



Gary Dourdan

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Gary Dourdan (born **Gary Robert Durdin**; December 11, 1966) is an American actor. He is known for portraying Warrick Brown on the television series *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* and for portraying Shazza Zulu on the television series *A Different World*.

Early life

Dourdan was born Gary Robert Durdin in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the son of Sandy, a teacher and fashion designer, and Robert Durdin, an entrepreneur and agent for jazz musicians.^{[1][2]} Dourdan is the fourth of five children. When he was six, his 21-year-old brother Darryl died after falling from a balcony in Haiti while "doing research on the family lineage". The case remains unsolved.^{[2][3]} In his youth he moved with his family to Willingboro, New Jersey. During that time, his interests included acting, music, and martial arts. Later, Dourdan moved to New York City and worked as a doorman at a rehearsal studio, where he met some of Manhattan's promising young artists.

Career

Dourdan played in several bands in New York City in the early 1990s and acted in regional theatre around the tristate area. He began acting in music videos, including playing Janet Jackson's love interest in the video for her 1993 hit "Again", and had a cameo appearance in the music video "Move the Crowd" by Eric B. & Rakim. He received his first break when Debbie Allen cast him as Shazza Zulu on A

Gary Dourdan



Dourdan in 2007

Born	<div>Gary Robert Durdin</div> <div>December 11, 1966</div> <div> Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States</div>
Nationality	 <u>American</u>
Occupation	<u>Actor</u>
Years active	1991–present
Known for	<u>Warrick Brown</u> on <i><u>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</u></i>
Spouse	<u>Roshumba Williams</u> (1992–1994; divorced)

Different World, based on a tape of him in an *avant-garde* play. In 1996, Dourdan appeared in the *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman* episode "Never On Sunday", wherein he played Ziggy, an assistant to Baron Sunday. In 1997, Dourdan played the character Christie, the first mate, crack shot, and second in command of the spaceship *Betty*, in the film *Alien: Resurrection*. He also appeared in the films *Playing God* and *Thursday*, and on television starred in the *Dick Wolf* production *Swift Justice* and played a recurring role on the *Showtime* series *Soul Food*. Dourdan joined hip-hop artist *DMC* (of *Run–D.M.C.*) onstage at the *Live 8* concert in *Barrie*, *Ontario*, Canada, and sang alongside *Macy Gray* at the 2005 *Emmy Awards*. He is an *alternative* musician and a record producer.^[4]

Partner(s)	Cynthia Hadden Jennifer Sutton (1995-2000)
Children	2 including Lyric, Nyla
Parent(s)	Robert Durdin (father) Sand Durdin (mother)

In 2007, he played the character Cameron, the boyfriend of Rowena Price (*Halle Berry*), in the film *Perfect Stranger*.

Dourdan's most popular role was as a cast member of the original *CSI* series, which debuted on October 6, 2000. He played analyst *Warrick Brown*, who, viewers find out, has a checkered past fraught with gambling problems. By working in *Las Vegas*, the character is able to use his personal experiences from the street to help him throughout his career. Ultimately, he ends up battling his demons throughout the show instead of overcoming them.

In 2008, there was media speculation surrounding Dourdan's *CSI* contract negotiations with *CBS*. The parties could not reach a resolution, and as a result his contract was not renewed. It was reported on April 14, 2008, that Dourdan was leaving the show.^[5] In the Season 8 finale, Dourdan's character was shot and left for dead at the episode's end. The Season 9 premiere revealed Dourdan's character dying in the arms of his colleague and friend *Gil Grissom*.^[6]

After leaving *CSI* he took recurring roles as Stephan in the series *Christine* and Sheldon DeWitt in the series *Being Mary Jane*.^[7]

Personal life

Dourdan has African-American, Native American, Franco-Haitian (*Haiti*), Jewish, Irish, and Scottish ancestry.^[2] He married model *Roshumba Williams* in 1992; they divorced two years later.^[8] He has two children: a son, Lyric, with Cynthia Hadden, and a daughter, Nyla, with Jennifer Sutton, whom Dourdan dated from 1995 to 2000.^[9] He also collects classic cars and was featured on Season 1, Episode 3, of *Street Customs*.

Legal issues

In 2008, Dourdan was arrested for possession of *cocaine* and *ecstasy*. A third charge, possession of *heroin*, was dropped.^[10] In July 2011 after crashing his car, Dourdan was arrested but charges were dropped for drug possession (*oxycontin*). He was, however, charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.^[11] Despite rumors, the drug charges had nothing to do with his departure from *CSI*, as the contract negotiations had already concluded and he had wrapped filming the last of his scenes before the incident. In November 2011, he was arrested for felony battery, after allegedly breaking his girlfriend's nose, and placed on five years' probation. He

was also ordered to attend 52 weeks of domestic violence counselling and to stay away from the victim for five years. Owing to his history of drug problems, he was also ordered to undergo drug counseling.^[12] Dourdan filed for bankruptcy in August 2012, owing roughly \$1.7 million to creditors.^[13]

