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## Martin Landau

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**Martin Landau** (born June 20, 1928)<sup>[1]</sup> is an American film and television actor. He is perhaps best known for his roles in the television series *Mission: Impossible* (1966–1969) and *Space: 1999* (1975–1977). He received a Golden Globe Award in 1969 for his performance in the former, playing the role of mission specialist Rollin Hand. In 1968 and 1969 he received Emmy award nominations for best actor in a dramatic series for his *Mission: Impossible* work. In 1994 he won several awards, including the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his performance as actor Bela Lugosi in *Ed Wood*. He had already received two previous Oscar nominations.

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### Early life

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Landau was born into a Jewish family in Brooklyn, New York, the son of Selma (*née* Buchanan) and Morris Landau, an Austrian-born machinist who scrambled to rescue from the Nazis.<sup>[2][3]</sup> At the age of 17, he began working as a cartoonist for the *Daily News*, assisting Gus Edson on *The Gumps* comic strip during the 1940s and 1950s.<sup>[4]</sup>

Influenced by Charlie Chaplin and the escapism of the cinema, he pursued an acting career. He attended the Actors Studio in the same class with Steve McQueen and in 1957, Landau made his Broadway debut in *Middle of the Night*. Encouraged by his mentor Lee Strasberg, Landau also taught acting. Actors he has coached include Jack Nicholson and Anjelica Huston.

### Career

[edit]



Martin Landau as Rollin Hand on *Mission: Impossible*, feigning drug dependency

In 1959, Landau made his first major film appearance in Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* at the age of 28. There is a legend that he turned down the role of Spock in *Star Trek* but *Star Trek* story editor D.C. Fontana has verified that it is false.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> Landau took the role of master of disguise Rollin Hand in *Mission: Impossible*, becoming one of the show's best-known stars. According to *The Complete Mission: Impossible Dossier*, by Patrick J. White (Avon Books, 1991), Landau initially declined to be contracted to the show as he did not want it to interfere with his film career; instead, for the first season he was credited in "special guest appearances by" him. He became a "full-time" cast member with the second season, although the studio agreed to only contract him on a year-by-year basis rather than the then-standard five years. The role of Rollin Hand required Landau to perform a wide range of accents and characters from dictators to thugs, and several episodes saw Landau playing dual roles - not only Hand's impersonation, but also the "original" person (such as in the first episode of the series). He co-starred in the series with his then-wife, Barbara Bain.

In the mid-1970s, Landau and Bain, teamed with Barry Morse, returned to television in the British science fiction series, *Space: 1999*, produced first

by Gerry Anderson in partnership with Sylvia Anderson and then by Fred Freiberger. Although it remains a cult classic for its high production design values, the series was critically derided during its run and was cancelled after two seasons. Landau himself became very critical of the show's scripts and storylines, especially during its second season, but praised the cast and crew. He wrote forewords for Barry Morse's 2006 theatrical memoir *Remember With Advantages* and for Jim Smith's critical biography of Tim Burton.

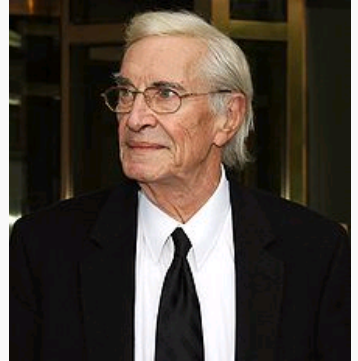
After *Space: 1999*, Landau appeared in supporting roles in a number of films and television shows of varying quality, including *The Harlem Globetrotters on Gilligan's Island*, which again co-starred Bain. This was the last time the two acted together on screen, as of December 2007.

In the late 1980s, Landau staged a major career comeback by winning an Academy Award nomination for his role in *Tucker: The Man and His Dream*. He later received a second nomination for *Crimes and Misdemeanors* and won the 1994 Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his uncanny portrayal of Bela Lugosi in *Ed Wood*. Upon accepting the award, he was visibly frustrated by the orchestra's attempt to cut short his speech. When the music level rose, he pounded his fist on the podium and yelled "No!" He later stated that he had intended to thank Lugosi and dedicate the award to him and his frustration was that he did not get to mention the man whom he had been honoured for playing.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup> Landau received a Screen Actors Guild Award, a Golden Globe, and a Saturn Award for the role, as well as awards from several critics groups.<sup>[5]</sup> Upon winning the Academy Award, a reporter for the *Los Angeles Times* stated that "the award goes to Martin Landau; its shadow goes to Bela Lugosi." Landau admitted, on the *Ed Wood* DVD, to having been very impressed by the comment.

In 2006, Landau made a guest appearance on the TV series *Entourage*, playing a washed-up, but determined and sympathetic, Hollywood producer attempting to relive his glory days. Landau received a 2007 Emmy Award nomination for his performance in this role.

