

= Al Pacino =

Alfredo James " Al " Pacino (/ p??t?i?no? / ; born April 25 , 1940) is an American actor of stage and screen , filmmaker , and screenwriter . Pacino has had a career spanning fifty years , during which time he has received numerous accolades and honors both competitive and honorary , among them an Academy Award , two Tony Awards , two Primetime Emmy Awards , a British Academy Film Award , four Golden Globe Awards , the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Film Institute , the Golden Globe Cecil B. DeMille Award , and the National Medal of Arts . He is also one of few performers to have won a competitive Oscar , an Emmy and a Tony Award for acting , dubbed the " Triple Crown of Acting " .

A method actor and former student of the Herbert Berghof Studio and the Actors Studio in New York City , where he was taught by Charlie Laughton and Lee Strasberg , Pacino made his feature film debut with a minor role in Me , Natalie (1969) and gained favourable notices for his lead role as a heroin addict in The Panic in Needle Park (1971) . He achieved international acclaim and recognition for his breakthrough role as Michael Corleone in Francis Ford Coppola 's The Godfather (1972) . He received his first Oscar nomination and would reprise the role in sequels Part II (1974) and Part III (1990) . Pacino 's performance as Corleone is now regarded as one of the greatest screen performances in film history .

Pacino received his first Best Actor Oscar nomination for Serpico (1973) ; he was also nominated for The Godfather Part II , Dog Day Afternoon (1975) and ... And Justice for All (1979) and won the award in 1993 for his performance as a blind Lieutenant Colonel in Scent of a Woman (1992) . For his performances in The Godfather , Dick Tracy (1990) and Glengarry Glen Ross (1992) , Pacino was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor . Other notable roles include Tony Montana in Scarface (1983) , Carlito Brigante in Carlito 's Way (1993) , Lieutenant Vincent Hanna in Heat (1995) , Benjamin Ruggiero in Donnie Brasco (1997) , Lowell Bergman in The Insider (1999) and Detective Will Dormer in Insomnia (2002) . In television , Pacino has acted in several productions for HBO including the miniseries Angels in America (2003) and the Jack Kevorkian biopic You Don 't Know Jack (2010) , both of which won him the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie .

In addition to his work in film , Pacino has had an extensive career on stage and is a two @-@ time Tony Award winner , in 1969 and 1977 , for his performances in Does a Tiger Wear a Necktie ? and The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel respectively . A lifelong fan of Shakespeare , Pacino directed and starred in Looking for Richard (1996) , a documentary film about the play Richard III , a role which Pacino had earlier portrayed on @-@ stage in 1977 . He has also acted as Shylock in a 2004 feature film adaptation and a 2010 production of The Merchant of Venice . Having made his filmmaking debut with Looking for Richard , Pacino has also directed and starred in the independent film Chinese Coffee (2000) and the films Wilde Salomé (2011) and Salomé (2013) , about the play Salomé by Oscar Wilde . Since 1994 , Pacino has been the joint president of the Actors Studio with Ellen Burstyn and Harvey Keitel .

= = Early life and education = =

Pacino was born in New York City (East Harlem) , to Sicilian @-@ American parents Salvatore Pacino and Rose , who divorced when he was two years old . His mother moved near the Bronx Zoo to live with her parents , Kate and James Gerardi , who , coincidentally , had come from a town in Sicily named Corleone . His father , who was from San Fratello in the Province of Messina , moved to Covina , California , and worked as an insurance salesman and restaurateur .

In his teen years " Sonny " , as he was known to his friends , aimed to become a baseball player , and was also nicknamed " The Actor " . Pacino dropped out of many classes , but not English . He dropped out of school at age 17 . His mother disagreed with his decision ; they argued and he left home . He worked at low @-@ paying jobs , messenger , busboy , janitor , and postal clerk , to finance his acting studies . He once worked in the mail room for Commentary magazine .