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1992	<i>The Good Fight</i>	Elijah	<u>Television Movie</u>
1993	<i>Weekend at Bernie's II</i>	Cartel Man #2	
1994	<i>The Paper</i>	Copy Guy	
1994	<i>Keys</i>	Loot	Television Movie
1996	<i>Sunset Park</i>	Dreadlock Guy	
1997	<i>Playing God</i>	Yates	
1997	<i>Alien: Resurrection</i>	Christie	
1997	<i>Get That Number</i>	James	<u>Short film</u>
1997	<i>Fool's Paradise</i>	Derek	
1998	<i>Scar City</i>	Sergeant Dan Creedy	
1998	<i>Thursday</i>	Ballpean	
1999	<i>The Weekend</i>	Theirry	
1999	<i>Rendezvous</i>	Jeff Nelson	Television Movie
1999	<i>New Jersey Turnpikes</i>	unknown role	
2000	<i>King of the World</i>	Malcolm X	Television Movie
2000	<i>Trois</i>	Jermaine Davis	
2001	<i>Imposter</i>	Captain Burke	
2006	<i>60 Seconds of Distance</i>	Dylan	Short film
2007	<i>Perfect Stranger</i>	Cameron	
2007	<i>Black August</i>	George L. Jackson	
2008	<i>Batman: Gotham Knight</i>	Crispus Allen (voice role)	<u>Direct-to-Video</u>
2009	<i>Fire!</i>	Phil May	
2009	<i>The Magnificent Cooly-T</i>	Dominick	
2011	<i>Jumping the Broom</i>	Chef	
2012	<i>The Woods</i>	Dylan Banks	
2013	<i>Five Thirteen</i>	Clyde	
2013	<i>The Last Letter</i>	George	

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2014	<i>Cobayas: Human Test</i>	Eric	Short film
2014	<i>With You</i>	Ruben Haze	Short film
2015	<i>Mysterious Ways</i>	Mozart	
2015	<i>For the Love of Ruth</i>	Braxton	
2015	<i>Reversion</i>	Ayden	
2016	<i>Love Under New Management: The Miki Howard Story</i>	Augie	
2017	<i>Media</i>	Jabbar Randolph	Television Movie
2017	<i>Guns Guitars and a Badge..</i>	Romeo	
2018	<i>All She Wrote</i>	Aaron	
2018	<i>Memoria</i>	Adam Turner	Short film
2018	<i>The Third Degree</i>	unknown role	

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1991–1992	<i><u>A Different World</u></i>	Shazza Zulu	series regular; 15 episodes
1993	<i><u>Laurel Avenue</u></i>	Anthony	Television Miniseries; 2 episodes
1994	<i><u>New York Undercover</u></i>	Trey King	Episode: "To Protect and Serve"
1995	<i><u>The Office</u></i>	Bobby Harold	recurring role; 6 episodes
1996	<i><u>Lois & Clark: New Adventures of Superman</u></i>	Ziggy	Episode: " <u>Never on Sunday</u> "
1996	<i><u>Swift Justice</u></i>	Randall Patterson	unknown episode
1998	<i><u>Sins of the City</u></i>	unknown role	Episode: "Sins of the City"
1999	<i><u>Seven Days</u></i>	Sergeant Mohmand	Episode: " <u>Daddy's Girl</u> "
1999	<i><u>Cold Feet</u></i>	Kris Bumstead	Episode: " <u>The Strange Loves of Shelley Bumstead</u> "
1999–2000	<i><u>Beggars and Choosers</u></i>	Julius Henry	2 episodes
2000–2001	<i><u>Soul Food</u></i>	Jack Van Adams	recurring role; 6 episodes
2000–2008	<i><u>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</u></i>	<u>Warrick Brown</u>	series regular; 183 episodes
2002	<i><u>Fillmore!</u></i>	Ken Fillmore	Episode: "Cry, the Beloved Mascot"
2002	<i><u>Lyric Cafe</u></i>	Host	unknown episode
2005	<i><u>Kim Possible</u></i>	Dash DaMont (voice role)	Episode: " <u>Team Impossible</u> "
2012	<i><u>Christine</u></i>	Stephan	recurring role; 3 episodes
2013	<i><u>Belle's</u></i>	unknown role	Episode: "Runaway Bride"

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2013	<i><u>Mistresses</u></i>	Anthony Newsome	recurring role; 4 episodes
2014	<i><u>Glee</u></i>	D'Shawn	Episode: " <u>The Back-Up Plan</u> "
2015	<i><u>Being Mary Jane</u></i>	Sheldon	recurring role; 9 episodes
2018	<i><u>Power</u></i>	Charles Hamilton	Episode: "When This Is Over"
2018	<i><u>Hawaii Five-0</u></i>	Unknown role	Episode: Mai Ka Po Mai Ka 'Oia'i'o

Music Videos

Year	Title	Role	Artist
1987	<i><u>Move The Crowd</u></i>	unknown role	Erik B & Rakim
1993	<i><u>Again</u></i>	Jackson's lost love	<u>Janet Jackson</u>
2002	<i><u>Soulful Energy Xchange</u></i>	Gary	Wanted
2004	<i><u>What's Your Number?</u></i>	unknown role	<u>Cypress Hill</u> featuring <u>Tim Armstrong</u>

Video Games

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2000	<i><u>Alien: Resurrection</u></i>	Christie (voice role)	
2003	<i><u>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</u></i>	<u>Warrick Brown</u> (voice role)	
2004	<i><u>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation – Dark Motives</u></i>	CSI Level 3 Warrick Brown (voice role)	
2006	<i><u>CSI: 3 Dimensions of Murder</u></i>	Warrick Brown (voice role)	
2007	<i><u>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation – Hard Evidence</u></i>	Warrick Brown (voice role)	

Awards and nominations

The following is a list of accolades received by Dourdan:

Association	Year	Category	Title	Result
NAACP Image Awards	2003	Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Won
	2004	Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
	2005	Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
	2006	Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Won
	2007	Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
Screen Actors Guild Awards	2002	Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
	2003	Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
	2004	Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Nominated
	2005	Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Won
Seattle International Film Festival	2000	Citation of Excellence for Ensemble Cast Performance	<i>The Weekend</i>	Won
South East European Film Festival	2018	Best Actor	<i>All She Wrote</i>	Won

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External links

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