In 2009, Landau, working with director Mark Rydell and Screenwriter/Playwright Lyle Kessler have teamed up to produce an educational seminar, *The Total Picture Seminar*. It is a unique two-day event covering the disciplines of acting, directing and writing for film. The three have worked together as a team for many decades at the Actors Studio teaching and coaching professional actors, writers, and directors. They are now

**Martin Landau**

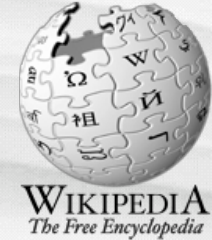


Landau at the 2008 Toronto International Film Festival

<b>Born</b>	June 20, 1928 (age 81) <div>Brooklyn, New York, U.S.</div>
<b>Occupation</b>	Actor/Producer
<b>Years active</b>	1956–present
<b>Spouse(s)</b>	<span><span>Barbara Bain</span> (1957-1993)</span>



Martin Landau (left) with the late Patrick Swayze



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bringing their industry experience and personal success, as well as a lifetime of teaching experience to a wider audience.

For his contribution to the motion picture industry, Landau has a star on the [Hollywood Walk of Fame](#) at 6841 Hollywood Blvd.

## Personal life

[[edit](#)]

Landau has two daughters, Susan and [Juliet](#), from his marriage to [Barbara Bain](#). Landau and Bain married on January 31, 1957 and divorced in 1993. He lives in West Hollywood, California.

## Filmography

[[edit](#)]

Year	Film	Role	Notes
1959	<i>Pork Chop Hill</i>	Lt. Marshall	
	<i>North by Northwest</i>	Leonard	
	<i>The Gazebo</i>	The Duke aka A. Wellington Broos	
1962	<i>Stagecoach to Dancers' Rock</i>	Dade Coleman	
1963	<i>Decision at Midnight</i>		
	<i>Cleopatra</i>	Rufio	
1965	<i>The Hallelujah Trail</i>	Chief Walks-Stooped-Over	
	<i>The Greatest Story Ever Told</i>	Caiaphas	
1966	<i>Nevada Smith</i>	Jesse Coe	
1970	<i>Operation Snafu</i>	Joe Mellone	
	<i>They Call Me Mister Tibbs!</i>	Logan Sharpe	
1970	<i>A Town Called Hell</i>	The Colonel	
1972	<i>Black Gunn</i>	Capelli	
1972	<i>Welcome Home, Johnny Bristol</i>	Johnny Bristol	
1976	<i>A Special Magnum for Tony Saitta</i>	Dr. George Tracer	
1979	<i>Meteor</i>	Major General Adlon	
1980	<i>Without Warning</i>	Fred 'Sarge' Dobbs	
	<i>The Last Word</i>	Captain Garrity	
	<i>The Return</i>	Niles Buchanan	
1982	<i>Alone in the Dark</i>	Byron 'Preacher' Sutcliff	
	<i>The Fall of the House of Usher</i>	Roderick Usher	
1983	<i>Trial by Terror</i>		
	<i>The Being</i>	Garson Jones	
1984	<i>Access Code</i>		
	<i>Terror in the Aisles</i>		archival footage
1985	<i>Treasure Island</i>	Old Captain	
1987	<i>W.A.R.: Women Against Rape</i>	Judge Shaw	
	<i>Cyclone</i>	Bosarian	
	<i>Sweet Revenge</i>	Cicero	
	<i>Empire State</i>	Chuck	
	<i>Delta Fever</i>	Bud	
	<i>Run If You Can</i>	Malvani	
1988	<i>Tucker: The Man and His Dream</i>	Abe Karatz / Voice of <a href="#">Walter Winchell</a>	<a href="#">Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actor - Motion Picture</a> <a href="#">Nominated - Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor</a>
1989	<i>Paint It Black</i>	Daniel Lambert	
	<i>Crimes and Misdemeanors</i>	Judah Rosenthal	<a href="#">Nominated - Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor</a>
1990	<i>Real Bullets</i>	Sallini	
1991	<i>Firehead</i>	Admiral Pendleton	
1992	<i>Mistress</i>	Jack Roth	
1993	<i>No Place to Hide</i>	Frank McCoy	
	<i>Sliver</i>	Alex Parsons	
	<i>Eye of the Stranger</i>	Mayor Howard Bains	
	<i>The Color of Evening</i>	Max Loeb	
	<i>Intersection</i>	Neal	

