

MICHAEL LOMAN

PROFILE

Michael Loman began his career in musical theatre as an actor and dancer. He appeared on Broadway in the musical ***Funny Girl*** and also in Peter Ustinov's war satire ***The Unknown Soldier and His Wife***. Michael also toured in many other musicals with stars such as Diahann Carroll and Godfrey Cambridge.

Mr. Loman then decided to turn to comedy writing and his first job was for the acclaimed PBS series, ***The Great American Dream Machine***. To expand job possibilities, Michael decided to write a spec script for Norman Lear's hit television series ***Maude*** which starred Bea Arthur. That script got him an agent (The William Morris Agency) and his first jobs in television. Loman decided to travel out to Los Angeles to test his luck as a writer in television and he landed a job creating a new series for Universal on his first day in Hollywood. Unfortunately, that project didn't make it. His next job was writing a script for Mel Brooks' sitcom satire on Robin Hood entitled, "When Things Were Rotten." As Loman was about to start the second draft of his script, the series was cancelled. But then some better news prevailed. His agent sent his spec ***Maude*** script to the Norman Lear company and they offered him a script on Lear's hit series ***One Day at a Time***. Mr. Lear, who reads all scripts for all of his series, wrote on Michael's script "Michael Loman is a terrific writer." Loman made a hundred copies of Lear's remarks and sent them to everyone he had ever known.

At that time, the producer of ***One Day At a Time*** was leaving to produce Mr. Lear's brilliant signature sitcom, ***All in The Family*** and asked Michael to write an episode for the show. The episode was titled "Archie's Secret Passion" and was so successful that Loman was asked to write three more episodes. His shows are on the seventh season dvd of ***All in the Family***.

Next, Michael moved up from staff writer to story editor on the hit series ***Happy Days***. He wrote four shows for that top series as well and one of the episodes "Smokin' Ain't Cool" has been used by the American Heart Association for many years to discourage teenagers from smoking.

Following ***Happy Days*** Loman moved up to producing and writing on the Bob Newhart series, ***Newhart***, which took place at an inn in Vermont. The next series for Michael producing and writing was ***The Hogan Family*** starring Jason Bateman. Michael is very proud of a special episode he wrote for that series entitled "The Best of Times, The Worst of Times" which was one of the first sitcom scripts to delve into the topic of AIDS.

There was one more series that Loman worked on as producer and writer: ***The Cosby Show***. Loman received an Emmy for this show starring the brilliant Bill Cosby.

Back in Los Angeles, Michael noticed a story in the trade papers that the Executive Producer of ***Sesame Street*** was leaving. He asked his agents to get him an interview for that position. Well, one interview turned into about six interviews over the span of a year. Finally, they flew him to New York to meet with

Joan Ganz Cooney who created Sesame Street and the producers of that series. They offered him the job of Executive Producer. Mr. Loman served as Executive Producer of **Sesame Street** for ten years winning ten Emmys for all those years as the producer of the Most Outstanding Children's Series or Pre-School Series. As Executive Producer he oversaw all the creative aspects of the show, the financial aspects, and he worked closely with the Research and Curriculum departments. He was also the public spokesperson for **Sesame Street** appearing on many television shows such as **Good Morning America** and was interviewed by most leading newspapers. He was also instrumental in creating foreign productions of **Sesame Street** going to Jerusalem to work on the combined Israeli-Palestinian production and to Shanghai to help in the development of the Chinese production.

Michael then decided to expand his career and thought he knew a great deal about the television situation comedy business that could be helpful to college students. So he began a career as a college professor. His first job was as an adjunct at **Yale University** and he taught there for three years. Then Loman was offered a full professorship at **Boston University's College of Communication** where he currently and very happily teaches today.

Michael Loman has won two **Fulbright Senior Specialist Fellowships**...teaching at two different universities in London. He also was awarded a **Humanitas Certificate** and has awards from The **Easter Seal Society** for his work on **Sesame Street** presenting children with disabilities, **La Raza**, and other civil rights organizations. He has given speeches at **Harvard University School of Education, Yale University** and many other universities and colleges.