

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Vondie Curtis Hall

PERSON

Curtis-Hall, Vondie

**Alternative Names:** Vondie Curtis Hall;

**Life Dates:** September 30, 1950-

**Place of Birth:** Detroit, Michigan, USA

**Residence:** New York, New York

**Occupations:** Filmmaker

## Biographical Note

Actor, screenwriter, and film and television director Vondie Curtis Hall was born on September 30, 1950, in Detroit, Michigan, to Angeline and Curtis Hall. He attended The Juilliard School, in New York City, and Richmond College, The American College in London, England.

Curtis Hall has starred in numerous Broadway productions, including *The Wiz*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Dutchman*, *The Fabulous Miss Marie*, *It's So Nice To Be Civilized*, *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music*, *Dreamgirls*, and *Stardust*. His film credits as actor include *Shakedown*, *Coming to America*, *Mystery Train*, *Die Hard 2*, *One Good Cop*, *Passion Fish*, *Sugar Hill*, *Crooklyn*, *Clear and Present Danger*, *Drop Squad*, *William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet*, *Eve's Bayou*, *Don King: Only in America*, *Turn It Up*, *Freedom Song*, *Ali: An American Hero*, *Talk to Me*, *Honeydripper*, *Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans*, *Black Nativity*, *Harriet*, and *The Night House*. His TV credits as actor include *China Beach*, *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*, *Nightmare Cafe*, *Civil Wars*, *I'll Fly Away*, *Fallen Angels*, *L.A. Law*, *South Central*, *ER*, *The Sopranos*, *Fastlane*, *1-800-Missing*, *Soul Food*, *LAX*, *Law & Order*, *Medium*, *Fear Itself*, *Criminal Minds*, *Lens on Talent*, *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, *A Gifted Man*, *NYC 22*, *Chasing Life*, *Rosewood*, *Spark*, and *Evil*. Curtis Hall received a 1994 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Drama Series for his role as a patient on *ER*.

Curtis Hall was a member of the main cast of the series *Cop Rock*, *Chicago Hope*, *Marvel's Daredevil*, and *For the People*. Curtis Hall's 1997 writing and directorial debut, *Gridlock'd*, received the National Board of Review Award for Excellence in Filmmaking. In 2001, he directed the film *Glitter*, scored by Terence Blanchard. Curtis Hall's 2004 telefilm *Redemption: The Stan Tookie Williams Story* premiered at the

Sundance Film Festival. Curtis Hall wrote and directed the film *Waist Deep* in 2006 and directed the telefilms *Abducted: The Carlina White Story* in 2012, *Toni Braxton: Unbreak My Heart* in 2016, and *Faith Under Fire: The Antoinette Tuff Story* in 2018. He also directed episodes of *ER*, *Firefly*, *MDs*, *The Shield*, *Sleeper Cell*, *Boston Legal*, *Gossip Girl*, and *The Starter Wife*, co-hosted *Daedal Doors*, and performed on PBS' *The Improvisational Theater*.

Curtis Hall has served as an arts professor at the New York University Tisch School of the Arts.

Curtis Hall and his wife, Kasi Lemmons, live in New York City. They have three children: Che, Hunter, and Zora.

Vondie Curtis Hall was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on February 8, 2022.

## Related Entries

**The Juilliard School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Richmond, The American International University in London** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Broadway** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Actor**

**Films (various)** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Actor**

**TV Series (various)** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Actor**

**Films (various)** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Director and/or Writer**

**TV Series (various)** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Director**

**New York University Tisch School of the Arts** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Arts Professor**