He began smoking and drinking at age nine , and took up casual cannabis use at age 13 , but

never used hard drugs . His two closest friends died from drug abuse at the ages of 19 and 30 . Growing up in The Bronx , he got into occasional fights and was considered something of a troublemaker at school .

He acted in basement plays in New York 's theatrical underground but was rejected for the Actors Studio while a teenager . Pacino then joined the Herbert Berghof Studio (HB Studio) , where he met acting teacher Charlie Laughton (not to be confused with the British actor Charles Laughton) , who became his mentor and best friend . In this period , he was often unemployed and homeless , and sometimes slept on the street , in theaters , or at friends ' houses .

In 1962 , his mother died at the age of 43 . The following year , Pacino 's grandfather James Gerardi , one of the most influential people in his life , also died .

= = Actors Studio training = =

After four years at HB Studio , Pacino successfully auditioned for the Actors Studio . The Actors Studio is a membership organization of professional actors , theatre directors and playwrights in the Hell 's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan in New York City . Pacino studied " method acting " under acting coach Lee Strasberg , who later appeared with Pacino in the films The Godfather Part II and in ... And Justice for All .

During later interviews he spoke about Strasberg and the Studio 's effect on his career . " The Actors Studio meant so much to me in my life . Lee Strasberg hasn 't been given the credit he deserves ... Next to Charlie , it sort of launched me . It really did . That was a remarkable turning point in my life . It was directly responsible for getting me to quit all those jobs and just stay acting . "

In another interview he added , " It was exciting to work for him [Lee Strasberg] because he was so interesting when he talked about a scene or talked about people . One would just want to hear him talk , because things he would say , you 'd never heard before ... He had such a great understanding ... he loved actors so much . "

Pacino is currently co @-@ president , along with Ellen Burstyn and Harvey Keitel , of the Actors Studio .

= = Stage career = =

In 1967 , Pacino spent a season at the Charles Playhouse in Boston , performing in Clifford Odets ' Awake and Sing ! (his first major paycheck : \$ 125 a week) ; and in Jean @-@ Claude Van Itallie 's America , Hurrah , where he met actress Jill Clayburgh on this play . They had a five @-@ year romance and moved back together to New York City .

In 1968 , Pacino starred in Israel Horovitz 's The Indian Wants the Bronx at the Astor Place Theater , playing Murph , a street punk . The play opened January 17 , 1968 , and ran for 177 performances ; it was staged in a double bill with Horovitz 's It 's Called the Sugar Plum , starring Clayburgh . Pacino won an Obie Award for Best Actor for his role , with John Cazale winning for Best Supporting actor and Horowitz for Best New Play . Martin Bregman saw the play and became Pacino 's manager , a partnership that became fruitful in the years to come , as Bregman encouraged Pacino to do The Godfather , Serpico and Dog Day Afternoon . " Martin Bregman discovered me off Broadway . I was 26 , 25 . And he discovered me and became my manager . And that 's why I 'm here . I owe it to Marty , I really do , " Pacino himself has stated about his own career .

Pacino and this production of The Indian Wants the Bronx traveled to Italy for a performance at the Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto . It was Pacino 's first journey to Italy ; he later recalled that " performing for an Italian audience was a marvelous experience " . Pacino and Clayburgh were cast in " Deadly Circle of Violence " , an episode of the ABC television series NYPD , premiering November 12 , 1968 . Clayburgh at the time was also appearing on the soap opera Search for Tomorrow , playing the role of Grace Bolton . Her father would send the couple money each month to help .

On February 25 , 1969 , Pacino made his Broadway debut in Don Petersen 's Does a Tiger Wear a

Necktie ? at the Belasco Theater produced by A & P Heir Huntington Hartford . It closed after 39 performances on March 29 , 1969 , but Pacino received rave reviews and won the Tony Award on April 20 , 1969 . Pacino continued performing onstage in the 1970s , winning a second Tony Award for The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel and performing the title role in Richard III . In the 1980s , Pacino again achieved critical success on stage while appearing in David Mamet 's American Buffalo , for which Pacino was nominated for a Drama Desk Award . Since 1990 , Pacino 's stage work has included revivals of Eugene O 'Neill 's Hughie , Oscar Wilde 's Salome and in 2005 Lyle Kessler 's Orphans .

