

## Michael Ealy Golden Globe Nominated-Actor: The “Think Like a Man Too” Interview

Written by Kam Williams

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For the last few years, Michael Ealy has been red-hot, jumping from TV to film and back to TV, seamlessly. He recently starred in the sci-fi television series, “Almost Human,” for which he earned an NAACP Image Award nomination for Outstanding Leading Actor in a Drama Series.

Earlier this year, he starred in the remake of “About Last Night”, and prior to that on the TV series “Common Law.” He also completed impactful, multi-episode arcs on CBS’ hit series “The Good Wife,” and on the Showtime series, “Californication,” while concurrently shooting the feature adaptation of the renowned theatre production, “For Colored Girl’s Only, Who Consider Committing Suicide When The Rainbow Is Not Enough” for Tyler Perry Studios and Lions Gate Films.

Prior to that, he was handpicked by [Will Smith](#) to co-star in “Seven Pounds”, and by Spike Lee to join the ensemble of “The Miracle at St. Anna”. Michael Ealy’s riveting performance was lauded in this true story of four Buffalo Soldiers who risked their lives to save a young Italian boy while behind enemy lines.

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Ealy attended the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. A student of history and supporter of education, Ealy participated in the History Channel's documentary series "The People Speak", based on Howard Zinn's acclaimed book where one of the historical figures he portrays is "Malcolm X." He earned a Golden Globe nomination for his lead performance on the Showtime mini-series "Sleeper Cell" where he portrayed Darwyn, a Muslim FBI agent sent undercover to infiltrate a terrorist cell in Los Angeles.

He was tapped by Oprah Winfrey to star opposite Halle Berry in the Harpo Films telepic "Their Eyes Were Watching God." The TV special received rave reviews and was viewed by over 26 million people. Ealy earned an NAACP Image Award nomination for Outstanding Actor in a Television Movie, Mini-Series or Dramatic Special for his portrayal of "Teacake".

The Silver Spring, Maryland native appeared in several stage productions after graduating from college, including the Off-Broadway hits Joe Fearless and Whoa Jack. It would not be long thereafter before Michael Ealy nabbed guest-starring television roles on "Law & Order" and "Soul Food." And he was subsequently cast in the films "Kissing Jessica Stein" and "Bad Company".

While visiting his friends in Los Angeles, Ealy heard about auditions for "Barbershop". After placing a call to his manager and a few rounds of auditions, he landed the role of "Ricky Nash," a two-strike offender. In terms of the tabloids, the blue-eyed hunks was named one of People magazines' "On the Verge" actors in the magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive" 2002 and 2013 issues. Furthermore, he was named one of E! Entertainment Television's "Sizzlin' 16" of 2004 and appeared on the cover of *Essence* magazine's "Hollywood Screen Gems" for their April 2004 issue.

Michael Ealy resides in Los Angeles with his wife Khatira Rafiqzada and their baby, Elijah.

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