1994	<i>Ed Wood</i>	Béla Lugosi	Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor Nominated - BAFTA Award
	<i>Time Is Money</i>	Mac	
1995	<i>Joseph</i>	Jacob	
1996	<i>The Elevator</i>	Roy Tilden	
	<i>City Hall</i>	Judge Walter Stern	
	<i>The Adventures of Pinocchio</i>	Geppetto	
1997	<i>B*A*P*S</i>	Mr. Donald Blakemore	
	<i>Legend of the Spirit Dog</i>	Storyteller	voice
1998	<i>The X Files</i>	Alvin Kurtzweil, MD	
	<i>Rounders</i>	Abe Petrovsky	
1999	<i>Edtv</i>	Al	
	<i>Carlo's Wake</i>	Carlo Torello	
	<i>The Joyriders</i>	Gordon Trout	
	<i>The New Adventures of Pinocchio</i>	Geppetto	
	<i>Sleepy Hollow</i>	Peter Van Garrett	uncredited
2000	<i>Ready to Rumble</i>	Sal Bandini	
	<i>Shiner</i>	Frank Spedding	
	<i>Very Mean Men</i>	Mr. White	
2001	<i>The Majestic</i>	Harry Trimble	
2003	<i>Hollywood Homicide</i>	Jerry Duran	
	<i>Wake</i>	Older Sebastian Riven	
	<i>The Commission</i>	Sen. Richard Russell	
2004	<i>The Aryan Couple</i>	Joseph Krauzenberg	
2006	<i>Love Made Easy</i>	Don Farinelli Sr	
	<i>An Existential Affair</i>	Doctor	
2008	<i>David &amp; Fatima</i>	Rabbi Schmulic	
	<i>City of Ember</i>	Sul	
	<i>Billy: The Early Years</i>	Older <a href="#">Charles Templeton</a>	
	<i>Harrison Montgomery</i>	Harrison Montgomery	<i>awaiting release</i>
	<i>Lovely, Still</i>	Robert Malone	<i>awaiting release</i>
	<i>Ivory</i>	Leon Spencer	<i>post-production</i>
2009	<i>9</i>	2	(voice)
	<i>The Company Men</i>	August	<i>pre-production</i>

## Selected television

[[edit](#)]

year	film	role	notes
1957	<i>Harbourmaster</i>	First Mate	"Sanctuary"
1959	<i>The Lawless Years</i>	Silva	"Lucky Silva"
1959	<i>The Twilight Zone</i>	Dan Hotaling	" <a href="#">Mr. Denton on Doomsday</a> "
1959	<i>Johnny Staccato</i>	Jerry Lindstrom	"Murder for Credit"
1961	<i>The Law and Mr. Jones</i>		The episode entitled "Lincoln"
1963	<i>The Outer Limits</i>	Andro	" <a href="#">The Man Who Was Never Born</a> "
1964	<i>The Outer Limits</i>	Richard Bellero	" <a href="#">The Bellero Shield</a> "
	<i>The Twilight Zone</i>	Major Ivan Juchenko	" <a href="#">The Jeopardy Room</a> "
1965	<i>The Big Valley</i>	Mariano Montoya	"The Way to Kill a Killer"
1966-1969	<i>Mission: Impossible</i>	Rollin Hand	<a href="#">Golden Globe</a> Nominated - <a href="#">Emmy Award</a> , 1967, 1968, 1969
1969	<i>Get Smart</i>	As Himself	
1973	<i>Columbo</i>	Dexter and Norman Paris	" <a href="#">Columbo: Double Shock</a> "
1975-1977	<i>Space: 1999</i>	Commander <a href="#">John Koenig</a> , leader of <a href="#">Moonbase Alpha</a>	48 episodes, TV Series

1981	<i>The Harlem Globetrotters on Gilligan's Island</i>	J.J. Pierson	
1985	<i>The New Twilight Zone</i>	William Cooper-Janes	"The Beacon/One Life, Furnished in Early Poverty"
1990	<i>By Dawn's Early Light</i>	The President of the United States	
1993	<i>12:01</i>	Dr. Thadius Moxley	
1999	<i>Bonanno: A Godfather's Story</i>	Joseph Bonanno, age 94	
2000	<i>In the Beginning</i>	Abraham	
2004-2005	<i>Without a Trace</i>	Frank Malone	4 episodes Nominated - Nominated - <b>Emmy Award</b> Outstanding Guest Actor in a Drama Series, 2004, 2005
2006	<i>The Evidence</i>	Dr. Sol Gold	8 episodes
	<i>Entourage</i>	Bob Ryan	4 episodes Nominated - <b>Emmy Award</b> Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series

## References

[edit]

- ↑ *Martin Landau biography*. Space1999.net
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- ↑ Lindsey, Robert. "Martin Landau Rolls Up in a New Vehicle". *The New York Times*. 7 August 1988.
- ↑ *Awards for Ed Wood*. IMDB.com.

## External links

[edit]

- Martin Landau at the Internet Movie Database
- The Total Picture Seminar - A Seminar with Martin Landau, Mark Rydell, and Lyle Kessler covering filmmaking.

**Awards for Martin Landau**

[show]

Categories: Actors Studio alumni | American film actors | American television actors | Austrian-American Jews | Best Supporting Actor Academy Award winners | Jewish actors | Actors from New York | German-American Jews | People from Brooklyn | 1928 births | Living people



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