Pacino made his return to the stage in summer 2010 , as Shylock in a Shakespeare in the Park production of The Merchant of Venice . The acclaimed production moved to Broadway at the Broadhurst Theatre in October , earning US \$ 1 million at the box office in its first week . The performance also garnered him a Tony Award nomination for Best Leading Actor in a Play . In October 2012 Pacino starred in the 30th anniversary Broadway revival of David Mamet 's classic play , Glengarry Glen Ross , which ran through January 20 , 2013 .

From the end of 2015 through January 2016 he starred on Broadway in " China Doll " , a play written for him by David Mamet . It is a limited run of 87 performances , after acclaimed reviews of 4 performances in October 2015 .

= = Film career = =

= = = Early film career = = =

Pacino found acting enjoyable and realized he had a gift for it while studying at The Actors Studio . However , his early work was not financially rewarding . After his success on stage , Pacino made his movie debut in 1969 with a brief appearance in Me , Natalie , an independent film starring Patty Duke . In 1970 , Pacino signed with the talent agency Creative Management Associates (CMA) .

= = = 1970s = = =

It was the 1971 film The Panic in Needle Park , in which he played a heroin addict , that brought Pacino to the attention of director Francis Ford Coppola , who cast him as Michael Corleone in the blockbuster Mafia film The Godfather (1972) . Although several established actors ? including Jack Nicholson , Robert Redford , Warren Beatty , and little @-@ known Robert De Niro ? also tried out for the part , Coppola selected the relatively unknown Pacino , to the dismay of studio executives .

Pacino 's performance earned him an Academy Award nomination , and offered a prime example of his early acting style , described by Halliwell 's Film Guide as " intense " and " tightly clenched " . Pacino boycotted the Academy Award ceremony , insulted at being nominated for the Supporting Acting award , noting that he had more screen time than co @-@ star and Best Actor winner Marlon Brando ? who also boycotted the awards , but for unrelated reasons .

In 1973 , he co @-@ starred in Scarecrow , with Gene Hackman , and won the Palme d 'Or at the Cannes Film Festival . That same year , Pacino was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor after starring in Serpico , based on the true story of New York City policeman Frank Serpico , who went undercover to expose the corruption of fellow officers . In 1974 , Pacino reprised his role as Michael Corleone in the sequel The Godfather Part II , which was the first sequel to win the Best Picture Oscar ; Pacino , meanwhile , was nominated for his third Oscar .

Newsweek has described his performance in The Godfather Part II as " arguably cinema 's greatest portrayal of the hardening of a heart " . In 1975 , he enjoyed further success with the release of Dog Day Afternoon , based on the true story of bank robber John Wojtowicz . It was directed by Sidney Lumet , who had directed him in Serpico a few years earlier , and Pacino was again nominated for Best Actor .

In 1977 , Pacino starred as a race @-@ car driver in Bobby Deerfield , directed by Sydney Pollack , and received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actor ? Motion Picture Drama for his portrayal of

the title role . His next film was the courtroom drama ... And Justice for All , which again saw Pacino lauded by critics for his wide range of acting abilities , and nominated for the Best Actor Oscar for a fourth time . However he lost out that year to Dustin Hoffman in Kramer vs. Kramer ? a role that Pacino had declined .

During the 1970s , Pacino had four Oscar nominations for Best Actor , for his performances in Serpico , The Godfather Part II , Dog Day Afternoon , and ... And Justice for All .

