performer with whom he thought he could finally realize and co-produce his own show. This is how the phenomenon Two-man show, "**Samy & Mario**" was born.

Starting at their own risk, producing, writing, directing, designing sets and costumes, choreographing, renting theaters, and even promoting ... a new theatrical revue was born: a two hour show including thirty-five different characters with seventy costume changes! The show was simply called "That's Entertainment". In its first month in Munich, the show won two Theater Awards! It was selected as Best Show Production of the Year by the Union of Performing Arts and as Star of the Week by the Munich *Abendzeitung* (which is to Munich what the *Los Angeles Times* to L.A.).

That was only the beginning of a very successful tour of Germany. The show sold out theaters in Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Frankfurt, Heidelberg, Mainz, and Nürnberg.

This enormous success caught the attention of media and political figures. Mr. Langs felt very honored when "Samy & Mario" was invited to perform for the German chancellor at his yearly Summer Party in Bonn as guest stars. This was followed by performances at other well-known theaters and special gala events. The "Liberals' Ball" for Foreign Minister Gensher and Nobel Prize winner Klaus von Klitzing and the "Sports Ball" in Wiesbaden, where they did a show with Audrey Landers (starring in the movie "A Chorus Line") for former president Walter Scheel, and many sports celebrities.

During a two-month period of sold-out performances in Cologne, television host Alfred Biolk (Germany's David Letterman) invited "Samy & Mario" to perform in their first live TV appearance with a ten-minute act. This prime-time show, "Bei Bio", was very popular and was seen by millions of German home viewers.

Mr. Langs was asked to be a guest star in the cop TV series "Polizei Inspektion 1" with Germany's most popular actor at that time, Walter Sedlmayr.

In between shows, Mr. Langs got his first film role, in the German motion picture "Lola", directed by the legendary **Rainer W. Fassbinder**. Barbara Sukova and Mario Adorf played the principal roles.

"Samy & Mario" then went on tour to Austria, Switzerland, Italy, and France. In the summer season, the show played in Sardinia at the famous Costa Esmeralda, in an open-air theater in the exclusive resort of Porto Rotondo. Many celebrities came to see the show: Prince Aga Khan, Princess Caroline of Monaco, the Agnellis, Mrs. Marzotto, and many Italian show business figures.

Then the show went to Rome and opened at the beautiful Theater "**Salone Marguerita**" also known as the "BAGAGLINO" close to the famous Spanish Stairs, and was a huge success. On opening night, they felt much honored to have in the audience a very special guest, **Jack Valenti**, who at that time was the President of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

When the show went back to Germany, the television network ZDF offered "Samy & Mario" their own television special. Seventy-five minutes, it was the longest one in German TV history. It was seen by more than **9 million viewers**.

Many other television appearances followed, including a New Years Eve TV special broadcast from Prague to both Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Later on, the show even performed in Sweden for King Carl Gustaf and Queen Sylvia at the launching of a ship going from Sweden to Germany.

The show became bigger and bigger with the addition of fourteen dancers and the production moved to bigger theaters and halls before audiences of more than three thousand people. It opened in Munich at the Deutsches Theater.

For the 750th anniversary of the city of Berlin, the show was invited to perform at the Fridrichstadtpalast in East Berlin, at that time behind the Iron Curtain. **“Samy & Mario”** became the first western entertainers invited to perform in East Germany (1987).

Another sixty-minute television special followed and they received many awards, among them “Entertainers of the Year”, “Crown of the Week”, and “Best Show in Town”.

After the successes of his European stage career, Mr. Langs felt he needed a new challenge: he decided to focus more on an acting career and went to Los Angeles, something he had always dreamed of.

He studied at the Lee Strassberg Institute for two years; then decided to discover and learn, the “Hollywood show biz system”. He had the opportunity to act in plays at the Institute. He appeared in featured roles for television (on NBC’s **“Lucky”** with Michael Nader and **“Night Eyes”** with Andrew Stevens); for motion pictures (in Oliver Stone’s **“The Doors”** and John Schlesinger’s **“Pacific Heights”**) and for music videos. It was a great experience that he would take back with him to Europe.

Back in Germany, he was a guest star in numerous popular television series, such as **“Derrick”**, **“Der Mann ohne Schatten”**, and **“Großstadt Revier”** with many German TV stars. At the same time, he was active in commercials, music videos, voice-overs, theater, and dubbing movies with any type of specific accents required.

One commercial in which he played the main character, the **“Dracula”** beer commercial for the Thüringer Brewery (“Vamp Bier”) won two awards: at the New York Commercial Festival and at the Cannes Commercial Film Festival. Nikolai Karo directed it for G.A.P (German Answer Productions).

He was offered a starring role in the movie **“Night Train to Venice”**, working with Hugh Grant, Malcom McDowell, and Tahnee Welch. The film was produced by Toni Hirtreiter and directed by Carlo Quinterio and was shot in Munich and Venice. The movie was presented at the Cannes Film Festival and many others.

Since then, Mr. Langs has been in television shows such as **“Aspekte”**, performing with German actress **Marianne Sägebrecht** and with her again in the French movie **“Soleil”**, with **Sophia Loren** and directed by **Roger Hanin**. He also appeared in **“The Dubai Story”**, a TV movie directed by Adalbert Plica. He got back on stage when he was offered to be the host at the Sands Hotel and Casino in **Puerto Rico** and Las Vegas for the show **“Hollywood Legends”** directed by Las Vegas Veteran **Papote Varet**.

