

# ROSS TURNER BIOGRAPHY

Manager / Walter Tabayoyong 323.308.0922  
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**Multi-award-winning actor Ross Turner** is best known as the Upwork Zombie from the ubiquitous 2022-2023 television ad campaign, but probably most recognized (without zombie makeup, of course) in his recurring role as Liberty High School math teacher Mr. Wood in three seasons of the hit Netflix series **Thirteen Reasons Why**.

In 2007, after 20 years in theater and stand-up comedy, Ross made an unexpected leap to movies when Grateful Dead concert film director Len Dell'Amico noticed him performing in a comedy showcase with the late Robin Williams (that's a lot of name dropping!). The result was a starring role in Dell'Amico's indie feature **Welcome to Dopeland** (2010). Since then, Ross has completed 25 features and 70 shorts, many of which have earned official selections and nominations at top film festivals including Raindance, Mill Valley, SXSW, Tribeca, Sundance, and Palm Springs. In Japan, Ross

has appeared in guest star roles on multiple episodes of the popular television series **Sekai Gyoten News**, and most recently on **World Hanzai Mystery**.

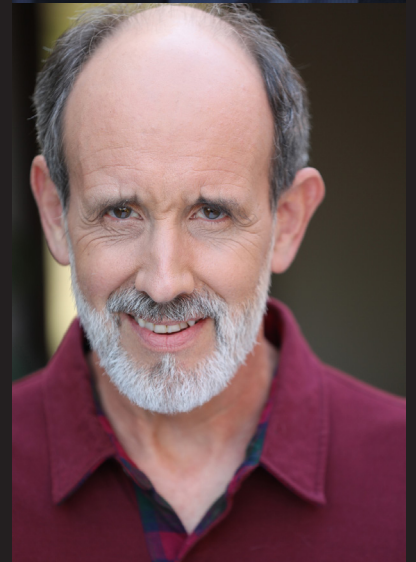
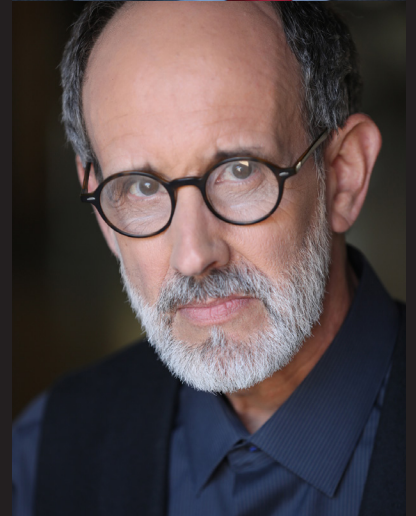
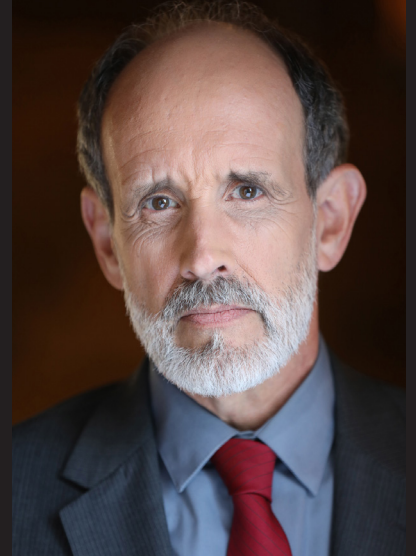
Ross stars in four indie feature films including as the main antagonist in period drama **Mindreader** (2022) filmed in rural Mississippi. Recent releases include supporting roles in **The Legend of Jack and Diane** starring Tom Sizemore, and **Manifest West** opposite Milo Gibson.

Ross's talent has been recognized by film festivals around the world. He has won a total of 11 awards for two roles: sci-fi drama **The Bumbry Encounter** (official selection at Mill Valley, Raindance, and Palm Springs, among many others - available on Amazon), and supernatural western **Ghost in the Gun** (for which he also shares a Best Acting Ensemble award with **Star Trek: Voyager** star Tim Russ).



