

Billy Porter "Randall Leibowitz-Jenkins"

Billy Porter voices Randall Leibowitz-Jenkins in Disney+'s "The Proud Family: Louder and Prouder," the long-anticipated revival of the groundbreaking animated series "The Proud Family."

Porter is an Emmy, Tony and Grammy Award-winning and Golden Globe Award-nominated, actor, singer, director, composer, and playwright. His electric portrayal of Pray Tell in "Pose" earned him the Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series, as well as Golden Globe, Critics' Choice Award, and Television Critics Association nominations. He most recently earned a third Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for this role. He was also the recipient of the Dorian Award for TV Performance of the Year from GALECA: The Society of LGBTQ Entertainment Critics, as well as nominated for a Black Reel Award for Outstanding Actor.

Recently, Porter starred in "American Horror Story: Apocalypse," "That Damn Michael Che," "The Twilight Zone" and narrated the four-part docu-series, "Equal." His additional credits include "Like a Boss," "The Get Down," "Cinderella," "The Humbling," "Noel," "The Broken Hearts Club: A Romantic Comedy," "The Intern," "Anastasia," "Twisted," "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit," "The Big C," "Shake, Rattle and Roll: An American Love Story" and "Another World." He is currently working on his feature directorial debut with the coming-of-age story "What If?" (working title) for MGM and will next direct a queer teen comedy from Gabrielle Union's I'll Have Another Productions, titled "To Be Real," and the feature adaptation of "Camp."

A veteran of the theatre, Porter reprised his role as Lola in the smash hit Broadway musical "Kinky Boots," for which he won the 2013 Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, and Tony Awards for Best Actor in a Musical, as well as a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theatre Album. Additional Broadway acting credits include the Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical, "Shuffle Along," "Miss Saigon," "Five Guys Named Moe," "Grease," "Smokey Joe's Café" and "Dreamgirls."

As a recording artist, Porter most recently released his single "Children." He also released "Finally Ready" with The Shapeshifters in June 2020, as well as "For What It's Worth" in April 2020 to motivate potential voters. In June 2019, he released his single "Love Yourself," in support of Pride Month and the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall. His most recent album, "The Soul of Richard Rodgers," was released in 2017. His solo albums include "Untitled" and "At the Corner of Broadway + Soul - LIVE."

Porter's voice can be heard on numerous albums including "A Very Rosie Christmas," Jim Brickman's "Destiny," "Grease" (revival cast album), Adam Guettel's "Myths & Hymns," "Hercules," "Anastasia," Liz Callaway's "The Story Goes On," Alvin Ailey's "Revelations," "Broadway Cares Home For The Holidays," "Dreamgirls in Concert," "HAIR" (Actor's Fund Benefit recording), "Great Joy: A Gospel Christmas" (with The Broadway Inspirational Voices) and "Love Rocks."

As a director, Porter's work includes "The Purists," as well as revivals of George C. Wolf's plays, "The Colored Museum" and "Top Dog/Underdog" at the Huntington Theater. In addition, Porter has directed the critically acclaimed recreation of "The Wiz" and conceived a musical revue entitled "Signed, Sealed, Delivered: The Music of Stevie Wonder," which starred Chaka Khan and ran at The Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas. Furthermore, Porter conceived and directed "Being Alive," which made its world premiere at The Westport Country Playhouse and



immediately transferred to The Philadelphia Theatre Company, inaugurating their new Suzanne Roberts Theatre.

His additional directing credits include "Twilight In Manchego," "Once On This Island" (a NAACP Theatre Award Winner), "The Soul of Richard Rodgers," "Five Guys Named Moe," "Altar Boyz," "RENT" (Associate Director: Off-Broadway Revival) and "Wicked Summer Nights Concert Series." Porter made his London directorial debut with Olivier Award Nominee Patina Miller at Live in the Delfont Room. Primary Stages presented the highly successful world premiere of "While I Yet Live," which he wrote, that played at the off Broadway Duke Theater.

Porter released his first literary project, "Unprotected," in October 2021. The memoir is described as 'a powerful and revealing autobiography about race, sexuality, art, and healing.'

Porter is a graduate of The Professional Program in Screenwriting at UCLA and is an adjunct professor at his alma mater Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama. Additionally, Porter has received an honorary doctorate from Washington & Jefferson College.

Porter was inducted into the Hollywood Walk of Fame class of 2020. In addition, in 2017, Porter was the recipient of the GLAAD Vito Russo Award, an award presented to an openly LGBT media professional who has made a significant difference in promoting equality for the LGBT community.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, Porter currently resides in New York.