Mr. Langs has been working in a wide variety of projects in the past years: for TV, Film, Stage, Commercials, Music Video, and Voice-over in the US and Europe:

Including an invitation to perform in Cannes again as a Guest Star, for the **50th Film Festival**, and to celebrate his 20th Stage anniversary right there where he started his stage career on the French Riviera.

A Guest Starring appearance on NBC's syndicated show "**U.S.A HIGH**" as a French Nightclub Owner (Hollywood Gower Studios) as well as on American Movie Classics series "**THE LOT**" as the legendary and wild Joan CRAWFORD (Culver City Studios).

He could not refuse to make his contribution in a Short Film for UCLA, to play a sleazy evil Pimp, because the role was way too tasty and challenging. As well as a decadent nightlife character in **Billie Mayers** Music Video "**TELL ME**", and a story telling Concierge in the MOW "**Fifteen in 99**" (for the ARTE TV Channel-Germany) where he teaches teen-agers how to approach the new Millenium and find happiness!

He made his Comedy debut in Los Angeles (April 2002) performing as a Guest Star at the legendary **Hollywood Improv** in the Show "**HOT TAMALES LIVE**" as a struggling L.A actor who desperately wants to land a job as a Show Host. He succeeds by kidnapping the star of the show, comedian and Host **Kiki Melendez**, in the dressing room, and impersonating her to steal the show. Little does he know that Kiki all gagged and tied up, makes it somehow to the stage...and the fight begins...Who is the real one?

He has been featured in the Big Budget Film "**LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN**" (starring **Sean Connery**) produced by **20th Century Fox**. He plays the aging part of the character Dorian Gray, portrayed in this movie by **Stuart Townsend**.

After a 7 hour session in the make-up room, the amazing Special effects teams of Steve Johnson, made him look seventy years older. Directed by **Steve Norrington**, this Special effects extravaganza Feature was released in Theatres in July 2003.

Mr. Langs was cast in a supporting role for the Independent Motion Picture "**TWEEK CITY**", shot in San Francisco; a new "film noir" where he plays a very intriguing and ambiguous part! This Independent movie was produced by Caitlin Maynard, directed and written by Eric Johnson, and the cinematography of Barry Stone. This Feature was one of the 12 selected (from a pool of over 1.400 submissions) into competition at the **2005 "DANCES WITH FILMS"** Film Festival in Santa Monica, California (**World Screening Premiere: May 8th 2005**) and got rave reviews from Kevin Thomas in the L.A Times.

He served on the Theatrical Motion Pictures **Nominating Committee** for the **11th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards** (Season **2004/2005**).

Mr. Langs is now working on a screenplay, on different Film and TV projects for Europe, and writing his next theatrical project, © "**DIVO? DIVA?... DIVINE**".

Recent appearances:

- ± **Supporting** role in the Independent Motion Picture:
"TWEAK CITY" as Roger / Rogeria, shot in San Francisco;
Directed, written and produced by Eric Johnson.
World Screening Premiere May 8th 2005
@ **"DANCES WITH FILMS** Film Festival in Santa Monica , California.
(May 2005)
- ± **Featured** in the 20th Century Fox Big Fat Budget Motion Picture
"LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN"
As the aging **Dorian Gray** (Starring **Sean Connery**)
Directed by Steve Norrington -----(March 2003)
Released in Theaters in July 2003.
- ± **Guest Star** appearance in the show "**HOT TAMALES LIVE** "
@ The **Hollywood "IMPROV"** -----(April 2002)
- ± **Interview** for multiple European TV channels @ **Academy Awards**
Oscars®: "On the red carpet" -----(March 2002)
- ± **Starring** in a short Film for UCLA **"Being There"** as a Pimp.
(June 2001)
- ± **Featured** as **"JOAN CRAWFORD "** for the American Movie Classics
Series **"THE LOT "**----- (June 2000)
- ± **Guest starring** in "**15/99** " **MOW** (ARTE Channel-GERMANY)
(July 99)
- ± **Guest starring** in NBC's syndicated show **"U.S.A HIGH "** as a
French Night club owner----- (April 98)

Commercials, Voice-over, and Music Videos:

- ❖ **Voice-over** for Video Game **SOCOM II: U.S Navy Seals** (June 03)
Voices for spy – soldier – drunken homeless.
 - ❖ **Mitsubishi** (Radio Commercial in Spanish)
 - ❖ **Kraft** ("**Rugrats in Paris**"), on camera.
 - ❖ **Spanish dubbing** for **Shaquille O'Neal** (**Starlight Productions,**
Kids with Asthma CD Rom, sponsored by Mr. Steven Spielberg)
 - ❖ **Hartmann, BMW** (**Voice for Industrials**)
 - ❖ **Dubbing** for the TV Series **"Klinik Unter Palmen"**(Germany),
 - ❖ **Dubbing** for the Motion Picture **"White Squall"**.
 - ❖ **DRACULA "VAMP BIER"** commercial, on camera for movie Theatres.
- ± **Featured** in **Billie Myers** Music Video **"Tell me"**.
± **Featured** in **Steevie Ray Vaughn** Music Video **"CROSSFIRE"**.