**ROSS**  
**AS THE**  
**Upwork**  
**ZOMBIE**

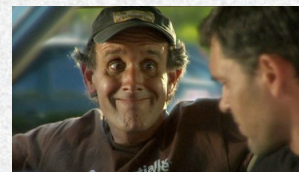
**AdAge NO. 1 HOT SPOT**







"This is Ross Turner's movie, no doubt; he gets the interesting character, the monologues and diatribes. He comes off as a guy off his meds and possibly on something harder."



Lead  
*Welcome To Doeland*  
Bromance comedy



"Bobby (Ross Turner) [is] a slightly more blithe version of the protagonist in Mike Leigh's *Naked*."

STARBURST  
MAGAZINE

"...outstanding...  
See it at the first  
opportunity..."  
9 out of 10 stars

ROSS TURNER PRESS

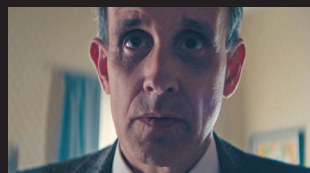
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Los Angeles Times

"There's love and  
affection...emanating  
from each frame."



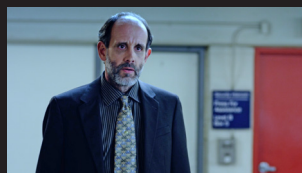
Lead  
*A Normal Life*  
Family drama



Lead  
*The Bumby Encounter*  
Period sci-fi short

The Oregonian

"...a mind-warping  
sci-fi thriller..."



Supporting lead **opp. Sheetal Sheth**  
*The Wisdom Tree*  
Sci-fi mystery

Los Angeles Times

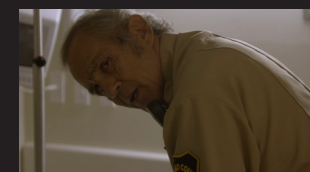
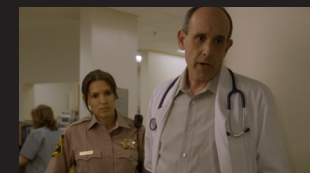
"...keenly observed...  
terrific performances..."



Supporting **opp. Greg Germann**  
*Quitters*  
Dark comedy

The New York Times

"'Man From Reno'  
fascinates..."



Supporting **opp. Pepe Serna**  
*Man From Reno*  
Mystery thriller



# ROSS TURNER **ON SCREEN**

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NETFLIX

hulu



© ORIGINALS



## 13 REASONS WHY ▶

RECURRING CO-STAR AS MATH TEACHER MR. WOOD



Season 1 opp. Dylan Minnette



Season 3 opp. Steven Weber



Season 4 opp. Grace Saif

CHANCE



"The House of Space and Time" S1E8 opp. Ethan Suplee



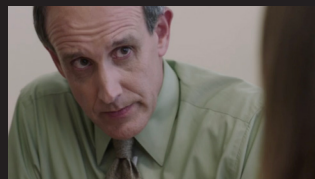
ABOVE  
AVERAGE



"Cold War Re-enactment" Comedy Central Originals



Behind the scenes with Masiela Lusha and director Anthony C. Ferrante



FUTURESTATES



"Refuge" opp. Nikohl Boosheri



# ROSS TURNER AWARDS

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**7** FESTIVAL AWARDS  
ROSS TURNER  
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR



*Ghost in the Gun*  
(supernatural western short w/Tim Russ)

"...*Black Mirror* meets *The Twilight Zone*  
on the set of *Westworld!*"  
**New York Film Awards**

"[Director] Andrew Chen and his cast successfully  
explore a new sub-genre, and it works!"  
**Top Shorts**

**34** OFFICIAL SELECTIONS **116** AWARD WINS

**3** FESTIVAL AWARDS  
ROSS TURNER  
BEST ACTOR



*The Bumby Encounter*  
(period science fiction short)

"...a blend of *Fire in the Sky* and *Get Out*..."  
"...inspired performances..."  
**Red Carpet Crash**

"...a masterful and powerful short film..."  
**The Consulting Detective**



## Film Festivals



On my way to a screening of  
*Manifest West* at the Newport  
Beach Film Festival.



