

Mark Leydorf

Mark wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *Citizen Ruth*, based on the film by Alexander Payne, with music by Michael Brennan. It was named Best Musical at the New York International Fringe Festival; sadly, subsequent productions have stumbled over money (an abortion satire isn't every producer's cup of tea). Also with Brennan, he's adapted Emile Zola's *Nana* as a literary burlesque, and written *Candy*, an original screwball comedy.

Mark's play *Lifeboat*, "a romantic comedy at the end of the world," has had several readings under the direction of Darren Katz. His ghost story "Francis Bay" was published by the *Printer's Devil Review* in 2015. Filmmaker Adam Baran is working with Mark to adapt a second story, "Bad House," as a screenplay.

Mark worked on and off as an actor for 20 years, appearing uptown only once, in the Broadway revival of *The Ritz*. Most of his New York credits were decidedly downtown: *Brass Ankle* and *Der Orphano das Chao* for Target Margin; *Mephisto* and *Valerie Shoots Andy* for Reverie; *Train Play* for Clubbed Thumb; *Witches Triptych* for the Women's Project; *Dick Play* at La Mama; and scads of readings and workshops at New York Theatre Workshop, where he was a Usual Suspect for a time. He spent a year in *Mamma Mia!* at Mandalay Bay Casino in Las Vegas, and did quite a lot of regional theater: *A Christmas Carol* and *Arcadia* at Portland Stage Company in Portland, Maine; *Of Mice and Men* and *Oklahoma!* at the Hangar Theatre in Ithaca, New York; *Copenhagen* at Delaware Rep. And yes, he did an episode of *Law & Order: SVU*.

Since 2001, Mark has been a frequent contributor to *Poz*, the leading magazine for people living with HIV. Over the years, he's also taught writing at a boarding school, written financial research on Wall Street, and copy-edited at magazines from *Good Housekeeping* to *Penthouse*. At his current day job, at *Bloomberg Businessweek*, Mark is not only an editor but also the "voice" of the magazine, which he reads aloud each week for the web.

Mark's been a committed activist since he first arrived in New York, protesting with ACTUP and QueerNation, volunteering for GMHC, and serving on the steering committee of Gays Against Guns. In the Trump era you will find him most weekends out in the streets, leading his "resistance queertet" Sing Out Louise! in his satirical versions of popular songs. If you are tired of yelling at your TV, please join him: For information, visit SingOutLouiseNY.org.

A graduate of Yale College, Mark is a member of the Dramatists Guild and Actors' Equity.