

## **DATARI TURNER - BIO**

One of the most prolific independent producers in film and television, Datari Turner is crafting a career like no other. As founder of Datari Turner Productions in 2010, he has produced 30 feature films, including Seven (7) films that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival: Ms. Purple (2019) A Boy. A Girl. A Dream (2018); Gook (winner of the NEXT Audience Award in 2017), Ten Thousand Saints (2015), Luv (2012 ), Another Happy Day (2011) and Salvation Boulevard (2011). His films have earned 98 festival award nominations. Datari has worked with four Academy Award winners (Jennifer Connolly, Common, Marisa Tomei and Ellen Burstyn) and 13 Academy Award nominees, including Ethan Hawke, James Franco, Stanley Tucci, Dev Patel, Hailee Steinfeld, and Ruby Dee. Possessing a keen eye for talent, Turner gave actors Ryan Destiny ("Star") Michael Rainey Jr ("Power") and Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle ("Dysfunctional Friends") their big screen debuts and cast rapper Common in his first lead film role (Luv).

In television, Datari has produced 200 hours of original programming for networks such as Showtime, WEtv, Netflix, BET, TVOne, Starz and Oxygen. Datari is Creator of the hit WEtv franchise "Growing Up Hip Hop," currently in its 5th season and the network's highest-rated program. Spinoffs include "Growing Up Hip Hop Atlanta," now in its third season and "Growing Up Hip Hop New York," premiering later this year. "Supermodel," written by, starring and produced by Turner, premiered Globally for Netflix in 2016. Currently in 2019, Datari was recently nominated for an NAACP Image Award, for producing the critically acclaimed Showtime series "Shut Up and Dribble," alongside NBA Superstar LeBron James.

Turner is a Blackhouse Foundation Board member and ABC/ Disney program alum repped by CAA.