A candid shot with *Bumby  
Encounter* director Jay K. Raja  
on the red carpet at London's  
Raindance Film Festival.

At the Burbank International Film  
Festival with co-star Danny Arroyo  
after our film, *The Last Smile*, won  
Best Dramatic Feature.



On the red carpet with *The Bumby  
Encounter* producer Roth Rind.



Representing *The Bumby  
Encounter* at the Raindance Film  
Festival, London.



Palm Springs Shortfest: with *The  
Bumby Encounter* writer/director  
Jay K. Raja and co-star Skipper  
Elekwachi.



# ROSS TURNER COMMERCIALS

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## THE FACE OF THE CAMPAIGN 1

A long-dead CEO returns to the board room to sing the virtues of hiring freelance talent. Chosen by *Ad Age* as No. 1 Hot Spot.

15 INTERNATIONAL SPOTS

**upwork**



## THE FACE OF THE CAMPAIGN 2

Clueless dad is surprised and annoyed that a hockey team has moved into the family home.

8 REGIONAL SPOTS

**SAN JOSE SHARKS**



## THE FACE OF THE CAMPAIGN 3

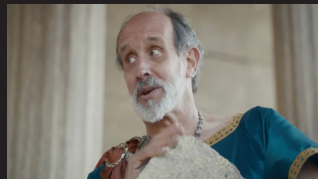
Doctor cures Embarrassing Car Syndrome with a car loan.

REGIONAL SPOTS,  
BILLBOARD,  
POINT-OF-SALE STANDEES

**GREATER NEVADA**  
Credit Union



**Bell**



Ancient Greeks learn about 21st-century Canadian winter sports.

**MATTRESS FIRM**  
Save Money. Sleep Happy.



A man's crick in the neck is fixed by the right mattress.

**Cheetos**  
BAG BONES



In-store hidden camera prankster startles folks with a scary snack.

**credit karma**



Old West poker player has confidence when he knows his credit score.

**HONDA**



Back to School: Principal sees over-eager parents dumping off kids.

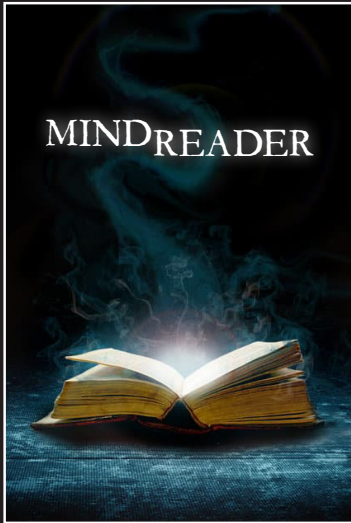
**grammarly**



Clueless boss is Jedi mind-tricked into giving a bigger raise.

# ROSS TURNER **COMING SOON**

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**Lead  
Drama Feature  
2022**

Mississippi, 1972. A local magician seems to have powers beyond mere illusion. A competing magician (Ross Turner) is determined to learn the secrets of his rival — and will risk everything to do it.



**Supporting with Tom Sizemore  
Crime Drama Feature  
2023**

Ross (as manic hotel manager Barney Hutchinson) wields an AR-15 in a comedic chase scene in this revenge thriller written and directed by Bruce Bellocchi. Also starring Robert LaSardo.



**Lead  
Mystery Short  
2023**

"It draws you in from the start."  
**The Mercury News**  
  
"Ross Turner...  
will definitely surprise."  
**Urban Asian**  
  
"meticulously crafted...  
immense performances..."  
**Cinema Crazed**



**Supporting opp. Milo Gibson  
Drama Feature  
2022**

Ross delivers an on-screen performance (and does additional voice work) in this coming-of-age story written and directed by Louis Gibson. Also starring Annet Mahendru and Michael Cudlitz.



**Lead  
Drama Short  
2022**

Renowned painter Richard Phoenix (Ross Turner) is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Unable to finish his final masterpiece, he struggles to find new meaning for his career, his marriage, and his legacy.

# ROSS TURNER **CONTACT**

actors access



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**backstage**\*

**IMDb**