= = = 1980s = = =

Pacino 's career slumped in the early 1980s ; his appearances in the controversial Cruising , a film that provoked protests from New York 's gay community , and the comedy @-@ drama Author ! Author ! , were critically panned . However , 1983 's Scarface , directed by Brian De Palma , proved to be a career highlight and a defining role . Upon its initial release , the film was critically panned due to violent content , but later received critical acclaim . The film did well at the box office , grossing over US \$ 45 million domestically . Pacino earned a Golden Globe nomination for his role as Cuban drug lord Tony Montana .

In 1985 , Pacino worked on his personal project , The Local Stigmatic , a 1969 Off Broadway play by the English writer Heathcote Williams . He starred in the play , remounting it with director David Wheeler and the Theater Company of Boston in a 50 @-@ minute film version . The film was not released theatrically , but was later released as part of the Pacino : An Actor 's Vision box set in 2007 .

His 1985 film Revolution about a fur trapper during the American Revolutionary War , was a commercial and critical failure , which Pacino blamed on a rushed production , resulting in a four @-@ year hiatus from films . At this time Pacino returned to the stage . He mounted workshop productions of Crystal Clear , National Anthems and other plays ; he appeared in Julius Caesar in 1988 in producer Joseph Papp 's New York Shakespeare Festival . Pacino remarked on his hiatus from film : " I remember back when everything was happening , ' 74 , ' 75 , doing The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui on stage and reading that the reason I 'd gone back to the stage was that my movie career was waning ! That 's been the kind of ethos , the way in which theater 's perceived , unfortunately . " Pacino returned to film in 1989 's Sea of Love , when he portrayed a detective hunting a serial killer who finds victims through the singles column in a newspaper . The film earned solid reviews .

= = = 1990s = = =

Pacino received an Academy Award nomination for playing Big Boy Caprice in the box office hit Dick Tracy in 1990 , of which critic Roger Ebert described Pacino as " the scene @-@ stealer " . Later in the year he followed this up in a return to one of his most famous characters , Michael Corleone , in The Godfather Part III (1990) . The film received mixed reviews , and had problems in pre @-@ production due to script rewrites and the withdrawal of actors shortly before production .

In 1991 , Pacino starred in Frankie and Johnny with Michelle Pfeiffer , who co @-@ starred with Pacino in Scarface . Pacino portrays a recently paroled cook who begins a relationship with a waitress (Pfeiffer) in the diner where they work . It was adapted by Terrence McNally from his own Off @-@ Broadway play Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune (1987) , that featured Kenneth Welsh and Kathy Bates . The film received mixed reviews , although Pacino later said he enjoyed playing the part . Janet Maslin in The New York Times wrote , " Mr. Pacino has not been this uncomplicatedly appealing since his " Dog Day Afternoon " days , and he makes Johnny 's endless enterprise in wooing Frankie a delight . His scenes alone with Ms. Pfeiffer have a precision and honesty that keep the film 's maudlin aspects at bay . "

In 1992 , Pacino won the Academy Award for Best Actor , for his portrayal of the blind U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Frank Slade in Martin Brest 's Scent of a Woman . That year , he was also nominated for Best Supporting Actor for Glengarry Glen Ross , making Pacino the first male actor ever to receive two acting nominations for two movies in the same year , and to win for the lead role

Pacino starred alongside Sean Penn in the crime drama *Carlito's Way* in 1993 , in which he portrayed a gangster released from prison with the help of his lawyer (Penn) and vows to go straight . Pacino starred in Michael Mann 's *Heat* (1995) , in which he and Robert De Niro appeared on @-@ screen together for the first time (though both Pacino and De Niro starred in *The Godfather Part II* , they did not share any scenes) .

