

LEON BELASCO

Born in Odessa, Ukraine, *Leon Belasco* was prepared for a musical career at several music schools throughout Japan and Manchuria. Belasco's musical training eventually took him to First Violin for the Tokyo Symphony. Leon Balasco later formed and led his own orchestra. Though he made his first film in 1926, his Film, Stage and Radio careers didn't take off until 1939.

Together with *Leonid Kinsky and Mischa Auer*, Belasco was one of Hollywood's favorite comic Russians, invariably cast as an excitable musician, choreographer or aesthete. He also registered well in sinister roles, especially in World War II and Cold War espionage features.

On Radio, *Leon Belasco* enjoyed a seven-year run as *Pegon Zellschmidt* on *The Man Called X* (1945-1952), as the weasily black marketeer, informant, neer-do-well foil to *Herbert Marshall's* Ken Thurston, *The Man Called X*.

This audio synopsis was furnished by the digitaldelitwo located at <http://www.digitaldelift.com>

For the Old Time Radio Researchers, I'm _____, your announcer.