

Robert Robinson

Biography

Gus' attorney in "RAISING FLAGG"

"I've been earning my living in this racket since I was 17. Even though I'm what you might call a journeyman actor, I've never had to take a job outside of the performing arts," says Robert Robinson, who plays the defense counsel in Flagg Purdy's seemingly frivolous lawsuit against his childhood friend and neighbor, Gus Falk.

Born in Montreal, Canada, Robinson started off in radio in "Laura Limited," a 15-minute daily soap opera, in a role originated by Christopher Plummer and subsequently taken over by William Shatner.

At the time, he was in his first year at the prestigious Stratford Festival in Ontario. In a fortuitous turn of events, Stratford's director, Tyrone Guthrie, and star, Alec Guinness, got him a scholarship to the Central School of Speech and Drama in London – where his classmates included Judi Dench and Vanessa Redgrave.

During the next 35 years in Britain – while working in theatre, television, and movies – Robinson appeared in such productions as "Hamlet" with Paul Scofield (which became the first western company to perform in Russia since the Revolution), "Luther" with Albert Finney, and the Birmingham Repertory Theatre with Derek Jacobi and Julie Christie, as well as the first BBC production in color, "The First Churchills." He subsequently directed plays in Nairobi and Geneva, as well as Britain.

Since settling in the U.S. 20 years ago, Robinson has taught acting and directed theater at such venues as the University of Southern California, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, University of California – San Diego and Riverside, the University of Washington, and the Eugene O'Neill Center in Connecticut.

He also spent three years directing live radio dramas for NPR and its Los Angeles affiliate, KCRW, that starred Julie Harris, Marsha Mason, Jason Alexander, David Hyde Pierce, Michael York, Tyne Daly, and Charles Durning, among others.