In 1996 , Pacino starred in his theatrical docudrama *Looking for Richard* , a performance of selected scenes of Shakespeare 's *Richard III* and a broader examination of Shakespeare 's continuing role and relevance in popular culture . The cast brought together for the performance included Alec Baldwin , Kevin Spacey , and Winona Ryder . Pacino played Satan in the supernatural thriller *The Devil 's Advocate* (1997) which co @-@ starred Keanu Reeves . The film was a success at the box office , taking US \$ 150 million worldwide . Roger Ebert wrote in the *Chicago Sun @-@ Times* , " The satanic character is played by Pacino with relish bordering on glee . "

In 1997 's *Donnie Brasco* , Pacino played gangster " Lefty " in the true story of undercover FBI agent Donnie Brasco (Johnny Depp) and his work in bringing down the mafia from the inside . In 1999 , Pacino starred as 60 Minutes producer Lowell Bergman in the multi @-@ Oscar nominated *The Insider* opposite Russell Crowe , and in Oliver Stone 's *Any Given Sunday* .

= = = 2000s = = =

Pacino has not received another Academy Award nomination since winning for *Scent of a Woman* , but has won three Golden Globes since the year 2000 , the first being the Cecil B. DeMille Award in 2001 for lifetime achievement in motion pictures .

In 2000 , Pacino released a low @-@ budget film adaptation of Ira Lewis ' play *Chinese Coffee* to film festivals . Shot almost exclusively as a one @-@ on @-@ one conversation between two main characters , the project took nearly three years to complete and was funded entirely by Pacino . *Chinese Coffee* was included with Pacino 's two other rare films he was involved in producing , *The Local Stigmatic* and *Looking for Richard* , on a special DVD box set titled *Pacino : An Actor 's Vision* , which was released in 2007 . Pacino produced prologues and epilogues for the discs containing the films .

Pacino turned down an offer to reprise his role as Michael Corleone in the computer game version of *The Godfather* . As a result , Electronic Arts was not permitted to use Pacino 's likeness or voice in the game , although his character does appear in it . He did allow his likeness to appear in the video game adaptation of 1983 's *Scarface* , quasi @-@ sequel titled *Scarface : The World is Yours* .

Director Christopher Nolan worked with Pacino on *Insomnia* , a remake of the Norwegian film of the same name , co @-@ starring Robin Williams . *Newsweek* stated that " he [Pacino] can play small as rivetingly as he can play big , that he can implode as well as explode " . The film and Pacino 's performance were well received , gaining a favorable rating of 93 percent on the review aggregation website *Rotten Tomatoes* . The film did moderately well at the box office , taking in \$ 113 million worldwide . His next film , *Someone* , did not gain much critical praise or box office success .

He played a publicist in *People I Know* , a small film that received little attention despite Pacino 's well @-@ received performance . Rarely taking a supporting role since his commercial breakthrough , he accepted a small part in the box office flop *Gigli* , in 2003 , as a favor to director Martin Brest . *The Recruit* , released in 2003 , featured Pacino as a CIA recruiter and co @-@ stars Colin Farrell . The film received mixed reviews , and has been described by Pacino as something he " personally couldn 't follow " . Pacino next starred as lawyer Roy Cohn in the 2003 HBO miniseries *Angels in America* , an adaptation of Tony Kushner 's Pulitzer Prize winning play of the same name . For this performance , Pacino won his third Golden Globe , for Best Performance by an Actor , in 2004 .

Pacino starred as Shylock in Michael Radford 's 2004 film adaptation of *The Merchant of Venice* , choosing to bring compassion and depth to a character traditionally played as a villainous caricature . In *Two for the Money* , Pacino portrays a sports gambling agent and mentor for Matthew

McConaughey , alongside Rene Russo . The film was released on October 8 , 2005 , to mixed reviews . Desson Thomson wrote in The Washington Post , " Al Pacino has played the mentor so many times , he ought to get a kingmaker 's award ... the fight between good and evil feels fixed in favor of Hollywood redemption . "

On October 20 , 2006 , the American Film Institute named Pacino the recipient of the 35th AFI Life Achievement Award . On November 22 , 2006 , the University Philosophical Society of Trinity College , Dublin awarded Pacino the Honorary Patronage of the Society .

Pacino played a spoof role in Steven Soderbergh 's Ocean 's Thirteen , alongside George Clooney , Brad Pitt , Matt Damon , Elliott Gould and Andy García , as the villain Willy Bank , a casino tycoon targeted by Danny Ocean and his crew . The film received generally favorable reviews .

88 Minutes was released on April 18 , 2008 , in the United States , after having been released in various other countries in 2007 . The film co -@-@ starred Alicia Witt and was critically panned , although critics found fault with the plot , and not Pacino 's acting . In Righteous Kill , Pacino and Robert De Niro co -@-@ star as New York detectives searching for a serial killer . The film was released to theaters on September 12 , 2008 . While it was an anticipated return for the two stars , it was not well received by critics . Lou Lumenick of the New York Post gave Righteous Kill one star out of four , saying : " Al Pacino and Robert De Niro collect bloated paychecks with intent to bore in Righteous Kill , a slow @-@ moving , ridiculous police thriller that would have been shipped straight to the remainder bin at Blockbuster if it starred anyone else . "

= = = 2010s = = =

Pacino played Dr. Jack Kevorkian in an HBO Films biopic entitled You Don 't Know Jack , which premiered April 2010 . The film is about the life and work of the physician @-@ assisted suicide advocate . The performance earned Pacino his second Emmy Award for lead actor and his fourth Golden Globe award .

It was announced in May 2011 that Pacino was to be honored with the " Glory to the Film @-@ maker " award at the 68th Venice International Film Festival . The award was presented ahead of the premiere of his film Wilde Salome , the third film Pacino has directed . Pacino , who plays the role of Herod in the film , describes it as his " most personal project ever " .

The United States premiere of Wilde Salomé took place on the evening of March 21 , 2012 , before a full house at the 1 @,@ 400 @-@ seat Castro Theatre in San Francisco 's Castro District . Marking the 130th anniversary of Oscar Wilde 's visit to San Francisco , the event was a benefit for the GLBT Historical Society .

Pacino most recently starred in a 2013 HBO biographical picture about record producer Phil Spector 's murder trial , titled Phil Spector .

Pacino and Robert De Niro were reportedly set to star in the upcoming project The Irishman , to be directed by Martin Scorsese and co @-@ star Joe Pesci . It was announced in January 2013 that Pacino would play the late former Penn State University football coach Joe Paterno in the movie tentatively titled Happy Valley and based on a 2012 biography of Paterno by sportswriter Joe Posnanski .

= = Personal life = =

Although he has never married , Pacino has three children . The eldest , Julie Marie (born 1989) , is his daughter with acting coach Jan Tarrant . He also has twins , son Anton James and daughter Olivia Rose (born January 25 , 2001) , with actress Beverly D 'Angelo , with whom he had a relationship from 1996 until 2003 . Pacino had a relationship with Diane Keaton , his co @-@ star in the Godfather trilogy . The on @-@ again , off @-@ again relationship ended following the filming of The Godfather Part II . He has had relationships with Tuesday Weld , Jill Clayburgh , Marthe Keller , Kathleen Quinlan and Lyndall Hobbs .

The Internal Revenue Service filed a tax lien against Pacino , claiming he owes the government a total of \$ 188 @,@ 000 for 2008 and 2009 . A representative for Pacino blamed his former business

manager Kenneth Starr for the discrepancy .

= = Filmography = =

= = Awards and nominations = =

Pacino has been nominated and has won many awards during his acting career , including eight Oscar nominations (winning one) , 15 Golden Globe nominations (winning four) , five BAFTA nominations (winning two) , two Primetime Emmy Awards for his work on television , and two Tony Awards for his stage work . In 2007 , the American Film Institute awarded Pacino with a lifetime achievement award and , in 2003 , British television viewers voted Pacino as the greatest film star of all time in a poll for Channel 4 .